

THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD



Mass Intentions

Saturday, January 12

4:30pm Joseph Boragine

Requested by family

Sunday, January 13

8:00am Mary Asher

Requested by St. Francis Women's Club

10:00am Angelina Vieira

Requested by Linda Taggart & family

12:00NN Susan Perella

Requested by family

Monday, January 14

7:00am Edward Brennan

Requested by family

Tuesday, January 15

7:00am Clementina Birch

Requested by family

Wednesday, January 16

7:00am Grace Pesta

Requested by Champion family

Thursday, January 17

7:00am Joseph Vieira & Rose Silva

Requested by Sherry Vieira

Friday, January 18

7:00am Mass for the People

Saturday, January 19

4:30pm Joseph DeLuca

Requested by family

Sunday, January 20

8:00am Donald V. McNulty

Req. by Dr. John and Agnes Walsh

10:00am Brian Russell

Requested by family

12:00NN George Dumas

Requested by Parish Family



St. Romuald Chapel Mass Intentions

Sunday, January 13

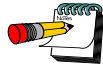
10:00am Francis Pilch

Req. by Karen and Jerry Shepherd

Sunday, January 20

10:00am Mary Marchand

Requested by Gerri & Al Marsocci



For Your Information

SANCTUARY LAMP

This week's sanctuary lamp at St. Francis Church burns in memory of Theresa and Oscar Newton. The sanctuary lamp at St. Romuald Chapel burns in memory of Gloria Jobin.

MANY THANKS!

Our annual Christmas Pageant was held last Sunday on the feast of the Epiphany. Parents, siblings, relatives and interested parishioners filled Fr. Greenan Hall to watch our parish children retell the Nativity story. Special thanks are due to Barbette Cullen and Kathleen Puchalla for preparing the children so carefully. We are also grateful to Mimi Battey and Jennifer Bernard for assisting with the musical portions of the pageant! And of course, a sincere "thank-you" to the youth who acted and narrated! They were outstanding! We'll be looking forward to next year!

PLEASE NOTE

There will be NO First Saturday Mass on February 2, 2012 in St. Francis Church. Our parish clergy will be in attendance at parishioner John Dowd's diaconal ordination.

PARISH SUPPORT— December 30 & Jan 6

Weekly Support

Budget envelopes (214 used)-	\$4,254.00
Loose Donations -	\$ 1,003.00
Online Giving (24 donors) -	\$ 330.00
Total Budget -	\$5,587.00

December 30

Mary, Mother of God

Envelopes used (137) -	\$ 2,332.00
Total Mary, Mother of God-	\$2,332.00

Weekly Support

Budget envelopes (259 used) -	\$5,299.00
Loose Donations -	\$ 861.00
Online Giving (33 donors) -	\$ 520.00
Total Budget -	\$6,680.00

January 6

Monthly Offering

Envelopes (288 used) -	\$2,380.00
Other donations -	\$ 881.00
Total Monthly Offering -	\$3,261.00

This weekend's second offering is the Ongoing Maintenance Fund Offering. Next weekend's second offering is for the Catholic University of America. As always, thank you for your continued generosity to the parish.

From the Pastor...

This weekend we celebrate the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord, marking the end of the Christmas Season. I have already expressed gratitude for the many people who contributed to the beautiful decorations, music and liturgical celebrations at Christmas, but there are always more people to thank. In particular, I would like to express special thanks to all who participated in the **Giving Tree** this year. It was a little different because the Jonnycake Center was not distributing toys for children, so we had to find a new way to make sure that Santa was able to provide gifts for children in the local community. With the help of **Brenda Fay, who directs the satellite office for the Diocesan Catholic Social Services, we were able to identify almost 50 families with over 105 children who needed our assistance. Barbette Cullen, our Religious Education Director coordinated the project. She had help setting up the gifts with the O'Brien, Morin, Burian, Noka and Doyle Families and Kathy Rigney, Darlene Noka and Diane Rudegeair helped to distribute the gifts when the families came in. It was really a significant project, but the results were truly heartwarming and I am sure that it brought happiness to many local families. Of course, I must especially thank our many parishioners who contributed the gifts. You indeed made Christmas happier for many children in the local community.**

Last weekend was the **Christmas Pageant**, featuring many children of our parish. I thank **Barbette Cullen and Mimi Battey** for planning and preparing this event. It wouldn't be Christmas without a pageant and I am sure that it really helps our young people to understand the spiritual meaning of Christmas.

Msgr. Theroux

The Baptism of the Lord

A Homily of St. Gregory Nazianzen, Church Father

Christ is bathed in light; let us also be bathed in light. Christ is baptized; let us also go down with him, and rise with him.

John is baptizing when Jesus draws near. Perhaps he comes to sanctify his baptizer; certainly he comes to bury sinful humanity in the waters. He comes to sanctify the Jordan for our sake and in readiness for us; he who is spirit and flesh comes to begin a new creation through the Spirit and water.

Jesus rises from the waters; the world rises with him. The heavens like Paradise with its flaming sword, closed by Adam for himself and his descendants, are rent open. The Spirit comes to him as to an equal, bearing witness to his Godhead. A voice bears witness to him from heaven, his place of origin. The Spirit descends in bodily form like the dove that so long ago announced the ending of the flood and so gives honor to the body that is one with God.

Today let us do honor to Christ's baptism and celebrate this feast in holiness. Be cleansed entirely and continue to be cleansed. Nothing gives such pleasure to God as the conversion and salvation of men, for whom his every word and every revelation exist. He wants you to become a living force for all mankind, lights shining in the world. You are to be radiant lights as you stand beside Christ, the great light, bathed in the glory of him who is the light of heaven. You are to enjoy more and more the pure and dazzling light of the Trinity, as now you have received - though not in its fullness - a ray of its splendor, proceeding from the one God, in Christ Jesus our Lord, to whom be glory and power for ever and ever. Amen.



Religious Ed. Notes

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASSES

Sunday, January 13th

8:50-9:50am GRADES 1 & 2 (FGC)

GRADE 7 (FGC)

9:15 First Communion Parent Mtg. (LC)

All students must be represented at this meeting.

9:50-10:50am GRADE K (HBH)

10:50-11:50am GRADES 3-6 (FGC)

Attend Christmas Pageant at 11am

GRADE 8 (HBH)

Monday, January 14th

7-8:30PM Confirmation II (FGC)

Wednesday, January 16th

4-5pm GRADES 3-6 (FGC)

7-8:15 CLASSES GRADES 7 & 8 (FGC)



This Week

Sunday, January 13

(See Religious Ed. Class schedule above)

5:30-7pm PRAISE! Rehearsal (FGC)

7:00pm AA (HBH)

Monday, January 14

7:00pm Confirmation II Class (FGC)

7:00pm Baptism Prep Class (HBH)

Tuesday, January 15

6:30pm RCIA (HBH)

7:00pm Bible Study (FGC)

7:00pm Choir Rehearsal (loft)

Wednesday, January 16

4-5pm GRADES 3-6 (FGC)

6:30pm Readers' Meeting (church)

7-8:15pm CLASSES GRADES 7 & 8



ST. FRANCIS READER MEETING

A special meeting for those who read at Mass will be held on Wednesday, January 16 at 6:30PM in St. Francis Church. (Chapel readers are exempt.) We will have an opportunity to meet Cynthia Faria, our new coordinator, to review policies and procedures, and to discuss scheduling. If you cannot attend the meeting, please contact Cynthia by phone at 789-3902 or by email at cyfaria@mail.uri.edu. Thank you for participating in this important ministry and we look forward to seeing you this week!

CALLING NEW READERS!

If you attend Mass at St. Francis and might be interested in reading, please come to a meeting this Wednesday, January 16, at 6:30PM in St. Francis Church. The proclamation of God's Word in the midst of the assembly is central to our weekly worship! Won't you consider being a part of that central ministry? Even if you're unsure, attend the meeting to introduce yourself and to learn more!

MANY, MANY THANKS!

In addition to the many people listed in our Christmas "thank-you's" a few weeks ago, a special debt of gratitude is owed to parishioner **Peter Spaine** who spent months crafting and perfecting the special shelf and backdrop for our Christmas nativity scene. In addition to his talents with the paintbrush (Peter's art can be seen in the lower church as well as in Greenan Hall), Peter is a talented carpenter who has crafted or beautified many other items for our parish liturgies. Peter, many thanks for your dedication and for sharing your talent so generously!

MARIAN VIGIL OF PRAYER FOR THE DEFENSE OF HUMAN LIFE

On Sunday, January 20, SS. John and Paul Parish in Coventry will be hosting a Marian Evening/Day of Prayer to mark the fortieth anniversary of Roe v. Wade. At 4PM on Sunday, a film on the image of Our Lady of Guadalupe will be shown, followed by a Mass at 6PM. The Blessed Sacrament will be exposed after Mass and will remain exposed for adoration throughout the night. The pilgrim image of Our Lady of Guadalupe will be available for veneration. Confessions will also be available throughout the night. Adoration will conclude with Benediction at 8:30AM on Monday, January 21, and will be followed by Mass at 9:00AM. Please consider participating in any part of this special event as we pray for the establishment of a culture of life in our world! If you have any questions, please call Fr. Puleo at 821-5764.

You Are Invited

With gratitude to almighty God the parish family of St. Francis and St. Romuald invites you to rejoice in and celebrate the ordination of our parishioner

John William Dowd

to the **Order of Deacons**
through the Imposition of Hands and the
Invocation of the Holy Spirit
by His Excellency
the **Most Reverend Thomas J. Tobin, D.D.,**
Bishop of Providence

on the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord
Saturday, February 2, 2013
at 10:00AM
in the Cathedral of Saints Peter & Paul

Please join his wife and family
in giving thanks to God
for the gift of Holy Orders
at a special Mass on
Sunday, February 3, 2013
at 10:00AM
in Saint Francis Church
as Deacon John Dowd preaches his first homily

A reception will follow in Helen Bouchard Hall
All are most welcome!

For several years, parishioner **John Dowd** has been preparing through study and prayer to be ordained to the Sacred Order of Deacons. John and his wife Cathy have been a blessing to our parish community in so many ways and we rejoice in the opportunity to have been a part of his formation. Over the last several weeks, you have seen John assisting at the altar as an acolyte, and in a few short weeks, he will finally be ordained! Please consider attending the Ordination Mass at the Cathedral. If you are interested in the possibility of carpooling, please call the rectory. Additionally, please join us as we gather to hear Deacon John Dowd's first homily as a deacon and to celebrate with his wife and family after the Mass. Knowing well the devotion and dedication of our own Deacon Iacono and his wife Jackie, we are sure that the new deacon's ministry will be a blessing of service to the Church of Providence, wherever he is assigned!