



# MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

## Second Sunday of Lent

Saturday, March 11, 2017  
4:00 PM Frank A. Rodrigues – 3<sup>rd</sup>  
Anniversary

Sunday, March 12, 2017  
8:30 AM People of the Parish  
11:00 AM James & Gertrude Butler

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

Monday, March 13, 2017  
8:00 AM William J. Lee, Jr.

Tuesday, March 14, 2017  
8:00 AM Stanley & Margaret Owsney

Wednesday, March 15, 2017  
8:00 AM  
6:00 PM Bento & Alice Medeiros

Thursday, March 16, 2017  
8:00 AM Alphonse Saulino, Sr.

Friday, March 17, 2017  
NO MASS

## Third Sunday of Lent

Saturday, March 18, 2017  
4:00 PM Rev. Jose A. F. Dos Santos

Sunday, March 19, 2017  
8:30 AM John & Esther Butler  
People of the Parish

11:00 AM Robert P. Benevides - Anniversary

### ALTAR BREADS FOR MARCH

Are in memory of

*David Rocha and Linda Rocha*

### ALTAR WINE FOR MARCH

Is in memory of

*Stanley Banalewicz*

### MARIAN CANDLE

The Marian Candle burns this week in memory  
of *Mary A. Wade*



## In Loving Memory

We extend our prayers and sympathy to the family  
and friends of *Paula Murphy* who died last  
week.

## Today's Hymns

Entrance: #118 Lord, Who Throughout These  
Forty Days

Preparation: #103 Tis Good, Lord, To Be Here

Communion: #357 I Received the Living God

Meditation #677 The Lord is My Light

Recessional: #532 O bless the Lord, My Soul

### CHURCH ORGAN:

You might have been at the Mass last weekend  
when the organ shut down, it stopped working  
during the 8:30 Mass. We have arranged for an  
organ technician to come and look to see what  
can be done. I will keep you informed.

### LENTEN REGULATIONS

All adults 18 and up to the beginning of their 60<sup>th</sup>  
year are bound by the laws of fast. On days of fast,  
one full meatless meal is to be eaten. The other two  
meals should be meatless and together should not  
equal a full meal. There are **two prescribed days of  
fast: Ash Wednesday, March 1st and Good  
Friday, April 14<sup>th</sup>**. Those who are 14 years of age  
and older are obliged to observe the law of  
abstinence from meat. **Abstinence from meat** is  
prescribed on **all Fridays of Lent, Ash Wednesday  
and Good Friday**.

### LENTEN MASSES

A mass will be held each Wednesday during  
Lent at 6:00PM. Hopefully this will enable all to  
attend a Mass during the week during the Lenten  
season. The time will be 6:00 PM on Wednesdays,  
March 15, 22, 29 and April 5<sup>th</sup>.

### STATIONS OF THE CROSS

St. John of God Church will be celebrating the  
Stations of the Cross at 6:00 PM each Friday during  
Lent beginning on Friday, March 3, 2017.

### STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE

If we give according to God's principles, God will  
give back to us. The young man, who gave his  
loaves and fishes, didn't have to go without dinner.

Weekend Collection \$2,343.75

Catholic University \$ 776.80

Raffle up-to-date \$4,480.00

The Second Collection will be for the Renovation  
Fund. Thank you for your support.

**FAITH FORMATION**  
**Religious Education**  
**FIRST COMMUNION PROGRAM**

**FIRST COMMUNION MINI-RETREAT**

The upcoming First Communion Mini-Retreat will take place on **Saturday, March 18<sup>th</sup>** in the Parish Center. Please arrive no later than **9:20 AM**. Students will watch a 30 minute cartoon video called, "The Bread of Life", participate in arts-n-crafts project, have a light snack and take a tour of St. Thomas More Church with Msgr. Fitzgerald.

**First Communion Rehearsal Dates** – Saturday, April 29, 2017 and Saturday, May 6, 2017 from 10:00 AM to 11:30 AM in the Church.

**Sacrament of First Communion** – Sunday, May 7, 2017 during the 11:00 AM Mass.

**SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION**

The **Sacrament of Confirmation** will be held on **Sunday, April 30, 2017 at 2:00PM** in our parish. Confirmation Students from our parish and those of St. John of God, St. Louis de France and St. Patrick of Somerset will receive the Sacrament of Confirmation here. The celebrant will be Bishop Edgar M. da Cunha, S.D.V.

**CONFIRMATION REHEARSAL DATES**

***\*Monday, April 24, 2017\****

***Candidates Only***

***at St. Thomas More Church at 6:30PM***

***\*Thursday, April 27, 2017\****

***Candidates and Sponsors***

***at St. Thomas More Church at 6:30PM***

**Altar Server Training &**  
**Commissioning**

The children who volunteered to be altar servers will receive altar server training on Sundays, **March 12<sup>th</sup>** and **March 19<sup>th</sup>** which will coincide with the Faith Formation classes, please have your child check in with their Faith Formation teacher first to let them know they are present for the day and then go upstairs for training. Each student will be counted as present for the day. **On Sunday, March 26<sup>th</sup> at the 8:30 Mass, the new Altar Servers will be commissioned by Msgr. Fitzgerald.**



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**AT THE FOOT OF THE**  
**CROSS**

We invite you to join in our Lenten Program. **"At the Foot of the Cross: Stewardship of Time, Talent, Treasure and Prayer"**. **Time & Talent** offers each person the opportunity to think about how their individual gifts and talent can be used to serve the parish community. Our **Treasure (Almsgiving)** will go to the **St. Thomas More St. Vincent de Paul Society**. **Please make checks payable to St. Thomas More.** **Prayer Petitions** may be written on papers provided. Special papers, Almsgiving envelopes and talent sheets are available at the entrances of the church and will be available throughout Lent. Prayer petitions and talent sheets should be placed in their respective purple boxes at the foot of the cross. **There are Time & Talent sheets available at both entrances to the Church.**

**OPERATION RICE BOWL**

As we begin our Lenten journey, you are invited to participate in **Catholic Relief Services' Operation Rice Bowl**. Throughout Lent we will pray, fast, learn and give as a way to reach out in solidarity with our brothers and sisters around the world. Please take home a Rice Bowl packet available at each entrance.

**Dispensation Granted for**  
**St. Patrick's Day**

This year, the celebration of St. Patrick's feast day is March 17<sup>th</sup> which falls on a Friday during Lent. In consideration of the culinary traditions of this feast and in response to a number of requests, Bishop Edgar M. da Cunha, S.D.V., has granted to Catholics in the Fall River Diocese a dispensation from the Lenten rule of abstaining from meat on that day.

**SAVE THE DATE! STM DINNER CLUB**

The dinner-dance will be held Saturday, **April 29<sup>th</sup>** at the Venus de Milo Restaurant. The meal order forms will be mailed out soon to all members. **Please return them as soon as possible.** There will be various raffles at the dinner; we are in need of gifts! Please consider making a donation of lottery scratch tickets or money to purchase them for the raffle. Please place it in an envelope and drop in the collection basket. *If you wish to donate a basket or gift, it can be picked up or you can drop it off at the rectory.*

**St. Thomas More Church  
20/20 RAFFLE**

**Drawing is Sunday, March 26, 2017**

Please help support our parish. Tickets are on sale before and after the masses. Extra tickets are available to sell to friends and family. Tickets are \$20 each. There will be one lucky winner! **The drawing has been extended to Sunday, March 26, 2017 after the 11 o'clock mass.** The winner is guaranteed \$1,000 or 20% of what is totally collected, whichever is larger. **To date we have sold \$4,480.00 in Raffle Tickets. Thank you.**

**ST. THOMAS MORE RETIREES CLUB**

There will be a celebration of St. Patty's Day on **Thursday, March 16<sup>th</sup>** at Kent's Restaurant at Noon, serving corn beef and cabbage. Members \$10 Non-Members are welcome \$14.50. To make reservations, please call Eileen #774-526-0811.

**BLOOD PRESSURE CLINIC**

There will be a Blood Pressure Clinic before and after all the Masses the weekend of **March 18 and 19, 2017.**

**St. Vincent de Paul Society News**

There will be a meeting for the **SVDP** members on **Tuesday, March 14, 2017 at 2:00 PM** in the parish center.

**SVDP FOOD PANTRY**

The food pantry supply is in need of tuna, soup, pasta, peanut butter and canned fruit. Donations would be greatly appreciated.

**BABY PRODUCTS DRIVE**

In a joint project to assist women dealing with pregnant women in need, the Fall River Chapter of **MA Citizens for Life** and **St. Vincent de Paul Society** will be collecting items for newborns on two weekends **March 18 and 25.** Sizes (newborns to 6 months): onesies, sleepers, receiving blankets, bibs, teething rings, baby wipes, diapers, shampoo or \$10 gift cards for supermarket, Walmart etc. Collection box will be in the church foyer. Thank you.

**STM DINNER CLUB**

**Congratulations January Winners!**

David Driscoll	#1292
Elvio Ferreira	#1916
Sheila Beaudoin	#93A

**PARISH VOCATION  
COMMITTEE**

The Diocese of Fall River is recommending all parishes to form a Vocation Committee. As part of the parish committee, members would encourage parishioners to pray for, learn about support and recruit Vocations to the Priesthood and Religious Life. They would provide opportunities to develop Vocation awareness through various parish structures. Committee members would sponsor a Vocation discernment night for the parish youth; invite young people with the parish priest to discuss Vocations and encourage parish prayer for Vocations. There are many ways to help to continue the awareness of Vocation and Religious Life. Persons are expected to attend two orientation sessions to be commissioned by the Bishop for the Ministry of Vocations.

On **Thursday, April 6, 2017 at St. Julie Billiart Parish, North Dartmouth from 6:30 – 8:30 PM** Members will gather for an orientation on how to organize the Parish Team, on the goals, responsibilities and suggestions and on **Sunday, May 7, 2017 – World Day of Prayer for Vocations** – there will be a Day of Reflection as we have done in the past, on the topic of **“Vocations and New Evangelization”** at St. Mary's Cathedral, concluding with the Holy Hour of Prayer for Consecrated Life and Priestly Vocations. Bishop da Cunha will commission new Parish Vocations Team Members.

The Holy Hour is to be held at **3:00 PM. Anyone who is interested in Joining the committee or have any questions to please speak with Msgr. Fitzgerald as soon as possible. Thank You.**

**PARISH SURVEY RESULTS**

The Bishop met with the priests of the Diocese of Fall River to discuss the parish results of the self – evaluation surveys. Msgr. Fitzgerald will be meeting with our Parish Council Members and Task Force Members soon to discuss these same results. The Bishop will appoint a new committee to implement these changes and is moving forward to devise plans for the revitalization of each parish in the diocese: Rebuilding in Faith and Hope.