

Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

January 22, 2017

Your prayers are requested for the repose of the souls in this week's Mass intention; for Edna Schard, William Henriques & Alice Santos whose funeral masses were celebrated here; for the souls in Purgatory; and for the deceased of our parish.

Sat., Jan 21,	4:00 P.M.	Celina C. Oliveira by Lynne
Sun., Jan 22,	8:30 A.M.	Laurier Audette by family
	10:30 A.M.	Community Mass: Joao Gaspar, Elizabeth Ferreira, Americo Perry, Celestina G. Pacheco, Leonilde Aguiar, Rita Lafrance
	7:00 P.M.	Julio Cardozo by family
Mon., Jan 23,	8:00 A.M.	For parishioners of St. Mary
Tues., Jan 24,	8:00 A.M.	Michael J. Tremblay by Normand & Joyce Audette
Thurs., Jan 26,	8:00 A.M.	Celina C. Oliveira by Tavares family
Fri., Jan 27,	8:00 A.M.	Geraldine Smith by family
Sat., Jan 28,	4:00 P.M.	Yvette Lavigne by Annette
Sun., Jan 29,	8:30 A.M.	Pat Costa by Mary Bourque
	10:30 A.M.	Community Mass: Joao Ferreira, Lucilia Sousa, Francisco Medeiros, Jeannine Penler, Raymond Beaulieu, Elsie DeCotis, Edna Schard, William Henriques, Alice Santos
	7:00 P.M.	Dorothy Santos by Audette family



14-day Memorial Candles: In Memory of Souls in Purgatory
In Memory of Priests who have served at St. Mary's



Icon Candle: In Memory of Elizabeth & Joao Ferreira by family

Hosts for January: In Memory of Edward & Annie Fernandes by David & Susan Whitney

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

Looking ahead, the Panchal Candle for Easter has been reserved for this year. If anyone wishes to memorialize the matching altar candles, they are \$180. a pair.

There are a number of Icon & Memorial Candles available for this year. The cost for the Icon candle lit for one week is \$10.00 and the Memorial candle lit for two weeks is \$20.00. Please call the rectory if you would like to memorialize any of these.

Budget: \$6412. Expenses: Computer repairs: \$85. Liturgical Assistance: \$250.

Religious Education

Congratulations to the 18 students who received their First Penance this weekend. Please continue to pray for them as they prepare for First Communion.

Confirmation will be celebrated in our parish on March 22, 2017 at 7PM by Bishop Edgar da Cunha.

St. Vincent de Paul meeting will be Wednesday, February 1st, at 6:45 PM.

St. Vincent de Paul Please don't forget that even though the holidays are over, the need for food has not diminished. Please remember St. Vincent's Food Pantry. Thank You.



ALL SAINTS CATHOLIC SCHOOL Looking for a great learning environment for you child? Safe, nurturing, engaged learning, living Catholic faith and values, after school activities, before and after school care and more! Conveniently located at 115 Illinois Street, New Bedford. **Open House on Sunday, January 29th** 11:30 AM - 2:00 PM. Contact smassoud@ascs.dfrcs.org or [508-995-3696](tel:508-995-3696) for more information or to schedule a tour.



The annual **Week of Prayer for Christian Unity** will be observed from Wednesday, January 18 through Wednesday, January 25. The theme for this year's observance is "Reconciliation – The Love of Christ Compels Us" which is based upon St. Paul's Second Letter to the Corinthians, Chapter 5, verses 14-20. Please recite this petition during the octave of prayer: *That guided by the holy Spirit, all Christians will continue their efforts to reconcile whatever differences may still divide them so as to move closer to authentic unity with one another. We pray to the Lord.*

Parish Lenten Mission Reserve the dates of March 6th through 8th, Mass at noon and 7 PM, directed by Father Thomas Washburn OFM. Plan now to make this your special time of prayer during Lent. A good way to begin Lent.

We will have the noon Mass during Lent Monday through Friday. **Eucharistic Ministers and lectors** are needed for that Mass. If you are available and interested in serving, call or email Mrs. LaCroix.

Have you made your Confirmation? Confirmation is the final sacrament of initiation along with Baptism and Communion. Confirmation, along with other requirements, is necessary if one is to be a sponsor – Godparent – at Baptism or Confirmation. Each year the Diocese conducts special classes for those adults over 18 who are not yet confirmed. The schedule for Spring is: Adult Confirmation classes St. Bernard Parish 32 South Main St., Assonet. Tuesdays 7:00-9:00 PM, February 28th – April 4th, or Holy Family Parish Center (east of the church) 438 Middleboro Ave., East Taunton. Saturdays 10:00AM-12:00PM, February 25th – April 8th. Mandatory retreat for all candidates will be held at St. John Neumann Parish on April 22nd. Class registration fee is \$25. Retreat fee is \$20. (includes lunch). Conferral of the Sacrament: Saturday, May 13, 2017 at St. Mary's Cathedral, Fall River at 4:00PM. Please call the rectory office for more information

Priesthood Discernment Retreat – The Diocesan Vocations Office is sponsoring a retreat for men ages 19-45 who are open to praying about a Vocation to the Priesthood. This retreat will be held March 3-5 at the Betania II Retreat Center in Medway. For more information or to register please contact Fr. Chris Peschel at discernmentretreat@yahoo.com or 508-398-2248.

Men's & Women's Conference – March 11, 2017 – Stonehill College For Lent this year, the Fall River Diocese is offering something new! The 2017 Men's & Women's Conference is a one day program with enriching talks, reflection, prayer and fellowship for a deeper faith-filled journey towards Easter. Speakers will be Cardinal Sean O'Malley, OFM Cap.; Renew International Director, Sr. Terry Rickard, O.P.; Christian music artist, Valimar Jansen; and lay evangelist and humorist, Michael Cumbie. For details visit www.fallriverdiocese.org.

Cold and Flu Season and Communion As we come into the winter months, many people are concerned about catching and spreading the flu. Particularly, some people are often concerned about how to handle Communion during this season, so here are a few interesting words concerning this topic. In 2009, the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops commissioned the Center for Disease Control to find out if transmission of viruses, such as the flu, is possible through Communion. They found that Communion on the tongue is one of the major ways illness is passed. How? Simply put, many people do not stick their tongues out far enough and a bit of saliva gets on the fingers of the Minister of Communion. Because of this, we'd urge that if you desire to receive the Eucharist on your tongue, please be sure to make it easy for the Eucharistic minister to place it on your tongue. When we hit the real flu season you may want to wave or make a bow (in respect to the Body of Christ gathered in the people at Mass) to your neighbor at the sign of peace instead of shaking hands. Of course if you are sick, we urge that you please stay home. There is NO sin in missing Mass because you are sick and if catching something would endanger your health, you too should avoid crowds and stay home. There is no sin in protecting your health.

