

ST. FRANCIS XAVIER, HYANNIS, MA

EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

DIOCESE OF FALL RIVER

FEBRUARY 26, 2017

STEWARDSHIP OF PRAYER

HEART OF THE WORLD XII

~ ST. FRANCIS XAVIER ~

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.

2017 commemorates 100 years since the apparitions of the Blessed Mother to Lucia, Jacinta, and Francisco at Fatima. In this column, we have been discussing how an Angel appeared to them three times in order to prepare them to meet Our Lady. One of the most important things he desired to teach them was the practice of Reverence (or Piety).

This Gift of the Holy Spirit precedes any interaction (prayer) with God and denotes an interior attitude that is also expressed outwardly. The Angel was able to *appear* to bow, kneel, prostrate, etc. but could not actually do so. Angels do not have bodies. The fact that we can worship with our bodies is a source of wonder and amazement to them. (cf. Lk, 15:10; Eph 3:10; Heb 2)

However, Angels, who perceive reality with perfect clarity, have a lot to teach us about Reverence. We become tired, or sore, or sick, or injured and get distracted by the gift of our bodies from what we can do with them.

There is an ancient saying in the Church: *Lex Orandi, Lex Credendi*—The Law of Prayer is the Law of Belief. Or in better English: our beliefs are formed from how we pray. Last week we looked at how fashion, and not theology, can affect our worship by effecting our Sacred Spaces. Many things in and of our Church buildings have been shifting like sand for the last 70 years or so. This is why that is a bad idea.

When things change due to fashion or fad instead of theology, it does violence to our souls because: (1) God is *unchanging* and reliable and fads subtly imply that is not true; (2) subsequent to '1', we need stability to be able to relax and to *consistently* connect to our hearts in prayer; (3) we forget and do not appreciate the richness of the Traditions we have inherited and are then deeply impoverished by their loss.

Probably the most symbolic (hot topic) article of this dynamic is the Altar Rail. Altar Rails make the Sanctuary exclusive. It is supposed to be. If the Sanctuary represents Heaven on earth, then no one "deserves" to go there no matter how good we are—if for the mere reason that we are not dead yet. This includes the priests, bishops and even the Pope.

Altar Rails were intended to remind us of that and to take very seriously what we are doing by entering. Basically, we are asking to have access to Heaven without dying. As a physical barrier, Rails keep us from cavalierly traipsing around the Sanctuary with not a thought of what we are doing and in Whose Presence we are.

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|-------------------|-------------------------------------|---------------|
| Saturday: | | Feb 25 |
| 8:30 AM | Robert Klaiber | |
| 4:00 PM | Eileen Cronin | |
| Sunday: | | Feb 26 |
| 9 AM | Members of the Parish | |
| 11AM | Rita G. McLaughlin | |
| 1 PM | Cathryn P. Wiatroski | |
| Monday: | | Feb 27 |
| 8:30 AM | Melissa Severe | |
| Tuesday: | | Feb 28 |
| 8:30 AM | Grace Cericola | |
| Wednesday: | | Mar 1 |
| 8:30 AM | Stanley Koss | |
| Thursday: | | Mar 2 |
| 8:30 AM | Mary Jane Camara | |
| Friday: | | Mar 3 |
| 8:30 AM | Thomas Edward Lee | |
| Saturday: | | Mar 4 |
| 8:30 AM | Gerald Kursman | |
| 4:00 PM | Irene Roberts | |
| Sunday: | | Mar 5 |
| 9 AM | Deacon Manuel & Mary Jane Camara | |
| 11AM | The Schlegel Family | |
| 1 PM | Margaret Grace Gallante | |

~ SACRED HEART CHAPEL ~

| | | |
|------------------|-------------------------|---------------|
| Saturday: | | Feb 25 |
| 4 PM | John Sheehan | |
| Sunday: | | Feb 26 |
| 8 AM | Peros & Starke Families | |
| Saturday: | | Mar 4 |
| 4 PM | Marie Callahan | |
| Sunday: | | Mar 5 |
| 8 AM | Members of the Parish | |

THE PARISH NURSE WILL BE
IN THE OFFICE ON
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 1
FROM 9AM TO 11AM
(following 8:30 AM Mass)

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.

EUCCHARISTIC APOSTLES OF DIVINE MERCY

Meetings are held every other Monday. For further information, call the office at 508.775.0818.

WALKING WITH PURPOSE

Bible Study Group meets at



Christ the King Parish on:

Tuesday 9 - 11AM

Thursday 7 - 9 PM

Classrooms B & C

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

Join us each Sunday morning after 9 and 11AM Masses, in the Lower Church Hall, at St. Francis, for coffee and fellowship. Breakfast after 9AM Mass and light luncheon after 11AM Mass.

Women from all Parishes are welcome. No meetings during school vacations. For more information, go to WWPMashpee@aol.com or call 508-420-0443.

Celebrating "Fat" Sunday - Serving Breakfast & Brunch

February 26th following - 9:00 & 11:00 am Masses

Lower Church Hall - "May We Serve You?"

Sample a variety of Breakfast Foods

(a change from the normal menu)

with Coffee, Juice & Fellowship



ST. FRANCIS XAVIER, HYANNIS, MA



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:

JOSEPH S. MURPHY

COLLECTIONS

February 19, 2017 - \$ N/A

St. Vincent DePaul Society - \$ 130

WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTERS - MAR 17 - 19 and APRIL 22-23, 2017

"But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be given you besides." Learn how to "not sweat the small stuff" and enhance your marriage by attending a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend. The next WWME Weekends are **Mar 17-19, 2017** in South Kingstown, RI and **Apr 22-23, 2017** in Brewster, MA. For more information, call Stephen & Michelle O'Leary at 800-710-9963 or visit us at www.WWMEMA.org.

ANCHOR NEWSPAPER - CHANGES..!!!

If you receive budget envelopes, you will notice that there is still an envelope for the ANCHOR newspaper. Again, as was the case last year, the ANCHOR is taking care of subscriptions on its own. The checks will no longer go through the parish. Please contact the ANCHOR directly to renew your subscription. Their address is:

**The ANCHOR
887 Highland Avenue
Fall River, MA 02720**

THE GREATEST WOMAN WHO EVER LIVED

The Bible and the Virgin Mary unveils the mystery of Our Lady that is woven into the fabric of Sacred Scripture. In this beautiful and awe-inspiring series based on Dr. Scott Hahn's book *Hail, Holy Queen*, watch the Mary of doctrine and devotion come alive in a powerful, new way! Join us at St. Francis Xavier as we embark on this 12 week study series. We will be beginning the series in Lent and concluding it in the Spring after a short hiatus. (Two 6-week sessions) beginning **March 4, 2017**, at the **Duffy Pastoral Center at 11AM**. Please Register, since seating is limited. (complete and return to Parish Office) →

BIBLE STUDY - BEGINNING MARCH 4, 2017

(*NAME)

(*PHONE)

(*EMAIL)

(*print legibly - one per person)



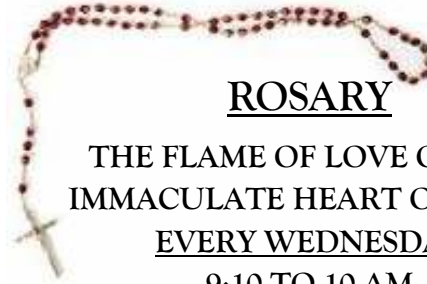
OFFICE FOR CHILD PROTECTION

The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops created the *Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People*, revised in 2011. *The Charter* directs the creation of Safe Environment programs for children, as well as healing for victims/survivors of sexual abuse. If you would like more information about the *Charter*, please visit www.fallriverdiocese.org or call Debora Berg at (508) 997-7337. (6)

ST. FRANCIS XAVIER, HYANNIS, MA

SERVER SCHEDULES ARE READY

SERVER SCHEDULES ARE IN THE SACRISTIES AT ST. FRANCIS AND SACRED HEART CHAPEL THIS WEEKEND FOR ALTAR SERVERS, LECTORS AND EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS TO PICK UP AT YOUR CONVENIENCE. THEY ARE ALSO ON THE WEBSITE. THANK YOU ALL, FOR YOUR CONTINUED ASSISTANCE AT THE LORD'S ALTAR.



ROSARY

**THE FLAME OF LOVE OF THE
IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY
EVERY WEDNESDAY
9:10 TO 10 AM
ST. FRANCIS XAVIER - HYANNIS**

LENTEN SCHEDULE - ST. FRANCIS XAVIER

Daily Mass - 8:30 AM - Mon - Sat

Ash Wednesday - 8:30 AM and 12:10 PM

Adoration - Mon-Fri - noon to 3PM

Stations of the Cross – Friday – Noon – followed by Adoration until 3:00 PM

Stations of the Cross - Friday – 7 PM – followed by Adoration

ASH WEDNESDAY RETREAT: "HERE FOR A PURPOSE"

A Retreat led by Peggy Patenaude and held at **Sacred Hearts Retreat Center in Wareham, MA** will take place Wednesday, March 1 from 9:00 AM to 3:30 PM. Mass, distribution of ashes, and lunch are included. Fee: \$55. Pre-registration is required by Monday, February 27. Visit www.timeoutretreats.com for more information and for a registration form. For questions, contact Peggy at timeoutretreats@comcast.net or 508-548-9149.

SERVING THE SPIRITUAL NEEDS OF GRIEVING PARENTS

Losing a child under any circumstance is horrific. Focusing on the spirituality of the grieving process can help tremendously. Please join us. All are welcome. St. Anthony Shrine, Boston, MA, is offering an Emmaus Ministry for Grieving Parents will conduct a Lenten 'One-Day' Spiritual Retreat on March 11, 2017, from 9:30 am - 7:30 pm. For more information, call Diane, Mother of Paul, at (617) 542-8057 or see www.emfgp.org

YOUNG ADULTS MEETING
The Young Adults will be
meeting every 1st and 3rd
Saturdays of each month at
5:30pm in the Fr. Duffy
Center.