

## MASS INTENTIONS

## THIS WEEK

Saturday	5:00	Audrey Moran
Sunday	8:00	Mark Dundas, Louis DiGiovanni Ann Zdanis, Tom Cosgrove Fr. Bob Kemmery, Parish Family
	10:00	Marcel Breton
Monday	8:00	Jack Jakubek
Tuesday	8:00	Shirley O'Connell
Wed	8:00	Ann Waldron Sullivan
Thurs	8:00	Communion Service
Friday	8:00	Paul Power

## NEXT WEEKEND

Saturday	4:00	Carole McMahon
	7:00	Eleanor Watt
Sunday	8:00	Caoimhe Freyne, Joseph Van Demark Terezinha Rosa, Fr. Bob Kemmery, Parish Family
	10:00	Mark Dundas

## PRAY FOR THE ILL OF THE PARISH

Flora Massa, Martin Coughlin, Loretta Stephens, Regina Zanis, Harry Marcoux, John Keane, Tris Windle, David Cousins, Lynne Scalia, Alex Podeszwa, Bernadette Harrod, Eileen Metterville, Thomas Stone, Nick Bartick, Pam Hedlund, Paul Conte, Len Hedlund, Greg Morongell, Nora Gould, Edan Pearl, Maryanne Leonhardt, Richard Smith, Anne Caruso, Natalie DiPaolo, John M. Pollard, Alexandra Burke, Peter Cruckshank, Bill Hannon, Peter Gill, Ivy Davis, Maddy Hayes, Clare Stevenson, Joseph Nosari, Vincent Lencvewski, Jeffrey Wolfgang, Louise Francke, Joan Ouellette, Bev Sarazin, Helen Stempsey, Regina Collyer, Tyler Benscoter, Agnes Wolfgang, Fr. Paul Smith, Marilyn Drewes, John L. Sullivan, Kameron Hardaker, Ray Castriotta, Julianne Sullivan, Robert Grudzina, Brenda Kowalski, Marge LaGrassa, Jim Lewis, Joyce Loechner, Frank Salomone, Paul Chamberlain, Pauline Laberge, Edith Vinci, Chad Larivee, Patrick McNulty, Marirose (Mary) Lynch, Dick Wentworth, Nuvia Downs, Karen Mary McNulty, Olivia Hart, Alex Haas, Patrick Devine, Ellen Marie Anderson, Carter Mock, Nancy Hurley, Gerry Csaposs, Peggy Carson, Terry Sullivan, Norie Leonard, Ed Daly, James Roberts, Addie Priess, Pat Hastings, Tim McEnaney, Frank McCarthy, Ruth Kantorski, Andree Yager, Loretta Reiter, Thomas Murphy, Paul Kascsak, Bill Martin, Lolita Previd, Abbott Brayton, Peter Wall

## PRAY FOR LOVED ONES IN THE MID-EAST

Brandy Nelson, Timothy Horigan, Scott Doucette, Michael Wilson, David Lucas, Sean Lucas, Peter Civita Shayne, Peter Cabral, Gregory DeLuca, Joshua Schmitt, Joseph Long, Brad Howard, Thomas Scudder, Jeffrey Stebbins, Phillip McDonough, David Wilcox, John Amick, David McDonald, Lt. Edward J. Maloney, Andrew Kelley, William James Miller, David Orloski, Stephen Tammaro, Michael L. Hamilton, Thomas Crawford, Aaron Charette, Matthew Blair, Jared Stubbs, Nicholas McGahey

## PRAY FOR OUR DECEASED

## COLLECTION RESULTS — THANK YOU

Immaculate Conception	\$ 1,942.00
December 11 Regular	\$ 7,842.00
Retired Religious	\$ 3,640.00
Annual Appeal to Date	\$67,890.00

## CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

Mass will be celebrated at 4 p.m. and 7 p.m. on Christmas Eve and at 8 a.m. and 10 a.m. on Christmas Day. In observance of the Solemnity of Mary on January 1, Mass will be celebrated at 5 p.m. on Saturday, December 31, and at 8 and 10 a.m. on Sunday, January 1.

## THIS WEEKEND IS HARVEST SUNDAY

The second collection this weekend is the Harvest Sunday Collection, which supports the efforts of the parish St. Vincent de Paul Conference to help those in need with necessities – food, medicine, rent, utilities. Thanks for giving.

## FOOD PANTRY DONATIONS THIS SUNDAY

BEEF STEW (24 oz), BAKED BEANS (16 oz) JELLY (8-16 oz) CANNED FRUIT (16 oz), CANNED VEGETABLES (14.5 oz) TUNA FISH (6 oz) , SPAGHETTI (1 lb box) MACARONI & CHEESE (6 oz box), PEANUT BUTTER (18 oz) SPAGHETTI SAUCE (28 oz), JELLO (3 oz) and CANNED SOUP (11 oz), HOT CEREAL (10 env. Pack), COLD CEREAL. Thanks for sharing.

## A CHRISTMAS GIFT FROM FR. JOHN

Good spiritual reading facilitates in us a vibrant Spiritual Life and a fruitful Christian Life. With this in mind, I have ordered for our parish several hundred copies of an excellent new spiritual book, *Resisting Happiness*, the latest offering by noted Catholic author, Matthew Kelly. Kelly's new book is insightful, personal, practical, deeply spiritual, and easy to read. It is the kind of book which can make a huge difference on one's spiritual journey.

I am offering *Resisting Happiness* as a Christmas gift to our parishioners! This book SHOULD be available after the Masses this weekend (provided the shipment of 500 copies arrives on time!). May your reading and reflection on *Resisting Happiness* increase your happiness and bear much fruit on your spiritual journey.

Merry Christmas!

Fr. John Kelleher

## ANNUAL APPEAL UPDATE

First of all, thank you so much for your very generous response to our Parish Annual Appeal. So far, with the help of your donations, **we've already completed many of the improvements** which I outlined in the Annual Appeal letter back in September. **These include:** repair of the walkway to the Parish Office, energy efficient lighting improvements in the Parish Thrift Shop, the purchase of a decent used pick-up truck for the parish, repair of the sprinkler system between our Church parking lot and Canal Road, new matting at all the doors of the Church and Parish Center, painting of all the white trim on the exterior of the Church, and replacement of several windows in the Parish Center.

I hope to complete a **few other improvements** by the end of this fiscal year (June 30). We have a contract in place to renovate the exterior of the rectory (like we did the church last year), starting on March 14 (\$35,000). I also hope to purchase technology for the Church which will allow us to make the Mass available on-line, both live, and at a later time.

So, if you've been thinking about donating to the Annual Appeal, and you haven't gotten around to it, **you can still offer a donation** by the end of the year which will be put to good use. Again, thank you so much to all who have donated to our Annual Appeal so far to help us take care of our parish buildings and grounds.

Fr. John Kelleher



## THE WORD BECAME FLESH AND DWELLS WITH US

Are we willing to be transformed from the inside out so that we might give a human face to Divine Love in our world? Advent is the opportunity to ponder the ways of love.

The incarnation is the "enfleshment" of the Christ Love in Jesus — God with us. Join Judy Burt Walker on Wednesday mornings of Advent to reflect and pray together. We will meet Wednesday, December 21, at 8:45 a.m. in the Parish Center.

## SVDP GIVING TREE



Thank you to all who returned a wrapped gift for a child or adult in need. Your gifts made someone's Christmas a little brighter or their winter a little warmer. Thank you all on behalf of the recipients which include members of needy families, the NOAH shelters in Hyannis and SKIP in Provincetown, as well as Lower Cape Outreach Council, Cape Cod Children's Place, and A Baby Center in Hyannis. Thanks for giving!

## NEEDED: USHER SUBS AT 8 A.M. SUNDAY MASS

We are looking for capable men and women who are available and willing to fill in as substitute ushers at the 8 :00 a.m. Sunday and Holy Day Masses, as needed. If you regularly attend 8:00 a.m. Mass and would be willing to fill in for one of our regular ushers from time-to-time, please contact Bud Budnar at 203-241-7187, or Robert\_budnar@hotmail.com.

## THRIFT SHOP HIATUS

The Thrift Shop is now closed for the holidays and will reopen on Monday, January 9. Donations cannot be accepted until after Friday, January 6.

## RESPECT LIFE MINISTRY

The Respect Life Ministry will sponsor any youth who wishes to attend the March for Life in Washington, D.C. on Thursday, January 26 to Saturday, January 28, 2017. Please contact Ellen at 508-292-4346. For itinerary details, go to [www.fallriverdiocese.org/2017-march-for-life-registration-forms](http://www.fallriverdiocese.org/2017-march-for-life-registration-forms).

## CHRISTMAS DINNER AT OLC PARISH

Our Lady of the Cape Parish on Stony Brook Road in Brewster invites all who want to join with others for Christmas Dinner. Festivities start at noon, and dinner will be served at 12:30 p.m. on Christmas Day in the Parish Center located behind the church. All are welcome! Meals can also be delivered to the homebound. For info and to make a reservation, please call Kathy DeMeyer at 508-776-6040 by December 18.

## SEASONAL REMINDERS

Due to the flu season, the cup will not be offered at Mass until Holy Thursday. The Sign of Peace may be offered with words and a smile rather than a handshake, if you like.

As winter approaches, bringing unpredictable weather and health conditions, keep in mind these guidelines: If you suspect you are ill, or weather conditions are hazardous, you are **not bound to attend Mass. Remain at home**, possibly participating in the Mass on TV, radio or Internet. **If schools are closed or delayed due to snow, THERE IS NO DAILY MASS. Please observe this policy for your safety, as well as to expedite the snow removal in our parking lots.**





### FAITH FORMATION

Grades 1-5      Mondays      2:20—4:00 p.m.  
Grades 6-10      Monday      6:00---7:30 p.m.

### FAITH FORMATION CHRISTMAS PAGEANT

Our *Annual Christmas Pageant* is this Monday, December 19, at 6:30 p.m. Everyone — families, friends, parishioners — absolutely everyone is invited to share the Christmas spirit with our shepherds and sheep, Bethlehem stars, Baby Jesus, angels, and wise men. Come celebrate with us the season of Christ's birth.

All students, Grades K-9, should arrive at the Parish Center by 5:45 p.m. to get costumed and prepare for their parts.

### CHRISTMAS EVE FAMILY MASS

The 4:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Mass this Saturday is a Family Mass. Our Faith Formation students will help us celebrate as lectors, altar servers, and offertory collectors. We welcome all young people in the parish to be bearers of the crèche figures to the manger, and to sign *Silent Night* after Communion. We so appreciate the special presence and spirit they bring as we remember the Birth of Jesus.

### NEW BEGINNINGS

Are you interested in deepening your spirituality, learning more about Jesus, and growing in the Community as a member of the church? Then RCIA might be for you! The Parish offers RCIA (The Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults) as a way of exploring these important life issues and to discern whether initiation into the Catholic Christian Community is for you. Please call Judy Burt Walker at 508-255-1257 for further information, or Father John at the Rectory.

### ECHO RETREAT

Looking for a last minute Christmas gift for the teenage girl in your life? Give the gift of ECHO. Are you a teenage girl looking for the spirit of Christmas to last? Go on ECHO. January 6, 7, 8, 2017. Applications at [echoofcapecod.org](http://echoofcapecod.org).

## JOSEPH, THE JUST

On this Fourth Sunday of Advent as we remember the events of Jesus' birth, attention is drawn to Joseph—an “up-right” man who doesn't seem to like much attention. The *Connections Scripture Newsletter* reminds us that Joseph is always in the background and only comes center stage when there is trouble. Then he disappears from the story altogether! The one line from today's Gospel seems to say it all: *“Joseph, Mary's husband, since he was a righteous man, yet unwilling to expose her to shame, decided to divorce her quietly.”*

This one sentence tells us so much about a man who knew and adhered to Jewish law; a man who knew what it meant to support a family, to keep a small business going in difficult times, to pay taxes; a man who conducted his affairs with justice, integrity, and humility. But this one scripture reference also speaks to us of a compassionate man; a man who paid attention to the inner workings of the heart and the intuitive movement of Divine Mystery.

Rather than exposing Mary to the full fury of Jewish law which could have meant her death, Joseph put aside his own anger and hurt to protect her. And, even beyond this magnanimous gesture, Joseph—attentive to the guidance of the Spirit in a dream—took Mary into his home as his wife. The Gospel story continues on portraying Joseph as a loving provider and fearless protector of his wife and child. This one Gospel sentence tells us everything we really need to know about Joseph—the Just.

It is not too far-fetched to say that Jesus learned a great deal about integrity and compassion from his “dad”. It's not hard to imagine that many of Jesus' teachings and stories in his adult years were inspired in part by the example of his carpenter father.

As we enter into the final week of preparation for Christmas, may we embrace the humility and integrity of Joseph—the “Just”. May we be inspired by his decency and compassion; his willingness to put aside his personal fears and anxieties in order to tend to those entrusted to his care. May we be imitators of his humility and selflessness so that we, too, might be more loving spouses, parents, and upright members of our communities—our neighborhoods, workplaces, parishes, and organizations. This fourth and final week of Advent, may we walk with Joseph—the Just