

MAY 3, 2009
FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER



SATURDAY, MAY 2

4:00 PM Robert Peloquin by his family

SUNDAY, MAY 3

8:00 AM Henry & Catherine Thomas by their family
 9:30 AM Normand E. Fontaine by his brother & sister-in-law
 11:00 AM John Reis, by his family and Ellie (1st anniv)

MONDAY, MAY 4

9:00 AM Arthur Abrams by his wife, Yvette (1st anniv)

TUESDAY, MAY 5

9:00 AM Sixto and Rosario Nunez by Amor

WEDNESDAY, MAY 6

9:00 AM :Manuel Silveira, Sr. by Manny & Lorraine

THURSDAY, MAY 7

9:00 AM Mr. & Mrs. Dominic Troy by their family

SATURDAY, MAY 9

4:00 PM Mary Ann & Frank Ruggeiro by daughter, Judy

SUNDAY, MAY 10 "HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY"

8:00 AM For all Mothers, Grandmothers and
 9:30 AM Godmothers, living and deceased,
 11:00 AM in our families and our parish

Month of May Memorial Candles

Sanctuary Lamp in memory of George and Irene Fairhurst by their family

Altar Candles in memory of Kevin Brodeur by his family

Tabernacle Candles in memory of Robert Peloquin by his wife and family

April 26th Collection

Budget \$ 4,388.40

THANKS FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!

The 68th Catholic Charities Appeal
May 1 to June 23, 2009



The Fall River Diocese is again asking parishioners and supporters for their help in responding to the thousands throughout the year who turn to the church during a time of need. Contributions can be made either through a one-time donation or through a pledge, which can be paid over ten months. Please be a generous as possible. Thank you.

Fr. Richard Gendreau Ordination

Anniversary "TODAY" Sunday, May 3, 2009 at 11:00 a.m. at St. Louis de France Parish, a Mass of Thanksgiving will be celebrated commemorating Fr. Gendreau's 40th year of ordination to the priesthood. An "open house" will follow in the parish hall from 12:30 – 3:00 p.m. For more information, please contact Nancy Toolin at sldfo@comcast.net or call Lucia Marcille at 508-674-9746.



**TODAY, MAY 3rd,
 CROWNING OF MARY**

We will crown Mary, Mother of the Church, **after the 11:00 A.M. mass today.** We would be honored if those boys and girls who made their first communion this year would join in our procession. Boys and girls will assemble in the church hall by 10:45 A.M.

Prayer Shawl Ministry – Workshops for the month of May will be held on Tuesday, May 5th and May 19th at 1:30 p.m. in the church hall. We have both shawls and lap robes available. If you know of someone in need of comfort and prayers from our shawls or lap robes, please call Claire Morissette at 508-672-0104. We are also busy making chemo caps for anyone who has lost their hair from chemotherapy treatments or other illness. All are welcome to join in to our workshops.

Massachusetts Citizens for Life Rose Drive



Next weekend, (May 9th and May 10th) our parish is endorsing Massachusetts Citizens for Life Rose drive to support their educational and legislative efforts to protect human life from the moment of fertilization to natural death. Whatever donation you can offer to help protect and promote the sanctity of human life we thank you most sincerely! This year MCFL is working diligently to pass a bill known as "A Woman's Right to Know Bill". This bill is to provide women who are considering an abortion educational material on the development of her child, provide a list of alternatives, cover health risks and provide a 24 hour reflection period before her decision. Roses may be given to a loved one or you may offer your roses to the Blessed Mother.

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 slowly growing, but we still need more people to continue o things which make our parish awesome.

Meetings are held the 2nd Tuesday of the month at 6:30 p.m. in the church hall.

Come and join us - you'll be glad you did.

Sunday, May 17th - Coffee and donuts will be served in the church hall after the 8:00 a.m. and 9:30 a.m. masses. Please stop in and enjoy a hot cup of coffee (regular or decaf), donuts and spending time with friends.

BRONX ZOO – SATURDAY, MAY 23rd –

“SOLD OUT” Bus will leave St. Francis at 6:00 a.m., and will leave the Bronx Zoo at 5:00 p.m. There will be a stop at McDonalds on the way home for supper. The bus should arrive back at St. Francis around 9:30 p.m.

Attention all Grade 8 – 12 Students!!!



The next meeting of the St. Francis of Assisi Youth Group will held **TONIGHT Sunday, May 3rd, at 6:00 p.m.** in the Church Hall. Please contact Monica Valenti if you have

any questions. Check out our ministry website at <http://sfoas.weebly.com>. Bring a friend!!

Diocesan Divorced and Separated Support Group

– This group meets at the Family Live Center, 500 Slocum Road, North Dartmouth, MA from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. on the second and last Wednesdays of each moth. There is no charge. It is open to all separated/divorced persons. **Meeting on May 13th, will** be an open meeting where participants are free to discuss any personal difficulties regarding separation or divorce. All are welcome to attend. Coffee and tea will be available. Meeting on **May 20th, (change from usual schedule)** – video presentation from the “Divorce Care Series” will be on “Forgiveness”. The support group will meet afterwards, followed by refreshments

St. Vincent de Paul Corner



In Need of Assistance? Are you facing utility shutoffs and or high food bills? If you are a family in need of assistance, please contact the Saint Vincent de Paul Society at 508-673-2808.

Summer Camp - The Saint Vincent de Paul Society is offering assistance to needy families who would like to send children to summer camp. Two week sessions run from June 29 to August 21. Bus service is available. For applications or additional information call Joe Ripanti at 508-678-4453.

50 WEEK CLUB FOR 2009-2010 – How would you like to be entered in a drawing each week, for 50 weeks, for a chance to win \$25.00? Then, next April, 24th, enjoy a delicious dinner at Venus de Milo Restaurant, a fun evening of music, dancing, and a chance to win \$50.00 (2 drawings), \$100.00 (2 drawings) \$200.00, \$500.00, or \$1,000.00 (one drawing each)? All of this is just a form away! If you are not a member, and are interested in joining this year's 50 Week Club, please fill out the form below, cut out, and place in the collection basket. Envelopes will be sent to you for the payment method selected. The new 50 Week Club will begin on May 3, 2009 and end on April 18, 2010. The club will be \$2.00 per week for 50 week.

“50 WEEK CLUB”

METHOD OF PAYMENT – PLEASE CIRCLE ONE

10@\$10 5@\$20 4@\$25 2@\$50 1@\$100

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____

Phone # _____

MASS BOOK is available to schedule masses for July thru December, 2009. Mass dates can be scheduled by calling the rectory at 508-673-2808 from 9 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. In order to accommodate everyone, we must limit the number of masses scheduled to 6 masses (3 weekend and 3 weekday)

Parish Pro-Life Ministry – anyone interested in becoming part of our parish Pro-Life Ministry, call Nancy at the parish office at 508-673-2808. We are looking for parishioners who care about the dignity of life from conception to death.

May 3, 2009
Fourth Sunday of Easter

Today's First Reading from Acts tells us that Peter was arrested for healing and preaching in the name of Christ. The good he did opened the door to evangelization. The good we do can open doors for our Lord. Like Peter, we need to be open to the Spirit, so God can move through us. How has God worked through you or through Christians you know and how did that work evangelized others?

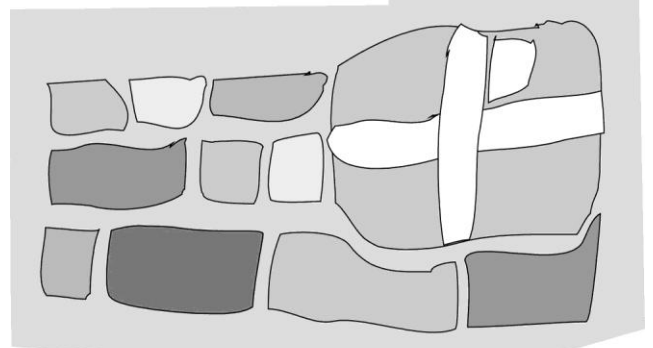
The Responsorial Psalm is a song of praise, a repeat of the second Sunday of Easter. The imperative to praise for the Lord's activity in life should give us pause. How many times has He acted in our lives to save us from near disaster? How many times has He given us second chances? If we gave praise to God for as many times as He intervened in our lives, we would spend most of our time in prayer. Take time to praise God for the day, for His presence in your life, and for His blessings. Make a list if necessary; this praise will help you realize the goodness of God in your life.

The Second Reading answers the following question for us: "How can we know we are God's children?" We know that we are His children when we act like Him and dare to hope we will be like His Son. In the context of 1 John, the two ways we can demonstrate our status, as God's children are moral living and the expectation of salvation at the Final Judgement, both are rooted in God's love for us.

The following Gospel reflection is adopted from St. Francis de Sales Sermons and writings and is offered for our spiritual enrichment. "In today's Gospel we experience Jesus describing Himself as the Good Shepherd and what this means. St. Francis de Sales reminds us that we are all shepherds who must tend our sheep: Our Good Shepherd gathers us all around Himself in order to keep us always under His most holy protection. But we too are shepherds and have a flock to attend. Our flock is our desires, feelings and emotions. We must keep watch over this spiritual flock, by learning from Jesus how to govern ourselves. Since we easily mismanage ourselves, Our Good Shepherd wants us to give up such self-

management except to consent and follow His Will. He desires what is best for our wholeness. Following in the footsteps of the Good Shepherd, we learn how to direct, to govern and put our desires, feelings and emotions in order, so that they conform to God's goodness. What could be more pleasing to this Divine Shepherd than to bring to Him our loves so that He may purify them? Holy love is our first desire. True love is accomplished when we live no more according to our own willful desires, but according to the inspirations and promptings of Our Savior. Our Shepherd tenderly nourishes us with an incomprehensible love. He died in love, by love, and for love. To bring us life, He suffered death. What remains for us? We ought to consecrate every moment of our life to the divine love of our Savior's death that opened us up to eternal life. That is, we must bring to fruition all our works, all our actions and all our thoughts so that God's glory may shine through them. How happy we will be if we remain in the Shepherd's presence, faithfully bringing His reign in our midst!"

**The stone
rejected
by the builders**



**has become
the cornerstone**