

MASS INTENTIONS

THIS WEEK

Saturday 5:00 Norton, McMahon, & Haynes Families
 Sunday 8:00 Matthew Sulka, Lillian Dantos, Peter Gill,
 Bob Kemmery, Parish Family
 10:00 Lew Carrington
 Monday 8:00 Carol Lee Wilkes
 Tuesday 8:00 Catherine Villano
 Wed 8:00 Norma Goodhue
 Thursday 8:00 Communion Service
 Friday 8:00 Joanne Arpin

NEXT WEEKEND

Saturday 5:00 Ronald Chad
 Sunday 8:00 Mark Dundas, Louis DiGiovanni
 Bob Kemmery, Parish Family
 10:00 Brian Tralease

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, Ivy Davis, Maddy Hayes, Clare Stevenson, Joseph Nosari, Vincent Lencvewski, Jeffrey Wolfgang, Louise Francke, Joan Ouellette, Bev Sarazin, Tyler Bencscoter, 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. Margaret Colquhoun

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 Pruffer

PRAY FOR OUR DECEASED Maggie Colquhoun

HARVEST FOR HABITAT THIS WEEKEND

The second collection this weekend is our annual *Harvest for Habitat* collection which supports Habitat housing construction projects on Cape Cod.

Your donation of one or more of the following items are always welcome for use in the Two-Day Packs distributed to those in need. BEEF STEW (24 oz), BAKED BEANS (16 oz) JELLY (8-16 oz) CANNED FRUIT (16 oz), CANNED VEGETABLES (14.5 oz) TUNA FISH (6 oz) , SPAGHETTI (1 lb box) MACARONI & CHEESE (6 oz box), PEANUT BUTTER (18 oz) SPAGHETTI SAUCE (28 oz), JELLO (3 oz) and CANNED SOUP (11 oz), HOT CEREAL (10 env. Pack), COLD CEREAL.

LENT

THE CROSS AS TEACHER LENTEN PROGRAM

Our Lenten Reflections on Forgiveness, Surrender and Compassion, directed by Judy Burt Walker, continue this Wednesday, March 21, at 8:45 a.m. in the Chapel. All are welcome, even if you have not attended the prior sessions.

Holy Week Schedule

Thursday, March 29

Holy Thursday Mass of the Lord's Supper 7:00 P.M.

All Eucharistic Ministers are invited to process into the church as a group at the opening of the 7 p.m. Mass of the Lord's Supper this Thursday, March 29. Please gather in the Parish Center no later than 6:40 that evening.

Friday, March 30

Good Friday Services 3:00 P.M.

Saturday, March 31

Easter Vigil 7:00 P.M.

NO CONFESSIONS on Holy Saturday.

April 1

**Easter Sunday 8:00 A.M.
 9:30 A.M.
 11:00 A. M.**

SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION

The Rite of Confirmation is being celebrated by Bishop da Cunha at Our Lady of the Cape in Brewster this Friday, March 23, at 7:00 p.m. Please keep our young people in your prayers as they continue their faith journey.

GUILD SCHOLARSHIPS

The Guild is offering college scholarships to graduating high school seniors. A candidate must 1) be a practicing member of SJA; 2) have an acceptance to an accredited college; 3) have letters of reference from his/her guidance counselor and teachers; 4) have financial need. All applications must be submitted to the candidate's high school guidance department by Friday, March 30.

BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP

The Bereavement Support Group will meet THIS Sunday, March 18, at 4 p.m. in the Parish Center. These year-round monthly group meetings focus on the various aspects of grieving. The presentations and round-table discussions provide information to assist the bereaved as they move forward with their new life. For further information, please call Barbara at 508-240-1090 or Liz at 508-896-4916.

BEREAVEMENT MINISTRY PRAYER HOUR

The St. Joan of Arc Bereavement Ministry is offering a program for those who are grieving the loss of a loved one. We will meet in the Chapel on Tuesday, April 3, at 4:00 p.m. The one hour *Prayer and Reflection for Those Who Mourn* will be offered with the hope that through prayer, scripture, meditation and reflection, God's healing grace will be felt. For more information, please call 508-240-1119.

GRATEFUL FOR GIFT CARDS

Thank You for your donations of gift cards totaling \$2,264 to help welcome refugees. Special thanks to St. Francis Xavier Middle School for donating \$400 to this effort.

MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER WEEKEND

Brewster, MA — April 21 –22

Other dates and locations are May 19-20, Warner, NH, and June 9–10, Medway, MA. Consider planning a weekend away, just the two of you, to renew your marriage relationship. A Worldwide Marriage Encounter weekend is a positive, renewing experience for couples who have a good marriage and want to make it even better! Marriage Encounter is designed to deepen and enrich the joys a couple shares together, whether they have been married only a short time or many years. Pick up a flyer in the foyers, call 800-710-WWME, or call Carmella and Al Alfano, 508-255-4448.

DIOCESAN PASTORAL PLANNING PROCESS

Perhaps you remember the parish evaluation process which Bishop da Cunha instructed ALL parishes in the Diocese to participate in last year. Parishioners were given the opportunity to evaluate their parish in five difference areas (Sacraments and Worship, Ministry and Service, Faith Formation, Community and Finances and Administration). Evaluation teams were also formed in each parish to complete a more in-depth evaluation of these areas. All of this information, from each parish, was submitted to the Diocese.

Once all of the evaluation data was collected by the Diocese, all pastors were given a large binder, containing a very detailed compilation of the results for his parish. Due to the volume of information contained in the binder, simple communication of the results of the evaluation process would be impossible. However, the binder containing the results of our St. Joan of Arc Parish Evaluation is available in the Rectory for anyone who would like to review it.

Bishop da Cunha is still working hard on the Pastoral Planning Process. The Parish Evaluations are but one piece of the puzzle as we consider the future of the Diocese. More information will be forthcoming about this process in the near future.

LISTENING SESSION WITH BISHOP da CUNHA

Come and share your hopes and dreams for our Church! Bishop Edgar M. da Cunha, S.D.V., is hosting a series of Listening Sessions at different parish locations as part of the strategic planning process in the Fall River Diocese. Members of diocesan parishes are invited to attend to offer their thoughts into that process. St. Joan of Arc Church will be the host for the Listening Session for Outer Cape parishes on Wednesday, April 18, from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m.

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.



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 CLASSES

We look forward to seeing all Kindergarten through grade 10 students at their regularly scheduled time this Monday, March 19.

GRADE 2 SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Congratulations to our second graders who received the Sacrament of Reconciliation for the first time this weekend! We are so proud of all of them. Please keep them in your prayers as we look forward to First Communion.

IMPORTANT CONFIRMATION NEWS

This year the Rite of Confirmation is being celebrated by Bishop da Cunha at Our Lady of the Cape in Brewster. Below are important reminders for Grade 10 Confirmation students and their families. Any questions, please feel free to contact the Faith Formation Office at 508-255-1257.

There is only one Confirmation Rehearsal — **this Sunday, March 18**. Please arrive promptly at 3:45 p.m. to gather and attend to additional items before it begins. Each student must be accompanied by an adult — the sponsor, if possible.

Confirmation is on Friday, March 23, at 7:00 p.m. Students and sponsors — please arrive promptly at 6:00 p.m.

THE HEART OF THE MATTER

Pat Marrin, who once wrote for the resource publication, *Celebration*, authored an article entitled: *The Heart of the Matter*. The article used the example of the human body as ‘*poise in motion*’ operating from its own center of balance – a fixed gravitational point around which the head, torso and limbs are in constant self-correcting coordination. A beautiful example of this might be revealed in the skillful movements of a dancer or in the perfect coordination of an athlete.

In biblical terms, the heart is our moral center of balance. According to the article, moral formation begins with external factors like family and cultural expectations, but it reaches maturity only when it is internalized and fully integrated. External traditions and codes of behavior are to dance in harmony around the central axis point we call the ‘heart’. Today’s reading from the prophet, Jeremiah, describes the new covenant God forms with his people not by imposing the law from without, but by “*writing it on their hearts.*” And the Psalm echoes this message by reminding us that God restores *our hearts* to right relationship through generous forgiveness and mercy.

The Gospel, too, gets right to the heart of the matter with its reminder that life and death are part of the universal continuum: “*Unless the grain of wheat dies, it remains just a grain of wheat; but if it dies, it produces much fruit.*”

Jesus reveals God as the One who *empties his heart into* the world, even as the world rejects this divine offer of reconciliation. God’s unconditional love transforms enemies into friends, cleanses the heart of selfishness and restores the center of balance to a world disjointed and disoriented by human self-centeredness. Jesus, who is lifted up – crucified and raised – will draw everything to himself.

Lent offers the perfect opportunity to restore our balance, to learn how to walk upright. It is a time to give our hearts to the One who heals; our minds to the One who teaches; and our very being to the One who yearns to love in us and through us. This is what it means to bring everything into balance—to die to our own self-centeredness so that our small heart might beat as one with the infinite heart of Love. When we begin to put Love first, through generous self-giving and mutual forgiveness, we discover *the heart of the matter* – the secret of life.