

January 31, 2010
Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time



SATURDAY, JANUARY 30

4:00 PM Corey Reis by his Mom & Dad (3rd anniversary)
 Richard Roderigues
 Claudio Allahua

SUNDAY, JANUARY 31

8:00 AM Jeannette & Clifford Johnson by their family
 9:30 AM Mary & John Furness by daughter & grandsons
 11:00 AM Angelo Colucciello by his family

MONDAY, February 1

9:00 AM Maryann Ruggiero by Tony and Judy

TUESDAY, February 2

9:00 AM For the health of Coletta Curtis by Sister St. John

WEDNESDAY, February 3

9:00 AM Mary Garganta by the Parish Family

THURSDAY, February 4

9:00 AM Harold Hodkinson, Jr. by Wanda Peloquin

SATURDAY, February 6

4:00 PM Frank Boyko, Sr. by Helena & Ed Sowa (9th anniv)

SUNDAY, February 7

8:00 AM Edward & Hilda Krawczyk by their Godchildren
 Mr. & Mrs. Michael McMahon by Claire McMahon
 Joao Moreira by his sister, Tina Arruda
 Claudio Allahua by his son, daughter-in-law and
 grandchildren
 9:30 AM John & Aldina Santos by daughter & son-in-law
 11:00 AM Joey Gonsalves, III by his Mom & Dad

January Memorial Candles

Sanctuary Lamp in memory of Henry and Adele Dion by their daughter, Jeannine

Altar Candles in memory of Norman Beaulieu by his wife, Ruth

Tabernacle Candles in memory of Paul Boulay by his wife, Lorraine and family

Collection January 24th

Budget.....\$ 4,100.00

Relief Efforts in Haiti \$ 4,921.05

***“Thank You” to all who continue to
 Generously support our parish!***

Gift Bearers - If you are a family member or friend who would like to bring the gifts to the altar at a loved one’s Mass, we would be happy to have you do so. Just stop by the Sacristy before Mass and tell Father Michael you will be the gift bearer that day. Thank you.

50 Week Club – Congratulations to the Jan. 31st winner.....James Caron.



The next meeting will be **TONIGHT, January 31st** at 6:00 p.m. in the church hall. Please contact Monica

Valenti if you have any questions. All Grade 8 – 12 students are welcome. Bring a friend!

Due to the cold winter and recent snow storms, many people haven’t been able to participate in Mass. As a result, our collections have been down and expenses up (heating of the church and hall and plowing/sanding of the church and rectory parking lots). Anything you can do to make up for missed collections would be greatly appreciated. Thank you.

Ministry to the Sick - Please notify us if someone you know would like to receive the Sacrament of the Sick, or if someone is unable to come to Mass due to illness, handicap or age - we are anxious to make sure they receive Communion regularly. Charlton and St. Anne Hospitals are visited regularly.

The Diocese of Fall River is once again, through the St. Mary’s Education Fund, making “need-based” scholarships available for the 2010-2011 school year. Students presently enrolled, or who are accepted and registered for the 2010-2011 school year in one of the 22 Diocesan elementary or middle schools are eligible to apply. Any parent interested in having their child attend one of the Catholic elementary or middle schools in the Diocese of Fall River should contact the principal of the school in which they have interest. Once accepted and registered they may apply for the “need-based” scholarship aid. Applications may be obtained at any of the schools.

Saint Michael School, 209 Essex Street, Fall River is now accepting registrations for the 2010-2011 academic year. We offer a full academic program steeped in faith and values. We also offer art, music, physical education, before and after school care, hot lunch program, extracurricular and sports programs in a family atmosphere. Need based scholarship funds can be applied for through the St. Mary’s Education Scholarship Fund. We are a NEASC accredited school. Open house will be held on Wednesday, Feb. 3, 2010 from 9-11AM and 1-8PM or call for an appointment at 508-678-0266. Email: sistermarie@smsfr.org.

Handicap Parking – Respectfully, we ask that the handicap parking be reserved for those whom the spots are intended.

Family Life Corner

The Family Life Committee is looking for faith-filled, generous people who are willing to share ideas, talents and faith to enrich St. Francis of Assisi parish. Our goal is to transform our parish community into a vibrant, active and welcoming home, where we all feel treasured and loved. To do this, **we need you!** Our membership is growing, but we still need more people to continue to do things which make our parish awesome. Meetings are held on the second Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. in the church hall, Please join us for some fun and fellowship. For more information please call Christine Patota at 508-677-0804.

Upcoming Events



Saturday, February 6th - Family Game Night and Pizza Party



5 p.m. in the church hall (after the 4 p.m. mass). Bring your favorite games and candy bars (for candy bar bingo) Come and enjoy a great night playing fun games and enjoying great pizza. **Fun for all ages!!!**



Sunday, February 14th Valentine Day Breakfast

in the church hall from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. **Tickets are \$6.00 for adults and \$3.00 for children (5 and under) and will be available after all masses**

this weekend and next weekend. Please come and join other members of our parish family for a delicious breakfast buffet. You don't have to cook, serve, or cleanup....just enjoy! What a wonderful way to start your day...attending mass followed by breakfast with friends

Emmaus Retreat Weekend - February 12-14 Cathedral Camp, E. Freetown, MA

A heartfelt invitation is open to join us on our next Emmaus weekend! Emmaus is a weekend retreat program for people who are seeking to grow in their relationship with Christ, regardless of their present level of faith and practice. The purpose of the weekend is to give participants an opportunity to reflect upon themselves and their relationship with God and their community. You will build valuable relationships through friendship, encouragement, prayer and the awesome power of God.

Emmaus is a Catholic retreat program that is open to people of all Christian faiths.

For more information please contact Debbie Sousa at 508-646-3902 or visit our website at

www.emmausretreats.com.

2009 Contribution Statements



Register: Membership has its privileges!

If you would like a statement for your parish contributions for 2009 mailed to you, please call the

Parish Office at 508-673-2808. **Please Note:** If you want your statement to reflect your donations to St. Francis, please be sure to use budget envelopes or a plain white envelope with your name, address and budget number (if known) on it. Unfortunately, loose checks and money will not be reflected on your statement.

HAVE YOU EVER MADE A WILL? ARE YOU THINKING OF MAKING ONE?

Would you consider leaving something to your parish? Many people (even recently) have done so here and in other parishes, and their generosity has a lasting effect on many people. Just a little food for thought.

Parish Registration

Many people consider themselves members St. Francis of Assisi Parish although they have never registered with our parish office. In order for us to better serve you and your family members, it is important that you register in the parish. ***If you do not receive any mailings from the parish, or do not receive budget envelopes, you are probably not in our computer as a current member of the parish.*** This poses a problem when we are asked to provide sponsor forms for baptism or confirmation sponsor/godparents or letters of recommendation from Fr. Michael for Catholic high schools. Often we are unable to contact a family regarding a particular situation simply because we have no information regarding them. Our faith community depends on the sharing of time, talent and treasure of its parishioners. We hope that you consider St. Francis your home and forms are available at the parish office. Thank you.

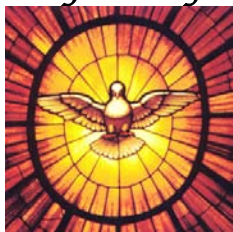
Prayer Shawl Ministry workshops for the month of February will be on February 2nd and February 23rd at 1:30 p.m. in the church hall. Please call Claire Morissette at 508-672-0104 if you, or anyone you know, are in need of the comfort and prayers of our shawls, lap robes or chemo caps. All are welcome to join us on our

workshop days.

INTERESTED IN ADULT CONFIRMATION?

If you are an adult interested in being confirmed, please contact the parish office (508-673-2808), **by February 1st** to register for Adult Confirmation Classes.

*Life in the Spirit Seminars
here at St. Francis.
This could be an awesome event
in your life!*



If you desire a deeper personal encounter with Jesus Christ, and would like to experience the Father's love through the Holy Spirit, we encourage you to attend a "Life in the Spirit Seminar".

This seven week seminar will give you a new or renewed desire for prayer and reading of the Scriptures. Everyone is encouraged to attend, any age, any level of commitment. All you need is a desire for "more" of God in your life.

**Seven Thursdays beginning February 4 to March 18
From 7:30 PM to 8:30 PM.**

I would like everyone in the parish to attend. Please call the rectory and let us know if you are planning to attend. Renown speakers Don and Pat Turbitt will present the seminars.



Donald Turbitt has been a Catholic lay leader, father, and businessman for over 30 years. Now retired, Don served twenty-one years in the Providence Fire Department, Rhode Island and was owner for thirty

years of a light construction business. He and his wife Pat have three children and thirteen grandchildren.

Don's ministry in the Church has been diverse. For 20 years he was coordinator of the People of God's Love covenant community. He has led parish missions and conferences throughout New England, Eastern Europe, and Africa. Don is an ambassador to Promise Keepers and to the Men of St. Joseph, Rhode Island, and vice-chairman to the New England Men of St. Joseph. He continues his work overseas as Country Coordinator for Renewal Ministries in Poland and the Ukraine

Don and Pat live in Gloucester, Rhode Island and are members of St. Anthony's parish in North Providence, R.I.



Above photo: Don and Pat Turbitt had a joyful reunion with Valentine and her two sons in the Ukraine. Several years ago they prayed with Valentine and she was healed of cancer!

FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME January 31, 2010

"Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, before you were born I dedicated you, a prophet to the nations I appointed you.... They will fight against you, but not prevail over you, for I am with you to deliver you says the Lord... 'At these words the whole audience in the synagogue was filled with indignation. They rose up and expelled him from the town... but he went straight through their midst and walked away.'"

Prophets are spokespersons for God. We are familiar with the major ones – Isaiah, Ezekiel and Daniel, and today this passage from Jeremiah. Many others are found in the first testament, and surely John the Baptist was the bridge praised in his role by His cousin. They had a special role, to point out people's weakness and deficiencies and call them back to the Lord. Most did not want the job, but the Lord prevailed. It was not an easy or popular vocation.

Prophetic voices speak out today, addressing the wrongs of our society and challenging us once again to be faithful to the

gospel. In our own country, many Catholics would prefer that the church not get involved in controversial issues like stem cell research, the pro choice debate, or questions dealing with euthanasia or nuclear war. We are being called today to speak out for what is moral, right and just. We are to proclaim the gospel of life and be sure we have a 'consistent ethic of life' in the words of the late Cardinal Joseph Bernardin.

The words addressed to the prophet are also applied to us all as we read this message. God knew us from all eternity; He showered us with the gift of life and appoints us to be a prophetic voice as well as to listen to His prophets speaking out in our world today. For a moment reflect upon this question: What person or persons do I believe is truly prophet in our own time? Do I listen to their message?