



August 8, 2010

19th Sunday in Ordinary

Time

"You must also be prepared, for at an hour you do not expect the Son of Man will come.."

READ AND PREPARE

Next week's Scripture readings:

First Reading: Revelation 11:19a; 12:1 – 6a; 10ab

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 15:20 – 27

Gospel: Luke 1:39 – 56

Mass Intentions

Saturday, August 7th

Vigil: 19th Sunday in Ordinary Time

4:00 PM **Mary & Domenic Sciabarrasi**
Requested by their family

6:00 PM **Parishioners**

Sunday, August 8th

19th Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00 AM **Vincent Anderson**
Requested by the Dwyer family

10:30 AM **George Hughes (10th Anniversary)**
Requested by his wife Marion & children

Monday, August 9th

St. Teresa Benedicta of the Cross, virgin & martyr

7:00 AM **NO MASS**
Fr. Bob away

Tuesday, August 10th

St. Lawrence, deacon & martyr

7:00 AM **NO MASS**

Wednesday, August 11th

St. Clare, virgin

5:30 PM **NO MASS**
Fr. Bob away

Thursday, August 12th

St. Jane Frances de Chantal, religious

7:00 AM **NO MASS**
Fr. Bob away

Friday, August 13th

St. Pontian, pope & martyr, St. Hippolytus, priest & martyr

7:00 AM **NO MASS**
Fr. Bob away

Saturday, August 14th

Vigil: The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

4:00 PM **Francesco & Anna Celona**
Requested by Mario & Grace Zarrella

6:00 PM **Mary & Clarence Allain**
Requested by their family

Sunday, August 15th

The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

8:00 AM **Rocco DiPasquale**
Requested by his family

10:30 AM **Madonna della Cava**
Requested by Society Members

August 1st Offerings

Needed to Meet Budget	\$4,889.00
Sunday Offerings	\$5,363.50
Children's Collection (8.80)	\$9.00
SURPLUS this week	\$483.50
TOTAL DEFICIT Year to Date	\$9,813.00

Special Collection: This weekend we had the **Collection for the Church in Central & Eastern Europe**. The Church in this region continues to have great need for its essential pastoral work to maintain social and charitable works, some parishes still need a proper place to celebrate Mass. Your donations invest in future generations of Catholics: a gift of faith to the future. If you forgot your envelope please bring it with you next week. Thank you.

Mass Schedule & Office Hour Change:

There are no Tuesday morning Masses. The office has switched to summer hours of 8:00 – 1:00 Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. The office remains closed all day on Tuesday. These office hours are in effect until after Labor Day.

The Mass Intention Book for the months of July through December 2010 is open.

Madonna della Cava – For anyone who would like to petition the Madonna, a basket will be located in front of the Madonna tapestry. **Please bring your written petition in on the weekend of the feast, August 14 - 15th and place it in the basket.** Also, more volunteers are needed to help the day of the feast or if you prefer you may donate pastries or a monetary gift to help defray the cost. Please call committee members Joe Albert @ 978-343-7744, Elena Valeri @ 978-343-3578 or Patty Vacca-Martin @ 978-345-5936. Thank you.

New Parishioners – We are happy to welcome new members to our parish family. Please introduce yourself after Mass to Fr. Bob. We invite you to stop by the parish office to register or to take a blue registration form from the back of the church (one for each member of your family) and return it/them in the collection basket or to the church office. If you have access to a computer please visit our parish web site www.stanthonyfitchburg.net where you will find useful information as well as current events and Mass listings. Welcome!

Italian for Travelers - The classes or "sessions" are held weekly on Wednesday night from 6:00 – 8:00 in the church hall through August. They are led by Dr. Joe Addante and Carol (Cali) Kearns and are filled with the basic language and culture of Italy. You did not need to attend any of the previous classes to join in. Please drop in at any time to any meeting, we welcome you!

This week's St. Anthony Devotional Candle by:
Mary Robichaud IMO of her brother Leonard Pagnotto

Dear Friends,

The recent death of an active and well-known parishioner reminds us all forcefully of the truth of Jesus' parable: "At an hour you do not expect, the Son of Man will come." Expected or not, death will come for each one of us. That is not a morbid thought; that is reality. Our worst enemies are those in our death-denying culture who dare not even say the word. No one "dies" anymore; they "pass on" or some other euphemism. We don't have funerals, we have "celebrations of life." We don't have cemeteries, we have "resting places." How can we prepare for a happy death if we refuse to accept the reality that we all must die?

Those of us of a certain generation remember praying to St. Joseph for a happy death. St. Joseph has always been known as the Patron of a Happy Death because it has been assumed that when he died, Jesus and Mary were by his side. But all of this is just macabre gesturing without faith.

In the translation of the Letter to the Hebrews which we use at Mass, it states "Faith is the realization of what is hoped for." The translation I prefer states "Faith is the substance of what is hoped for." On this side of life, our faith is never fully realized. It's not concrete. It is solid, but it is not tangible. It is based on promises which are substantial (the substance of the promises being our faith in the Death and Resurrection of Jesus) but have not yet been realized (made real). The best preparation for the death which will come inevitably to each one of us is found in the type of life we lead.

Make your examination of conscience every day, preferably at night before you go to bed. Ask the Lord to open your mind and your heart to His grace, because if we live in His grace, we will most assuredly die in His grace as well.

Peace and Good Will,



Please Continue to Help the St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry

New items added to the food pantry wish list are: cereal, canned meat, Ramen Noodles, Pasta Roni, Suddenly Salad, relish, mayonnaise, bathroom tissues, baked beans tuna fish, and spaghetti sauce. **Please try to bring one item a week.** Remember, only canned items – no fresh as it may spoil. Thank you!

Item of the Month – The Youth Group is accepting donations for Our Father's House and the Veterans' Homestead. **This month's item is men's shaving lotion.** Items can be placed in the marked boxes at the entrances of the church. Thank you for your support.

Jeanne d'Arc Circle #44 Daughters of Isabella will meet on **Monday, August 9th** at the Knights of Columbus hall, Fitchburg, at 2:00 PM. A guest speaker will be featured. Members may bring their Charity Fundraiser returns to this meeting. Marie Cormier-Boudreau & Aline Brassard are the co-chairs for this meeting.

St. Joseph Church, Gardner invites you to join them at the P.A.C.C.'s **Polish Picnic on Sunday, August 15th**, 171 Kendall Pond West, from noon to 6:00 PM. They will have Polish & American food, music, money raffle, liquor raffle and more. Children games and Chinese auction are always a big favorite. Come join in the fun!

The Serra Club invites you to include the following in your daily prayers and continue to pray for new vocations:

Deacon James Graves, Deacon William Griffin, Deacon Frederick Harkins, Rev. John Horgan, Rev. John Hughes, Rev. Thomas Hultquist, Rev. Stephen Johnson.

THE FALL WILL BE HERE BEFORE YOU KNOW IT - We are looking for more Eucharistic ministers, more lectors, and more altar servers and will begin training right after Labor Day. Please consider one of these opportunities to become more actively involved in the life of our faith community by serving in one of the various ministries, either at the Mass or serving the homebound. When the invitation to serve is made, will you be ready to say "Yes"? Call the office if interested at 978-342-4706.

Marriage Encounter - "For where your treasure is, there also will your heart be." (Today's Gospel). Do you treasure your Sacrament of Marriage? Let Worldwide Marriage Encounter help you more fully value the important things. The next Worldwide

Marriage Encounter Weekends in New England are September 17-19, September 24-26 and October 22-24. For more information and to register, call 800-710-WWME or visit our webpage at www.wwmeMA.org.

Adult Volunteer Service Opportunities: Vacations That Give

Come together with other adults of all ages in service to those in need. We are excited about our up-coming trips and invite you to join us for one or more of the following:

- Webster County, West Virginia: an area in which 28% of the people live below the poverty level – for home repair among those who are poor, elderly or handicapped. **October 9 – 16, 2010.**
- New Orleans, Louisiana: thousands of household are still without adequate housing following hurricane Katrina. We will lend a helping hand to "bring them home". **November 6 – 13, 2010.**

You can view more information about our program in general and individual trips on our website: www.vacationsthatgive.org or please contact us at 508-881-4547 or e-mail us at: directors@vacationsthatgive.org or call Jo Belli (978-537-4802) who has been on several "Vacations That Give" and she can tell you first hand of her experiences. **"Vacations That Give" is sponsored by The Sisters of Saint Anne.** We hope to hear from you so that together we can be of service to those in need!

St. Mary's Annual Reflection – All are welcome on August 28th @ 1:00 PM to St. Mary's Monastery, 271 N. Main St., Petersham to a celebration in honor of the Beatification of John Henry Cardinal Newman – his life and legacy. There are two speakers at 1:00 and community prayer in the church at 3:00 with a social afterward at the guesthouse. All are welcome. For more information including directions call 978-724-3350 go to monks@stmarysmonastery.org. All are welcome.

If you know of any parishioner who is homebound or in a nursing home and would like to receive the Eucharist, please notify Jo Belli at 978-537-4802 or Fr. Bob at the rectory.

Caitlin Elizabeth & James Patrick Cannon along with Daniel Jason, Domenic Peter & Drew Joseph Valera were welcomed into our Christian community through baptism. May they, along with their parents, grow in faith, love and service to Jesus Christ.