

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT



Mass Intentions

Saturday, February 21

4:30pm Fred Robinson

Req. by Dr. and Mrs. Gaglione & family

Sunday, February 22

8:00am Barbara Yemma

Requested by Cynthia Y. Faria

10:00am Neal Fiorio

Requested by family

12:00nn Fr. Owen Goodwin

Requested by Divine Mercy Cenacle

Monday, February 23

7:00am Hazel Favata

Requested by family

Tuesday, February 24

7:00am Deacon Joseph G. Turcotte

*Month's Mind Mass—Req. by Jim &
Susan Meehan*

Wednesday, February 25

7:00am James Flynn

Requested by Kathleen and Jeff Carney

Thursday, February 26

7:00am Mass for the People

Friday, February 27

7:00am Anthony and Rita Soltysiak

Requested by Rick Soltysiak

Saturday, February 28

4:30pm Williams & Battey Families

Requested by Battey family

Sunday, March 1

8:00am Dominic Coppelino

Requested by family

10:00am Dolores Smith &

Rosaleen Hickey

Requested by brother

12:00NN Mass for the People



St. Romuald Chapel Mass Intentions

Sunday, February 22

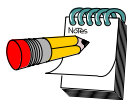
10:00am Joe and Deloris Clark

Req. by Tencher and Clark families

Sunday, March 1

10:00am Linda Guernon

Requested by family



For Your Information

PARISH SUPPORT

Parish support for February 15th was Budget—\$2,101; Ongoing Maint.—\$580. Next weekend's second offering will be the Monthly offering. Thank you for your continued generosity to the parish.

SANCTUARY LAMP

This week's sanctuary lamp at St. Francis Church burns in memory of James Flynn. The sanctuary lamp at St. Romuald Chapel burns for Fr. Owen Goodwin.

PARISH MISSION 2015

It was both humbling and thrilling to say 'yes' to Father Bodah's invitation to conduct your 2015 Parish Lenten Mission at St. Francis of Assisi, to be held on the nights of Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, March 2nd, 3rd and 4th. I will join you for all the weekend liturgies of Saturday, February 28th and Sunday March 1st by way of preparation for what should be a Lenten highlight.

Lent, after all, is the season when God challenges us as Catholics in a more intense way; the season when we're clearly invited in its first moments on Ash Wednesday to "turn away from sin and be faithful to the gospel." Cooperation with God's grace has the potential to be truly life changing, and so as a priest I've always loved this grace-filled time of increased opportunities for sacrifice and self-denial aimed at helping us all grow in holiness and love.

For those of you new to the parish, I am a retired priest of this diocese of who stays current by assisting a little at St. Patrick's Church in Providence, while doing some volunteer work at Hospice Care of Rhode Island.

Born and reared in Ireland, I was ordained for Providence in All Hallows Seminary in Dublin in 1965. Upon arrival in the United States, my assignments were Assistant at SS. Peter and Paul Cathedral ('65 – '66); Assistant at St. Mary of the Bay, Warren ('66 – '71); Chaplain and Director of Pastoral Care at St. Joseph and Fatima Hospitals ('71 – '89); Pastor, St. Francis De Sales, North Kingstown ('89 – '97); and Pastor of St. Francis of Assisi, Wakefield from 1997 until retiring in 2011.

I treasure the memories of your parish, and pray that our time together in March will enhance the ancient 'faith of our fathers' in our hearts, and help us experience together some dying/rising as the Sacred Triduum and Glorious Easter beckon a few weeks down the road.

I'm not one for catchy titles or themes but would ask you to think of this year's mission under the title '*The Challenge to be Catholic Today*'. Why? Because it *is* challenging! And what I want this to be for us all is a sort of *Spiritual CPR* (*Challenge + Penance = Resurrection* embodies it all!)

Please take this note as a personal invitation. If you know someone who hasn't been active or has been alienated from the church for one or a thousand reasons, invite them to come with you. Assure them I will consider it a privilege.

God love you, and, even if it's fleeting, it will be pure joy to be down beyond '*The Tower*' with you again.

Fr. Nicholas P. Smith, Pastor Emeritus

From the Pastor

With the holy season of Lent now underway, we have several things before us. The Catholic Charity Fund Appeal begins next weekend and I have no reluctance at all about asking for your support. This is not for the parish or for the priests but to fund the many good works that the diocese offers to the people of our state, without reference to race, color, or creed. I beg that each of you, instead of sending a one-time donation, decide what you can pledge per month toward our parish goal of a little over \$103,000. Those who usually give \$100 could consider pledging \$10 a month; those who give \$1,000 could consider pledging \$100 a month, etc. You know, I'm sure that the diocese maintains an office in our lower hall for those who need heating assistance and this is just one of many ministries funded by Catholic Charities.

Don't forget our parish mission, which begins next weekend and runs through Wednesday evening. Our own pastor emeritus, Fr. Nick Smith, a great preacher, will return to speak the word to us. See the article on page 1 that he wrote in preparation for this event.

Also, the mission will be the last time MaryEllen (Mimi) Battey will play in her capacity as our parish organist. I wrote about this in last week's bulletin, but alas, most people never saw it because of the snowstorm. Next week, I'll say something about our new organist, Stephen Higgins.

Fr. Bodah

ECUMENICAL LENTEN SERVICES



Every Lent, area churches participate in Ecumenical Lenten Services on the Wednesdays of Lent followed by a light lunch in the parish hall of the church hosting the service each week. Please note that the services begin at 12Noon. We encourage all who are able to attend. Diane Miller sent the following schedule for this year:

March 4th at Peace Dale Congregational Church
March 11th at Wakefield Baptist Church
March 18th at Kingston Congregational Church
March 25th at Christ United Methodist Church



Religious Education

CLASS SCHEDULE

Sunday, February 22nd

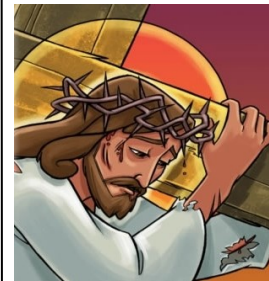
8:50-9:50am GRADES 1 & 2 (FGC)
 GRADE 8 (FGC)
 10:50-11:50am GRADES 3-6 (FGC)
 GRADE 7 (FGC)

Monday, February 23rd

7-8:30pm Confirmation I (FGC)

Wednesday, February 25th

4:00-5:00pm GRADES 3-6 (FGC)
 7:00-8:15pm GRADES 7&8 (FGC)



Next Sunday, March 1st, at 11AM on the first floor of Fr. Greenan Center, please join us for a very special

presentation of the Stations of the Cross titled, "Step Up Close to Jesus," presented by children in Grades 3-6.



This Week

Sunday, February 22

Rel. Ed. Class Schedule see above

11am Choir Rehearsal (SR)
 5:30pm Praise rehearsal (FGC)
 7:00pm AA (HBH)

Monday, February 23

7:30-12:00nn Adoration (weather permitting)
 6:30pm Event Committee Mtg. (HBH)
 7-8:30pm Confirmation I Class (FGC)

Tuesday, February 24

6:30pm Adoration & Evening Prayer (SR)
 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal (loft)
 7:00pm Bible Study (FGC)

Wednesday, February 25

12:30pm Stations of the Cross (SRC)
 4-5pm Rel. Ed. Classes—Gr. 3-6 (FGC)
 7-8:15pm Gr. 7/8 Class (FGC)

Thursday, February 26

6:30pm Adoration & Evening Prayer (SR)
 7:00pm Divine Mercy Cenacle (SR)
 7:00pm Men of St. Joseph (FGC-↓)
 7:00pm Gr. 8/9 Parent Meeting (HBH)

Friday, February 27

7:00pm Stations of the Cross (SF)

Saturday, February 28

10am—1pm Sacred Art Workshop (HBH)

Lent

MORNING PRAYER

Every Wednesday during Lent, immediately following the 7AM Mass, we will pray *Morning Prayer* in Saint Francis Church. Booklets will be provided.



ADORATION W/EVENING PRAYER

Join us each Tuesday and Thursday evening during the Lenten Season for Adoration w/ Evening Prayer at 6:30PM at Saint Romuald Chapel, Matunuck.



ROSARY—SORROWFUL MYSTERIES

The Sorrowful Mysteries of the Rosary will be prayed each Friday morning during Lent, immediately following the 7AM Mass at St. Francis Church.



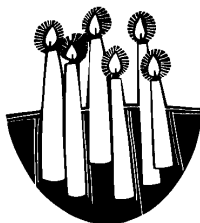
STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Stations of the Cross with Benediction will be offered on the Friday evenings of Lent at 7PM in St. Francis Church. The "Step Up Close to Jesus Stations," presented by our grades 3-6, will be offered Sunday, March 1st at 11AM in Fr. Greenan Center and again on Wednesday, March 11th at 4PM. Saint Romuald Chapel offers an afternoon opportunity to pray the Stations on Wednesdays throughout Lent at 12:30PM.

TAIZE

AN EVENING OF PRAYER & SONG

All are invited to join us for a quiet evening of **TAIZÉ** prayer, song and reflection on Sunday, March 8th, at 6:30PM in St. Francis Church.



LENTEN PRAYER

Transfigure us, O Lord — Transfigure us, O Lord.
Break the chains that bind us; speak your healing word,
and where you lead we'll follow.
Transfigure us, O Lord.

FOOD OF THE MONTH

For February: pasta, tomato sauce, soup, beans.

Thank you for your continued generosity.

2015 CATHOLIC CHARITY APPEAL

"Faith and Good Works"

The start of the 2015 Catholic Charity Appeal is fast approaching. Many of our parishioners will be receiving a mailing from Bishop Tobin asking for your support of the 2015 Appeal. For your convenience, a pledge card has been enclosed within this mailing. **Please be assured that your parish will receive credit for the gift that you make through the mail.**

Your gift to the 2015 Appeal reaches out to countless people in need throughout our diocese. No matter where you turn, you find someone who will benefit from your kindness.

The In-pew solicitation weekends will be February 28/March 1 and again on March 7/8. This year's goal: \$103,070.

CONFIRMATION PROGRAM CHANGES

Parents of 7th, 8th & 9th graders are invited to attend a special meeting to discuss proposed changes to our Confirmation program. This meeting is scheduled **THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 26TH** for at 7pm in **Helen Bouchard Hall**. *This includes parents of Catholic school students as well.* If you are unable to attend please contact the Religious Education Office at 792-8684.

CONFIRMATION SCHEDULE:

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 23RD

3:30 – 5:00 & 6:30 – 8:00pm Confirmation Interviews.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 25TH

3:30 – 5:00 & 6:30 – 8:00pm Confirmation Interviews.