



# MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

## Fourth Sunday of Lent

**Saturday, March 25, 2017**  
**4:00 PM** Richard G. Medeiros  
**Sunday, March 26, 2017**  
**8:30 AM** Joseph Viveiros – 2<sup>nd</sup> Anniversary  
 People of the Parish  
**11:00 AM** Carole Cordeiro – 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

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

**Monday, March 27, 2017**  
**8:00 AM**  
**Tuesday, March 28, 2017**  
**8:00 AM** Rev. Jose A. F. Dos Santos

**Wednesday, March 29, 2017**  
**8:00 AM**  
**6:00 PM** Rev. Jose A. F. Dos Santos

**Thursday, March 30, 2017**  
**8:00 AM**  
**Friday, March 31, 2017**  
 NO MASS

## Fifth Sunday of Lent

**Saturday, April 1, 2017**  
**4:00 PM** Emma Lemieux - Anniversary  
**Sunday, April 2, 2017**  
**8:30 AM** Mona Medeiros – 11<sup>th</sup> Anniversary  
**11:00 AM** Arlene Hebert – 1<sup>st</sup> 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 *Carole Cordeiro*

### SANCTUARY CANDLE

The Sanctuary Candle burns this week in memory of *Philip Roderick, Jr. - 1st Anniversary*

## Today's Hymns

*Entrance: #114 From the Depths We Cry to Thee*  
*Preparation: #431 Amazing Grace*  
*Communion: #361 Take and Eat*  
*Meditation: #455 You Are Mine*  
*Recessional: #118 Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days*

### Funeral Ministry Volunteers Needed

We are looking for adults who would be able to serve at funerals or be greeters at funeral masses. Training will be provided to teach you how to serve the Funeral Mass and what the Ministry of Hospitality entails. If you are interested, please call the Rectory at 508-673-7831.

### ALTAR SERVERS NEEDED

We are in need of Altar Servers for weekday Masses. If you think you might be interested in this Ministry, please speak with Msgr. Fitzgerald or call the Rectory at 508-673-7831. Thank you.

### 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.

### St. Vincent de Paul Society

A meeting is scheduled for the **SVDP members** to meet on **Tuesday, April 4, 2017 at 6:00 PM** in the parish center.

### STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE

Stewardship reminds us to count our blessings, acknowledge God's gifts to us and express thanks to the Lord by proportionate giving of our time, talent, and treasure.

<b>Weekend Collection</b>	<b>\$2,095.00</b>
<b>Renovation Fund</b>	<b>\$1,254.15</b>
<b>Raffle up-to-date</b>	<b>\$5,140.00</b>

There will be a Special Collection this weekend for the Catholic Relief Services. *Thank you for your support.*



## BAPTISM

We welcome *Jack Norman Fischer* who joined our parish community through baptism last week. *Jack* received a hand-made blanket made by the St. Thomas More Blanket Ministry as a gift from the parish in honor of his Baptism.

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

**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\****

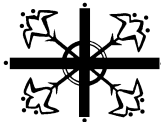
***Candidates Only***

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

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

***Candidates and Sponsors***

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



**EASTER FLOWERS**

Please turn in any donations for Easter Flowers by **April 9<sup>th</sup>**. *Extra envelopes are available at the entrances of the church.*

**SVDP FOOD PANTRY**

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

**SAVE THE DATE! STM DINNER CLUB**

The dinner-dance will be held Saturday, **April 29<sup>th</sup>** at the Venus de Milo Restaurant. 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.*

**“AT THE FOOT OF THE CROSS”**  
**PROGRAM**

It is not too late to participate in our Lenten Program, “At the Foot of the Cross: Stewardship of Time, Talent, Treasure and Prayer”. **This week we highlight on prayer. Prayer Petitions** may be written on papers provided. Special papers are available at the entrances of the church and will be available throughout Lent. Prayer petitions should be placed in their respective purple boxes at the foot of the cross.

**20/20 RAFFLE**

**LAST CHANCE! THIS IS THE LAST**  
**WEEKEND BEFORE DRAWING**

**Drawing is this Sunday, March 26, 2017**  
**after the 11 o’clock Mass.**

Please help support our parish. Tickets are on sale before and after the Masses. Tickets are \$20 each. There will be one lucky winner. The winner is guaranteed \$1,000 or 20% of what is totally collected, whichever is larger. **To date we have sold \$5,140.00 in Raffle Tickets. Thank you.**

**LENTEN MISSION**

The Fall River Deanery Lenten Mission is coming up from **Monday, March 27<sup>th</sup> to Thursday, March 30<sup>th</sup>**. This year, Fr. James Quigley, O.P. will be celebrating Mass and preaching about virtue and leading a virtuous life. Among the virtues he covers will be hope, forgiveness and mercy. Confessions will be available each night of the mission at 6:00 PM. Mass is celebrated at 7:00 PM. Each night a different parish will host the mission. **Monday, St. Bernadette’s, Tuesday St. John of God, Wednesday, St. Bernard’s and Thursday St. Anthony of the Desert.** Please consider making the mission a part of your Lenten observances.

**PENANCE SERVICE**

***Sacrament of Reconciliation***

A **joint Penance Service for the Sacrament of Reconciliation** has been scheduled on **Monday, April 10<sup>th</sup> at 7:00PM** hosted by our Parish, **St. Thomas More Church.** This Penance Service is sponsored by five parishes of Somerset and Swansea. The priests from these parishes will be available that evening to hear confessions. All are invited to celebrate this Sacrament of Reconciliation for Easter.

## **CONGRATULATIONS! NEW ALTAR SERVERS**

Congratulations to our new Altar Servers who are being commissioned at the 8:30 Mass this Sunday. ***Jacob Faria, Brayden Ferreira, Grace Kayata, Katelyn McKinnon and Tatum Swanson.*** Thank you for your willingness to serve your parish. I would also like to thank ***Abigail Cadorette, Cyndi Gamache*** and ***Paul Kayata*** for their help in training our new altar servers.

## **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.**

### **FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT**

**March 26, 2017**

**First Reading: 1 Samuel 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a**

In seeking a King for the Israelites, Samuel traveled to Jesse of Bethlehem, who had seven sons. Commanded by God to ignore the elder sons, Samuel anointed the youngest, David.

**Second Reading: Ephesians 5:8-14**

Paul exhorts the Ephesians to live as “children of light” in goodness and truth and to avoid evil deeds “done in darkness.”

**Gospel: John 9:1-41**

Jesus performs the miracle of giving sight to the man born blind. Because Jesus performed this miracle on the Sabbath, the Pharisees called him a “sinner,” but the blind man said, “He is a prophet.” Jesus later reveals to the blind man that He is the Son of Man.

### **A FRESH PERSPECTIVE ON THE SUNDAY READINGS**

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

**“There was a time when you were in darkness but now you are light in the Lord. Well, then, live as children of light. Light produces every kind of goodness, and justice and truth.... Then he told him, ‘Go wash in the pool of Siloam.’ (This name means ‘One who has been sent.’).**

With the coming of spring, days become longer and darkness fades. St. Paul tells his readers that they are children of the light. Jesus told us we are the light of the world. We recognize our role through our good works, our efforts to make a just society, and walking with Jesus who is the way, truth and life.

How common it is for us to look for a place to charge our telephones, renew the power in our iPad, or charge our battery. Sadly people fight to plug their charger and renew their telephone, computer or game. Lent is to produce the same effect. The light can become stronger as we strive for goodness, justice and truth. Lent is meant to restore power, or grace, fully. Lent is our opportunity to be and remain connected. We are to be charged by the Lord and radiate His presence.