

Please Pray for...

All who have died these past weeks, especially Fr. Chet Devlin, Christopher Leveillee and Betty Cabana. We offer our sympathy and our prayers to his family and pray that he will rest in peace.

Those who are sick in the hospital or recovering:

Fr. Martin Donahue, Mary Madden, Elaine Lamoureux, George Gouin, Peter Lacroix, Simon Kibe, Jean Wheeler, Melanie Paquette, Al Shedyak, Stevie Day, Kathleen Bowen, Paul Masiello, Paul Provencher, Bernadette Pervier, Bob Peluso, Bill Keyes, Diane Cyr, Theresa Cassavant, Laurie Gablaski, Ann Gablaski, Addison Lacaire, Elizabeth Lemerise, Pat Benoit, Gloria Butler, Joyce Frigon, Laura Wynn, Carey Dubois, Raymond Brodeur, Dawn McDonald, Michael Kady, Bonnie Sheldon, , Heather Lech, Joseph Nisel, Joseph Siauris, Cheryl Branham, Judy Wilson, Pauline Casavant, Jon Widdison, Lynn Desforges

OUR SACRIFICIAL OFFERINGS JULY 15 & 16

Envelopes	\$3,956.00
Loose	\$ 604.00
Total collection	\$4,560.00
Number of envelopes	162
Mass Attendance	380

Thank you for your generous gifts this past weekend which enable us to continue to do God's work. May God bless you all. Please consider weekly or monthly online giving.

PARTNERS IN CHARITY

We have received \$42,529 in gifts and pledges from 218 givers and we are at 98.9% toward our goal of \$43,000 so only \$471.00 to go, can you help us reach our goal?

FOOD PANTRY REQUEST FOR THIS WEEK Ketchup & Mayonnaise

EWTN Family Celebration in New England on September 9 & 10 at the DCU Center in WORCESTER! Be renewed in your faith with inspirational talks, Holy Mass, Confession & Adoration. For more information go to www.ewtn.com/familycelebration.

Save the Date: We are planning a "Parish Picnic" for Sunday, September 10th beginning with an outdoor mass followed by a meal of Pulled Pork, Hamburgers, Hot dogs, Chili, Beans and Cold Salads and much more. We need a committee to get this Picnic off the ground, please see Sandy if you are interested in helping...

Our Volleyball team played Monday night and won 3 games against Christ the King Parish.

Remaining Schedule:

7/24 7:00 pm vs St. Bridgid's, Millbury @ Greenbriar Park Courts 591 Main St. Oxford

7/31 7:00 pm vs St. Ann's, N. Oxford @ Greenbriar Park courts

FAITH FORMATION NEWS

Office hours: 10:00 – 5:00

Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, only, from 10:00-5:00

Contact Judi at 508-885-3111 x 105 or jbrennan@parishmail.com

Faith Formation classes begin in September.

PLEASE REGISTER FOR NEXT YEAR NOW!!!!

Schedule for the 2017 – 2018 year will be:

Sunday	9:00 – 10:00	Grades K – 5
Sunday	5:30 – 7:00	Grades 9 – 11
Monday	4:45 – 6:00	Grades 2 – 5
Tuesday	7:00 – 8:15	Grades 6 – 8

Grades 2 – 5 will only have 1 class on Sunday morning and one class on Monday afternoon. First Come, First Serve

THANK YOU!!!! Vacation Bible School was a great success, thank you to all who participated in any way, from the donors to the staff and to the children for joining us.....



Greater Worcester Opera will be presenting concerts this summer at Briarwood Retirement Community, Wednesday July 26 and August 2. Come relax in the air conditioned hall and listen to talented area singers, you might even know some. Concerts are at 7:30 pm. Tickets are \$10.00 at the door

"Deja New", Art, Antiques & Collectibles Vendor Marketplace will open on Wednesday, August 2nd from 1:00 - 7:00 pm in the St. Joseph's Rectory building in Leicester for its first season. In addition, a farmers market will be open from 3:00 – 6:00 that day. Stop in and check out our vendor products. All proceeds benefit the non-profit "24-7 Community Partnership" which will provide funds to programs for the needy, including the Leicester Food Pantry.

St. Joseph & St. Pius Church will be holding its Second Annual Estate Sale on August 4- 5th from 9 am to 1pm at the St. Joseph's church hall located at 759 Main Street in Leicester. We have dining room, living room, and bedroom and office furniture from several locations plus collectables. Cash only!!

FIRST SATURDAY EUCHARISTIC EXPOSITION

AUGUST 5, 2017 8:30AM - 4:00 PM

Mass of the Blessed Virgin Mary: 8:00am. Confessions following Mass, Exposition starting at the end of Mass and continuing throughout the day until 4:00 pm. Confessions 3:00 – 3:50 pm. Benediction 4:00 pm. If you wish to participate there is a sign up sheet in the sacristy.

The 16TH Sunday in Ordinary Time



July 23, 2017

A message from Fr. Bill

The wheat and the weeds

The sower, like in last Sunday's parable, has sown good seed, but an enemy followed him and sowed weeds all through the wheat. Only as the season progresses does the damage done become obvious; among the wheat, growing along with it, are noxious weeds. This is a parable of the kingdom of heaven, in which Mathew obviously sees a parable of the Church, in his day and for all times. There are good and bad people, including pretentious leaders. To separate rightly, one from the other is an impossible task for those who can judge only by appearances. God alone, who sees what is in the human heart, has that capability. And, He alone, can remove the weeds without uprooting the wheat. Nevertheless, the parable goes further because by saying "Let them grow together until harvest," the Gospel implies that God does not hurry at sorting the wheat from the weeds. The judgment in that regard can wait until harvest time and, until then, it is the time of growth and hope. Beyond human imagining, God knows that in the field of His kingdom, vigorous weeds may disappear before reaching maturity, some wheat seeds germinate later than others and certain wheat plants only develop their ears just before harvest. God also knows full well that wheat plants which have sprouted rapidly can just as quickly dry out and others will never succeed in forming ears, while some of the ears in ripe wheat grains are inevitably poor. The parable of the seed and the different places it falls (recall last Sunday's gospel) is a perennial reminder that all that occurs is not merely the result of unpredictable weather. We can blame neither the quality of the seed nor point an accusing finger at the sower, as if it is his mistake because it is the enemy who has scattered weeds in the field. The responsibility lies in the human heart that welcomes weeds in.

Fr. Bill

Outreach Ministry: Carol St. John visits and brings communion to the homebound and those in nursing homes. If you know of someone who needs a visit please call her at 508-885-3017 or 508-864-6323

Prayer Shawl Ministry news: Next meeting with be Wed. August 2, 7:00 pm

Catholic Charities' Southbridge Area Office is organizing its annual School Supply/Back Pack drive for local children. This year's goal is to service at least 200 children in grades 1 - 12. We will be leaving boxes out at the doors of the church for the next 4 week if you would like to donate. Items needed include: 3-ring binders, 1-3 subject notebooks, backpacks, book covers, calculators, colored markers, crayons, erasers, glue sticks, highlighters, pencils, pens, pocket folders, rulers and whiteout. There are flyers at the doors of the church for information. Supplies will be picked up by August 5th.



Extra August Calendar Raffles along with return envelopes are available at the doors of the church and in the office.

Mass Schedule

Saturday, July 22 4:30 pm Viola Pizon (5 th Anniv) by Pat
Sunday, July 23 8:00 am Ken Wheeler (1 st Anniv) by Jean & Family 10:15 am Dennis Gilman (3 rd Anniv) by his daughter Michelle
Monday, July 24 8:00 am For the people of the Parish
Tuesday, July 25 8:00 am
Wednesday, July 26 8:00 am
Thursday, July 27 8:00 am
Friday, July 28 8:00 am No Mass Today
Saturday, July 29 4:30 pm Jason Bercume (25 th Annv) & Zachary Fahey(1 st Annv) by Kim, David, Evan & Liz
Sunday, July 30 8:00 am Therese Johnson by Celine Benoit 10:15 am Evelyn & Tom Harrington by Al & Mimi Shedyak

Calendar of Events

Sunday, July 23	Coffee Shop OPEN
10:15 am	Children's Liturgy of the Word
Monday, July 24	
10:00 am	Food Pantry CLOSED
Tuesday, July 25	
6:00 - 8:00 pm	Volleyball Practice
Wednesday, July 26	
Thursday, July 27	
10:00 am	Food Pantry OPEN
Friday, July 28	
6:00 - 8:00 pm	Volleyball Practice
Saturday, July 29	
3:30 pm	Confessions
Sunday, July 30	Coffee Shop OPEN
10:15 am	Children's Liturgy of the Word

EAGLE SCOUT PROJECT: Zachary Simons, a member of our parish and an Eagle Scout will be accepting monetary donations to put towards his Eagle Scout Project of adding 6 new white boards to the Faith Formation classrooms. Zachary needs to raise \$1,000.00 for this project. More information to follow.

"The kingdom of heaven may be likened to a man who sowed good seed in his field...He who sows good seed is the Son of Man, the field is the world, the good seed the children of the kingdom."

Matthew 13:24, 37-38