



MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Sixth Sunday of Easter

Saturday, April 30, 2016
 4:00 PM William & Theresa Davis

Sunday, May 1, 2016
 8:30 AM Rev. Ralph Tetrault
 11:00 AM First Communion Class

Daily Mass this week will be held on Monday through Thursday at 8:00 AM

Monday, May 2, 2016
 8:00 AM Roy Deturck

Tuesday, May 3, 2016
 8:00 AM People of the Parish

Wednesday, May 4, 2016
 8:00AM Ann Greany

Thursday, May 5, 2016 – Holy Day of Obligation
ASCENSION OF THE LORD
 8:00 AM Elinor Kirkman – 13th Anniversary
 7:00 PM

Friday, May 6, 2016,
 NO MASS

Seventh Sunday of Easter

Saturday, May 7, 2016
 4:00 PM Edmund George Blanchette

Sunday, May 8, 2016
 8:30 AM Mary Rapoza
 11:00 AM People of the Parish

ALTAR WINE & BREAD FOR MAY

Is in memory of *John Pacheco, Jr. and Mr. & Mrs. Lionel T. Gagnon.*



In Loving Memory

We extend our prayers and sympathy to the family and friends of *Joseph Albernaz, Jr.* who died last week.



CATHOLIC CHARITIES
 DIOCESE of FALL RIVER

75th ANNUAL

CATHOLIC CHARITIES APPEAL

May 1 to June 30, 2016

Open Your Heart to Mercy!

The 75th annual Catholic Charities Appeal has begun. The Catholic Charities appeal, which supports many programs that serve the less fortunate, enables you to share in this work of love. Your support helps us to meet these responsibilities. Our 2015 total contribution was \$46,682. Let us continue to help by donating generously this year and reach or exceed last year's contribution. A "pledge" will allow you to give more and spread it over ten months without a payment until July. To make a donation, by check, **make checks payable to St. Thomas More Church.** Either mail in your red and white contribution card to the Rectory or drop it into the weekly collection basket by June 28th.

You may also visit the parish website and find the link to Catholic Charities where it will allow you to donate through their link on-line. **Those who are e-Giving members can easily contribute on-line through the e-Giving program.** Thank you.

Reminder that all contributions to the Appeal are NOT included to the Parish Assessment.

Today's Hymns

Processional: #82 Christ the Lord Is Risen Today

Offertory: #447 Send Us Your Spirit

Communion: #360 Take and Eat

Recessional: #71 The Day Of Resurrection

STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE

You might have noticed that the weekly collections have been decreasing. It is important that the parish receive a healthy collection to meet our weekly financial needs. I ask all parishioners to consider raising your weekly contribution so we can meet our weekly financial needs. Consider the E-Giving Program and if you need assistance, please call the Rectory.

Weekly Collection \$1,955.25

Building/Renovation Collection \$1,234.25

The Second collection will be for the Renovation Fund. *Thank you for your continued support.*

FAITH FORMATION

Religious Education

Sacrament of First Communion

Sunday, May 1, 2016

11:00 AM Mass.

Congratulations

First Communion Students!

Haylee Cardoza-Vergara

Benjamin Chasse

Olivia DeMello

Brayden Ferreira

Grace Kayata

Melanie Kelly

Maya Martins

Katelyn McKinnon

Emily Neto

Beckett O'Brien

Braelyn Orosco

Brody Phillips

Abigail Prince

Chace Rego

Tatum Swanson

Alianna Teves

Thank you to Director of Religious Education Michael Fitzpatrick, Teacher Jennifer Crook and Teen Assistant Ashley Medeiros, Music Director Kyle Medeiros, Gloria Bessette and Barbara Dopart for your help and participation in making it a special ceremony. Also thank you to Deacon Jesse Martins who helped with the mass.

To contact the Religious Education Office by calling 508-679-1236 or email Mike Fitzpatrick at religioused@stthomasmoresomerset.org Thank you.

MONTH OF MAY



For the Month of May, traditionally a time to honor the Blessed Mother, the statue of Our Lady placed in the Sanctuary reminds us to imitate her, a woman of great faith. Praying the rosary, meditating on Mary in the scriptures, attending Mass, saying "yes" to a new ministry or praying for all Christians are some of the suggested ways to honor Mary this month.

PARISHIONER SURVEY

On behalf of the Diocesan Parish Pastoral Task Force and the Office for Pastoral Planning, an evaluation survey has been designed to gather thoughts about our parish and all the parishes in the Diocese of Fall River. This survey has been made available to all parishioners. The survey covers five key areas which are the Sacramental Life, Catholic Faith Formation, Community, Serving Those in Need and Effective Administration of our parish. We are asked to take part in this survey by going onto our parish website at <http://www.stmsomerset.org> or the Fall River Diocese's website at <http://www.fallriverdiocese.org>. For those who do not have access to the internet, hardcopies will be available at the entrances of the church. You are asked to return them in the box marked survey and they will be submitted to the Diocese.

This survey may take about 10-15 minutes and is strictly confidential. **The deadline for submitting your survey is May 31, 2016.** At that time all information will be gathered and later in the year the survey results will be given. The results of the evaluation will help stimulate thinking as to how priests, parishioners and the Diocese can work together more effectively for the benefit of all parishes in the Diocese of Fall River.

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

There will be a meeting of the Prayer Shawl Ministry on **Tuesday, May 3, 2016, at 9:30AM in the rectory meeting room.** New knitters and crocheters are always welcome.

ANCHOR SUBSCRIPTIONS

Anyone interested in renewing their subscription to the Anchor, the biweekly newspaper of the Diocese of Fall River, can send in your name, address and phone number along with the yearly subscription fee of \$20 to Mary Chase, The Anchor, 887 Highland Avenue, Fall River, MA 02720. New subscriptions are also welcome.

Bishop Stang High School

The High School is seeking Host Families for International Students for the 2016-2017 school year. Host families are compensated for providing room and board, transportation to and from school and a welcoming environment. If you are interested, please contact Ms. Nora Hebshie at 508-996-5602 ext. 424.



SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

First Reading: Acts 15:1-2, 22-29

Some men informed the Gentiles that they must be circumcised if they wished to be saved, because of the Old Laws. Disciples then went forth to tell the Gentiles to honor only those rules which were strictly necessary, such as abstaining from eating meat sacrificed to idols and illicit sexual union.

Second Reading: Revelation 21:10-14, 22-23

John depicts Jerusalem coming out of heaven, sparkling with the radiance of precious jewels. Angels were stationed at each of its twelve gates, and each gate bore the name of one tribe of Israel. The city had no temple, because God was its temple. The glory and light of God and the Lamb also replaced their need for the sun.

Gospel: John 14:23-29

Jesus tells his disciples, "Anyone who loves me will be true to my word." For those who do honor his word, both Jesus and God will love them and stay with them always. He also tells them that God will send the Holy Spirit in his place to give them the instructions they will need. Jesus then tells them that peace is his farewell gift to them.

A FRESH PERSPECTIVE ON THE SUNDAY READINGS

HIS WORD TODAY *by Rev. William J. Reilly*

Sixth Sunday of Easter

May 1, 2016

"Jesus said to his disciples, 'Whoever loves me will keep my word, and my Father will love him, and we will come to him and make our dwelling with him.' And now I have told you this before it happens, so that when it happens you may believe."

Following the resurrection, Jesus spent time preparing His disciples for His taking leave of them. They were to be pleased that He would go, and then would receive a special gift, the Advocate, the Paraclete. The Spirit would come to teach and remind.

Jesus' leaving would not be an absence, but lead to a greater presence. His disciples, and we as missionary disciples, would become dwelling places of God's Spirit. His gift is ours, provided we love Him.

May the departure of Jesus, the ascension, prepare us for the special moment and allow us to be truly dwelling places for the Lord. He comes to reside with me. He is present in me and in others. I ask the gift of discernment to discover His abiding presence with me today.