

ST. FRANCIS XAVIER, HYANNIS, MA

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

DIOCESE OF FALL RIVER

DECEMBER 3, 2017

STEWARDSHIP OF PRAYER

HEART OF THE WORLD L

~ ST. FRANCIS XAVIER ~

For the last few of weeks we have been considering the practical advice that our Blessed Mother has given us at Medjugorje—the Five Stones of Prayer, Fasting, Mass, reading/praying with the Bible, and Confession. In giving these, she is drawing on the biblical account of David and Goliath (see 1Sam 17). She compares our attempt to live authentically Christian lives in this secularized society as a similarly mismatched fight. However, just as David went out to meet Goliath in battle armed with sling, five stones, and confidence in the Lord, so must we.

The fourth stone: **the Bible** and some guiding Principles:

1) *The Scriptures are God's Word.* The words of anyone are not things, they flow from their heart. God's Word flowing from His heart shares His nature (divine, immortal, beyond infinite...) therefore it is the communication of His presence. Moreover, because divine, "it" is also a Person—the Second Person of the Trinity, the Eternal Word. Jesus Christ.

When we are getting to know someone and develop a relationship, we do not 'study' them. We talk with them and grow in friendship through increasing levels of intimacy, sharing what is in our heart and hearing what is in theirs.

2) *Prayer.* If the way to grow in relationship is by communication, then prayer is how we enter into the interiority of His Word—not just skipping along the surface, learning lots of things about Him. Pray to the Holy Spirit Who inspired the human author to help you to understand.

3) *Time.* To get to know someone, you must spend time with them. Period.

4) *Tools/Study.* It is very possible (maybe even common) for someone to be an "expert" in the Scriptures and not know God. Jesus met many and eventually they killed Him. Never be impressed with Zumma-zumma degrees and clever and merely entertaining words!

-Let Scripture interpret Scripture. Every day the Lectionary puts certain passages together for us. They are mutually informative. Ask God to show you a connection. Also, when you are reading your Bible and come to a passage where you are not sure what is going on, look up what other Scriptures that passage is read with in the Lectionary and read those. It is easy in today's internet age.

-Get your mind around the notion of Covenant and how that is the interpretive key to open our minds to the Scriptures. A Father Who Keeps His Promises by Dr. Scott Hahn is a great book for that.

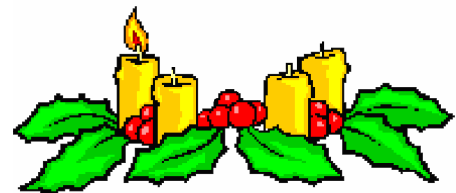
-Get a "study" Bible. Learn how to use the cross-references and other tools.

-Turn off the voice of the world and listen—enough TV and radio! That stuff clutters and tires our minds. There are lots of great media resources available now—CD's, podcasts, etc. Listen in the car or doing chores or walking, etc.

Saturday		Dec 2
8:30 AM	Maria Pacheco	
4:00 PM	John McBride	
Sunday		Dec 3
9 AM	Dorothy Ann Perry	
11AM	David, Katharine & Ormsby Sullivan	
Monday:		Dec 4
8:30 AM	Robert Finethy	
Tuesday:		Dec 5
8:30 AM	Edward Barry	
Wednesday:		Dec 6
8:30 AM	Carmine Molinare	
Thursday		Dec 7
8:30 AM	Margaret Kelly	
4:00 PM	Dennis & David Karczewski	
Friday		Dec 8
8:30 PM	Dr. Yong Min Chi	
12:10 PM	David Wagner	
Saturday		Dec 9
8:30 AM	Michelle Smith	
4:00 PM	John McBride	
Sunday		Dec 10
9 AM	Maria Pacheco	
11AM	Rose Bouchard	

~ SACRED HEART CHAPEL ~

Saturday		Dec 2
4 PM	Janet Lott	
Sunday		Dec 3
8 PM	Members of the Parish	
Saturday		Dec 9
4 PM	Joseph Mahoney	
Sunday		Dec 10
8 AM	Members of the Parish	



ST. FRANCIS XAVIER, HYANNIS, MA

SIXTH ANNUAL ST. FRANCIS XAVIER HOLIDAY FAIR



**Saturday, December 2, from 9 AM - 3 PM
and following the 4 pm Mass,
with a Complimentary Parish Supper Gathering
at St. Francis Xavier Preparatory School,
following Mass in Celebration of our Patron Saint.**

Sunday, December 3, from 9 AM - 3 PM

Crafters, Baked Goods, Silent Auction, Raffles, Tool Table, Snack Bar

PLUS

Living Nativity presented by SFXP Students & Pancake Breakfast, Sunday

HOLY DAY - DECEMBER 8, 2017

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

English:	Dec 7 -	Vigil	4:00 PM
English:	Dec 8 -	8:30 AM &	12:10 PM
Latin:	Dec 8 -	2:00 PM	
Portuguese:	Dec 8 -	7:00 PM	



PIVOTAL PLAYERS - EVENING SESSIONS

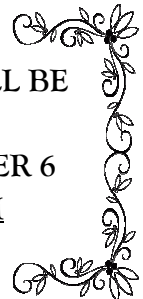
**In addition to the Monday morning sessions,
Pivotal Players evening sessions will be held
on Wednesday evening - 6:30 p.m.
in the Father Duffy Pastoral Center.**

on

December 6 - Michelangelo



**THE PARISH NURSE WILL BE
IN THE OFFICE ON
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 6
FROM 9AM TO 11AM
(following 8:30 AM Mass)**



'TIS THE SEASON

Before you know it, we'll be buying presents, writing Christmas cards, baking cookies, decorating our trees. December 3rd is the beginning of Advent, when we prepare spiritually for the coming of Christ. When we get ready to encounter Jesus, opening our hearts to Him. You can go online to BestAdventEver.com/BeautifulHope/ Sign up NOW and each day in Advent, you'll receive an email with practical tips, real-life stories of hope, and an inspirational video. It's free, takes about 5 minutes, and provides you with your own personal Advent retreat focused on what's really important – the birth of Jesus. Sign up NOW at BestAdventEver.com/BeautifulHope/

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 PAUL KEOHANE

COLLECTIONS

St. Francis Xavier Church
Sacred Heart Chapel

November 26, 2017 - \$ 5,883
St. Vincent DePaul - \$ 650

EUCCHARISTIC APOSTLES OF DIVINE MERCY

Meetings are usually held every other Monday. However, the next meeting will be held on **December 11, 2017**. For further information, call the office at 508.775.0818.

COFFEE AND FELLOWSHIP...

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



SVDP CHRISTMAS GIFT CARDS

For \$25.00, to the St. Vincent DePaul society, here at the Parish, you can make a donation of a 'Christmas Dinner Basket', to be given to a needy family, in the name of that 'difficult-to-buy-for' person on your gift list. Purchase your gift cards at the Parish Office, 21 Cross Street. Monday - Friday from 9 AM to 12:00 Noon, or at the St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry, behind the Church Office on Cross Street, on Tuesday or Friday. The Cards will also be available this weekend at the Christmas Fair and after 9 and 11AM Masses at Breakfast with St. Nicholas in the School Gym. Phone the St. Vincent de Paul Society office at 508.775.3073 for further information.

HIGH SCHOOL PLACEMENT EXAMS

Catholic High Schools in the Diocese Bishop Connolly High, Fall River; Bishop Feehan High, Attleboro; St. John Paul II High, Hyannis; Bishop Stang High, No. Dartmouth; or Coyle and Cassidy High, Taunton, will conduct Entrance/Placement Examinations on **Saturday, December 9th**. Students wishing to enter any of these schools next September, should report to the school of their choice at **7:45 AM, with testing to begin at 8 AM and conclude approximately 11:30 AM**. The application fee is \$20, payable at the time of application/test. The students need bring **no records** with them, nor do parents have to accompany them.

OFFICE FOR CHILD PROTECTION

Schools in MA now have policies about bullying, including documentation and reporting of such incidents, as well as requirements for dealing with the situation. If you are unaware of the existing policies, please contact your child's school and be aware and prepared. You never know when you might need this information and it is also an excellent tool for talking with your child about bullying. (44)

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

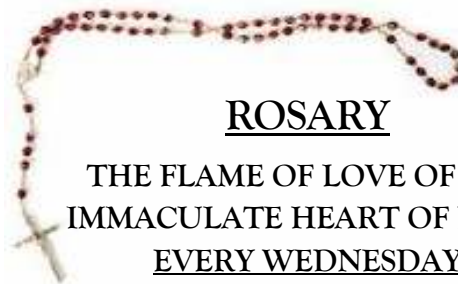
There is a need for additional people to spend a time with Our Lord. Sometimes things come up (illness, family problems) that require the presence of the person who said they would pray with the Lord. It is difficult to predict, but also makes it difficult for them to follow through with this commitment. 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.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS RAFFLE WINNERS

K of C Council 2525, 500 Club monthly raffle
November winners are:

\$250	Dorothy Darwin	Osterville
\$100	M&M Robert Silva	Hyannis Port
\$ 50.	Joe Asiaf	Centerville
\$ 50	Paul Canniff	Centerville
\$ 50	Joan Casey	Centerville

You can join anytime for \$50.00 and you will participate in 12 consecutive Monthly drawings with 60 chances to win. Applications are available in the box outside of the K of C Hall entrance at Our Lady of Victory Parish. For more information see kofccouncil2525@comcast.net or call 508.775.4054.



ROSARY

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

WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER

"I myself will pasture my sheep; I myself will give them rest, says the Lord GOD." As we celebrate Christ the King, let us also learn to serve our spouses by attending a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend. The next Weekends are Jan 19-21, 2018 in South Kingstown, RI and Mar 9-11, 2018 in Duxbury, MA. For more information, call Stephen & Michelle O'Leary at 800-710-9963 or visit them at <https://wwmema.org/>.



A WOMENS BIBLE STUDY – CHRIST THE KING PARISH, MASHPEE

You are invited to the Advent Gathering to reflect and prepare for the celebration of Christ's birth. Enjoy a lovely meal and exchange gifts for re-giving on Tuesday morning December 12 from 9 to 11AM or Thursday evening December 14 from 7 to 9PM. They are scheduled to meet at Christ The King Parish, Classroom B. For reservations, please call 508-420-0443 or visit the website at WWPMashpee@aol.com.