

FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

March 20/21, 2010



Saturday	March	20,	4:00 PM	Vivian Supczak (9th Ann.) By Family
Sunday	March	21,	8:00 AM	Gloria & Domingos Moura By Family
			9:30 AM	Elda Poitras By Mr. & Mrs. Charles Buckley
			11:00 AM	<u>Communtiy Mass:</u> Dorothy Cordeiro (2nd Ann.), Jose Leonardo, Joaquim Cardoso, Maria & Octavio Mendes, Intentions of the Prayer Line
Monday	March	22,	8:00 AM	Elda Poitras By Mr. & Mrs. Normand Pepin
Tuesday	March	23,	8:00 AM	Jose Pimental By Belmira Pimental
			2:00 PM	Mass at The Oaks
Wednesday	March	24,	8:00 AM	Irene Daniel (8th Ann.) By Husband & Family
Friday	March	26,	8:00 AM	Agueda Resendes By Helen Sylvia
Saturday	March	27,	4:00 PM	Jacqueline Bairos By Sisters
Sunday	March	28,	8:00 AM	Evelyn Machowski By Daughter, Nancy
			9:30 AM	Couture Family By Family
			11:00 AM	<u>Community Mass:</u> Mr. & Mrs. Manuel Resendes, Mr. & Mrs. Jose Cordeiro

SANCTUARY LAMP: In memory of Andy Pelletier
SAINT JOSEPH: For employment for those who have lost their jobs
OUR LADY OF FATIMA: For Elaine Motta's recovery
SAINT THERESE: Special intention

FINANCIAL REPORT:

Collection: \$2,470.55 Thank You!
Last year: \$2,358.75
Extra Effort: \$948.70
Catholic Relief Services: \$479.50
Expenses: \$2,327.62 (\$899.57 contract services, \$560.28 weekly budget for clergy medical and property insurance, \$200.00 weekly budget for Anchor, \$177.12 State taxes, \$132.33 Verizon, \$93.77 utilities, \$166.95 liturgical supplies, \$97.60 Frades Disposal)

MASS INTENTIONS FOR MAY are available. The Sanctuary Lamp as well as the Saint Joseph Lamp, Our Lady of Fatima Lamp, and Saint Therese Lamp are available. Mass intentions can be scheduled on Wednesdays and Fridays during office hours.

ROSARY AND CHAPLET OF DIVINE MERCY Please join us for Rosary and Chaplet of Divine Mercy every Tuesday at 7:00 p.m. There is so much to pray for. Please email any prayer requests at olofnb@comcast.net.



OUR MILITARY that God may watch over our loved ones, protect them and bring them home safely. **THE SICK** who have asked for our prayers. May they be strengthened by God in health, mind, body and spirit and be comforted by our prayer.

BLOOD PRESSURE CHECK Our parish healthcare professionals will be on-duty the second weekend of the month to check your blood pressure after all Masses.



“Come closer, always closer. Give up everything that separates us - the lack of confidence and hope. It is a great thing to hope. Hope for holiness. Would I ask every soul to be holy if it were not possible? Believe in My help. Call Me often, still more often. Don't be afraid of being too insistent. Don't you repeat the same prayer many times in the rosary? You must persevere in your asking. You forget what you do for Me and what you say to Me; you leave it in the past. But all these things are eternally present for Me, and you will find them again one day exactly as you gave them to Me. Always stay very near to Me. This will be a token of your love.”

Please join us for prayer every Tuesday evening at 7:00 P.M. Set some time aside for Jesus and experience His peace.

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK!

Be still and know. Be still and trust. Be still and expect. “For God alone my soul waits in silence, for my hope is from Him.”



Baptism

WELCOME TO THE CHRISTIAN FAMILY
Molly Virginia Medeiros, daughter of Kory and Shannon Medeiros was baptized last Sunday, March 14th. The parish family welcomes her warmly to our family of faith.

UPDATE ON H1N1 LITURGICAL DIRECTIVES

In October 2009, the Diocese of Fall River issued liturgical directives to assist parish communities in their ongoing efforts to prevent the spread of the flu virus. These directives were created in response to concerns raised by local and state health authorities. Current data indicates flu activity has diminished and vaccinations for both H1N1 and seasonal flu strains are readily available. However, as public health officials continue to have concerns about a possible third wave and the potential resurgence of other flu strains through the remainder of the season, we will return the following liturgical practice to once again the option of a handshake as a sign of peace on Palm Sunday, March 28, 2010, the beginning of Holy Week.

EASTER FLOWER MEMORIAL ENVELOPE: Please return no later than Sunday, March 28th in order to meet printing deadline for the Easter Flower Memorial. Thank you.



ANCHOR RENEWAL TIME

The Anchor renewal envelopes have been mailed and for new subscribers, there are yellow envelopes at the entrances of the church. Subscriptions have increased to \$20.00 a year. Please return the envelope in any weekend collection basket or drop it in the mail by March 27th. Thank you.

COURAGE is a group for people who are experiencing same-sex attraction and would like to live the Church's teachings of chastity. We gather for prayer and conversation, seeking to support each other with the support of Christ. The next meeting will be on Saturday, March 27th at 7:00 p.m. Please call Fr. Richard Wilson at 508-992-9408 for location information.

DIVORCED AND SEPARATED SUPPORT GROUP

This group meets at the Family Life Center, 500 Slocum Road, North Dartmouth from 7:00 – 8:30 p.m. on the second and last Wednesdays of each month. There is no charge and it is open to all separated/divorced persons. The next meeting will be on March 31st.

YES! RETREAT Applications are available at fallriverfaithformation.org. The YES! Retreat is a co-ed retreat for Post-Confirmation High School youths. It will be held April 9th – 10th at Cathedral Camp, Freetown. If you have any questions regarding eligibility or for more information, please call Crystal Medeiros at (508) 678-2828 or email her at cmedeiros@dfrcs.com.



STATIONS OF THE CROSS will be held on Friday evenings at 7:00 P.M.

LENTEN MISSION: "The Spirit Alive in the Priesthood of the Laity."

Presented by Fr. Stan Kolasa, ss.cc. sponsored by the Parishes of New Bedford Deanery will be held at St. Mary's on Tarkiln Hill Road, March 22nd through March 25th. Mass is at Noon with Conference, and Prayer experience with Conference at 7:00 p.m. Confessions will be heard one hour before the noon Mass and one hour before the evening Conference. Please mark your calendars.



HOLY GHOST LENTEN MISSION,

316 Judson St., Tiverton is holding a Lenten Mission to be conducted by Fr. Pio Mandato, Sr. Theresa May & Sr. Joan May (Capuchin Sisters of Nazareth). The mission is entitled: "The Church - One, Holy, Catholic and Apostolic," March 22 thru 25 ~ 7:00 PM. There will be talks, music, and prayer closing with Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament each night. On Tuesday, we will have a whole day of Confessions (7:30 AM thru 9:00 PM), On Wednesday a Healing Service and we will wrap the mission up with a closing Mass on Thursday.

REFLECTIONS ON THE PRIESTHOOD join the priests of our Deanery on Sunday, March 21st from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. at St. Mary's Church on Tarkilyn Road for a Holy Hour, followed by Sunday Vespers and Solemn Benediction. Throughout the Holy Hour priests will be sharing their reflections on their vocation and priestly ministries. Following Benediction the Catholic Women of New Bedford will be making a presentation to the priests of the New Bedford Deanery as well as providing hospitality to all those who attend at the conclusion of the evening.

EMMAUS RETREAT WEEKEND-

April 16-18 at Cathedral Camp, Freetown. A heartfelt invitation is open to join us on our next Emmaus weekend! Emmaus is a weekend retreat program for people who are seeking to grow in their relationship with Christ, regardless of their present level of faith and practice. The purpose of the weekend is to give participants an opportunity to reflect upon themselves and their relationship with God and their community. You will build valuable relationships through friendship, encouragement, prayer and the awesome power of God. Emmaus is a Catholic retreat program that is open to people of all Christian faiths. For more information, please contact Debbie Sousa at 508-646-3902.

MOVING? Please notify the rectory with your change of address.

THE DIOCESE OF FALL RIVER is once again making “need-based” scholarships available for the 2010-2011 school year through the St. Mary’s Education Fund. Students presently enrolled or who are accepted and registered for the 2010-2011 school year in one of the 22 Diocesan elementary or middle schools are eligible to apply. Any parent interested in having their child attend one of the Catholic elementary or middle schools in the Diocese of Fall River should contact the principal of the school in which they have interest. Once accepted and registered they may apply for this “need-based” scholarship aid. Applications may be obtained at any of the schools.

STILL HURTING FROM AN ABORTION? Has there been an abortion experience in your past? If you are hurting and would like to reach out for help, please call Project Rachel, which is a private, confidential and sensitive Catholic outreach to women and men hurting from past abortions. Call (508) 997-3300 for a confidential referral to a priest near you and begin your move toward reconciliation: at peace with God, your unborn child, your family, your church and yourself. Trust in the tender embrace of God’s love and mercy.

ARE YOU REGISTERED? - To be registered means you are receiving mailings from the parish office. This does not necessarily mean you receive budget envelopes. If you have been attending our church and would like to register, please stop by the parish office. **You must be a registered parishioner to be a sponsor for Baptism or Confirmation.**

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO STUDENTS IN CATHOLIC ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS FROM OUR LADY OF FATIMA PARISH, NEW BEDFORD

The criteria needed in order to request financial assistance for students from Our Lady of Fatima Parish, New Bedford, attending a Catholic Elementary School is the following:

1. Must be a registered member of the Parish for at least one year;
2. Practice a stewardship way of life as their means allow financially (use the Parish Budget Envelope System with a \$5.00 per week minimum) as well as time and talent in parish activities;
3. Volunteer in Parish Fundraising Activities or any Parish Ministry;
4. Participate in weekend worship regularly at Our Lady of Fatima Church with family.
5. Requests for Financial Assistance will NOT exceed \$300.00 per child (in accord with the Diocesan Policy regarding Financial Assistance).
6. Requests for Financial Assistance should be made in person to the Pastor.

Endorsed & approved by the Parish Pastoral Council on February 7, 2005

HOSPITAL ADMISSIONS

Due to privacy issues the Hospital is not allowed to provide clergy with the names and Religious affiliations of their patients. If you wish to receive a pastoral visit it is up to you as a patient or family member to contact the Parish and Father Ozug



DO YOU OFTEN ASK YOURSELF,

“what can I give in return for all the blessings God has given to me and my loved ones?” Is there something missing in your day? Would you like to bring joy to an elder? Please consider assisting the residents to and from the chapel for

the recitation of the Rosary and attendance at Mass at the **Sacred Heart Nursing Home**, 359 Summer Street, New Bedford. Please call Sr. Dorothy Scesny, PBVM, Director of Pastoral Care at (508) 996-6751.

IMPORTANT NOTICE REGARDING PARISH REGISTRATION

– For many different reasons many parishioners are asking us to confirm that they belong to Our Lady of Fatima parish. This is sometimes difficult if the people are not registered with the parish and are in need of a Sponsor Certificate. The very minimum requirement would be that the person in question is registered as a parishioner and has been attending Mass here at Our Lady of Fatima for a few months. If you are coming to Our Lady of Fatima and have not registered, are not sure whether you are registered, you have not received any mailings from the parish, or have changed your address recently, please give the parish office a call and verify your registration. Please don’t wait until you are asked to be a Sponsor for Confirmation or a godparent for a Baptism to register.

DAILY MASS AT OUR NEIGHBORING PARISHES

Saint John Neumann, East Freetown

Monday-Thursday: 7:30 am

Friday: Communion Service: 7:30 am

Last Monday of the Month: Healing Service followed by Benediction 7:00P.M.

Saint Francis Xavier, Acushnet

Monday - Wednesday - Friday: 9:00a.m.

Saint Mary’s, New Bedford

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday 8:00 a.m.

Saint Anthony’s, New Bedford

Monday - Thursday at 7 a.m.

Friday at 5:15 p.m.

Saturday at 8 a.m.

Saint Bernard’s, Assonet

Monday - Thursday 9:00 a.m.

First Friday: 9:00 a.m.

EUCCHARISTIC ADORERS NEEDED at St. John Neumann's Chapel, East Freetown to pray before the Lord Jesus exposed in the Blessed Sacrament every Monday. Please consider spending a committed hour a week before Him who gave Himself for you. For more information or to commit to an hour, please call Marlene Johnson at (508)763-2569.

DIRECTIONS FOR OUR TIMES

Heaven Speaks Booklet display case is located in the back of the church. These messages, now in book form, were given to Anne, a lay apostle, through a process known as interior locution. Many who read these books are discovering a renewal of faith and love that is changing their lives forever. It is a change in direct line with God's plan, implemented in one soul at a time. As you experience graces, the wisdom, and the direction in these volumes understand that God is moving us from an Age of Disobedience to an Age of indeed Obedience. Jesus is indeed returning, and in these initial stages, He returns through you and through others. This process is profound in its scope and divine in its origin. For more information and other available books from Anne, a lay apostle visit directionforourtimes.com.

THE NEW BEDFORD BABY PROJECT

St. Anthony's Church is one of the main sites of distribution every Thursday at noon. They gladly receive donations of good condition baby and children's clothing, maternity clothing, strollers, baby items, children's books etc. Please use the Nye Street entrance to bring in your donations to St. Anthony's on Thursday mornings from 9:30 A.M. to 12:00 P.M. For more information please call Diane Bolton at 508-994-8421. If you would like to make a cash donation, please make your check payable to The Baby Project and mail to: The Baby Project, c/o Diane Bolton, 60 Orchard Street, New Bedford, MA 02740.

ANOINTING OF THE SICK

It is not possible for one always to be in the rectory awaiting emergency calls for the anointing of the sick. For this reason, please do not wait to the "last second" to call us if you or a loved one is in danger of death due to illness or old age and needs this great and powerful sacrament. As a general rule, please call as soon as hospice arrives or before major surgery. If you are at St. Luke's hospital, please make sure, upon check in, that you list yourself as a Catholic and say that you wish to be visited by the chaplain. I would be grateful, as well, if a family member might call the rectory to let me know you're there, as, under new federal regulations, I may not learn you're there otherwise. This is also true if you are transferred to a Rehabilitation Center or Nursing Facility.

A Gentle Reminder!

Think of our beautiful church building as your home. Just as you always want your home to be ready to welcome guests and visitors, please be conscious of picking up after you and your family at the end of Mass, readying the church for others. Replace the hymnals in the bookracks attached to the backs of the pews. Don't leave trash in the pews. Following these simple guidelines, we all make the church ready to welcome others for worship. Thanks for your help!

HOSPITAL ADMISSIONS

Due to privacy issues the Hospital is not allowed to provide clergy with the names and Religious affiliations of their patients. If you wish to receive a pastoral visit it is up to you as a patient or family member to contact the Parish and Father Ozug.

SPONSOR CERTIFICATES

It is always an honor when parents ask a Catholic friend or family member to be a baptismal godparent or a young person preparing for confirmation asks someone to whom he or she looks up to be a Confirmation sponsor. To serve in this role, which is both a great honor and responsibility, the proposed godparent or sponsor must receive a certificate from his or her pastor pronouncing that that person is qualified. The sponsor certificate is the person's pastor's word to other priests that a proposed sponsor is a fully-initiated, confirmed Catholic, practices the faith each week by coming to Sunday Mass, is registered and supports his or her parish Church, and lives (as far as the priest can know) according to the moral teachings of Jesus Christ. When people come to me for such certificates, on many occasions, it is very easy for me to do so, because I see them at Mass each week, they come to greet me after Mass, they sit up front, they are involved in parish activities, etc. On other occasions, I do not recognize them, but I can quickly verify through the use of budget envelopes that they are here each week. But sometimes people come whom I do not recognize and whose attendance I cannot verify through budget envelopes or other means. On those occasions, I cannot honestly give them sponsor certificates, in the same way that I cannot give letters of recommendation to strangers. I cannot give my word to another priest that a particular person comes to Mass each week unless I see the person present at Mass or witness the evidence of it in the budget envelopes. Therefore, I ask you to help me help you, in case you are ever given the privilege of being a godparent. Please make sure you are a registered parishioner. Please consider using budget envelopes. And please come to introduce yourself to me after Mass every once in a while. I would never want not to be able to give you a sponsor certificate!