

Mass Intentions

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|---|---|
| Saturday 4:00 PM | February 26 |
| Sunday 9:00 AM 11:30 AM 5:00 PM | February 27 Harold FitzGerald Leonora Counihan Grant—Month's Mind Parishioners |
| Monday 12:10 PM | February 28 Special Intention |
| Tuesday 12:10 PM | March 1 John McLaughlin |
| Wednesday 12:10 PM | March 2 |
| Thursday 12:10 PM | March 3 |
| Friday 12:10 PM | March 4—First Friday Sanctuary Fund |
| Saturday 4:00 PM | March 5 |
| Sunday 9:00 AM 11:30 AM 5:00 PM | March 6 Donald Warren Sherwood—1st Anniv. Swithen & Jolyon Rodrigues Parishioners |

OUR PARISH SUPPORT

Offertory - February 20 \$2,870



SANCTUARY LAMP - MONTH OF FEBRUARY

In memory of - George Mackool

CATHOLIC APPEAL

As a Catholic community, we are called as we approach the Lenten Season, to love and share our blessings with our brothers and sisters in Christ. The Catholic Appeal is an opportunity to answer His call by sharing our treasure to help our neighbors, Catholic and non-Catholic alike, throughout the 144 cities and towns of our Archdiocese. Please plan to participate in the Catholic Appeal next weekend, March 5-6. Those of you that gave to the Appeal last year should receive a letter from Cardinal Sean this week. We invite all others to take home an information packet from Mass this weekend. Thank you!

EMERSON COLLEGE BAKE SALE



Thanks to all of you who supported students from Emerson College last weekend in their Bake Sale. Proceeds will be used as they assist the poor during their Spring work break.

8th Sunday in Ordinary Time

It has been a difficult couple of years for many because of the downturn in the economy. People have lost their jobs, their savings, and their homes. The recovery has been very slow. Stories about people employing a variety of strategies to survive are regular fare on local news broadcasts and in the newspaper. The effects have been felt across the economic spectrum. Even with a variety of government relief efforts (stimulus spending, extended unemployment benefits, etc.) households are suffering. The questions posed in today's Gospel, "What are we to eat?" "What are we to drink?" "What are we to wear?" are very real ones for a large group of the distressed populace.



St. Francis loved this passage from Matthew's Gospel that we read today. His absolute trust in God led him to strip off his clothing in the city square of Assisi and renounce all his possessions. As a beggar, he went out and founded a community of brothers whose hallmark was that they would own nothing. But even Francis' charismatic interpretation of the Gospel ended up being modified by reality. Franciscans needed places to stay and food to eat. One can't survive by shedding all of one's clothes in a North American winter!

So what do we do with today's Gospel about the lilies of the field that neither work nor spin and yet are more beautiful than all Solomon's splendor? Is Jesus spinning a fairytale with no real world meaning? That is certainly one way to look at the text: that the simple words of the Bible just cannot apply to the complicated economics of the modern day. But another interpretation may also have merit. These difficult times could be the invitation we need to trust in God even more—whether we are personally suffering or whether we feel secure. The temptation to despair may be great. The call to hope, even in darkness, comes from God.

**REFLECTIONS FROM
FATHER CHARLES SHEEHY**

Kathy was almost eight years old, rather independent in a nice way and generally delightful. She was about ready to get ready for Sunday Mass. However, once Mass was over, she would come home for old clothes and a busy morning. She was eager to meet Jesus in Holy Communion the blessed day.

Our Lord was all ready to meet Kathy and a classmate. In a matter of a few days the two girls died suddenly from a mysterious illness. It was a sad day for their families. Some people might say "Why did such a sorry illness take two little girls away from family and friends? Why did God let this happen? Others would see another side; two children made their first communion in Heaven.

"You have made us for yourself, O Lord, and our hearts are restless 'til they rest in You. Fulfill the longing with Jesus, who is the bread of life and alone can satisfy the hunger of the human family."

Death can have its terribly sad side. A mother loved her son with an intense love that no one could realize. He was terribly tormented and brutally murdered. The Son left His Mother and us a blessing beyond measure. Her name is the Blessed Mother of God.

MASS SCHEDULE

March 9 is Ash Wednesday, and our Lenten Journey will begin. Ashes will be blessed and distributed during the 8:00AM, 12:10PM and 5:15PM Masses.



**RELIGIOUS
EDUCATION NEWS**

Religious Education sessions will be held this Sunday, February 27 and NEXT Sunday, March 6.

SESSIONS BEGIN AT 10:00AM

Our Family Mass – February 27, March 27 at 11:30am Mass

Ash Wednesday is March 9. The Family Mass will be held at 5:15 pm. Please plan to attend.

Altar Server meeting March 13 at 10:15am in the Parish Hall.

Preschool Drop-In Program – March 13, 9-11:30 am in the Parish Hall.

NEW ROMAN MISSAL

As you may have read in our Archdiocesan paper, *The Pilot* or the *Boston Globe*, Advent of 2011 the English translation of our prayers at Mass will change. Because our prayers are different we will need to buy new Mass Books for our Altar. If you would like to donate a Missal in memory of a loved one please call the office.

DAILY DISCIPLES —OUR SEARCH CONTINUES

Serve your Parish...help your parish

We are in need of at least 10 "Daily Disciples" who are willing to help prepare our Church for Mass each weekday by opening, attending Mass and closing the Church. With the continued growth of our parish the office staff is needed *in the office* and parishioners are needed to help in the same way they do in other parishes. Please consider offering this time to be in the Lord's House maybe once or twice a month for an hour and a half. (depending on the number of disciples that step up on the plate!) Please call the office to leave your name or get further details. Thanks for your consideration and the many ways you help our parish grow and develop! God Bless.

WHAT IS PARISH PAY?

To strengthen community and stewardship at St. Joseph Church we humbly ask you to consider utilizing a new and better way to empower our parish...

Automated Giving.

After careful consideration and research and upon the recommendation of many Father Dan and the Finance Council have agreed to offer a new and easy way to provide our community to support our church. We hope that your family will consider this new way to offer your talents, time and treasure.

Why Automated Giving?

"...allows me to make a serious, prayerful budget decision about how much to give."- Joan S., Campbell, CA

"Excellent! It is the best. I am happy to know that my church will receive my donation even when something happens & I cannot attend Mass that week." - Regina S., Chicago, IL

MORE LATER — WATCH THIS SPACE