



- Saturday, January 27** **4:00pm Russ & Anna Genander**
requested by Ron & Jan Gagner

- Sunday, January 28** **9:00am David D'Agostino 33rd Anniv.**
req. by Michael & Joanne Marcotte

- 11:00am Jodi Sheridan**
requested by SVDP

- Monday, January 29** **8:30am Vicenta Hernandez**
requested by Fr. Michael

- Tuesday, January 30** **8:30am Fr. Thomas Garabedian**
requested by the Topalian family

- Wednesday, January 31** **8:30am Fr. Thomas Garabedian**
requested by the Topalian Family

- Thursday, February 1** **8:30am Fr. Thomas Garabedian**
requested by the Topalian Family

- Saturday, February 3** **4:00pm Cecelia Rogers 7th Anniv.**
requested by the family

- Sunday, February 4** **9:00am Katherine Viel**
req. by Fr. Michael & Barbara Lavallee

- 11:00am Walter McCarthy**
requested by the family.

Dear Friends in Christ,

This Saturday afternoon, our First Communion class celebrated the Sacrament of Penance for the first time. The children have been learning about sin, contrition and forgiveness and about God's great love for them. Their example reminds us that we adults need reconciliation with God too.

In a few weeks the Church will begin the season of Lent, a period in the in the year during which we reflect upon our sin and seek out God's forgiveness in the Sacrament of Penance. The word 'sin' comes from a word that means "missing the mark." Much like an archer who sometimes does not hit his target in the bullseye, we often fail to do what we should and feel powerless to change it.

Yet, the example of the archer is an example of someone trying to get it right. In other words, the archer puts the effort into trying to shoot the arrow into the target perfectly. He is not content with poor performance. Rather he practices over and over, trying to improve his skill and do it to the best of his ability.

In our moral lives, we must be like the archer. We cannot settle for sinful habits or poor performance. Rather, we must seek to improve our score with God, recognizing that effort is continually needed for success. St. Therese teaches us that we can't do this on our own. We must be joyfully and confidently dependent upon God to bring about conversion in us, praying for the grace to accept God's work of transformation within us.

Sacramental graces, like those available in Confession, are important ways that we can grow in conversion. Let us pray that all of us may learn to value these graces more during this year and encourage one another to put more effort into our lives of faith.

In Christ,
Fr. Michael



My Brother's Keeper food collection to benefit the Oxford Ecumenical Food Shelf to assist families in need in our community. 1st weekend of the month.



Weekly Collection January 20 & 21	
Adults	\$ 3,387.00
Children 6	\$ 9.00
Maintenance	\$ 118.00
Bottles & Cans	\$ 27.55
Catholic Free Press	\$ 117.00
Other sources of Income	\$ 194.00
Total of parish support	\$3,541.55
Weekly support needed to meet budget expenses	
	\$ 4,348.00
Roof Collection	\$ 317.00
SVDP	\$ 95.00
Poor Box	\$ 36.00

There will be an important meeting for all Lectors, Eucharistic Ministers and Sacristans on Wednesday, February 7th at 6:00pm in the parish hall. Please make every effort to attend.

Meetings

NA Sundays 7:30 pm in the hall
 K of C 1st Tuesday of the month 6:45pm in the hall
 SVDP February 18th following the 9:00am Mass
 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 Mark 1:29-39



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PROGRAM

Mondays: Grades 1-4 3:30pm Grades 5-10 6:00pm



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.

Considered a Vocation to the Priesthood? Come and learn more. The Diocese of Worcester's annual discernment retreat, directed by Bishop McManus, will be held on March 23 & 24. This retreat begins 6 pm on Friday and ends 6pm Saturday. It is for men high school age, college age, and older. The retreat center is only 30 minutes from Worcester at the Immaculate Conception Retreat Center in Putnam CT. There is no cost, and transportation is provided if needed. Visit worcestervocations.com for more information. Contact Fr. Jim Mazzone at jmazzone@charter.net or call 508-340-5788 to sign up.



World Marriage Day Celebration Sunday, February 11

There will be a special blessing for all married couples at the Masses on this weekend. **At the 9:00am Mass there will be a celebration honoring couples who have been married 5, 10, 15, 20, 25 years etc. who wish to renew their vows.** After the 9:00am Mass there will be a reception in the hall with wedding cake.

We ask that any couple wishing to renew their vows would please sign up on the sheet on the bulletin board or see Deacon Jim, to help us with our preparations. We will be including inserts for the next several weeks that cover various aspects of married life. Please read and share them with others.

Lent is coming: Ash Wednesday is February 14

Please plan to join us on the Tuesday nights in Lent at 6:30PM for a **Lenten Retreat: 33 Days to Merciful Love.** The retreat is based on a book by Fr. Michael Gaitley. This book invites us to enter into the heart of Jesus- a Lenten focus that leads us to Holy Week and Easter. More information to follow. Sign up on the bulletin board.

Shrine Association Raffle

The Shrine Association will be holding a raffle on the weekends of February 3rd & 4th, and 10th & 11th. This raffle will help support this ministry which recently purchased the Black Book devotional books for the parishioners to enjoy during Lent.



Valentine's Day Theme Bake Sale

February 10th & 11

To donate items please sign up on the sheet provided on the bulletin board. Items can be dropped off at the left sacristy in the church before the 4:00pm Mass on February 10th or before the Masses on February 11th. Proceeds will benefit St. Ann's winter fuel and snow removal costs.
Thank you

Volunteers needed for the Yard Sale Committee

Please contact the rectory if you are interested in joining the team to plan this important fundraiser for the parish.
Yard Sale will be held on June 2 & 3, 2018

Collection of items will begin on Saturday, April 7, but if you know of someone who is moving now and they have items they wish to donate we do have some space to store items. Please let us know.

First Meeting Tuesday, January 30th at 6:30 in the hall



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