

**Mass Intentions****Saturday, February 4:**

4:30 pm Dr. Paul McCann

**Sunday, February 5:**

7:00 am For the Intentions of the People of the Parish

9:00 am Francis &amp; Mary Houghton

11:00 am Catherine O'Connor

**Saturday, February 11:** (Our Lady of Lourdes; BVM)

4:30 pm Marie Comeau &amp; Anita Jeffrey

**Sunday, February 12:**

7:00 am For the Intentions of the People of the Parish

9:00 am Jean Newcomb

11:00 am Robert O'Donnell

**This week:** Monthly Maintenance/Repair Collection**The Spirituality of Stewardship – Report on Offertory Contribution**

As Christian stewards, we receive God's gifts gratefully, cultivate them responsibly, share them with others and return them with increase to the Lord.

|                               | Last<br>Week | Year to<br>Date |
|-------------------------------|--------------|-----------------|
| Envelopes                     | \$2,737      |                 |
| Loose Cash                    | \$2,674      |                 |
| Parish Pay                    | \$           |                 |
| Total                         | \$5,411      | \$24,409        |
| RCAB Collection-Latin America |              |                 |
| Envelopes                     | \$ 792       |                 |
| Loose Cash                    | \$ 362       |                 |
| Total                         | \$1,154      |                 |

Many of our parishioners contribute electronically through Parish Pay. You may sign up at [www.paritypay.com](http://www.paritypay.com) or by calling the Parish Office at 925-0680.

**Blessing of the Throats...**

There will be Blessings of the Throats after every Mass this weekend.

**Caregiver's Meeting...**

There will be a Caregiver's Meeting on Tuesday, February 7<sup>th</sup> from 1:30 – 3:00 pm. Please consider joining us for an afternoon of prayer, support and conversation. This is an ongoing monthly meeting and we invite you to drop in whenever you can. For more information, call Claire or Ann Marie at the parish office (925-0680)

**St. Mary's Men's Group**

St. Mary's Men's Group will meet this **Tuesday, February 7<sup>th</sup>** at **7:30 pm** (please note the change to the first Tuesday this month.)

Come and join us in the Church Hall as we continue our work on Male Spirituality. New members VERY welcome. Any questions contact Dcn. Jim @ 781-710-1478 or Deacon.Jim.Theriault @ gmail.com.

**Parish Activities****Sunday, February 5:**

Valentine Babysitting Signups after every Mass  
NO Grade 10 Confirmation Class

**Monday, February 6:**

4:00 pm Grade 6 Faith Formation to 5:00 pm

5:15 pm Grade 7 Faith Formation to 6:15 pm

6:30 pm Grade 8 Faith Formation to 7:30 pm

**Tuesday, February 7:**

1:30 pm Caregiver's Meeting to 3:00 pm

4:00 pm Grade 3 Faith Formation to 5:00 pm

5:15 pm Grade 4 Faith Formation to 6:15 pm

7:00 pm Rosary prayed. All are welcome!

7:30 pm Men's Group Meeting

**Wednesday, February 8:**

4:00 pm Grade 2 Faith Formation to 5:00 pm

**Thursday, February 9:**

4:00 pm Grade 1 Faith Formation to 5:00 pm

5:15 pm Grade 5 Faith Formation to 6:15 pm

7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal

**Saturday, February 11:**

9:45 am St. Vincent de Paul Meeting

5:30 pm Valentine's Babysitting to 9:00 pm

**Sunday, February 12:**

6:30 pm Grade 10 Confirmation Class to 8:00 pm

 *In Loving Memory*

Please remember in your prayers, Robert Jeffrey, who was buried from our parish recently. May Bob's soul and the Souls of All the Faithful Departed Rest In Peace. AMEN.

**Parish Support**

A number of parishioners are registered for Parish Pay. We thank those who have done so and hope others will consider this option. Parish Pay electronically deducts donations to the parish from checking accounts, savings accounts, or credit cards on a monthly basis. Parish Pay assists parishioners in the following ways:

- --Helps plan contributions to the parish and budget donations the same way other financial commitments are budgeted.
- --Allows parishioners to contribute on a regular basis and not worry about "missed" envelopes.
- --Allows the parish to better project monthly donations so that we can better allocate resources.

New Parish Pay forms are available at the back of the church next to the bulletin board.

Please consider this option and thanks for your continued generosity.

## FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

### From the Pastor...

This week has held great meaning for me. (No, not because the Patriots are playing in the Super Bowl . . . although I am excited about that . . . Patriots 31, Giants 21 . . . you heard it here first!) This week (February 1<sup>st</sup>) I celebrated my one-year anniversary at St. Mary's. What a wonderful gift it has been for me! You are a remarkable community, generous of heart, kind and deeply good. (And *fun*, too – I've had *loads* of laughs!) You've inspired me with your deep faith and the joyful – and real – way you live your faith out. When I was a child, I remember sitting with my father at church one day, staring into the sanctuary, totally transfixed. I saw the priest celebrating Mass and I knew something beautiful and mysterious and holy was happening there. I remember, even as a child, thinking "I want to be part of that somehow. I want to do that." When you had to draw a picture of what you wanted to be when you grow up, I drew a picture of a priest. For years, I put off the priesthood, I think because I thought I wasn't worthy of it. It took me decades to figure out, "Of course I'm not worthy of it. Nobody is. It's a *gift*." And it has been a gift, a beautiful gift from God, to be a priest, to be your pastor. Thank *you* for being such a gift to me. I hope in some small (but sincere) way, I can pay you back for what you've done for me, for what you've been to me this past year. As I told you the first day I got here, I'm not sure what special gifts or talents I have to offer you except this: I am a hard worker and I love Jesus. I trust that will be enough for the good Lord to build on. ☺ Keep me in your prayers and be assured that *every day* you are in mine. May God bless you always.

In Him, Fr. Joe

### PASTORAL PLANNING PROPOSAL

Dear friends,

I will be offering two opportunities for you to come voice your ideas, questions, concerns regarding the Pastoral Planning proposal that has been proposed by the Archdiocese of Boston. The two dates are

**February 15<sup>th</sup> 7PM to 8:30PM**  
and

**February 28<sup>th</sup> 7PM to 8:30PM**

There will be more details to follow. I look forward to speaking with you about the proposal put forth for a possible future collaboration with St. Anthony of Padua Parish in Cohasset. Until then,

In Him,

Fr. Joe

*When it was evening, after sunset, they brought to him all who were ill or possessed by demons. The whole town was gathered at the door. He cured many who were sick with various diseases, and he drove out many demons, not permitting them to speak because they knew him. - Mk 1:32-34*

### Faith Formation News...

**Valentine's Babysitting:** The annual event will be held on Saturday February 11<sup>th</sup> 5:30PM – 9PM.

When the students left their service area last year, they were asked to make a commitment to ongoing service in their parish. One area they wanted to put their service was in evening childcare to parents of young children. Hence, this year the babysitting will be free. (although donations will be accepted the night of the event) There will be 8 – 10 high school students caring for the children as well as 4 adults. Snacks and drinks, only, will be provided. In order to have enough toys, activities, supplies, snacks and drinks we need to know how many children and their ages will be attending. We also ask that the children be potty trained. Sign Ups are again this weekend.

**Mardi Gras Bake Sale:** The week-end of February 18 & 19 the service students will be selling baked goods after all the Masses. The following Wednesday is Ash Wednesday so come to church prepared to buy something for the sweet tooth . . . before you give it up for Lent!

There will be more fundraising as time goes on, but these are the first two events. As always, we are so grateful for your generosity and your prayers!

### Deacon Ted Doyle Memorial Blanket Drive

For many years, you, the members of the parish, have shown great generosity in helping to purchase blankets for the homeless, for people in shelters, for refugees forced to live in cold apartments, and for local families experiencing hard times. In honor of our beloved Deacon Ted Doyle, who worked so hard for this cause, we the parishioners of St. Mary's are carrying on this tradition of sharing. At a price of \$8.00 each, these warm blankets can make a major difference to a family that is cold. Checks should be made out to **St. Francis Christian Service**. Cash is also acceptable. Your donations may be left at the parish office or in the Donation Box in the Gathering Space. As Deacon Doyle always said, "*Your donation is tax deductible and divinely accountable.*"

Please do not bring actual blankets, as we have no facility to store them.



are in need.

**Next weekend, February 11/12,** will be our Monthly Food Collection. Needed are non-perishable food items (canned, boxed, etc.), baby supplies, paper goods, and cleaning products. These are all donated to Wellspring, our local food pantry to help those in Hull who



**K of C & American Red Cross  
Blood Drive**

On Wednesday, February 28<sup>th</sup>, the Red Cross and the Knights of Columbus are having a blood drive to increase the blood supply to patients who are in need. The drive will take place at the K of C Hall, 440 Nantasket Ave from 1:30-8:30 pm. Free tax returns from Liberty Tax Service for all presenting donors. (Prizes not redeemable for cash and are non-transferable.) Call 1-800-REDCROSS for more information and to make an appointment.

**Take Five For Faith**

**Monday, February 6, 2012...Feast of Paul Miki, martyr, and companions, martyrs-Keep the story alive**

Christianity came to Japan with the arrival of St. Francis Xavier in 1549. In fewer than 50 years, however, all foreign missionaries had been expelled and 26 Christians were condemned to die, including Paul Miki, a Japanese-born Jesuit priest. The story does not end there. In the 1860s new missionaries to Japan were astonished to discover a hidden but thriving Christian community numbering in the tens of thousands, who had managed to pass along the faith informally for 200 years! Such is the power of the Christian narrative. What is your favorite story from the life of Jesus? Why? In what ways has it influenced your life? How can you pass it along?

**Tuesday, February 7...May God rest in peace!**

Talk about holy sites: the Temple Mount, where King Solomon is said to have built Israel's First Temple around 3,000 years ago, has been considered a sacred location by at least four religious traditions: Judaism, Christianity, Islam, and even Roman paganism. Competing claims on the site, and on the area known as East Jerusalem where it is located, are a central element of Arab-Israeli conflict in the region. Surely we can find a way to bring lasting peace to the place where tradition says the Divine Presence rested after creating the world and then gathered the dust to form the first human beings. Add your voice to those calling for a negotiated peace in God's backyard.

**Wednesday, February 8...Don't be late to break-fast**

With the season of Lent and its practice of fasting arriving in a couple of weeks, it's a little puzzling to remember that Jesus was a great *breaker* of fasts and violator of religious food rules—that was one thing that got him into trouble with the authorities. His followers gathered grain on the Sabbath because they were starving. He ate with sinners and outcasts. He simply *did not follow the rules*, but for a purpose: to show how the rules should not control but rather serve to bring a person into a more loving relationship with God and neighbor. What makes a person holy is not external observance but internal faith and love, which leads to right behavior.

**Thursday, February 9...What do you choose?...Being**

chosen by God seems attractive, but God's choice is less entitlement to special favors and more being selected for a commission—given a job to do. Further, we find that God does not usually choose as we might. God picked, for example, David, the runt of the litter; Mary, an unknown girl from Nazareth; the sinner over the holy man. Try to be aware of how you make choices: how you will treat a troublesome fellow-worker or that driver who is tailgating or how scrupulously honest you will be. Like God, who chose you to be one in Christ, make decisions based not on the obvious but on what is inside the other—and who dwells within you.

**Friday, February 10...Feast of Scholastica, Virgin**

**What's between your life's bookends?**-We know few facts about Saint Scholastica: She lived in Italy in the 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> centuries, was the sister of St. Benedict, became a nun and a prioress, and helped found Benedictine monasticism. Yet, thanks to two brief comments by Saint Gregory the Great, we know volumes about *how* she lived her life. Of her childhood he wrote: "She was devoted to God from a very early age," and when she died "her soul ascended into heaven in the likeness of a dove." As you think about your life's journey, what do your bookends look like?

**END OF BULLETIN**  
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**Comments:**

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