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St. John is a Stewardship Parish

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February 1, 2015  
Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Saturday, January 31, 2015

4:00 – Parishioners of St. John

Sunday, February 1, 2015

8:00 – Robert Robichaud &

Geneva Cashman -- Memorial

10:30 – Colleen Beltramini- 2<sup>nd</sup> Anniversary

6:00 – Parishioners of St. John

Saturday, February 7, 2015

4:00 – Parishioners of St. John

Sunday, February 8, 2015

8:00 – Parishioners of St. John

10:30 – Christopher Thompson – 18<sup>th</sup> Anniv.

6:00 – Wendel Harrington – 8<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

Important Dates

Mon. 2/2, 9, 16, 23, 3/2,9,16,23 – Bible Study – 7 PM

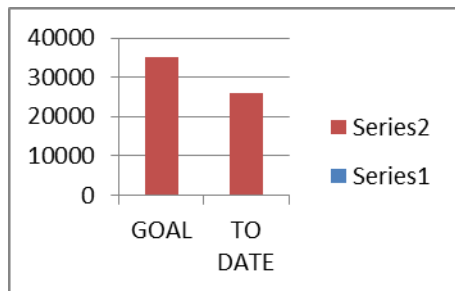
Sun. 2/1 – TEEN MASS – 6 PM

Wed. 2/18 –ASH WEDNESDAY

Fri. 2/20 – Simple Supper – 5:30 – 6:30

Fri. 2/ 27 – Deep Freeze Retreat

GRAND ANNUAL = Goal \$35,000



**Mass Intentions are available for all daily and Weekend Masses. An offering of \$25 is usually given.**

An individual may ask a priest to offer a Mass for several reasons: for example, in thanksgiving, for the intentions of another person (such as on a birthday), or, as is most common, for the repose of the soul of someone who has died. One must never forget the infinite graces that flow from the Sacrifice of the Mass which benefit one's soul.

Call the Rectory to schedule a mass for your loved ones.

*Our Shared Treasure*

*February 1, 2015*

*Last week*

*Yr-to-date*

Collection:	\$4,046.00	\$153,645.72
Budgeted	\$ 5,784.31	\$172,745.03
Excess/Short	\$ 1,738.31	\$ 19,099.31

The Church in Latin America -- \$1036.00

GRAND ANNUAL = Goal \$35,000 ; To-date \$26,301  
Only \$8,699 to go.

*2<sup>nd</sup> Collection - February 8 - Religious Education*

**Lenten Regulations**

**Abstinence** -- Catholics over 14 years of age are bound to the obligation of abstinence. Abstinence is to be observed on Ash Wednesday and on all Fridays of Lent. On days of abstinence, meat may not be used at all.

**Fast** -- Catholics over 18 and up to the beginning of their 60th year are bound to the obligation of fasting. Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are the days of fasting. On these days, only one full meal is allowed. Two other meatless meals, sufficient to maintain strength, may be taken according to each one's needs, but together they should not equal another full meal. Eating between meals is not permitted, but liquids, including milk and fruit juices are allowed.

Regarding other weekdays of Lent, participation in daily Mass and the voluntary observance of fasting is recommended.

**Almsgiving** -- Commendable, particularly during Lent, is generosity to local, national and world programs of sharing our abundance, the traditional Lenten Devotions and all the self-denial summed up in the Christian concept of "mortification."

***Please keep the following in your prayers:***

*Pam Adornato, Mei Connelly, Bill Monaghan, Nancy Belisle, Ann Storti, Karen Debenedictis, Henry "Harry" Wedge, Harry Hewins, Floyd Weaver, Barbara O'Hear, Christopher MacDonald, Kim Santagata, Ann Sullivan, Jean Lavin, Elaine McKeon, Teresa Barris, Joseph Recco, The Shearing Family, Bill Osborne, Alex Hankey, Bob Cass, Edie & Howard Lincoln, Jean Tilden, Dorothy Romano, Chris Golden, Joe Zbinski, Paul Martin, Anna Foy, Sophie Costantino, Robert Panza & The residents of Sagem & Westview.*

*If you know of anyone who should be included or taken off the prayer list, please let the Rectory know.*

**P J ANDERSON COMING MARCH 14 & 15**

**TAX FORMS AVAILABLE FROM THE RECTORY  
JUST CALL 508-378-4207**

COMPASSIONATE CARE HOSPICE  
Of Taunton: 508-399-5900

Serves the needs of patients and families in Southeastern Mass. An integral aspect of the patient care team is the assistance of volunteers who may serve in a variety of capacities. Medicare requires that volunteers provide a least 5% of direct services to patients and caregivers.

If you recognize the blessings and privilege of being with patients in their end-of-life journey, please contact them to offer your help.



My Dear Friends in Christ,

Throughout (both salvation and human) history there have been those who have made claims on Christianity or who have said that "God told them...". I am not going to tell you that God is or is not speaking through them – that would be presumptuous of me to say "yea" or "nay" to whether or not God is using these folks to "promote" His message. I do know, and can say, that those who presume to speak for God had better be doing so, or woe to them!

Today's readings reflect the theme of divine authority. It is seen in the prophetic utterings of Moses, the exhortation of St. Paul and the power with which Jesus exercises (or should I say "exorcises", in the case of today's gospel?) His authority. Moses is ready to move on from the mission given him by God; the promise Moses makes that another prophetic voice will come forward is meant to give comfort to the Israelite community. The continuity of this relationship comes through that prophetic relationship God has with His people. In the second reading, St. Paul makes it clear that one should focus in on one's calling; for reasons of "keeping focus", Paul feels it better that if one is to serve God, it would be better for them not to be married. This is not to say that married folks *can't* serve the Lord, but it can be a "distraction". In today's gospel, the authority with which Jesus exercises His ministry is clearly seen by friend (disciples) and foe (demons) alike.

This idea of divine authority comes through in our lives as well. If one is to presume to speak for God, one had better know about what one is talking. Such a person who feels the need to communicate the desires of the Almighty One had better have their own "house" in order. This is not to say that one need be perfect to engage in ministry and mission – far from it; often times one is who is "flawed", but who has met and overcome these flaws, can serve God well in helping others overcome those same difficulties. One who does feel "called" to speak for God, however, had better have communicated (through prayer) with God before making such a bold, public proclamation.

We are called, by virtue of our baptism, to speak our faith with conviction and authority. We are called, as Catholic-Christians, to "speak the truth in love" when it comes to our faith. May we have the courage to speak these truths. May we also have the courage to "know what we don't know" and never presume to speak those things over which we have no mastery, authority or knowledge. May we know, through prayerful consideration, to know the difference between the two! May God continue to reveal Himself to us, so that we may bring to the world all of the good things God has in store for us.

Have a Blessed Week,

Fr. Paul



### **SIMPLE SUPPERS**

**Friday Evenings in Lent  
Feb 20th, Mar. & 6th, Mar. 19th  
5:30 – 7:00**

**Menu: Soup, Salad, Bread, Mac n' Cheese  
Good Will Offering – All are welcome!  
Great food and Great company!!**

**AN AT-HOME BUSY PEOPLE RETREAT FOR LENT: Do you desire to deepen your relationship with God during Lent this year? The week of Mar. 8-12, St. Joseph's Retreat Center, Cohasset, is offering an opportunity for busy people to experience a directed retreat in the midst of their daily lives. You would pray 30-60 minutes each day at home (or work etc), meet individually at the Retreat Center for 45-60 minutes a day for four days with an experienced spiritual director to share about your prayer and relationship with God. Meeting times would be scheduled at your convenience. The retreat will begin with a gathering of all interested people on Sunday afternoon, March 8, at St. Joseph Retreat Center. To register, or for more information, please contact [www.csjretreatcenter.org](http://www.csjretreatcenter.org) (click on Busy Person's Retreat on the left side of the Home Page.) or call 781-383-6024**