



Mass Intentions



Saturday, April 4

4:00pm – John, Thomas, & Thomas W. Doyle - anniversary

Sunday, April 5

8:00am – For the people of this parish
 10:00am – Mary Arnone
 12:00pm – Ida Picanzo - remembrance

Wednesday, April 9

9:00am – Julia DeNobrega - remembrance

Please remember in your prayers

- For:** Mathias Cann & Evelyn Napoleon who were married on March 28, 2009
- For:** Those who are homebound and ill especially: Helen Bath, Joseph Ameri, Jay Balsavich, Catherine Butler, Mary Webby, James Conley, Manuel Jancinto, Peggy Ford, Francis Gibbs, Mary Kennedy, Mary Murphy, Marilyn Castillo Catherine Farmer, Bob Martin, Mario Cesarini, & Emma Keene,
- For:** All civilians, peace workers, relief workers, & military in areas of conflict and war, that they be protected from all harm.
- For:** **Rose Stella & Alice Durant** whose funerals were celebrated here this past week, may they rest in peace.
- For:** the recent incidents of Domestic Violence may serve as an alert to family members and helping profession for the need to get people help before people are hurt.
- For:** All those working for peace and justice in Pakistan, Israel, Burma, Palestine, Iraq, Afghanistan, Darfur, and the eastern part of the Congo.
- For:** The young people and others in our city who have been murdered and for a greater commitment from the community to address the seed beds of this violence



Parish Calendar



Sunday, April 4/5 Palm Sunday

2nd Collection to meet parish expenses not being met by the offertory collection

Sunday, April 5

8:45am – First Communion I Class (church hall)
 10:00am – Children’s Liturgy of the Word

Monday, April 6

4:15pm - RCIA for Children (rectory downstairs)
 7:00pm – Parish Pastoral Council (rectory basement)

Wednesday, April 8

6:30pm – Rehearsal for Holy Thursday Mass (church)
 7:00pm – Rehearsal for Good Friday Service (church)

Thursday, April 9 Holy Thursday

9:00am – Morning Prayer
 7:00pm – Solemn Liturgy an Mass for Holy Thursday

Friday, April 10th Good Friday

9:00am – Morning Prayer
 11:45am – Ecumenical Good Friday, Stations of the City (St Paul Church)
 7:00pm – Solemn Liturgy for Good Friday

Saturday, April 11th Holy Saturday

9:00am – Morning Prayer and decorating of church for Easter
 10:30am – Rehearsal for Holy Saturday Easter Vigil Service & Mass
 7:30pm – Easter Vigil and First Mass of Easter

**Sunday, April 12 - The Resurrection of the Lord
 Easter**

2nd Collection to benefit the clergy Benefit Trust for retired and disabled priest.
 10:00am – The Children’s Liturgy of the Word

Monday, April 13

4:15pm - RCIA for Children (rectory downstairs)

Thursday, April 16

7:00pm – ARISE Program Service and Desert (rectory downstairs)

dates to save

Sunday, April 19 - Coffee Sunday after The 8:00am and 10:00 am Mass.

Anointing of the sick after the 12:00pm Mass

Saturday, April 25 – Bishop Robert Hennessey will celebrate a Confirmation Eucharist at 11:00am and 4:00pm Masses

Sunday, April 26 – 1:30pm Class for parents and Godparents preparing to baptize an infant



**Thoughts from
 Our Spiritual Development Committee**

Sorrow makes us thoughtful and deep;
 makes us kind and sympathetic;

Makes us realize the emptiness of the things of the world and the true beauty of heaven.

Presiders

Saturday, April 11	7:30pm	Fr Cloherty
Sunday, April 12	8:00am	Fr Goss
	10:00am	Fr Callahan
	12:00pm	Fr. Cloherty

Offertory

Weekly expenses	\$6600
March 29/30 – Offertory	\$5227
2 nd collection	\$1050
Weekly deficit	-323

If every adult gave \$3.00 more per week, we would not have a deficit.
 Average amount given in offertory envelopes = \$18.00
 Average amount given by people who do not use envelopes = \$7.00
 Please remember the parish in your will, a gift for future generations

“May God bless you with enough foolishness...to believe that you can make a difference in this world, so that you can do what others claim cannot be done.”

-From a Franciscan blessing

April is Child Abuse Prevention Month

April has been designated as National Child Abuse Prevention Month by presidential proclamation. The observance seeks to raise awareness about how they can help prevent the attention to, and educating individuals and communities about how they can help prevent the abuse or neglect of children. Nationwide, annual reports show that staggering numbers of children continue to be victims of child abuse and neglect – most at the hands of those who are supposed to protect them. The recent incidents of Domestic Violence may serve as an alert to family members and helping professions for the need to get people help before people are hurt

Economy Affects Marriages!

It takes much effort just to make ends meet in our world today. Do you wish you could talk about something besides all the stresses in your life? A worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend gives you the time and tools to revitalize romance, deepen communication, and nourish the spirituality in your marriage. The next Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend is April 17-19 call Ralph or Jane at 1800-710-WWME or visit www.wwmeMA.org

Readings for the Week

Monday Is 42: 1-7 Jn 12: 1-11(257)
Tuesday Is 49: 1-6 Jn 13:21-33, 36-38 (258)
Wednesday Is 50: 4-9a Mt 26: 14-25 (259)
Thursday, Ex 12 1-8, 11-14 1Cor 11: 23-26 Jn 13:1-15 (39)
Friday Is52: 13-53:-12 Heb 4: 14-16, 5: 7-9 Jn 18: 1-19:42(40)
Saturday readings as in Lectionary (41)
Sunday Acts 10: 3a, 37-43 Col 3: 1-4 or 1 Cor 5: 6b-8 Jn 20: 1-7 (42) or Mk 16:1-7 (41)

CATHOLIC APPEAL

Our appreciation goes out to all parishioners at Our Lady of Lourdes who have made a gift to the 2009 Catholic Appeal. The Appeal is to our Archdiocese what the weekly offertory is to our parish. If you have not yet made your gift, please consider making a pledge this weekend. We have received \$14,510 from 79 households, reaching 36.7percent of our parish goal of \$39,500. Remember; our parish will receive 25 percent of all funds we raise above our goal. For more information please visit www.BostonCatholicAppeal.com or call 617-779-3700. Thank you!

Rosary Stars: Praying the Gospel

A Holy Week Retreat featuring a new film, *Rosary Stars: Praying the Gospel*, will be offered at the Father Peyton Center, 518 Washington Street, Easton, MA on April 6, 7 and 8, beginning at 11:00 am. The film features meditations and inspiring reflections by contemporary film and sport personalities with Rosary prayer led by a Rosary Star. The Joyful, Sorrowful, and Glorious Mysteries will be shown. Mass will follow at noon. For additional information call Holy Cross Family Ministries at 508-238-4095.

From Fr. Cloherty

As we enter Holy Week, we celebrate the central events around which our whole faith life revolves: Jesus' death and resurrection. It is interesting for us to note that

until the 13th century and the Great Bubonic plagues that wiped out 1/3 of the population of the area from India to Iceland, the usual crosses that would be found in our churches did not have a corpus or the body of Jesus. (See *Barbara Tuckmán's interesting book –Through a Distant Mirror*). Before that time Jesus' resurrection was the clear focus of the church year and prayer hence the empty cross and often jeweled.

During the devastation of the plagues when sometimes whole villages were wiped out and 2/3 of the clergy died, the people focused on Jesus suffering and death. This led to Good Friday becoming the all important day in the Church year with elaborate processions and long liturgies, which led to an imbalance; the Resurrection began to take a far second behind Good Friday.

One of the major contributions of the Second Vatican Council was to restore the celebration of the Resurrection to its central place in worship and teaching. As St. Paul tells us, if there is no resurrection then our faith is in vain, and yet to reach Resurrection Sunday there has to be a Good Friday.

I would encourage you to be part of this whole week especially Good Friday (7:00pm) and the Saturday Vigil- the First Mass of Easter at (7:30pm). On Good Friday at 11:45am, we also have a once a year opportunity to join our Christian sisters and brothers from whom we are separated in an Ecumenical Prayer Service –*The Stations of the City*, starting downtown at St. Paul Episcopal Church on Pleasant St.

May what we do together here this week bring us to the full joy of Jesus' Resurrection.

Items:

- Passover begins the eve of April 8. We remember our Jewish sisters and brothers in prayer.
- Last Wednesday, we held our first Contractors meeting with representatives of Auburn Construction Co and the Archdiocese. We should see real movement on reconstruction of our hall shortly.
- There are flyers on our bulletin boards with helpful information for people experiencing foreclosure on their homes and financial stress.
- We will decorate the church for Easter this Saturday at 10:00am. All helping hands welcome.
- Last call – there are Easter Flower envelopes on the windowsills. Anyone wishing to have us buy flowers for the Easter Altar in memory of a loved one should use an envelope to make a donation and indicate the name of the loved one.
- 468 + postcards were mailed to our Federal Representatives opposing the so called Freedom of Choice Act & \$175was collected for postage and \$125 of that used. The \$50 balance is in a Parish Pro Life account. Good job all!!
- We are being told that the Retirement Fund for Priest of the Archdiocese is down by 150 million dollars, so some of my colleagues are thinking about prospects for employment. A question arises: Should we wear our collars bagging groceries? Your generosity will be appreciated.