

## MASS INTENTIONS

## THIS WEEK

Saturday	5:00	Ben & Mary McMahon
Sunday	8:00	John & Helen Grace, Ralph Jerome Fr. Bob Kemmery, Parish Family
	10:00	David Patrick DeSaulnier
Monday	8:00	Mark Dundas & Louis DiGiovanni
Tuesday	8:00	Jack Jakubek
Wed	8:00	Josef Hundhammer
Thurs	8:00	Communion Service
Friday	8:00	Leonard Power

## NEXT WEEKEND

Saturday	5:00	Frank Killmaier
Sunday	8:00	Mark Dundas & Louis DiGiovanni John Doyle, Fr. Bob Kemmery, Parish Family
	10:00	Connie Nero

## 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 Cruickshank, Bill Hannon, Peter Gill, Ivy Davis, Maddy Hayes, Clare Stevenson, Joseph Nosari, Vincent Lenczewski, Jeffrey Wolfgang, Louise Francke, Joan Ouellette, Bev Sarazin, Helen Stempsey, Regina Collyer, Tyler Bencoter, 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, 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, Judy Chamberlain, Joe Conlan, Dusty Fahey, Patty Camarra

## 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, Edward Pruffer, Christian P. Goodman

## PRAY FOR OUR DECEASED

Mary Pelrine, Carol McLaughlin

## COLLECTION RESULTS — THANK YOU

February 5 Regular	\$6,015.00
Home Missions	\$2,401.00

## NEXT WEEKEND IS HARVEST SUNDAY

The second collection next 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 NEXT 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.

## BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP

The Bereavement Support Group will meet NEXT Sunday, February 19, 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 508-249-1090 or Liz at 508-896-4916.

## MOVIE TIME

Join us in the Parish Center at 2:00 p.m. on Sunday, February 26, for the movie *Radical Grace*, an award winning film about three American Sisters and their unwavering commitment to the poor, and to social justice. The film also chronicles the sisters' conflict with Church hierarchy as they seek to live the Gospel, both within the church, AND in the modern world. Come and enjoy!

## 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.**

## REFUGEE REFLECTION

**The Refugee Issue** is a very emotional **POLITICAL** issue right now. The Scriptures remind us, however, that how we treat the hungry, the homeless, the oppressed, the afflicted, and those living in ANY kind of darkness, is **ALSO a religious and moral issue.**

Many religious leaders, including the Massachusetts Council of Churches, and the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, have **spoken out AGAINST the recent harmful executive action** toward refugees. Here are a few quotes from the USCCB website:

“It is our conviction as followers of the Lord Jesus that **welcoming the stranger and protecting the vulnerable** lie at the CORE of the Christian life.”

“We believe that by helping to resettle the most vulnerable, we are **living out our Christian faith** as Jesus has challenged us to do.”

“The Church will not waver in her **defense of our sisters and brothers of ALL faiths** who suffer at the hands of merciless persecutors.”

“We must screen vigilantly for infiltrators who would do us harm, but we must always be **equally vigilant in our welcome of friends.**”

“We will work vigorously to ensure that **refugees are humanely welcomed** in collaboration with Catholic Charities, without sacrificing our security, or our core values as Americans, and to ensure that families may be reunified with their loved ones.”

I encourage you, instead of just emotionally reacting to one side, OR the other, of this issue, to **please prayerfully reflect on it.** Bring it to the Lord in prayer. Ask Him, “Lord, what do YOU want done for Your people here? Is there anything I should do, Lord?”

Then, after praying about it, if you feel so moved, please **consider contacting our elected officials** to advocate for a compassionate response to the men, women and children who are desperately fleeing violence and persecution in their homeland.

**Options for action:** Call 202-224-3121 and ask to be connected to our Representative or Senators.

### **E-mail Options:**

[www.markey.senate.gov/contact](http://www.markey.senate.gov/contact)

[www.warren.senate.gov/?p=email\\_senator](http://www.warren.senate.gov/?p=email_senator)

[www.keating.house.gov/contact](http://www.keating.house.gov/contact)

[whitehouse.gov/contact](http://whitehouse.gov/contact)

**Facebook:** [Facebook.com/WhiteHouse](https://www.facebook.com/WhiteHouse)

Thank you for your **prayerful consideration of this tragic human situation.**

Fr. John Kelleher

## NEWS FROM THE DIOCESE

### ***Diocesan Women and Men's Conference***

For Lent this year, the Fall River Diocese is offering something new! The 2017 Women & Men's Conference is a one-day program with enriching talks, reflection, prayer, and fellowship for a deeper faith-filled journey towards Easter. It will take place on Saturday, March 11, at Stonehill College. Speakers will be Cardinal Sean O'Malley, OFM Cap.; RENEW International Director Sr. Terry Rickard, O.P.; Christian music artist ValLimar Jansen; and lay evangelist and humorist Michael Cumbie. To register or obtain more information, visit [www.fallriverdiocese.org](http://www.fallriverdiocese.org) or pick up a flyer in the church foyers. Registration deadline is March 1.

### ***Weekend Retreat for Adults In Theirs 20s and 30s***

*The What Next? Finding Answers with Faith Retreat* is designed for men and women in their 20s and 30s who are interested in taking time to prayerfully reflect on the transitions they have faced, or are currently facing — and how their experiences of transition influence their faith, as well as how their faith can guide, comfort, and support their journey of transition. The weekend incorporates conversations in small groups, and personal time to reflect and pray. Join us for this Charis Retreat weekend from 5 p.m. Friday, March 3, through 1 p.m. Sunday, March 5. Cost is \$50/person for college students, or \$100/person for non-college students in their 20s and 30s, if registered by February 14. Add \$25 after February 14. Sponsored by the Diocese of Fall River Office for Campus Ministry. For more information, visit [www.fallrivercampusministry.com](http://www.fallrivercampusministry.com) or contact Fr. David Frederici at [Fr.David@fallrivercampusministry.com](mailto:Fr.David@fallrivercampusministry.com).

### ***Priesthood Discernment Retreat***

The Diocesan Vocations Office is sponsoring a retreat for men ages 19-45 who are open to praying about a Vocation to the Priesthood. This retreat will be held March 3-5 at the Betania II Retreat Center in Medway. For more info or to register, contact Fr. Chris Peschel at [discernmentretreat@yahoo.com](mailto:discernmentretreat@yahoo.com) or at 508-398-2248.



### FAITH FORMATION

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

### CONFIRMATION RETREAT

The Grade 10 Confirmation Retreat is this Sunday, February 12, from 2:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. We're looking forward to seeing all of our Grade 10 Confirmation students today at 2:00 p.m. sharp.

### FAITH FORMATION SCHEDULE

There are **no** Faith Formation classes on Monday, February 13 and Monday, February 20. We look forward to seeing all Kindergarten through Grade 10 students on Monday, February 27.

### RCIA

Please support our candidate, Olive Murphy, and the RCIA team by keeping them in your prayers. If you wish to explore what it means to be a member of a Catholic Christian community please call Judy Burt Walker at 255-1257 or Fr. John at 255-0170.

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### RETREAT OPPORTUNITIES

**Ash Wednesday Retreat:** *Here for a Purpose*, led by Peggy Patenaude and held at Sacred Hearts in Wareham, is scheduled from 9:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. on March 1. Mass, distribution of ashes and lunch are included. Fee: \$55. Pre-registration is required by Monday, February 27. Visit [www.timeoutretreats.com](http://www.timeoutretreats.com) for registration form.

### WORLDWIDEMARRIAGE ENCOUNTER

Let the light of your love shine upon your marriage by attending a Worldwide Marriage Encounter weekend. Upcoming weekends are March 17 –19 in S. Kingston, RI, and April 22-23 at **Our Lady of the Cape in Brewster**. For more information, call Stephen & Michelle O'Leary at 800-710-9963.

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## LOVE IS THE INCENTIVE

Samuel Bowles in *The Moral Economy* offers two thought-provoking stories about unsuccessful attempts to get people to do the right thing:

The first story relates a problem experienced by a group of day-care centers with parents who were arriving late to pick up their children. The teachers, who had their own family obligations, had to stay with the children until parents arrived at the centers. So the administration began to impose a fine on parents who were late. Did it solve the problem? The answer is “No”. In fact the problem became worse. Now there was no thought about being considerate: of trying to be kind and more prompt. It became simply a financial transaction which many parents thought a small price to pay.

The second story relates to a change made by a new fire commissioner in a major city. Rather than the long-standing unlimited sick-day policy, now only 15 days were allowed. Those who exceeded the limit had their pay docked. Suddenly what had been an ethic to serve the city was replaced by a utilitarian paid arrangement. Many firefighters who had rarely called in sick, now made sure they “took their days”—in fact the number who called in sick on holidays increased by 10-fold over the previous year!

Throughout the Gospel, Jesus appeals to our sense of righteousness and altruism—that God’s Spirit of justice and compassion is a more creative and effective force in our lives than any self-centered, cost-benefit calculation. We all know the positive “feeling” that arises when we do something simply because we know it to be the right thing to do. Likewise, even though unbidden, we value the inner satisfaction that comes when we help someone or are of service to others. Not only do we strengthen the compass of the heart, but parts of our brain actually become activated when we act with a sense of integrity and compassion.

Faith begins in the heart, Jesus says. What we say, what we do, what we decide, are all responses to the God who speaks to us in the depths of our hearts—the God in whose image and likeness we have been created. While laws certainly have their place, Jesus taught the importance of the more difficult task of embracing the Spirit of love and humility which endow all just laws with purpose and meaning. As St. Augustine says, “*What else are the laws of God, but the very presence of the Holy Spirit.*” May we live always from the law of love!