

Please Pray for...

All who have died this past week especially Barbara Dumas & Claire Prizio. We offer our sympathy and our prayers to their families and pray that they will rest in peace.

Those who are sick in the hospital or recovering:

Fr. Martin Donahue, Dorothy Choquette, Peter Lacroix, Jean Wheeler, Al Shedyak, Bob Peluso, Bill Keyes, Diane Cyr, Theresa Cassavant, Laurie Gablaski, Ann Gablaski, Addison Lacaire, Elizabeth Lemerise, Dawn McDonald, Pat Benoit, Michael Jette, Gloria Butler, Joyce Frigon, Laura Wynn, Carey Dubois, Raymond Brodeur, Michael Kady, Bonnie Sheldon, Fr. Chet Devlin, Heather Lech, Joseph Nisel, Joseph Siauris, and Linda Choinard.

OUR SACRIFICIAL OFFERINGS NOV. 26 & 27

Envelopes	\$4,459.50
Loose	\$ 536.57
Total collection	\$4,496.07
Number of envelopes	180
Attendance	495

Thank you for your generous gifts this past weekend which enable us to continue to do God's work. May God bless you all. Please consider weekly or monthly online giving. For more info check out our website for the link to online giving.

FOOD PANTRY REQUEST FOR THIS WEEK Turkey Gravy

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL OUR WINNERS AND FOR SUPPORTING THE RAFFLE!!!

Fall Calendar Raffle Winners:

Nov. 24	Lorraine Monette	500.00
Nov. 25	Pauline Allen	50.00
Nov. 26	Edward Cassie	50.00
Nov. 27	Roger Pontbriand	100.00
Nov. 28	Jim Gordon	75.00
Nov. 29	Sandy Fritze	50.00
Nov. 30	Cathy Manning	100.00

FIRST SATURDAY EUCHARISTIC EXPOSITION

January 7, 2016 8:30am - 4:00 pm

Mass of the Blessed Virgin Mary: 8:00am. Confessions following mass. Exposition will be starting at the end of mass and continuing throughout the day until 4:00 pm. Confessions 3:00 - 3:50 pm. Benediction 4:00 pm. If you wish to participate there is a sign-up sheet in the sacristy.

Intensive Training for Catholic Evangelization. "Sent to Share God's Mercy & Message" is open to all who are interested.

Develop practical skills for sharing our Catholic faith and the message of Jesus with the power of the Holy Spirit in everyday life, organizations, groups, ministries and our parish.

Six Saturday training sessions over five months. Begins January 21, 2017 from 9 - 2 at St. Ann Parish Hall, 130 Boston Turnpike, Shrewsbury. \$60.00 per person. Sessions include: prayer, presentations, readings, small group sharing, skills-training, practice and "people" homework. \$60.00 per person.

Visit www.worcesterdiocese.org/intensive-training-for-catholic-evangelization. Registration and payment due by January 6, 2017.

FAITH FORMATION NEWS

Office hours: Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday from 10:00-5:00
Contact Judi at 508-885-3111 x 105 or jbrennan@parishmail.com

Schedule this week:

Sunday	9:00 - 10:00 am	Grades K - 6
Sunday	5:30 - 7:00 pm	Grades 9 - 11
Tuesday	7:00 - 8:15 pm	Grades 6 - 8 (Drop-in @ 6:30)

Parent Meeting: for parents of 2nd grade students preparing to receive their first Reconciliation: Wednesday, Nov. 30th at 7:00 pm. Babysitter available upon request.

Experience the Spirit of Advent: [RedeemedOnline](http://RedeemedOnline.com) #ShareJesus offers short video clips for you to reflect and comment on. Look up the RedeemedOnline facebook page, find them on youtube, or at <http://redeemedonline.com/sharejesus/> [Dynamic Catholic](http://DynamicCatholic.com) offers short emails messages to reflect on as you prepare your heart for the coming of Christ. Sign up at http://dynamiccatholic.com/best-advent-ever/#bae_sign_up

Spiritual Secret Santa, remember to pray for your family during Advent and the week of Christmas send a card to let the family know who has been praying for them.

OPERATION UNDERCOVER: Bob & Carol McPherson will again be collecting new packages of adult underwear for homeless shelters. This is the 27th year that they will be delivering these items to Massachusetts Veterans Shelter, Abby's House and Jeremiah's Inn. These donations will be delivered the week before Christmas and may be left at the McPherson's home on 125 Pleasant St., Spencer or left in the the sacristy. Thank you!!!

Giving Tree: there are still some tags on the tree, please feel free to take another tag or two....THANK YOU!!!

ALSO: IF YOU HAVE TAKEN A BLUE STOCKING TAG PLEASE DO NOT WRAP IT, JUST ATTACH THE TAG TO THE GIFT. THANK YOU.

All other tags should be wrapped with the tag securely attached. Gifts need to be brought back no later than 12:00 noon on Sunday, December 11. Gift distribution begins at 3:00 that day....if you do not bring back your gift on time, we have to go out and purchase a replacement.....

"Therefore, every tree that does not bear good fruit will be cut down and thrown into the fire." Matthew 3 :10. Do you bear good fruit for Christ? Or, do you spend your time, talent and treasure constantly acquiring more toys, clutter and junk. Our time, our talent and our treasure are gifts that God has given us. What we do with them is our gift back to God. What gifts are you planning to give to the Lord during this upcoming Christmas season?



Pastor's Notes:

The Advent Wreath

The exact origins of the Advent wreath is unknown, however there is evidence of pre-Christian Germanic peoples using wreaths with lit candles during the cold and dark days of December. In the middle ages, the Germanic peoples began incorporating a lighted wreath into the Christian season of Advent. It didn't gain widespread popularity until the 1800s and it wasn't until the 1900s that German immigrants brought the tradition to America. The circle of the wreath, which has no beginning or end, symbolizes the eternity of God, the immortality of the soul, and the everlasting life found in Christ. Four candles represent the four weeks of Advent. Three candles are violet (purple) and one is rose. The violet candles in particular symbolize the prayer, penance, and preparatory sacrifices and good works undertaken at this time. The rose candle is lit on the third Sunday, Gaudete Sunday, which is the Sunday of rejoicing, because we have arrived at the midpoint of Advent, when our preparation is now half over and we are close to Christmas. As we move closer to the Nativity of our Lord, let us continue to prepare our hearts and souls for the coming of Christ.

Fr. Bill

The choirs are looking for new members to help proclaim God's word in song.....Just show up at mass and introduce yourself to the choir director and have fun....

Next weekend we will be taking up a collection for **Retirement Fund for Religious**. Your gift to the Fund helps to furnish medications, nursing care and other necessities. Please be generous to next week's second collection

Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekends will be happening Jan 20 – 22 and March 12 – 19, 2017 for more information please call Stephen & Michelle O'Leary at 800-710-9963 or visit www.WWMEMA.org

"Keep Christ in Christmas" poster contest will be open to the youth of our parish, there are 3 age divisions; 5 – 7, 8 – 10 and 11 – 14. Please see Judi Brennan for the Contest Entry Form and rules.

A HUGE THANK YOU to everyone who helped make Thanksgiving a reality for many families. The people who brought food in to make food baskets, the people who did family to family baskets, the people who helped in any way for Thanksgiving dinner and deliveries, we truly appreciate all you do for this parish...



Mass Schedule

Saturday, December 3 4:30 pm David & Michael Lapierre by Cynthia & Debbie
Sunday, December 4 8:00 am Theresa Johnson by Claire & Don Arsenault 10:15 am Richard & Sheila Grogan by the Family 7:00 pm All Deceased members of our Parish
Monday, December 5 8:00 am For the People of our Parish
Tuesday, December 6 8:00 am Fr. Philip D. McNamara
Wednesday, December 7 8:00 am Mary Donahue by Jane 7:00 pm For all our Retired Religious
Thursday, December 8 IMMACULATE CONCEPTIONI 8:00 am Those suffering in any way 7:00 pm Mary Smith (12 th Anniv) by her Family
Friday, December 9 8:00 am No Mass Today
Saturday, December 10 4:30 pm Barbara McKeon by the Family
Sunday, December 11 8:00 am Fr. James Mayo (8 th Anniv) by his Family 10:15 am Gertrude Stevens by Al & Mimi Shedyak 7:00 pm For Victims of Tragic Fires

Calendar of Events

Sunday, December 4	Coffee Shop OPEN
9:00 am	Faith Formation Grades K - 6
10:15 am	Children's Liturgy of the Word
2:00 pm	First Reconciliation
5:30 – 7:00 pm	Faith Formation – High School
Monday, December 5	
10:00 am	Food Pantry OPEN
Tuesday, December 6	
4:15 pm	Faith Formation Grades 1 – 6
5:30 – 6:30 pm	GLOW
6:30 pm	Drop In
7:00 pm	Faith Formation Grades 6 – 8
Wednesday, December 7	
7:00 pm	Prayer Shawl Ministry
Thursday, December 8	Immaculate Conception – Holy Day
Friday, December 9	
Saturday, December 10	
3:30 pm	Confessions
Sunday, December 11	Coffee Shop OPEN
9:00 am	Faith Formation Grades K - 6
10:15 am	Children's Liturgy of the Word
5:30 – 7:00 pm	Faith Formation – High School