

Greetings!

“Then they will see the Son of Man!”

“Come, Lord do not delay.” I know for some this sounds a little too ‘rushed’ because this prayer might suggest we skip the next four weeks leading to the holyday of Christmas when many need the time to finish all of their shopping but this has always been the prayer of the *Universal Church* and will be until the end of time. And yet, this prayer doesn’t really suggest an action of the Lord ‘to do’ as much as it becomes a part of our ‘to do’ list. Let me explain.

This plea of the Church anticipates the promise of the Lord that he will come again bringing an end of the world as we know it and a beginning of the final judgment. This promise of Jesus is that he will come again in all his glory, a moment that will be known to all the world (*believer and non-believer*) and for which no one will deny. We anticipate this during each Mass when the priest prays after the *Our Father*, “..until he comes in glory.” (*Until then, Jesus will continually manifest himself in his Eucharistic Presence.*) But, we don’t need to wait until then to see him!

Just reciting these words (*over and over*) helps us yearn for Jesus more and more. It recognizes that we are not complete without Him. It is as if just the recitation of such a plea affirms that this world holds no satisfaction or resolution to our real needs (*healing, reconciliation, relationship, renewal*) and that we cannot be truly happy until our eyes are set upon him. We once again desire to prepare to receive the one who became like us in all things except sin so that we might become like him in all things divine. And, this is why we celebrate Christmas every year ... we yearn to see the innocent eyes of the Christ-Child who has saved us! But this prayer for the Lord ‘to come’ is really a statement on our part that our souls are free of sin and division, and ready to *greet* him when he comes.

So, what’s with the ‘to do list’? Well, although I’m sure you have many lists, and children in your households are adding to it even more and more at this time of year, might I invite you to add to it the *Sacrament of Confession*? I know it may have been awhile, some feel awkward, a few might be embarrassed and others might think “*I can’t tell this to a priest.*”

To this end, several parishioners have suggested different times for confessions here that might be more helpful. So, I would like to offer confessions the four Sundays of Advent after the Sunday 9:30am Mass (10:30am-11:15am) in the Church confessional, and the three Saturdays of Advent (December 5, 12 & 19) after the daily Mass (from 9:30-10:15am) in the Convent Chapel. As always, there are many great priests in area parishes (*if you prefer not to see me*) as well as the priests at xxx Chapel, Brockton who will gently guide you through making a great, healing confession and truly prepare you for the coming of Christ more deeply in your hearts.

But please always remember, the Lord loves you, desires to heal you and prepare you to see him!
God bless!

Mass Intentions for the Week


Saturday, November 28th

4:00PM	Sharon Riendeau	10 th Anniversary
	Leo & Dolores Riendeau	Memorial Mass

Sunday, November 29th

7:30AM	Parishioners of St. Joseph Parish	
9:30AM	Kay-Louise Campion	2 nd Anniversary
11:30AM	Charles & Catherine Dana	Memorial Mass

Tuesday, December 1st

9:00AM	Gertrude Drey	1 st Anniversary
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Saturday, December 5th

9:00AM	Mary & Matthew Lynch	Memorial Mass
4:00PM	Hugh Smith	8 th Anniversary

Sunday, December 6th

7:30AM	Jeffrey Currie	Birthday Memorial
9:30AM	Dorothy Bryan	9 th Anniversary
11:30AM	Kenneth Milbery	3 rd Anniversary

♪♪ *Sing to the Lord for Christmas!* ♪♪

Were you ever in or have you ever considered joining the Adult Choir but singing all year is too much of a commitment? This may be the joy-filled opportunity you’ve been waiting for! Please join the Adult Choir this year for Christmas! This involves only 4 rehearsals:

7pm Thursday December 3 and 10;
7pm Friday December 18 and 7pm Wednesday December 23
All in preparation for the Christmas Eve 6pm Mass,
Thursday December 24!

Please join us in the Choir Loft Thursday December 3rd at 7pm. Contact Choir Director Steve Williams with questions.

and

We are looking for some musical teens interested in enhancing the Midnight Liturgy on Christmas Eve.

We need singers and instrumentalists to participate before Mass at 11:30pm and also for singing during Mass.

Rehearsals will be held in December.

Please contact Mrs. Laura Grant 781-767-1469 or Stephen Williams 781-767-2763 or talk to us at church if interested.

Christmas Trees

Boy Scout Troop 153-Holbrook is selling Christmas Trees starting December 4th next to the former Good Brothers Ford on S. Main St. (Rte. 28) in Randolph. The Scouts will be selling the trees on Fridays from 4 – 9pm., Saturdays from 8am to 9pm and Sundays from 8am – 6pm.

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

COMPREHENSIVE YOUTH MINISTRY PROGRAM

Reminder: There is a meeting of the Youth Group Steering Committee Monday November 30th at 7pm in the school cafeteria.

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 30th 7pm CYM Steering Committee Meeting

December 2nd Trip to LIFT Night (see below)

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

LIFT goes on the road: The energetic praise and worship program LIFT will be at St. Thomas Aquinas in Bridgewater on Wednesday December 2 from 7-9 pm. We invited ALL students and their parents grade 7 and up to join us as well as any interested parishioner. This is a unique opportunity for adoration, dynamic speakers and uplifting music, all geared to our young people. We will have a bus leave from St. Joseph and it will be first come, first served. Please call Maura Burke at 781 767 0563 ASAP so you may get a spot on the bus.

God of the City Tour: November 30 – December 4

Join LIFT Ministries and the Office for the New Evangelization of Youth & Young Adults for the God of this City Tour coming to the Archdiocese of Boston November 30 – December 4. Each night will feature praise & worship music, dynamic speakers, confessions and Eucharistic Adoration. Please join us at a parish near you each night from 7 -9PM. We hope to see YOU there!

Monday	St. Joseph, Wakefield with speaker Fr. Matt Williams
Tuesday	St. Paul, Wellesley with speaker Bob Gill
Wednesday	St. Thomas Aquinas, Bridgewater with speaker Sr. Olga
Thursday	St. Augustine, Andover with speaker Fr. John Capuci
Friday	Cathedral of the Holy Cross in Boston with Cardinal Seán O'Malley

Details can be found at www.godofthiscitytour.com.

Upcoming: There is a ski trip being planned for Monday, December 28th to Gunstock Mountain in NH for students in grades 7 and up. Please contact Sue Crowley at 781 767 1572 or Maura Burke at 781 767 0563.

Parish Grand Annual Collection

Thank you! We have received over **\$27,590** towards our annual goal of **\$38,000**, and envelopes are still coming in! Certainly, a pledge may be paid over any period of time you wish and you can place your envelope in the regular (*first*) collection basket or return it to the rectory. Whatever you give will go to renovating the lower and upper Church this year to provide more space for our adult and youth activities.



The following children were baptized in November:

Keagan Thomas Burke
Madeleine Grace Colomb
Sean Patrick Duggan
Julia Irene Lemire
Charlotte Elizabeth Madden
Jason Michael Mikula
Madelyn Rose Murphy

Congratulations! We are ever thankful to the parents of these children who promise to teach them the ways of Jesus and lead them in the Catholic faith! We support you always.

Pray for your Priests!

During this Year for Priests, The Vocation Office is happy to announce that the Serra Boston Vocation Club is initiating the "Adopt-a-Priest Apostolate" where Faithful throughout the Archdiocese spiritually adopt a priest presently working in the Archdiocese of Boston for one year. Those participating are given (by random in a sealed envelope) the name of a priest presently living or working in the Archdiocese, prayer cards and a prayer booklet and are asked to pray for the particular intentions and ministry of that priest. This is a great way to support our Priests and to promote a Culture of Vocations. Would you please consider this important prayer mission? For more information or to be assigned a priest of the Archdiocese to pray for on a daily basis, please call 978-462-1057 (ask for Loretta Gallagher-President of Serra) or go to: www.serraboston.org or www.vocationsboston.org. You can also call Father Dan Hennessey at the Vocation Office at 617-746-5949 or email him at Dhennessey@rcab.org for more information. Thank you and have a great day.

Parish Giving

I am very thankful for every gift that helps us do all that we do here, and I am grateful that some parishioners are able to help by increasing their weekly giving knowing a good number of families in our parish have been greatly affected by the loss of jobs and income. The first collection for last week was **\$3,294**. The second collection for the Campaign for Human Development was **\$1,171**. Thank you for your financial commitment to our parish life!

Advent

This Sunday is the first *Sunday of Advent!* What a beautiful season it is to prepare for the celebration of the Birth of Our Lord. We will have many traditional as well as new ways here at Church to celebrate this season, and I hope over the upcoming holiday weekend you might begin to help your children prepare by decorating your house in new and old ways! See the Advent Wreath Prayer & Blessing insert.

NOVEMBER 29, 2009

ST. JOSEPH SCHOOL

Did you know that St. Joseph School promotes its strong anti-bullying policy with daily recitation of its anti-bullying pledge, enrichment programs, posters & instructional lessons?

School Liturgy

The next school liturgy will be the 9:00 Mass Friday, December 4th, led by the students in Mrs. Gail McCarthy's sixth grade class. Mrs. Karol McCarthy and Sister Paula will be in charge of the liturgical music.

Christmas Pageant & Christmas Concert

Mark your calendar! The students in Mrs. Rose and Mrs. Ciardi's kindergarten classes will hold their Christmas Pageant Friday, December 11th in St. Charles Hall at 10 AM. Also, the students in kindergarten through grade eight will participate in the annual Christmas Concert on Wednesday, December 16th in the church. Students in Mrs. McCarthy's piano class will perform at the concert. Traditional as well as contemporary Christmas Carols will be sung setting the mood of the season. Please join us for the festivities!

Holiday Lottery Sale

Holiday Lottery Calendars can be purchased at the school office for \$10.00 each. Perfect as a stocking stuffer!

Timber Lanes Abington

The St. Joseph School Parent Organization invites you to join them at Timber Lanes in Abington on Friday, December 11th from 4-6 pm. Tickets can be purchased at the school office and cost \$10.00. We hope to see you there!

A special thank you!

In November, the school lobby was transformed into a Veteran's Wall of Heroes. A special thank you to Michele Ford for her work!

MSPCA – Angell

St. Joseph School, spear headed by seventh grade students Lucas Mancuso and George Kelley, is holding a blanket drive to keep animals warm this winter. new and used blankets (no larger than 6x8 ft, clean, no holes.) are being collected in the school lobby until December 18th.

Team II under the direction of Michele DeFalco will volunteer at Bingo on Friday, December 4th.

Ramblewood Mass

There is a Mass at Ramblewood at 11AM on December 1st.

Advertiser of the Week

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

NOVEMBER 29, 2009

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

There will be **NO** CCD classes for any grade on Sunday, November 29th due to the Thanksgiving Holiday.

Paint Your Own Pottery - Family Nights

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 kelliolary@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.

To all Middle School Students:

We are looking for a catchy name for the newly formed Youth Group at St. Joseph's. We also need a logo to put on our letter head. Please submit your choices to st.joseph.re@comcast.net or give to your teacher. We need all entries by November 30th.

ALL ENTRIES WILL RECEIVE A PRIZE AS WELL AS A GRAND PRIZE WINNER!!

Men's Clothing Drive

There will be a Men's Clothing Drive for St. Francis House on the weekend of December 12/13. Donations may be left downstairs in St. Charles Hall. Clothing that is needed:

Gently used pants, jeans & sweatshirts

Winter jackets, hats and gloves

Sneakers, shoes & boots

NEW T-shirts, crew socks and thermal underwear

Parish Bazaar

Thank you! What a wonderful daylong celebration we had this weekend! Please let me publically thank Tim & Sara Stinson, chairs of this year's Bazaar, and the countless '*unsung*' heroes who worked tirelessly behind the scenes for many weeks to make this day a great success! What a great tradition this has become in our parish!

Cross International Thank You

On behalf of the poor of the Third World, Cross International thanks you for hosting Fr. Patrick Collins, on the weekend of October 31st. Please accept our gratitude for the generosity of your parishioners notwithstanding the economic challenges we face. Cross International Catholic Outreach strives to create a stronger link between the churches of the First world and their counterparts in the Third World. Your gifts empower the church overseas to extend their outreaches to the poor.

Jim Cavnar, President