

Join us in Prayer Mass Intentions

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 15

Blessed Virgin Mary on Saturday

9am: Victims of clergy sexual abuse and the renewal of the Church

Vigil of the Sixth Sunday of Ordinary Time

4:00: Confessions

5:00: For an increase of vocations to the priesthood and religious life

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 16

6th Sunday in Ordinary Time

9:00am: Missa pro populo

11:00am: +Angela Margiotta

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 17

Presidents' Day Observed

Seven Holy Founders of the Servite Order

9:00am: Mass

For the health and recovery of Shawny Smith

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 18

Fra Angelico, O.P.

Weekday

7:00am: +Antonio Capone

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 19

Weekday

7:00am: + Patricia Annarummo

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 20

Weekday

7:00am: +Reverend E. Maurice Gaffney, O.P.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 21

Saint Peter Damian, Bishop and Doctor of the Church

7:00am: +Reverend John W. Burke, O.P.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 22

9am: Victims of clergy sexual abuse and the renewal of the Church

Vigil of the Seventh Sunday of Ordinary Time

4:00: Confessions

5:00: For the intentions of Pope Francis

This week at Saint Sebastian

TODAY, FEBRUARY 16

9:00 **No** Religious Education or Children's Choir because of holiday weekend

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 17

Presidents' Day

9:00am Mass

*Parish Office Closed
No Religious Education*

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 18

7am: Mass

7pm: Prayer Shawl Committee, Father Randall Room

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 19

7am: Mass

7pm: RICCO Rehearsal
Parish Book Club

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 20

7am: Mass

9:30: Opus Dei Women's Morning of Recollection

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 21

7am: Mass

7:30: AA – Back to Basics, Parish Hall

Parish Book Club

Parishioners are invited to attend the next meeting of the Parish Book Club held on ***Wednesday, February 19 @ 7 p.m.*** at the home of Denny and Sherry Roberts: 132 Everett Avenue, Providence.

This month's read is, *The Haunting of Hill House*, by Shirley Jackson. Any questions? If so, please call Denny at 401-339-9053.

Students Progress towards the Sacrament of Confirmation

Bob Short, Director of Faith Formation and Evangelization

On the evening of February 1 our Confirmation class gathered for the 5pm Mass which would begin their first retreat. They are fifteen young men and women. Some attend the same schools; some are strangers who recently moved into town.

Until now their focus in class has been the philosophy of being human: what gives us dignity, how the things we think will make us happy or leave us dissatisfied; and how we ache toward the thing that will make us happy forever. This retreat began to turn toward the next focus of the class: knowing God through the Scriptures.

After Mass we ate pizza downstairs. Thanks to the families of Troy Conte and Teddy Copozzi we had soda to wash the pizza down and cookies and ice cream sandwiches for dessert.

During team building games we learned to laugh at ourselves and each other. (We also learned that Franklin Pizzarello has one of the best chicken impressions of all time). Then we each made a “personal flag”, a drawing to describe who we are. As each student described the things they did for fun and the things which were important to them, we grew closer to each other and developed the attitude of safety and trust the students will need to reveal the questions which they need answered as they make the decision to follow Christ and become adult members of His Church.

Then we moved our chairs in a circle and the students settled in for a talk. It had two subjects: First, Jesus’ question to Peter, “who do you say that I am?” The way we answer this question determines so much! Next, we heard about some saints, and how their lives of following God did not abolish their unique personalities but brought them to something purer and more exciting. We learned how this invitation is extended to us as well. Becoming a saint, of course, is just the act of becoming who we really are.

The night ended in silent prayer in front of the tabernacle. It was a powerful evening together that we will draw upon throughout the rest of the year. Please do not forget our parish’s young people in your prayers. May God complete the work he has begun in all of us!

The stuff of daily life

Looking at the calendar reminds us of the “stuff” of daily life:

- This week begins the “school vacation” cycle for private and public schools: this week is the public schools’ vacation: have fun; be safe; good luck!
- Two weeks from today will be the First Sunday of Lent! This also means, that 2 weeks from this Wednesday, **February 26, is Ash Wednesday.** Masses will be held at **7am and 5:30pm.** Ash Wednesday is a day of fast and abstinence. All persons who have completed their *fourteenth year* are bound by the law of abstinence; all persons between their 19th and the beginning of their 60th year are bound by the law of fast and abstinence.

- *The First Sunday of Lent (29 February and 1 March)* is our Parish Mission. Father Isaac Morales from Providence College will lead the Mission. The schedule for the Mission is:
 - Attend any weekend Mass and hear Father's inspiring preaching;
 - Eucharistic Adoration will begin at the end of the 11am Mass: come spend some quiet time with the Lord present before us on the Altar;
 - 3pm: Mission Conference – Adults in Church; Children downstairs for their own Conference, or to go to babysitting (depending on their age)
 - Confessions follow Conference
 - 4:30 – Solemn Vespers
 - 5:30 – Pasta with the Padres (Donations will be accepted. Any monies over cost will support Fr. David and Food for the Poor to build a house in Haiti.)
- During Lent, daily Masses will be celebrated at **7am and 5:30pm.**
- Stations of the Cross: Friday at 6pm, following the 5:30 Mass.

Redirecting our Worship

Several weeks ago, I wrote to you about a possible reconfiguration of the Sanctuary: moving the celebrant's chair and the two chairs for servers to the side and placing the Tabernacle where the celebrant's chair is currently located. I have only received positive feedback.

This possible reconfiguration of the sanctuary at both the January and February meetings of the Parish Pastoral Council. The reaction of the PPC was unanimously positive. During the January meeting it was suggested that the chairs could be moved now, and the Tabernacle when the necessary plans were drawn up and any needed monies available. The PPC again discussed moving the chairs and it was agreed to follow this suggestion. Therefore, on the First Sunday of Lent the chairs will be off to the side. I will keep you up to date about the Tabernacle.

Sharing the Vision, Meeting the Challenge

The work, and need, of the Capital Campaign continues. If you have not yet made a one-time gift or a pledge, I urge you to prayerfully consider doing so.

Please join me in thanking our pastor emeritus, Fr. Randall, for his generous leadership gift! A leadership gift is \$10,000.00 or more.