

Mass Intentions

Saturday, May 2

4:00pm – Paul Oxsuzian -3rd anniversary &
Maureen Cram – Birthday remembrance

Sunday, May 3

8:00am – For the people of this parish
10:00am – Margarida Fernandes – anniversary
12:00pm – John F. Altieri – 1yr anniversary

Saturday, May 9

4:00pm – Special Intentions

Parish Calendar

Saturday/ Sunday, May 2 & 3
4th Sunday of Easter

2nd Collection to help pay parish expenses not covered
by the regular offertory collection

Sunday, May 3

10:00am – Children's Liturgy of the Word
11:00am – BIC/LOC Committee (rectory upstairs)
1:30pm - Parish Baptisms

Monday, May 4

4:15pm – RCIA Class for Children (rectory downstairs)

Wednesday, May 5

3:15pm – RCIA for high school students (rectory upstairs)

Thursday, May 7

1:00pm – 1:30 Prayer for Vocations (church)
4:00pm – Baptism committee (rectory upstairs)
7:00pm – Parish Finance Council (rectory upstairs)
7:00pm – ARISE Team (rectory upstairs)

Friday, May 8

4:00pm – First Communion Rehearsal (church)

Saturday, May 9

8:00am – Parish Building committee (rectory upstairs)
11:00am – First Communion Eucharist

Saturday/Sunday, May 9/10

Happy Mother's Day

Flower sale to benefit the charities of the Catholic Daughters

Please remember in your prayers

For: **Cassandra Renee Crowley, Maya Saphia Miranda, Erin Dorothy Cambio, Raelynn Carol Elizabeth Henault, Frankie Steven Sarcia, & Caden Joseph Parma** who will be baptized here this weekend

For: the children who will receive First Eucharist this weekend and next and their families.

For **Edith Crowell** (**Bill Crowell's** sister) who is ill.

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, Mario Cesarini, & Emma Keene

For: **Elizabeth M. Bassett** whose funeral will be celebrated here on Monday May 4th.

For: All civilians, peace workers, relief workers, & military in areas of conflict and war, 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

How sweet the name of Mary. A name that means salvation and grace and should always be remembered and venerated. It is a heavenly and truly angelic name which the Evangelist Luke devoutly revealed to the faithful: "and her name was Mary."

Presiders

Saturday, May 9	4:00pm	Fr. Goss
Sunday, May 10	8:00am	Fr. Cloherty
	10:00am	Fr. Butler
	12:00pm	Fr. Cloherty

Readings for the Week

Monday – Acts 11:1-8, Jn 10:1-10 (279)
Tuesday – Acts 11: 19-26, Jn 10: 22-30 (280)
Wednesday Acts 12 : 24-13:5a Jn 12: 44-50 (281)
Thursday, Acts 13: 13-25, Jn 13: 16-20 (282):
Friday Acts 13: 26-33, Jn 14: 1-6 (283)
Saturday Acts 13: 44-52, Jn 14: 7-14 (284)
Sunday Acts:9: 26-31 1Jn 3: 18-24, Jn 15: 1-8 (53)

Dates to Save

May 18 - 7:00pm - St. Paul and the Law of Moses with *Celia Sirois and Rabbi Joshua Cohen* from Temple Beth Emunah (rectory basement)

May 21 - 7:00pm - BIC Action Meeting @ Trinity Baptist Church

May 27 - 7:00pm – Prayer Service for Christian Unity –Messiah Baptist church

June 20 –11:am – 3:00pm Annual Parish Picnic

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 \$24,320 from 135 households, reaching 61.6 percent 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

Offertory

Weekly expenses	\$6600
April 25/26 – Offertory	\$4930
2 nd collection – Parish budget	\$776
Weekly deficit	-\$894

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

**Worldwide Marriage Encounter of
Massachusetts and Rhode Island**

"Love one another as I love you." Do you love your spouse with the same kind of love that Jesus loves us? Take time now to learn this kind of love for each other. The next worldwide marriage Encounter Weekends in New England are June 19-21, July 17-19, and September 25-27 for more information call Ralph & Jane Becker at 1-800-710-WWME

St. Joseph Retreat Center, 339 Jerusalem Road, Cohasset invites you to the following programs. Besides scheduled events, the retreat house is often available for individual or group private retreats. For more information and to register, visit our website www.csjretreatcenter.org, call 781-383-6024/6029, or email retreat.center@csjboston.org.

Days of Prayer: Saturday, May 9, "Celebrating Mother's Day with Mary, Our Mother, 9:00-3:30.

Thursday, May 21, "Living in Easter Hope", 9:00-4:30

Weekend Retreat: Friday, May 29-Sunday, May 31, **Women's Wellness Weekend: "Finding the Center From Which To Live"**.

Charismatic Healing Retreat: Friday-Sunday, May 29-31, 2009.

Directed by Rev. John Connor, C.Ss.R. **Theme for the weekend is "Pray the Psalms: Learn to Pray".** The weekend will include reflections on the Psalms, Adoration, Mass, Reconciliation and a special healing service led by Fr. Connor. Cost \$160, includes accommodations and meals. Reservation and \$25 deposit required. Mount St. Alphonsus is located on the banks of the Hudson River in the Village of Esopus, NY. Thousands of people from around the northeast make a pilgrimage to the Mount each year. For more information, please visit www.VisitTheMount.com, or call (845) 384-8000.

Seán Cardinal O'Malley, O.F.M. Cap.

Invites all couples of the Archdiocese of Boston who are marking their 25th and 50th wedding anniversaries in 2009 to join him for the annual celebration at the Cathedral of the Holy Cross, Sunday, June 7, 11:30am Mass. Mass will include a renewal of marriage vows by all participating anniversary couples. Family members and friends of participating couples, as well as the general public, are welcome to attend. Please register with the parish office by May 11, 2009 if you would like to attend this celebration. A formal invitation and more information will then be sent to celebrating couples from the Archdiocese. Congratulations on your anniversary!

**Notice : The 20th Century Club will meet on Tuesday
May 5th in the lower rectory at 7:00pm**

From Fr. Cloherty

Some months ago we had a very nice ceremony at a 10:00am Sunday Mass. We had the 66 candidates for Confirmation present with their sponsors and family members to introduce them to the parish and to pray for them as they approached this final step in the process of their becoming Catholic Christians. (Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist together are seen as the *Sacrament of Initiation*) During the ceremony, I approached each young person and marked them with the sign of the cross on his or her forehead. As I did so, I had an increasingly uncomfortable feeling. I knew six of them by name and perhaps had seen six to eight others at Sunday Mass. I realized finally that over fifty of these young people, over 80% of them, had no connection to this parish.

A little later I recalled an incident that occurred in this church when I was hearing first confessions. One particularly verbal and bright child came in and we had a delightful exchange. As he stood up to leave, I reached over to shake his hand and told him that I would look forward to seeing him at church in the future. His response was "Oh no, you will not see me again because my family does not go to church."

I have no response in these situations. The issue of course, is not with the child, but with the parents and frankly the last thing that I want to have us do is to come at these parents with "must" and "should" which might be interpreted as put downs or rejections. How to respond creatively so that our approach might be seen as an invitation and not a judgment?

Cathy Bendixen (Gail Russell's sister) is a candidate for a Master's degree at Boston College. Earlier this year, she approached me because she needed a parish site for a "practicum" as part of her work for this degree. What about Our Lady of Lourdes?

To be brief, for some months now Cathy and Katie Homer (our first grade coordinator), have teamed up to engage the parents in our First grade program. Katie had some of this in place for the past two years, but the full parent programs consisted of 3 talks by a psychologist on *Parenting as a Christian Vocation*, 4 Parent / child sessions on some aspect of faith and a pot luck dinner at the rectory for the child and parents. In the process, over 1/2 of the families have really connected with the 14 members of a first grade committee, our first grade teachers, Katie, Cathy and with me. Some of them have already volunteered to help and even lead some new parish programs. We did not get them all to participate in everything but certainly over 50% of them were part of the whole program.

Next year, we will be working with the 2nd grade team to parallel our existing 14 member 1st grade team. Volunteers anyone?

Frankly these teams are crucial if we want people to be part of the church. Someone needs to welcome them and connect with them. Parish staff can do that to an extent but when we have an event with 40 sets of parents and 40 children, effective welcoming cannot be done without a group such as these 14 first grade team members.

As we confirmed those 66 young people last weekend and have 52 children receiving the Eucharist this weekend and next, I am quite sensitive to the fact that we will not see most of them again. However, I find significant hope in the experience we had with first grade children and parents this year. The potential for replicating that experience for 2nd grade children and parents gives me the hope that ultimately we will have events and programs that will reach all the families in our religious education program and in an effective way invite them to become Church with us.



Tracy Salazar for washing the interior of our stained glass windows. If you think things seem brighter in the church, thank her.