

Mass Intentions

Saturday 4:00 PM	April 9 Marie Snizewicz
Sunday 9:00 AM 11:30 AM 5:00 PM	April 10 Open Hearts Memorial Guild Swithen & Jolyon Rodrigues Parishioners
Monday 12:10 PM	April 11 Al Rossi
Tuesday 12:10 PM	April 12
Wednesday 12:10 PM	April 13 Pauline Powell
Thursday 12:10 PM	April 14
Friday 12:10 PM	April 15 Arthur Dembro
Saturday 4:00 PM	April 16 For the faithful departed through the Intercession of Mary
Sunday 9:00 AM 11:30 AM 5:00 PM	April 17 Sandra Williams & Family Family Mass Parishioners

OUR PARISH SUPPORT

Offertory - April 3

\$3,067



SANCTUARY LAMP - MONTH OF APRIL

Our prayer in memory of - George MacKool

HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

Holy Thursday – April 21

7:00pm Mass of the Lord’s Supper

Good Friday – April 22

12:10pm Stations of the Cross

7:00pm Celebration of the Lord’s Passion

Holy Saturday – April 23

8:00pm Easter Vigil Mass

Easter Sunday – April 24

MASS SCHEDULE

9:00am Easter Mass

11:30am Easter Mass

EASTER COLLECTION

The upcoming Easter collection supports retirement, medical care, and financial needs of the priests of the Archdiocese of Boston. We ask that you give generously to support the priests who devote their lives to faithfully serve God and the good work of the Archdiocese of Boston. On behalf of all of our retired priests, thank you in advance for your generosity.

5th SUNDAY OF LENT

With Easter coming so late this year much of the natural world in the country has already begun to come back to life. The seasonal death that began in the northern hemisphere back in September is already well on its way to reversal as we enter more deeply into spring. The grip of winter's cold is being broken as bud break begins to overtake trees and vines and bulbs push up their leaves and buds through the thawing earth. The seasons come and go with such regularity, that we have no doubt about their inevitable cycle. Life renews itself in its persistent return as is readily seen in the sprouting seeds that only came to be through the death of the parent plant.

Human death is not met with such easy renewal. Christianity's belief in a personal soul does not harbor a belief in reincarnation. One physical birth and one spiritual birth (baptism) is enough for us. But we do believe in the resurrection of the dead and the power of God to restore life. The raising of Lazarus is a concrete manifestation of the power of God to save. Lazarus, who was in the tomb for four days, is called forth by Jesus. And Jesus tells the onlookers to unbind Lazarus and let him go.

The Gospel today reflects all the grief and pathos that the death of a loved one can engender in the human heart. The death of Lazarus touched not only Martha and Mary and the people of Bethany. Jesus himself was moved with sadness. But as he indicates to Martha, everyone who believes in him will never die, for he is the resurrection and the life. Yes, we will experience physical death, and we will not return as easily as the cycle of the seasons. But that cycle does remind us that life is persistent. And our faith tells us that life will win out, even over death.



**REFLECTIONS FROM
FATHER CHARLES SHEEHY**

“Love in your heart wasn’t put there to stay. Love isn’t love till we give it away.” We borrow simple words from “The Sound of Music” to remind ourselves of a much greater love, that of Jesus Christ for each of us.

It took the Apostles, especially Peter, time to realize the great love that Jesus Christ had for them. We can use this Lenten season as a gift from Jesus Christ to grow in the love which He has for each of us.

“How good is God to all, how compassionate to all His creatures.” A little girl was with her mother in a restaurant. She was not only happy herself, but her very attitude reached out to those around her. She didn’t even know it, but she was giving her love to others.

The love of Jesus Christ comes to all of us. No one can ever take it from us. It may not have much effect on others, but it is ever ours. The foundation of this love is the Mass. In a great way Jesus comes to us whether we are priests or lay people. May we treasure this gift.

EASTER FLOWERS

Envelopes are available in the vestibule of the church for those who wish to donate plants or flowers for Easter in memory or honor of their loved ones - a beautiful way to symbolize their new life. Suggested donation is \$10. Please let us have the names before **April 17**.



CATHOLICS COME HOME

We’ve heard the story of Lazarus a million times and know some of this story by heart. “And Jesus wept.” “See how he loved him.” “Untie him and let him go.” This is a story of friendship, love, emotion, and miracles. During the week take a few minutes to re-read this beautiful Gospel passage (John 11:1-45 www.usccb.org/nab/041011.shtml) Think of the people you love who are not with us each week. What word or phrase jumps out at you? How can you bring Jesus’ promise of eternal life to them? Perhaps the simplest and best words are those of Martha to her sister Mary: “The Teacher is here and is asking for you.” www.CatholicsComeHomeBoston.org



APRIL 13

The Church encourages all Catholics to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation each Lent. In addition to our normal Saturday afternoon confession time, St. Joseph and all the Catholic parishes and chapels of the Archdiocese will be open on **Lenten Wednesdays from 6:30-8:00pm**. Please take advantage of this opportunity to make a good Lenten confession.



**RELIGIOUS
EDUCATION NEWS**

St. Joseph Parish is blessed to have the first of several Sacramental Liturgies taking place this Sunday. All Religious Education Families are invited to First Penance and the Family Lenten Penance Service held this Sunday, April 10, at 2:00 pm in the Church.

Preschool Drop-In -- Sunday in the Hall, 9-11:30

Our Family Mass
April 17 at 11:30 Palm Sunday Mass

Religious Education – April 17, May 1

Our Children will be making First Penance this weekend, please pray for them: John Cassedy, Andrew Chan, Cameron Demerski, Margaret Fleck, Riley Leetch, Nico Morreale, Caitlin Poltack, Kelsie Rizzo, Jonathan Vilms, and Theodore Wilson.

Our Adult Religious Education group continues to prepare for Confirmation and First Eucharist by studying the beauty of our Liturgies today. Please pray for them: Paul Batterton, Kenneth Canaan, Neil Ranney, and Shawn Williams.

LENT AT ST. JOSEPH PARISH

LENTEN HOLY HOURS—THIS Sunday, April 10 at 3:45pm we will come together before the Blessed Sacrament in prayer. We will pray for peace in our world that through His gift of grace the Lord’s peace may reign.



LENTEN NOVENA - Join us each **Wednesday** during the 12:10pm Mass to pray the Lenten Novena. The Novena has had a long history in our Catholic tradition and is an important prayer of thanksgiving and supplication.

THE STATIONS OF THE CROSS - The Stations of the Cross are a powerful way to contemplate and enter into, the mystery of Jesus’ gift of himself to us. It takes the reflection on the passions out of our heads, and makes it an imaginative exercise. It involves our senses, experiences and emotions. Come join us each Friday during Lent following the 12:10PM Mass.