

MASS INTENTIONS

THIS WEEK

Saturday 5:00 Ooppee Di Benedetto
 Sunday 8:00 Audrey P. Moran, Ruth Kantorski
 Fr. Bob Kemmery, Parish Family
 10:00 Charles Kozlowski
 Monday 8:00 Thomas Hawko
 Tuesday 8:00 Annette Byrne
 Wed 8:00 Alice J. Pammer
 Thursday 8:00 Communion Service
 Friday 8:00 Thomas Hawko

NEXT WEEKEND

Saturday 5:00 Csaposs, Riordan & Madden Families
 Sunday 8:00 Leo Miller, Matthew Kane
 Fr. Bob Kemmery, Parish Family
 10:00 John Hull
 4:00 Clayton Ingham
 7:00 Berube, Moreau, Hendrickson, Kemp Families

PRAY FOR THE ILL OF THE PARISH

Flora Massa, Martin Coughlin, Loretta Stephens, Regina Zanis, Harry Marcoux, John Keane, Tris Windle, David Cousins, Lynne Scalia, Alex Podeszwa, Bernadette Harrod, Eileen Metterville, Thomas Stone, Nick Bartick, Pam Hedlund, Paul Conte, Len Hedlund, Greg Morongell, Nora Gould, Edan Pearl, Richard Smith, Anne Caruso, John M. Pollard, Alexandra Burke, Peter Cruckshank, Bill Hannon, Peter Gill, Ivy Davis, Maddy Hayes, Clare Stevenson, Joseph Nosari, Vincent Lencvewski, Jeffrey Wolfgang, Louise Francke, Joan Ouellette, Bev Sarazin, Tyler Benscoter, Agnes Wolfgang, Fr. Paul Smith, Marilyn Drewes, John L. Sullivan, Kameron Hardaker, Ray Castriotta, Julianne Sullivan, Robert Grudzina, Brenda Kowalski, Marge LaGrassa, Jim Lewis, Joyce Loechner, Frank Salomone, Paul Chamberlain, Pauline Laberge, Edith Vinci, Chad Larivee, Patrick McNulty, Dick Wentworth, Nuvia Downs, Karen Mary McNulty, Olivia Hart, Alex Haas, Patrick Devine, Ellen Marie Anderson, Carter Mock, Nancy Hurley, Gerry Csaposs, Peggy Carson, Ed Daly, James Roberts, Addie Priess, Tim McEnaney, Frank McCarthy, Andree Yager, Loretta Reiter, Paul Kasczak, Lolita Previd, Joe Conlan, Patty Camarra, Sue Waugh, James Manley, Betty Babcock, Thomas Murphy, Tom & Deb O'Connor, Roseanne Balsavage, George Meservy, Nancy McGaughey, Mary Ellen Ackley, Chris Frazier, Melissa K., Paul Branden, Claire Surprenant, Jayne Boyle, Vittoria Hillis

PRAY FOR LOVED ONES IN THE MID-EAST

Brandy Nelson, Timothy Horigan, Scott Doucette, Michael Wilson, David Lucas, Sean Lucas, Peter Civita Shayne, Peter Cabral, Gregory DeLuca, Joshua Schmitt, Joseph Long, Brad Howard, Thomas Scudder, Jeffrey Stebbins, Phillip McDonough, David Wilcox, John Amick, David McDonald, Lt. Edward J. Maloney, Andrew Kelley, William James Miller, David Orloski, Stephen Tammaro, Michael L. Hamilton, Thomas Crawford, Aaron Charette, Nicholas Blair, Nicholas McGahey, Edward Prufer

PRAY FOR OUR DECEASED

IN LOVING MEMORY

The tabernacle candle has been donated in loving memory of Ray Newman.

COLLECTION RESULTS—THANK YOU!

Annual Appeal \$70,590
 December 8 and 10 collection results will be reported next week.

THIS WEEKEND IS HARVEST SUNDAY

The second collection this weekend is the Harvest Sunday Collection, which supports the efforts of the parish St. Vincent de Paul Conference to help those in need with necessities – food, medicine, rent, utilities. Thanks for giving.

THE GIFT OF INCARNATION — AN ADVENT INVITATION

Come and join us as we pause, ponder and pray in preparation for the Feast of the Incarnation — the Birth of Jesus. Judy Burt Walker will facilitate our final session of reflection and prayer in the chapel at 8:45 a.m. this Wednesday, December 20. All are welcome.

CHRISTMAS SEASON MASS SCHEDULE

Christmas Vigil Masses will be celebrated at 4 and 7 p.m. on Sunday, December 24, and Christmas Day Masses will be celebrated at 8 and 10 a.m. January 1 is **not** a holy day this year, so we will only have the regular 8 a.m. Mass on Monday, January 1.

Lectors & EM's Note Well: Disregard the schedule for January 1.

THRIFT SHOP

After a very busy fall and Christmas sale season, the Thrift Shop will remain closed until Monday, January 8. We are not accepting donations before then. Merry Christmas to all.



Pastor's Corner At the Women's Guild Christmas Luncheon, an extremely generous donation was made to the Parish, the fruits of months of dedication and hard work by our Guild Thrift Shop workers and managers. Such a donation at this time of year compensates for our decreased winter income and eases the burden of costly winter expenses such as increased fuel costs and snow removal services. As always, I am so very grateful for the work and generosity of the Thrift Shop volunteers and for their support of the Parish.

Fr. John Kelleher

RESPECT LIFE MINISTRY

A heartfelt thank you to all who made our annual Baby Bottle Campaign such a success! The almost \$3,000 donated is being used to build the "Culture of Life" in significant ways, with the lion's share of the proceeds going towards support of the two pregnancy crisis centers in our Diocese. Funds are also being provided to sponsor two high school students on our Diocesan March for Life trip to Washington, D.C. in January.

SOLAR PANELS— UPDATE

My September Annual Appeal Letter stated that we hope to put solar panels on the south facing roof of the church NEXT year. However, our solar panel committee has determined that it would be MOST beneficial for the parish to **complete a solar panel project BEFORE March 31, 2018.** AFTER March 31, 2018, Massachusetts State Law changes regarding the value of Solar Renewable Energy Credits (or SREC'S). This means that the income we will receive for being a clean energy producer will be substantially LESS than it would be if our system is "Mechanically Complete" by March 31st.

After looking into FIVE solar companies, and receiving bids from four of them, we selected E2 Solar out of Dennis, MA to design and install our solar panel system. **E2 Solar has already completed the design of our solar panel system. Now, Eversource must APPROVE the design of the system before the project can move forward. By law, Eversource has up to 45 business days to approve the system.**

Please know that **your contribution to THIS year's Parish Annual Appeal WILL support our Solar Panel Project**, as well as the other projects outlined in the Annual Appeal Letter. We strongly believe that producing clean energy is a great response to Pope Francis' call to care for our environment, and we KNOW that a solar panel system will virtually eliminate our \$20,000 - \$30,000 electric bill from our three parish buildings.

I am grateful to all who have already made their Annual Appeal donation, resulting in a total of **\$70,590** to date. If you haven't yet contributed, please consider a **generous donation to this year's Annual Appeal in support of our Solar Panel Project.** Thank you very much!

Peace,
Fr. John Kelleher

LIVING ROSARY

All parishioners are invited to the Living Rosary being presented by the St. Joan of Arc Guild, Knights of Columbus, St. Vincent de Paul Society, and Respect Life Ministry on Tuesday, January 9, at 7:00 p.m. in the church. The Living Rosary will be composed of members of the participating parish organizations who will be positioned around the perimeter of the church in the form of a rosary, with each participant representing one of the rosary beads and leading one of the rosary prayers. The intention of the Living Rosary will be for the success of the March for Life in Washington, D.C. on January 19. Following the Living Rosary, all are invited to the Parish Center for refreshments and fellowship.

CHRISTMAS DINNER AT OLC

Our Lady of the Cape Parish invites anyone who wishes to share a meal with others to Christmas dinner in their parish center at 12 noon on Christmas Day. If you are unable to drive, transportation to the dinner can be arranged and Meals-on-Wheels will deliver to those living within a reasonable distance from the church. How many in your party? Do you need transportation? Do you need to have dinner delivered? Call Dave Danish at 508-896-7613 or email him at Ddanish@comcast.net to make a reservation.

SEASONAL REMINDERS

Due to the flu season, the cup will not be offered at Mass. The Sign of Peace may be offered with words and a smile rather than a handshake, if you like.

During the winter time which brings unpredictable weather and health conditions, keep in mind these guidelines: If you suspect you are ill or weather conditions are hazardous, you are **not** bound to attend Mass. Remain at home, possibly participating in the Mass on TV, radio or internet. **If schools are closed or delayed due to snow, there is no daily Mass.** Please observe this policy for your safety, as well as to expedite the snow removal in our parking lots.

PRO-LIFE ANNUAL ESSAY CONTEST

The Pro-Life Apostolate is sponsoring its Annual Essay Contest to focus on the upcoming anniversary date of Roe v. Wade and Doe v. Bolton, the decisions which legalized abortion-on-demand in this country. Our theme this year is ***Be Not Afraid***, which calls us to reflect on the constant presence of Jesus in our lives through whatever storms or trials we face. Essays will be grouped and judged in two categories according to grade level: Grades 6—8, and Grades 9—12. First Prize winners will be awarded \$150 cash and Second Prize will be \$75 cash.



FAITH FORMATION SCHEDULE

Grades 1-5 Mondays 2:20—4:00 p.m.
Grades 6-10 Monday 6:00---7:30 p.m.

FAITH FORMATION SCHEDULE

We look forward to seeing our Kindergarten through Grade 9 students this Monday, December 18. The afternoon students meet at their regular class times, so please remind your afternoon student to ride the St. Joan of Arc bus to class. **All** students, Grades K-9, are expected to be present for our Christmas Pageant and should arrive by 5:45 p.m. to get costumed and prepare for their parts.

HARK! THE HERALD ANGELS SING . . .

Our annual Christmas Pageant will be held this Monday, December 18, at 6:30 p.m. Family, friends, parishioners — absolutely everyone — is invited to share the Christmas spirit with our shepherds and sheep, Bethlehem stars, angels, wise men, and baby Jesus. Come and celebrate with us the season of Christ's birth. .

CHRISTMAS EVE FAMILY MASS

Christmas Eve Family Mass is Sunday, December 24, at 4:00 p.m. We hope to see as many of our families and students as possible at this special liturgy. Students will be participating as lectors, altar servers, offertory collectors, bearers of the crèche figures to the manger, and signing *Silent Night* after communion. We are excited about our Christmas Eve Family Mass and look forward to celebrating this special season of hope and joy with St. Joan of Arc families.

NEW BEGINNINGS . . .

Are you interested in deepening your spirituality, learning more about Jesus, and growing in the community as a member of the Church? Then RCIA might be for you! The Parish offers RCIA (The Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults) as a way of exploring these important life issues and to discern whether initiation into the Catholic Christian Community is for you. Please call Judy Burt Walker for further information at 508-255-1257, or Father John at the Rectory.

THE ADVENT BARBER

The *Connections Resource Magazine* features the story of Franz Jacob, a barber in a small town outside of Quebec. One of his ‘regulars’ is 6-year-old, Wyatt. Wyatt’s autism contributes to his hypersensitivity to being touched and his inability to sit still. This makes it difficult for Wyatt to get a haircut. But Franz will follow Wyatt around his shop as needed. He’ll clip the boy’s hair a snip and a shear at a time – sometimes getting right down on the floor with young Wyatt.

Many barbers don’t know how to deal with clients with disabilities, but Franz Jacob has several regular customers with autism. He’s learned how to adapt to their needs. He schedules them for the end of the day so he can take the time he needs. He says that he simply closes the door so there is no outside disturbance and prepares to spend an hour or more – customers like Wyatt are the ones determining the necessary amount of time.

Franz also works with people who are terminally ill, who want to enjoy a last trim. *“When you shave someone who is probably going to die within 48 hours...it’s indescribable...I’m really proud to be doing all this,”* he says.

To Wyatt’s mom, Franz Jacob is a hero. A few weeks ago she published a photo of this burly, bearded, tattooed barber lying on the floor of his shop giving her son a haircut. The Canadian newspapers and the internet picked it up, but Franz says he’s not a hero – he’s just doing his best for his clients and community.

In what our tradition has come to call the *“Incarnation”*, the God of Love becomes one of us so that we might become one with God. But *“Incarnation”* is not only an event but a practice: the practice of becoming the body of Christ for the sake of others – especially those most in need. Franz, a Canadian barber, embodies God’s love in his everyday business. He becomes the *“incarnation”* of God’s own essence when he puts aside his adult world to bend down and crawl on the floor to enter the world of his young autistic client. In his compassion and humble service, Franz is a conduit of God’s light and love.

This weekend we are reminded of the joy of service – the joy of bringing our small share of light and love into our world. We, too, are to *“testify to the Light, so that all might believe through him.”* We, too, are to *“practice”* incarnation – to embody the Christ of compassion and peace in the reality of our ordinary lives.