

Greetings!

"Two small coins!"

One little child said, "Is this enough Father?" It was during Mass one Sunday and everyone was asked to consider putting in the collection basket what would be a sacrifice for them, what might even make them pause for a moment and re-think their choice (*but not too long*). Well, this little girl had reached in her coat pocket and pulled out the \$10 she received the day before for her birthday and placed it in the basket.

I'm sure the little girl was moved by what was said in the moment but most assuredly was equally (*if not more so*) familiar with the idea of giving because of her parent's consistent example at home. Whether we be a little child, a poor widow or a rich young man (*or somewhere in between*) surely we know that we too must consider a sacrificial gift in order that it truly be said that we "put in more than all the other contributions to the treasury."

With the month of November, we very quickly enter the commercial season of the holidays (*which seemed to begin before Halloween this year*). As Christians, we 'give' first and foremost because we were created by a 'generous' God and created to be 'generous' men & women. Every relationship, especially priesthood and marriage, demands a genuine 'gift of self' without 'counting the cost.' It's when we can individually imitate the 'selfless' gift of Christ poured-out for us on the cross that our lives become purposeful, fruitful and prepared for eternal life.

In our parish, I humbly hold up both 'little children' and 'poor widowers' as encouraging examples for all of us (*including the priest*). As you know, most schools, scouting programs and religious education classes require 'service hours'. Though it might seem odd to mandate what should be natural, freely given and good for us, I believe the intention is to highlight our responsibility to others. I am very proud of our young people who in many ways are looking for (*albeit 'fun'*) ways to serve others. Recently, ten students from Spellman High School spent many hours (*including a whole Sunday*) to be on a team for our daylong Confirmation retreat last Sunday for our ninth graders. I can assure you that their generosity, commitment and witness touched our ninth graders. (*And, I'd be negligent not to say thank you to the tremendous team of our adult parishioners who spent an equal amount of time on this great retreat!*)

The rich heritage of our parish was built by 'those who have gone before us', and is still sustained by the very generous giving of our seniors, many of whom are on a fixed-income and aging (*gracefully, of course*). They are still very committed to daily Mass, assisting in such events as the Bazaar, and volunteering for such things as improving our Church property (*even in retirement*). It takes a lot of effort and many sacrifices to build a parish life that is life giving and long-standing. Together, might we re-commit to our parish life knowing that our 'sacrificial giving' will be richly rewarded in this life and the next? God bless!

Mass Intentions for the Week

Saturday, November 7th

4:00PM Edward & Mary McNeil & Amelia Karam
Memorial Mass

Sunday, November 8th

7:30AM Noah Arnstein 3rd Anniversary
9:30AM Robert Lindberg 30th Anniversary
11:30AM John Sheehan & Patricia Kuketz
Memorial Mass

Tuesday, November 10th

9:00AM All the Holy Souls in Purgatory

Friday, November 13th

9:00AM Joseph Dente 6th Anniversary

Saturday, November 14th

4:00PM Parishioners of St. Joseph Parish

Sunday, November 15th

7:30AM Robert Currie 2nd Anniversary
9:30AM Daniel, Winnifred, John and Danny Lynch
Memorial Mass
11:30AM James McInerney, Sr. and
James McInerney, Jr. Memorial Mass

Parish Giving

You may have noticed that our weekly offertory has decreased in the last month. I know more and more families are suffering from our difficult economic times and please know the prayers of this community are with you. I am thankful for every gift that helps us do all that we do here, and I am grateful some parishioners are helping by increasing their weekly offering. The offering for last week was **\$4,327**. Next week's second collection is for the Philippines. Thank you for your financial commitment to our parish life!

Paint Your Own Pottery - Family Nights

Tuesday, November 10th and Tuesday, December 1st from 5:30 - 9:30 at South Shore Pottery, Route 18, Abington. Great for all family members! Work on your holiday gift list or just a holiday decoration for yourself. Price is \$12.00. This includes light refreshments, paint, supplies, firing of piece and a chance to win the door prize. This does not include the price of the piece. They range from \$4 to \$50. You can pay for the ticket that evening, but you **MUST RSVP** due to a limited number of seats available. Please contact Kelli O'Leary at 781-767-0971 or kelliolery@verizon.net. This event is helping to support the St. Joseph Comprehensive Youth Ministry. Have fun while supporting a great cause for the young people of our community.

Bazaar News

The *Parish Bazaar* will take place **November 21**. Can you help? We **NEED** chairpersons for the Fried Dough table and for Santa (someone to be Santa and someone to do pictures). Please call the rectory if you can help.

There will be a **FINAL** Bazaar meeting for all chairpersons this Sunday, November 8th at 7PM in St. Charles Hall.

Please set aside items for the **White Elephant Table** and books, DVDs and videos for the **Book Table**. Drop off dates are this weekend **November 7/8** and next weekend **from 3 to 4 on Saturday and 9 to 1 on Sunday**.

Unopened bottles of cheer are needed for the *Wheel of Cheer*. And the *Basket Raffle* needs theme baskets or you can make a donation towards the baskets. Please drop these off at the Rectory during business hours.

We are **desperately** in need of items for our *Craft Table*. If you have a craft you do well and can make some for the Bazaar, please call the rectory.

The *Lucky Star Roll-Up Table* needs **your** help. We need any new or never used items. Large or small doesn't matter as long as it is **New or Never Used**. We also need people to work the table the day of the Bazaar. If you have any items and/or can help, please call Maryann at 3244.

The *Religious Goods Table* is looking for donations. Items such as rosaries, pictures, statues and books would be appreciated. Items may be left at the Rectory or call Terry Grzybinski at 767-4937 if they need to be picked up.

Fresh baked goods are needed for our *Baked Goods Table*. They can be dropped off in the School Lobby from 3 – 5PM on Friday, November 20th or at the Bake Table on Saturday morning.

The *South Shore Polar Express* is leaving Saturday, December 5th from the Kingston MBTA station. There are 4 tickets for the 1:30PM train and 4 for the 4:00PM train. The chances are 1 for \$5 and 3 for \$10. The lucky winners will be drawn at the parish bazaar. For more information or for chances call Nancy at 767-4539 or Louise at 767-0380.

Parish Grand Annual Collection

Thank you! With a total of **\$25,470**, we are gradually drawing closer to our goal of **\$38,000!** If you are in a position to make a gift but have not as of yet, will you please consider one? I am humbly asking each household to prayerfully consider what contribution they can make toward our parish needs and to use our envelopes (*as a way for me to thank each family personally*).

SING TO THE LORD!

The Music Ministry of St. Joseph Parish is in the process of creating a Children's Choir for the boys and girls in our parish who are in grades 3-6. There will be an informational meeting for interested children and their parents on:

Sunday November 15th at 12:30pm in St. Charles Hall. The first rehearsal will be **Monday November 16** from 4 to 5pm in the church choir loft. Please contact Mrs. Laura Grant with questions at 781-767-1469.

November 15 Second Collection

Cardinal O'Malley has authorized a special second collection in all parishes to assist with the Catholic Relief Services emergency response to those affected by the typhoons, earthquakes, floods and landslides in the Pacific Rim, Philippines, India, Indonesia and Samoa. Monetary assistance is needed to guarantee desperately needed medical supplies, food and drinking water reach the most vulnerable people quickly. Please be as generous as your means allow.

Bringing Teens and Youth to Christ

The following is a list of activities within the next month that will help bring our young people and teens to Christ. We need YOU to be with US.

November 9th Continued collaboration meeting with Office of New Evangelization

November 10th Pottery Night for all ages (call Kelli O'Leary 781 767 0971)

November 16th World Youth Day Information Sessions

November 21st Parish Bazaar (Confirmation students assisting with all activities)

November 22nd Instructional Mass/Class for grades 7, 8, 9 and families (4-5:30 pm). All family members are strongly encouraged to attend

November 25th Mass of Gratitude 6pm - All ages participate in this Liturgy

November 30th 7pm CYM Steering Committee Meeting

December 2nd Trip to LIFT Night - Bus provided as LIFT's Praise and Worship Night is brought to St. Thomas Aquinas in Bridgewater. First come, first served for the bus. Grade 7 and up are invited as well as any other parishioners interested in LIFT. (Call Maura Burke at 781 767 0563)

December 6th Grades 7 & 8 (9-noon) student and parent trip to Jason Everett Presentation.

Flu Season / H1N1

Thank you for accepting the modifications we have made in our Eucharistic celebration. I can appreciate that temporarily eliminating the very familiar handshake at the sign of peace and stopping the distribution of the Most Precious Blood of Jesus will take some time to adjust to but it may deepen within us a greater yearning for true peace and His True Presence when we reinstitute them. Until then, prudent precautions are always helpful.

NOVEMBER 8, 2009

ST. JOSEPH SCHOOL

Coats for Kids

Once again Saint Joseph School students are collecting coats for Anton Cleaner's, Coats for Kids. We appreciate your donation of quality winter coats for kids, adults and babies. No tears, rips, missing buttons or zippers please. Donation boxes are set up in the school lobby. The coats are distributed by community agencies to those in need. Your generosity will keep a family or family member warm this winter!

High School Placement Test

The Catholic School High School Placement Test will be given November 14th.

Veteran's Wall of Heroes

Once again, Saint Joseph School is transforming the school lobby into a Veteran's Wall of Heroes. Students are asked to bring in photos of family members currently serving in the military service and those of past veterans. Photos will be on display through the month of November.

Thanksgiving Food Drive

The St. Joseph School community will be collecting food for the Holbrook Food Pantry. Food will be collected November 16th through November 20th. Anyone wishing to contribute food for the donation may do so by dropping it off at the school. Thank you!

Natures Classroom

Once again, St. Joseph School fifth and sixth grade students will be participating in a week long learning experience, *Natures Classroom*. This year students will be with Sr. Paula Mayer at the Charlton, MA, *Natures Classroom's* site, from December 7th through December 11th.

Team III under the direction of Tracy Callahan will volunteer at Bingo on Friday, November 13th.

Holbrook's Annual Scouting for Food Drive

Please watch for white plastic bags to be delivered to your home on Saturday, November 14th. If you can make a donation of non-perishables, please put them in the bag and leave the bag out on Sunday November 15th in the early morning. A volunteer will be around to collect the bags, starting around 11AM. If you would like to help, please call Gene Santorelli at 781-767-0043.

Advertiser of the Week

Thank you for patronizing the services of our bulletin advertisers! This week we *thank* ***Townside Cleaners*** for advertising with us!

NOVEMBER 8, 2009

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

A big and grateful thank you to everyone who prayed for the success of our 9th grade Confirmation retreat last weekend, the students had an enriching and faith filled day of reflection, prayer and worship. A special thank you to Teen Alpha Director Gidgette Farrell and her awesome retreat team of adults and peer leaders (High School Senior and parishioner Jared Ward among them!). God is Good!

Coming Soon: The Religious Education Program hopes to soon establish a program for special education (ages 6-22). If you know of a student who may be interested or are an adult who can volunteer, please call Maura Burke at 781 767 0563.

Baby Blankets for Charity

Looking for a morning of inspiration, laughter, community, and service? Join our group, Blanket Bundles, as we make baby blankets for pregnant women and women with babies living in local area shelters. We'll be making baby quilts, as well as fleece tie blankets. Instructions and material packets already cut and ready to piece together, will be provided. We simply need volunteers to sew, tie, or even just press! **No sewing experience needed.** Please join us on Sat. Nov 14th from 9-1 in St. Charles Hall. For more information contact Judy Berry at blanketbundles@gmail.com or 781-885-2082 or visit www.BlanketBundles.org.

LIFT – Catholic Worship for a NEW Generation

Join us for LIFT - an exciting monthly worship event which includes vibrant praise and worship music, dynamic, challenging speakers and Eucharistic Adoration. LIFT is for all ages - from young adults to adults to teens to entire families. Be with us Tuesday, November 10th from 7 - 9pm at Fontbonne Academy, Milton as we welcome Fr. Tom DiLorenzo as our guest speaker. Come join in worship with hundreds of Catholics from around the Boston area!

Project Rachel

Do you know someone who is carrying grief and sorrow over past abortions? **Project Rachel** is the post-abortion ministry of the Catholic Church to help those dealing with the pain of abortion. The Archdiocese of Boston's **Project Rachel** will offer a "*Come to the Waters*" post abortion healing retreat on Saturday, November 21, 2009 from 9:00 am – 5:00 pm. For more information and registration, contact **Project Rachel** at 508.651.3100 or go to www.projectrachelboston.com.

St. Michael, Avon Parish Bazaar

Saturday, November 14 from 9AM to 4PM

Sunday, November 15 from 9AM to 2PM