



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*

Monday, March 8

6:30am
9:00am

Tuesday, March 9

9:00am

Wednesday, March 10

6:30am
9:00am

Thursday, March 11

9:00am

Friday, March 12

6:30am
9:00am

Saturday, March 13

9:00am *Robert Kapala (20th Anniversary)*
4:00pm *Bridget Gaunt (Anniversary)*

Sunday, March 14

8:00am *Mary Andrade (Anniversary)*
10:00am *Normand Bourget (22nd Anniversary)*
11:30am *Madeline Libera (10th Anniversary)*
5:00pm *Timothy Francis Smith, Jr. (3rd Anniv.)*

Weekly Offertory

February 28, 2010

OFFERTORY: \$6,842

FEBRUARY MORTGAGE TOTAL: \$6,921

CPL: \$1,853

ONLINE GIVING: \$120

BALANCE OF LOAN TO DATE: \$150,328.84

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

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!

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.

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

LENTEN FAITH/FILM DISCUSSION



Each Tuesday during Lent, 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.

Liturgical Ministers Needed

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.

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!

Cor Unum Volunteers Needed

Many of our "veteran" CU volunteers have had to drop out recently for a variety of reasons. To all who have helped in the past, thank you for your devotion. Please know that your time at Cor Unum has been most appreciated!

The current St. Francis teams have dwindled quite a bit and need help -- especially on nights when there are no youth groups filling in. Everyone is welcome to join a St. Francis Team, serving just one Thursday a month (from 4:15 pm to 6:30 pm). St. Francis has been a tremendous help since Cor Unum opened three years ago, and we'd like to continue our ministry with the same devotion that our previous teams have demonstrated.

CU is less than 20 minutes from Dracut, so please consider exploring this outreach opportunity -- especially during this season of Lent. For more information, please email Debbie at debhovan@comcast.net or call 978-453-9882. Also feel free to visit corunummealcenter.org.

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!

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.

Funerals During Lent

During the season of Lent, in order to be sensitive to those attending at 9am Mass, all funerals will be held at 10am. Thank you for your cooperation.

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.

“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!

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.

Boston Catholic Appeal 2010

This is CATHOLIC APPEAL WEEKEND. Through the Appeal, we have the opportunity to help our brothers and sisters all throughout our Archdiocese. Giving is a way of answering God's call to love and share. By doing so, we are not only helping to renew the strength and vitality of our Church, but recognizing a need within ourselves to sacrifice for the Lord. A gift is important, not so much for how much it is, but because of what we become through the act of giving. In this spirit, please prayerfully consider a 2010 Catholic Appeal gift.

An opportunity to put your faith into action!

Have you ever wondered how you could help your less fortunate brothers and sisters? Are you looking to deepen your faith and spiritual life? Are you 50 yrs. or older, semi-retired or retired, looking to share your time, talent and life experiences with the less fortunate? If your answer is yes, maybe the Ignatian Volunteer Corps is the answer for you. Our values are based in sharing your experiences gleaned from years of work, education and life experiences with the materially poor. If you are willing to dedicate two days a week to servicing the poor [ministered to through local Service Site Agencies we've partnered with in New England] over the next year, while at the same time developing your spiritual life in the Jesuit Ignatian Spiritual "Reflective" process, then IVC could be the answer you've been waiting to hear about. Please call Br. Steven Jubin, New England Regional Director, at (617)-699-4045 or send him an email [sjubin@ivcusa.org] or go on the IVC Web Site [www.ivcusa.org], to learn more about the great things IVC is doing to help the materially poor right here in New England. Give of your time and talent to your neighbor, who needs your help now.



Altar Bread & Wine
this weekend is given by
Deacon John Hunt in memory of
John C. Hunt, Sr.

A personal home care assistant is needed for a parish family with a family member dealing with ALS. If you are interested, please call Kim Emerson at (978) 656-9928.



Rest in Peace

Martin P. Garry,

*Husband of Mary Garry; Father of Maureen Riordan,
Colleen Garry and Cathleen Garry*

Rene Nadeau,

*Husband of Beatrice Nadeau; Father of Huguette
Beaulieu, Cecile Ghanem, Claire-Helene Courcy,
Clemence, Fernand, Claude, Laurent, Ginette, Marcel
and Jean-Rock Nadeau*

Frank O'Brien,

*Husband of Rochetta Tobin-O'Brien; Father of Rita and
Frank O'Brien*

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.

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

Chaperones Needed

The Peer Leaders will be holding their annual **Good Friday Fast** again this year. **Chaperones are needed for the hours of Midnight to 6am**. Volunteers for all of or any part of the night are greatly appreciated! Please sign up in the Parish Office.

Widow and Widowers Winter Wonderland

The Widow and Widowers Social Support Group will hold its Winter Wonderland on **Sunday, March 21 @ 11am at Joan Vinal's home**. All are welcome!

THIRD 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

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