St. John is a Stewardship Parish

February 2, 2014 The Presentation of the Lord

Saturday, February 1st

4:00 – No intention <u>Sunday, February 2nd</u> 8:00 – No Intention 9:30 – Colleen Beltramini – 1st Anniversary 11:30 – Christopher Thompson – 17th Anniversary <u>Saturday, February 8, 2014</u> 4:00 – No Intentions <u>Sunday, February 9, 2014</u> No Intentions

Important Dates

Sun. 2/1 – Scout Sunday – 9:30 Mass – Coffee/Conversation after Mass Sat & Sun, 2/8&9 – LOLLIPOP SALE Sat. 2/8 – ST. John's Day of Service Sat 2/9 – Gr 2 Commitment Mass – 9:30 No CCD DURING THE FEBRUARY VACATION

Please keep the following in your prayers:

Pam Adornato, Mei Connelly, Dottie & Eddie Younis, Lillian Wedge, Richard Cerci, Michael MacDonald, Susan Lynch, Roy Conrad, Mark DeLuca, Michael Terry, Karen Villa, Harvey Day, Audrey Ribero, Toni McGrail, Scott Zabrek, Bill Maloney, Jerry Paluch, Mark Schatzl, Shane Thompson, John Gomes, George Little

Anyone on the envelope or on-line giving systems, please contact the Rectory if you need your 2013 contribution statement for taxes.

The Society of St. Vincent de Paul in the Archdiocese of Boston is currently searching for an experienced Chief Financial Officer. The CFO will be responsible for all financial aspects of the Society including donated goods, operations and charity programs. As the only Finance individual he/she will be responsible for all accounting and finance functions. Please forward resume and salary requirements to: hr@svdpboston.org by February 28, 2014. January 26, 2014 \$5,403.00 Grand Annual: \$23,390 Weekly Collection Budgeted: \$5,882.00 Deficit of: \$479 Utility & Energy: \$375 additional Churches in Latin America: \$1,520 Thank you for your continued generosity.

Our Shared Treasure

You're invited to the

St. John's Day of Service

Please join us for a day of helping our Parish and building excitement for our first Parish Mission Trip to Nashville.

Saturday, February 8

Any teenagers in Grade 8 and above are invited to join us for one of the two-hour shifts to make our Chapel Side Entrance a more welcoming area. This will be a wonderful opportunity for our Parish Teenagers to join us in making our side entrance a little brighter and more pleasant. 508-378-1521 for more details.

2014 Food Pantry Dates

St. John Conference – Society of St. Vincent de Paul St. John Church, 210 Central St., East Bridgewater, MA 508-378-3760 The Food Pantry is open in the church hall:

the first Monday from 3:00 to 6:00PM and the third Monday from 3:00 to 4:30PM (Holidays may affect the schedule)

January 6	January 20
February 3	February 17
March 3	March 24
April 7	April 21
May 5	May 19
June 2	June 16
July 7	July 21
August 4	August 18
September 8	September 22
October 6	October 20
November 3	November 17

(Thanksgiving Meal only November 24)
December 1
December 15

(Christmas Meal only December 22)

SHAWL MINISTRY

Shawls or lap robes were recently given to several people having heart operations, newborn babies, Norwood Hospital, Sachem and Island Terrace Nursing homes. We also contributed to the church baby shower.

The next meeting will be on Feb 9th at 3 o'clock at the Riddell Rd Hall. We can use yarn donations. Any question, call Rose Penney at 508-583-5045.

FOOD PANTRY

January is passing by very quickly and we apologize for taking this long to say Thank You. We were able to provide forty East Bridgewater families with a complete Christmas dinner because of your food and cash donations. You helped bring joy to many thankful families including young children to our elderly. We hope this year brings many blessing to us all. Our pantry shelves always need restocking. Right now we could use canned fruits and soups. Thank you again for your generosity.

Valentine Event at Miramar Retreat Center, Duxbury, MA

Miramar Retreat Center, 121 Parks St. Duxbury, will celebrate couples at an elegant Wine and Dine evening on <u>Friday, February 14 from 6;00-9:30 pm.</u> The evening includes a wine and cheese social, an elegant dinner prepared by the Miramar staff, and a romantic dessert. Between dinner and dessert Fred and Diane L'Ecuyer of Duxbury and Fr. Tom Griffith, SVD will offer a short presentation: "Making the Most of Your Marriage-Monogamy Doesn't Mean Monotony", all for \$85 per couple. Contact Miramar before Feb. 10th to make reservations, or for more information, call 781-585-2460 or go online at miramarretreat.org. Visa and Master Card accepted.



FAMILY LIFE

Will sponsor the annual lollipop sale Febuary 8th & 9th After each Mass



My Dear Friends in Christ,

Today's celebration, the "Feast of the Presentation of the Lord", has many names. Along with the aforementioned, it is also known as the "Feast of the Purification of Mary", the "Feast of Candlemas" and the "Feast of the Encounter". These various names recall the many aspects of today's feast, and help us to fully understand the impact of today's feast, situated as it is in Ordinary Time.

It is known as the "Feast of the Purification of Mary" due to the fact that this was the first public appearance of Mary since the birth of Jesus. This is not uncommon even in our own tradition, as up until a few years ago, the mother was considered "unchurched" (or "unclean") and unable to join the congregation until such time as she was "ready" to do so. It is known as the "Feast of Candlemas" as this is the day, traditionally, when candles created for church use are blessed. It is known as the "Feast of the Encounter" as it recounts the presence of Anna and Simeon, who "encounter" the Christ Child as He is presented in the

temple. It is, of course, primarily known as the "Feast of the Presentation" due to the fact that in Jewish religious culture, the first-born of Jewish parents is "presented" in the temple as an "offering" to God. Jesus, being the first (and only) born to Mary and Joseph is presented to Simeon. Simeon, for his part, offers a prayer to God which is to become known as the "Canticle of Simeon". It is this prayer that is offered in the "Liturgy" of the Hours" (the prayer of the Church, offered by priests throughout the day) during Night Prayer (the prayer offered by priests at the end of day). As Jesus is presented in the temple, He not only is presented to Anna and Simeon, but to us as well, as a "gift" to the People of God. May we "receive" with the excitement with which Anna and Simeon did. May we come to know the Lord as a "gift" to all of us. May we offer ourselves as a "gift" to God, ready to receive our "mission" to build up the People of God and God's Holy Church.

Have a Blessed Week, Fr. Paul