

MASS INTENTIONS

THIS WEEK

Saturday	5:00	Charles Nuzzo
Sunday	8:00	Mark Dundas/Louis DiGiovanni
		Fr. Bob Kemmery, Parish Family
	10:00	Raymond Newman
Monday	8:00	Tom Hawko
Tuesday	8:00	Katherine Wernier
Wed	8:00	Tom Hawko
Thursday	8:00	Communion Service
Friday	8:00	John Moran

NEXT WEEKEND

Saturday	5:00	Ooppee Di Benedetto
Sunday	8:00	Audrey P. Moran, Ruth Kantorski
		Fr. Bob Kemmery, Parish Family
	10:00	Charles Kozlowski

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, 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, 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, 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, Tim McEnaney, Frank McCarthy, Andree Yager, Loretta Reiter, Paul Kasczak, Lolita Previd, Joe Conlan, Patty Camarra, Sue Waugh, James Manley, Betty Babcock, Thomas Murphy, Tom & Deb O'Connor, Roseanne Balsavage, George Meservy, Nancy McGaughey, Mary Ellen Ackley, Chris Frazier, Melissa K., Paul Branden, Claire Surprenant, Jayne Boyle, Vittoria Hillis

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, Nicholas Blair, Nicholas McGahey, Edward Prufer

PRAY FOR OUR DECEASED David H. Bessom, Jr., Ronald Kulig

IN LOVING MEMORY

The tabernacle candle has been donated in loving memory of Ray Newman.

COLLECTION RESULTS—THANK YOU!

Annual Appeal	\$65,790.00
December 3 Regular	\$ 9,213.00
Christmas Flowers	\$ 3,103.00

THIS WEEK'S SECOND COLLECTION

This week's second collection supports retired religious — women and men who cared for the sick, aided the needy, and educated countless children.

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.

SVDP GIVING TREE



All stars taken should be returned to the tree with a gift-wrapped newly purchased gift by **THIS Sunday, December 10** with the star securely attached to the outside of the gift. It is **important to adhere to the December 10 return date** so that gifts can be delivered to the agencies for distribution. Recipients include members of needy families, the “NOAH” shelters in Hyannis and “SKIP” in Provincetown, and Lower Cape Outreach Council, Cape Cod Children’s Place, and A Baby Center in Hyannis.

THE GIFT OF INCARNATION:
AN ADVENT INVITATION

Come and join us as we pause, ponder and pray in preparation for the Feast of the Incarnation — the Birth of Jesus. Judy Burt Walker will facilitate this time of reflection and prayer in the chapel at 8:45 a.m. this Wednesday, December 13. All are welcome.

ADVENT REFLECTION BOOKLETS

Copies of *Waiting in Joyful Hope*, are available in the foyers for your use as daily reflections during the Advent and Christmas seasons.

CHRISTMAS SEASON MASS SCHEDULE

Christmas Eve Masses will be at 4 and 7 p.m. on Sunday, December 24, and Christmas Day Masses will be at 8 and 10 a.m. January 1 is **not** a holy day this year, so we will only have the regular 8 a.m. Mass on Monday, January 1.

CHRISTMAS DINNER AT OLC

Our Lady of the Cape Parish invites anyone who wishes to share a meal with others to Christmas dinner in their parish center at 12 noon on Christmas Day. If you are unable to drive, transportation to the dinner can be arranged and Meals-on-Wheels will deliver to those living within a reasonable distance from the church. How many in your party? Do you need transportation? Do you need to have dinner delivered? Call Dave Danish at 508-896-7613 or email him at Ddanish@comcast.net to make a reservation.

SOLAR PANELS— UPDATE

My September Annual Appeal Letter stated that we hope to put solar panels on the south facing roof of the church NEXT year. However, our solar panel committee has determined that it would be MOST beneficial for the parish to **complete a solar panel project BEFORE March 31, 2018**. AFTER March 31, 2018, Massachusetts State Law changes regarding the value of Solar Renewable Energy Credits (or SREC'S). This means that the income we will receive for being a clean energy producer will be substantially LESS than it would be if our system is "Mechanically Complete" by March 31st.

After looking into FIVE solar companies, and receiving bids from four of them, we selected E2 Solar out of Dennis, MA to design and install our solar panel system. E2 Solar has already completed the design of our solar panel system. Now, Eversource must APPROVE the design of the system before the project can move forward. By law, Eversource has up to 45 business days to approve the system.

Please know that **your contribution to THIS year's Parish Annual Appeal WILL support our Solar Panel Project**, as well as the other projects outlined in the Annual Appeal Letter. We strongly believe that producing clean energy is a great response to Pope Francis' call to care for our environment, and we KNOW that a solar panel system will virtually eliminate our \$20,000 - \$30,000 electric bill from our three parish buildings.

I am grateful to all who have already made their Annual Appeal donation, resulting in a total of \$65,790 to date. If you haven't yet contributed, please consider a **generous donation to this year's Annual Appeal in support of our Solar Panel Project**. Thank you very much!

Peace,
Fr. John Kelleher

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY

It was a glorious day for our group in Brewster last Saturday. A BIG thank you to all who helped — for the prayer/devotion by Deacon Norm, for the lunch done by Maria and Mary Anne, to all who donated food, and to all the volunteers who nailed cedar wall shingles.

SEASONAL REMINDERS

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

During the winter time which brings 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.

CAPE CATHOLIC CONNECTION

Check out the Cape Cod Deanery's new website for the Catholic Community on Cape Cod: www.capecatholicconnection.org. Here you will find a one-stop source of information for all aspects of our life of faith here on the Cape, from Mass times to hospital and social ministries, to an events calendar of happenings in our local parishes.

LA SALETTE FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS

Our Lady of the Cape Ladies Guild is organizing a bus trip to the Festival of Lights on Friday, December 15, from 1 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. The cost of \$25 per person includes bus fare, beverages and snacks and a light "box meal" for the way home. Seating is limited, so call Betty Richard at 508-385-4005 by Sunday, December 10, to secure a seat. The Festival includes a concert by Father Pat, and a tour of the beautiful grounds and the stunning lights at the National Shrine of Our Lady of La Salette.

NEED HELP?

**We can assist with
food, shelter, medical, utilities.**

**Society of St. Vincent de Paul
HELPLINE 508-255-8080**



FAITH FORMATION SCHEDULE

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

FAITH FORMATION SCHEDULE

We look forward to seeing our Grade 1 through Grade 10 students on Monday, December 11. Don't forget to remind your afternoon student to ride the St. Joan of Arc bus to class..

GRADE 9 AND 10 DECEMBER TEEN NITE

Teen Nite for our Confirmation students is this Tuesday, December 12, at 6:00 p.m. We will work together on a service project, share a meal, and celebrate the season with a Yankee Swap. Please bring a wrapped gift of under \$10 with you.

HARK! THE HERALD ANGELS SING . . .

Our annual Christmas Pageant will be next Monday, December 18, at 6:30 p.m. Family, friends, parishioners — absolutely everyone — is invited to share the Christmas spirit with our shepherds and sheep, Bethlehem stars, angels, wise men, and baby Jesus. Come and celebrate with us the season of Christ's birth. All students, grade K—10, should arrive at the Parish center by 5:45 p.m. to get costumed and prepare for your parts.

CHRISTMAS EVE FAMILY MASS

Christmas Eve Family Mass is Sunday, December 24, at 4:00 p.m. We hope to see as many of our families and students as possible at this special liturgy. Students will be participating as lectors, altar servers, offertory collectors, bearers of the crèche figures to the manger, and signing *Silent Night* after communion. We are excited about our Christmas Eve Family Mass and look forward to celebrating this special season of hope with St. Joan of Arc families.

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 for further information at 508-255-1257, or Father John at the Rectory.

PREPARE THE WAY

You may have heard about the monkey who gleefully grabbed hold of a fistful of delicious tempting fruit. The problem was that he became obsessed with the fruit to the point of being unwilling to let any of it go. The fruit grew rotten in his tightly clenched fist, but the monkey still held on to it. Nearby was a jar filled with small pieces of fresh, juicy fruit. The neck of the jar, however, was too narrow for a fully-packed clenched fist to go through. The hand could have fit through the opening, but only if the fist was not clenched. The monkey could have helped himself to sweet pieces of fruit, had he been willing to let go of the old, now rotten fruit!

You might say there is a bit of that ‘monkey-mind’ in all of us. Whether through ignorance, fearfulness, greed, or simply inertia – we often need a wake-up call to remind us that it is in our best interest to let go of self-serving and destructive patterns. We hear such a wake-up call in the scriptures today as both the Prophets Isaiah and John the Baptist proclaim the message: *“Prepare the way of the Lord!”*

Unfortunately, we often receive this message with a narrow view – all we have to do is just drop all of our destructive habits – let go of the old, rotten fruit – and that’s enough. But the call goes much deeper. It’s an urgent cry to nourish ourselves with the delicious, fresh fruit we’re missing by clinging to unloving habits that hurt ourselves and stand in the way of our ability to relate compassionately to others.

In the original Greek translation the word *“metanoia”* speaks of a radical change in our vision of life that will bring about a transformation of the way we live. In this way John the Baptist is telling us to hurry up; unclench our fists; let go of the old ways that fall short of the mark; and prepare to join with our brothers and sisters in partaking of the heavenly banquet of mercy and kindness.

This second Sunday of Advent invites us, then, to a “meta-dream”– a dream of what life can be like when we choose to open our fists. It offers a vision of participation in the divine life and in the joy of being part of a humanity at peace –smoothing out what divides us and rejoicing in the multiple ways our different cultures can incarnate the love of God. We are reminded by the Prophets that we must first let go of our puny expectations, that we may fully embrace the vision of Divine Love born in Jesus – and born in each of us if we are willing to share in that Divine Life. Let us open our minds and hearts and prepare the way of the Lord!