

FIFTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



Mass Intentions

Saturday, July 9

5:30pm Special Intention

Requested by 7AM Mass Group

Sunday, July 10

8:00am Walter DiPrete

Requested by family

10:00am Dr. Charles Farrell

Requested by family

12:00NN John and Mary Boyle

Requested by family

Monday, July 11

7:00am Dorothy Northup

Requested by morning Mass friends

Tuesday, July 12

7:00am Donald Ford

Requested by DaSilva family

Wednesday, July 13

7:00am Theresa Cicchetto

Requested by Maria Posillo

Thursday, July 14

7:00am Dorothea E. LaPrade

Req. by Karen and Thomas Clark

Friday, July 15

7:00am John Astley

Req. by Mary Paula Millerick

Saturday, July 16

5:30pm Edgar Timothy

Requested by family

Sunday, July 17

8:00am Joseph Vieira

Requested by family

10:00am Ricardo Santos

Requested by Betty Ann Hogan

12:00NN Nat Turco

Requested by family



St. Romuald Chapel Mass Intentions

Saturday, July 9

5:30pm Alice M. Pyne

Requested by family

Sunday, July 10

8:00am Mass for the People

10:00am Florence Gadzik

Requested by Bill and Ellen Greene

Saturday, July 16

5:30pm Terrence & Elizabeth Simpson

Requested by family

Sunday, July 17

8:00am John and Grace Carpinelli

Requested by family

10:00am Henry H. Thayer, Jr.

Requested by Concetta M. Wilson



For Your Information

PARISH SUPPORT for July 3 was Budget—\$8,924; Monthly—\$3,505. Next weekend's second offering will be the Ongoing Maintenance Fund Offering for July. Thank you for your continued generosity!

SANCTUARY LAMP

This week's sanctuary lamp at St. Francis Church burns for a special intention. The sanctuary lamp at St. Romuald Chapel burns in memory of Michael and Agnes Rucci.

FATHER NICK'S HOMILY

Many requests have come in for Father Nick's final homily. You'll be happy to know that you can download it from the BULLETINS TAB on new parish website: <http://stfranciswakefield.com/bulletins>.

FATHER NICK'S NEW MAILING ADDRESS:

Fr. Nicholas P. Smith
St. John Vianney Residence
493 Mount Pleasant Ave.
Providence, RI 02908

GABRIEL PROJECT

A "Special Gabriel Project Meeting" will be held on Saturday, July 30 - 10:00 to 12:00 noon at the Diocese of Providence's Chancery Building located at One Cathedral Square, Providence, R.I. (along side of the Cathedral of SS. Peter and Paul). The meeting is opened to all *present* Gabriel Angel volunteers and those individuals that are *interested in learning and volunteering their God-given time and talent*. For more information and to register, call Carol at 421-7833.

WHY DO WE NEED THE NEW TRANSLATION?

Consider the Collect (Opening Prayer) from last weekend: "*Father, through the obedience of Jesus, your servant and your Son, you raised a fallen world. Free us from sin and bring us the joy that lasts forever.*" Here is what the prayer really says: "*O God, who in the abasement of your Son have raised up a fallen world, fill your faithful with holy joy, for on those you have rescued from slavery to sin you bestow eternal gladness.*" The "abasement" of the Divine Word is a rich theme in Patristic theology. The second person of the Trinity, the Divine Word, who existed with the Father from before all time, emptied himself and took the form of slave in order to save us. The term "obedience" is accurate, but does not convey with such richness the real dynamic of the Passion as the word "abasement." The new translation of the Mass texts seeks to incorporate language that is richer and more poetic, helping us to raise our minds to the things of God.

PARISH TWILIGHT RETREAT

Please see the insert in today's bulletin about the Twilight Retreat that will be held on August 1 from 6:30PM to 9:30PM in Fr. Greenan Center. Call the rectory ASAP to reserve your place!

FACEBOOK US!

Check out our parish Facebook page to "like" our parish! You'll find photos from recent events, articles, important reminders and updates, and best of all, you'll be able to network with fellow parishioners!

<https://www.facebook.com/stfranciswakefield>

JULY 10, 2011

"OBLIGATION" RETHOUGHT



"Much obliged" is an old fashioned phrase first noted in the Old Oxford English Dictionary in the sixteenth century. Over the centuries, the phrase has lost some of its richness. Originally, it meant to be bound to a person by ties of gratitude. Today, the phrase is more often used as an automatic response to someone who has performed a perfunctory service. Unfortunately, this practice does not

convey the sense of truly being bound to each other by gratitude. What a loss! Because of that loss, many people understand the word obligation as a burden rather than a commitment and duty that flows from a relationship. Obligation is a form of indebtedness that comes from within the heart of a relationship. Think of the obligations that make for a rich family life. A parent does not say, "I wonder if I have to feed my children this week?" Husbands and wives carry out a myriad of obligatory tasks in service to each other during the course of a week and never ask, "Do I have to?" In loving relationships, we are grateful for the gift of each other and we express that gratitude by doing right actions because we want to do so. Obligatory behaviors grow out of communication, intimacy, and personal and communal relationships. These examples can help us reflect on our "obligation to attend Mass on Sundays and on holy days of obligation and rest from servile labor" (*Catechism of the Catholic Church*, #2041). The heart of Sunday obligation is gratitude. The word Eucharist means "to give thanks." We gather each week because we are "much obliged" to God — for everything. This obligation is not an automatic response to someone who has performed a perfunctory service. We come together to "give thanks" to God, our Father who is the source of all life and creation, and to Jesus, God's Son who gave us eternal life through his death on the Cross that is made present in every Mass as we participate again in Christ's death and Resurrection through the Eucharist. Each time we "attend Mass," we bring our lives, our very selves, to the Eucharist. We gather together as a community, grateful to have each other as fellow pilgrims in faith and grateful to be nourished by the body and blood of Christ. Just as the relationships and obligations in families are nurtured and strengthened by intimacy and communion, so too does our participation in the Eucharist nurture and strengthen our relationship with the Trinity. Food nourishes our body in the same way that our participation in Holy Communion nourishes our spirit and unites us together as individuals and as a community in Christ. Acting on our Sunday obligation of being "much obliged" gives us reason to be "more obliged" in the most authentic sense of obligation.

-Maureen Kelly



This Week

Sunday, July 10

7:00pm AA (HBH)

Monday, July 11

7:00pm Baptism Prep Mtg. (MCCR)

7:00pm Festival Meeting (HBH)

NEW TRANSLATION COUNTDOWN

20 weeks remain until the new translation of the Mass is implemented on November 27, 2011, the First Sunday of Advent.

POPE BENEDICT'S PRAYER INTENTIONS FOR JULY

General Intention:

That Christ may ease the physical and spiritual sufferings of those who are sick with AIDS, especially in the poorest countries.

Mission Intention:

That religious women in mission territories may be witnesses of the joy of the Gospel and living signs of the love of Christ.

DID YOU KNOW?

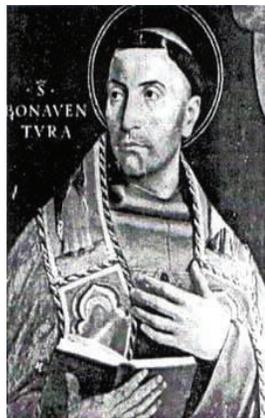
Did you know that July is traditionally designated the "Month of the Precious Blood"? While devotion to the Precious Blood has waned in recent years, a Votive Mass of the Precious Blood is still included in the Roman Missal. The author of the Letter to the Hebrews, in discussing the access to heaven that Jesus' death gained for us, writes: "you have approached Mount Zion and the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and countless angels in festal gathering, and the assembly of the firstborn enrolled in heaven, and God the judge of all, and the spirits of the just made perfect, and Jesus, the mediator of a new covenant, and *the sprinkled blood that speaks more eloquently than that of Abel*" (Hebrews 12:22-24). The blood of Jesus speaks "eloquently" since its shedding gained our salvation. Consider praying the following this month: "*Father, by the blood of your own Son you have set us free and saved us from death. Continue your work of love within us, that by constantly celebrating the mystery of our salvation we may reach the eternal life it promises. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.*"

IN SPIRIT AND TRUTH: THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

Today's gospel from Matthew recounts the parable of the sower. The basic theme of this parable is that the Word of God, rich and fruitful as it is, can only take root if the soil of our hearts and minds is well-nurtured. There is a basic insight for us in this passage, especially in regard to the liturgy. If we come to Mass expecting nothing other than to be passive observers, are we truly nurturing our soil to receive the seed of God's grace? If we come to Mass without making any effort to prepare ourselves by prayer, recollection or even by reviewing the readings in advance, will grace be able to take root in us? Often, lack of interest in communal prayer (i.e., going to church every week) is rooted in an inability to truly enter into the experience of liturgy. How often do we hear people say (or perhaps are even tempted to say ourselves), "I don't get anything out of Mass." The truth is that we can't get anything "out" of the Mass unless we put something into it! Our soil should be tilled, aerated and prepared before every Mass, so that we can receive every grace God wishes to bestow on us through our active and prayerful participation in the liturgy.



Year of Liturgical and Spiritual Renewal



THE MEMORIAL OF SAINT BONAVENTURE

This coming Friday, July 15, the Church Universal celebrates the Memorial of Saint Bonaventure, one of the greatest Franciscan saints. Bonaventure, Franciscan, theologian, doctor of the Church, was both learned and holy. Because of the spirit that filled him and his writings, he was at first called the Devout Doctor; but in more recent centuries he has been known as the

Seraphic Doctor after the "Seraphic Father" Francis because of the truly Franciscan spirit he possessed. Born in Bagnoregio, a town in central Italy, he was cured of a serious illness as a boy through the prayers of Francis of Assisi. Later, he studied the liberal arts in Paris. Inspired by Francis and the example of the friars, especially of his master in theology, Alexander of Hales, he entered the Franciscan Order, and became in turn a teacher of theology in the university. Chosen as minister general of the Order in 1257, he was God's instrument in bringing it back to a deeper love of the way of St. Francis, both through the life of Francis which he wrote at the behest of the brothers and through other works which defended the Order or explained its ideals and way of life.

"When we pray, the voice of the heart must be heard more than that proceeding from the mouth."

-Saint Bonaventure

FOODS/COMMODITIES FOR JULY & AUGUST:

Peanut butter and jelly, cans/jars of veggies, tuna, canned meats, tomato sauce, pasta, fruit juice and snacks. Unopened toilet tissue and paper towels, bug spray and sunblock are also needed. Collections are low so please try to remember to bring some items once a month. As always, thank you for your generosity.



BREAKFAST for a CAUSE

On July 17th, Mary Kate Clossick, a 16-year old parishioner of St. Francis Church, will be holding a breakfast fundraiser to benefit the Mwea School in Kenya, Africa. The Mwea School is located in a very poor village of Kenya. The Mwea village consists of many children who get very few opportunities. Mary Kate has had a pen pal relationship with a boy there named Anthony since the 5th grade. They have continued writing to each other to this day, and it is now Mary Kate's dream to raise enough money to bring Anthony over to the United States for a visit. If enough money is raised she will not only be able to give Anthony this opportunity, but she will also be able to raise money to benefit other children within the Mwea School.

It is Mary Kate's hope to raise \$2,000.00 or more for this cause.

Sunday, July 17th
Fr. Greenan Center
9am - 12pm

Also:

Raffles from local businesses; African face painting station; African dough boys, called "Kabalogala"; Great African music; Slide show of pictures of the Mwea School children.

Tickets sold at the door:

\$7 adults or \$5 dollars for children under 7

Otherwise, if you cannot make the Breakfast, would you please consider a donation for this great cause.

Please make all checks payable to:

The Mwea Fund
 c/o Mary Kate Clossick
 148 Deer Trail Road
 Wakefield, RI 02879