

MASS INTENTIONS –2018

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 3

4:00pm Karen Decisero by family

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 4

7:30am Deceased members of the Okazaki family by Huntoon family

10:00am Mahlon Gebhardt– 2nd Anniversary by Gebhardt/Kirkpatrick family

10:00am Kenneth F. Gallagher Sr. by family

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 5

9:00am Communion Service & Quiet Time

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 6

9:00am Daily Mass

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 7

9:00am No Daily Mass

10:00am Mass at Sterling Village

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 10

4:00pm Renewal & Transformation for Lent

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 11

7:30am Jane Ripa by Huntoon family

10:00am Joseph & Kathleen Prendergrast
John M. & Mary Kilcoyne
James P. Kilcoyne
by family

FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

“Rising very early before dawn, he left and went off to a deserted place, where he prayed...He told them, ‘Let us go on to the nearby villages that I may preach there also. For this purpose have I come.’” (Mark 1:35, 38) In today’s Gospel reading we see a perfect example of stewardship. Jesus gives His time to do all that God wishes - healing the sick and preaching. But before He begins, Jesus makes time to be alone with God in prayer. It is through prayer, that we find the strength to do what He wishes us to do. Be sure to find time every day to be with God.

THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 3

CCD Assigned Classes.....9:30am-10:45am
Lenten Black Books Available at all Masses
Sacrament of Sick after 4:00pm Mass
My Brother’s Food Collection at Mass

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 4

Sister Village Coffee.....7:30am-9:30am
Lenten Black Books Available at all Masses
My Brother’s Food Collection at all Masses
PreK-K Assigned Classes9:50am-11:00am
CCD. Gr.9.....10:00am Mass-noon

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 5

Food Pantry.....10:00am-Noon
CCD Assigned Classes.....4:30pm-5:45pm
6:00pm-7:15pm

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 6

CCD Assigned Classes.....4:30pm-5:45pm
6:00pm-7:15pm

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 8

Food Pantry.....10:00am-Noon
Nar-Anon.....7:15pm
AA Meeting.....8:00pm

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 10

CCD Assigned Classes.....9:30am-10:45am
Lenten Black Books Available at all Masses
Valentine Dinner after 4:00pm Mass (*reservations required – no walk-ins*)

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 11

Sister Village Coffee.....7:30am-9:30am
PreK-K Assigned Classes9:50am-11:00am
CCD. Gr.9.....10:00am Mass-noon

SOUP COOKS NEEDED FOR LENT

Every Wednesday at noon, starting the Wednesday after Ash Wednesday, we will be having Mass during Lent. After the Mass, there will be a soup luncheon served in our church hall. We are in need of crock pot soups. If you have a favorite soup recipe that you would like to share and prepare, please contact our luncheon coordinator, Kathy Chiavaras at: 978-365-5635 or email: kchiavaras@aol.com. We also need servers, setup and cleanup crew.

BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP

Our Lady of Good Counsel Parish will hold a six-session bereavement support group beginning, Monday, February 19, 2018 from 1:00-2:30pm in the parish hall at 111 Worcester Street, West Boylston. The faith based program



offers insights about grieving in a healthy way to work toward healing. For more information or to register (required prior to the start of the meetings) call: Renate Isbell at (508)835-3286.

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN TRANSFERRING TO ST. JOHN'S HIGH SCHOOL?

Students interested in transferring to Saint John's High School are encouraged to attend an Open House for Transfer Students on Tuesday, February 6, 2018 from 6-8pm. Please call (508)842-8934 ext. 266 or email: admissions@stjohnhigh.org to register.

OUR FATHER'S HOUSE BENEFIT CONCERT

Our Father's House, a local provider of homeless services, presents their annual benefit concert on Saturday, April 14th at 8pm at Weston Auditorium, Fitchburg State College. This benefit concert features, **"1964 The Tribute"**. Rolling Stone Magazine has called this the "Best Beatles Tribute on Earth!" Tickets are \$30. (assigned seats) Call Ginnie at: 978-345-2256, ext. 300 for reservations. Visa/MC accepted.

ADULT RETREAT "MISSIONARY DISCIPLES"

Fr. Robert Jalbert of the Maryknoll Mission will present an adult retreat on Saturday, February 17th from 8:30am-4:00pm (snow day, April 14th) at Rieger Hall, Our Lady of Angels Parish, 1222 Main St., Worcester, MA. He will offer reflections from Pope Francis', The Joy of the Gospel. Lunch may be purchased for \$10. or bring your own. Please register by February 7th by contacting: Darleen Farland at: (508)791-0951, ext. 18 or email: dfarlandola@gmail.com

CCD NEWS AND INFORMATION

Director of Religious Education – Susan Gallivan
s.gallivan@strichardsterling.org Tel: 978-422-8921

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

- **February 10, 2018 - Valentine Dinner Fundraiser to defer costs for students participating in the Catholic Heart Workcamp. 5:00pm-8:00pm; Reservations required – no walk-ins!**

18TH ANNUAL WORCESTER DIOCESAN CATHOLIC MEN'S CONFERENCE

All men are invited to this important annual Conference, scheduled at Assumption College on Saturday, March 17, 2018. Ticket prices will increase on Thursday, March 1st. Hear dynamic talks from outstanding Catholic leaders: Marcellino D'Ambrosio, Father David Cavanagh, Robert Rogers, Ryan Tremblay and Elvis Grbac. Bishops, Diocesan and Religious priests will hear confessions. Bishop McManus will offer Mass. For a Conference brochure, further information, ticket purchases and registration, call: 508-929-4345, or visit our website: www.firstmensconf.org

VALENTINE DINNER FUNDRAISER

An adult only Valentine Dinner Fundraiser will be held on Saturday, February 10th from 5:00pm-8:00pm in St. Richard Church Hall. Tickets are \$35. per adult. Tickets must be purchased in advanced and are available at the rectory office. Seating is limited to 48 adults. Checks should be made out to: St. Richard's Youth Ministry. Raffle tickets for unique specialty items will be available for purchase after all Masses and the Dinner. (*\$1. per ticket; \$5. for 6 tickets*) Proceeds will benefit our students participating in the Catholic Heart Workcamp Mission Trip in July.

MENU

APPETIZERS:

Shrimp Cocktail; Fruit;
Cheese & Crackers

SIDES:

Mushroom Risotto &
Asparagus; Garden salad

MAIN COURSE:

(Choose one)
Pan-seared Scallops
Chicken Picatta
Filet Mignon

DESSERT:

Chocolate Mousse
Tea/Coffee/Soft Drinks
Red & White Wine

LENT

A time for renewal and transformation!



Dear Parishioners,

I am writing this letter today, a week earlier than necessary, just in case the weather does not cooperate next week and we are not ready for Ash Wednesday! (*February 14th, same as Valentine's Day.*) I would like to suggest that we all think of the season of Lent as a time that we, as a parish, are on retreat. A retreat is a sacred opportunity to go away somewhere quiet. While we cannot do that, the real heart of a retreat is when we spend more time and energy with God and move closer to Him in "RENEWAL and TRANSFORMATION."

Instead of the regular 'Homily' at weekend mass, we will have a series of Sermons. What is the difference? For one thing, sermons are longer! Homilies focus on the readings of the day. These sermons will each be on one specific topic— things we don't usually talk about, important things. Today, you will receive a printed card with a list of dates and topics. Yes, Mass will be a bit longer than usual but what the heck...it is LENT...make the sacrifice! At the end of Mass each week, you will be given a handout to help keep your attention on the topic of the day as you go through the week and a special prayer will be printed in the bulletin, to help you focus on that topic.

There will be the usual devotions for Lent with a few small additions. Try to fit one or all of these into your busy schedules. Make a positive effort to help you on your Lenten journey of "RENEWAL and TRANSFORMATION."

Keep the Faith, Fr. S

LENT AT ST. RICHARD – GET INVOLVED!

- **Little Black Books:** available by the weekend of February 3-4
- **Communion Service/Quiet Time:** Mondays at 9am
- **Daily Mass:** Tuesdays at 9am; Wednesdays at Noon followed with soup and conversation
- **Stations of the Cross:** Fridays at 6pm
- **Sunday Mass Homily Series:** at Weekend Masses
- **Almsgiving:**
 - Partners in Charity Annual Drive: Diocese of Worcester (*checks should be made out to St. Richard Parish*)
 - Lenten Coin Boxes for Food Ministries— for Grades K through 9
- **Lenten Penance Service:** March 21, 2018 – 7:00pm
- **Confessions:** Open Door— before or after any service or by appointment