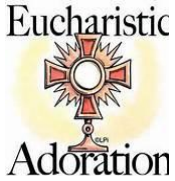


- Saturday, December 30** **4:00pm Robea Valmore Richards**
requested by the Richards Family
- Sunday, December 31** **9:00am Sr. Constance Gemme**
requested by SVDP
- 11:00am David Greenwood**
requested by the Lavallee Family.
- Monday, January 1** **8:30am Christmas Flower Memorial Intentions**
- Tuesday, January 2** **8:30am For the health & wellbeing of Bruce Baczewski**
requested by Charlie & Andrea Boyle
- Wednesday, January 3** **8:30am Estelle Griffin**
requested by Don & Sue Morin
- Thursday, January 4** **8:30am Patrick Sullivan**
requested by Mary Bradshaw
- Saturday, January 6** **4:00pm John & Agnes Zikaras and deceased family members**
req. by the family
- Sunday, January 7** **9:00am Jeannine Gemme**
req. by Marcel & Ann LeClair
- 11:00am Joseph Szkoda**
requested by David Dumais

Next weekend:
My Brother's Keeper collection to benefit the Ecumenical Food Shelf
Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick after all the Masses



*Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
First Tuesday of the month
at 6:00pm
in the Church*



Weekly Collection December 23 & 24	
Adults	\$ 3,515.00
Children 6	\$ 10.00
Maintenance	\$ 45.00
Other sources of Income	\$ 137.00
Christmas Flowers	\$ 29.00
Total of parish support	\$3,736.00
Weekly support needed to meet budget expenses	\$ 4,348.00
Christmas Offering	\$ 3,331.24
SVDP	\$ 107.00

Dear Friends in Christ,

This Sunday we celebrate the feast of the Holy Family. On this day, we remember Jesus, Mary and Joseph and how the Lord was born into and was raised in a human family. The Holy Family of Nazareth is our model for Christian family life.

The Church identifies the family as the basic unit of society, the "domestic church." It is in the family that children first come to know God and are taught prayers. Children learn to love God and others through their parents' example. If children are not loved by their earthly parents, they are often unable to believe in a God in Heaven who loves them as a Father.

Today, modern life places much stress on the Christian family. The demands of work, the difficulties associated with education and extracurricular activities, and a lack of understanding about the true nature of love itself tempt the Christian family to lose faith. There is no more support in society for the regular practice of faith so the Christian family finds itself profoundly different than many families.

As the old year ends and a new one is soon to begin, we must consider family life in light of Christ. How often do we come to church? What is the most important way in which we spend our time? What are our priorities as a family? Do we pray alone or together at home? How well do we care for one another? Do we have religious symbols in our home? Do our friends encourage or discourage us from faith-practice?

May God bless all of our families. May He inspire and direct us and pour out His grace upon us through Our Blessed Mother's intercession.

In Christ,
Fr. Michael



Christmas Open House at the rectory
Sunday, January 7th after the 9 & 11 Masses.

Meetings

NA Sundays 7:30 pm in the hall
K of C 1st Tuesday of the month 6:45pm in the hall
SVDP 3rd Sunday of the Month
Cursillo 4th Day 3rd Tuesday of the month after the rosary
Rosary Group Tuesday at 6:00pm in the church
Bible Study
7:00pm in the Church Hall
Please have read Matthew 2:1-12



Mass for the Memorial of Saint Brother Andre Bessette

On Saturday, January 6th 2018, at 10:00am a bilingual (French & English) Mass will be celebrated in observance of the memorial of Saint Brother Andre Bessette (18445-1937). Brother Andre is known as the founder of Saint Joseph's Oratory in Montreal. he was above all else, a friend of the sick and the poor. Inspired by Saint Joseph, his chosen patron, he worked tirelessly to bring healing and comfort to the afflicted. He was canonized in 2010.

The Mass will be celebrated at St. Joseph's Church, 35 Hamilton St. Worcester, MA. Veneration of the relic of Brother Andre will conclude the liturgy. A reception will follow. All are welcome.



**Give Santa a safe roof to land on!
Only \$1,786 left to reach our goal to
replace our church roof.**

Please use the Special Roof Collection envelopes in your offertory packets or on the bulletin tables. Thank you!

Oxford Ecumenical Food Shelf

January is St. Ann's month to staff the Oxford Food Shelf. We are looking for approx. 15 volunteers to help out on the four Thursday evenings in January from 5:00pm to 8:00pm. Volunteers will help register families, help families pick up their groceries and carry groceries out to cars. Please use the signup sheets on the bulletin board. Don't worry if you can't come every Thursday, just sign up for any Thursday you can help. Please call John Kneeland at #508-987-5046 if you have any questions.



If you are a parishioner and are in need of assistance, please call #508-987-8892 and leave a message on the SVDP private line and someone from the SVDP will return your call. Maybe you have lost your job and are behind on your utilities or can't afford to have oil delivered. We can help. We also can point you in the direction of other resources that are available.



Please donate your bottles & cans after your holiday parties to St. Ann's Parish. We are also looking for volunteers to bring the bottles and cans for redemption. A signup sheet is on the bulletin board.

