

Dear Sisters & Brothers in Christ,

This week we pray in a special way for the elections taking place across our great nation, that they may go smoothly, be processed swiftly and accurately, the voice of all citizens be counted, and those elected humbly carry out their duties in service of the common good.

This Sunday is All Saints Day, a joyful celebration of the saints who have gone before us and continue to lift us up in prayer and worship. This includes not only those who are formally given the title Saint or Blessed, but also those saintly people of faith who never get public recognition yet they experience their heavenly reward. In fact, St. Paul teaches that **we are all called to be saints**, since we want to be with God forever in heaven. The saints are not super-humans who never sin, but people like us who strive to grow in faith and holiness of life, seeking God's mercy in Christ. We are all in this together!

Thank you for your patience with temperature checks in either parish when that town is classified as "red" for the rate of virus spread (as Wrentham is again this week). I know there are various opinions on how effective temperature checks are, but it is one of the many ways we are trying to help everyone who comes to church to *be* safe and to *feel* safe. **When people signup for Mass online it helps to make the checkin lines move more smoothly.** We continue to evaluate and evolve in our practices to keep our churches as safe as possible. Of course, as part of loving one another during this pandemic, please remember that **when any of us does not feel well we should stay away from public Mass** - participating instead through www.pwc.church, CatholicTV, etc.

Also in this newsletter:

- Fresh Air in Church vs. Keeping Warm
- Mass of Remembrance Next Weekend
- Seeking a Part-Time Administrative Assistant on our Pastoral Team

The Importance of Fresh Air in Church and Dressing Warmly

In addition to sanitizing surfaces after each use (Mass, Baptism, etc.), fresh air is also an important part of minimizing the aerosols we breath. As the weather turns colder, we will not have the doors and windows wide open as before, but **we must continue to allow some fresh air in whenever people are gathered in church - so please dress warmly.** We will try to be consistent with *which* windows are left partly open so you can decide where to sit based on whether you prefer more fresh air or more warmth. As people leave, fans are used to replace the air in the room, then the empty church is sealed to warm that air before we open up for the next celebration.

Masses of Remembrance Next Weekend (Nov. 7- 8): 5:30 pm Sat., or Noon Sun.

It has been a particularly difficult year for those who have lost loved ones. Whether they died from Covid or other causes, many family and friends have not been able to be with their loved ones and each other during these times we need each other most.

We invite all who have lost a loved one recently to attend one of our Masses of Remembrance.

- **Saturday, November 7th at the 5:30 pm Mass in St. Martha, Plainville**
- **Sunday, November 8th at the 12:00 noon Mass in St. Mary, Wrentham**

We will especially remember those who have had any funeral rites in either St. Martha or St. Mary Parish over the past year, reading their names aloud at both churches. **Please have each household signup for this Mass online** as usual to make sure you will have seating and a remembrance booklet ready for you.

Seeking a New Administrative Assistant on our Collaborative's Pastoral Team

We have an open part-time staff position for a **team player with strong computer and organizational skills to join our Collaborative Pastoral Team**. Primary duties include layout and editing of our weekly bulletin and other print media (using Microsoft Publisher), coordinating special administrative projects in support of our priests and collaborative mission, and providing backup for the secretary. Three days a week, typically weekday mornings until early afternoon, with a little flexibility in hours and location. Please contact me (Fr. Joe) ASAP at jmozer@pwc.church or 508-384-3373, ext. 112, if you or someone you know might be interested. **We may have to go a week or two without a bulletin** as we find and hire the person who is a best fit for the job and our Team.

May God bless and keep you always,
Fr. Joe