

MASS INTENTIONS

**THIS WEEK**

Saturday 5:00 Virginia Kaufmann  
 Sunday 8:00 Ed Hurley, Mark Dundas, Louis DiGiovanni  
 Fr. Bob Kemmery, Parish Family  
 10:00 Mary Ellen & Richard Boyce  
 Monday 8:00 Charlie Wolff  
 Tuesday 8:00 Linda Dishner  
 Wed 8:00 Catherine & Michael Villano  
 Thursday 8:00 Communion Service  
 Friday 8:00 Curt & Regina Collyer

**NEXT WEEKEND**

Saturday 5:00 Olive Looney  
 Sunday 8:00 Fr. Bob Kemmery, Parish Family  
 10:00 Albert Desens

**IN LOVING MEMORY**

The tabernacle candle has been donated in loving memory of Paul Conte.

**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, 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 Bencotter, 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, Addie Priess, Tim McEnaney, Frank McCarthy, Andree Yager, Loretta Reiter, Paul Kascsak, Lolita Previd, Joe Conlan, Patty Camarra, Sue Waugh, James Manley, Betty Babcock, Thomas Murphy, Tom & Deb O'Connor, Roseanne Balsavage, Chris Frazier, Melissa K., Paul Branden, Claire Surprenant, Jayne Boyle, Vittoria Hillis, Baby Lillian Thoman, Jessica O., Peter Wall, Fran McDonagh

**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 Tamaro, Michael L. Hamilton, Thomas Crawford, Aaron Charette, Nicholas McGahey, Edward Prufer

**PRAY FOR OUR DECEASED** Alice McKinley, George Brescia

**LENT**

**PARISH MISSION**

This weekend we welcome Rev. Melvin A. Shorter, C.P., who will speak at all Masses. Rev. Shorter will conduct a Parish Mission, *Reflection of Christ*, in the church at 7 p.m. next Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, February 26, 27, 28. Additionally, Rev. Shorter will give a summary of each day's theme following the 8 a.m. weekday Masses.

Monday, February 26 *Hello Stranger!*

Tuesday, February 27 *Let It Go!*

Wednesday, February 28 *Act Like You Got Some Sense!*

Several priests will be available on Tuesday evening to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

**THE CROSS AS TEACHER LENTEN PROGRAM**

Our Lenten Reflections on Forgiveness, Surrender and Compassion, directed by Judy Burt Walker, continue this Wednesday, February 28, at 8:45 a.m. in the Chapel. All are welcome, even if you have not attended the prior sessions.

**REFUGEE GIFT CARD COLLECTION**

*I was a stranger and you welcomed me* (Mt. 25)

Gift card collection baskets will be available in the church foyers next weekend, March 3-4, to support 100 new refugees being assisted by Ascentria Care Alliance in Worcester. We hope to welcome and support these families with gifts cards from Shaws, Stop & Shop, Wal-Mart, or Visa.

**POWER-POINT PRESENTATION ON REFUGEES**

Please join us in the Parish Center following the 10 a.m. Mass next Sunday, March 4 to view a Power Point presentation on the Refugee families we have been assisting and learn other ways your family or Parish Group can help. Refreshments will be served.

**STATIONS OF THE CROSS/SOUP SUPPER**

Friday, March 16, at 5:00 p.m.

**CALLING ALL WOMEN**

The St. Joan of Arc Guild invites all women of the Parish to join us for a program of reflection and inspiration with Judy Burt Walker on Tuesday, March 13, at 1:30 p.m. in the Parish Center. The program, entitled *Mary the Contemplative: Mother of Boundless Compassion*, will provide a break from the busyness of our daily lives, time for quiet reflection and guided discussion and an opportunity to visit with other women while enjoying light refreshments. Why not do something special for yourself and join us for this special program? We look forward to having you with us on March 13!

## ANNUAL WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

The Church of the Transfiguration will host the Annual World Day of Prayer this Friday, March 2, at 1:00 p.m. The theme, *All God's Creation Is Very Good* was prepared by the Women of Suriname. Call 508-255-1094 for more information. All are welcome.

## 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. **The Diocese is urging all parishioners to receive Communion in the hand to reduce the risk of spreading germs which cause the flu or other illnesses.** 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.

## WOMEN & MEN'S CONFERENCE

This Friday, March 1, is the registration deadline for the Diocesan Women and Men's Conference on Saturday, March 10, at Stonehill College in Easton. For details, pick up a registration form in the church foyers or visit [www.fallriverdiocese.org](http://www.fallriverdiocese.org).

\*\*\*\*\*

## FAITH FORMATION CLASS SCHEDULE

Due to the Parish Mission, there are no Faith Formation classes on Monday, February 26. We look forward to seeing Kindergarten through Grade 10 students on Monday, March 5.

Dear Friends in Christ,

I can't thank you enough for your extremely generous response to our Parish Annual Appeal. The final total was \$102,080, which is simply incredible!

Please know that your donations to the Annual Appeal are assisting us in our purchase of the Solar Panel System and will help us to complete other projects which I outlined in my annual appeal letter, including the badly needed renovation of the exterior of our Parish Thrift Shop.

Due to the high expense of the Solar Panel System (\$218,619), and the expense of the other buildings and grounds projects, we will dip into our parish savings in order to meet costs. However, we expect to be able to replenish our saving with the money our Solar Panel System will save us on our future electric bills.

So, once again, thank you so much for your tremendous support of our parish. May our good Lord bless all of you especially during this sacred Season of Lent.

Peace,  
Father John

## GLIMPSES OF HEAVEN

Poet and author, John O'Donohue, says that a thing or a being "transfigured" is more fully itself than ever, and more: *"it is irradiated with beauty, whether a vase painted by Cezanne, or a turn of phrase that comes to new life in a great poem...at its most sublime intensity, transfiguration is utter vision; no one can stay long on the Mountain of Transfiguration, but if you have ever been there, you cannot suppress this seeing without damaging yourself."*

The Trappist monk Thomas Merton speaks of a transcendent experience in *"Conjectures of a Guilty Bystander"*. Merton was simply standing on a street corner in downtown Louisville, Ky., when the city and the people walking around began to glow. In that moment he realized the "oneness" of all living beings — everything connected intimately in the great love that is Christ. He writes: *"There is no way of telling people that they are walking around shining like the sun...that the gate of heaven is everywhere, right here and now"*.

Perhaps a message of today's Gospel is that the Transfiguration of Jesus isn't a one-time spectacular, special-effects incident that took place a long time ago. It's instead a sweet glimpse of heaven that can come to any of us right now — if we have eyes to see. Transcendent moments are *gifts of grace* that can come in the midst of confusion, struggles, and the difficult moments of life — windows of hope even in the desert times.

A mother can have such a moment when she first views the baby she has birthed. A person meditating or praying can have such a moment when words fall away and silence holds them in unspeakable love. Transcendence can 'break in' while listening to a moving piece of music; or enjoying a walk on a brilliant autumn day; or like Merton, simply seeing through the ordinary to the extraordinary that lies beyond the thin veil of separation. Such moments of grace open our everyday minds to the heaven that is already present — we need only enter the moment fully enough to see it. To quote Merton again: *"Life is simple — we are living in a world that is transparent and the divine is shining through it all the time."*

The season of Lent is a good time to sharpen our inner eyes so that we can better *see* the "holy ground" all around us. It is a time to come home to our true selves: to remember that we truly live and move and have our very being in the Radiant One, whom we call God.