

SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



Mass Intentions

Saturday, July 25

4:30pm John Champion
Requested by family

Sunday, July 26

8:00am Steven P. Falcone
Requested by Lisa and Gerald DeMaria
10:00am Special Intention for Janey
Requested by family

12:00NN Concepcion "Connie" Castro

Monday, July 27

7:00am Rev. Edward M. Raftery
4th Pastor—95 Anniversary

Tuesday, July 28

7:00am Sonny & Betty Goodwin
Requested by daughter Kathy Cawley

Wednesday, July 29

7:00am Mass for the People

Thursday, July 30

7:00am Special Intention

Friday, July 31

7:00am Ronald W. Novotny
Requested by Kelli R. McNulty

Saturday, August 1

4:30pm Ralph and Rose Calitri
Requested by family

Sunday, August 2

8:00am Rosemary Flynn Walsh
Requested by Kathleen and Jeff
10:00am Kerri Bessette
Requested by Mom, Dad and Scott
12:00NN Stephen P. Murray
Requested by family



St. Romuald Chapel Mass Intentions

Saturday, July 25

5:30pm James H. Lynch
Requested by Anne Cooney

Sunday, July 26

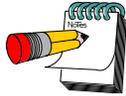
8:00am Young/Geisel families
Requested by Mary C. Young
10:00am Mary Bielski
Requested by Kathleen Dwyer

Saturday, August 1

5:30pm Helen and Mary Coffey
Requested by their cousins

Sunday, August 2

8:00am Betty DelPadre
Requested by Roger and Mary Grace Hood
10:00am Henry H. Thayer, Jr.
Requested by family



For Your Information

PARISH SUPPORT

Parish support for July 19 was Budget—\$10,388.13; Ongoing Maintenance—\$2,735.50. Next weekend's second offering will be the Peter's Pence offering. Thank you for your continued generosity.

SANCTUARY LAMP

This week's sanctuary lamp at St. Francis Church burns in memory of Joanie Lyons and Rita Cesino.

AN EYE ON THE SAINTS

This week some pretty big hitters come up on the Church's calendar of feast days: St. Martha, St. Ignatius of Loyola and St. Alphonsus Liguori. Today we focus on just one of them. On Wednesday, July 29th we celebrate St. Martha, the sister in the gospels who busied herself preparing a meal while her sister Mary *'chose the better part'* and sat at the feet of Jesus. Martha is the very same sister who later professed her great faith in Jesus before the raising of her brother Lazarus from the dead. Jesus told her, *'I am the resurrection and the life; whoever believes in me, even if he dies, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?'* She said to him, *'Yes, Lord. I have come to believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, the one who is coming into the world'* (John 11:25-27).

With Martha, may we refrain from busying ourselves with matters that pull us away from Jesus. Let us choose the better part and take time to sit with Jesus so that He can love us into being and becoming the creations He calls us to be. **St. Martha, pray for us!**

St. Ignatius and St. Alphonsus Liguori are also a couple of awesome saints to study. Why not take some time out of your busy summer schedules to relax and look up these great men of God. You'll be richer for it!

"Encouraged by so great a cloud of witnesses, we may run as victors in the race before us and win with them the imperishable crown of glory through Christ our Lord" (*Roman Missal*, Preface of Saints I). (www.americancatholic.org/Features/Saints)

PARISH BREAKFAST IN MATUNUCK

Planning Meeting: Thursday, August 6th, 7PM at Community Field House

Setup: Saturday, August 15th, 8AM at Community Field House

Breakfast: **SUNDAY, AUG. 16TH, 8:30AM—12:00NN**

Cost: Adults—\$8, Children 6-12-\$4, children age 5 & under eat FREE ... anyone who donates blood at our blood drive at St. Romuald Chapel on August 16th will also get a FREE breakfast.

Look to upcoming bulletin announcements on how and where to purchase your tickets.

JULY 26, 2015

From the Pastor

An update on Catholic Charities: after I wrote last week's column, another report came in from the diocese. We're now up to \$112,728.00 raised or pledged, with a total of 407 donors. A thousand thanks again for all your support for this most worthy cause.

I promised to write a state-of-the-parish letter to everyone, outlining the changes that have taken place or that will take place in our various programs. The difficulty is how to be complete without writing a tome. I am working on it.

The two periods of week-long confirmation catechetical sessions seemed to go pretty smoothly. See Diane Castro's article in this edition of the bulletin for more information about the new program.

Two dozen of our young people spent last weekend at the Steubenville-East youth conference at U. Mass. Lowell. All reports to me have been positive; as of this writing I haven't yet had a chance to meet with the organizers and chaperones to get a more detailed account of the event. Thanks, though, to all of you who supported this effort financially or spiritually. Thanks especially to the organizers and chaperones who gave so generously of their time to make this possible.

Fr. Bodah

"COME AND SEE" DAY

Sunday, August 16 from 1-3pm.

- Think God may be calling you to be a religious Brother or Sister?
- Ever wanted to see a religious community up-close?

To celebrate the Year of Consecrated Life, the Diocese of Providence announces a "Come and See Day" on Sunday, August 16 from 1 to 3pm.

Come, visit, and pray with local religious communities. Listen to reflections on religious life and prayer, and learn how to better hear God's calling for your life. Hear the vocation story of a religious Sister, Brother, or priest, and their journey into consecrated life. **For single men and women, aged 18-40.**

No reservation necessary; just drop by anytime between 1:00-3:00pm:

1. Little Sisters of the Poor, St. Jeanne Jugan Residence, 964 Main Street, Pawtucket;
2. Brothers of the Christian Schools, Christian Brothers Center, 635 Ocean Road, Narragansett.

Or call the Diocese of Providence at 401/278 4663.



Religious Education

The Religious Education Office is closed for the month of July.



This Week

Monday, July 27

7:30am-12nn Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament (SF)

Thursday, July 30

7:00pm Men of St. Joseph (JFGC)



ADORERS NEEDED

Adorers of the Blessed Sacrament are needed on Monday mornings from **10:30AM-11:30AM with an emphasis on the 10:30-11:00AM slot.** Please consider coming one, two, three or all four Mondays during a month. We had a tremendous response for our request for the first hour (7:30-8:30) and that shift is well covered. Please call Joe and Sharon Clossick at 782-2504 to learn more. Even if you can only come once a month, it is still a HUGE help. Thank you.



Online Giving

Visit our website at:
www.stfranciswakefield.com
to sign up!

Summer Confirmation Program Report and Thank yous ...

The origin of the popular saying “It takes a village to raise a child” is a mystery. Some say it originated in an ancient African proverb; others believe it came from a Native American Tribe. Regardless of its origin, the phrase “It takes a village to raise a child” is appropriate for what it took to successfully run our first summer Confirmation catechesis program at St. Francis.

A heartfelt thank you to the catechists who gave of their time to share the Good News of Christ with our teenagers: Fr. Bodah, Maria Chianese, Lynn Curran, Linda Curry, Jane and Katie Degnan, Dana Hawkins, Noreen Linskey, Kendra Pitkin, Nick Robenhymer, Karen Shepherd and Drew Skokowski. May the seeds you planted in our teen vineyard continue to grow throughout their lives.

Dinner was a vital part of each evening as the teens came together to break bread and share in a meal prepared and served by the parents of our Confirmation candidates. I was truly blessed to have the capable hands of Jennifer Lindewall coordinating the vast number of parents who stepped forward to give of their time preparing and serving these meals. I commend Jennifer and her entire staff of volunteers who are too numerous to list here.

I would like to thank Fr. Bodah for his support and for the teaching Mass he celebrated each week. Many of the teens expressed how they learned more about what goes on at Mass. Finally, I would like to thank the teens for their openness to change. As we worked out the kinks of our new program especially in the first week, they were willing to share their thoughts and suggestions to improve the program. Some of those suggestions we were able to implement in week two! Here are a few of their comments from the summer program.

- ~ *‘I would like to see a mix of small and big groups to get everyone together but still have small groups.’*
- ~ *‘I learned many new things about Jesus.’*
- ~ *‘We learned about the importance of the altar during the Mass.’*
- ~ *‘If I could improve this program, I would want to learn more about religion through more active learning styles.’*
- ~ *‘I enjoyed the class on prayer because it taught me different ways to practice my faith.’*
- ~ *‘The lifeboat activity helped me see the good in all people.’*
- ~ *‘Personally, I would have liked to learn more about the stories in the bible.’*
- ~ *‘The last day was very helpful because it put everything into perspective and made everything make sense.’*
- ~ *‘Maybe there should be more interactive ways to participate just so everyone can give ideas. Even simple discussion or games may work! But overall it was very fun.’*

The Confirmation students will continue to meet on a monthly basis during the school year. These gatherings are meant for them to stay connected during the year and build community. They will include nights of praise and worship, presentations by guest speakers as well as social and service type activities. These events are required for the teens currently preparing to receive the sacrament of Confirmation and are open to all high school teens. (More information will be in the bulletin in late August.)

The Bishop’s office has announced our Confirmation date. Bishop Robert Evans will confirm our year two candidates on Saturday, November 7th at 10am.

Please pray for them!



Diane Castro
Coordinator of Religious Education