
St. John is a Stewardship Parish

February 23, 2014
Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

Saturday, February 22, 2014

4:00 – No Intentions

Sunday, February 23, 2014

11:30 – Bonnie DeCosta -- Memorial

Saturday, March 1, 2014

4:00 – Paul M. Luddy – 30th Anniversary

Sunday, March 2, 2014

8:00 – James Pacheco – 1st Anniversary

9:30 – Stephen Hopkins – 15th Anniversary

11:30 – Lori Hannan – 1st Anniversary

Important Dates

ASH WEDNESDAY – MARCH 5, 2014 – MASSES AT 9:00 AM & 7:00 PM.

Fri. 3/7—5:30 – 7:00 pm – First Simple Supper

Wed. 3/12 – Confessions – 6:30 – 8:00

Sun. 3/16 – TEEN MASS – 6 pm.

Fri. 3/21 – Simple Supper – 5:30 – 7:00 p.m.

Wed. 3/26 – Confessions – 6:30 – 8:00 p.m.

Wed. 3/26 – Finance Committee Mtg – 8:00 p.m.

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, Frank McCarthy.

THE LIGHT IS ON FOR YOU

Is a Lenten Program which offers Confession

*Every Wednesday night in Lent
From 6:30 – 8:00 pm
Beginning March 12th
And continuing until
April 16.*

Our Shared Treasure

February 16, 2014

\$3057

Grand Annual: \$

Weekly Collection Budgeted: \$5,882.00

Deficit of: \$2825 Ouch!

Thank you for your continued generosity.

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.

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."

Lent begins this year on Ash Wednesday – Mar. 5th



SIMPLE SUPPERS

**Friday Evenings in Lent
March 7th, 21st, + April 4
5:30 – 7:00**

Menu: Soup, Salad, Bread, Mac n' Cheese

Good Will Offering – All are welcome!



St. John's P&R Minister's invite you
to a
St. Patrick's Dinner Dance Fundraiser

When: Saturday, March 15th
St. John's Hall

Social Hour beginning at 5:00 pm with Dinner to
follow

Cost: \$20.00 per person or \$35.00 per couple

The evening will include a Boiled Dinner, Dancing,
raffles and a lot of fun and laughs



The P&R Ministers are raising
money to help lower the \$800 per person cost of
the trip and make it more affordable for



everyone.

Please contact the CCD Office for tickets
508-378-1521
repstjohn@stjohnrep.net

THE CCD OFFICE HAS A NEW EMAIL ADDRESS

repstjohn@stjohnrep.net



SVDP extends thanks to the East Bridgewater Community Covenant Church for donating their Christmas Eve collection to the two East Bridgewater food pantries. St. John Food Pantry received \$448. We also thank our own St. John parishioners who frequent the SVDP boxes at the church entrances for their cash donations. To the extent we can, cash donations help support heating, utilities, and rent requests from EB families strapped for funds during the wintertime."



Do Not Judge
And You Will
Not Be Judged

My Dear Friends in Christ,

Last month, I had the opportunity to attend a Pro-Life Rally sponsored by Massachusetts Citizens for Life. At this rally, there were speakers who reminded us that we are called to value life in all stages, from pre-birth to our growing years to our "golden years" to the end of our earthly existence. It bolstered my resolve to be a "person of life" in all stages, from conception to natural death. This is the position of the Church and it is one I am proud to hold. I believe that God made all life sacred and that the most effective way that we can convert minds and hearts on life issues is to hold to this principle.

One of the challenges we face in being "people of life" is the radical viewpoints that folks from the "fringes" ("left" or "right", for lack of a better term) hold when espousing their positions. A conversation can begin – and end – often times with the phrase "this is the way that it is, and that's that!" This is not to say that we shouldn't have principles or viewpoints which hold a measure of objective truth; it was Alexander Hamilton who said that "those who stand for nothing will fall for anything." There is much to be said, for example, for the position that life begins at conception. I believe that by having a "standard" focal point on which we can place ourselves is a key in "converting" those folks who, in their minds and hearts, don't hold this view. It will be in converting minds and hearts, I believe, that we shall win people over, or at the very least be open to conversation and further discussion. The "radicalization" of conversation, however, can bring a "death knell" to any dialogue.

Jesus, in today's gospel, confronts the radical nature of such dialogue when he broadens the viewpoint of the Mosaic Law. The adage "an eye for an eye, a tooth for a tooth" can be used by both "sides" of a discussion, for example. Jesus moves the conversation forward, however, when he challenges the listener to go beyond the literal interpretation of even Holy Scripture. In "going the extra mile", one is pressed to see beyond their own viewpoint and to extend themselves to be one with the "other". In seeing the inherent "personhood" of another, one can no longer engage in demagoguery, "demonizing" the person. They must see the need of the other, and respond to that need. Sometimes, that need is to "convert" a mind/heart; sometimes, it's simply to listen and to be open to dialogue, conversation and even understanding.

May we hold fast to the truths of our faith, but may we also be willing to "go the extra mile" and get out of our "comfort zone" to truly hear and see the "other". May we strive for "perfection", not in the eyes of the world but in the eyes, mind and heart of God

Have a Blessed Week. Fr. Paul