



Mass Intentions



Saturday, December 12

4:00pm – Edward Nesseralla

Sunday, December 13

8:00pm – For the people of the parish
 10:00pm – Maria Silva – 1yr anniversary
 12:00pm – Christopher Norwood – 4th anniversary

Monday, December 14

9:00am – Juvinal & Aris Goncalves

Tuesday, December 15

9:00am – Frances. V. Parenteau – 5th anniversary

Saturday, December 19

4:00pm – Jean Oxsuzian – 3rd anniversary



Parish Calendar



Saturday/Sunday, December 12/13

Third Sunday of Advent

Sign up for Christmas Caroling to homebound parishioners
 2nd Collection to pay parish bills not covered by regular offertory

Monday, December 14

4:00pm – RCIA for children (rectory downstairs)
 5:30pm – 9th and 10th Grade Teachers (rectory)
 7:15pm - Parish Pastoral Council (rectory downstairs)

DATES TO SAVE

Sunday, December 20

10:00am – 1st & 2nd grade procession with angels
 4:00pm – Christmas Caroling to homebound parishioners followed by a pot luck supper in the church hall.

Monday, December 21

10:00am – Set up hall for Christmas Mass (church hall)
 6:00pm – Rehearsal for Christmas Pageant

Tuesday, December 22

10:00am – Decorate Church for Christmas (upstairs church)

Christmas Mass Schedule

Thursday, Dec 24th -

4:00pm - upstairs in church
 4:00pm - downstairs in church
 5:45pm - Family Mass

Friday, December 25 Christmas Day

8:00am & 10:00am only

Please remember in your prayers

- For:** Brady Poz (Chris Poz's nephew) 12months old with liver cancer & Gerry Coughlin (Sr. Marie's sister).
- For:** Those who are homebound and ill especially: Charlie Dornan, Helen Bath, Joseph Ameri, Jay Balsavich, Mary Webby Catherine Butler, James Conley, Manuel Jancinto, Francis Gibbs, Marilyn Castillo, Catherine Farmer, John Hardy, Judy Wallen, Rita Ritucci, Lorice Hashem, Harry Owens, Maria R. Eduardo, Steven Hashem, John O'Brien (Jean Rowan's brother who is critically ill), Lottie Doyle & Marge Murphy.
- For:** the unemployed and those under- employed.
- For:** All civilians, peace workers, relief workers, & military in areas of conflict and war, especially: Sam Bath, Ryan Moffett, Brian O'Rourke, Peter Farley, Robert Packard, Derek VanDyke, Edson Batista & Kevin Murphy that they be protected from all harm.
- That** 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.
- 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

Thoughts from

Our Spiritual Development Committee

O God, who sent prophets to prepare the way for the coming of your Son: help us to hear their warning and their message of great joy which was given for all people; so that at the Birthday of your Son, our Redeemer, we may receive Him more joyfully into our hearts, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Readings for the Week

Monday – Nm24: 2-7, 15-17a, Mt21:23-27 (187)
Tuesday – Zep 3: 1-2, 9-13, MMT 21: 28-32 (188)
Wednesday – Is 45: 6b-8, 18, 21b-25. Lk 7:18b-23 (189)
Thursday- Gn 49:2,8-10, Mt 1:1-17 (193)
Friday :- Jer 23: 5-8 Mt 1:18-25 (194)
Saturday – Jgs 13: 2-7, 24-25a Lk 1:5-25(195)
Sunday - Mi5: 1-4a, Heb 10:5-10, Lk1: 39-45 (12)

Presiders

Sat December 19	4:00pm	Fr. Cloherty
Sun December 20	8:00am	Fr. Butler
	10:00am	Fr. Cloherty
	12:00pm	Fr. Visbisky

Christmas Decorating



Volunteers needed to help decorate the church for Christmas. Please come to the church on Tuesday, December 22 at 10:00am to help Nancy put up the decorations. Also, there are "Flower Envelopes" on the windowsills for those who would like to donate to our decorations

The Giving Tree



The unwrapped gifts for the Giving Tree are due this weekend. My Brother's Keeper will be here this Sunday to deliver them in Christ's name. If you forgot to bring your gift today, please do not bring it next week or drop it off at the rectory. If you do, it may not reach My Brother's Keeper and be too late to deliver. Instead, bring the unwrapped gift to My Brother's Keeper at the corner of rte 123 & rte 138 (behind the Honey Dew Donut Shop)

Offertory

Weekly expenses	\$6300.00
December 5/6 – Offertory	\$4476.00
2 nd Collection (budget)	\$1223.00
Budget	- 601.00

Between now and December 31, 2009, you can make the gift of a lifetime to Our Lady of Lourdes Church by giving from your IRA without federal tax penalty. For more information and for sample forms, call Richard Ely at the Catholic Foundation at 617-779-3702 or email Richard_Ely@rcab.org

The upcoming Christmas Collection supports the retirement, healthcare, and financial needs of priest of the Archdiocese of Boston. We encourage you to please give generously on behalf of the priests that have devoted their lives to faithfully serving God and the faithful of the Archdiocese of Boston. On behalf of all of our priests, thank you in advance for your generosity.

Catholic TV Christmas Programming

It's that time of year again! **CatholicTV** will intersperse Advent and Christmas programming with their regular schedule throughout December and especially from Monday, Dec 21 until New Year's Eve. Then, all day Christmas Eve, Christmas Day and December 26, CatholicTV will become ChristmasTV for 72 hours of non-stop specials.

You can always watch all of the fine Catholic TV programming live and on-demand at our easy to navigate website: www.catholicTV.com Join Fr. Reed, Jay Fadden and the whole CatholicTV staff for the best in Christmas programming. As Christmas draws near, Watch CatholicTV. It's all for you!

LaSalette Shrine

The liturgy committee of St. Edith Stein is sponsoring a trip to LaSalette shrine on Sunday Dec 27. Cost: \$12 per person. The bus will leave the St. Edith Stein parking lot at 3:45 and return at 9pm. This will be a peaceful evening to spend good quality time with your family after the hectic-ness of Advent is over. If interested please call Denise Jezewski @ 508-586-4688. Thank you.

Update

U.S. House Keeps Abortion Funding Out of Health Care Reform

As long-time advocates of healthcare reform, the U.S. Catholic bishops continue to make the moral case for genuine healthcare reform that will protect the life, dignity, consciences, and health of all, especially the poor and vulnerable. On November 7, the U.S. House of Representatives passed major health care reform that reaffirms the essential, longstanding, and widely supported policy against using federal funds for elective abortion coverage. It is critical that the Senate adopt the House-approved Stupak Amendment language on this issue. This amendment ensures that Americans are not forced to pay for the destruction of unborn children as part of needed health care reform.

The Senate must address other essential moral priorities: protecting conscience rights; making health coverage more affordable and accessible for those in need; and ensuring that immigrants do not lose or will not be denied health care coverage needed for the good of their families and health of society

ACTION: Contact Senate and House Members through email, phone calls, or Fax letters

Tell Senators: Follow the House's lead on Removing Abortion Funding, Protect Conscience Rights, Ensure Affordable Health Coverage, and Allow Immigrants to Purchase Private Health Insurance. Act today, thank you.

Senator John F. Kerry – Tel: 202-224-2742

Senator Paul G. Kirk Jr. Tel: 202-224-4543

Representative Steven Lynch – Tel: 508-586-5555

Information can be found on www.House.gov or www.senate.gov.

From Fr. Cloherty

The tradition of gift giving at Christmas is tied to the gift that God gave to us and to the world on the first Christmas. God gave us himself – all of himself in Jesus. Jesus modeled that for us in his life, death, and resurrection. He constantly gave his time and self until there was nothing else to give. He also poured out his Spirit on us to be our Advocate, companion and friend - another giving by God of his very self.

During this Advent/Christmas season, the parish offers ways to give of ourselves. **Our parish poor boxes** at the church doors make it possible for us to serve meals at Main Spring, Fr. Bill's Place, and St. Paul's Table weekly. Our poor boxes also make it possible for us to respond to those who come to the rectory seeking help with medications, heating fuel, rent and other needs.

Last year **the Giving Tree** produced over 550 gifts for area needy families. We expect an increase in need and a more generous response this year.

On December 20, we will form teams to visit homebound parishioners and sing **Christmas carols**.

Finally, on December 24/25, the **Christmas offertory collection** will give us an opportunity to provide for the support of our retired and disabled priests.

Please also be aware that **Catholic Charities**, 686 North Main St. and the **Charity Guild**, 501 Main Street, have food pantries and thrift shops serving more and more people this year.

The charities to which I am particularly committed financially are **St. Paul's Table**, 80 Pleasant St., which serves meals daily to the homeless and **Soar**, a program sponsored by Catholic Charities, that helps ex-offenders to re-enter society and avoid persons, places, and things that would lead them to re-offend.

This is a very effective program. Donations can be mailed to Soar c/o Catholic Charities, 686 N. Main St., Brockton, 02301

God has given himself to us. Let us give of ourselves to others.

Dear Parishioners,

Thank you for the opportunity to share with you information about the Priest Pension and Healthcare Funds which provide for the current needs of senior and ill priests.

There are 752 priests who rely on the Priest Pension and Healthcare Funds to provide for their healthcare and financial needs. In addition, there are 274 senior priests who also rely on the Priest Pension and Healthcare Funds for their retirement benefits. In recent years, the Priest Pension and Healthcare Funds have been stressed with the increase in medical costs and with continually rising housing and living expenses. The need to stabilize this fund is critical and a top priority of Cardinal Seán and all of the priests.

We prayerfully ask that you choose to give generously to the Christmas Collection in honor of the priests who have devoted their lives to faithfully serve God and our parishes. On behalf of all the priests, thank you in advance for your continued support

May God bless you all.

Fr. Cloherty