

*Easter Sunday*

**HOLY SATURDAY, April 15**

(NO 4:00 PM MASS)

**7:30 PM Easter Vigil**

**Sunday, April 16, 2017**  
**8:30 AM** Olivia & Gerald Barboza  
 People of the Parish  
**11:00 AM** J. Paul Audette

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

**Monday, April 17, 2017**  
**8:00 AM**  
**Tuesday, April 18, 2017**  
**8:00 AM** Richard Welch  
**Wednesday, April 19, 2017**  
**8:00 AM**  
**Thursday, April 20, 2017**  
**8:00 AM** John A. Coady, Sr.  
**Friday, April 21, 2017**  
 NO MASS

*Second Sunday of Easter*

**Saturday, April 22, 2017**  
**4:00 PM** Mary Ellen Pettine – 1<sup>st</sup>  
 Anniversary  
**Sunday, April 23, 2017**  
**8:30 AM** Sara Matos – 92<sup>nd</sup> Birthday  
**11:00 AM** Margaret Greany

**PASCHAL-EASTER CANDLE**

The new Paschal-Easter Candle has been donated in memory of **Dr. Eduardo Leonardo**. This candle is used during the Easter Season, for funerals and Baptisms, and is located throughout the year at the Baptismal Font.

**MARIAN CANDLE**

The Marian Candle burns this week in the memory of **Robert Wade**.



*Happy Easter!*

Thank you to all who donated money for flowers to decorate our church for Easter. **The List of flower donations is posted** at the main entrance of the church.

*Today's Hymns*

*Entrance: #66 Jesus Christ is Risen Today*  
*#75 Rite of Sprinkling – Springs of Water*  
*Preparation: #85 Christ Is Alive*  
*Communion: #572 Worthy Is the Lamb*  
*Recessional: #70 Alleluia, Let the Holy Anthem Rise*

**STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE**

Stewardship involves a willingness to give from the very core of who we are and what we have; from substance rather than abundance.

**Weekend Collection** \$2,942.69  
**Renovation Fund** \$1,379.29

The **Easter Sunday Special** collection will be for **Retired & Infirm Priests**. *Thank you for your support.*

*Thank You*

Thank you to all parishioners who participated in Holy Week. Special thanks also to the many people in all the parish ministries, the Altar Servers, Lectors, Eucharistic Ministers, Music Director Kyle Medeiros and the Choir who helped make our **Holy Week Liturgies** beautiful celebrations. Also, thank you to the parishioners who participated in the Washing of the Feet during Holy Thursday service and to the Collectors; the people at daily Mass who changed the missalettes and the Easter Vigil candles; Michael Fitzpatrick, Director of Religious Education and the Religious Education Teachers and students who participated. Also a special thank you to the Decorators for making our church look beautiful at Easter. Thank you to all. Alleluia, Christ has Risen, Alleluia!

**ALTAR BREADS FOR APRIL**

Are in memory of  
**David Rocha and Linda Rocha**

**ALTAR WINE FOR APRIL**

Is in memory of  
**Stanley Banalewicz**

**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*

**PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY**

There will be a meeting of the Prayer Shawl Ministry on **Tuesday, April 18, 2017, at 9:30AM in the rectory meeting room.** New knitters and crocheters are always welcome.

**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.



Thank you to Sue Lima and all the Decorating Volunteers for the beautiful decorating for Easter. You always make the church look beautiful! Volunteers, please watch for the bulletin announcement for the un-decorating date!

***STM Dinner Club***  
***Saturday, April 29<sup>th</sup>!***

**Please return your meal order as soon as possible.** 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!

**Gifts are needed for the raffle. Please consider donating a basket or a gift. Also, a popular raffle prize is the lottery scratch tickets. Please consider making a donation of lottery scratch tickets or money to purchase them for the raffle.** Any donations for the raffle can be placed in an envelope and drop in the collection basket or can be dropped off at the rectory. Please help; the raffle makes chances more fun and the proceeds will help the parish. If you have any questions, please contact the Rectory at 508-673-7831.

**“AT THE FOOT OF THE CROSS”**

Our Lenten Program, “At the Foot of the Cross: Stewardship of Time, Talent, Treasure and Prayer” is now finishing. It is not too late to participate in any of these stewardship opportunities. **We are all valuable to our church by either volunteering for a ministry, helping wherever help is needed in the parish or by the stewardship of treasure where your donations will help the St. Vincent de Paul Society help those who are less fortunate.** Please consider taking part in this. Thank you.

**St. Vincent de Paul Society**  
**Meeting**

The next St. Vincent de Paul Society meeting will be held in the parish center on Thursday, May 11<sup>th</sup> at 6:00PM.

**ST. THOMAS MORE RETIREES CLUB**

There will be a meeting of the St. Thomas More Retirees Club on **Thursday, April 20, 2017 at 1:00 PM in the Parish Center.** New members are always welcome.



***PASTORAL LETTER***

Bishop da Cunha has published his first Pastoral Letter “**Rebuilding in Faith and Hope**”. The letter is available at each entrance of the Church, please be sure to take one.

## PARISH SURVEY UPDATE

The Parish Council and the Survey Task force members met on Monday, March 27<sup>th</sup> to discuss the survey results of our parish. Overall, we graded in the mid-range in all aspects of the survey. One area that was noted for improving was informing parishioners of the ministries that are offered as well as communications of the daily functions of the parish operations. An idea on how to inform parishioners of the happenings of the parish is to write up brief explanations of the various ministries in our parish. Each Ministry will be highlighted to help inform you of what the parish has to offer. The survey also showed that many parishioners are unaware of the hospitality and welcoming of new members and how the Pastor welcomes them. Bulletin inserts will be featured highlighting the various ministries and happenings of our parish. Our parish is a strong and welcoming community which can be enhanced by more volunteers joining and strengthening our church. Thank you to all who participated in responding to the survey.

### FATIMA'S 100<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY

Living the Fatima Message invites you to: **Say Yes to Mary: Fatima's 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, Saturday, May 6<sup>th</sup> at 8:30 AM – 12:00 PM sponsored by Bishop Connolly High School** located at 373 Elsbree St., Fall River, MA. Discover how you can live Our Lady's "peace plan" through a Living Rosary, Eucharistic Adoration and Confession. Learn to make your own rosary. Listen to reflection on answering her call from Rwandan genocide survivor Fr. Leonard Kayondo and learn from keynote speaker Fr. Thaddeus Lancton, MIC of the Divine Mercy Shrine in Stockbridge. No admission fee. The full schedule can be located on [facebook.com/livingfatima](https://www.facebook.com/livingfatima) – **click events or email [livingfatima@gmail.com](mailto:livingfatima@gmail.com)** or call #781-521-3677.

### Fall River Area Grief Support Group Schedule

**May 16<sup>th</sup> – June 20<sup>th</sup>, July 18<sup>th</sup> – Aug. 29<sup>th</sup>**. This is a group to help people to cope with the loss of a loved one. The basis is to allow each to share their experiences, feelings, emotions with others on the very same journey. In sharing, we discover new ways of coping. The group meets on Tuesdays from 7–9 PM at the Catholic Education Center 423 Highland Ave. Fall River, MA. There is no fee to participate. For more information, call 508-678-2828, Ext. 27 or 508-642-0583.

## CHURCH ORGAN



As you all are aware, our church organ is no longer working. It cannot be repaired because there are no parts available due to the age of the organ. It is an analog type organ which is now obsolete. This organ was purchased by many generous contributions from parishioners back in 1983. Kyle Medeiros, Director of Music, was able to locate a similar but digital, newer version organ from the same company we purchased our current one as well as the same company that has been servicing this organ. This is a newer used organ but has been completely refurbished and comes with a warranty. The cost for the organ, complete installation and removal of the old organ will be \$32,000. I discussed this with the Parish Council and they all agreed that I pursue permission from the Bishop to purchase this organ using money from our Renovation Account. I asked the Bishop and he has given me permission and I will proceed with the contract to purchase the new organ. Anyone willing to make a donation of any size as a gift or as a memorial in memory of a loved one is asked to do so and will be most welcomed and appreciated. Envelopes marked Church Organ Fund will be available at the entrances of the church. If there are any questions please call me at the Rectory at 508-673-7831. Thank you.

### **EASTER SUNDAY OF THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD**

#### **First Reading: Acts 10:34a, 37-43**

In this passage, Peter testifies that he and his followers saw the miracles performed by Christ, witnessed His death, and believe in His resurrection. Now they will proclaim to all that Christ is the Son of God.

#### **Second Reading: Colossians 3:1-4**

Paul tells the Colossians that they will appear with Christ in glory. They should be mindful of things above rather than things on earth.

#### **Gospel: John 20:1-9**

In vivid detail, John tells us that when Mary Magdalene visited Christ's tomb, the tomb was empty. She told the apostles, who ran to the tomb, and saw the "wrappings" on the ground. The disciple who entered first "saw and believed."