

- Saturday, March 30** **8:30am Thomas Topalian**
requested by Theresa Topalian
- Sunday, March 31** **9:00am Alphonse Vigeant 6th Anniv.**
requested by the Vigeant Family
- 11:00am Tammy Pelc**
requested by the family
- Monday, April 1** **8:30am All Souls Intentions of**
Sven & Paulette Williamson
- Tuesday, April 2** **8:30am Elmira V. Gabrie**
requested by David Dumais
- Wednesday, April 3** **8:30am James & Genevieve Ferullo**
requested by the family
- Thursday, April 4** **8:30am Carol Cornacchiolli**
requested by St. Ann's Parish
- Saturday, April 6** **4:00pm Ellen LeBlanc**
requested by the family
- Sunday, April 7** **9:00am John Scott St. Cyr**
req. by Fr. Michael & St. Ann's Parish
- 11:00am Bernard Chesties**
requested by SVDP

Children's Mass Next Sunday, April 7th at 9:00am
followed by refreshments in the parish hall



Weekly Collection March 23 & 24

Adults	\$ 2,771.00
Children	\$ 23.00
Maintenance	\$ 40.00
Bottles & Cans	\$ 11.35
Other sources of Income	\$ 95.00
Easter Flowers	\$ 220.00
Total of parish support	\$ 3,160.35
Weekly support needed to meet budget expenses	\$ 4,250.00
SVDP	\$ 529.00
Poor Box	\$ 23.00

Dear Friends in Christ,

On this Sunday, we hear the Parable of The Prodigal Son proclaimed in the gospel. This masterpiece of Jesus' teachings challenges us to reflect upon the nature of God and the state of our lives and relationships. Though we have probably heard the story many times, how often have we thought and prayed deeply about what it's message is ?

The parable begins with the prodigal asking his father for his portion of the inheritance he will receive upon the father's death, early. In effect, he is expressing that he wishes his father was dead! Amazingly, the father hands over the inheritance just as the son asks. This makes us wonder about the father. Why would he do this?

The prodigal gets what he wants and immediately travels to a "distant country," reflecting the separation sin causes between God and man and between human beings. There, the son wastes the inheritance on a dissolute life. This "wasting" later results in the prodigal's dire need and starvation once the famine comes upon the distant country where he is. This portion of the parable reminds us of the consequences of sin that are far-reaching and cannot be foreseen.

The next portion of the parable makes us wonder whether the son or the father is the prodigal one. After the son decides to return to the father in humility, the father rushes out to meet him while the son is "still a long way off". He showers upon the son excessive love and then orders that a feast be held in the son's honor. The father's behavior seems unbelievable. Where is his anger towards his son for wasting the family fortune? Why is he so excessive in his love shown to the son? This is why the father is sometimes seen as prodigal because his behavior seems to violate the principles of common sense.

It is when we reflect upon the father's love for his repentant son that we recognize that the parable is not just a story about a human family drama. Rather, we are invited to consider that it is a story of a family that is much larger, indeed the family of the Church and the head of that family, Christ the Lord. The prodigal Father's love for sinners is revealed in depth and we rejoice in God's divine mercy.

As we celebrate Lent's Fourth Sunday may the Parable of the Prodigal Son encourage us to open our hearts to the Father's merciful and redeeming love.

In Christ, Fr. Michael



Coffee Shop April 7

Please join us after the 9:00am
Mass for fellowship in the hall.

***The church hall will be closed for
the month of May and the first two
weeks of June for the Yard Sale.**

Meetings

NA Sundays 7:30 pm in the hall
K of C 1st Tuesday of the month 6:45pm in the hall
SVDP Next meeting to be determined
Rosary Group 1st & 3rd Tuesday at 6:00pm in the church
Upper Room Ministry 2nd & 4th Tuesdays at 6:00pm
Bible Study Wednesday at 7:00pm in the Church Hall
Please read John 8:1-11
First Saturday Marian Devotion after 4:00pm Mass



St. Vincent De Paul
Serving those in Need

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.



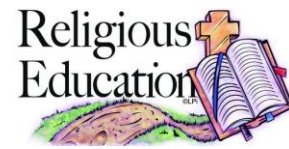
Save the Date for the Senior Spring Luncheon

St. Ann's SVDP Society cordially invites the seniors of the parish, 50 years young and up, to a Senior Spring Luncheon on Sunday, April 28th at 12:00pm in the hall. Please fill out the response forms on the bulletin tables and return them by Easter Sunday or call the Rectory at #508-987-8892.

This year at the Spring Luncheon our guest of honor will be Sr. Jeanne Rouillard. Please join with us as we dedicate a special garden to thank her for her many years of service to St. Ann's Parish.



The date of this year's yard sale is June 8th & 9th. We will start collecting items on Saturday, April 6th and will close the church hall again this year during the month of May to be able to store the yard sale items. **Signup sheets are on the bulletin board for volunteers to help sort and clean the items as they arrive.** If you know of someone who is moving and wants to donate items to the parish please contact the rectory. We need many volunteers this year with different gifts and talents to make this fund raiser a success. Please join us!!



Grades 1-4 3:30 - 4:45pm
Grades 5-9 6:00 - 7:15pm
Confirmation Classes Wednesday at 6:00pm



Feeding the Community

Next weekend

My Brother's Keeper food collection to benefit the Oxford Ecumenical Food Shelf



Sunshine Ministry Birthdays for April

Annette Castonguay
Barbara Beauregard
Nancy Williamson
Pauline Pinkham



PARTNERS IN CHARITY

Last weekend was our Parish Commitment Weekend for the 2019 Partners in Charity Appeal. Thank you to those who made a gift and a special thank you for those who gave for the first time. Gifts and pledges have totaled **\$14,080.00** towards our parish goal of \$40,000. It is important for all of us to participate in order to support our mission as a diocese. Please be as generous as possible. If you have already made a gift to the 2019 Appeal we thank you. Your gift will help us reach our goal. You can also make your gift online at www.partners-charity.net. Thank you.



50/50 Raffle tickets and Raffle tickets for various prizes will be on sale after all the Masses. These raffles will benefit the Partners in Charity Appeal. The drawings will be held at the **Bingo Night** on Saturday, April 6th, 5:30pm to 9:00pm in the parish hall. There will be cash prizes, snacks, and fun for everyone. All ages are welcome. Please consider bringing your family and friends to this event.