

ST. FRANCIS XAVIER, HYANNIS, MA

MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD

DIOCESE OF FALL RIVER

JANUARY 1, 2017

STEWARDSHIP OF PRAYER

HEART OF THE WORLD IV

~ ST. FRANCIS XAVIER ~

2017 commemorates 100 years since the apparitions of the Blessed Mother to the three children (Lucia, Jacinta, and Francisco) at Fatima. In this column, we have been discussing how St. Michael appeared to them in order to prepare them to meet Our Lady. In his third apparition, he was holding a consecrated Host and Chalice filled with the precious Blood of Our Lord. He taught them a prayer and how they are to comport themselves in the Presence of Christ in the Eucharist.

St. Michael's prayer is: *Most Holy Trinity, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, I adore You profoundly. I offer You the most precious Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity of Jesus Christ, present in all the tabernacles of the world, in reparation for the outrages, sacrileges, and indifference, by which He is offended. By the infinite merits of the Sacred Heart of Jesus and the Immaculate Heart of Mary, I pray for the conversion of poor sinners.*

In the Catechism of the Catholic Church (CCC), the Eucharist is described as "...the source and summit of the Christian life." "The other sacraments, and indeed all ecclesiastical ministries and works of the apostolate, are bound up with the Eucharist and are oriented toward it. For in the blessed Eucharist is contained the whole spiritual good of the Church, namely Christ himself, our Pasch." (CCC #1324)

Like the heart in the body, the very center and life-moving force of the Church is the Eucharist. All of the other Sacraments and the whole life of Grace and the Church in the world flow from it and lead back to it.

What St. Michael was teaching the children (and us) is how important is the Gift of Reverence. It is one of the Gifts of the Holy Spirit (often referred to as Piety). Pope Francis, in his General Audience of June 4, 2014, said:

"[Piety] is a *relationship lived with the heart*: it is our friendship with God, granted to us by Jesus, a friendship that changes our life and fills us with passion, with joy. Thus, the gift of piety stirs in us above all gratitude and praise. This is, in fact, the reason and *the most authentic meaning of our worship and our adoration*. When the Holy Spirit allows us to perceive the presence of the Lord and all his love for us, it warms the heart and moves us quite naturally to prayer and celebration. Piety, therefore, is synonymous with the genuine religious spirit, with filial trust in God, with that capacity to pray to him with the love and simplicity that belongs to those who are humble of heart."

Additionally, there is a component of Piety that connects us with each other. "...it [also] helps us to pass this love on to others as well and to recognize them as our brothers and sisters." Remember the example of Mother Theresa?

Saturday:		Dec 31
8:30 AM	Mary Jane Ferreira	
4:00 PM	Michael Marchetti	
Sunday:		Jan 1
9 AM	Mary Kelleher	
11AM	Rose Bouchard	
1 PM	Rev. Richard Neilson	
Monday:		Jan 2
8:30 AM	Helen Shannon	
Tuesday:		Jan 3
8:30 AM	Vincent Cashman	
Wednesday:		Jan 4
8:30 AM	Gene Bruyette	
Thursday:		Jan 5
8:30 AM	Thomas Andrew George	
Friday:		Jan 6
8:30 AM	Brian Campbell	
Saturday:		Jan 7
8:30 AM	John Barry	
4:00 PM	Edmund Dery	
Sunday:		Jan 8
9 AM	Special Intention	
11AM	Deacon Richard Dresser	
1 PM	Intention Available	

~ SACRED HEART CHAPEL ~

Saturday:		Dec 31
4 PM	Joseph Mahoney	
Sunday:		Jan 1
10 AM	Members of the Parish	
Saturday:		Jan 7
4 PM	Members of the Parish	
Sunday:		Jan 8
8 AM	Osbourne & James McConathy	



*Mary,
Mother
of God*

ST. FRANCIS XAVIER, HYANNIS, MA

ADORATION

MONDAY
THROUGH
FRIDAY

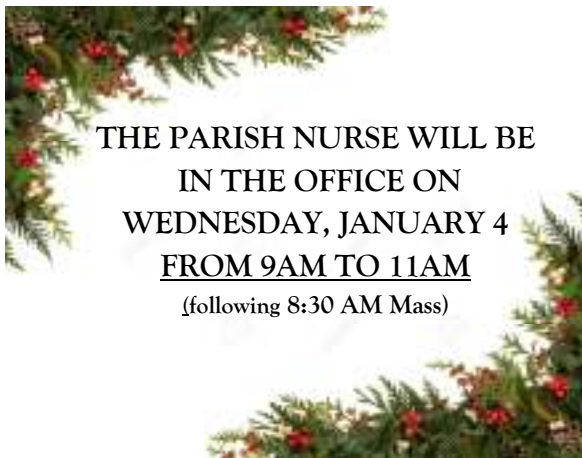
NOON TO 3PM

COME PRAY
AN HOUR WITH ME.



ADORATION COME PRAY ONE HOUR WITH ME

There is a need for additional people to spend a time with Our Lord. Sometimes things come up (illness, family problems) that require the presence of the person who said they would pray with the Lord. It is difficult to predict, but also makes it difficult for them to follow through with this commitment. If you can fill in as a substitute, could you please contact Deacon Bruce Baxter at his email at deaconbrucebaxter@gmail.com or call the Parish Office for details 508.775.0818. Thank you to those of you who have come forward and offered to help.



THE PARISH NURSE WILL BE
IN THE OFFICE ON
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 4
FROM 9AM TO 11AM
(following 8:30 AM Mass)

COFFEE AND FELLOWSHIP... LIGHT LUNCH, TOO...!!

Please Note, there will be NO Coffee and fellowship on Sunday, January 1. Sunday Coffee & Fellowship will resume on January 8, 2017, following both the 9 am and 11 am Masses. Please plan to join us.

EUCCHARISTIC APOSTLES OF DIVINE MERCY

Meetings are held every other Monday. The next meeting will be held on **Jan 10**. For further information, call the office at 508.775.0818.

FOUNDATION TO ADVANCE CATHOLIC EDUCATION - FACE

A winter brunch on Cape Cod will take place beginning at 11:30 AM on Sunday, February 5, 2017, at the Coonamessett Inn of Falmouth. Proceeds will provide need-based scholarships to children attending Catholic schools on Cape Cod and throughout southeastern Massachusetts. Mary and Larry McGrath, Esq. are serving as co-chairs for this year's event. The festivities will include an award winning Sunday brunch buffet, silent auction, mystery prizes and a fun-filled raffle with fantastic prizes. "Together, we will continue making Catholic education available to as many children as we possibly can," writes the Bishop. The FACE winter brunch offers a great opportunity to help support Catholic education in the Fall River Diocese. For details, including ticket information and sponsorship opportunities, please contact Jane Robin at 508-759-3566.



THE PARISH OFFICE
WILL BE CLOSED
FOR THE
NEW YEARS HOLIDAY
ON MONDAY, JANUARY 2

HAPPY AND BLESSED
NEW YEAR TO ALL.

ST. FRANCIS XAVIER, HYANNIS, MA

NEW YEARS DAY MASS SCHEDULE



ST. FRANCIS XAVIER CHURCH

DECEMBER 31

NEW YEARS EVE – 4 PM (ENGLISH)
– 7 PM (PORTUGUESE)

JANUARY 1

NEW YEARS DAY – 9 AM (ENGLISH)
– 11 AM (ENGLISH)
– 1 PM (LATIN)
– 3 PM (SPANISH)
– 7 PM (PORTUGUESE)

SACRED HEART CHAPEL

DECEMBER 31

NEW YEARS EVE – 4 PM (ENGLISH)

JANUARY 1

NEW YEARS DAY – 10 AM (ENGLISH)



SANCTUARY LAMP



Please contact the Parish Office if you would like to book the Sanctuary Lamp at St. Francis, in honor of a loved one. The Sanctuary Lamp is lit this week in honor of:

HAL MEADE

COLLECTIONS

December 25, 2016 - \$ 13,695

St. Vincent DePaul Society - \$ 329

“GROWING INTO WHOLENESS” - JAN 13 - 15, 2017

A mini-retreat on loss and grief, led by Peggy Patenaude of Taking Time Out, will be held ...at Miramar Retreat Center in Duxbury, MA January 13-15, 2017. For more details, Contact Peggy at timeoutretreats@comcast.net OR www.timeoutretreats.com or call her at 508.548.9149. Pre-registration required.

WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER - JAN 20 - 22, 2017

“And Mary kept all these things, reflecting on them in her heart.” Sometimes we need to reflect how to let God live with us in our marriages. Explore how by attending a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend. The next WWME Weekends are Jan 20-22, 2017 in Duxbury, MA and Mar 17-19, 2017 in South Kingstown, RI. For more information, call Stephen & Michelle O'Leary at 800-710-9963 or visit us at www.WWMEMA.org.

ST. FRANCIS XAVIER, HYANNIS, MA



Christmas 2016

My Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Peace to you. Do you have someone in your family that is a ‘wrapper’? You know the kind—the one who so securely and fastidiously wraps their gifts that it gives you a new appreciation for the strength of paper and tape. It frequently is a recessive trait because it drives everyone in the current and following generation nuts. It is not until the next generation that it again can appear to be a good idea.

The level of detail and intricacy in the wrapping frequently affects us differently along the lines of age. What is intriguing and exciting to a child is frustrating and exasperating to a teenager (actually, I think mostly *everything* is frustrating and exasperating to teenagers). The same experience can be mildly annoying and irritating to arthritic fingers.

There are two basic techniques to opening: tearing and deconstructing. Often, this is dictated by age, but it is also strongly driven by temperament.

Deconstructors, are often from among those of us who grew up poor and developed the habit of saving every box and bow and ribbon—painstakingly trying not to destroy anything in the process. These are the people the ‘wrappers’ most drive crazy. (And everyone else, too, as they wait for the extrication process to conclude.) This list often includes engineers, mechanics, or those wired for detail.

Tearers are frequently children and those wired for the explosively dramatic. They just can’t wait to *see* what is inside and that is half of the joy.

No matter our gift-opening technique, it is the process of unwrapping that increases our joy and excitement and even makes a modest gift wonderful. Our God is a God of details. He has a meticulous plan for our joy. It is wrapped in such a way as to give joy in the process whether we tear or deconstruct. If we are honest, the ‘wrappers’ gifts frequently provide the most excitement because of the process. It is only in our selfish self-consumed perspective that it is annoying.

Have you ever been given a gift of great worth that you did not appreciate at the time and only much later realized its value? Have you ever given someone a gift that they did not appreciate? Being on either side of this equation sucks the joy right out of us. What is God’s gift to you this year? Unwrapping takes time and attention. What have you asked for? Has He given it, but because you are in such crisis-mode you have moved on and not noticed?

In this Christmas season make sure you take time to take an inventory of what God has given you and thank Him. As for me, I am most thankful for the invention of gift-bags...

Merry Christmas.