Fifth Sunday of Lent

<u> April 2, 2017</u>

<u>Your prayers</u> are requested for the repose of the souls in this week's Mass intention; for the souls in Purgatory; and for the deceased of our parish.

Sat., Apr 1,	4:00 P.M.	Gloria Henriques by son, Antonio
Sun., Apr 2,	8:30 A.M.	Fr. Richard Beaulieu & Vivian Johns by family
•	10:30 A.M.	Community Mass: Arthur E. Coia, Theresa Lizotte, Owen Hackett, Adriano B. Lima, Clotilde St. Pierre,
		for the health of Andrew Eugenio
	7:00 P.M.	For parishioners of St. Mary
Mon., Apr 3,	12:00 P.M.	For parishioners of St. Mary
Tues., Apr 4,	12:00 P.M.	Douglas Walsh by Martin & Mary Ellen Flinn
Wed., Apr 5,	12:00 P.M.	Roseanne Mandeville by Frank & Carolyn (9th anniversary)
Thurs., Apr 6,	12:00 P.M.	Harold Philipp by Martin & Mary Ellen Flinn
Fri., Apr 7,	12:00 P.M.	Randall Villeneuve by family
Sat., Apr 8,	4:00 P.M.	David Knowles by mother & family (4th anniversary)
Sun., Apr 9,	8:30 A.M.	Alice M. Couture by daughter, Rona Mingola
	10:30 A.M.	Community Mass: David Silva, David Maguire, Frank & Lois Giambo, Susan Darling, Ronald Lamarre,
		Clotilde St. Pierre, Lazaro Rosa, Angelo Teixeira, Julia Macaluso
	7:00 P.M.	For parishioners of St. Mary

14-day Memorial Candles: In Memory of <u>Lazaro Rosa</u> by wife, Maria & family

In Memory of **Fr. Richard Beaulieu** by family (10th anniversary)

Icon Candle: In Memory of Pete Dumont by Tony Oliveira

Hosts for April: In Memory of Mark Richard by parents

There are a number of <u>Icon Candles</u> available for this year. The cost for the Icon candle lit for one week is \$10.00. There are also **7:00PM Sunday Masses** still available as well. Please call the rectory if you would like to memorialize any of these.

First Communion Mass will take place at 11AM on Saturday, May 6, 2017.

Rehearsals are Wed., May 3rd and Fri., May 5th at 6 PM in the church. The certificate mass is Sunday, May 7th at 8:30 AM.

St. Vincent de Paul Meeting will be Wednesday, April 5, at 6:45 PM.

All Eucharistic Ministers, lectors and volunteers your <u>CORI renewals</u> are available in the priest's sacristy. Any questions, please call Cathy LaCroix. Please complete all forms fully and return by April 30.

First Friday, April 7th, opens with prayers at 8:30 AM, followed by Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament until 11:45 AM with Benediction before the noon mass. A sign-up sheet is available at the entrance of the church. Please remember all the sick and homebound of our parish in your prayers.

End of the month Budget (collections) for March

\$31,600 (\$7900 x 4 weeks) needed for the month (includes monthly tax assessment)

\$30,300 was collected.

You will note a shortfall of \$1300. in last month's budget needs. You will recall our parish council has requested a weekly increase of \$5.00 to meet this expense. A monthly donation of \$20.00 can be placed in the <u>Diocesan Assessment</u> envelope included in your budget envelopes. This collection, along with the Building and Education Funds are not taxable for our assessment fee. **Thank you for your continued support.**

<u>Confessions:</u> Friday, **April 7**th, from **6:30PM – 8:00PM**. There will be no ceremony, just drop in during those hours and priests will be available to hear your confession. This is a wonderful way to prepare for Easter.

<u>Holy Week</u> begins on Palm Sunday, April 9. We will have our <u>usual weekend mass schedule</u> and Palms will be distributed at all masses. On Holy Thursday, we will have the <u>Mass of the Lord's Supper at 7 PM with adoration in the Memorial Chapel until 11 PM</u>. On Good Friday, we will have <u>Stations of the Cross at 3 PM and the Liturgy with Holy Communion at 7PM</u>. Our Easter Vigil will begin at 7:00 PM on Saturday, April 15 (no 4 PM mass or confessions for that Saturday only) and, on Easter Sunday, April 16, we will have our regular mass schedule which is 8:30 AM, 10:30 AM and 7:00 PM. Everyone should make an effort to attend services during Holy Week.

The Romeiros (those who walk in an act of penance and a display of faith) will begin at 8:00 AM on <u>Sat., April 8th</u> and visit the parishes of the city. They will be at St. Mary's Church around <u>2:30 PM until 3:00PM</u>. All are welcome to come and pray at this time.

<u>Chrism Mass</u> – will be celebrated by Bishop DaCunha on <u>April 11, 2017 at St. Mary's Cathedral in Fall River at 4 PM</u>. During this mass the Holy Oils used during the year: Oil of the Catechumen, Oil of the Sick, and the Oil of the Chrism are blessed. Priests gather from throughout the Diocese to renew their priestly commitment at this mass as well. The Mass is open to the public. Should you wish to attend, tickets are available at the office. This year Msgr. Oliveira will be one of the 50 year ordination class.

Service of Shadows Wednesday, April 12th at 7:30PM: A special prayer service called Tenebrae which has its roots in monastic tradition is held each year on the Wednesday evening of Holy Week at the Cathedral of St. Mary in Fall River. This service of readings, psalms and hymns at which the bishop presides begins in the light which eventually fades into darkness as the candles in the sanctuary are gradually extinguished. Christians of all denominations and their ministers are also invited to participate as a means of sharing in worship during these holy days when we are encouraged to forget our differences and focus together on the passion, death and resurrection of Christ. Please mark your calendars to experience the beauty of this special service and perhaps it will become an annual tradition during Holy Week.

Have you eaten any pretzels lately? If this seems like a strange question, you might be surprised to hear that, historically, pretzels are Catholic food, and especially, very much a Lenten food.

Pretzels have a double connection to this Holy Season—because of their ingredients and because of their shape. According to records dating as far back as the fourth century, when the faithful kept a very strict Lenten fast and abstinence throughout Lent—only one meal a day; no meat, no eggs, no butter, no cheese; small snacks only to maintain strength—they made little breads of flour, water, and salt as a simple food that would fit into the Lenten dietary regulations.

Pretzels as we know them today evolved from these simple breads. History tells us that the pretzel shape familiar to us originated around ne year 610, when an Italian monk, who was baking the Lenten bread, shaped the dough to resemble arms folded across the chest in prayer—the customary posture then—to remind his brother monks that Lent was a time of prayer. He also shared these specially shaped breads with the local children who had learned their prayers, calling these treats "pretiola," or little rewards. In Germany, the word "bretzel" derived from the Latinword for "folded arms." From both of these comes the word "pretzel."

So the pretzel can be considered the most appropriate food for Lent: "its arms crossed in prayer" remind us that Lent is a time of prayer, and its ingredients of water and flour proclaim Lent as a time of fasting. In fact, in some places in Europe, pretzels are available only from Ash Wednesday until Easter.



A Prayer For Lent

Eternal God,
the refuge of all your children,
in our weakness, you are our strength,
in our darkness, you are our light,
in our sorrow, you are our comfort.
May we always live in your presence,
and serve you in our daily lives;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen
-St. Boniface

