

Greetings!

“Rejoice and be glad!”

“I am.” “I will.” “I do.” (No, I’m not rambling.) These are the responses of a couple exchanging wedding vows, of which we have delightfully had several in the last month including two this past Saturday. And even though I have witnessed well over one hundred marriages myself, I still think of each one as special as it is always a beautiful moment for me no matter how simple or elaborate it may be. Not that I don’t pay attention to the details that make up such celebrations and appreciate the incredible amount of time that is involved in planning this moment, I do recognize at the heart of every wedding is the unconditional commitment made “unto death do we part.” It is this free exchange of unconditional love between a man and woman that establishes the Sacrament (*and not the priest as is often thought*), and seeks to imitate the more powerful unconditional covenant that Christ makes with us (*his Church*) and we make with Christ (*the Bridegroom*).

This past week, I received word that a friend had died. She suffered greatly throughout her 50 years of life from physical, mental, emotional and spiritual trials. Although she was a very accomplished lawyer, her career was eventually derailed because of several physical disabilities, a plaguing mental illness that robbed her of her memory, emotional bouts of paranoia, and the constant need of an oxygen tank. She would often call in the middle of the night in a fit of neurosis or fear of being suicidal. (*You may have seen her occasionally at our Masses although she was not a parishioner.*)

Though living off a disability check she would often give to the weekly collection the only five dollars she had in her pocket even though she could not pay for what amounted to very expensive doctors’ bills, medications or food for her own table. She would often ask that I give this money to someone “*less fortunate than her,*” our youth program or sometimes a cup of coffee for me. But even more amazing was the way in which she embraced the cross she carried, regularly receiving the Sacrament of Confession with more repentance for simple misgivings than I had for my grave sins.

She would beg God for forgiveness for the times she felt she let Him down for not carrying this cross or when she questioned why He would allow her to be stripped of what she thought was one of her greatest gifts: her mind (*and she was brilliant*). Yet, she was an incredible disciple whose unconditional commitment to Jesus has surely gained her the reward of eternal life.

When we read of the Beatitudes in today’s Gospel, I think of Kathy Bryan who in the eyes of the world might have seemed to be just an unfortunate, tortured soul, but who in fact taught me true discipleship and generosity. Kathy, may you rest in peace for truly, “*your reward is great in heaven.*”

God bless!

Mass Intentions for the Week

Saturday, October 31st

4:00PM	Timothy Morelli	2 nd Anniversary
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Sunday, November 1st

7:30AM	Malvina Palermo	8 th Anniversary
9:30AM	Kevin G. Sullivan	2 nd Anniversary
11:30AM	Kristopher Carew	9 th Anniversary

Wednesday, November 4th

9:00AM	Joseph Dente	6 th Anniversary
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Thursday, November 5th

9:00AM	Monthly Parish Eucharistic Society
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Friday, November 6th

9:00AM	Richard Powers	5 th Anniversary
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Saturday, November 7th

9:00AM	Memorial Mass for Deceased this year
4:00PM	Edward & Mary McNeil & Amelia Karam
	Memorial Mass

Sunday, November 8th

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

In Memoriam

For the Month of November

The Hosts and Wine have been donated
in memory of
Fernand Vachon
by the Vachon Family

Memorial Offerings in memory of a deceased relative or friend are available monthly for the Hosts, Wine, Sanctuary Lamp and Missalettes. Please call the Parish Office for further information.

Ramblewood Mass

There will be a Mass at Ramblewood on Tuesday, November 3rd at 11AM. All are welcome!

VIRTUS TRAINING

VIRTUS (Protecting God’s Children) is an awareness and education session mandatory for volunteers involved in parish ministry. There is a VIRTUS training session at:

St. Mary Parish Education Center, Randolph
Sunday, November 1st from 1 to 4:30PM
Call 781-961-5009 to register.

Bazaar News

The *Parish Bazaar* will take place **November 21**. Can you help? Many crafts, items and workers are necessary to make this year's Bazaar successful. 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. *Thank you!*

Please set aside items for the **White Elephant Table** and books, DVDs and videos for the **Book Table**. Drop off dates will be the weekends of **November 7/8 & 14/15 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. Get your chances after the Masses the next few weekends. 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.

Wedding  Banns

III. Kane Currey and Gina Ierardi

Congratulations! And let us joyfully pray for all our engaged-couples as they prepare for their marriage in Christ!

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 for the parishioners who have increased their giving at this time to help us all. The first offering for our Parish daily needs was **\$2,966** and the Second Collection for the Support of the School was **\$1,005**. The second collection next weekend is for the Capital Improvement Fund. Thank you for your financial commitment to our parish life!

Parish Grand Annual Collection

Thank you! After our fourth weekend, we have **\$24,023** pledged towards our *Parish Grand Annual Collection* goal of **\$38,000!** I am humbly asking each family or household to prayerfully consider what contribution they can make toward our growing parish life and needs, and to use our envelopes (*as a way for me to thank each family personally*).

Your pledge may be paid over any period of time you wish and you can place your envelope in the regular (*first*) collection basket during the month of October or return it to the rectory. An annual pledge of \$200 is \$4 a week. If your means may allow a larger sacrificial gift, I am very grateful. Yet, whatever offering each individual or family might make will help us renovate the lower and upper Church this year to provide more space for our youth and adult activities as well as our spiritual needs!

Flu Season / H1N1

Please find an insert in today's bulletin with a request from the Archdiocesan Office for Worship and Spiritual Life regarding a temporary stay in extending a handshake at the sign of peace and in the distribution of the Most Precious Blood of Jesus at the time of Holy Communion, as well as purification of holy water fonts as precautionary steps. It is the desire of Cardinal Sean that we do all that we can to minimize any potential spread of the flu. Thank you for accepting this request.

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, St. Charles Hall. For more information contact Judy Berry at blanketbundles@gmail.com or 781-885-2082 or visit www.BlanketBundles.org.

NOVEMBER 1, 2009

ST. JOSEPH SCHOOL

School Liturgy

The next school liturgy will be the 9:00 Mass on November 6th led by the students in Mrs. Andrew's fourth grade class. We hope to see you there!

Veteran's Wall of Heroes

Once again, Saint Joseph School will be 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 during the month of November.

Thank you!

The faculty and staff of St. Joseph School would like to thank anyone who participated in or contributed to the recent golf tournament. It was a great success and monies from the tournament will be used to upgrade the student playground.

Virtue of the Month

The virtue for the month of November is *perseverance* with students studying the lives of St. Peter, St. Monica and St. Patrick.

Team II under the direction of Michele DeFalco will volunteer at Bingo on Friday, November 6th.

Advertiser of the Week

Thank you for patronizing the services of our bulletin advertisers! This week we *thank Marotta's Landscaping* for advertising with us!

Holbrook Rotary/Cub Scout Pack 56 Pancake Breakfast

When: November 8, 7:30AM to Noon
Where: K of C Hall, Holbrook
Cost: Family \$20, Adults \$6
Children 4 – 12 \$4 Children 3 and under free
Call for tickets: Marlene (767-1888), Shirley (767-4314), Jackie (781-573-1410) or Ted (767-1220).



**St. Mary Catholic Cemetery
Garden Mausoleum & Columbarium
245 North St., Randolph, MA 02368**

*Announcing
New Spaces available*

**Immediate no-interest financing & pre-need
discounted arrangements available.**

Call **781-961-9323** or visit our Web-site @:

saintmarycemetery.org

*Receive a \$100 purchase discount with this coupon.
Offer expires on 9-1-09. Other discounts may apply.*

NOVEMBER 1, 2009

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

There will be no CCD for grades 3-6 on Sunday morning November 1st as the staff will all be with our 9th grade Confirmation Students at their annual retreat. There will be class for grade 7 and 8 at 6:15PM as usual.

We ask your prayers for our students and retreat team members as they spend the day in praise and worship of the Holy Spirit.

Next week on November 8th the 9:30 Mass will feature the fifth grade classes of Religious Education.

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.

COSMIC BOWLING FUNDRAISER

Come and bring your family & friends to an afternoon of fun for all ages while raising money for

St. Joseph Parish Comprehensive Youth Ministry

Friday November 6, 2009

4-6pm

TIMBER LANES

460 Bedford St. (Rt. 18) Abington

*Purchase Tickets at the door
or after Mass this weekend*

Tickets are \$10 each and include shoes.

Contact Laura Grant with questions at 781-767-1469.



The **Choose Life License Plate** is a wonderful way to raise public awareness and much needed funding to support the positive choices of Life, Adoption and Safe Havens for unwanted pregnancies and newborns.

Our campaign for the **Choose Life License Plate** has been largely successful. In order to get the choose life license plate approved in MA we need 1,500 more people to register. This requires 3 e-z steps (1) Fill out the application (you can find it at www.machoose-life.org); (2) write a check for \$40 payable to The Registry of Motor Vehicles and (3) Send check & application to: 25 Fairmount Ave. Wakefield, MA, 01880-2225. Questions can be referred to Merry Nordeen at (781) 224-0404.