February 16, 2020
Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Saint Anthony Church
North Providence - 353-3120
Saintanthonychurch.org

Saint Edward Church
Providence-331-4035-Parroquiasaneduardo.org

Church of the Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary
North Providence-722-7140-Presentationchurchnp.org

Rev. Edward S. Cardente, Pastor
Rev. Nolasco Tamayo, Part Time Associate
Diocesan Director of Intercultural Ministries

Deacon Louis Vani
Deacon Jose Fajardo
WELCOME
If you are alienated or upset, we welcome you lovingly.
If you are in need of forgiveness, Jesus forgives you completely - with unconditional love.
If you have been hurt by the Church, we are truly sorry.
If you are angry, Jesus offers you peace.
If life has become burdensome, we are here to support you.
We are happy you are here and want you to stay.
We would like to share our lives with you.
Come join us each week so we can worship God together.

SAINT ANTHONY CHURCH
Angelo Minervino, Sacristan
Weekday Masses: Monday - Thursday
8:30am in Trinity Chapel
Novena Mass: Tuesday at 8:30am
Trinity Chapel
Saturday 5:15pm
Sunday 8:00am & 11:30am
Holy Days as Announced

CHURCH OF THE PRESENTATION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY
Stephen Campbell, Sacristan
Saturday 4:00pm
Sunday 10:00am
Holy Days as Announced

SAINT EDWARD CHURCH
John Arena, Sacristan
Saturday 6:00pm - Spanish
Sunday 9:00am - English
11:30am - Spanish
Holy Days as Announced

BUSINESS OFFICE
5 Gibbs Street, North Providence, Rhode Island 02904
Office Number 401-353-3120
Fax Number 401-353-5126
Office Hours: Monday - Thursday 9am - 4pm
OFFICE IS CLOSED ON FRIDAY
Karleen Celona
Information about the Sacrament of Marriage
Ministry to the Sick and Dying and Sacramental Records
Bulletin Submissions: Email to pbvm1912@gmail.com by Tuesday 9am

MINISTRY TO THOSE IN NEED
Saint Anthony Kitchen – Michelle Dilorio 714-7253
Saint Anthony Mobile Lunch – Stephen and Louise Bello 556-5129
Saint Edward Food & Wellness Center - Lori Porcaro, Director, 1001 Branch Avenue, Providence, RI
Holy Family Home for Women and Children
Ernest Spaziano, Director 304-7744; hfhpfr@gmail.com
Mary's Meals to the Poor - Leslie Corneau 545-5698

CONVENT
Daughters of Mary, Mother of Mercy
2 Pope Street, North Providence, RI 02904

REMEMBER THE MOTHER OF MERCY
Mary of the Rosary – Our Lady of Lourdes 700-4393
Mary of the Visitation – Annunciation of the Virgin Mary 713-9754

RESPECT LIFE COMMITTEE
Contact – Monica700@verizon.net
THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK
Faith grows when we invoke the Lord with confidence, bringing to Jesus who we are, with open hearts, without hiding our suffering. -Pope Francis

SAINT ANTHONY CHURCH
MONDAY FEBRUARY 17
8:30 AM  NO MASS

TUESDAY FEBRUARY 18
8:30 AM  Mem - Manuel Bento by Wife & Family

WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 19
8:30 AM  46th Anniv - Alfred F. Bertoncini, Sr., by Family

THURSDAY FEBRUARY 20
8:30 AM  8th Anniv - Dr. Anthony Guglielmi by Family

SATURDAY FEBRUARY 22
5:15 PM  12th Anniv - Joseph Bonaventura & 41st Anniv - Mary Bonaventura by Son John

SUNDAY FEBRUARY 23
8:00 AM  Mem - Peter Petteruti
         by Marisa Decristofaro & John Paterra

11:30 AM  2nd Anniv - John R. Pesce by Family

SAINT EDWARD CHURCH
WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 19
6:00 PM  Exposicion del Santisimo
7:00 PM  Spanish Liturgy

SATURDAY FEBRUARY 22
6:00 PM  Spanish Liturgy

SUNDAY FEBRUARY 23
8:30 AM  Weekly Rosary
9:00 AM  2nd Anniv - Manuel Rivas by Rivas & Brown Families
11:30 AM  Spanish Liturgy

UPCOMING PARISH MEETINGS
Choir Practice  Every Sunday @ 9a  Presentation
Knitting Ministry  Every Monday @ 1p  Presentation
Adoration  Every Thursday @ 9a  Trinity Chapel
Men’s Prayer  February 24 @ 6:30pm  Trinity Chapel

CHURCH OF THE PRESENTATION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY
SATURDAY FEBRUARY 22
4:00 PM  9th Anniv - Albert Cordeiro by Wife & Family
         Birth Rem - Dawn De Freitas by Mom

SUNDAY FEBRUARY 23
10:00 AM  Birth Rem - Ricky Oldrid, Jr., by Parents & Family

THE VIGIL LAMP
The Vigil Candle will burn February 22nd through February 28th for all deceased parishioners

REST IN PEACE
Lord, let perpetual light shine upon
Maria Felicia Predoviciu,
Andrew Theodore “Teddy” Caldarone & Gerald Andoscia
May their souls and the souls of all the faithfully departed through Your mercy, rest in peace.

STEWARDSHIP
FEBRUARY 8th & FEBRUARY 9th
Church of the Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Budgets $3,952.00 from 182 envelopes
Includes Mail in of $1,130.00
Donations for the Poor:  $303.00

Saint Anthony Church
Budgets  $6,038.00 from 242 envelopes
Mail in: $1,802.00
Donations for the Poor:  $369.00

Saint Edward Church
Budgets $2,450.00 from 80 envelopes
Donations for the Poor:  $38.00
FLOWERS AS GOD’S GIFT TO THE LITURGY

The short month of February can be dreary as the weeks unfold to everyone’s anticipation of spring. That’s why flower shows during this time of the year are so attractive to provide us a taste of what’s ahead as we eagerly await the transformation of nature that the spring season heralds. In many Catholic churches including our own, flowers are used to decorate the sanctuary. But they are not just an afterthought but a spiritually significant symbolic presence. Other than the seasons of Advent and Lent where there is moderation in sanctuary décor, throughout the rest of the year flowers are meant to express joy. They remind us of the beauty of God’s handiwork in creation. As the late artist Angelo Rosati, whose works adorn Saint Anthony Church, said so insightfully “Flowers are the smile of God.” The Capuchin friar Francis Borgia used to say “God has left us from Paradise three things: the stars, the flowers and the eyes of a child.” Flowers have in God’s creation a place entirely their own. They are on the globe of the earth what the stars are in the canopy of heaven. In the splendor of their colors, in their fragrance they are revelations of the beauty and goodness of God, emblems of His benevolence, images of His first, true designs (Isaiah 25,1). Flowers also remind us of the spiritual life and the virtues we should acquire within our hearts. By reason of their freshness and beauty which they receive from the sun and which they turn towards it, flowers are emblems of that innocence and holiness we derive from Christ, Sun of Justice. The flowers on the altar signify, moreover, that the blossoms of grace, prayer and virtue unfold in the supernatural light and in the heavenly warmth which radiates from the sun of the Eucharistic Sacrifice (Nikolaus Gihr, The Holy Sacrifice of the Mass).

When you come to church next time and you see flowers in front of the altar, think of their symbolism on many levels and rise your hearts to God in thanksgiving as you enter into the celebration of the Eucharist. We are most grateful for the generosity of the Imondi and Pascale families who provide the beautiful arrangements in our sanctuaries at Saint Anthony and Presentation Churches throughout the year!

COMPASS

Contact: gpmail98@gmail.com
Phone: 401-353-5216

Compass Bible Quote for the Month of February

“Let all that you do be done in love.”

-1 Corinthians 16:14

Spread and act in love, for love is superior to all.

FATHER NOLASCO AWAY

Father Nolasco will be away from January 13th, through mid February. English Masses will resume on February 23rd. All are welcome to attend any of the other Masses.

CATHOLIC ATHLETIC LEAGUE BASKETBALL SCHEDULE

Saturday February 22

Saint Margaret V Saint Anthony red 12pm
Saint Joan of Arc V Saint Peter 1pm
Saint Augustine V Saint Anthony Gold 2pm

LA SALETTE RETREAT CENTER

Looking for a Spiritual pick-me-upper? La Salette Retreat Center in Attleboro, MA has published its complete schedule of 2020 retreat programs and days of recollection. Visit its website at: www.lasaletteretreatcenter.org. Or, send for its catalog of programs at: La Salette Retreat Center, 947 Park Street, Attleboro, MA 02703.
READINGS AND CELEBRATIONS FOR THE WEEK

**Monday - Weekday**
Jas 1: 1-11; Mk 8: 11-13

**Tuesday - Weekday**
Jas 1: 12-18; Mk 8: 14-21

**Wednesday - Weekday**
Jas 1: 19-27; Mk 8: 22-26

**Thursday - Weekday**
Jas 2: 1-9; Mk 8: 27-33

**Friday - Weekday**
Jas 2: 14-24, 26; Mk 8: 34—9:1

**Saturday - The Chair of Saint Peter the Apostle**
1 Pt 5: 1-4; Mt 16: 13-19

**Sunday - Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time**
LV 19: 1-2, 17-18; 1 Cor 3: 16-23; Mt 5: 38-48

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**40 DAYS FOR LIFE LENTEN CAMPAIGN**

The Lenten Campaign will begin on Ash Wednesday, February 26 and conclude on Saturday, April 4. We are asking parishes to adopt a day (7am/7pm) or individuals to adopt an hour for a peaceful and prayerful vigil at Planned Parenthood, Providence during the 40 Days of Lent. Please do not stand alone! If you are interested in learning more about the campaign that calls for prayer, fasting and community outreach to pray to end abortion in our nation, contact: Carol Owens, Office of Life and Family Ministry at 278-2518.

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**LENTEN FRIDAY FISH FRY**

Where: Dillon Council Knights of Columbus
When: February 28; March 6,13,20,27; April 3, 10
Cost: $15 per person
Fish & Chips, Clam Cakes, Chowder, Dessert Du Jour
Menu will vary from week to week
Take out is available
For Tickets: Call Steve Bello 556-8745
All Proceeds will benefit the Special Olympics

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**ASH WEDNESDAY SCHEDULE**

8:30 AM Saint Anthony Church (Mass)
3:30 PM Saint Anthony Church (Prayer Service)
7:00 PM Church of the Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary (Mass)

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**RESPECT FOR LIFE**

If someone shared with you she was pregnant and hadn’t ruled out having an abortion, would you know how to respond? When a woman is facing a difficult pregnancy, the reaction of the first person she tells tends to set the tone for her decision-making. How do we respond to our friend in a loving way that is life-affirming for both her and her baby? Consider the four steps of the L.O.V.E. Approach™: Listen and Learn, Open Options, Vision and Value, and Extend and Empower. Read more at www.respectlife.org/l-o-v-e.

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**53rd ANNUAL DIOCESAN FAITH FORMATION CONVOCATION**

Saturday, March 14, 2020 Bryant University, Smithfield, RI
Deadline for all registrations is Saturday, March 7, 2020

**EARLY BIRD: MONDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 2020**

Registration Fee Per Person:
- $40.00 - Early Bird registration (online or postmarked) by February 24, 2020
- $35.00 - Early Bird with 10 or more per registration by February 24, 2020
- $45.00 - After February 24, 2020 (no exceptions)

For Online Registration please visit: https://www.discovercatholicfaith.org/convocation

For more information, contact the Office of Faith Formation at 401-278-4646
SAVE THESE DATES
TRI PARISH LENTEN MISSION
Monday March, 23, Tuesday March 24, &
Wednesday March 25 at 7:00 PM
Nightly preaching followed by time for individual
Confession and Adoration before the
Blessed Sacrament
Conducted by Dominican Fathers James Sullivan, OP &
Patrick Brisco, OP From Saint Pius Church, Providence
They will extend the invitation at weekend Masses over
March 21/22, 2020

COME TO THE HOLYLAND IN 2021
Collette, an international tour company based in Rhode
Island, hosts a special pilgrimage to the Holy Land next year
from February 3-11 for Father Ed, parishioners and friends.
The itinerary will include visits to the major areas in Israel
where Jesus lived and conducted his public ministry culmi-
nating in His death and resurrection in Jerusalem. There will
be Mass celebrated throughout the tour in special churches
of historic significance. The itinerary is very comprehensive,
including most meals, and allows for some time for optional
activities such as a visit to the Dead Sea. But everyone will
visit the Jordan River baptismal site, enjoy a boat ride on
the Sea of Galilee, visit the Mount of Olives, and see the
famous Western wall of the ancient temple of Jerusalem,
along with other highlights. Many other significant places
not included here but will be covered in a special travel
presentation to be held on Tuesday, February, 25, 2020 at
6pm in the Saint Anthony Parish Center. Color brochures
are now available. Please RSVP to Gilda Delmonico at 232-
2251, Camille Roberti at 353-1638 or Father Ed at 353-3120.

Catholic Cemeteries
Diocese of Providence
Pre-need arrangements ensure your wish-
es are met. Call now for information on
our new mausoleum
Use our Parish Incentive Program
to earn your parish
$250 for each sale
Call Bill Herren @ (401) 944-8383
ricatholiccemeteries.org

WINTER HEATING ASSISTANCE GRANTS
Through a most generous donation of an anonymous benefactor, we
are very happy to announce that any parishioner of our tri-parish
community who is in need of help to keep their heat on may apply
for a grant. Eligibility is determined by parish membership and Mass
attendance. Requests should be submitted in writing with your
contact information and sent to Father Ed at the Parish Offices at 5
Gibbs Street, North Providence.

SAINT ANTHONY YEAR-END APPEAL
Letters were sent out recently to all registered parishioners
requesting the customary annual donation to supplement church
expenses. In particular the necessary funds that were expended
for the major repairs on the church were higher than anticipated and
substantially impacted our savings. Thus it is critical that funds are
raised to complete the work. Unfortunately, the Grateful for God’s
Providence Campaign proceeds fell well below the goal for the par-
ish resulting in only $150,000 pledged of the $550,000 that the
Diocese requested of which 40% will eventually be returned to the
parish. So there is an ongoing request for contributions. Donations
of $250 or more will be recognized by an engraved brick in a
memorial walkway around the church. Larger donations of $500 or
more will be acknowledged on a memorial wall of 12 inch square
tiles mounted along the eastern wall of the church. Donors will be
contacted early spring with details on the memorials. Your
generosity is greatly appreciated.

MEN’S PRAYER GROUP
The next prayer group with Brother Ralph will take place on Monday
February 24th at 6:30pm, in Trinity Chapel. All men, 18+, of our tri
parish community are invited to attend.

ATTENTION: CRAFTERS
The Bazaar committee is getting a head start in forming a craft group
for the upcoming Holiday Bazaar in November. Bonnie Bline, who
this past year joined St. Anthony Parish, has volunteered to chair the
committee. She would like to meet with any interested crafters and
begin to discuss ideas for craft items to make and sell at the bazaar.
Ideally, Bonnie would like to have two groups—one on site at St.
Anthony and/or Presentation and one group of crafters who may
choose to do crafts at home. We know there are many talented indi-
viduals in our Parish that could assist us in getting this project under-
way. Kindly share your talents with us by calling Bonnie Bline at
401 743-4195 or Maryann Pallotta in the Religious Education Office,
353-5215, for more information.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES AT MOUNT ST. RITA
HEALTH CENTRE
Mount St. Rita, 15 Summer Brown Road, Cumberland, are looking for
volunteers to serve at Eucharistic Ministers, visit, read, play cards,
knit, lead the rosary, water plants, make copies, stock shelves, and
participate in planned activities. If you are interested, please contact
Denise Lafond at 333-6352 or email dlafond@mountstrita.org.
SAINT EDWARD MEAL PROJECT UPDATE

A spirited group of parishioners gathered last Sunday to continue to discuss the establishment of a meal site in the Saint Edward Church basement. Three members of the group will obtain certification as licensed food managers which is mandatory for such an undertaking. After they have done so we can proceed in applying for a permit from the City of Providence to serve food from the kitchen. A chairlift to assist disabled persons into the basement will be installed, making the facility handicap accessible. The existing chairlift at the side entrance doesn’t extend beyond the street entrance. The committee agreed upon serving a noon meal on a Saturday which met everyone’s availability to participate. Initially it will occur once a month with the option of happening more often if it is successful with more volunteers. Additional equipment will be obtained to complete the kitchen and a commercial dishwasher will be moved from Holy Family Home so that meals can be served on restaurant quality china without the use of disposable place settings. The committee also discussed menu options, which will be decided upon as before plans are finalized. A spring date is anticipated. Father Ed suggested calling the project “Saint Edward Kitchen Ministry” as a response to the Gospel mandate of feeding the hungry as a witness to the love of Christ. Bilingual signage will be displayed in front of the church with the day and time of operation. Please keep this intention in your prayers. Monetary donations to Saint Edward Church will be gladly accepted to support this project.

OFFERING AND DONATION CLARIFICATION

When making your weekly offering by check, the check must be made payable to the church on your budget envelope. (Saint Anthony envelopes please make the check Payable to Saint Anthony Church, etc.). Budget envelopes should only contain checks /cash for budget offerings (not ministry donations). Also, please do not use scotch tape or staples on your envelopes or checks.

We appreciate donations to all our ministries; please note when making a donation by check the checks should be written as follows and be placed in a separate envelope marked with the ministry name on it (placed in the collection basket or mailed to the rectory):
- Saint Edward Food and Wellness Center: checks payable to Saint Edward Food and Wellness Center.
- Mary’s Meals: checks payable to Church of the Presentation or Presentation Church (note on the memo line Mary’s Meals).
- Saint Anthony Kitchen Ministry (hot lunch and mobile ministries): checks payable to Saint Anthony Church (note on the memo line Kitchen or Outreach Ministry).

All offerings, donations and correspondence should be addressed to the rectory office at 5 Gibbs Street, North Providence RI 02904. The physical church buildings do not receive mail. Mail addressed for example to Saint Anthony Church at 1413 Mineral Spring Avenue or Presentation Church at 1081 Mineral Spring Avenue does not make its way to the rectory office.

SAINT ANTHONY CHURCH ANNUAL COLLECTION

Donations as of February 12, 2020:
- $59,080.00

THE CHURCH OF THE PRESENTATION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY ANNUAL COLLECTION

Donations as of February 12, 2020:
- $11,515.00

Contributions may be placed in the weekly collection basket in a separate envelope labeled “Annual Collection”. Or it may be mailed to the parish office. All donations received by January 10, 2020 will be included in the 2019 tax letter.

February 2020 marks 25 years of feeding the hungry at the bi-monthly Sunday meals served in the Parish Center. Begun by members of the Saint Anthony Finance Council as a Valentine’s Day dinner for the homeless from the streets of Providence, the effort became permanent under the leadership of Gloria Mamis and her late husband Jerry. Over the years thousands of people transported by rented busses have been served a hot meal by a dedicated group of volunteers, now continued under the direction of their daughter, Michelle Di Iorio. As the anniversary approaches there is a new initiative to invite more parishioners to participate. Initially it will occur once a month with the option of happening more often if it is successful with more volunteers. Additional equipment will be obtained to complete the kitchen and a commercial dishwasher will be moved from Holy Family Home so that meals can be served on restaurant quality china without the use of disposable place settings. The committee also discussed menu options, which will be decided upon as before plans are finalized. A spring date is anticipated. Father Ed suggested calling the project “Saint Edward Kitchen Ministry” as a response to the Gospel mandate of feeding the hungry as a witness to the love of Christ. Bilingual signage will be displayed in front of the church with the day and time of operation. Please keep this intention in your prayers. Monetary donations to Saint Edward Church will be gladly accepted to support this project.

25TH ANNIVERSARY OF SAINT ANTHONY KITCHEN MINISTRY

February 2020 marks 25 years of feeding the hungry at the bi-monthly Sunday meals served in the Parish Center. Begun by members of the Saint Anthony Finance Council as a Valentine’s Day dinner for the homeless from the streets of Providence, the effort became permanent under the leadership of Gloria Mamis and her late husband Jerry. Over the years thousands of people transported by rented busses have been served a hot meal by a dedicated group of volunteers, now continued under the direction of their daughter, Michelle Di Iorio. As the anniversary approaches there is a new initiative to invite more parishioners to participate in this rewarding outreach. As there is a need to update the records so that a regular schedule can be made according to volunteer’s availability please return the coupon below as soon as convenient. Scheduling will begin after the new year and new volunteers will be personally contacted. Your support is deeply appreciated.

Name________________________________________________________
Address______________________________________________________________________
Phone_________________ Email__________________________
Check One: ________New ________Current

THANK YOU TO JIM HUMMEL

We are deeply appreciative of Jim Hummel’s excellent coverage of Saint Anthony Kitchen Ministry on the eve of it’s 25th anniversary in the December 15th Rhode Islander Section of the Providence Sunday Journal. There is also a seven minute video version posted at RhodesIslandSpotlight.org for your examination.
Perhaps, like me, you are already weary of our overly long presidential campaign season. Here we are, a full nine months before the election of 2020, and already we have been dunned with polling results, discussion, debates, and debacles. Our democratic freedoms seem to come these days with a high price of patience.

In an analogous way, we could say that Our Lord Jesus Christ was a campaigner during His time on earth. Not for any earthly high office, for sure, but for the hearts and minds of all the people He would reach among His contemporaries and all who would learn of Him in the future. That includes our hearts and minds.

However, there is much that distinguishes Him from any earthbound seekers of political office. For one thing, Our Lord was totally transparent (to use a present day description of honesty); He made no promises He would not keep; and He assured His early followers of His upcoming victory over the competing evil forces against Him. Even more marvelous to ponder, He held out the promise to all mankind of a shared victory over all the obstacles that would lead to a future so beautifully described by St. Paul in First Corinthians.

Of course, we know Jesus had to pay a high price for all His declarations. It was cross-shaped. It was also apt for all those among the Jewish elite and their Roman overlords who found Him at (dare I say it?) cross-purposes with all that they held dear. To them, freedom was thought a restricted right in a world so replete with slavery. For the Jews, their ancient Law was held to be the Word of God, inviolable and sacrosanct. For the Romans, riches and power were everything. Politics was the tool most likely to help one get them both. If there was any truth to the myths surrounding their gods, they could be placated with hollow prayers and weird ceremony.

So they wondered about Jesus. “Just who was this upstart from Nazareth? And why give Him any credence? Yet how explain the mysterious magnetism He projected and the crowds He drew? Somehow or other He must be stopped, or eliminated from the scene.” We know that’s just what they did. After that, they wrongly thought they could relax until the news came on the Third Day. What they had thought was the end was just the beginning.

Of course, that’s not our outlook thanks to our gift of faith. Yet, we all have to be careful that while we honor Him at Mass we often forget Him by the time we get to the parking lot. From time to time we devise clever but fast fading slogans like “WWJD?” We even call Him “Superstar.” But if we’re going to be honest, we must acknowledge that believing in Him is far easier than obeying His teaching.

You see, doctrine and doing are like the two chemical ingredients of salt, which is composed of two poisons: sodium and chlorine. If we ingested either of the two poisons, we would die. But if we combine them properly, we have sodium chloride, which is common table salt that gives flavor to our food and indeed life and health to our bodies. So, too, are faith and good works inseparable. Knowing that, may I ask, Does “Candidate Jesus” have your vote to be “King of Hearts?” More importantly, does he have your heart?

**SUNDAY REFLECTION BY REV. LEONARD N. PETERSON**

**AROUND THE DIOCESE**

**NARRAGANSETT BAY SYMPHONY COMMUNITY ORCHESTRA IN CONCERT**

SUNDAY MARCH 8, 2020 AT 3:00 PM

BISHOP MCVINNEY AUDITORIUM

NABSCO strives to share live classical music with RI communities at little or no cost, to promote music education, enrich the cultural life of our region, and to provide the opportunity for participants to continue a life long study of music. Call 278-4588 for tickets and more information.

**BANFF CENTRE MOUNTAIN FILM FESTIVAL WORLD TOUR**

MONDAY MARCH 9, 2020 AT 7:00 PM

BISHOP MCVINNEY AUDITORIUM

Banff Centre Mountain Film and Book Festival is the largest, and one of the most prestigious, mountain festivals in the world. This year’s tour features a collection of the most inspiring action, environmental, and adventure films from the festival. Traveling to exotic landscapes and remote cultures, and bringing audiences up-close and personal with adrenaline-packed action sports, the 2019/2020 World Tour is an exhilarating and provocative exploration of the mountain world.

Bishop Tobin recently kicked off this year’s ‘Keep the Heat On’ Challenge, a program that helps struggling families with heating assistance who have exhausted all other public and private means to keep their families warm during the Rhode Island winter. Since 2005, your generous support has provided more than $2.95 million in assistance to more than 13,000 Rhode Island households. If you would like to help local families this winter, please send tax-deductible donations to: Keep the Heat On, One Cathedral Square, Providence, RI 02903 or log onto www.heatRI.com to make a secure credit card donation. You can also make a $10 donation by texting the word HEAT to 27722 or a $25 donation be texting the word HEATRI to 27722. If you, or someone you know, is in need of assistance, please visit the web site, www.heatRI.com, or call 401/421-7833 for additional information.
NO BASTA CUMPLIR CON REGLAS PARA ESTAR CERCA DE DIOS, HAY QUE AMARLO.

Jesús revoluciona y sacude fuertemente aquella mentalidad cerrada por el miedo y reclusa en los prejuicios. Él, sin embargo, no deroga la Ley de Moisés, sino que la lleva a plenitud, declarando, por ejemplo, la ineficacia contraproducente de la ley del talión; declarando que Dios no se comprome en la observancia del Sábado que desprecia al hombre y lo condena; o cuando ante la mujer pecadora, no la condena, sino que la salva de la intransigencia de aquellos que estaban ya preparados para lapidarla sin piedad, pretendiendo aplicar la Ley de Moisés.

Jesús revoluciona también las conciencias en el Discurso de la montaña abriendo nuevos horizontes para la humanidad y revelando plenamente la lógica de Dios. La lógica del amor que no se basa en el miedo sino en la libertad, en la caridad, en el sano celo y en el deseo salvífico de Dios, Nuestro Salvador, “quiere que todos se salven y lleguen al conocimiento de la verdad”. “Misericordia quiero y no sacrificio” (Homilía de S.S. Francisco).

Toda esa tremenda legislación se convirtió en una carga demasiado pesada. Los mismos judíos experimentan esta casi insuperable dificultad. Ser un hombre perfecto, como Dios lo quiere, sin estar realmente unido a Dios desde el interior, es una tarea imposible.

Los actos externos, el culto, los ritos y todos los sacrificios, no pueden todo unido llegar al valor de un simple acto de contricción, de una simple y sencilla oración que nace del corazón y que diga: “Señor, ten piedad de mi, porque soy un pecador... un corazón contrito y humillado, tú, Oh Dios, no lo desprecies”, dice el salmo. Cuántos se habían olvidado de esto en aquellos tiempos, y cuántos hoy pensamos que para tranquilizar la conciencia basta un acto externo, una limosna, o ni siquiera eso... Hemos adaptado tanto a nuestro antojo la ley de Dios que su contenido casi ha desaparecido o nos contentamos con “decir algo a Dios de vez en cuando”...

El camino de una verdadera conversión interior, es el de un real esfuerzo por interiorizar nuestra experiencia y relación con Él, pero sin dejar de aprovechar las riquezas espirituales de la Iglesia, sobre todo a través de los sacramentos. Ahí encontraremos al Señor siempre que le busquemos. Su Espíritu está ahí presente y actúa por encima de las instituciones y de las personas... “Yo estaré con vosotros hasta el final del mundo” (Mt. 28:20).

Propósito:
Cumplir siempre las leyes civiles y de la Iglesia y reflexionar en qué sentido me lleva a vivir más plenamente el amor.

Tomado del Portal: Catholic.net
NUESTRA CO-RRESPONSABILIDAD!!!

“Cuando le das a Dios, descubres que Dios te da a ti.”

Tiempo y Talento: Gracias a IVONNE FAJARDO y GUADALUPE AQUINO por elaborar y servir el almuerzo del Domingo pasado. Dios les pague por su generosidad!

Tesoro: Ofrenda Febrero 08 y 09 $2,420.00 en 80 sobres. Bendiciones!!!