

September 24 - September 30

Monday, 9/24	9:00 a.m.	Christos Nicholson
Tuesday, 9/25	9:00 a.m.	Michelle Arcilla
Wednesday, 9/26	9:00 a.m.	Reverend John Mattingly
	7:30 p.m.	Pari Ronda Davila
Thursday, 9/27	9:00 a.m.	Damien Payen
Friday, 9/28	9:00 a.m.	Vicki Jan Isler
Saturday, 9/29	9:00 a.m.	Millie Cyrstek
	5:00 p.m.	Richard Hunt
Sunday, 9/30	8:00 a.m.	Josephine Biasini
	9:30 a.m.	Ernesto Meneses
	11:15 a.m.	<i>Pro populo</i>
	5:00 p.m.	Edward Guild

+ In Memoriam Aeternam +

In your charity, please pray for the repose of the soul of Anthony J. Putano, Lisa Orthman, wife of Charles Orthman.

Please pray for the sick... Donna Ford, Bernard Kohan, Sr., Dennis Parnell, Frances Patrich, Ed Dudenhoeffer, Jackie Roebuck King, Jeni Stepanek. *(Names will remain on this list for four consecutive weeks, but can be repeated by calling the Office.)*

Readings for the Week of September 16, 2018

Sunday:	Wis 2:12, 17-20/Ps 54:3-4, 5, 6-8 [6b]/ Jas 3:16-4:3/Mk 9:30-37
Monday:	Prv 3:27-34/Ps 15:2-3a, 3bc-4ab, 5 [1]/ Lk 8:16-18
Tuesday:	Prv 21:1-6, 10-13/Ps 119:1, 27, 30, 34, 35, 44 [35]/Lk 8:19-21
Wednesday:	Prv 30:5-9/Ps 119:29, 72, 89, 101, 104, 163 [105]/Lk 9:1-6
Thursday:	Ecc 1:2-11/Ps 90:3-4, 5-6, 12-13, 14 and 17bc [1]/Lk 9:7-9
Friday:	Ecc 3:1-11/Ps 144:1b and 2abc, 3-4 [1]/ Lk 9:18-22
Saturday:	Dn 7:9-10, 13-14 or Rv 12:7-12a/Ps 138:1-2ab, 2cde-3, 4-5 [1]/Jn 1:47-51
Next Sunday:	Nm 11:25-29/Ps 19:8, 10, 12-13, 14 [9a]/ Jas 5:1-6/Mk 9:38-43, 45, 47-48

THE MUSINGS OF THE PASTOR

On Friday, September 21, 2018 we celebrated the Feast of Saint Matthew, the Apostle. Our archdiocesan cathedral is named for this great Apostle and Evangelist. I thought it might be good to present the history of our cathedral as presented on the cathedral website:

The Cathedral church and parish is named for Saint Matthew the Apostle, the patron saint of civil servants, recognizing all those who serve in the municipal, state, and national governments and the many international organizations located in the metropolitan area. The church is the seat or cathedral of the Archbishop of Washington. As the Mother Church of the archdiocese, it plays a major role in the Catholic life of the nation's capital.

The funeral Mass for President John F. Kennedy was celebrated in the Cathedral on November 25, 1963 with many international heads of state and governments in attendance. Mother Teresa visited the Cathedral in 1974. In 1979, Pope John Paul II celebrated Mass in the Cathedral during his visit to the United States. Pope Francis presided at a Midday Prayer Service at the Cathedral with the U. S. Bishops during his visit to the United States in 2015. Annually, on the Sunday before the first Monday in October when the Supreme Court of the United States begins its regular term, a special Mass is celebrated praying for the Holy Spirit to guide all those who are members of the legal profession. Known as the "Red Mass" in reference to the vestment color, the Supreme Court justices, members of Congress, the President's Cabinet, diplomatic corps, local municipal, state and national government leaders, and sometimes the President of the United States join the celebration.

The parish of St. Matthew the Apostle was the fourth established in the District of Columbia, on the northeast corner of 15th and H Streets, NW. It was dedicated on November 1, 1840 and served its parishioners through the 1890s.

In 1892, its then-pastor, Monsignor Thomas Sim Lee, purchased the land on which the current church structure is located on Rhode Island Avenue, NW. He commissioned the architect Christopher Grant LaFarge to work on the design of the new church structure. LaFarge had worked on the plans for the Cathedral of St. John the Divine in New York City and the Cathedral of St. James in Seattle. His church design was accepted in 1893. The cornerstone was laid and blessed in 1893 and the first Mass celebrated in 1895. Construction continued in various stages with the dome put in place in 1913. After Monsignor Lee's death, the new pastor, Fr. Edward Buckey, completed the interior.

In 1939, St. Matthew's was designated a Cathedral when the combined Archdiocese of Baltimore and Washington was created under the leadership of Archbishop Michael Curley of Baltimore. Upon Curley's death in 1947, Washington was separated from Baltimore and the Archdiocese of Washington was established. St. Matthew's became the Mother Church of the new archdiocese. In 1974, the Cathedral of St. Matthew the Apostle was placed on the National Register of Historic Places.

Continued in the column to the right.....

Twenty-fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

QUESTION OF THE WEEK

What do I want that I do not have? What do I feel that I should have if life were fair? How can I redirect my passions toward selflessness rather than selfishness?

ST. FRANCIS FEAST DAY EVENTS OCTOBER 5-7

With St. Francis' Feast Day just around the corner on October 4, the parish is hosting a weekend of events to celebrate our patron saint. Everyone is invited to attend the following events and activities, as we celebrate our 46th year as a parish community:

Friday, October 5: Family Bingo, 6-8 pm in the Parish Center. Come enjoy a pizza dinner and 10 games of Bingo. For more information or to volunteer, contact Fr. Jack Berard at sfayouth@sfadw.org.

Sunday, October 7: Parish Picnic, 12:30-4:30 pm on the church grounds. Join us for hot dogs and hamburgers, a Moon-bounce, crafts, face painting, ***Blessing of the Animals*** at 3:00 pm and much more. For more information or to volunteer, please contact Special Events Ministry Coordinator Sylvia Jones at decaffqueen@gmail.com. Please RSVP for the picnic by filling out a form in the Gathering Space and dropping it in the basket. Families and individuals are asked to bring a dish to share at the Parish Picnic. If your last name begins with A-K, then please bring a dessert; if it begins with L-Z, please bring a side dish.

Hope to see you there!

THE MUSINGS OF THE PASTOR (continued)

On November 25, 1963, the funeral of the 35th President of the United States, John F. Kennedy was celebrated in the Cathedral and is memorialized by a marble plaque imposed in the floor immediately before the gates of the sanctuary commemorating the place where his casket was placed for the funeral Mass and rites. Funeral services have also been held at the Cathedral for other notables, such as the Chief Justice of the U.S. Supreme Court William Rehnquist and Associate Justice William J. Brennan.

In 1999, the Cathedral underwent a major restoration with major repairs to the exterior dome, along with extensive work on the interior to refurbish the mosaics and other artwork in the interior, to upgrade the lighting and sound systems and other functional parts of the interior. The extensive effort was completed in 2003 with a grand celebration on September 21st, the feast of St. Matthew. A plaque commemorating the Stewards who gave generously to the restoration is located at the entrance to the Baptistry. Let me close by presenting the Collect or Opening Prayer for the Feast of Saint Matthew the Apostle:

O God, who with untold mercy were please to choose as an Apostle Saint Matthew, the tax collector, grant that, sustained by his example and intercession, we may merit to hold firm in following you. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. R/. Amen.

Until next week,
Fr. John

SMALL GROUP NEWS

Have you ever wanted to get to know your fellow parishioners and deepen your faith in a casual and comfortable environment? Join a Small Group at St. Francis this fall and enrich your faith life by making friends, making disciples of Christ and making a difference.

St. Francis Small Groups are gatherings of five to 10 people, who meet at church or in people's homes to discuss their faith journey, deepen their Catholic faith and support one another in their relationship with Christ. Small Groups can form around a specific topic, shared interest or experience, but Jesus Christ is at the center of the Small Group. When coming together, Small Groups often have a gathering time followed by prayer. The groups then use a common topic, such as the Bible, a book or other materials, to discuss and share perspectives about how the discussion may apply in their own lives. The session often includes some social time over beverages and food and always ends with prayer.

On October 6/7, all St. Francis parishioners are invited to sign up for a Small Group, an opportunity to make our large church of 1,500 registered families smaller. In addition to existing Small Groups, such as the Martha/Mary Women's Group, the Men of Emmaus, and the Saturday Morning Spiritual Reading Group, parishioners will be invited to join Small Groups to study the Gospel of Luke. As the church begins to enter the Sunday Cycle C, which focuses on the Gospel of Luke, this more intensive study of Jesus' narrative will enrich your understanding of the Gospel readings.

Another new Small Group includes the Dining Disciples, a group which gathers monthly to discuss a faith-related topic and eat themed foods. The Sunday Mass Preparation Small Group is another recently formed Small Group, where members meet weekly to read and discuss the coming week's readings so they can be better prepared for Mass.

Please consider the following over the next few weeks:

- Sign up October 6-21 for either an existing Small Group or a new one at the Small Group Sign-up Table in the Gathering Space.
- Volunteer to serve as a small group facilitator, who will help guide the discussion, or as a Small Group host.

For more information, please contact Social Concerns Minister Tony Bosnick at abosnick@sfadw.org or Communications Coordinator Melissa Egan at Melissa.egan74@verizon.net.

LAMB OF GOD PRAYER MEETING Join the Lamb of God Prayer Group for worship and the study of Scripture on Tuesday, September 25, 7:30 p.m., St. Clare's Chapel in the Rectory. For details, please call Louise, (301) 977-5217.

POOR BOX DONATION – The donations for next week-end will go to Olney Help. Thank *you for your generosity*.

ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI PRAYER CHAIN If you have a prayer request, please contact Marianne Bullen, (301) 963-3420 or mariannebu@comcast.net with your requests.

ROSARY FOR PRIESTS

Every Wednesday evening at 6:45 p.m. we pray the rosary for our priests before the 7:30 p.m. Mass.

HOLY HOUR FOR THE DYING

On Thursday evenings in the St. Clare's Chapel in the Rectory, a prayer group meets at 7:00 p.m. to pray for the dying. This is a Holy Hour Devotion for the Dying. As a central work of our Catholic faith, we are called to pray for the dying, especially for those who may die suddenly, unprepared to face God. For additional information, please call the Parish Office, (301) 840-1407.

ROSARY CENACLE OF OUR LADY, QUEEN OF PEACE

Cenacle of Our Lady, Queen of Peace to pray for priests and vocations, 2:00 p.m. in the St. Clare's Chapel (Rectory) every Sunday. Please join us.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS - COUNCIL 2323

The Knights of Columbus are actively pursuing new members. Our council incorporates members from St. Francis, St. Mary's and St. Martin's. Though best known for our many charitable projects, we also have a lot of fun with dinners, fund raisers, family nights, and many other fraternal social occasions. If interested in learning more, please contact Gary Palmer, (301) 948-6494 or e-mail gtdbpalmer@verizon.net.

JOIN US FOR MINISTRY TRAINING WORKSHOP ON "CO-WORKERS IN THE VINEYARD OF THE LORD" ON OCTOBER 13

All St. Francis ministry volunteers are asked to join us for a Ministry Training Workshop from 9:30-12:30 pm Saturday, October 13, at the Parish Center. With a topic of "Co-workers in the Vineyard of the Lord," the workshop will help St. Francis ministry leaders reflect on their role of serving Jesus Christ through their chosen ministries. For more information, contact Social Concerns Minister Tony Bosnick at abosnick@sfadw.org.

HELP HOUSE NET MISSIONARIES

St. Francis is hosting NET missionaries (netusa.org) on October 30th and 31st to lead a Middle School retreat! These young people travel the country spreading the love of Jesus and rely on the generosity of parishioners to house them for 2 nights. Past parishioners have thoroughly enjoyed hosting them, but we always need more help. If you would be willing to host 2-4 missionaries for these two nights, please email Fr. Jack at sfayouth@sfadw.org

MINISTRY VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Garden Care Ministry: Remember how beautiful the daffodils looked last spring at St. Francis? More are on the way -- and we need help planting them! Deacon Dan Finn is thinning his daffodils and is donating the bulbs to St. Francis. We will be planting them in late October, though, the date will depend on the weather. Let us know if you want to help, or just stop and help if you see us planting. Please call Ministry Coordinator Maria Dunn at (202) 281-4096 or Tony Bosnick at (301) 840-1407, Ext. 11. Many hands make light work!

Love of One Another Team: Our Love of One Another Team (Community Building) needs volunteers to help us build our parish family by sponsoring events and services that bring individuals and families together in fellowship, faith and fun. Volunteer responsibilities would include:

- Providing child care so parents can attend Adult Faith Formation, New Parishioner Welcome Reception and other events.
- Offering refreshments for the New Parishioner Welcome Reception
- Promoting activities to strengthen families and marriage, such as family movie night.
- Support planning and coordinating of International Night event, where parishioners will share information about their country of origin and enjoy food.

Come help us build our St. Francis family through fun events that build fellowship and faith. Contact Ministry Coordinator Georgana Finn at dfinn98798@gmail.com, or call her at (240) 393-8180.

Children's Liturgy of the Word: Are you interested in enhancing the liturgy for our youngest Catholics? If so, join the Children's Liturgy of the Word Prayer Leader Team. Children five to nine years of age are invited to go to a separate location for the Liturgy of the Word to receive special age-appropriate proclamation and reflect on that day's readings. This occurs at the 11:15 am Sunday Mass from September through June. You don't have to be a parent to engage in this ministry, but you should be comfortable connecting with children of various ages. Prayer Leaders must also be compliant with the Archdiocesan Child Protection Policy. To learn more, please call Fr. John at the Rectory at (301) 840-1407.

EVENING PRAYERS TO BE OFFERED FOR VICTIMS AND SURVIVORS OF CLERGY SEXUAL ABUSE

In solidarity with the Catholic Church as we grapple with the aftermath of the clergy sexual abuse scandal, St. Francis of Assisi Church will begin offering Evening Prayer from the Liturgy of the Hours at 7:00 pm over the next five Fridays in the church. This offering is in support of the Archdiocesan Season of Healing, where parishioners are invited to gather in prayer, articulate the pain and suffering of the survivors of clergy sexual abuse, while also recognizing the pain and wound of the Catholic Church. The Evening Prayer will be offered at 7:00 pm on the following Friday evenings: September 28, October 5, October 12, October 19 and October 26. During this time of prayer, we shall pray one of two prayers for the victims and survivors of sexual abuse prepared by the Pontifical Commission for the Protection of Minors.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS/EVENTS



Religious Education classes started last week and we are looking forward to a wonderful year! Space is still available in most classes and children are welcome to start classes once registration is received and processed. Registration forms can be found in the Gathering Space, the Parish Offices, and also on the parish website. Please call the Religious Education Office if need more information: 301-258-9193. ***Children must be registered before they can begin classes.***

Reminders about Registering for Sacramental Preparation

Sacramental preparation for 1st Reconciliation, 1st Eucharist, Confirmation, and Christian Initiation for Children/Teens (CIC/CIT) is not grade specific and involves preparation in addition to grade level Religious Education classes. At minimum, children are expected to have participated in religious education in the year prior to preparing for a sacrament. *Please note: students preparing for the Sacrament of Confirmation will attend their grade-level Religious Education classes as well as monthly Confirmation sessions.*

Families requesting sacramental preparation for their child are asked to mark their registration form accordingly so that additional information can be provided. Please note that there is a separate materials fee for sacramental preparation programs. More details will be provided at the fall parent meetings. If you have any questions, please call the Religious Education Office at 301-258-9193.

Catechesis for Children and Youth with Special Needs

Our parish offers catechetical sessions specifically designed for children and youth with special needs and their families. Our first class meets today, Sunday, September 23 from 3:30-4:30 pm in the St. Clare Room. If you would like to learn more about these sessions, or if you are interested in serving as a catechist or aide for children with special needs, please call Susan Anderson, Director of Religious Education, at 301-258-9193.

Ways to Serve

The entire parish community shares responsibility for faith formation and the support of many volunteers makes our programs successful. There are a variety of ways to serve, including weekly, monthly, and “as needed” commitments:

- Catechist
- Classroom Aide
- Art Team Catechist
- Substitute
- Support for Service Projects
- Help with Sacramental Celebrations & Special Events

Please consider supporting our Religious Education program as a volunteer! To learn more, please call the Religious Education Office at 301-258-9193.

YOUTH MINISTRY NEWS/EVENTS

ST. FRANCIS YOUTH MINISTRY

UPCOMING EVENTS

September

- 23 Youth Group
- 30 Youth Group

October

- 5 Family Bingo
- 7 No Youth Group - Parish Picnic
- 13/14 Bake Sale after all Masses
- 14 Youth Group
- 21 Youth Group
- 25 Fundraiser at Ledo's in Derwood
- 28 Youth Group

GET SOCIAL

Follow us on Instagram & Twitter @ SFADWYOUTH.

MUSIC NOTES - The hymn text “I Come with Joy” was written by the well-known hymn writer, poet, and Christian minister Brian Wren (b.1936). The text was written for his congregation to sing after he had delivered a series of sermons on the Eucharist. The text is sung to a tune which is called “Land of Rest.” This tune is an American folk melody that was known throughout the Appalachians. It appeared in *The Sacred Harp*, a collection of shape note tunes published in 1844. Shape note tune singing began in colonial New England, and then migrated south. It used a system of shapes instead of standard music notation to assist untrained singers in learning music. Songs were sung with great enthusiasm in four-part harmony with no instrumental accompaniment. Still today, there are groups that gather to sing shape-note tunes purely for enjoyment and for praising God.

CATHOLIC-MUSLIM DIALOGUE FURTHERS UNDERSTANDING OF TWO FAITHS

Did you miss the first Catholic-Muslim interfaith discussion on Saturday, September 22? If so, then please join us from 9:30-11:30 am Saturday, October 6 and October 20 at St. Francis for the remaining discussions on where the Catholic and Muslim faiths intersect. The dialogues will be led by Imam Haytham Younis, who served as a panelist on last spring's Interfaith Discussion panel. Participants are asked to read one of these three books to better inform their knowledge of the topic:

- “*Finding Jesus among Muslims*” by Jordan Denari Duffner
- “*Christian. Muslim. Friend: Twelve Paths to Real Relationship*” by David Shenk
- “*What Would a Muslim Say*” by Ahmed Lotfy Rashed.

For more information, contact Social Concerns Minister Tony Bosnick abosnick@sfadw.org.

ST. FRANCIS ANNUAL HOLIDAY BAZAAR & FLEA MARKET

Saturday, November 10

VENDORS NEEDED

We are looking for vendors to sell their goods at the Bazaar. If you are interested in having a booth at the bazaar, please contact the Parish Office, (301) 840-1407.

JEWELRY DONATIONS

Please drop the jewelry off at the parish office or leave your treasured items in the mailbox on the Rectory porch if the office is closed.

SILENT AUCTION ITEMS NEEDED

We are looking for silent auction items such as Time Shares, Sports Tickets, Theater Passes, etc. for our Fall Bazaar (November 10). Items donated are a tax write-off! For more information or to make arrangements to donate, please call the Parish Office, Donna, (301) 840-1407.

BAZAAR CRAFTERS

We have started making crafts for the 2018 Holiday Bazaar on Wednesdays at 7:00 p.m. in the Parish Center. If you enjoy being creative and socializing with fellow parishioners, please plan on attending. Also, projects can be taken home to work on.

HOLY LAND FILM SERIES KICKS OFF THIS WEEKEND AT ST. ROSE OF LIMA

The 2nd Annual Voices from the Holy Land Film Series will kick off at 2:30 pm Sunday, September 23, with the film, "Thank God It's Friday," screening at St. Rose of Lima Catholic Church. This free film reveals daily life for residents in the Palestinian village Nabi Saleh and in its nearby Israeli settlement Halamish. The film series third installment, "Disturbing the Peace," will be shown at 2:30 pm Sunday, October 21, at St. Francis. For more information, see voicesfromtheholylnd.org. Questions? Call parishioner Bob Cooke at (301) 661-0449.

SAN LORENZO RUIZ MASS CELEBRATION

The Archdiocese of Washington and the Filipino Catholic Community will celebrate the Feast of San Lorenzo Ruiz, the first Filipino martyr and saint, with a special Mass at 7:00 pm Friday, September 28, at Holy Redeemer Church in Kensington, (9705 Summit Ave.). The celebrant will be Bishop Mario Dorsonville, and a reception will follow the Mass. For more information, contact bustamantej@adw.org or (301) 853-4468. For more information, see the Archdiocese of Washington web site at <https://adw.org/event/st-lorenzo-ruiz-de-manila/>.

DINING DISCIPLES - COME DINE WITH US!

The Dining Disciples Small Group is looking for a few couples or singles to join us. We typically gather monthly at 6:30 pm on Fridays for cocktails and a meal and share conversation around a relevant faith topic – our September topic was Our Lady of Guadalupe and the pot luck meal featured Mexican inspired dishes. Spending social and faith time in a casual environment of a home develops close friendship while deepening our faith. If you are interested in learning more or joining our Dining Disciples Small Group, contact Deacon Dan Finn at deacondan-finn@gmail.com or call him at (240) 393-8180.

Spotlight on St. Jude Regional Catholic School

We are...St. Jude

www.StJudeRockville.org

4th Annual Oktoberfest

Wann? October 19, 2018

(Rain or shine, indoor accommodations)

Wieviel? \$25 before October 1, \$35 after October 1,
\$45 at the door (includes food and drink)

Was? Traditional German food, including:
brats, potato salad, and sauerkraut & German wein und bier!

"Bis Bald!" (see you soon!)

First Annual Variety Show First Annual Variety Show, featuring our very own students, will be held Friday, November 9th, at 7:00 pm in the Thaddeus Room. For more information go to <https://www.stjuderockville.org> and click on Variety Show Information.

Bulldog Bolt 5K Race & Fun Run On November 3, 2018, St. Jude will host our 6th annual Bulldog Bolt 5K and Fun Run, followed by an HSA sponsored post-race celebration! All proceeds from the race will be used to purchase new and replace aging athletic equipment and enhance the school facility. For more information go to <https://www.stjuderockville.org/giving/bulldog-bolt-5k-race-fun-run>.

VOLUNTEER DRIVERS NEEDED

Gaithersburg Meals On Wheels has an urgent need for drivers to deliver hot and cold meals at lunchtime to the elderly and shut-ins in the Gaithersburg area. Meals are prepared at Asbury Methodist Village, 333 Russell Avenue and picked up by drivers between 10:45 and 11:30 a.m. Monday-Friday. Containers are provided for carrying the meals, and delivery takes about one hour, with 8-12 clients on each route. Volunteers are asked to drive either once a week, or once every other week. Children are welcome to accompany parents. Training is provided. Please call 301-216-4200 or Lisa Koenig, 301-869-0190 lisamkoenig1@gmail.com.

DON'T FORGET THESE EVENTS ON SEPTEMBER 29!

Runners and walkers of all ages and speeds are invited to participate in the **5K Run/Walk** to benefit The Avalon School and the Brookewood School for Girls at the Agricultural Farm Park in Derwood. The fundraising event will begin at 9 am. Register for the event at www.avalonschools.org or at www.brookewood.org. For more information, contact Tabi McLoughlin at (301) 395-7314.

Upcounty Community Resources, a nonprofit organization that offers innovative programs, events and activities for adults with intellectual and developmental differences, will have its **Annual Hoedown Dance** at 7:30 pm in the St. Francis Parish Center. All are invited to celebrate with adults with all abilities or to volunteer. For more information, contact Special Needs Ministry Coordinator Sylvia Jones at (301) 762-6564.

AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE (ASL) INTERPRETATION

St. Mary's Church, 520 Veirs Mill Road, Rockville now offers ASL interpretation weekly at their Sunday 12:30 p.m. Mass. St. Francis also offers this service every week at our 11:15 a.m. Sunday Mass.