

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, Feb 4 4:00 James and Anna Callahan
Sunday, Feb 5 7:30 Ruth C. Macaulay
9:00 Kristy Sasha Kanhai
11:00 Bernard Dunphy
5:00 People of the Parish
Tuesday, Feb 7 6:50 Mass of Thanksgiving
Saturday, Feb 11 4:00 Louise McAlpine
Sunday, Feb 12 7:30 Louise C. Peterson
9:00 Anne Isleib
11:00 Daniel and Shawn Manning
5:00 People of the Parish



All grades 1 – 10 are in session.

This past Saturday our first group of Confirmandi made their retreat at Miramar Retreat Center. The second group will go next Saturday, February 11th. Please continue to keep these children in your prayers as they continue to prepare for the reception of the Sacrament in April.

Tuesday, February 7th

The Keeping Children Safe program will begin for our 4th, 5th and 6th grade students.

Wednesday, February 8th

Our Confirmandi will continue their Christian Service at Tiffany Rest Home with a Valentines Party for the residents.

Monday, February 13th

We invite the parish to join us in the Main Church at 7:00 PM for a presentation by actor Frank Runyeon entitled **Sermon on The Mount** followed by **Hollywood vs Faith**. The 9th & 10th grade students, along with their catechists, will be attending in lieu of class.

Sunday, February 19th

Our fifth liturgy for the children preparing to receive their First Communion this spring will be held in Mary's Chapel at 9:00 AM.

February Vacation – There will be no classes on Monday, February 20th and Tuesday, February 21st.

REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS THE RECENTLY DEPARTED

Vincent Pacione

BREADS AND WINE

The Breads and Wine for this week are in memory of Kristy Sasha Kanhai lovingly donated by Jackie Kanhai-Jorge and Antonio Jorge.



Dear friends, peace.

Increased Giving to the Grand Annual Collection (GAC)

Thank you all for your kindness to me when I spoke to you recently. You listened; I am grateful. Our decline in Offertory income necessitates that:

1. Everyone who is able increase weekly Offertory giving by \$2.
2. Everyone who is able contribute \$175 to the Grand Annual Collection which will remain open from now till June, with a goal of \$140,000.

Last weekend Grand Annual Collection: \$37,963.75.

Thank you for your generous support. God bless. JFH

Blessing of Throats

In honor of the Feast of Saint Blaise, we Catholics have preserved and revered a devotion, the Blessing of the Throats: "Through the intercession of Saint Blaise, bishop and martyr, may God preserve you from all diseases of the throat and every other evil, in the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen." We welcome everyone to enjoy this sacramental after all the Masses **this weekend.**



Catholic Schools' Week

Thanks to all who participated in our Catholic Schools' Week activities. This is clear evidence that Holy Family School is strong and will continue to do God's work well into the future.

Registration

Open enrollment for seats at Holy Family School will continue through the spring or until a grade is full.

First Penance

The second graders at Holy Family School will receive the Sacrament of First Penance this Monday at 10:30 in the upper church. Please keep them in your prayers.

Holy Family School Parents' Association

The HFSPA will hold their February meeting next Thursday, February 9th at 7:30 PM in the school hall.

THANK YOU

Thank you for your generous response to the "Respect Life Baby Shower" held the weekend of January 21/22. Many mothers and babies in need will be helped by your kindness. Please pray for the end to abortion.

FAMILY NOTES: The V Sunday in Ordinary Time, February 5, 2012

Dear Friends, peace in Our Jesus!

Let me say at the outset some will dislike the directness of this letter. If I offend, please forgive. Trust that I offer my words in love.

TOUGH FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Over the years I have learned that giving our community regular, clear updates about our Grand Annual Collection seems to encourage its success. This year that responsibility extends to our Offertory Collection.

OFFERTORY DECLINE

I have, several weeks ago, mentioned the 5% decrease in our Offertory of late. I explained how worrisome this decline is. Now I have discovered further worrisome news. While a year ago the first four weeks of the new year realized an Offertory Collection of \$46,087, the same period this year sees only \$42,932 donated. This is an 8% drop. If this slump continues till the end of this year, we will have received \$37,860 less in Offertory than we did last year.

Even if we see an increase in the Grand Annual Collection to \$140,000 (\$20,000 over last year's goal) we will still be significantly down.

RESPONSE

You know we have savings. One might suggest – there's a solution. Possibly. But it's an ultimately dangerous financial practice to resort to using one's savings, postponing an even more serious future crisis. Moreover, the Archdiocese wisely insists on a balanced budget. Therefore, increasing our Offertory is the solution we must achieve.

Think: 800 households receive Offertory envelopes. If each were to give only \$2 more a week, (\$80,000 more a year) we'd be fine. Indeed if the increase were only \$1 more and everyone gave, we'd be ok. And, figuring as we must, that many, for many reasons are unable to increase at all, still if those who only come irregularly increased their attendance and their giving, stability would be much nearer. The issue, way beyond the question of money, is the practice of the Faith; make no doubt about that!

RESPONSIBILITY

Let me tell you a true story. After several years, using various methods, a parish in the Archdiocese or really a remnant of that parish, met to face closing: they lacked enough people and thus enough income to stay open. At their last meeting an angry man berated the pastor declaring the closing of the parish was an outrage. The pastor calmed him down and asked if in fact he was a parishioner and was told that he was, indeed had been for decades. To the question as to whether he attended Mass he admitted that, no, he hadn't for years, the pastor firmly responded, "Sir, I have been waiting to meet you. I have something serious to say to you. You are the one who closed Saint So & So's parish." The point?

Holy Family, God willing, will survive and continue to flourish if we support it. It is that simple.

A WAKE UP CALL

Catholics, we need to WAKE UP! We must HONOR God! We must WORSHIP His Christ! We must RESCUE His Church! God will surely reward and bless our loyalty. Let us be that Church that Jesus wants us to be. For He says to us, "You are the light of the world... Just so; your light must shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your heavenly Father." (Matthew 5: 14&16).

Please consider what I am saying. Continue your fidelity and generosity of the past into the future to the greater Glory of God. May He bless us.

In Jesus' Name,
Fr. Jim Hickey

WORLD DAY OF THE SICK

February 11, 2012

The Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes

Since 1992, the Catholic Church has celebrated World Day of the Sick on February 11 – the day on which the Church commemorates the feast of Our Lady of Lourdes – under the sponsorship of the Pontifical Council for Health Pastoral Care. World Day of the Sick has three consistent themes. **First**, it reminds the faithful to pray intensely and sincerely for those who are sick. **Second**, the celebration invites Christians to reflect on and respond to human suffering. And **third**, this day recognizes and honors all persons who work in health care and serve as caregivers.

Prayer cards for the sick, the caregivers and a guide for the Catholic patient entering a hospital are available in the foyer of the Main Church.

“CALL TO DISCIPLESHIP”

Lenten Mission at Holy Family

This is refrigerator material:

What? A three-evening program aimed at giving us a deeper understanding of our call to live the Gospel.

When? Saturday, March 10th
Sunday, March 11th
Monday, March 12th

All scheduled from 7:00 PM – 8:30 PM

Where? Saturday and Sunday – Holy Family School -Msgr. O'Neill Hall
Monday – Main Church

Who? Speakers each evening:
Saturday – Fr. John Sassani
Sunday - Mary Ellen Cassani
Monday - Fr. Oscar Pratt

NVNA – Norwell Visiting Nurses Association

The Norwell VNA and Hospice programs need hospice volunteers. If you are compassionate and dependable and have 3 – 6 free hours/week, please consider this opportunity. Some of our hospice patients just need companionship, someone to listen to their life's story or sit with them for respite care. Please call Terri Fedrow at 781-610-1427 or email her at tfedrow@nvna.org. Comprehensive training will be offered at the Norwell office.

Thank you for your support.

WHAT WOULD JESUS DO?

Hosted by Fr. Jim Hickey and Jack Henry on Wednesday evenings at 6:30 PM and Thursday mornings at 10 AM on Rockland's Cable Station.

Let the Lord lead You to.....

**LENTEN
LONGINGS**

February 19th – April 13th

**Ash Wednesday
through
Easter Week**

**Lent invites us to a time of
PRAYER, REFLECTION AND
CONVERSION**

**Lenten Longings is a program to assist
parishioners who are looking
to deepen their spiritual life.**

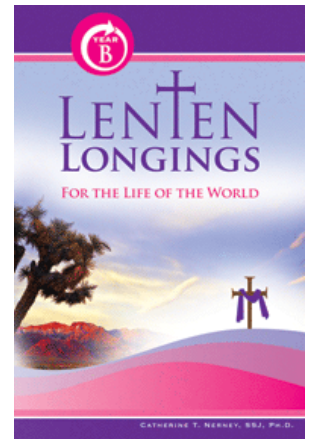
Lenten Longings:

- Small communities of 8 to 10 parishioners
- Meet for an hour and a half weekly for 8 weeks at a host home or parish facility
- Explore the Sunday Gospels of Lent
- Join others in prayer and reflection
- Discuss your faith
- Live the message of Jesus

Sign-up weekends:

Feb 4th/5th, Feb 11th/12th, Feb 18th/19th

Call Teresa Doyle Smith at the rectory
781-878-0160 for more information.



COFFEE BREAK!

Come join us for our Sunday Morning Social **this Sunday, February 5th** in the school hall following the 9:00 AM Mass. We are asking folks to donate \$1 per person for refreshments with a maximum of \$5 per family. You'll find baskets for that purpose. I want to express our gratitude to all who are extending themselves for this lovely Sunday morning opportunity to build community. JFH



FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



THIS WEEK IN LIFETEEN

Sunday, Feb 5	5PM	LifeTeen Mass GO PATS!!!**
Tuesday, Feb 7	7-8PM	Pizza and Prayer
Thursday, Feb 9	7-8PM	HomeWork Night

It's My Body: How to Respond to the Pro-Choice Argument.

By Natalie Aleman | JANUARY 31, 2012

A woman's body is one thing; a child's body is another. This may seem obvious, but to some people it's not. Yes, a woman can do what she wants with her *own* body. If she really wants a mullet, or to rock that pink hair, by all means – she has a “right” to that. On the contrary though, a woman does not have the right to choose what is going to be done to another person. If you were forced into having pink hair, or forced to jump off a bridge – the person who made those decisions for you would have violated your rights. Everyone can agree with that. When a woman makes a decision to kill her child by having an abortion, that decision doesn't affect her body but *another* person's. That choice infringes the rights of the child for life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. No person's rights are more important than another person's rights. Abortion says the exact opposite. If a woman has a “right” to do what she wants with her body, then that responsibility starts before she gets pregnant. If someone doesn't want bad breath, they brush their teeth (or chew copious amounts of gum). If soccer players don't want broken shins, they wear shin guards. With our bodies, we can see something called cause and effect very clearly. A woman who is sexually active and gets pregnant can't really be surprised by the result of life in her womb. The reality is that sex, in its proper context, is meant for a love that is free, total, faithful, and fruitful – resulting in a baby. More than 93% of today's abortions are done for social reasons; the woman doesn't want a child to interfere with her plans, or money issues. Those women who knew they didn't want to have a child had the choice to have sex, or not to. A woman does have a choice about what she can do with her body; it's the same choice you have when you wake up and decide whether or not you want to wear deodorant or not. If you don't, you'll have to deal with the consequences. The best response is always love. When talking with someone who uses any argument to defend the right to have an abortion, the best way to approach the conversation is always with care and love. When a woman says “this is *my* body” in talking about her decision, she's usually speaking more out of fear rather than malice. She doesn't want to deliberately kill her child because she hates children. Jesus also said “This is my body” (Luke 22:19) at the Last Supper the night before He died. He said this when He was giving Himself to us in the Eucharist. Those words were based on love and self-gift. A mother has the same opportunity to make a gift of her body, her very self, to her child. Remind her that we have a God who loves us unconditionally, and there is nothing that can change that.

Readings for the Week of February 5, 2012

Sunday:	Jb 7:1-4, 6-7/1 Cor 9:16-19, 22-23/Mk 1:29-39
Monday:	1 Kgs 8:1-7, 9-13/Mk 6:53-56
Tuesday:	1 Kgs 8:22-23, 27-30/Mk 7:1-13
Wednesday:	1 Kgs 10:1-10/Mk 7:14-23
Thursday:	1 Kgs 11:4-13/Mk 7:24-30
Friday:	1 Kgs 11:29-32; 12:19/Mk 7:31-37
Saturday:	1 Kgs 12:26-32; 13:33-34/Mk 8:1-10
Next Sunday:	Lv 13:1-2, 44-46/1 Cor 10:31--11:1/Mk 1:40-45

Grief Support Groups:

LOSS OF AN ADULT CHILD

Date:	Mondays – beginning February 27, 2012 8 weeks
Time:	1:00 – 2:30 PM
Location:	Kingston Senior Center – Kingston, MA

COPING WITH THE LOSS OF A SPOUSE

Date”	Thursdays – beginning January 26, 2012 8 sessions
Time:	10:00 – 11:30 AM
Location:	Duxbury Senior Center

These support groups offer a safe and supportive place for you to share your experience of grief with others and move toward healing and hope in a confidential environment.

These groups are free of charge. All are welcome!
Pre-registration is required.
Please call Scott A. Ciosek, M.Div. Beacon Hospice at
1-508-747-7222

MEETING CHRIST IN PRAYER

An 8 week guided prayer experience based on the Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius, “the Eighteenth Annotation”. It calls for a commitment of eight weeks of daily prayer and eight weekly meetings of faith sharing.

The Office of Worship and Spiritual Life is offering this program at the Pastoral Center, 66 Brooks Drive, Braintree on **Wednesday Evenings, February 29th through April 19th from 7:00 – 8:15 PM.**

For further information and to register call: Sister Anne D'Arcy at 617-779-3648 or e-mail: sdarcy@rcab.org.

COMMUNION TO THE HOMEBOUND

If you or a family member or a loved one is unable to attend Mass on a temporary or on-going basis, please know that a Eucharistic Minister would be happy to bring Communion to you in your home. Please call the rectory, 781-878-0160, to make a request. Teresa Doyle Smith will get back to you to arrange a mutually convenient time for a visit.