

**MASS INTENTIONS**

**THIS WEEK**

Saturday 5:00 Joseph DiBrigida  
 Sunday 8:00 Ken Carpenter, James Miller  
 Fr. Bob Kemmery, Parish Family  
 10:00 Ruth Boggan  
 Monday 8:00 Thomas Traina  
 Tuesday 8:00 Leila Sickinger  
 Wed 8:00 Lillian M. Mathews  
 Thurs 8:00 Communion Service  
 Friday 8:00 Don Dolan

**NEXT WEEKEND**

Saturday 5:00 Bertha & Charles Meads  
 Blanche & Herb Landwehr  
 Sunday 8:00 Frederick Aldrich, Danielle Consalvo  
 Michael Day, Fr. Bob Kemmery,  
 Parish Family  
 10:00 Lucille Cunnane

**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, 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 Bencotter, 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, Ed Daly, James Roberts, Addie Priess, Pat Hastings, Tim McEnaney, Frank McCarthy, Ruth Kantorski, Andree Yager, Loretta Reiter, Thomas Murphy, Paul Kasczak, 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** Leo Miller, Norie Leonard

**COLLECTION RESULTS — THANK YOU**

Christmas Day	\$24,951.00
January 1 Regular	\$ 6,506.00
January 1 Solemnity of Mary	\$ 4,048.00
2016 Annual Appeal	\$81,718.63

**2ND COLLECTION NEXT WEEKEND**

Your donation to next week's second collection supports Catholic Communications.

**BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP**


The Bereavement Support Group will meet **NEXT** Sunday, January 15, at 1:30 p.m. in the Parish Center. These year-round monthly group meetings focus on the various aspects of grieving. The presentations and round-table discussions provide information to assist the bereaved as they move forward with their new life. For further information, please call Barbara at 508-240-1090, or Liz at 508-896-4916.

**THE THRIFT SHOP RE-OPENS**

After a well-deserved holiday hiatus, our Thrift Shop volunteers will be back on the job, re-opening on Monday, January 9, at 10:00 a.m.

**RESISTING HAPPINESS BY MATTHEW KELLY**

Fr. John offered the book, *Resisting Happiness* as a Christmas gift to parishioners. If you were away and did not receive your book, copies are available in the Rectory.



**Pastor's Corner** Dear Friends in Christ,

Once more, I would like to sincerely thank all of you who sent me Christmas cards, Mass cards and Spiritual Bouquets, gifts, baked goodies, or encouraging, uplifting notes. I deeply appreciate your kindness, your thoughtfulness and your generosity, which I have experienced, not only at Christmas, but ever since I arrived here two and a half years ago.

May the New Year of 2017 be abundant in blessings for you and your families, as well as for our wonderful Faith Community, here at St. Joan of Arc.

With Much Love and Prayers,

Fr. John Kelleher

### **ANNUAL APPRECIATION RECEPTION**

*We are grateful for all of our parishioners who are involved in one or more of our many ministries. All those who are regularly involved in ministry or service in the parish are invited to the Four Points Sheraton for spirits and hors d' oeuvres on Friday, January 20, from 5:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. We look forward to celebrating together our ministries and our parish!*

### **FACE WINTER BRUNCH FUNDRAISER**

The Diocese of Fall River Foundation to Advance Catholic Education (FACE) invites all to a winter brunch hosted by Bishop Edgar da Cunha, beginning at 11:30 a.m. on Sunday, February 5, at the Coonamessett Inn of Falmouth. The proceeds will benefit FACE, which provides need-based scholarships to children attending Catholic schools on Cape Cod and throughout southeastern Massachusetts. For ticket information, contact Jane Robin at 508-759-3566.

### **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.

If you suspect you are ill, or weather conditions are hazardous, you are **not obligated 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.**



### **CHURCH WOMEN UNITED**

Church Women United of Cape Cod invite St. Joan of Arc parishioners to attend their 2017 Human Rights Celebration on Tuesday, January 17, at 10:00 a.m. at Our Lady of Victory Parish Hall in Centerville. This year's theme is *Kindling New Fires for Hope*. For a reservation, call Bev Hammel at 508-833-8942, or email mmachh@verizon.net. Cost is \$10.

### **ULTREYA GATHERING**

There will be an Ultreya gathering following the 5:30 Mass at Holy Trinity Parish in their Center (across the street from the church) on Sunday, January 8. For more information, call Alice Doherty, 508-432-0540.

### **FOOD4KIDS**

Volunteers are needed for the Steering Committee of Food4Kids, the summer food and book program operating from Provincetown to Brewster. The committee meets on the 3rd Monday of each month at the Church of the Holy Spirit. If interested, contact Ruth Campbell at rwcampbell@verizon.net, or 414-537-9200.

### **WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER**

"Then they opened their treasures and offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh." Offer your spouse the treasures of each other by attending a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend in Duxbury, MA, from January 20-22, or in South Kingstown, RI, from March 17-19. For more information, call Stephen & Michelle O'Leary at 800-710-9963 or visit us at www.WWEMA.org.

### **RETRouvaille OF NEW ENGLAND**

Retrouvaille is a worldwide program sponsored by the Catholic Church for married couples who are experiencing difficulties in their marriage. Our peer ministry is led by couples who have lived through the honeymoon phase, often followed by deep disillusionment before finally finding resurrection in their marriages using the tools taught in this program. Rediscover a loving marriage with a Retrouvaille weekend. Upcoming weekends are January 13-15 in Framingham, and March 31—April 2 in Tewksbury. To register, call 1-800-470-2230 or visit www.HelpOurMarriage.com.



### **FAITH FORMATION**

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

### **CALENDAR REMINDER**

No Faith Formation classes until Monday, January 23, when we welcome back Kindergarten through grade 10. Look forward to seeing you all in the New Year.

### **ACING THE COLLEGE TRANSITION**

The Office of Faith Formation and the Office for Campus Ministry for the Fall River Diocese welcomes high school seniors to attend a weekend gathering at the LaSalette Retreat Center in Attleboro, MA from February 3-5, 2017. The focus of the weekend is to explore and learn about an array of college skills and tools to help deepen your faith during the transition from high school to college. For more information or to register contact Claire McManus at 508-678-2828, Ext. 19, or [cmcmanus@dfrcs.org](mailto:cmcmanus@dfrcs.org).

### **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 (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 or Father John at the Rectory for further information.



## NINE MILES

An article entitled "*Off by Nine Miles*" appeared some years ago in the "*Christian Century*" magazine. It seems that, according to the Gospel of Matthew, the Wise Men after a long, arduous faith-filled journey, found themselves in Jerusalem—the logical city in which to find a new messiah-king. Jerusalem was a city of wealth and power; of ambition and prosperity; of arrogance and pretension. It was not only the hub of business and trade, but Jerusalem proudly saw itself as the biblical fulfillment of light, radiance, and glory.

However, when the Magi conferred with the unstable and jealous King Herod—ruler of this powerful city—they were given a second prophecy. It pointed the visitors to Bethlehem as the possible birthplace of this long-prophesied Anointed One of Israel. Bethlehem?—hardly the birthplace for a messiah! Nine miles from Jerusalem, the town of Bethlehem barely existed in the minds of the people—it had no pretensions to greatness; it was poor, humble, and unimportant—a dusty stop-over to somewhere more important.

To their everlasting credit, the magi decided to travel those nine extra miles (another very long and arduous journey and a world away from Jerusalem) without the surety of the star for guidance. It was in this most hidden and unexpected place that the star reappeared in the heavens and they found the One for whom they had been searching—the Holy One who would draw all nations to Himself and usher in a new vision of peace, service, and healing.

It seems that, like the Magi, we all have to traverse those "nine miles of unknowing" at some point in life—we are all challenged by decisions that have no clear answers; unexpected loss; darkness in which we seem to have little guidance. But the story of the Epiphany reminds us that God's Light breaks through in the most unexpected ways and in the least likely places. With faith and trust, we continue our journey away from illusions of pretentiousness and self-importance—to find the Holy born in generous service; in humility; in forgiveness, compassion, and reverence for all creation.

As we begin this New Year, may we direct our footsteps along the path illuminated by Jesus—may we welcome the sometimes long and demanding "nine miles" that can transform our lives in truth, kindness, and mercy. May we not hesitate to trust in the holy light of Love!