

Greetings!

“It is not good for the man to be alone!”

“It happens every time!” In fact, I’m sure it happens to you occasionally or maybe even for some of you more often. It’s when you look at some old pictures and videos (*or now a days videos of pictures*) that you see some people living but older, some people no longer living and, quite possibly, even some who are living but no longer around. And, ... you become a bit sentimental or even teary-eyed.

It seems recently that I’ve been asked quite a lot to either bless newly-engaged couples, pray with newly married couples who are expecting or want to conceive a child, or speak with a person who is struggling in their marriage. Some inquiries have been if I could offer a blessing after Mass for a 40th or 50th anniversary of someone’s mom and dad, drop-by a family gathering to bless an 80, 90 or 95 year-old grandparent, or remember a dying family member in my prayers. And not just a few beautiful requests have been to bring Viaticum and/or the Sacrament of the Sick to a dying family member or remember someone on the anniversary date of their loved one’s death. (*Of course, even though you have only one priest now it is a privilege to honor as many requests as I can knowing how important these moments are to you.*)

I’m sure no one would deny how important family is or deny the challenges of family life (*unless of course you’ve heard what it’s like to have me as a brother and then any family situation would appear not so bad*). But in fact it is God alone who created family when he commanded (*yes, this is really the first commandment in the Bible*) that man and woman leave their father and mother “*and the two of them become one flesh*”. This establishes the beginning of married life and the very relationship the Lord intends to be the source of human life: *the gift of children*. The vocation to marriage and family life is truly most blessed even though (*as I share the wisdom of married-couples with quite a few engaged-couples now preparing for marriage here at St. Joseph*) “*it takes work*”.

But herein lies the reason why Jesus gave us the Sacramental life: Baptism, Reconciliation, Eucharist, Confirmation, Marriage, Holy Orders and Anointing of the Sick: *we need God’s grace to live the life we’re called to!* And, the more we receive Sacraments (*especially Reconciliation and Eucharist*) the more we are healed and strengthened for this life.

In the United States, the month of October has become designated for Pro-Life works and prayer. As a Church and a Nation, we remain focused on the One Himself who created life and gave life its purpose and blessing. Certainly, we could speak much about the continued travesty of abortion and its grave effects on a child, a mother and a father. We could discuss much how destructive embryonic stem cell research and cloning are to the human dignity of life. And, we can always conference on the ways the surrounding culture has inflicted such dreadful influences

upon our children, teens, marriages and family life so much so that they are starving for *real* life and happiness. Yet, isn’t it most refreshing and enlightening when we hear the ‘*voice*’ of God today recall for us the true purpose for our creation and He reinvigorates us with his grace to ‘*begin again*’ our resolve to live happy, healthy and holy lives ... for ourselves and for one another?

Let us be thankful for our very lives and the gift of faith, and pray for healing for all family life especially those in our own parish and town community.

As always, thank you for all that each of you do to help our parish grow in Spirit and Body!

God bless!

Parish Grand Annual Collection

This weekend, we take a moment to look to our growing parish life and the many needs we have to help spread the Gospel in our own lives and especially in those of our young people. I ask every family to prayerful pledge toward our *Parish Grand Annual Collection*. Your pledge can be paid over any period of time you wish and will help us in renovating the lower and upper Church to both provide more space for our youth and adult activities as well as our spiritual needs. A pledge of \$200 is \$4 a week. If your means allow a larger sacrificial gift, I am very grateful. Yet, whatever offering each individual and family might make will help us achieve this year’s parish goal of \$38,000.

Year of the Priest

During this year of prayer for all priests throughout the world, please remember to pray for Fr. Matt and our seminarians, Charles and Mammias, as well as for me and the young men of our parish who God has generously called to the great life of priesthood.

In Memoriam

For the Month of October

The Hosts and Wine have been donated
in memory of
the Moores-Connolly Families
by the Moores Family
and

The Missalettes have been donated
in memory of
Mickey Cahill
by Carol Cahill

Memorial Offerings

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.

Mass  for the
Intentions  Week

Saturday, October 3rd

4:00PM George, Richard & Phillip Beaulieu &
Eugene Harrington Memorial Mass

Sunday, October 4th

7:30AM Respect Life
9:30AM Florence Morrell 1st Anniversary
11:30AM John Kennedy 6th Anniversary

Monday, October 5th

9:00AM Parishioners of St. Joseph Parish

Wednesday, October 7th

9:00AM Intentions of Our Lady

Friday, October 9th

9:00AM All the Holy Souls in Purgatory

Saturday, October 10th


4:00PM Roland Marx Memorial Mass

Sunday, October 11th

7:30AM Vocations to the Priesthood
9:30AM Marion O'Brien Memorial Mass
11:30AM Parishioners of St. Joseph

Women's Cursillo

The Archdiocesan Cursillo Movement is offering a *Women's Cursillo* from Thursday evening, October 22, 2009 through Sunday afternoon, October 25, 2009 at the *Marist Retreat House* in Framingham MA. *Cursillo* is a short course in Christianity, which offers the participants a vibrant experience of the Christian Life and a method for living as an active member of the Church. For information and registration, please call the *Office of Worship and Spiritual Life* at 617-779-3640 or email us at spiritual_development@rcab.org.

Wedding  Banns

- I. Wilbert Caristhene and Magdala Abelard
- II. Joseph Allen and Nicole Arata

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

Advertiser of the Week

Thank you for patronizing the services of our bulletin advertisers! This week we *thank Cartwright Funeral Homes* for advertising with us!

Bazaar News

The *Parish Bazaar* will take place the weekend of **November 20/21**. Can you help? Many crafts and items will be necessary to make this year's Bazaar successful for our parish. Please call the rectory if you can help with one of the many teams or can donate an item or two. *Thank you!*

Please set aside items for the **White Elephant Table** and the **Book Table**. Drop off dates will be the 2 weekends preceding the Bazaar.

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.

Thank You! Thank You! Thank You!

Soon you will notice some outdoor statues being installed on our grounds. They are a gift from the people of St. Casimir Parish, Brockton and Fr. Lou Palmieri, whose parish received all of St. Casimir's net assets when it closed.

I'd like to thank Mr. Al Kerr for donating his time and effort transporting the statues and Mr. Steve McCauley who has generously agreed to install them for us. Please let them know of your gratitude.

Catholic Pastoral Visitors

The Catholic Pastoral Care Office of Signature-Healthcare Brockton Hospital invites you to become part of the Catholic Pastoral Visitors program. We minister to the sick through prayer, visitation and /or the offering of daily Eucharist. The chill of sickness can often be a challenge for patients and their families. Your presence incarnates the warmth of Christ and the care of the local parish community. Please consider joining us in this ministry. Contact Sr. Barbara Harrington at 508-941-7000 x 2550.

Parish Giving

Thank you! Last weekend's first collection for our daily operations was **\$3,981** and the second collection for Support of the School was **\$1,348**. Thank you for your generosity and making a strong commitment to our parish life!

OCTOBER 4, 2009

ST. JOSEPH SCHOOL

School Liturgy

The next school liturgy will be the 9:00am Mass Friday, October 9th led by the students in Mrs. Paglierani's third grade class. The theme of the Mass is friendship. Grade three students will represent the school welcoming all new students to the St. Joseph School community. Parents, grandparents, guardians and parishioners are asked to join in this celebration!

Scholastic Book Fair

Saint Joseph School will hold their Scholastic Book Fair Monday, October 5th through Wednesday, October 7th. On Monday the book fair hours will be extended until 3:00 PM for parents, guardians and friends to shop.

Student Photos

On Thursday, October 8th, Hayward Studios will be at Saint Joseph School to take individual student photos. Students are to come to school dressed up or in uniform.

Family Harvest Dance

The St. Joseph School Parent Organization will be holding a Family Harvest Dance Saturday, October 17th from 5-8 pm. We hope to see you there!

Virtue of the Month

The virtue for the month of October is friendship. Students will study the lives of St. Clare & St. Francis of Assisi, St. Vincent de Paul and St. Louise de Mariallac.

Team II under the direction of Michele DeFalco will volunteer at Bingo on Friday, October 9th.

CRAFT FAIR

ST. MARY PARISH, RANDOLPH

St. Mary Parish, Randolph will host their Sixth Annual Craft Fair on Sunday, November 8th from 8:30am to 3:00pm. Registrations are now available for crafters interested in renting table space. The price is \$35 for one table and \$60 for two tables. For a registration form please contact Robyn at 781-986-7790.

Mental Illness Awareness Week: October 4 – 10

Day of Prayer: Tuesday, October 6

The Office for Persons with Disabilities of the Archdiocese of Boston is encouraging Catholic observance of the annual Mental Illness Awareness Week and the National Day of Prayer for Mental Illness Recovery and Understanding which is held in October. This national effort is designed to promote pastoral sensitivity to, and inclusion of, individuals and their family members who are affected by mental illness. For more information call 617-746-5679.

OCTOBER 4, 2009

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.

COMPREHENSIVE YOUTH MINISTRY PROGRAM

Middle School Youth Rally on October 17th at Xaverian Bothers High School in Westwood. This fun filled enriching day for middle schoolers is an excellent way for our youth to grow in their prayer life and experience their faith in a new and exciting way. **We strongly encourage all middle school students to take advantage of this fantastic opportunity.** Please contact Maura Burke for more details.

ARE **YOU** WONDERING HOW YOU MIGHT HELP OUR COMPREHENSIVE YOUTH MINISTRY PROGRAM GROW? Some upcoming events already planned for fall include a Pro Life Walk with other Catholics on Boston Common on October 4th, an Archdiocesan Middle School Youth Rally on Oct. 17, a Cosmic Bowling Night and a possible Halloween Costume Party/Dance. We need **STUDENTS** committed to attending these events and **ADULTS** who will chaperone and be in charge of these events.

Also needed are adults to commit to one Friday night a month to sell popcorn at Bingo from 6-7:30. We hope to establish a drop-in center for our youth one night a week where they can hang out, do their homework and have pizza and prayer. **WILL YOU PRAY ABOUT BEING INVOLVED IN THESE EVENTS? We need YOU to make things happen!** Call Maura Burke at 781 767 0563 or speak with Fr. Ed.

Paint your own Pottery!

When: Monday, October 5
Time: 5:30 – 9:30PM – You can come and go
Where: South Shore Pottery Shop, Abington
Cost: \$12 plus cost of piece you are painting
Tickets need to be purchased in advance as there is limited seating For tickets or further information you can contact Kelli O’Leary at 781-767-0971 or kelliolery@verizon.net. This event is to help support St. Joseph’s Youth Program.

Ramblewood Mass

There will be a Mass at Ramblewood on Tuesday, October 6th at 11AM. All are welcome!