



Saturday, February 27

9:00am Herve & Jeanne St. Louis &
Margaret Bergeron (*Memorial*)
4:00pm Thomas & Hannah Maunsell (*Memorial*)

Sunday, February 28

8:00am Daniel Godfroy (*17th Anniversary*)
10:00am Matthew J. Randall (*5th Anniversary*)
11:30am Jeffrey Middlemiss (*Memorial*)
5:00pm John Cieslik (*Memorial*)

Monday, March 1

6:30am
9:00am Jonathan Bakalyar (*For healing*)

Tuesday, March 2

9:00am

Wednesday, March 3

6:30am
9:00am

Thursday, March 4

9:00am

Friday, March 5

6:30am
9:00am Ernest, Paul, Donald & Raymond Verville

Saturday, March 6

9:00am *For the intentions of the St. Francis Prayer Line*
4:00pm Raymond Rocheleau (*15th Anniversary*)

Sunday, March 7

8:00am Bronislaw & Josephine Grailich (*Mem*)
10:00am John C. Hunt (*Memorial*)
11:30am Matthew Eno (*2nd Anniversary*)
5:00pm *Benefactors & Deceased Members of
St. Francis Parish*

Weekly Offertory

February 21, 2010

OFFERTORY: \$6,814

MORTGAGE: \$4,889

CPL: \$1,876

CPL MORTGAGE: \$370

ONLINE GIVING: \$355

Thank you for your generosity!

Bread and Wine Donation

We invite parishioners to donate the Bread and Wine for consecration at all Masses for a given week. This can be a personal donation or in memory of someone. The person donating or person(s) remembered will be listed in the bulletin on the weekend and will cover all Masses for that week. Suggested offering for this gift is \$50. Please call the Parish Office to schedule this special memorial.

**Looking for a way to grow spiritually
during Lent?**

We have several opportunities to help!



Arise—small groups and faith sharing. Want to join an ARISE group? We have many days and times available. Call the office to find out more!

Centering Prayer and Lectio Divinia: Wed. evenings from 7-8:30pm

Lenten Evening of Prayer and Reflection for Men:

Tuesday, March 2 from 7-8:30pm. Our evening will be led by Deacon John and dinner will be served. Join us!

Day of Prayer with Deacon John and Kathy: Saturday, March 20 from 9am-2pm. “Who Is Your God?” A light lunch will be served.

Faith Film Discussions: Tuesday mornings at 9:30am and Tuesday evenings at 7pm. More info elsewhere in the bulletin!

Stations of the Cross: Every Friday at 9:30am in the Church.

The St. Francis Parish Annual Baby Shower

The St. Francis Parish Family Annual Baby Shower will be held on Palm Sunday weekend, **March 27th and 28th, 2010.** Please bring unwrapped gifts to Mass on the Saturday and Sunday of this weekend. All gifts will be given to the Pro Life Office of St. Mary’s Parish in Lawrence to be distributed to those in need throughout the Merrimack Valley. If you prefer a monetary donation, a basket will be provided. Please make your check payable to: *Fund for the Unborn.* **Suggested items needed: baby outfits in sizes 0-3 and 3-6 months, baby bottles, newborn or size 1 disposable diapers, diaper bags, blanket sleepers, baby powder, sweaters, undershirts, pacifiers, crib sheets, nightgowns, socks and receiving blankets.** Thank you!

Scripture Study

Join us for our next Scripture Study class, **People of the Passion**, continuing through Lent. We will meet **every Wednesday from 9:30-11am.** Call Kathy in the Parish Office to sign up. We hope you will take this opportunity during the holy season of Lent to draw closer to the Lord through Scripture. Bring a friend!

From Fr. Bob



RETURN TO TWO SPECIES: The Archdiocese has suggested that we return to the use of two species at Liturgy on Palm Sunday. We look forward to the opportunity to once again share in the body and blood of Christ under both species. Even though we understand that the Body and Blood is present completely in either form, the sign and symbol value of “take and eat” and “take and drink” is such a wonderful grace and privilege. **ON THAT NOTE: We need more Eucharistic Ministers to distribute communion at our liturgies. Although we know that people are timid and/or humbled to perform this important ministry, we call you forth! Please call the office and let them know that you are willing to be trained and to serve as an EM.** Let the Spirit of God use you in a way that benefits the entire community. We encourage you to volunteer. Thank you.

LENTEN FAITH/FILM DISCUSSION: Unfortunately, there has been some confusion about the schedule for Lenten activities at St. Francis. We are sorry that we have not been more clear in the overall flow of events. Let us try to do that now: Lenten Film/Discussion: Tuesday mornings, 9:30-10:30 @ SF Conference Room after Mass. [**Mar 2, 9, 16, 23**]; Tuesday evenings at 7PM [**Mar 2, 9, 16, 23 in Conference Room or Annex**]. The PPC and FinCom meetings scheduled will begin at 7:30pm and members are invited to attend the Discussion and come to the meeting after it ends about 7:50. We are trying to accommodate all schedules in a very busy time. We think we are back on track now. Thank you for your patience and understanding.

REV. JAMES D. LYONS - CELEBRATING 50 YEARS: On Sunday, March 14, 2010, there will be a Joint Parish Celebration for Fr. Jim Lyons, who has been ordained for 50 years. The celebration will begin with Liturgy at 11:30 at St. Francis Church, followed by a reception downstairs for his family, friends and YOU! All members of Ste. Marguerite d'Youville and St. Francis Parish are invited to join us for this moment of prayer. Our congratulations and blessings to Fr. Lyons. We are grateful for his support and presence with us. May God continue to give him good health and happiness. If you are planning on attending the reception, you might call the office to let us know, but the invitation is open and we hope you will join us.

THANK YOU: A big thank you to **Mike Poitras**, owner of Rain or Shine Painting, for his wonderful service of painting our Parish classrooms and Hall. Your outstanding work will be enjoyed by many, Mike!

Fr. Bob

Get Ready for Our Barefoot4Haiti Event!



We have partnered with Soles4Souls to help collect new and gently worn shoes for the victims of the Haitian earthquake. Join us and take off your shoes for Haiti! As part of this powerful movement, clean out your closets and bring the shoes to donate! Bring your new or gently worn shoes on:

March 6 & 7 and March 13 & 14
Service Times: Before & after all Masses

Soles4Souls accepts all types of new and gently worn shoes including athletic, running, dress, sandals, pumps, heels, work boots, cleats, dance and flip-flops. Shoes appropriate for the conditions in Haiti will be delivered there.

Soles4Souls collects new and gently worn shoes from the closets of people like you and distributes them free of charge to people in need all over the world. Since 2005, Soles4Souls has given away more than 7 million pairs of shoes and protected countless lives from foot injury, disease and indignity. Currently, the organization gives away a pair of shoes every nine seconds. To learn more about Soles4Souls, **visit www.giveshoes.org**.

Please note...

For all those that receive offertory envelopes by mail, you may have noticed that the envelope for March 14th is missing. This was a mistake and we apologize for the inconvenience. We will provide envelopes in the pews on that Sunday; please include your envelope number on the envelopes provided. Thank you for understanding!

Saint Louis School

Registrations are now being accepted for the 2010-2011 school year at St. Louis School in Lowell. Check out www.saintlouisschool.org to see what St. Louis has to offer! Contact Ms. Kristyna Dumais, Principal, at 978-458-7594 for a registration packet and to set up a personal tour of our school. Thank you!

Save the Date for VBS!



AHOY! Vacation Bible School 2010 dates have been set for **July 12th-16th from 9am-12pm each day!** The theme this year is a High Seas Expedition—Exploring the mighty love of God! The cost is \$45 per student and every family will receive a music CD. Any student age 11 and older can be a Junior Counselor and attend VBS for \$20 (which includes a t-shirt and DVD). High school students and adults are needed to teach; see Dawn in the Religious Education Office. Please call the office if you are interested in signing up or stop by to fill out a form.

St. Francis Scholarship

Applications for the St. Francis Scholarship in memory of Angelos D. Sakellarios and Gertrude E. Sakellarios are now available in the Parish Office. Two \$1,000 scholarships will be awarded to high school seniors who satisfy eligibility and evaluation criteria developed by the St. Francis Scholarship committee. The completed application packets should be returned to the office no later than **April 15, 2010**. Eligibility: The applicant must be a registered and confirmed member of St. Francis Parish, a graduating high school senior and accepted to or pending acceptance in an accredited post-secondary school.

“Who Is Your God?”

Join us for the Lenten Day of Prayer led by Deacon John Hunt and Kathy Long. This event will be held on **Saturday, March 20 from 9am-2pm**. A light lunch will be served. Take this moment during Lent to reflect on your relationship with God—and bring a friend!

Faith Film Discussion



Each Tuesday during Lent beginning March 2, Fr. Bob and Fr. Chris will lead an hour-long discussion sparked by a short film. We will be using some of the NOOMA films, which provide very stimulating discussion and reflection. Fr. Bob will lead **Tuesday mornings at 9:30 after Liturgy**. There will be coffee and donuts available. Fr. Chris will lead the session at **7:00pm on Tuesday nights**, with coffee and refreshments. Both sessions will last an hour so you can plan your day/night. Come, seek, share and grow. We hope you will join us for this Lenten growth moment.

Join Us For Breakfast!



Mark your calendars! On **Sunday, March 7 from 8:30-11:30am**, the Peer Leaders will prepare another delicious pancake breakfast for you. We will be serving our famous pancakes (yes, gluten free, too), sausage, fruit and more. It's only \$5 per person or \$15 per family. Looking forward to seeing you there!

Lenten Evening of Prayer and Refection for Men

All men 18 and older are welcome to join us on Tuesday, March 2 from 7-8:30pm in the Parish Hall. This is a unique moment to take some time during Lent to reflect on your spirituality as a man of God and your relationship with Him. Dinner will be served—please join us.



Rest in Peace

Anne M. Featherston,

Wife of E. Robert Featherston; Mother of Michelle Kelley and Stepmother of Mark Featherston

N. Karen Nielsen,

Mother of Christine Schuit; Sister of Peggy Ofria, Barbara Cormier, Aileen McCarthy, Deborah Nicholson & Henry Sullivan

St. Francis Men's Retreat

The men of St. Francis Parish are invited to spend a weekend of reflection and renewal at the **HOLY FAMILY RETREAT CENTER, WEST HARTFORD, CT on the weekend of March 26-28, 2010**. The program's purpose is to set aside a time and place to renew our spiritual life and strengthen our resources for doing this. The weekend includes presentations, prayer services, free time and Sunday liturgy. Optional workshops on practical areas of family, emotional and faith life are included. The retreat begins with 6:00 PM supper on Friday and concludes around noon on Sunday, after Mass & Brunch. Call Bob Leger at 978-683-5631 or Steve Thompson at 508-451-1416 for more information.

Pastoral Visitors and Ministers of Communion

We will have a day of reflection for all pastoral visitors and ministers of Communion on **Saturday, March 6 from 9am-12pm in the Parish Hall**. If you are part of this important ministry, please join us to reflect on the wonderful gift that God has given you. Please call the Office to sign up.

Please Come to the Sacrament of Reconciliation this Lent – The Light Is On For You!

The Church encourages all Catholics to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation each Lent. In addition to our normal Saturday afternoon confession time, St. Francis and all the Catholic parishes and chapels of the Archdiocese will be open on **Lenten Wednesdays from 6:30-8:00pm**. Please take advantage of this opportunity to make a good Lenten confession. Please also reach out to the Catholics you know that have been away from the regular practice of our faith and invite them to seize this chance to begin again. www.TheLightIsOnForYou.org

FR. LYONS' 50TH ANNIVERSARY MASS

With gratitude to Almighty God, the parish communities of Saint Francis and Ste. Marguerite D'Youville give thanks for 50 years of priestly ministry of Reverend James Daniel Lyons. We cordially invite you to join him for a Mass of Thanksgiving here at Saint Francis Church on the **Fourth Sunday of Lent, March 14, 2010, at 11:30 a.m.** Light refreshments will follow in the Parish Hall.

SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

Sacraments

Baptism: Please call the parish office to make arrangements.

Marriage: Contact one of the parish priests at least six months in advance.

Eucharistic Adoration

Mondays 9:30 AM-5:30PM

Contemplative Prayer Group

Men and women are invited to join the contemplative prayer group at **7pm on Wednesday nights in the Annex**. Come every week or once a month

Rosary

The Rosary is prayed Monday – Friday at 8:30 AM.

Pastoral Care of the Sick & Homebound

Please notify the parish office when parishioners are homebound, in extended care facilities, or are admitted to the hospital.

Parish Nurses

Call Louise at 978-454-7970.

Prayer Line

Call Barbara at 978-937-0239 or Pat at 978-685-1137, also online at www.saintfrancis.net/prayerline.

Alcoholics Anonymous

Meeting in the Parish Hall every Saturday at 8:00 PM.

Bereavement Support

Meets second & fourth Wednesdays of each month at 7:00 PM.

Please call Louise Daigle at 978-454-7970.

Saint Vincent de Paul Society

Call the Parish Office at 978-452-6611.

Spiritual Direction

If you are interested in spiritual direction, call the parish office at 978-452-6611 or Marcy at 978-458-9715.

Parish Pastoral Council

Anthony Bazzinotti 978-441-2783 abazzinotti@hotmail.com

Richard Blanchette (co-chair) richrlb@comcast.net

Christiann Dignam (978) 683-0946 christidignam@verizon.net

John Farren 978-275-2821 farren4ma@aol.com

Deacon John Hunt 978-452-6611

Robert Leger rsleger@hotmail.com

Jim Long jim@easternindustries.com

Kathy Long 978-452-6611 klong@saintfrancis.net

Pam Lupien 978-446-1484 pilup@comcast.net

Carole McGuane jmcquane@comcast.net

Don Piche ddpiche@comcast.net

Mark Riopelle 978-683-7180 mjlove2win@comcast.net

Wade Sauls 781-652-0037 wsauls@saulslaw.net

Beth Schroth phriend32@yahoo.com

Sharon Smart (978) 851-0501 smart.sharon@comcast.net

David Sullivan sull93@hotmail.com

Kathryn Wasylak (978) 453-4423 katew453@comcast.net

Ann Bowden 978-957-7468 zarechian@comcast.net

Luke Bennett, Youth Representative dblcbennett@comcast.net

Sharon Chelton (978) 452-6611 schelton@saintfrancis.net

Fr. Bob Connors (978) 452-6611 rlconnors@comcast.net

Fr. Chris Casey (978) 452-6611 FatherChrisCasey@gmail.com