

MASS INTENTIONS

THIS WEEK

Saturday	5:00	Olive Looney
Sunday	8:00	Edward Hurley, Josephine Bachi Kuralt Fr. Bob Kemmery, Parish Family
	10:00	Michael Villano
Monday	8:00	Alex Veilleux
Tuesday	8:00	Clare Roif
Wed	8:00	Mark Dundas & Louis DiGiovanni
	Noon	Joyce E. Farleigh
	5:00	Communion Service
Thurs	8:00	Communion Service
Friday	8:00	Norie Leonard

NEXT WEEKEND

Saturday	5:00	Theresa & Anthony Zazzaro
Sunday	8:00	Virginia Dublin, John Menihan Fr. Bob Kemmery, Parish Family
	10:00	Sherry Edmonds

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 Lenczewski, 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, 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, Jim Bowman

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 Tamaro, Michael L. Hamilton, Thomas Crawford, Aaron Charette, Matthew Blair, Jared Stubbs, Nicholas McGahey, Edward Prufer, Christian P. Goodman

PRAY FOR OUR DECEASED Ann Kearns

LENT AT ST. JOAN OF ARC



Ash Wednesday is this Wednesday, March 1, and will be observed with Mass and distribution of ashes at 8 a.m. and noon, as well as a communion service with ashes at 5 p.m. Wednesday.

The following opportunities are available during Lent:

How's My Spiritual Health? Lent is a good time for a Spiritual Check-Up. Join Fr. John Kelleher as he reflects on the essential ingredients of a Healthy Spiritual Life. Presentations will be held at St. Joan of Arc Church on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, March 6-8, at 7 p.m. Wednesday's reflection will be given in the context of a Penance Service with the opportunity for individual Confessions. Why not COME and fill your prescription for Spiritual Fitness this Lent!

The Light of Christ's Love "It is Love alone that gives worth to all things" ~ Teresa of Avila. Let us take time for reflection and stillness in the Light of Christ's Love as we journey through the Lenten Season. Join Judy Burt Walker on Wednesday mornings during the month of March. The program begins this Wednesday, March 1, at 8:45 a.m. in the Parish Center.

Stations of the Cross & Soup Supper

Join us on Friday, March 24, at 5 p.m. for Stations of the Cross in the Church, followed by a Lenten Soup Supper in the Parish Center.

Best Lent Ever Catholic author Matthew Kelly has a Lenten e-mail program called *Best Lent Ever*. Those who sign up for the program will receive daily e-mails, beginning on Ash Wednesday, with reflections based on his newest book, *Resisting Happiness*. To participate in this Lenten e-mail program, sign up by going online to BestLentEver.com. Happy Lent!

Daily Reflections for Lent Copies of the reflection booklet, *Not by Bread Alone*, are available in the church foyers.

Diocesan Women and Men's Conference

Those interested in riding a bus to the March 11 conference at Stonehill College are requested to call or email the Rectory (508-255-0170 or joanarc@c4.net) by noon, Monday, February 27.

COLLECTION RESULTS—THANK YOU.

February 12 Regular	\$5,318.00
February 19 Regular	\$6,032.00
Harvest Collection	\$4,252.00

UPCOMING COLLECTIONS

The second collection on Ash Wednesday is for evangelization. The second collection next Sunday is in support of Catholic University.

FIRST FRIDAY—MARCH 3

First Friday will be observed on March 3 with anointing of the sick immediately following the 8 a.m. Mass, and Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, ending with a simple benediction at 11:45 a.m.

MOVIE TIME

Join us in the Parish Center at 2:00 p.m. this 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!

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

World Day of Prayer will be observed on Friday, March 3, at 1:00 p.m. at the Brewster Baptist Church, 1848 Route 6A, Brewster. The theme, *Am I Being Unfair to You?*, was written by the Women of the Philippines. If interested in attending, contact Georgia Hawko at 508-255-1929, ghawko@comcast.net, or Doreen Mayer at 508-237-6998, Doreencahill@backyardproperties.com.

RESPECT LIFE MINISTRY MEETING

The Respect Life Ministry committee will meet in the Parish Center this Friday, March 3, at 9:30 a.m.

THRIFT SHOP REQUEST—JEWELRY!

If you don't want your old or broken jewelry, please donate it to the Thrift Shop. Our jewelry department would love to have it!

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.**

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. The theme for the Conference is *Thirsting for Hope — Can You Drink the Cup I Drink?* Our 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. The cost for the event is \$45 per person, which includes lunch and the option for CEUs. During lunch, there will be an opportunity for reconciliation and time to visit the many vendors who will be exhibiting with us. Mass will be celebrated at 3:00 p.m. To register or obtain more information, visit www.fallriverdiocese.org or pick up a flyer in the church foyers. Registration deadline is March 1.

Weekend Retreat for Adults In Their 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 at the Sacred Hearts Retreat Center, 226 Great Neck Rd, Wareham, MA . Cost is \$75/person for college students, or \$125/person for non-college students in their 20s and 30s. Sponsored by the Diocese of Fall River Office for Campus Ministry. For more information, visit www.fallrivercampusministry.com or contact Fr. David Frederici at 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 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 ANGEL CARDS

Thanks to all who sent cards and letters to our Confirmation students. It was an amazing response and outpouring of support for these young people. Please keep them in your thoughts and prayers as they prepare for Confirmation in March.

FAITH FORMATION SCHEDULE

We look forward to seeing all Kindergarten—Grade 10 students this Monday, February 27, as we resume our regular schedule.

GRADE 2 SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Grade 2 students will make their First Penance on Saturday, March 4. Please arrive in the church promptly at 9:00 a.m. to practice the First Communion song. After rehearsal, the students will receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation with Fr. John in the chapel.

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.

YES! RETREAT

The Diocesan Office of Faith Formation is offering a retreat for students in Grades 9-12 the weekend of March 17-19 at Cathedral Camp in East Freetown, MA. This retreat offers high school youth the opportunity to grow closer in their relationship with Jesus. If interested or for additional information, contact the Faith Formation Office at 508-255-1257.

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.

LIGHTEN UP

An essay by the late Nora Ephron carries within it the image of a purse. Although Nora started small with every good intention—vowing to carry in the bag only the absolute bare necessities—Nora’s purse seemed to accumulate the debris of a lifetime. Finding her credit card became tantamount to putting her hand into an abyss—a “radar-directed” sense of instinct was needed to find it. And it didn’t stop there! The purse seemed to expand exponentially to hold that bottle of water (you know the one!); that mid-morning snack (just in case one gets stranded on a desert island); and even a pair of sneakers (should one get inspired to stop at the gym). Nora says that before you know it, your purse can weigh 20 lbs. and you are in need of medical or chiropractic attention.

Guys are not immune either, consider: brief cases; gym bags (any Mom who has experienced a teenager’s gym bag—knows some kind of vaccine is required just to open it); car trunks; tool benches; over-stuffed attics; closets, and basements. It seems that it goes against the grain for most of us to travel lightly.

Yes, to one degree or another we seem unable, or unwilling to let go of the “stuff” we think we must carry in order to survive—sometimes even long-held burdens of resentments; judgments; blame; guilt. To remind us of our need to “lighten up”, the Gospel gives us the beautiful images of the *freedom of the birds of the air*, and the *spontaneity of the wildflowers dancing* in the field. To reflect on these wonders of nature helps us to re-awaken to the deep knowing that everything is Gift—all is God. We can trust in God’s Love. The Prophet Isaiah also portrays the same comforting vision to a people experiencing great suffering. God is imaged as “Tender Mother”—the One who cannot—not even for a nanosecond—forget her beloved children. In the embrace of such unconditional love how can we not relax and trust that we will be given what we need for our growth and ultimate happiness!

This Sunday, as we prepare for the Lenten season, we ponder ways in which to travel more lightly. For one person it might be to carve out a quiet time to rest with God; for another, it may be taking a step toward saying “I’m sorry”; yet another might be asked to trust more fully in God’s forgiving grace. As burdens—large or small—disappear from our “bag of stuff”, we journey with Jesus into the desert with a new sense of freedom and spontaneity—an aliveness born of “lightening up” and trusting in transforming Love.