

FROM THE PASTOR ~

Today in the gospel we have the wonderful image from St. Mathew of our Blessed Lord Jesus preaching to the people his sermon on the Mount we call the beatitudes. Each has a wonderful meaning, in blessing for those who are poor in spirit, those who mourn, those who are meek, those who thirst for righteousness, as well as the merciful, the clean of heart, the peace makers, and those who are persecuted for the sake of Christ. Each of us is called to reflect upon each of this beatitudes and strive to live them each day, that we too may receive the blessings that Jesus speak of, and grow in holiness and charity.

This week is Ash Wednesday on February 6. We will have Masses at 8:30 AM, 1:30 PM and 7:00 PM with the distribution of ashes. With Ash Wednesday we begin the holy discipline of Lent. It is a time for fasting, prayer and almsgiving. I also ask you to plan to attend the Stations of the Cross each Friday at 7:00 PM in the parish church.

A Lenten mailing will be sent to each of the parish families, with a booklet for daily prayers, a copy of the Stations of the Cross, and also a wonderful booklet on the Rosary.

One week from today, February 10, 2008 we welcome Bishop Robert J. McManus, the Bishop of Worcester, who will celebrate Mass for the opening of our annual novena to Our Lady of Lourdes and Saint Bernadette. Mass will take place at 7:00 PM. And each night until February 18 we will welcome a guest preacher as we pray our novena prayers before the Blessed Sacrament in adoration with benediction each night. This is a powerful time of prayer, and I urge everyone to attend as many nights of our novena as possible. We will be treated to some of the best preachers from our diocese and even a few from outside the diocese. Novena booklets will also be made available if you cannot attend the novena each night to take home to pray privately.

We continue to seek the powerful intercession of Our Lady of Lourdes and our patron Saint Francis and patroness Saint Bernadette. Pray for us!

Fr. Stephen M. Gemme

Mass Intentions for the Week

Saturday, February 2

5:00 PM † Dianne Saitta by Anne Falco
 † Nancy Hjerpe by the Lowe family

Sunday, February 3

9:00 AM † Salvatore Albicocco by the St. Bernadette Parish Staff
 † Joseph Corriveau by Mr. & Mrs. William Duffy
 11:00 AM † George Abrams by his wife Toni
 † Raymond Giguere by the family

Monday, February 4

8:30 AM † Attilio Giorgi by the family
 † Margaret J. Medve by the Parent Guild

Tuesday, February 5

8:30 AM † Teddy Kaczorek by his sister Jeanne
 † Felix Kaczorek by his sister Jeanne

Wednesday, February 6

8:30 AM † Edward Hillard by the Boland family
 1:30 PM † Celebrant's Intention
 7:00 PM † Celebrant's Intention

Thursday, February 7

8:30 AM Our Lady's Respect for Life Intention

Friday, February 8

8:30 AM Special Intention - 50th Wedding Anniversary of Charlene and William Duffy

Saturday, February 9

5:00 PM † Taranto Family by Dorothy Taranto

Sunday, February 10

9:00 AM † George Finan by Ron & Jane Stokes
 † Salvatore Albicocco by the Komanecky
 11:00 AM † The deceased members of the Fuggetta family by Patti Zammitti
 7:00 PM † Novena Intentions

Let Us Pray For :

- Rick, for his recovery - for healing & strength
- Anne, for a special intention
- Larry, for good eye test results
- our U.S. Military troops, for their safety & protection
- Tom, has liver disease

Masses, Feasts & Gospels

Sunday	Mt 5:1-12	Fourth Sunday of Ordinary Time
Monday	Mk 5:1-20	Weekday
Tuesday	Mk 5:21-43	Agatha, virgin, martyr
Wednesday	Mt 6:1-6, 16-18	Ash Wednesday
Thursday	Lk 9:22-25	Lenten Weekday
Friday	Mt 9:14-15	Lenten Weekday
Saturday	Lk 5:27-32	Lenten Weekday

**The Catechism of the Catholic Church
 "A Portion A Day"**

Feb 3	512 - 518	Feb 7	541 - 553
Feb 4	519 - 524	Feb 8	554 - 570
Feb 5	525 - 534	Feb 9	571 - 582
Feb 6	535 - 540		



Ash
Wednesday

ASH WEDNESDAY Wednesday, February 6

Mass and distribution of Ashes
8:30 a.m., 1:30 p.m. with the school
children and at 7:00 p.m.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS
Every Friday evening during Lent
7:00 PM



FIRST FRIDAY DEVOTION, STATIONS OF THE CROSS, & THE SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Friday, March 7 at 7:00 p.m.

Several priests will be available to hear confessions

RITE OF ELECTION

On Sunday, February 10th, the 1st Sunday of Lent, Bishop Robert McManus will celebrate the Rite of Election and the Call to Continuing Conversion for the catechumens and the candidates of our diocese parishes who will be initiated into the Church this Easter. The rite will be celebrated with Liturgy of the Word at 3:00 PM at St. Paul's Cathedral, Worcester.



The parish celebration for sending a candidate for recognition by the Bishop will take place at St. Bernadette's, Sunday, February 10th at the 11:00 a.m. Liturgy. We will be sending our candidate, Mr. Jim Stone. Congratulations Jim!!!

GUIDELINES FOR FAST AND ABSTINENCE

Lenten fast and abstinence regulations for the Diocese of Worcester are as follows:



Abstinence from meat is to be observed by all Catholics fourteen (14) years of age and older on Ash Wednesday, Good Friday and all the Fridays of Lent.

Fasting is to be observed by all Catholics who are eighteen (18) years of age but not yet fifty-nine (59) years of age on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday.

Those who are bound to fast may take only one full meal. Two smaller meals are permitted if necessary to maintain strength according to one's needs, but eating solid foods between meals is not permitted. Catholics should not lightly excuse themselves from these prescribed Lenten penitential practices.

WEEK AT A GLANCE

- 2/3 New Altar Server Training, 12:30-2:30 p.m.
- 2/3 Jr. High/High School Religious Education 6:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m.
- 2/4 RCIA, 7:00 p.m.
- 2/4 Traditional Choir Practice, 7:30 p.m.
- 2/5 First Communion Parent Meeting, 7:00 p.m. Registration & Orientation
- 2/6 Ash Wednesday Masses: 8:30a.m., 1:30 p.m., 7:00 p.m.
- 2/7 Prayer Group, 8:00 p.m.
- 2/8 Stations of the Cross, 7:00 p.m.
- 2/9 Quilt Meeting, 9 a.m. Pastoral Center Conference Rm
- 2/10 PK/K/Grade 1 Religious Education Class, 10:15-11:15 a.m.
- 2/10 Grade 3-6 Religious Education Class, 10:15-11:45 a.m.
- 2/10 New Altar Server Training, 12:30-2:30 p.m.
- 2/10 Jr. High/High School Religious Education 6:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m.
- 2/10 Opening Mass - Novena to Our Lady of Lourdes & Saint Bernadette, 7:00 p.m.

QUILTERS NEEDED

We are ready to start the process of making our next quilt to be awarded at the annual Holiday Magic Craft Fair in November 2008. We will be begin the quilt on Saturday, February 16th & 24th at 9AM in the Pastoral Center Hall. We invite everyone who would like to be involved in making the quilt to attend. If you know how to sew or would just like to be involved in the process, please join us. Any questions, contact Mary Anne Clifton at 508-303-4942.



A SCOUT IS REVERENT . . . Today is Scout Sunday.



Scouts across Northborough and the area will be proudly participating in Services in their Class A Uniforms. Reverence to God is a major tenant of the Scout Oath and Scout Law, and today is our day to demonstrate our Scouting Pride to our various congregations. Please say hello to these fine young men on your way out of Mass today. Interested parents and boys in the Scouting Program, from Cub Scouts through Boy Scouts, fell free to contact David Allor: dallor210@yahoo.com.

DIOCESAN CATHOLIC MEN'S CONFERENCE

All parish men, as well as their sons, brothers, fathers and friends are invited to this great annual conference, scheduled for Worcester's DCU Center, on Saturday, March 8th. Hear dynamic talks from outstanding Catholic leaders: Dr. Ray Guarendi ('Why Be Catholic'); Professor Russell Stannard ('Cosmology: Room for a Creator'); Father John Riccardo ('Confession: A Fireside Chat with the Lord'); John Martignoni ('A Re-conversion Story'); Thomas H. Powell, Ph.D. ('Different Gifts But the Same Spirit: How Are We Called To Lead'). Bishop McManus will offer the conference Mass. Diocesan priests and bishops will hear confessions. For a conference brochure, further information, or registration, call 508-929-4345. Visit our website - www.WorcesterCatholicMen.org - for more information and ticket purchases.

16th Annual Novena to Our Lady of Lourdes And Saint Bernadette

February 10th through February 18th
7:00 PM each evening

In celebration of the 150th Anniversary
of the Apparitions of Our Lady to St. Bernadette

Guest Homilist:

- 2/10 Most. Rev. Robert J. McManus
Bishop of Worcester
- 2/11 Fr. Ed Nichols
Pastor, St. Christopher Parish, Worc.
- 2/12 Fr. James Callahan
Pastor, St. Anna Parish, Leominster
- 2/13 Sr. Paulette Gardner
Sister of St. Anne, Worcester
- 2/14 Fr. Richard Jakubauskas
Pastor, St. Casimir, Worcester
- 2/15 Fr. Michael Roy
Pastor, Sacred Heart of Jesus, Webster
- 2/16 Fr. Joe Miteucig
Xaverian Missionaries, Holliston
- 2/17 Deacon George O'Connor
Parish Deacon, St. Bernadette Parish
- 2/18 Fr. Stephen M. Gemme
Pastor, St. Bernadette Parish



*Come experience the power of prayer. Come see
what God is willing to do for you.*

Have you ever wondered about . . . the power of prayer, the intercessory power of Our Lady, Mary Queen of Heaven and what is a novena is?, Are you looking for a way to grow in your relationship with God? This is for you! A guest homilist will be here each evening. . . Many miracles has taken place.

Opening Mass on February 10th
with celebrant
Most Rev. Robert McManus
Bishop of the Diocese of Worcester

Presentation of the Roses
Closing Mass on February 18th
Tradition has been to bring a Yellow Rose if
you feel that your intention(s) have been
answered.

Diocese of Worcester
Office of the Bishop
49 Elm Street
Worcester, Massachusetts 01609

My dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

The Collection for the Church in Latin America is held in parishes across the country every year. The proceeds are distributed to dioceses, parishes, religious congregations, seminaries, and other Catholic institutions throughout Latin America and the Caribbean to assist in the formation of priests, religious, lay ministers, missionaries, pastoral workers, catechists, and youth ministers.

Thus, our fellow Catholics in Latin America and the Caribbean, who are rich in faith but lacking in material resources, are not only able to participate more fully in the life of the Church, but are enabled to share it with others as well.

As a result of the generosity of Catholics in the United States, this appeal raised \$7 million last year. We were able to provide 476 pastoral grants in 23 countries, as well as the work of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops' Department of Justice, Peace, and Human Development on behalf of the Church in Latin America.

When we contribute to this collection, we are actively living out our call to stewardship and participating in a work of solidarity with our brothers and sisters throughout the American hemisphere.

I encourage you to be generous in this collection, to be taken at the Lord's Day Masses in all the parishes throughout our diocese, next weekend, February 9th & 10th. Through this appeal, all of us have the opportunity to deepen Christian unity throughout the hemisphere. Let us strive to support this important endeavor in the spirit of its theme, ³Forming Disciples and Missionaries of Jesus Christ.²

A continuing feature of this collection is that it also supports the ministries that serve the growing number of Hispanics living in the Diocese of Worcester, whose life of faith animates our local parishes. A significant portion of the collection remains locally and assists those who are served by the Diocesan Hispanic Ministry.

With every prayerful best wish, I am
Sincerely yours in Christ,

Most Reverend Robert J. McManus
Bishop of Worcester

Calendar Raffle Update - Alexandria Ciarcia who won \$200 on Jan. 6 has happily donated the prize equally to St. Bernadette Church and School. Thank you Alexandria for your generosity.

Look for more winners in next week's Parish Bulletin. Good Luck to those who bought a calendar for the St. Bernadette School Calendar Raffle!

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS

Religious Education Office - 508-393-7445
Questions? Call for any of the following programs.

PK, K and Grade 1 (Preschool building)

The next class will be on February 10th & 24th from 10:15am - 11:15am.

Grades 3 thru 6 - (School building)

The next class will be on February 10th & 24th from 10:15am - 11:45am.

Grade 5 Mass - The fifth grade Mass will be on February 10th at the 9am Mass. All fifth grade students in the Religious Education program should plan on attending.

Junior High & High School - (School building)

Classes for the month of January and February are scheduled as follows:

Sunday, February 3rd ~ Class from 12noon - 2pm
(Please note time change)

Sunday, February 10th ~ 7pm - 8:30pm Novena
(Please note time change)

Sunday, February 17th ~ No Class, February vacation

Sunday, February 24th ~ Class 6pm-8pm

CONFIRMATION

Confirmation Meeting ~ Tuesday, February 12th

@ 7pm All confirmation candidates will attend the Novena to Our Lady of Lourdes and St. Bernadette followed by a meeting for candidates in the Pastoral Center. All those students in their Junior year of High School who would like to be confirmed this year should attend this meeting. Please call the religious education office at 508-393-7445 if you have any questions.



FIRST COMMUNION

Registration/Orientation Meeting ~ There will be a registration meeting for First Holy Communion on Tuesday, February 5th at 7pm downstairs in the Pastoral Center. Classes will begin on Sunday, February 24th from 10:15am - 12noon in the school building. Please call the religious education office at 508-393-7445 if you will need babysitting.



CALENDAR RAFFLE WINNERS!!

Congratulations to the Calendar Raffle winners so far in the month of January!

Jan. 17	Deb & Tom Casey	\$50
Jan. 18	Steven Albert	\$50
Jan. 19	Carolyn Shea	\$50
Jan. 20	Maria Silva	\$200
Jan. 21	Kerry Anderson	\$50
Jan. 22	Jamie Shepard	\$50
Jan. 23	Lori Etzel	\$50
Jan. 24	Melissa Martin	\$50
Jan. 25	Gina Conney	\$50

Diocese of Worcester
Office of the Bishop
49 Elm Street
Worcester, Massachusetts 01609

My dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

On Ash Wednesday, we Christians mark the beginning of Lent! I am certain that many of us will acknowledge a longing for personal renewal and a desire to open ourselves more fully to the Lord during the forty days that lie ahead. These days offer a unique opportunity to rethink our attitudes and, with God's grace, to change our lives. Lent is a time to walk more conscientiously with the Lord so as to share more abundantly in His life and mission.

In this holy season we turn from sin and recommit ourselves to the Gospel of Jesus Christ. In doing this, we offer witness to the central role that the Son of God plays in our lives. Authentic spiritual conversion is never easy because it challenges us to move away from the self-indulgence which so often characterizes our times. It takes courage, conviction and commitment to "repent and believe the Good News." (Mark 1:14-20)

For Catholics, spiritual renewal is found in many ways: frequent reception of the Sacraments of Eucharist and Penance; the reading of the Scriptures; praying the Stations of the Cross; participating in Marian devotions like the Rosary; performing acts of charity such as the Corporal Works of Mercy. Particular attention should also be given to our traditional practices of fasting and abstinence that are required during this season of Lent.

I ask that you remember the poor and afflicted in a special way this year. Hopefully, we will all become more sensitive to the burdens of many people who suffer in this difficult economy, at home and abroad. Our prayers and generous sacrifices will truly help others. I am confident that we, each in our own way, will support the needs of the materially and spiritually poor wherever they are found.

Christ died and rose to life so that we might receive in full measure the dignity and freedom of the children of God. During this Lent, I would ask you to pray for the recognition of the dignity and sanctity of human life in all its stages, from its natural beginning to its natural end. In that light, we should ask the Lord unceasingly to bless all those who long for freedom and justice in our world, especially those who suffer the horrors of war and terrorism.

If we draw closer to the Lord in Lent, the joy of Easter will surely be ours in abundance!

With every prayerful best wish, I am

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Most Reverend Robert J. McManus
Bishop of Worcester

WOMEN'S RETREAT

Attention Women of the Parish: Final call! Come share in the women's retreat at Calvary Retreat Center in Shrewsbury on the weekend of February 8-10, 2008. It will be a good way to begin your Lenten observances. For further information or the register call Karen at the retreat center (509-842-8821).

PERPETUAL EUCHARISTIC ADORATION



St. Bernadette Parish welcomes you to join us in our Chapel for Eucharistic Adoration of Our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament. Our Adoration Chapel at St. Bernadette Parish is opened 24 hours a day Monday through Friday. Why not spend some time with our Lord. Come any time - He is waiting for you! For further information call Sr. Muriel or Cheryl in the parish office at 508-393-2838. Adorers are needed at the following hours: Monday 11 am - 12 pm, Tuesday 2 am - 3 am, Tuesday 3 am - 4 pm, Thursday 2 am - 3 am Friday 1 pm - 2 pm Friday 8 pm - 9 pm

IF YOU LOVE TO SCRAPBOOK - SAVE THE DATE!!

A Scrapbook Evening ~ Saturday March 1, 2008
2:00 PM - 10 PM ~ Pastoral Center Hall

Bring your pictures and scrapbooking supplies and spend the evening scrapbooking and catching up with friends. Feel free to bring snacks or drinks to share. Pizza / sandwiches for dinner will be ordered. For further information, contact Barbara Reilly at 508-845-1330.

DIOCESAN CATHOLIC MEN'S CONFERENCE

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ANNUAL MEN'S RETREAT

St. Bernadette's Annual Men's Retreat at The Passionists Calvary Retreat Center in nearby Shrewsbury will be held the weekend of February 29th to March 2nd 2008. This year's theme is "*Living in Joyful Hope.*" Come join us in fellowship with the men of our community. Give yourself a weekend renewal to think, reflect, pray and find God without any distractions. Please reserve the weekend of February 29th to March 2nd 2008 now for Calvary. You'll be glad you did. See Russ Lindquist (508-393-9199) or Walter Wojcik (508-485-6805) or log on the Calvary website www.calvaryretreat.org for more details and a reservation form.

Thank you for joining us in the celebration of the Mass! It is our sincere wish to welcome you to our parish.

If you are new to our parish or to the Catholic faith, we are honored to have you with us.



Registration packets are available in the Gathering Space of the Church and at the Pastoral Center Office or by calling 508-393-2838. Please feel free to ask any questions about our Church.

OFFERINGS - WEEK OF JANUARY 26, 2008

Offertory Commitment	\$ 4,690.62
Loose	\$ 328.00
Fuel Collection	\$ 38.00
Catholic Home Mission	\$ 313.00

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!

Please make out separate checks when submitting for the Offertory collection and for the Campaign for St. Bernadette's. *Please indicate in the memo section which fund the check should go into.*

CONTRIBUTION STATEMENTS

Please call the parish office at 508-393-2838 if you would like to receive a copy of your 2007 contributions to St. Bernadette Parish for your tax purposes.

Liturgical Roles - February 9 & 10

	<u>Lector</u>	<u>EMC</u>	<u>Servers</u>
5:00 p.m.	P. Dinovo M. Duggan	Deacon George J. Risotti G. Boule S. Pegg Sr. Muriel P. Boivin L. Rohmer	B. Elliott R. Elliott A. Furgal
9:00 a.m.	J. Maguire	Deacon George J. Falconi J. Volpi P. Amato W. Wojcik R. Rahn J. Ryan	C. Leonard E. Rodriguez I. Rino
11:00 a.m.	H. Turner Sr. Muriel	Deacon George S. Pegg S. Pegg C. Dinovo C. Dinovo P. Dinovo M. Maguire	I. Varney G. Temte E. Temte E. Lowe J. Bellemore

Altar Society - February 9
S. Hart, M. Stupik, B. Wojcik

All items (including flyers) to be placed into the bulletin must be in the office by Friday of the prior week. If possible, please email information to stbernadetteparish@charter.net. Thank You.

PARISH MINISTRY LEADERS

Altar Servers

Chuck Dinovo 366-5288

Altar Society

Walter & Rose Zydlewski 485-7683

Art & Environment

Anne Wall 393-3042

Baptism Preparation

Sr. Muriel Audette 393-2838
Deacon George O'Connor 393-2838

Bereavement

Mary Jane Pierson 393-2766
Sr. Muriel Audette 393-2838

Caring Connection/Hospitality

Sr. Muriel Audette 393-2838

Coffee Hour

Cheryl Charest 393-2838

Extraordinary Ministers of Communion

Horace Turner 393-5340

Knights of Columbus

St. Augustine Council #5724
Michael Ryan, (Grand Knight) 393-5203

Parish Finance

Amy Halloran 393-3206

Lectors

Horace Turner 393-5340

Marriage Ministry

Deacon George &
Joyce O'Connor 393-2838

Mom's Group

Christina Paneuf 978-562-0333

Music Ministry

Contemporary Choir
Tom Lowe 393-8113

Adult Choir

Katherine Waters 393-6484

Outreach

Veronica Fort-Schraft 393-9298
Molly Maguire 481-2509

Perpetual Eucharistic Adoration

Sr. Muriel Audette 393-2838
Cheryl Charest 393-2838

Prayer Group

Marianne Kearney 351-6099

Respect for Life

R.C.I.A.

Sr. Muriel Audette 393-2838

Women's Faith Sharing

Peg Lien 393-7180
Sr. Muriel Audette 393-2838
Judi Winning 393-3303