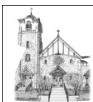


THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT



Mass Intentions

Saturday, March 2

4:30pm Frank Spinelli

20th Anniversary

Sunday, March 3

8:00am Tara Higgins

Requested by a parishioner

10:00am Gloria Jobin, Anthony

Ramieri and George Dumas

Requested by parish family

12:00nn Peter Quinn

Requested by Boyle family

Monday, March 4

7:00am Florence Murphy

Requested by Dick & Betty Kuzmeski

Tuesday, March 5

7:00am Dr. Leonard Staudinger

Requested by family

Wednesday, March 6

7:00am Margaret Rice

Requested by MacDonald family

Thursday, March 7

7:00am Joseph Vieira

Requested by Sherry Vieira

Friday, March 8

7:00am Mary Montani

Requested by family

Saturday, March 9

4:30pm Mass for the People

Sunday, March 10

8:00am Gloria Carney

Requested by Kathleen and Jeff

10:00am Raymond & Anna Kells

Requested by sons Robert & Richard

12NN Mass for the People



St. Romuald Chapel Mass Intentions

Sunday, March 3

10:00am Linda Guernon

Requested by family

Sunday, March 10

10:00am Steven Schmidt

Requested by John and Regina Blair



For Your Information

SANCTUARY LAMP

This week's sanctuary lamp at St. Francis Church burns in memory of Gloria Carney.

FOOD & COMMODITY NEEDS FOR MARCH

Pasta & Sauce, bath tissue. Giving to the needy is a good Lenten deed. Thank you for your ongoing generosity.

HOPE CAFE COIN SALES

The HOPE Cafe (Helping Our People Eat) wooden coins are now on sale at the Jonnycake Center of Peace Dale for \$10.00 per coin. You may purchase coins for your personal use at the Cafe (once it opens); to give back to the Center for distribution to those in need; to give as gifts to family and friends (just like using a gift card) or to keep as a memento of the HOPE Cafe. The HOPE Cafe - Rhode Island's first pay what you can restaurant - is expected to open in 2013 in South Kingstown as an innovative way to address food insecurity while providing an opportunity to build social interactions between people from various sectors of our community. For more information on the Hope Cafe, please visit www.hopecaferi.org, follow current updates on its Facebook page, or call us at 789-1559 x 11.

PASTORAL CARE DINNER

Pastoral Care Fundraiser: The Office of Life and Family Ministry is sponsoring a fundraiser dinner on Saturday, April 27 from 6:00pm to 10:00pm at Blessed John Paul II Church (Saint Cecilia's), 1253 Newport Avenue, Pawtucket. The dinner is being held to support the diocesan pastoral care programs: Gabriel Project (pregnancy outreach), Post-Abortion Ministry (Rachel's Vineyard) and Be Not Afraid (poor pre-natal diagnosis). The Italian Buffet Dinner tickets are \$20.00 per person. The evening will begin with a social hour and include a 50/50 raffle, a penny social, other raffles and music throughout the evening. For more information and to purchase your tickets, please call Carol Owens at 421-7833 x 218.

PARISH SUPPORT— February 24

Weekly Support

Budget envelopes (399 used)	-	\$6,775.00
Loose Donations	-	\$1,705.00
Online Giving (24 donors)	-	\$ 490.00
Total Budget	-	\$8,970.00

February 24

This weekend's second offering is the Monthly Fund Offering for March. As always, **thank you for your continued generosity to the parish.**

MARCH 3, 2013

A LETTER FROM DEACON JOHN DOWD

To My Friends at St. Francis of Assisi and St. Romuald,

I would like to express my gratitude and thanks to all of the parish and staff of St. Francis and St. Romuald. In particular, I would like to thank Monsignor Theroux for his support, openness and willingness to allow me a place to learn and train without complaint, even when I may have forgotten something. To Father Joe Upton whose support, training and friendship, which was indispensable in my formation and will be always remembered. The parish is so blessed to have Deacon Paul Iacono who has been an inspiration, example and true icon for me to seek to imitate in my new ministry. I cannot forget Mimi Battey, Mark Castro and the parish choir who helped to make my first time diaconating a truly prayerful and joyous experience.

The weekend of my ordination seemed like a complete whirlwind and went by much faster than I could have imagined. I wish I had more time to be with you and to personally thank each of you individually for the wonderful gifts, the beautiful reception by Martha's Helpers and most importantly, all of your prayers, thoughts and continuous support throughout my formation process.

Your love and encouragement has helped to strengthen my resolve to minister to the best of my ability in whatever way God calls me.

May God bless and keep you all close to his heart.

*Affectionately,
Deacon John Dowd*

Thank YOU, Deacon Dowd! ... for your many years of kind and loving service to this parish and for your gentle witness to all who crossed your life's path.

We wish you all the best in your new ministry of Deacon at Our Lady of Mercy Parish, East Greenwich. You and Cathy will be sorely missed!

AREA PENANCE SERVICES

St. Mary, Star of the Sea Penance service will be Thursday, March 14 at 7 PM and Christ the King will be Wednesday, March 27 at 7 PM.

SOCIAL OUTREACH COMMITTEE MEETING

SOC will be meeting on Tuesday, March 5th at 7:00pm in Father Greenan Parish Center. All are welcome.



Religious Ed. Notes

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASSES

Sunday, March 3

8:50-9:50am GRADES 1 & 2 (FGC)
GRADE 7 (FGC)
9:50-10:50am GRADE K (HBH)
10:50-11:50am GRADES 3-6 (FGC)
*Reconciliation for Grades 5 & 6
during class time*
GRADE 8 (HBH)

Monday, March 4

7-8:30PM Confirmation I meet in HBH
for Reconciliation

Wednesday, March 6

4-5pm GRADES 3-6 Begin in church
with **Step Up Close to Jesus** -
Stations of the Cross
7-8:15 CLASSES GRADES 7 & 8 (FGC)

Thursday, March 7

6pm Confirmation Rehearsal-HBH

Saturday, March 9

10:00am Confirmation Bishop Tobin
presiding Sponsors and Candidates report
by 9:30 to Lower Church



This Week

Sunday, March 3

(See Religious Ed. Class schedule above)

10:00am Family Mass at St. Francis
5:30-7pm PRAISE! Rehearsal
7-9pm Youth Group (Upper Room)
7:00pm AA (HBH)

Monday, March 4

NO Adoration—Prout Retreat
7:00pm Confirmation I Class (FGC)

Tuesday, March 5

6:30pm RCIA (HBH)
7:00pm Bible Study (FGC)
7:00pm Social Outreach Mtg. (FGC)
7:00pm Choir Rehearsal (loft)

Wednesday, March 6

7:30am Morning Prayer (SFC)
4-5pm Stations of the Cross Gr 3-6 Step Up
Close to Jesus

Thursday, March 7

6:00pm Confirmation Rehearsal (SF)
7:00pm Prayer Shawl Ministry (MCCR)
7:00pm Men of St. Joseph (FGC)

Friday, March 8

7:00pm Parent Group (FGC)
7:00pm Stations of the Cross w/
Benediction (SFC)

Lent

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT: Thought for the Week

“As God’s sovereign pledge, baptism is the inexhaustible spring to which we return every day, not to compare our life with Christ’s but to *find our life in Christ*.” – Michael Horton

this week in prayer:

- *Have I drawn consciously from the grace of my baptism?*
- *Does the grace of baptism need renewal in my life through sacramental confession?*
- *Why is it not enough to simply compare my life with Christ’s or merely imitate him?*

THE CELEBRATION OF THE SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION

Bishop Thomas J. Tobin will visit our parish this coming Saturday, March 9, to confirm the 45 candidates who have been preparing for this outpouring of the Holy Spirit. Please keep the candidates, their sponsors and their families in your prayers this week. And a very warm welcome to Bishop Tobin!

EASTER CHILDREN’S CHOIR

This year, due to scheduling restraints, we will be unable to prepare a children’s choir for Easter morning. We will certainly be looking forward to preparing a group for future holidays, but we will definitely miss their ministry of song this coming Easter.

NO ADORATION TOMORROW

Our parish will be hosting Prout’s senior class retreats this coming week. The church will be in use during the morning hours, so there will be no Eucharistic Adoration tomorrow, March 4.

LENTEN CALENDAR ADJUSTMENT

The “Twilight Retreat” originally scheduled for Thursday, March 21, has been **cancelled**.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Will be prayed on Friday evening at 7PM in the church.

PARISH SLEEP OUT FRIDAY, MARCH 22ND

For high school aged youth...Come experience what it would be like to have no shelter for one night...Through this experience we hope to raise awareness of those homeless people living in and around our community and prayerfully reflect and pray for those without one of the most basic needs, shelter.

Parish Sleep Out Informational Meeting in FGC Thursday, February 28th at 7:00pm

Questions? Call Rel. Ed. Office at 792-8684.

We ask that a parent accompany their child to the meeting.



CATHOLIC CHARITY APPEAL

Supporting the work of the Church

**2013 PARISH GOAL
\$103,000**

Donations received as of Week 2:

\$29,120

From 154 donors— 28% of goal

CATHOLIC CHARITY FUND APPEAL

After several weeks of bad weather, our initial push for this year’s Catholic Charity Fund Appeal is finally off the ground. If you were not present for the in-pew solicitation, envelopes can be found at each of the entrances to the church. Once filled out, they can be brought to the rectory or dropped in the collection basket at Mass. Thank you in advance for your generosity.

LENTEN MISSIONS, HERE AND ELSEWHERE

Many thanks to Fr. John Reutemann for presenting our 2013 Parish Lenten Mission and many thanks to all those who participated. Our own Fr. Joe will be delivering two Missions this year, one next week at Saint Barnabas in Portsmouth and another the following week at Saint Bernard in Wickford.