

Please Pray for...

All who have died these past weeks especially Lisa Frelick Hubbard, Bill Keyes Sr. and Ashley Costa. We offer our prayers to their family and pray that they will rest in the Lord's peace. Those who are sick in the hospital or recovering: Suzanne Lamoureux, Robert Boucher, LuAnn Trigo, Richard Roderick, Fr. Martin Donahue, Carole Caissie, Dorothy Choquette, Noreen Mina, Mary Madden, Michael Girardi, Robert Geoffrion, Bernadette Pervier, Elaine Lamoureux, Whitney Fritze, Diane Aoun, Peter Lacroix, Heather Josti - Harris, Simon Kibe, Lili MacDonald, Jean Wheeler, Melanie Paquette, Al Shedyak, Kathleen Bowen, Paul Masiello, Paul Provencher, Lucy Kelly, Diane Cyr, Theresa Cassavant, Laurie Gablaski, Ann Gablaski, Addison Lacaire, Pat Benoit, Gloria Butler, Joyce Frigon, Laura Wynn, Carey Dubois, Raymond Brodeur, Michael Kady, Bonnie Sheldon, Heather Lech, Joseph Nisel, Joseph Siauris, Cheryl Branham, Pauline Casavant, Jon Widdison, Lynn Desforges, Trajan Imperator

OUR SACRIFICIAL OFFERINGS February 17 & 18

Envelopes \$ 4791.00
Loose \$ 423.00
Total collection \$ 5214.00
Number of envelopes 150
Mass Attendance

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

FOOD PANTRY REQUEST FOR THIS WEEK Brownie Mix for Easter Baskets

FIRST SATURDAY EUCHARISTIC EXPOSITION
MARCH 3, 2018 8:30AM - 4:00 PM

Mass of the Blessed Virgin Mary: 8:00 am. Confessions following Mass. Exposition starting at the end of Mass and continuing throughout the day until 4:00pm. Confessions 3:00 - 3:50 pm. Benediction 4:00 pm.

If you wish to participate there is a signup sheet in the sacristy.

5th Annual Jennifer McLaughlin Memorial Scholarship Diner will be held on Saturday, April 7, 2018 6-8pm at the Knights of Columbus Hall, Spencer Favorite dishes from local restaurants All proceeds to benefit the scholarship fund in memory of Jen \$10 Advance ticket sales only by April 4th Call Mary McLaughlin at 508-885-2256 or purchase using PayPal at www.jam4jen.com

The next **Pray Shawl Ministry** meeting will be held March 7th in the Benton Room.

Men's Group: Next Meeting is Saturday, March 3, 9:30-11:00 am in the Rectory.

If you have any questions or would like to join, contact Fr. Bill at fr.billschipper@gmail.com or call the office and leave a message.

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 Judi.mqrff@gmail.com

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| Sunday | 9:00 – 10:00 am | Grades K - 5 |
| Sunday | 5:30 – 8:30 pm | Grades 9 - 11 *see calendar |
| Monday | 4:45 – 6:00 pm | Grades 2 - 5 |
| Tuesday | 7:00 – 8:15 pm | Grades 6 - 8 |

Happening during Lent

Confessions: Tuesdays 7-8pm, Saturdays 3:30-4pm

Lenten Meal: Wednesdays 5:30-6:30pm

Lenten Mass: Wednesdays 6:45pm

Our Lenten Sacrifice again this year will be the Baby Bottle Drive for The Visitation House. There are still Baby Bottles available at the doors of the church. Please take one for your Lenten sacrifice to help woman with troubled pregnancies to have a safe place to stay and get care for themselves and their babies. Please fill it with your spare change and return all Baby Bottles on Palm Sunday or by Easter the latest.

St. Patrick's Day Dinner: On March 17th we will celebrate with our Annual St. Patrick's Day dinner. We are looking for volunteers to help with this dinner. We are also in need of someone who is T.I.P.S. certified to serve alcohol at this dinner. If you would like to help with the dinner, or you are certified to serve alcohol, please contact Zachary Simons at 508-981-5745.

Boy Scout Troop 201 will be selling tickets to their Annual Spaghetti Dinner this weekend after masses. The dinner will be held on March 3rd at 5:30pm in the parish hall.

Plan to attend a meeting to discuss the International Bazaar on March 12th at 7pm in the parish hall.

March Calendar Raffle- there is still time to buy a chance for this raffle. Please return your entry slips and money to the parish office or drop them in the collection basket before the end of February.

Catholic Men's Conference... The 18th Annual Worcester Diocesan Catholic Men's conference is scheduled for Saturday, March 17th at Assumption College in Worcester. This will be an exceptional day for the men of our Diocese. Brochures with the details can be found at the doors of the church. For more information, contact our parish representative, Jim Pervier at 508-885-4517 or visit www.firstmensconf.org

Thoughts from Fr. Bill Second Sunday of Lent

The Lord's baptism is the starting point of Christ's public life and His Ascension back to the Father's right hand its end. The Transfiguration of the Lord then, is the high point of His earthly life. This event reveals Christ in glory and serves as an anticipation of His return at the end of time. The geographical features are more than simply that because the high mountain is the place where God descends from heaven to earth and Jesus and His three apostles must climb. Many of the prophets, like Isaiah or Daniel, foretold that, on His mountain, God would fully manifest Himself on the last day. Immediately prior to this passage, Jesus had declared that the Son of Man would one day return; now, Jesus of Nazareth is imbued with divine light from within, His face beamed like the sun and His clothes became blindingly white. Going up the mountain, Jesus appeared to Peter, James and John, and for a split second the Lord's true divinity and glory were revealed to that inner circle. In a state of awe, practically ecstatic, Peter wants to freeze this moment in time, as if the end had come and eternity dawned. In reaction to Peter's proposal, a bright cloud overshadowed the mountain-top. Clouds bring about both light and shadows and clouds are not a meteorological feature as much as a unique biblical symbol that signifies the presence of God. The three apostles were enveloped by the cloud, not merely onlookers: From within this luminous shadow, a voice was heard, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to him." God the Father bestows upon Jesus the status of beloved Son and the authority that goes with it, making Jesus the new Moses of the new covenant. Fear takes possession of Peter, James and John; and, so, they prostrate themselves before the all-holy God. Prostration is a bodily act of adoration that reveals interior belief and by Peter's earlier acknowledgement that Jesus is the Lord and the situating of this theophany, or a visible manifestation of God on a mountaintop, the apostles have been privileged to see a foreshadowing of Christ's life after His crucifixion, as Lord of the living and the dead, glorified He will return like that on the last day.

Diocesan Youth Ministry Ski Night

March 23rd 4-8pm at Mount Wachusett- Do you like to ski or snowboard? Come join the fun. Any youth from our parish that would like to attend will go as a group. Discounted tickets are available through the diocese. If you would like to attend this event please contact Judi by March 16th to register and get the details. Any adult wishing to attend as a MQR representative must complete all diocesan CORI requirements if not already done so.

Attn: Altar Servers, Readers & Eucharistic Ministers

Many of you already have vacations or events planned where you will be unable to serve. The sign-up sheets for April -August are in the sacristy. Each sheet states the deadline for you to let us know that you are unavailable for that month. If you miss the deadline and are scheduled, we ask that you find a replacement. **Coming soon**, a master list of all Mass Ministers with contact information so you can more easily find a substitute if you need one.

The 2nd Sunday of Lent

Mass Schedule

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| Saturday, 24 | 4:30 pm Maureen Letendre (3rd Anniv) by Her husband Al & Family |
| Sunday, February 25 | 8:00 am For the People of the Parish 10:15 am Thomas J. Hicks by Ralph & Tina |
| Monday, February 26 | 8:00 am |
| Tuesday, February 27 | 8:00 am Richard Lamoureux by Suzanne Morrison |
| Wednesday, February 28 | 8:00 am 6:45 pm Lenten Mass |
| Thursday, March 1 | 8:00 am Romeo & Jeannette Allaire by Suzanne Lamoureux |
| Friday, March 2 | 8:00 am No Mass |
| Saturday, March 3 | 4:30 pm William Gablaski (19th Anniv)& Helen Siplas (12th Anniv) by Ann & Family |
| Sunday, March 4 | 8:00 am Pauline Penhallow (1st Anniv) by The Family 10:15 am Christina Wilson (36th Anniv) by her Parents |

Calendar of Events

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| Sunday, February 25 | 9:00 - 10:00 am 10:15 am 11:30-1:00pm 5:30-8:30 pm | Coffee Shop OPEN FF Grades k-1,3-5 Family Mass 1st Eucharist meeting FF High School Grade 10 |
| Monday, February 26 | 9:30 am 4:45 - 6:00 pm | Food Pantry - OPEN FF Grades 4 - 5 |
| Tuesday, February 27 | 10:30-11:30 am 6:30pm 7:00 - 8:15pm | Prophet Bible Study Drop in Center FF Grades 6 - 8 |
| Wed, February 28 | After morning Rosary 5:30-6:30 pm | Spiritual Life Ministry Meeting Lenten Meal-by Martha Mary Ministry American Chop Suey & Corn Bread Casserole |
| Thursday, March 1 | 9:30 am 6:30- 7:30 pm | Food Pantry -OPEN Woman's Bible Study |
| Friday, March 2 | | |
| Saturday, March 3 | 3:30pm 5:30pm | Confessions Boy Scout sponsored Spaghetti Dinner |
| Sunday, March 4 | 9:00 - 10:00 am 9:30-11:00 am 10:15 am 5:30-8:30 pm | Coffee Shop OPEN Faith Formation K-5 Men's Group meets in Rectory Children's Liturgy of the Word FF Grade 9 & Confirmation class |

February 25, 2018

The 2nd Sunday of Lent

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