

Jesus said to the paralytic, "I say to you, rise, pick up your mat, and go home." He rose, picked up his mat at once, and went away in the sight of everyone. They were all astounded and glorified God, saying, "We have never seen anything like this." - Mk 2:11-12

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD



**Mass Intentions**

<b>Saturday</b> 4:00 PM	<b>February 21<sup>st</sup> – Peter Damian, bishop &amp; doctor</b> Lorraine Gelinis by her Family
<b>Sunday</b> 7:30 AM	<b>February 22<sup>nd</sup> – Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time</b> Janet Nadeau by Pat Roese
11:00 AM	Intentions of the Parishioners Bill Carlin & Lucille Law by Bill Powers
<b>Monday</b> 8:00 AM	<b>February 23<sup>rd</sup> – Polycarp, bishop &amp; martyr</b> Arthur Alimi by Jeannette Alimi
<b>Tuesday</b> 8:00 AM	<b>February 24<sup>th</sup> – Weekday</b> Nathalee Peavey by Ron Peavey
<b>Wednesday</b> 8:00 AM	<b>February 25<sup>th</sup> – Ash Wednesday</b> Fr. George Callaghan by Frank & Dot Callaghan
7:00 PM	Intentions of the Parishioners
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>February 26<sup>th</sup> – Lenten Weekday</b> No Parish Mass
<b>Friday</b> 8:00 AM	<b>February 27<sup>th</sup> – Lenten Weekday</b> Sam Gilmore by his Family
<b>Saturday</b> 4:00 PM	<b>February 28<sup>th</sup> – First Sunday of Lent</b> Lionel Dube by his Family Evelyn DiPrizio by Mr. & Mrs. Robert Lahnerque
<b>Sunday</b> 7:30 AM	<b>March 1<sup>st</sup> – First Sunday of Lent</b> Intentions of the Celebrant
11:00 AM	Intentions of the Parishioners



**Sanctuary Lamp**

February 22 – February 28

In Honor of St. Jude by Mr. & Mrs. Robert Demers

**Life Line Screening**

Life Line Screening Radiology is coming to St. Mary's on Friday, March 27, 2009. Over 250,000 people have participated in Life Line's ultrasound tests for stroke caused by carotid artery disease, abdominal aortic aneurysms and other vascular diseases. Cardiovascular disease is the #1 killer in the United States of both men and women and is a leading cause of permanent disability. These tests are quick and painless. If you are interested in participating, you will need to pre-register by calling (888) 653-6412.



Our special thanks to Maureen Ervin, who has retired from our Parish after many years of service. Besides serving as Business Administrator, Maureen was also a key individual in the building of the new St. Mary's Church. Our prayers go out to her and her family!

**LENT**



Ash Wednesday is next Wednesday, February 25<sup>th</sup>. Masses will be at 8:00 AM and 7:00 PM. Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are days of obligatory fast and abstinence. All other Fridays of Lent are days of abstinence only. Registered members of the parish will be receiving a Lenten schedule in the mail listing the activities at St. Mary's.

All persons from age 14 to 59 years are bound by the law of abstinence. The law of abstinence forbids the eating of meat. The law of fasting allows only one full meal and two lighter meals in the course of the day and prohibits eating between meals. Pregnant women and people who are sick are not obliged to fast. Others who feel they are unable to observe the laws of fast and abstinence should consult a parish priest or confessor.

During the Lenten season, the Marian Society will again be collecting supplies for the Seabecks for their work in Haiti. Food and supplies for their dispensary are the most critical. Please see the insert for a complete listing.

As part of our faith community's Lenten observance, we will participate in Catholic Relief Services' Lenten program, Operation Rice Bowl. Since 1975, Operation Rice Bowl has inspired Catholics in the United States to **pray, fast, learn and give** as we increase our understanding of our global community. We encourage you to participate in Operation Rice Bowl at home with your family and loved ones. The rice bowls will be available in the Gathering Area.

**LENTEN THEATRICAL PRODUCTION**

St. Michael's Parish and St. Luke Productions present "The Gospel of John," a full-length professional theatrical production, starring Leonardo DeFillippis. The performance is for one night only, Tuesday, March 3<sup>rd</sup> at 7PM at St. Michael's Parish in Exeter, NH. Tickets are \$10, \$7 for seniors. Call 772-2494 for tickets or for more information. See you there!

**MANY THANKS**

The Dominican Sisters of Siena wish to thank you for participating in their bake sale. They made \$557.00 to purchase medical supplies for their mission to support the lepers.

Dear Friends,

I recently received a copy of the **Interfaith Food Pantry** Annual Report for 2008. Established for **Farmington** in 1992 by Father Adrien Longchamps, Pastor Fogell and Reverend Johnson, the Food Pantry brought together the Advent Christian Church, the First Congregational Church, and Saint Peter's Catholic Church to help to supply the needs of many in the community. With more than 32 current volunteers, the Pantry takes great pride in giving thanks for what it has been able to accomplish. In addition, I want to personally thank our parishioners at Saint Peter's who have given so much time and effort: to Jean Pease, who allows her freezer to be used for food storage; for Gene Gelinas, who acts as co-chair; and for Roger Belanger, Dawn & Ron Curtis, Gene & Helen Gelinas, Cheryl & Jim Keery, George Mucher and Bev O'Neil. In addition, we also recognize Joe Powers, who passed away in this recent year, but gave so much of himself, and for all of our parishioners, who consistently donate food and money to enable the Pantry to continue.

Saint Mary's Parish contributes to the success of the **Rochester Soup Kitchen** on a regular basis. Presently, Dot Callaghan is our parish coordinator and she reports that Oscar & Margie Gelinas have joined the group and are providing a great boost to their production. Dot would like folks to know that each week, her team makes seven loaves of sandwiches! There is an **immediate need** for mayonnaise, mustard, jelly, sandwich baggies, spaghetti sauce, salt & pepper, and cream soups. If you can help to provide any of these items, please drop off your items at Saint Mary's and we will see that they reach the Soup Kitchen via Jim Locke, who makes regular runs for us - thanks to Jim, Dot, Oscar & Margie, and whomever else is offering time and effort!

The **Season of Lent** begins this week with **Ash Wednesday**. Masses with Distribution of Ashes at Saint Mary's will be celebrated at 8:00 AM and at 7:00 PM. Mass at Saint Peter's with Ashes will take place at 6:30 PM. Please remember that Ash Wednesday is a day of fasting and abstinence, and all Fridays during Lent are days of abstinence. Our readings in these early days of the season are focused on prayer, fasting & charitable giving - an opportunity for us to deepen our relationship with the Lord Jesus and with one another. To this end, the **Marian Society** at Saint Mary's will be collecting once again for the Seaback's mission to Haiti. Please check out their display and see what you can do to help. For the spiritually-minded, **The Word Among Us** and **The Little Black Book** (what color was the Christmas book?) from the Diocese of Saginaw are available at Saint Mary's.

Now - taking a backwards look - this past week, I made a great leap of faith at Saint Mary's and purchased for the parish a new **Nativity Set**. First, let me assure you that our old Nativity sets are far beyond repair - covered with nicks, cracks & chips - and that every parish really ought to have a decent-looking set. Second, I was able to get almost a complete set, minus an angel, a shepherd & an animal or two, for nearly 50% off. Third, if you measured the pieces we have been using, you would know that they are 18" tall. So...here's the leap...ready?...we now have a 27" brand-new Fontanini, hand-carved in Italy and signed & sealed by the sculptor. The price tag is \$ 8,762. I know, it sounds like a lot of money but...we now have a set we can be justly proud of. We can take our children up to show them the figures and tell them the story - how important this is! If you are able to make a contribution to defray this parish expense, please know that I will appreciate it on behalf of our parish family. Our plan is to feature a piece each week in the bulletin, so that you can see what the figures look like. Believe me - this is a necessary and important expense for Saint Mary's.

Thank you, Father Joseph, for celebrating the 7:00 PM Mass at Saint Mary's on Ash Wednesday, so that I can be up at Saint Peter's for the 6:30 - you're a life-saver once again!

God Grant You A Meaningful Lent!  
Father Pierre



### FONTANINI NATIVITY SET

This is the donkey for the new nativity set. We will be showing a picture of the figures in the set each week in the bulletin. A basket will be set up in the Gathering Area for donations.

## church support

### Stewardship/Sacrificial Giving

Envelopes	\$3,572.00
Loose Collection	\$868.50
Total Collection	\$4,440.50
Parish Tithe - 6% of Actual Collection	\$266.00
Parish Use	\$4,174.50

*Thank you for your generosity!*

### NEW ITEMS IN THE CHURCH STORE

The Church Store now has beautiful Mary note cards for purchase. These note cards are gift packaged with 10 for \$7.50. Your purchase will support the NH Council of Catholic Women. Remember, an e-mail is quick and handy, but nothing says love and friendship like a handwritten note. The cards are on display by the store.

### FOOD PROCESSION SUNDAY

#### IS NEXT WEEKEND

#### FEBRUARY 28TH AND MARCH 1ST

Please bring in non-perishable items for Gerry's Food Pantry. The Food Pantry is also in need of juice, shampoo, deodorant and tooth paste. While you are out shopping, the Soup Kitchen is in need of mayonnaise, mustard, jelly, sandwich baggies, spaghetti sauce, salt, pepper, and cream soups.

## First Holy Communion



Classes for Grade 2 and children preparing to receive First Communion will begin on Sunday, March 1, 2009, from 9:15 AM to 10:30 AM in the Parish Hall. A complete schedule of dates will be given to all children at the first class. If you have any questions, please contact Anna Ingram at 332-4671.

### EASTERN EUROPE CHURCHES

We will be having a special collection on Ash Wednesday for the Church in Central and Eastern Europe. The strength of this Church is based on its belief in the power of the Spirit of Love, which has sustained it through trials and energized it for change. Make a difference to your Catholic brothers and sisters in Georgia, Ukraine, Estonia, Poland, Serbia, Latvia, Belarus, and other distant places. Learn more at [www.usccb.org/nationalcollections](http://www.usccb.org/nationalcollections).

# WELCOME

## To St. Peter's Page



### MASS INTENTIONS & LITURGICAL MINISTERS

February 22 Seventh Sunday

Jeanette Greeley by Sally Sublette

March 1 First Sunday of Lent

Jameson Jewitt by the family

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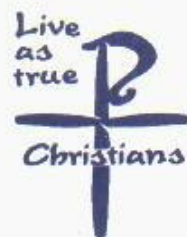
Mass intentions are not available until Feb. 2009.

Donation, \$10. Sanctuary Candle Donation, \$5.

The candle burns the month of February for Estelle Krisiak by Diane Ficco.

## LITURGICAL + ROLES

See New Ministry Schedules in foyer AND PLEASE REMEMBER TO CHECK YOUR NAME OFF ON THE SCHEDULE POSTED AT THE FRONT ENTRANCE



Social Justice Committee

Join us the first Wednesday of each month beginning March 4, 10—11am at Sister's house for letter writing on current issues—in March, the death penalty, assisted suicide, and parental notification for teenage abortions. Take an hour, if you can, and join us for coffee and updates on important issues in the legislature. We will write letters and determine if these issues need to be brought to the parish.

### Town Food Pantry Help Needed

Only on Tuesday Morning BEFORE the last Saturday of the month, 8:00am to prepare the bags for the following Saturday—10 folks make it easier.

## PARISH SUPPORT

WEEKEND OF: February 1,2009

Offertory: \$1261 Catholic Schools : \$145

50/50 posted next week

100 Club Mary Jane Marcoux, D. Ficco, Capt.

**Boiler Fund donations:** \$100 from previous donors, \$500 from a summer parishioner, and \$1000 from the Knights. Many thanks to the Knights and those who supported the Pancake Breakfast (\$345) **Goal:\$5,000.**

*The big Drawing for the 100 Club will be on Mar. 22. All Captains, please turn in your money as soon as you can. Please hand in the names of all of your members with your money. Because of the decline in members we will be giving away the following amounts—\$500, \$200, \$100, \$50. As always, thanks for your support and thanks to the captains for their work*



## Religious Education

The Religious education classes are gearing up for Lent. Each class will take a Tuesday evening and plan the stations. The whole parish, especially, their parents are invited to pray with the children. **Lent begins during vacation week on Ash Wednesday, February 25.** On that evening there will be Mass at 6:30pm (no classes that week) **Stations begin on Tuesday, March 3, 6:30pm**



## COMMUNITY NEWS

### Tax Letters

Please let Sr. Madonna know if a letter from the church, verifying your donation amounts would be helpful to you.



### Mardi Gras Supper, Friday evening, February 20.

Pot-luck dinner coordinated by the Ladies Guild. Good food, good company, good time!