

MASS INTENTIONS

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 2

5:15 PM James J. McDonnell (3rd Ann.),
By son Jeff and granddaughters

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 3

8:00 AM Lisa Brown (Rem.),
By Phil and Gina

10:00 AM Gina and Silvio Natalini (Rem.),
By family

11:30 AM Rose Pingitore (Ann.),
By nieces and nephews

Aniela Masterson (Ann.),
By family

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 4

9:00 AM Ann Carocci (5th Ann.),
By Sandra and Alfred

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 5

9:00 AM Katie Coughlin (Ann.),
By Sally and Billy

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 6

12:10 PM Elizabeth & Luigi Furia (Rem.),
By Lucille

Raymond Boucher (Rem.),
By Rachel

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 7

NO SCHEDULED MASS TODAY

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 8

9:00 AM Joseph Lombardi (Rem.),
By cousin Lucille

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 9

5:15 PM Alfred Massarone (15th Ann.),
By family

Norma Cicchitelli (10th Ann.),
By family

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 10

8:00 AM Alfred Maiello (Rem.),
By family

10:00 AM Eugene 'Gino' Chiello (Rem.),
By family

11:30 AM George Brown (Ann.),
By family

Marie Colaluca (Birth.),
By Debbie and Rich

1:00 PM Baptisms

MASS INTENTIONS

(Call for additional Weekday Mass availability)
The following dates and times are available

SUNDAY	FEBRUARY 17	8:00 AM
TUESDAY	FEBRUARY 19	9:00 AM
WEDNESDAY	FEBRUARY 20	12:10 PM
SUNDAY	MARCH 3	8:00 & 11:30 PM

Fourth Sunday in
Ordinary Time

February 3, 2019

Save us, O Lord our God!

Borrowed from Paul Turner

The Challenge of Love

One of the most popular readings at weddings is this passage from Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians: "Love is patient, love is kind. It is not jealous. It bears all things. Love never fails." It is a beautiful hymn to love, and it captures the emotions that many couples feel as they celebrate their wedding day.

But Paul did not have marriage in mind. He was writing about the early Christian community in Corinth, the equivalent of a parish today. The members had many gifts. They were not using them well. They were divided in their sentiments. They said they believed in Jesus, but they were not acting the way he taught. Jesus wanted everyone to love God and to love their neighbor. That was not happening in Corinth.

So Paul reminded them what love is—and what it is not. "It is not jealous, it is not pompous, it is not inflated, it is not rude, it does not seek its own interests, it is not quick-tempered, it does not brood over injury, it does not rejoice over wrongdoing." The Corinthians were guilty of all these things.

Paul would probably be surprised to know that this passage was used so often at weddings today. He would probably remark, "OK—but just remember. If this describes the love of a newly married couple, that is the kind of love you should have for everyone in your parish. Not just for one person."



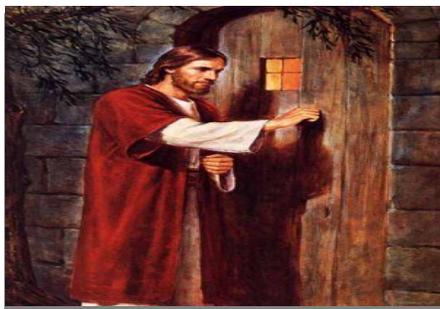


RELIGIOUS EDUCATION
Office Hours: 9am to 4pm.
Monday – Thursday
Phone : 232-9321
E-mail – srbccd@aol.com

Religious Education Classes

Day	Month	Grade	Time
Sun	Feb-3	9&10	No Class
Mon	Feb- 4	7&8	6:30-7:45
Tue	Feb-5	1 thru 3	4:15-5:30
Wed	Feb-6	4 thru 6	4:15-5:30

Saturday Feb 9, First Reconciliation workshop from 10:00 to 12:00 here at St. Robert's. This workshop is for the Parent and the Child.



"If we approach with faith, we too will see Jesus ... for the Eucharistic table takes the place of the crib. Here the Body of the Lord is present, wrapped not in swaddling clothes but in the rays of the Holy Spirit."
 ---St. John Chrysostom

MR. ROB MANZO

Volunteer Opportunity

You are invited to serve as Christ did by joining fellow parishioners at Mary House meal kitchen, housed at St. Patrick's church and school in Providence. Please contact Terry Novak if you are able to serve on any of the following dates. Email is preferred terrynovak57@msn.com--but you may also call 331-7075. Many blessings come to those who serve!

Monday, February 25 (3:30-6:00)

THIS WEEK

SUNDAY, ROSARY FOLLOWING 8:00 **AM** MASS IN THE UPPER CHURCH
WEDNESDAY, AAGROUP MEETING AT 7:00 **AM** IN THE CHURCH HALL (EVERY WEDNESDAY)
THURSDAY, NA GROUP MEETING AT 7:00 **PM** IN THE SACRISTY
FRIDAY, AA AT 8:00 **PM** IN THE CHURCH HALL (EVERY FRIDAY)
FRIDAY, NA GROUP MEETING AT 10:00 **PM** IN THE CHURCH HALL

DAILY READINGS

Sunday Jer 1:4-5, 17-19; 1 Cor 12:31—13:13 or 13:4-13; Lk 4:21-30
Monday Heb 11:32-40; Mk 5:1-20
Tuesday Heb 12:1-4; Mk 5:21-43
Wednesday Heb 12:4-7, 11-15; Mk 6:1-6
Thursday Heb 12:18-19, 21-24; Mk 6:7-13
Friday Heb 13:1-8; Mk 6:14-29
Saturday Heb 13:15-17, 20-21; Mk 6:30-34



Call: Jan Zarrella (274-6576) or Charon Souza (231-3962) or Eileen Morrison (349-3601)

PLEASE SUPPORT OUR FOOD SHELF!

The Food Shelf is in need of:

- TUNA
- PASTA/ JAR SAUCE
- PEANUT BUTTER / JELLY
- CANNED VEGETABLES
- RAMEN NOODLES
- \$10.00 STOP & SHOP OR PRICE RITE GIFT CARDS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME**

Thank you for your generosity!



40-WEEK CLUB 2019



OUR MAJOR FUND RAISER

Tickets are now available at the Rectory Office or call
Ann @ 944-6792, Pat @ 647-7461 or Judy @ 232-3603
All payments must be Up-To-Date to be eligible – Thank you for your support!

Outreach, Prayer Shawl and Lap Blanket Ministry



St. Robert's knitting, crochet and fleece group have done projects that have included making prayer shawls, mini prayer cloths for those needing comfort, afghans, blankets scarfs, hats, mittens for the homeless, lap blankets for Cherry Hill Nursing Home, and children's blankets for Hasbro Hospital, cancer unit. Thank you for your ongoing efforts!

THE SIGN OF PEACE

During this season of Colds and Flu we should be mindful of each other's well-being and during the Sign of Peace at Mass nod or smile at our neighbor rather than shaking hands.

PROCLAIM THE GOOD NEWS!!

BE A PART OF "THE LIVING GOSPEL"
PALM SUNDAY: APRIL 13 AND APRIL 14, 2019



IS THE HOLY SPIRIT CALLING YOU?
BE **NOT** AFRAID!!

Answer the Spirit's Call!!

Bring forth your gifts and talents in our Liturgical Presentation of Our Lord's Passion.

Rehearsals will be held on Sundays
after 11:30 Mass

And one evening during the week (Wed. or Thurs.) at 7PM

All rehearsals are held in the Church
Speaking and non-speaking parts are available for all ages.

Come meet your fellow pilgrims in "The Way of the Lord". For more information call Vin DiMonte 213-8040

Rhode Island Catholic Subscription Drive

Rhode Island Catholic's annual Subscription Drive is underway. Your diocesan newspaper depends on its faithful readers to continue its 144-year mission of bringing the good news of the church directly to you. If you are interested in starting a new subscription or continuing to receive Rhode Island Catholic in your mailbox each week, please drop the specially marked parish budget envelope into the collection basket at Mass, or call Sue Richard, Circulation Manager, at 401-272-1010 ext. 0. You may also subscribe on the newspaper's website, www.thericatholic.com, and click on Subscribe to order and pay for a subscription. The cost for a year of in-home delivery of the newspaper is only \$30. Online payments, checks or money orders — made payable to Rhode Island Catholic — are preferred.

HAVE YOU EXPERIENCED AN EMMAUS RETREAT?

Emmaus is a retreat for men and women (ages 20+) who seek to grow in their relationship with Jesus Christ, regardless of their present level of faith or practice. We want to invite you to join us on our next Emmaus weekend. You will be welcomed by a loving community, spend time in personal and communal prayer, and celebrate the sacraments. The next Emmaus is February 15-17 at Cathedral Camp in East Freetown, MA. For more information or to apply online, email us at emmausretreats@gmail.com or visit our website:

www.emmausretreats.com

Do not look forward to the changes and chances of this life in fear; rather look to them with full hope that, as they arise, God, whose you are, will deliver you out of them. He is your keeper. He has kept you hitherto. Do you but hold fast to his dear hand, and he will lead you safely through all things; and, when you cannot stand, he will bear you in his arms. Do not look forward to what may happen tomorrow. Our Father will either shield you from suffering, or he will give you strength to bear it.

Saint Francis de Sales

A Message from Fr. Richard

“God’s mercy is greater than our greatest sin” and “No one is outside the reach of God’s mercy.” It was with those words that I recently began celebrating Mass at a parish here in the diocese. After Mass, someone stopped by the sacristy to thank me and to let me know that he found those words to be beautiful, meaningful and profound. I smiled and told him that I could not take credit for the words. I said that I had first heard those prayerful phrases when I was in the seminary, and that I too was touched and moved when I first heard them spoken by two different priests. I explained that the first was something that a priest from the Archdiocese of Newark often said at the start of Mass. The second phrase was something I learned from Fr. John LaPointe during a talk that he gave to me and two other seminarians while we were involved in a Chaplaincy Training Program at Rhode Island Hospital back in the summer of 2005.

After mentioning Fr. John’s name, I began to think about him and wondered how he was doing. In addition to reflecting on the time that I had spent with Fr. John back in 2005, I also recalled meeting him in 1991 when he celebrated the Mass during which my brother and sister-in-law were married at St. Robert Bellarmine Church.

Later that day I was with a gathering of priests and heard something about the possibility that Fr. John might be retiring from full-time ministry for reasons of health. Knowing that I was currently available for a full-time assignment, one of the priests suggested that perhaps the bishop might send me to Johnston to continue the good work that Fr. John has been doing at St. Robert’s over the course of more than 27 years.

Being aware that I was available for a full-time assignment, and even more importantly, that I had just quoted Fr. John at the start of Mass that very day, I could not help but wonder if the Holy Spirit was at work and if there might be some truth to what my brother priest had so casually and informally suggested. Shortly after, I met with Fr. John and learned that he had asked Bishop Tobin’s permission to retire. During that meeting, I also let Fr. John know that I had recently quoted him at the start of Mass and thanked him for that talk he had given to me and the other seminarians nearly 14 years earlier.

Fr. John spoke to me about his love for the priesthood and for the community at St. Robert Bellarmine. A day later, during an already scheduled meeting with the bishop I was informed that I might be sent to Johnston following Fr. John’s expressed interest in retiring. Subsequently, on January 22nd, I received a phone call during which I was informed that Bishop Tobin had accepted Fr. John’s request for retirement, and that I was going to be appointed Administrator pro tem of St. Robert Bellarmine Church.

That my friends is just a small part of the multifaceted spiritual journey that has led us to where we currently find ourselves as people connected to this particular community of faith. I share this experience with you as I firmly believe that God is always at work in the midst of our daily lives. God is at work not only in the midst of the stable and ongoing moments of our lives but also in the midst of the moments of change and transition in our lives.

Since being ordained on June 2, 2007, I have grown more and more comfortable with the various changes and transitions that life can bring our way. From July 2007 – June 2012, I served as the Assistant Pastor of St. Francis Xavier Parish in East Providence. After that, from July 2012 – June 2018, I served as the pastor of St. Elizabeth Parish in Bristol. Most recently, I have been serving primarily at St. Gregory the Great Parish in Warwick as well as at other parishes throughout the diocese.

In the midst of the various changes and transitions that I have experienced throughout life, and especially as a priest, it is clear to me that the one constant has been Jesus Christ Himself who comes to us in Word and Sacrament. Mindful that “Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever” (Hebrews 13:8), it is my belief that we as a community of faith can look to the past with thanksgiving and gratitude, we can face today with peace and serenity in our hearts and we can look to the future with hope and confidence.

During this time of transition in the life of St. Robert Bellarmine parish, it is my prayer that together, along with Fr. John as our Pastor Emeritus, we may continue to “keep our eyes fixed on Jesus” (Hebrews 12:2) and allow Him to draw us and those with whom we come into contact each day ever-closer to His life, His love, His Mercy and ultimately to the salvation He has won for us. Looking toward the future, be assured that I look forward to meeting, getting to know and serving you and your family members and also to contributing to the good work and spiritual journey that was initiated here at St. Robert’s back in 1963.