

FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT



Mass Intentions

Saturday, April 2

5:30pm For the Parish

Sunday, April 3

8:00am Masumeh Ghandaharian

Requested by family

10:00am Joseph Mahoney

Requested by wife

12:00pm Lena, John Sr. and John
Iacobbo, Jr.

Requested by family

Monday, April 4

7:00am Robert Cote

Requested by family

Tuesday, April 5

7:00am Debbie Klinger

Requested by Gina Posillo

Wednesday, April 6

7:00am Lucy Winter

Requested by family

Thursday, April 7

7:00am Helen & Howard Carr

Req. by Fred & Arlene Robinson

Friday, April 8

7am Marjorie Meehan

Req. by Jim and Susan Meehan

Saturday, April 9

5:30pm Branden DeLuca

Requested by family

Sunday, April 10

8:00am Mass of Thanksgiving

Requested by a grateful sister

10:00am Kathleen A. Rose

Requested by family

12NN For the Parish



St. Romuald Chapel Mass Intentions

Sunday, April 3

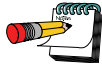
10:00am Earle Simmons

Requested by wife Eleanor

Sunday, April 10

10:00am Al Marchand

Requested by Gerri & Al Marsocci



For Your Information

PARISH SUPPORT

Parish Support for March 27th was Budget—\$9,371. This weekend's second offering is the monthly offering for April. Next weekend's second offering will be the Ongoing Maintenance fund offering. Thank you for your continued generosity!

SANCTUARY LAMP

This week's Sanctuary Lamp at St. Francis Church burns in memory of all those who died in Japan's earthquake/tsunami.

SOCIAL OUTREACH COMMITTEE meeting will be on Monday, April 4th at 7:00pm in the Mary Cummings Conference Room located in the rectory. All are welcome.

FOOD OF THE MONTH

Your donations of spaghetti sauce, juice, peanut butter, jelly, cans of chili, baked beans and rolls of paper towels may be dropped off at the entrance of the church or chapel.

We thank you in advance for your continued generosity to those who are less fortunate.

LONGING TO RETURN:

THE SACRAMENT OF CONFESSION

Sin oppresses us. It exiles us from God, others, and ourselves. When we try to overcome our sinful behaviors and attitudes through sheer will power, we are bound to fail. The Sacrament of Confession gives us the grace, the supernatural help, to overcome our sin and return to God. Our willingness to confess our sins is itself a gift of God's grace, which moves us to experience sorrow for our sins, otherwise known as "contrition." Sorrow for sin is not always a given, we sin because there is some sensible benefit to it, we find it easy to do so. And if we've fallen into repeated or habitual sins, then our conscience is gradually dulled until we accept our sin as a necessary part of our lives. But Jesus doesn't want us to remain as slaves of sin! He wants us to be free! He wants to reawaken in us a longing to return to him, a return which is made possible through the Sacrament of Confession!

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

What is the "Prayer Shawl Ministry"? This ministry began here in this parish in 2008. Since then we've been meeting the 1st Thursday of the month to knit (and chat). We continue work on the shawls at home. As the Prayer Shawls are knit or crocheted, we pray for the person who will receive it. The shawls are then blessed and ready to be given away. Join us this Thursday at 7:00pm in the Mary Cummings Conference Room, located in the rectory office building. If you know of someone who would benefit from a shawl (perhaps battling an illness or suffering a loss,) please call Cathy Dowd at 885-6564.

THE CATHOLIC CHARITY FUND APPEAL

Where we stand to date: Received: \$ 56,981; Goal: \$104,000
Thank you to all who responded so far. If you've been meaning to donate but haven't yet turned in your pledge or one-time offering, please consider dropping it off at the rectory sometime this week, mailing it or drop it in the offertory next weekend. As always, thank you for your generosity.

PARISH CD RACK

Remember the name **Archbishop Fulton Sheen**? Now you can hear his reflections on the Passion, Death and Resurrection of Jesus in "**The True Meaning of Easter**". Check out the parish **CD rack** (hallway near the Tabernacle).

APRIL 3, 2011

MONSIGNOR PAUL THEROUX, NEW PASTOR

Bishop Thomas Tobin has announced a new Pastor at St. Francis of Assisi Parish, effective July 1st. It will be the former Vicar General and Moderator of the Curia for the Diocese of Providence, Monsignor Paul Theroux. The official communication to the people was made in Thursday's edition of the Rhode Island Catholic newspaper.

In our diocese, appointments of pastors are now effective for a six year term of office and can be subject to renewal for an additional term. With the bishop presiding, a liturgical installation of Monsignor Theroux will take place here at a convenient time after his arrival.

Monsignor Paul was ordained a priest in 1977 by Bishop Gelineau. An older brother Ray was ordained in 1965, is the Pastor of St. John Vianney Parish in Cumberland, a classmate and friend of mine from my earliest days in Rhode Island.

After his first assignment as an assistant pastor at Blessed Sacrament Parish in Providence, Monsignor was assigned to the Diocesan Marriage Tribunal where he served as judge for a number of years. In 1986, while continuing his work with the tribunal, he was appointed to the staff of Our Lady of Providence Seminary, and in 1988 was named Director of Vocations.

In 1992 he was asked to serve the National Conference of Catholic Bishops in Washington DC as Director of the Secretariat for Vocations and Priestly Formation. While at the Conference, in 1995 he served as national coordinator for the visit of Pope John Paul II to the United States, and received accolades from all over the country for an outstanding job. He was named a monsignor shortly afterwards.

In 1997, he returned to Rhode Island and was appointed as Moderator of the Curia for the Diocese of Providence. In 2004 he became Vicar General and served in that capacity until January of this year when he began a period of sabbatical studies.

During his years in diocesan administration, he has also served seven years as Pastor of Our Lady of Lourdes Parish in Providence, and for the past four years was in residence and assisted at St. Margaret Parish in Rumford.

Monsignor Theroux is greatly admired and revered among his brother priests, is known to possess the qualities of listening and understanding to an extraordinary degree, and is a quiet and comforting presence to those hurting or in pain.

Father Joe and I feel strongly that his leadership and presence will be a great blessing for our people, and welcome him with open arms.

Fr. Nick



Religious Education

Grades K-6—Sunday Classes see below.

Wednesday Classes Gr. 3-6—Meet from 4-5pm in Father Greenan Parish Center.

Grades 7 & 8—Meet Wednesday, 7-8:15pm in Father Greenan Parish Center.

Confirmation I & II—Classes on Monday, from 7-8:30pm.

Confirmation II—Candidate & Sponsor Mtg at 7pm.

Children's Liturgy of the Word—during the 10am Mass.



This Week

Sunday, April 3

8:50-9:50 Gr. 1 & 2 FGC

10am Children's Liturgy of the Word

10:50-11:50am Gr 3,4 5 (FGC)
Gr. 6 (HBH)

6-7:30pm Praise Rehearsal (FGC)

7:00pm AA (HBH)

Monday, April 4

7:30-12:00 Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament (church)

11am Divine Mercy Cenacle (church)

4-6 Living Stations Rehearsal in Church

7pm Social Outreach Committee (MCCR)

7-8:30pm Conf. I Class (FGC)

7-8:30 Conf. II Candidate & Sponsor Mtg.

Tuesday, April 5

4-6 Living Stations Rehearsal in Church

6:30-7:30pm RCIA tonight (MCCR)

7:00pm Adult Choir Rehearsal (loft)

Wednesday, April 6

7AM Mass followed by Morning Prayer

4-5pm Gr 3-6 (FGC)

5-6:15pm Children's Choir Reh. (loft)

7-8:15pm Gr 7 & 8 (FGC)

Thursday, April 7

4-6 Living Stations Rehearsal in Church

7pm Prayer Shawl Ministry Mtg (MCCR)

Friday, April 8

5:30-6:45pm Lenten Soup Meal (FGC)

7pm Living Stations

Saturday, April 9

1-6:30pm Confirmation I Retreat (FGC)

Sunday, April 10

1-7pm Confirmation II Retreat (FGC)

IN SPIRIT AND TRUTH: THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK



Year of Liturgical and Spiritual Renewal

In today's gospel, Jesus heals a blind man. Notice that the blindness Jesus heals is twofold: first, he restores his physical sight by touching his eyes. But after that, Jesus does something far greater than restore physical vision. He grants the blind man a new, spiritual vision, a new set of eyes to see that Jesus is indeed the Messiah, the Savior of the world. To "see" means more than using our physical eyes to observe the world around us. Faith means seeing with a different set of eyes, it means seeing deeper than what our senses can immediately perceive. Saint John Vianney famously said, "The eyes of the world see no further than this life, but the eyes of the Christian see deep into eternity." Our faith should give us new vision, a new set of eyes with which to see the world. Jesus is the light by which our vision is deepened and enhanced, and Jesus meets us in the liturgy! Our participation in the sacraments and in the liturgical life of the Church are precisely the means by which our vision gets adjusted! In the liturgy, Jesus himself reaches out to us and heals our blindness. When we are blinded by sin, selfishness, myopia, and apathy, the sacraments heal and elevate our vision so that we can worship God in spirit and in truth.

WHY DO WE NEED A NEW TRANSLATION?

That is one of the most common questions we hear! What's so bad about the current translation of the Mass texts? Why will the translation change in Advent, 2011? Here's an example from last week's liturgy, the Opening Prayer for the Third Sunday in Lent.

Current Translation:

"Lord, in sharing this sacrament, may we receive your forgiveness and be brought together in unity and peace."

What the Latin original actual says:

"As we receive the pledge of things yet hidden in heaven, and are nourished while still on earth with the Bread that comes from on high, we humbly entreat you, O Lord, that what is being brought about in us in mystery may come to true completion."

Wow! Not even close! The new translations will be more faithful to the Latin originals, while granting a new depth to the meaning of the prayers we say every week at Mass.

CONFESSION: STEP-BY-STEP

(1) Pray for the grace of contrition, which is sorrow for your sin. (2) Examine your conscience using some formula or guide; many are available on the web, or in the "How to Make a Good Confession" pamphlet. (3) Plan on going to confession during the regularly scheduled time (Saturday's at 4:30PM, in the room to the right of the altar in Saint Francis Church) or make an appointment with Fr. Nick or Fr. Joe. (4) When you enter the confessional, kneel behind the screen or take a seat in the chair facing the priest. (5) Begin, *"Bless me, Father, for I have sinned, it has been ___ weeks/months/years since my last confession. These are my sins..."* The priest will listen, offering guidance and encouragement when necessary. (6) The priest will assign a penance (usually some prayers or an act of charity), which helps restore the imbalance caused by sin. Be certain to remember your penance and to perform it as soon as possible. (7) The priest will then invite you to recite the "Act of Contrition." This prayer is available to you in the confessional so you needn't remember it. (8) The priest will pray the prayer of absolution, absolving you from your sins and imparting the grace of the sacrament. (9) Make the sign of the cross as the priest says, *"I absolve you from your sins, in the name of the Father, + and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit."* (10) You're done! Your soul is clean! Remember to fulfill your penance and spend a few moments thanking God for his mercy.

ATTENTION

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion

Holy Week is just around the corner and I will be working on the new Extraordinary Ministers schedule for St. Francis of Assisi (main church only) this week. This schedule will run for Holy Week (April 21 - April 24) through Labor Day weekend (September 3 & 4). Please notify me this week (by Wednesday, April 6), if you will have any conflicts for this next schedule.

In addition, I need to know if you are available for your regular Mass on Easter Sunday or not. Please let me know one way or the other if you are available or not for Holy Week, especially for any of the "extra" Masses during Holy Week – Holy Thursday, the Easter Vigil Mass, etc.

Please let me know by no later than Wednesday, April 6 if you are available or not for any Mass during Holy Week.

Thank you for your help.

You can reach me at (401) 783-9556 or e-mail me at mbrousseaupephs@yahoo.com

As always, thank you for your service to the Parish.
Michelle Brousseau



Come, Rain or Shine to Our Annual Easter Egg Hunt
Saturday, April 16th, 10-11:00AM at Fr. Greenan Parish Center
Toddlers to Second Graders Welcome.
Donations of candy and plastic eggs gratefully accepted.