March 29, 2020
Fifth Sunday of Lent

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
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.

WELCOME

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, Administrative Assistant
Information about the Sacrament of Marriage
Ministry to the Sick and Dying and Sacramental Records
Bulletin Submissions Email to pbvm1912@gmail.com by Monday 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; Email: director@hfprov.org
Mary’s Meals to the Poor - Leslie Corneau 545-5698

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

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

WEEKEND MASS CELEBRATIONS

CHURCH OF THE PRESENTATION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY
Stephen Campbell, Sacristan
Saturday - 4:00pm
Sunday - 10:00am
Holy Days as Announced
Reconciliation
Saturday 3:15pm-3:45pm

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

REVELOUS EDUCATION MINISTRY OFFICE
Saint Anthony Parish Center 401 353-5215
Maryann Pallotta, Elementary Coordinator
Michelle Ficocelli - Jr. High Coordinator & Confirmation Coordinator
Mary Esther Watson - Rite of Christian Initiation - Adults
Sr. Carol Ann Murray, RSM - First Eucharist Coordinator
Information about Infant Baptism, Adult Sacraments, becoming Roman Catholic (RCIA)

YOUTH MINISTRY OFFICE
Saint Anthony Parish Center 353-5216
Gian Perrotta - Coordinator
Tom Malloy - CYO Basketball

ABBA-AVE PRAYER MINISTRY
401 353-3059

SAINT EDWARD ADORATION MINISTRY
Priscilla Sayward 401-439-6152

MUSIC MINISTRY DIRECTOR
Toby Andrews - 401-353-3120

RESPECT LIFE COMMITTEE
Contact—Monica700@verizon.net
THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK
Let us pray today for those persons who are beginning to experience economic problems due to the pandemic, because they cannot work. All of this affects the family. #PrayTogether

-Pope Francis

Due to the Corona Virus, all masses have been cancelled at this time.

Mass Intentions

SAINT ANTHONY CHURCH

MONDAY March 30
8:30 AM Remb - Steven Soares by parents

TUESDAY March 31
8:30 AM 2nd Anniv—Vincent Guida by Camille

WEDNESDAY April 1
8:30 AM Anniv—Peter Maratta by family

THURSDAY April 2
8:30 AM 3rd Anniv - Good health of Deacon Louis Vani by the Parishioners

SATURDAY April 4—Palm Sunday Vigil
5:30 PM 3rd Anniv—Angelo Marolla by DeSimone and Marolla Families
6th Anniv—Deborah Protano by mother and family
1st Anniv—Rebecca Lombardi by father and family
40th Anniv—Joseph Lombardi by family

SUNDAY April 5—Palm Sunday Passion of the Lord
8:00 AM Remb— Tom Connors by Knights of Columbus
12:00 PM - Birth Remb—William and Eva Carrara by the Porter Family
40th Anniv—Joseph Minutelli by wife and family

SAINT EDWARD CHURCH

WEDNESDAY April 1
6:00 PM Exposicion del Santisimo
7:00 PM Spanish Liturgy

SATURDAY April 4—Palm Sunday Vigil
7:30 PM Spanish Liturgy

SUNDAY April 5—Palm Sunday Passion of the Lord
8:30 AM Weekly Rosary
9:00 AM For the Parishioners
11:30 AM Spanish Liturgy

CHURCH OF THE PRESENTATION OF THE
BLESSSED VIRGIN MARY

SATURDAY April 4—Palm Sunday Vigil
4:00 PM Mem—Elaine and Robert Lyon by daughter JoAnn
3rd Anniv— Marilyn Johnson
5th Anniv—Dorothy Monahan by family

SUNDAY April 5—Palm Sunday Passion of the Lord
10:00 AM 1st Anniv—Richard Olean
25th Anniv—Anthony Olean by family
5th Anniv—Evelyn Fascitelli by husband and family
In honor of the 50th Wedding Anniversary of Joseph and Amanda Mota.

THE VIGIL LAMP
The Vigil Candle will burn March 28th through April 3rd as an anniversary remembrance Anthony and Richard Olean by family

REST IN PEACE
Lord, let perpetual light shine upon
Mia D. Rowland, Robert S. Marciano & Sandra M. Corrente
May their souls and the souls of all the faithfully departed through Your mercy, rest in peace.

UPCOMING PARISH MEETINGS
Choir Practice Every Sunday @ 9a Presentation
Knitting Ministry Every Monday @ 1p Presentation
Craft Ministry Every Monday @ 6:30p Presentation
Adoration Every Thursday @ 9a Trinity Chapel
Men’s Prayer April 23rd @ 6:30p Trinity Chapel
Prayer During an Epidemic

Lord Jesus, Hear our pleas, our good shepherd and divine physician. We implore your mercy in the wake of an outbreak of serious illness and disease. Guide our efforts to prevent contagion and make preparations to care for those most vulnerable. Assist all professionals and volunteers who work to eradicate the epidemic now spreading. May our actions be marked by your steadfast love and selfless service and never by panic or fear. Bestow your comfort and healing to the sick, sustain and strengthen them by your grace. May they know your closeness as they carry the cross of illness. And may all you have called from this life come to worship you eternally with all the saints as you grant consolation and peace to their mourners. Amen. Holy Mary, Health of the Sick, pray for us. St. Joseph, Hope of the Sick, pray for us. St. Rocco, protector against epidemics, pray for us.

COMMUNICATION CONCERNS
With the moratorium on public Masses it is difficult to maintain communication with parishioners beyond the parish websites which are regularly reviewed and on which the weekly parish bulletin is posted. While the main parish office is open weekdays for personal business, messages can also be left on voice mail beyond office hours and calls will be returned. It is hoped that in the future a parish email listing can be assembled to better inform parish members when there is a necessity, as some parishes are already accustomed to do.

SUPPORT FOR LOCAL FOOD SERVICES
Restaurants have been hit hard by the current restrictions and can only provide takeout meals. It’s important that we support them when we can. There are three local ones in particular I want to recommend. “Pauly Penta’s Deli” on Mineral Spring Avenue: Proprietor Paul Penta and his wife Dawn are active parishioners who are very generous with their time and talent and food donations. “Il Fornello Restaurant” on Josephine Street: Proprietor Tony Lanni who is Chairperson of our annual Saint Anthony Feast has always been generous and gone out of his way to accommodate us in any way he can especially when I have clergy meetings. His mom also cooks the best penne arribiatta. Finally, “Fresh Pita” on Mineral Spring Avenue, which operates a booth at the Feast, is a unique little sandwich shop. The proprietors Yelda and Isha, who are also most cordial and hospitable, never charge me for my vegan fare despite my protests. What is special about this couple is that their native language is Aramaic, which Jesus himself spoke (not Hebrew). When they are working together behind the counter, they often communicate with each other in their native tongue. I was really moved by this experience as I imagined how the Blessed Mother and Saint Joseph communicated in their home at Nazareth.

ATTENTION: CRAFTERS
Postponed until further notice. For further information or questions please contact Bonnie 743-4195.

DECORATIVE PALM CROSS SALE
Once again the sale of decorative palm crosses will be held on Palm Sunday weekend, (April 4th & 5th), after all Masses at the Church of the Presentation. Any remaining crosses will be available at Saint Anthony Church after the 12pm Mass. The small cross is $1.00 and the large cross is $10.00

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.

NEW PARISH MEMBERSHIP AND CHANGES

Name: ____________________________________________
Street: __________________________________________
City: ___________________________________________ Zip: ______________
Phone: ___________________________
___ Saint Anthony Church
___ Saint Edward Church
___ Church of the Presentation
___ New Registration
___ Change of Address
___ New Phone Number

ALTAR SERVER APPRECIATION MASS
The Providence Serra Club is sponsoring an Altar Server Appreciation Mass to be held at the Cathedral of Saints Peter and Paul on Saturday, April 4th at 10:30 am. All diocesan altar servers and their families are invited to attend this celebration. Bishop Robert C. Evans will be the Celebrant of the Mass and Father Brian Morris, Vocations Director, will be the Homilist. Refreshments will be served after Mass. For more information, please visit Providence Serra website www.serraprovidence.org or call (401) 339-5452.
**READINGS AND CELEBRATIONS FOR THE WEEK**

**Monday - Lenten Weekday**  
2 Kgs 5: 1-15ab; Lk 4: 24-30

**Tuesday - Lenten Weekday**  
Dn 3: 25, 34-43; Mt 18: 21-35

**Wednesday - Lenten Weekday**  
Dt 4: 1-5; Mt 5: 17-19

**Thursday - Lenten Weekday**  
2 Sm 7: 4-5a, 12-14a, 16; Mt 1: 16, 18-21, 24a

**Friday - Lenten Weekday**  
Hos 14: 2-10; Mk 12: 28-34

**Saturday - Lenten Weekday**  
Hos 6: 1-6; Lk 18: 9-14

**Sunday - Fourth Sunday of Lent**  
1 Sm 16: 1b, 6-7, 10-13a; Eph 5: 8-14; Jn 9: 1-41

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**RESPECT FOR LIFE**

Cain said to his brother Abel, “Let us go out in the field.” When they were in the field, Cain attacked his brother Abel and killed him. Then the LORD asked Cain, “Where is your brother Abel?” He answered, “I do not know. Am I my brother’s keeper?” —Genesis 4:8-9

Father, help us to embrace the fact that we are our “brother’s keeper.” When, due to selfish motives, we try to cast off this responsibility, please call to us to account. We would be pleasing to you and to our “brother.” —40daysforlife.com

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**FALL SCHEDULE OF CLASSES**

**GRADES 7th & 8th:** Classes will meet on Sunday’s from 10am-11:15 am followed by 11:30am Mass.

**GRADE 2:** First Communion Students will meet on Monday’s from 6pm to 7pm, except where the classes meet on the following Sunday’s at 8am: 10/20; 11/17; & 12/9.

**CONFIRMATION CLASSES:** Will meet on Sunday’s from 10am-11:15am followed by 11:30am Mass.

**Grades 1, 3-6:** Will meet on Monday’s from 6pm to 7pm or on Tuesday’s from 3:45pm-4:45pm.

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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. Contact Monica Leandre (401-480-1571) if interested in participating as a parish.

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**STUDENTS ENTERING GRADE 1 (PUBLIC SCHOOL)**

**RCIA for Children:** If any parent has a child in grade 3 and up who has not received the Sacrament of First Eucharist and who has not previously been enrolled in our Rel. Ed. classes, please contact the Rel. Ed. Office to register his/her child’s name.

**RCIA for Adults:** If anyone 18 years and older has not received the Sacrament of Confirmation or First Eucharist and Baptism, kindly call the Rel. Ed. Office for more information regarding classes.

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**PRAYER FOR THOSE RECEIVING SACRAMENTS AT THE EASTER VIGIL**

Life-Giving Father,  
you desire that we may be one in Christ,  
so that all creation may give you praise.  
Look kindly upon the catechumens and confirmands you have called  
to the table of your Word.

We pray especially for Christina Arcuri, Frankie Arcuri, Anthony Sousa, and Matthew Young of our parish.  
Through the power of your Word, our life of prayer,  
and the example of Christ’s love we share with those most in need,  
may they come in time to the table of the Eucharist where we shall stand as one body united in the Holy Spirit  
to offer you praise and thanksgiving through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.
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 culminating 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. Color brochures are now available. Please RSVP to Gilda Delmonico at 232-2251, Camille Roberti at 353-1638 or Father Ed at 353-3120.

SAINT ANTHONY APPEAL

Letters were sent out 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. 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.

SAINT ANTHONY APPEAL

The 2020 Catholic Charity Appeal has begun. Your generosity in the past has been very much appreciated, and the hope is that you will continue to help this year. The in pew weekends have been postponed until April 25th-26th and Mau 2nd-3rd. In the meantime one time gifts and pledges can be made by using envelopes provided in the mailing sent out by the Diocese or by using one of the methods outlined below.

2020 CATHOLIC CHARITY APPEAL

“We ourselves feel that what we are doing is just a drop in the ocean. But the ocean would be less because of that missing drop.”

Saint Teresa of Calcutta

Giving is FAST, EASY, and SECURE! • Visit givecentral.org/2020CCA • Scan this QR code with your camera app to launch the CCA giving page. • Text to Give is now available! Text the word “Appeal” to (401) 496-9889. A link to the secure giving page will be immediately sent to your phone.

2020 GOALS

SAINT ANTHONY – $86,000
PRESENTATION BVM – $32,000
SAINT EDWARD – $22,000

Please keep the success of the Appeal in your prayers.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

There are several opportunities available within our parishes for volunteering on a regular basis. If you would like to become involved or would like more information, please fill out the information below, place the coupon in the weekend collection basket, and a representative from the ministry will contact you.

Name: ____________________________
Parish: ____________________________
Phone Number: ____________________

___ Saint Anthony Mobile Lunch Program
___ Saint Anthony Kitchen Ministry
___ Saint Edward Kitchen Ministry
___ Saint Edward Food and Wellness Center
___ Holy Family Home for Women and Children
___ Mary’s Meals to the Poor
Other ____________________________
Abstinence from meat on Ash Wednesday and the Fridays of Lent (for those 14 and older) is required by Church law. Also, Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are days of fasting: those between the ages of 18 and 59 should eat less, meaning, take no solid food between meals and only one full meal that day. Serious health conditions excuse a person from these precepts.

Pastors and parents are encouraged by the law of the Church to ensure that minors who are not bound by the law of fast and abstinence are educated nonetheless in an authentic sense of penance.

The National Conference of Catholic Bishops in the United States determined that the rules of fast and abstinence which have existed for the last several years in this country be maintained. Namely, that the faithful observe suitable penitential practices on all Fridays throughout the year. These penitential practices need not include abstaining from meat. However, as indicated above, the faithful must not eat meat on all the Fridays of Lent as well as on Ash Wednesday. They must also observe faithfully the fast regulations as they have been stated above in accord with the universal law of the Church.

**LENTEN STATIONS OF THE CROSS AT PRESENTATION**

The Way of the Cross will be held every Friday evenings at the Church of the Presentation at 6:30pm. This is a community led devotion and all are invited to attend. Due to his illness and treatments, Deacon Vani will be unable to attend, but he asks that this devotion continue.

**READING RESOURCE FOR LENT 2020**

This book can be very helpful for your Lenten journey and throughout the year. Written by Father Ronald Rolheiser, an internationally renowned speaker and spiritual writer, “PRAYER Our Deepest Longing” is available for you on the first Sunday of Lent at the church entrances. May it assist you in your desire for spiritual renewal. The following is on the back cover: Whether you struggle to believe in God, are a beginner in prayer, or are more advanced in your spiritual practice, renowned spiritual master Ronald Rolheiser will gently lead you in this book to a deepening experience of God in prayer. Your own yearning and intuition mark the starting point. Drawn from Scripture, ancient and modern writers, and experience, Rolheiser clears common misconceptions about prayer and offers both consolation and challenge. In thirty-three brief reflections, he will help you to understand how to overcome struggles in prayer, develop a mature prayer habit, and explore new prayer practices. Trust yourself, trust God’s providence, and get ready to open your heart in such a way that you will hear God clearly say to you, “I love you!”

**PALM SUNDAY AND HOLY WEEK 2020**

Because of the restrictions caused by the Coronavirus outbreak Bishop Tobin has dispensed Catholics of the obligation of Mass attendance during this time. It looks like this will continue through Passion (Palm) Sunday and Holy Week. Thus there will be no public celebrations of these liturgical events in our parishes. On Passion Sunday palms will be blessed beforehand and placed at the entrances of our churches for parishioners to come by and take for their devotional usage on Saturday evening and Sunday morning.

We have ordered as much as last year so we shouldn’t run out as long as everyone is fair in the amount they take. The traditional hand-made decorative Palm Crosses will be available at Presentation Church entrances on Saturday April 4 from 3:30 to 4:30 PM and Sunday April 5 from 9:30 to 10:30 AM. Safe physical distances must be maintained when selections are made. While visits to the churches can be made at posted times, caution must be exercised as our medical professionals have advised.

**EASTER SUNDAY VIRTUAL MASS**

Unless circumstances change Easter Sunday, Mass will be celebrated by Father Ed and posted on the Saint Anthony Parish Website. Unfortunately, no one can be physically present beyond those few parishioners who will make the event possible. It will be probably be aired or live streamed on April 12 at 10AM. There are other Mass resources also listed on the website. Again, while parishioners can’t be physically present in the church building for the Liturgy, it is recommended that families gather together as “home churches” or the Body of Christ by virtue of Baptism in a convenient location to prayerfully participate together in front of their screen.
“Water, water everywhere, nor any drop to drink.” These are lines from Samuel Taylor Coleridge’s epic poem “The Rime of the Ancient Mariner.” The speaker, a sailor on a becalmed ship, is surrounded by salt water that he cannot drink. A paradox caught by the poet. That sailor represents a person in the midst of plenty who cannot partake in it.

For the biologist, water is a matter of life and death. He or she would tell us that “without water all organisms die. Unlike food, the maximum time an individual human can go without water is about one week. At least 60 percent of the adult human body is made up of it, and every living cell needs water to keep functioning.” Thank you, science. Without any religious reference, we can say scientifically that “Water is life.”

For our ancient religious ancestors living in a small town, the well was an integral part of their daily routine. It was a natural setting for the women of the town, whose daily chores included fetching the water for the family household each morning before the heat of the day. Here they could chat with one another and add a little gossip.

But one special day in that long ago time, around lunchtime, the town well was to be the place where God was to sit down for a chat with one of his sad creatures. That happened to be a woman, a member of the despised Samaritans, herself with a tawdry background. That last was probably why she came so late to the well, so that she did not have to face the other women. The handsome young Jew seated there asked her for a drink, which request so shocked her that her defenses went on high alert. This was so unconventional. So forbidden. She naturally questioned Him. He ignored the racial issue she brought up to throw Him off track. Jesus ignored that dodge, and went on to offer her something He called “living water.” If she had only known that what He really meant was “divine life, revelation, and wisdom” a chance to be a new person! If only!

But it was when Jesus brought up her checkered marital record that she was really startled and tried to change the subject and quickly concluded He was a prophet. She must have darted back to town with her conclusion because a little later they came to the well and openly declared that he was the “Savior of the world.” We are not told if the Apostles returning with lunch were over their initial shock at seeing Jesus conversing with a Samaritan woman in broad daylight to grasp what the townspeople said.

Why this story for us in Lent? There are many possible reasons, but I thought of one derived from an extended meaning of those poetic lines from Coleridge’s 19th century poem. Instead of literal water, we are nonetheless surrounded by the refreshing “water” of God’s mercy aplenty as dispensed by His Church in the sacrament of Reconciliation. Call it by its former name “Penance” or its nickname “Confession”; it is the same sacramental channel of grace. It is the refreshment for our thirsty souls, springing from a well that never runs dry. So why are so many of us letting our souls be parched these days? It cannot be that sin is no longer being committed, right?

I grant you that we can be so misled by our present culture, dispensing as it does easy excuses for sinful behavior which only a few years ago was commonly held to be sinful. Evils like abortion, homosexual acts and even so-called “same sex marriage”, or drug use deemed “recreational”? Could it be that headlines about high government officials caught lying endorses that as acceptable to God? Remember that God’s word is beyond time and the popular trends of any age, is it not?

The late comedian Fred Allen once offered his take on this matter when he said: “Popular wisdom is fleeting and has the life expectancy of a small boy who is about to look into a gas tank with a lighted match.” Lenten wisdom agrees, and goes on to urge us to drink up from the water of mercy all around us in the well of the sacraments.

AROUND THE DIOCESE

FREE INCOME TAX PREPARATION (VITA)
Amos House, a fully handicap-accessible agency at 460 Pine Street in Providence, prepares free income tax returns for those who earned $56,000 or less in 2019. Wednesday, Thursday and Friday evening appointments from 4:00 on may be made through April 15th by calling 401-272-0220. Amos House will also host Saturday walk-in-only sessions from 10am-2pm on March 14th and April 11th. Other free tax sites in RI and MA may be found by calling the number 211.

RACHEL’S VINEYARD RETREAT WEEKEND
There are four post-abortion retreats scheduled for 2020. The Spanish retreats will be held on March 20, 21, 22 & October 16, 17, 18 and the English retreats will be held on March 27, 28, 29 and October 23, 24, 25. To learn more about the retreat weekends and how you can participate, call Carol at 278-2518 for the English retreat and Loren at 742-1510 for the Spanish retreat. This is a ministry offered by the Office of Life and Family Ministry – all calls are confidential.