

Mass Intentions

Parish Support

Saturday, August 22

4:00 PM Carmine DeMinico, Month's Mind

Sunday, August 23

9:00 AM Thanksgiving for Giselle Damiani and Family

11:30 AM Fran Matara, 80th birthday

5:00 PM For the Parishioners

Monday, August 24

12:10 PM Margaret O'Gorman

Tuesday, August 25

12:10 PM St. Anthony for the Souls in Purgatory

Wednesday, August 26

12:10 PM Thanksgiving for Mary Saadeh and Family

Thursday, August 27

12:10 PM Donald P. Harrington, Month's Mind

Friday, August 28

12:10 PM Margaret O'Gorman

Saturday, August 29

4:00 PM William Klein

Sunday, August 30

9:00 AM Brian P. Colton, 25th Anniversary

11:30 AM

5:00 PM For the Parishioners

LAST WEEK'S REGULAR COLLECTION

\$2,568.00



HOME MISSIONS

This week's second collection is for Catholic Missions within the US, to help strengthen Catholic communities in mission dioceses by underwriting evangelization, religious education, education for future priests, and training for lay ministers. For more information please visit www.uscb.org/hm



Jesus then said to the Twelve, "Do you also want to leave?" Simon Peter answered him, "Master, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. We have come to believe and are convinced that you are the Holy One of God." - Jn 6:67-69

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD

A CATECHETICAL MOMENT—A WEEKLY REFLECTION

21st Sunday in Ordinary Time

For many years, an organization held huge seminars around the country, bringing in motivational speakers to talk to sales people from all areas of business. It was an all-day event, and crowds of ten thousand or more would fill arenas to hear the speakers. At the conclusion of the day, everyone was filled with a renewed spirit and zest for selling, having been taught many little lessons on how to be better. Unfortunately, many of those who attended the lectures didn't put into practice what they had heard, and had soon turned back to their old habits.

In today's Gospel reading, we hear some of the saddest words imaginable: "many (of) his disciples returned to their former way of life and no longer accompanied him." While Jesus knew that they would, how utterly devastated must he have felt? He even turned to his chosen Twelve, asking if they wanted to leave as well. Judas Iscariot did; Peter nearly did when the going got rough. But that is when we need to stand firm, shoulder to shoulder with Jesus, knowing he would never turn away from us.

Our child has fallen and scraped her knee; her first thought is to cry out our name. Who among us would turn away from our child in her time of need? Just as God does not turn away, he invites our cry to him by asking us to pray. The Catechism of the Catholic Church teaches us that we "are sinners who as Christians know that we have turned away from our Father. Our petition [prayer] is already a turning back to him" (CCC 2629). When Jesus asks the Twelve Apostles if they, too, will leave him, Peter asks where else would they go, except to the one who has the words of eternal life. Where else would you turn?

**REFLECTIONS FROM
FATHER CHARLES SHEEHY**

We thank God for the inspiration found in canonized Saints. We should also thank God for the ordinary people, married or single, who now or in the past helped others to come close to God.

This story never did and never could happen. A very ordinary man died. He went to Heaven and found himself very close to the throne of God. Perplexed in his exalted state, he turned to one near him, "I am a very ordinary person. I tried to appreciate my parents, be grateful for my wife and children, be faithful to God and do my work as well as I could. There must be a mistake."

The response was, "I am Simon Peter. My life was very much like yours until one terrible night I denied even knowing Jesus Christ. I was terribly sorry and immediately forgiven.

"You may have noticed that I am even a little closer to Jesus Christ than you are. I think I know why. God blessed me in a special way. I was inspired to thank God by making a very special effort."

(to be continued)

2009 CATHOLIC APPEAL

Responding to God's Grace, Renewing our Church

Thank you to all supporters of the 2009 Catholic Appeal. Our parish has raised \$28,928 from 55 households, reaching 94.8% percent of our parish goal of \$30,500. If you have not yet pledged, please consider a gift today and help us meet our goal. Remember, our parish will receive 25% of all funds we raise above our goal. Please remember to make your pledge now even if you plan on fulfilling that pledge towards the end of the year. You can pick up information packets with pledge forms in the back of the Church to be mailed in, or for more information please visit www.BostonCatholicAppeal.com.



At the invitation of Cardinal Séan O'Malley, our parish will continue the process of spiritual renewal and evangelization called **ARISE Together in Christ. Season 3 - In the Footsteps of**

Christ - offers an understanding of discipleship, and how this implies active commitment to charity and justice. All parishioners are most welcome to participate in this process. Sign-Up Sunday will be the weekend of September 20th or call the Rectory at 617-523-4342.

MARRIAGE PREPARATION

Our Marriage Prep Team met recently and are putting together our workshops for this year. The workshops will be held here at St. Joseph's in the Parish Hall.

Friday, September 25, 2009, 6:00pm – 7:30pm

Saturday, September 26, 2009, 9:30am – 3:30pm

Please call the Rectory (617-523-4342) Monday – Friday 9:00am – 3:00pm to register.

PRIEST APPRECIATION DINNER

On Wednesday, September 16, 2009, there will be a Priest Appreciation Dinner held at the Seaport Hotel / World Trade Center from 5:45– 9:00 p.m. This evening is the major celebration in the Year for Priests and is the public celebration of Cardinal Sean's 25th Anniversary as a Bishop. Tables of 10 and individuals tickets are still available. The cost of each ticket is \$500 and they will need to be reserved by Wednesday, September 2. All proceeds benefit the Clergy Pension and Healthcare Funds. If enough parishioners show interest we may have a Parish Table. For more information just call the Parish Office at 617 523 4342



**Religious Education
helps to build a
strong foundation**

Registration forms for classes starting in the Fall are available at the back of the church and can be filled out and left at the parish office or brought to the sacristy following Mass or call the parish office with any question (617 523 4342).

St. Joseph's sponsors a family centered religious education program for children from first grade through tenth. We celebrate a family liturgy together on the first Sunday of every month throughout the academic year. The children take turns participating in the liturgy. We also sponsor a Christmas play (on Christmas Eve) and our annual May Crowning on Mother's Day. In addition, we offer a group Generations of Faith program which includes children and family members in active exploration and explanation of our catholic faith. The Generations of Faith program is offered approximately every 4 to 6 weeks on a set schedule. We also offer classes for sacramental preparation for First Communion, Reconciliation and Confirmation. Currently, our CCD program uses the We Believe series from Sadlier Publishing.

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