

Mass Intentions

Saturday 4:00 PM	January 29 Those serving in the Armed Forces
Sunday 9:00 AM 11:30 AM 5:00 PM	January 30 Joanna Dominguez Ralph Randlett Parishioners
Monday 12:10 PM	January 31 Lola Napolitano
Tuesday 12:10 PM	February 1 George Donovan
Wednesday 12:10 PM	February 2 James Patch — Month's Mind
Thursday 12:10 PM	February 3 Sheila Ordway
Friday 12:10 PM	February 4 — First Friday Sanctuary Fund
Saturday 4:00 PM	February 5 Arthur Dembro
Sunday 9:00 AM 11:30 AM 5:00 PM	February 6 In Thanksgiving to St. Joseph Swithen & Jolyon Rodrigues Parishioners

Parish Support

Offertory	January 23	\$2,631
Special Collection — Evangelization		\$1,216



HOLY FATHER — PETER'S PENCE

Next week's second collection supports the Holy Father in providing emergency assistance to suffering people throughout the world. Contributions to the Peter's Pence Collection are given directly by the Holy Father to individuals who are suffering from immediate emergencies as a result of war, oppression, and natural disasters. Please visit www.usccb.org/ppc for more information.



BLESSING OF THE THROATS

In honor of Saint Blaise, throats will be blessed at all Masses this weekend. We know more about the devotion to St. Blaise by Christians around the world than we know about the saint himself. His feast is observed as a holy day in some Eastern Churches. The Council of Oxford, in 1222, prohibited servile labor in England on Blaise's feast day. The Germans and Slavs hold him in special honor, and for decades many United States Catholics have sought the annual St. Blaise blessing for their throats. May God in His goodness Bless us all!

4th Sunday in Ordinary Time

One of the units in junior high social studies curriculum is learning how a bill becomes a law. Basic governmental literacy rests on an understanding of the process, from the bill's introduction, through amendments and votes, to its final disposition for a signing or veto. We can all probably picture the chart that was in our textbook with the arrows that led the bill on different paths depending on the result of each step in the process. Even then, that chart was a simplified version of how things actually take place in the present legislative process.

The laws we're presented with in today's Gospel have very little in common with the laws that are enacted through legislation. The lawgiver in today's text is Jesus. He presents the beatitudes (and other laws, which we'll hear in the coming weeks) in the Sermon on the Mount. Matthew presents Jesus as the new teacher and lawgiver, now standing in the place of Moses who brought the tablets of the law—the Ten Commandments—down from Mt. Sinai. Jesus now gives the Eight Beatitudes as the law for the Christian life, a way of acting in the world. You'll hear a lot of people talk about the Ten Commandments as a basis for law. Even some Christian preachers will speak out about the necessity of having them posted in public places. Yet the New Testament, in Matthew's Gospel, makes it clear that there is a new law, a new dispensation, ushered in by Jesus who begins his own catalogue of commands with, "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven" (Mt 5:3).

Like the recollection of that chart from junior high social studies, I suspect that most of us could get through reciting the Ten Commandments, at least by naming the subject of each one even if we couldn't recite them word for word. But how many of us can recite the Christian law: the Eight Beatitudes?



**REFLECTIONS FROM
FATHER CHARLES SHEEHY**

On February third the Church celebrates the memorial of St. Blaise. The feast offers us several prayers. One is a brief yet special prayer. ...I have utter confidence in Christ that through my life and through my death He will use my mortal body for His glory.

St. Blaise was a martyr for his faith in Jesus Christ in the fourth century in the Russia of today. He came to Germany perhaps two centuries later. It was the miraculous cure of a small child that led to his feast of today.

The prayer in brief "Through the intercession of St. Blaise, Bishop and Martyr, May the Lord deliver you from ailments of the throat and from every other evil".

Surely the prayer is of great blessing. We should realize that whatever the great effects of prayer offered many hundred years ago, the love and kindness of the Son of God, Jesus Christ, is the essential gift.

This year the Feast of St. Blaise is on February third, a Wednesday. It may be observed on another day, probably Sunday as well.

Just a thought...The presentation of the Lord comes the day before.

**RELIGIOUS
EDUCATION NEWS**

Our Pre-School Program, "Sing Praise, Play Music", begins THIS SUNDAY! Come to the Parish Hall from 9 to 11:30 am to sign up for future classes and work through the activity stations with your child(ren). Calendars are available in the Kids' Corner at the back of the church.

We need someone to be an extra pair of hands during our Religious Education sessions. The more people who volunteer, the easier it will be!

781-535-8655 repatharis@verizon.net

The next Religious Education session is February 6 at 10am.

Altar Servers

Anyone wishing to become an Altar Server, please see Pat Harris after Mass on Sunday.

Altar Servers will meet Sunday, February 6, 11-11:20am
OR Saturday, February 12 at 3:30-3:50 pm in the Church.
The second meeting is Sunday, February 20, 10-11:15 am in the Parish Hall.

OUR GRAND ANNUAL APPEAL

We are pleased to report a total of \$59,085 in pledges and donations, to our Grand Annual Appeal to date, 79% of our goal of \$75,000. Pledge cards and envelopes are available in the back of the church. Thank you for your faith, love and generous support! Through your kindness Jesus' work continues.

PART TIME COOK

St. Joseph Retreat Center in Cohasset is owned and operated by the Sisters of St. Joseph of Boston (a community separate from our parish). There is an immediate opening for an experienced cook with flexible hours (lunch and dinner shifts). Please call 781-383-6024 and ask for Maria, or E-mail your resume to retreat.center@csjboston.org.

DAY OF PRAYER FOR PASTORAL VISITORS

The Pastoral Visitor Project and the Office of Worship and Spiritual Life invite all pastoral visitors and Eucharistic Ministers to the sick and homebound to attend a Day of Prayer, "**Blessed Are They Who Believe**" to be held Saturday, **February 12**, from 10:00 to 12:00 noon at St. John's in West Roxbury. There is no fee for the Day. For more information or to register, call the Office of Worship and Spiritual Life at 617-779-3648.

CORI FORM REMINDER

CORI forms must be filled out by all Lay Ministers. If you have not filled out a form yet, please do so before or after Mass. Forms are in the sacristy.

CELEBRATE BLACK HISTORY MONTH

Sunday, February 6, 2011, 11:30am Mass

Reception to follow

St. Katherine Drexel Parish

517 Blue Hill Ave., Dorchester

Archdiocese of Boston, Office of Outreach and Cultural Diversity, Black Catholic Ministries.

617-746-5819 or email Ldesroses@rcab.org

THE LITTLE SISTERS OF THE POOR (The Jeanne Jugan Residence, 186 Highland Ave., Somerville MA 02143) are in the process of expanding the list of possible candidates for our Residential Units. Criteria for admission: An individual or couple with limited assets who would benefit from spiritual, emotional and social support in a warm, clean family environment. If interested, please call Mary Segalla, Social Worker, at 617-776-4420 x317.