

Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

August 14, 2016

Your prayers are requested for the repose of the souls in this week's Mass intention; for the souls in Purgatory; and for the deceased of our parish.

Sat., Aug 13,	4:00 P.M.	Robert Dupont by wife
Sun., Aug 14,	8:30 A.M.	Shirley Smith by husband & family
	10:30 A.M.	Community Mass: Edward W. Figueira, Napoleon & Georgiana Ouellette, Wilkinson family, Manuel L. Medeiros, Lazaro Rosa, William B. Boardman
	7:00 P.M.	Francisco Medeiros by daughter (1 st anniversary)
Mon., Aug 15,	8:00 A.M.	For parishioners of St. Mary
Tues., Aug 16,	8:00 A.M.	Colangelo & Taggio families by Angelo Colangelo
Thurs., Aug 18,	8:00 A.M.	Luiz & Maria Linhares by daughter
Fri., Aug 19,	8:00 A.M.	Elsie Rapozo by M/M Frank Condez, Jr.
Sat., Aug 20,	4:00 P.M.	Hazel Freitas by daughter, Ann & son, Gary (8 th anniversary)
Sun., Aug 21,	8:30 A.M.	William J. Butler, Sr. by daughter, Peggy & family
	10:30 A.M.	Community Mass: Grace, Tony & Peter Colangelo, Joao Gaspar, William Butler, Sr., Elsie Rapozo, Maria Teresa Viveiros, Alvaro Alves
	7:00 P.M.	Augusta Mimoso by family



14-day Memorial Candles: In Memory of Lazaro S. Rosa by wife, Maria, children & grandchildren
In Memory of Thomas McKenna by wife, Norma



Icon Candle: In Honor of Robert Wilkinson by wife, Maria

Hosts for August: In Memory of Celina C. Oliveira by St. Vincent de Paul Society

There are still a few **Icon Candles** available for this year. The cost for the candle is \$10. and it is lit for one week. If you are interested please call the parish office.

On the bulletin board at the main entrance of the church there is a priest prayer request calendar for August. Please take one and say a prayer for the priest on that day. Thank you.

The Church celebrates the Assumption of Mary into heavenly glory each year on August 15th. This year the 15th falls on a Monday. Usually, the **Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary** is celebrated as a Holy Day of Obligation, however because of its proximity to Sunday, the bishops have determined not to oblige the faithful to attend Mass that day. However, this feast to Mary is still a Solemnity or a high feast; it is still therefore a Holy Day and a day on which every joyful Catholic looks forward to attending Holy Mass. We will have Mass to celebrate this feast on Monday at 8:00AM.

Religious Education Registration for the 2016-2017 Year will take place on Sunday, September 11th and Sunday, September 18th after the 8:30AM and 10:30 AM masses in the Memorial Chapel.

Registration Fee : \$35.00 per child or \$60.00 per family

First Penance/First Communion preparation is \$50.00 per student

Confirmation preparation (grade 9) is \$75.00 per student

Students registering for the first time are asked to bring a copy of their baptismal certificate unless baptized at St. Mary's Church. Classes begin on September 25th. Families must be registered and active (attending mass weekly) in St. Mary's Parish before enrolling in the Religious Education Program.

Budget: \$5550.

Expenses: Assessment: \$7000.

The Mass Book for 2017 is now open. The offering is **\$10.00** for the **Sunday community mass** and **weekday masses** and **\$20.00** for all **individual weekend masses**. Registered parishioners may reserve up to two masses on weekends and two on weekdays until all requests are filled. Those who are not registered or from another parish may add names to the Sunday community mass at 10:30 A.M.



THE ASSUMPTION is the oldest feast day of our Blessed Mother, but we don't know how it first came to be celebrated. Its origin is lost in those two-hundred years (c. 76-285) when Jerusalem had officially become a pagan city. It wasn't until the Emperor Constantine restored Jerusalem as a holy city, oversaw the construction of the Church of the Holy Sepulchre, and restored the sacred sites, that the memories of the life of our Lord and His Mother began to be celebrated. One of these sacred sites was the Tomb of Mary or the Place of Dormition, the place where Blessed Mother "fell asleep" and was buried. For a time, the people celebrated the Memory of Mary; in the seventh century, the feast came to be known as *the Falling Asleep of the Mother of God*. Still later the name was changed to *the Assumption of Mary*, since there was more to the feast than her dying; it proclaimed that she had been taken up, body and soul, into heaven. This belief dates back to the apostles themselves. The feast days of our Blessed Mother all reflect her part in the work of redemption, the central mystery of her life being the Mother of our Savior. In preparation for this role, she had the fullness of grace from the first moment of her existence and was completely untouched by sin. The Assumption completed God's work in Blessed Mother as she completed her earthly life and entered eternity. On November 1, 1950, Pope Pius XIII proclaimed the Assumption of Mary into Heaven a dogma of the Catholic Church. With that, an ancient belief became Catholic doctrine, and the Assumption was declared a truth revealed by God. The Assumption gives us an insight into our own relationship with God and gives us hope that we, too, will follow Blessed Mother when our life is ended.

Year of Mercy - As we celebrate the Year of Mercy, you will find a suggestion for your use as corporal or spiritual work of mercy. When possible, please try to utilize these suggestions in the coming weeks – Thank You.

Spiritual Works of Mercy ~ PRAY FOR THE LIVING AND THE DEAD
PRAY THE ROSARY ONCE THIS WEEK FOR SOMEONE IN NEED.

Holiday Fair Raffle: St. Mary's Holiday Fair is scheduled for November 5th and 6th. After the great success of this raffle, we would like to have a theme basket raffle again at this year's fair. If anyone would like to make up a basket, please contact Celeste at 508-998-1295. Some ideas are a baking basket, a soup basket, a movie basket, an automotive basket, or a theme of your choice.

Talent Show - Come and see Bishop daCunha and various priests, deacons and other talented members of the Diocese entertain you with songs and laughter. St. John Neumann Parish, 157 Middleboro Rd., E. Freetown on Sunday, August 14 at 1:30PM. Door prizes-50/50 Raffle-\$150 lottery basket-refreshments. Tickets are \$10 each. Call Fran Brezinski at 774-218-2693 or Helen Stager at 508-992-6680.

Pope Francis' Apostolic Exhortation on The Joy of Love - Amoris Laetitia: On Love in the Family

Chapter nine: The spirituality of marriage and the family

The ninth chapter is devoted to marital and family spirituality, which "is made up of thousands of small but real gestures". The Pope clearly states that "those who have deep spiritual aspirations should not feel that the family detracts from their growth in the life of the Spirit, but rather see it as a path which the Lord is using to lead them to the heights of mystical union". Everything, "moments of joy, relaxation, celebration, and even sexuality can be experienced as a sharing in the full life of the resurrection". He then speaks of prayer in the light of Easter, of the spirituality of exclusive and free love in the challenge and the yearning to grow old together, reflecting God's fidelity. And finally the spirituality of care, consolation and incentive, the Pope teaches that "all family life is a 'shepherding in mercy. Each of us, by our love and care, leaves a mark on the life of others". It is a profound "spiritual experience to contemplate our loved ones with the eyes of God and to see Christ in them".

In the final paragraph the Pope affirms. "No family drops down from heaven perfectly formed; families need constantly to grow and mature in the ability to love. All of us are called to keep striving towards something greater than ourselves and our families, and every family must feel this constant impulse. Let us make this journey as families, let us keep walking together. May we never lose heart because of our limitations or ever stop seeking that fullness of love and communion which God holds out before us". The Apostolic Exhortation concludes with a Prayer to the Holy Family.

As can readily be understood from a quick review of its contents, the Apostolic Exhortation Amoris Laetitia seeks emphatically to affirm not the "ideal family" but the very rich and complex reality of family life. Its pages provide an openhearted look, profoundly positive, which is nourished not with abstractions or ideal projections, but with pastoral attention to reality. The text is a close reading of family life, with spiritual insights and practical wisdom useful for every human couple or persons who want to build a family. Above all, it is patently the result of attention to what people have lived over many years. The Exhortation Amoris Laetitia: On Love in the Family indeed speaks the language of experience and of hope.

(The full, unabridged text, can be found on the Vatican website: <http://www.news.va/en/news/pope-francis-apostolic-exhortation-on-the-joy-of-l>)

