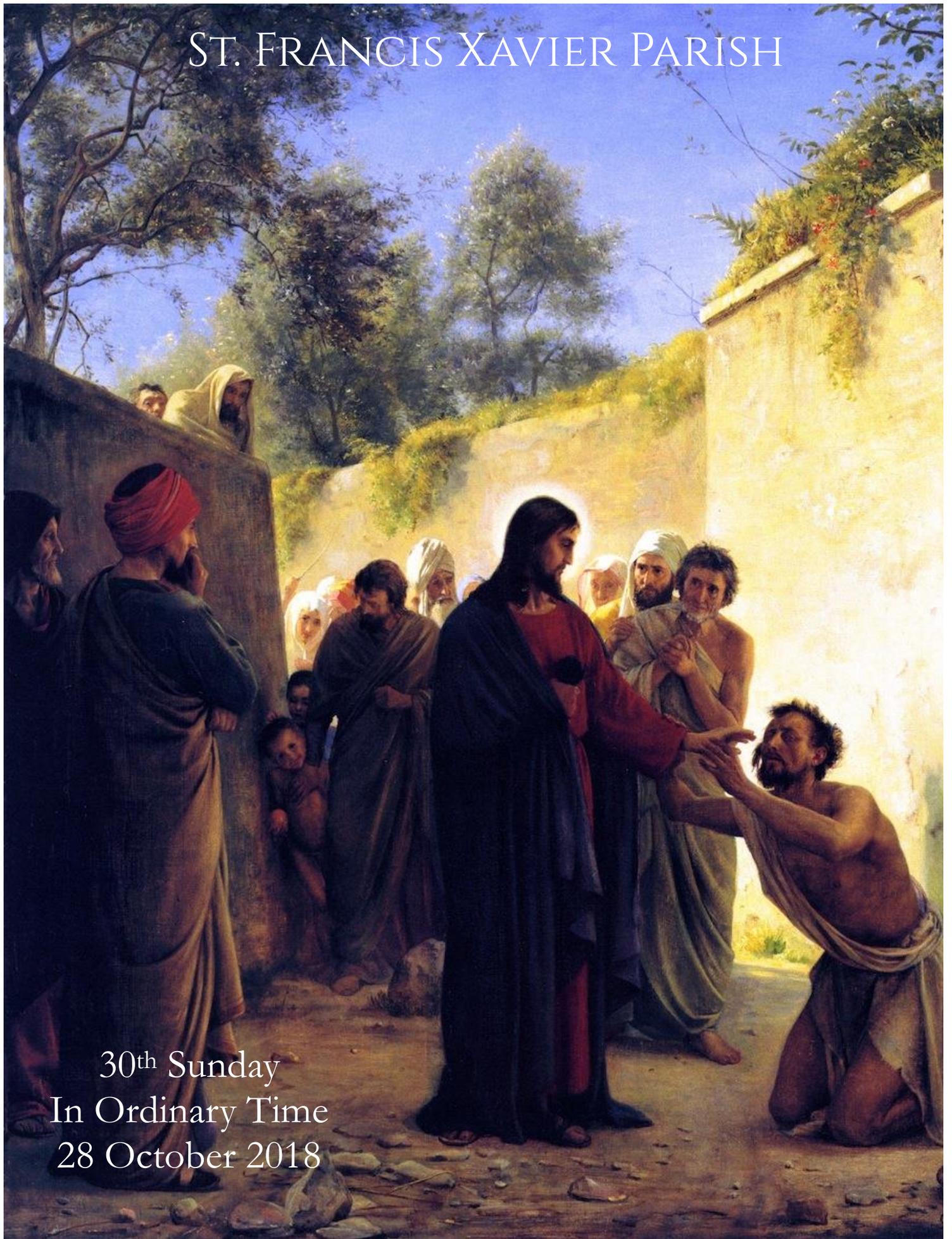


# ST. FRANCIS XAVIER PARISH



30<sup>th</sup> Sunday  
In Ordinary Time  
28 October 2018

*St. Francis Xavier, Acushnet – Diocese of Fall River*

**Mass Schedule**

**(October 27<sup>th</sup> - November 4<sup>th</sup>)**

<b>Sat.</b>	<b>Oct 27</b>	<b>30<sup>th</sup> Sunday (Vigil) (Gr)</b> Ceasar Fernandes
<b>Sun.</b>	<b>Oct 28</b>	<b>30<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time (Gr)</b> 8:00am Sister Odile Laplante 10:30am <i>Pro Populo</i>
<b>Mon.</b>	<b>Oct 29</b>	<b>Feria (Gr)</b> 9:00am George Bevilacqua
<b>Tues.</b>	<b>Oct 30</b>	<b>Feria (Gr)</b> 9:00am Bryon Daniels
<b>Wed.</b>	<b>Oct 31</b>	<b>Feria (Gr)</b> 9:00am Michael Tremblay
	<b>Oct 31</b>	<b>All Saints (Vigil) (Wh)</b> 4:00pm <i>Pro Populo</i>
<b>Thurs.</b>	<b>Nov 01</b>	<b>All Saints (Wh)</b> 9:00am Wilfred & Michael Tremblay 7:00pm Victoria Varieur
<b>Fri.</b>	<b>Nov 02</b>	<b>All Souls Day (Bl)</b> 9:00am Maria C. Freitas 6:00pm All Faithful Departed
<b>Sat.</b>	<b>Nov 03</b>	<b>St. Martin de Porres, Religious (Wh)</b> 9:00am Pedro Simão Camara
<b>Sat.</b>	<b>Nov 03</b>	<b>31<sup>st</sup> Sunday (Vigil) (Gr)</b> 4:00pm Lillian Stamo
<b>Sun.</b>	<b>Nov 04</b>	<b>31<sup>st</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time (Gr)</b> 8:00am Jonathan Salvail 10:30am <i>Pro Populo</i>

**Financial Report**

**Income:**

29 <sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time.....	\$4,823.05
World Mission Collection .....	\$1,697.63

**Prayers Please**

... for all the sick of our parish: those homebound, in the hospital, and nursing facilities; and for all the souls in purgatory.

**Sanctuary Lamp**

If you are interested in this weekly memorial, please contact the parish office. *During Eucharistic Adoration please pray for the following person/s for whose intention the Sanctuary Candle burns this week: Sister Odile Laplante*

**CONFESSIONS**

**Monday: 5:30 to 6:30pm**  
**Saturday: 9:30 to 10:00am**  
**Saturday: 3:00 to 3:45pm**

**FROM FR. WILLIAMS**

**CHILDREN ARE A BLESSING – RIGHT?**

Since when is having a large family an automatic barrier to social progress? The President of France Emmanuel Macron recently said in a speech about development in Africa that because women there didn't have access to birth control, their futures were limited: "I always say: 'Please present me the lady who decided, being perfectly educated, to have seven, eight, nine children.'"

One issue is, obviously, his promotion of birth control. While natural family planning is a morally acceptable way to space out births, artificial birth control is not only morally objectionable, but also contributes to the instrumentalization of sex and objectification of women, as is already the case in the West.

More egregious was Macron's gratuitous swipe at women who choose to have large families, implying that this somehow shows a lack of intelligence. I am inspired by the parents in our own parish who have been generously open to life and are raising large families. While I know the challenges that come with this, we should all be inspired by the love and sacrifice you show.

In response to Macron's statement, a new hashtag, #postcardsformacron, is being used for mothers to respond to his assertion. A few examples:

*PhD Harvard (2010), AM Harvard (2002), BA UPenn (1998). Eight children by choice. Keep it going ladies, add your own.*

*BA from the University of Georgia, JD from Emory, member of the Bar, 6 kids and open to more*

*I'm an MBA mom of 5. My kids have taught me that there are degrees of education beyond degrees.*

One commented, "Actually it's BECAUSE I'm educated that we had the intellect and wisdom to see the supreme value in being open to life." I encourage you to look up the hashtag and see more, and be inspired by these amazing women (and their supportive husbands).

Perhaps Macron should look too. As with the leaders of Germany, the United Kingdom, Holland, and the head of the European Commission, he has no children.

Women deserve opportunities for advancement. They also deserve for society to assist them in balancing the possibility of raising a family with being able to pursue higher studies and a work life, should they choose. But if we live in a society in which these aims are seen in opposition to one another, we need to ask – what needs to change about our society?

# PARISH INFORMATION

## PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Mon-Fri: 9:30am – 4:00pm

Please make an appointment to meet with

## HELPFUL CONTACTS

Religious Education: 508-998-7445

School: 508-995-4313

School Fax: 508-995-0456

## ACCESSIBILITY

- Open for Prayer Every Day
- Wheelchair Lift
- Cry-room

## **St. Francis Xavier Parish** **125 Main Street** **Acushnet, MA 02743**

tel: (508)-995-7600 fax: (508) -995-1794

email: info@sfxparish.com

**Fr. Riley J. Williams, Administrator**

[rjw@sfxparish.com]

**Deacon David Pepin**

[dbp@sfxparish.com]

**Mr. Steven Guillotte, Director of Pastoral Services**

[sng@sfxparish.com]

**Mrs. Michelle Russo, Principal**

[mrusso@sfxacushnet.com]

**Mrs. Anabela Shaughnessy, Asst. Principal**

[ashaughnessy@sfxacushnet.com]

**Mrs. Janine Hammarquist, Rel. Ed. Coordinator**

[jlh@sfxparish.com]

## HOLY MASS

Monday-Sat 9:00am

*Third Thursday* (Latin/Extraordinary Form) 5:30pm

*First Friday* 9:00am & 6:00pm

Saturday Vigil 4:00pm

Sunday 8:00am & 10:30am

## CONFESSIONS

Monday 5:30-6:30pm

Saturday 9:30-10:00am

Saturday 3:00-3:45pm

*First Fridays* 6:45-7:15pm

Any Time by Appointment

## ADORATION

Mon - Friday 9:30am-9:00pm

Saturday 9:30am-2:45pm

## VESPERS

Monday: Vespers with Benediction

Tuesday: Vespers

Wednesday: Vespers with Benediction

(Vespers begins at 6:30 pm)

# ON THE COVER

*"Take courage; get up, Jesus is calling you." He threw aside his cloak, sprang up, and came to Jesus. Jesus said to him in reply, "What do you want me to do for you?" The blind man replied to him, "Master, I want to see." Jesus told him, "Go your way; your faith has saved you." (Mk 10:49-52)*

The Gospel reading this Sunday recounts the story of Bartimaeus, a blind man sitting on a roadside who called out to Jesus as He departed from Jericho with a large crowd in tow. Bartimaeus not only called out to Jesus, he called out for "pity"; not only did call out for pity, he called out for "the Son of David". This tells us that Bartimaeus was a faithful Jew who understood the ancient prophecies and believed Jesus to be of the tribe of Judah and the princely line of David, so that *as* prince Jesus could offer "pity" to His subjects.

Yet more than this Bartimaeus understood sacred scripture concerning the "anointed one", the "Christ" or "Messiah" - the one who could give sight to the blind (Is 42:7). Bartimaeus reminds us of Tobit, a righteous Jew who became blind in a trial of faith and awaited the mercy of God (Tob 2:10; 11:11-13). Here however, the Son of God, the creator and master of Raphael (the savior of Tobit) arrives himself to save Bartimaeus. The crowd tried to silence Bartimaeus; they wanted to stay in the moment just as Peter desired to remain on Mount Tabor with Jesus, Moses, and Elijah (Mt 17:4). However, Jesus came to earth to fulfill the words of Isaiah and his resolute purpose would not be hindered.

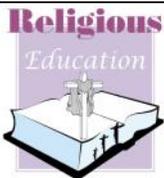
St. Matthew in his gospel instructs us how we are to approach Jesus when we petition Him: with *courage*. More to the point Bartimaeus is told to "take" courage which indicates that he is to receive this virtue from the Holy Spirit who moves him to call out to Jesus. Through the gift of fortitude the faith of Bartimaeus is emboldened in this moment of reckoning; a moment which he has perhaps awaited many a year.

In order to help us gain an observance of such courageous faith, we place on our bulletin cover for this **30<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time** a work entitled *Healing of the Blind Man by Jesus*, completed by the Danish master **Carl Bloch** in 1871. Bloch who trained at the Danish Academy, travelled through Italy, and was influence by the works of Rembrandt, became himself a painter in the genre style of Denmark. Thus, even his religious works tender a sense of everyday village life.

Here we see Our Lord depicted as healing Bartimaeus on the roadside of a walled street or passageway. One of the Apostles appearing just over the right shoulder of Jesus holds back the crowd. Over Jesus' left shoulder two men watch in prayerful anticipation. Above the wall on the left are curious onlookers; while the men on the lower left of the scene take the posture of skeptics. Whether they will become believers or accusers of Jesus after the miraculous healing, we cannot say (Jn 9:15-18).

What we can say is that faith and courage are first cousins. Faith gives us courage, and courage stirs our faith.

## 30<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time - October 28, 2018

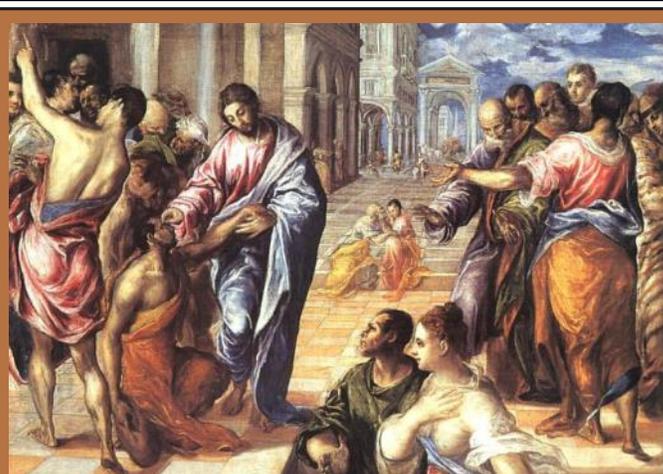


**Religious Education EUCHARISTIC ADORATION:** On all Monday evenings 7:30-8:30pm. Every grade level will have a scheduled hour of Adoration from October-May. **October is Level 9 (Confirmation).** All students in that grade level should make every attempt to join us for this hour. **November is Levels 6 & 8 (Conf. 1 class).**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Graders from SFX School** receiving the Sacraments here at St. Francis will attend classes on Sun Oct. 28 & Nov. 4 & 18.

**Day of Reflection** on Sat. Nov. 17<sup>th</sup> 12:00-3:30pm for all Level 2 students in preparation for receiving the Sacrament of First Reconciliation here at St. Francis, at least one parent or guardian should accompany each student. Please keep our second graders in your prayers as they prepare to receive their second sacrament: the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

To keep informed of important dates please visit our Parish Master Calendar on our website at [www.sfxparish.com](http://www.sfxparish.com). If you have any questions please email Mrs. Hammarquist at [jlh@sfxparish.com](mailto:jlh@sfxparish.com)



*Christ Healing the Blind*  
El Greco (1578)

*Jesus said to him in reply, "What do you want me to do for you?" The blind man replied to him, "Master, I want to see." Jesus told him, "Go your way; your faith has saved you." Immediately he received his sight and followed him on the way. (Mk 10:51-52)*

ST. FRANCIS XAVIER  
PRESCHOOL - GRADE 8



ELEMENTARY SCHOOL  
ACUSHNET, MASSACHUSETTS

Thank you to all parishioners who bundled up along with our school parents for a beautiful, starlit evening at Silverbook Farm for our first Fall Harvest fundraising event. The music was awesome, the food delicious, and the beverages delightful! The silent auction items left many winners quite pleased with their purchases. We greatly appreciate parishioners continuing support in our school fundraising efforts. Our School Events Committee faces a tremendous challenge each school year to raise \$35,000 for the general operation of the parish school. The committee hopes to invigorate our fundraising by offering new and exciting social opportunities while also raising funds needed to provide for our student's success. **Please mark your calendars for our Annual Gala to be held Saturday, March 2<sup>nd</sup>.** More details on this awesome event will follow. Thank you again for participation in the fundraising events for our parish school.

**God Bless, Michelle Russo/Principal**

### SFX PARISH CALENDAR

<b>Sunday</b>	<b>October 28</b>	
Rel. Ed Levels 1-6	9:15-10:15am	Parish Ctr.
Rel. Ed Levels 7-9	11:40-12:40pm	Parish Ctr.
<b>Monday</b>	<b>October 29</b>	
Vespers & Benediction	6:30pm	Church
<i>Eucharistic Adoration:</i>		
<i>Rel. Ed Level 9</i>	7:30-8:30pm	Church
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>October 30</b>	
Vespers	6:30pm	Church
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>October 31</b>	
Vigil Mass	4:00pm	Church
Vespers & Benediction	5:00pm	Church
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>November 1</b>	
<b>All Saints Day</b>	<b>Office Closed</b>	<b>See Mass Schedule</b>
<b>First Friday</b>	<b>November 2</b>	
<i>All Soul's Procession/</i>		<i>Church &amp;</i>
<i>Men of Sacred Hearts</i>	After 6:00pm Mass	<i>Cemetery</i>

### READINGS FOR WEEK OF OCTOBER 28, 2018

Sunday: Is 53:10-11/Ps 33:4-5, 18-19, 20, 22 [22]/Heb 4:14-16/Mk 10:35-45 or 10:42-45  
 Monday: Eph 2:1-10/Ps 100:1b-2, 3, 4ab, 4c-5 [3b]/Lk 12:13-21  
 Tuesday: Eph 2:12-22/Ps 85:9ab-10, 11-12, 13-14 [cf. 9]/Lk 12:35-38  
 Wednesday: Eph 3:2-12/Is 12:2-3, 4bcd, 5-6 [cf. 3]/Lk 12:39-48  
 Thursday: Eph 3:14-21/Ps 33:1-2, 4-5, 11-12, 18-19 [5b]/Lk 12:49-53  
 Friday: Eph 4:1-6/Ps 24:1-2, 3-4ab, 5-6 [cf. 6]/Lk 12:54-59  
 Saturday: Eph 4:7-16/Ps 122:1-2, 3-4ab, 4cd-5 [1]/Lk 13:1-9



**HOLIDAY PREPARATIONS:** are underway for our SVDP Society. They are collecting gift cards for the holidays to distribute to their local clients in need. They are also beginning preparations for creating their Thanksgiving baskets!

### UPCOMING SECOND & SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

**October 28<sup>th</sup>** - Diocesan Assessment  
**November 1<sup>st</sup>** - All Saints day  
**November 2<sup>nd</sup>** - All Souls Remembrance

## SFX PRAYER LINE

Please call 508-850-6649 between 8am & 8pm  
Or email your prayer request to:  
[sfxprayerline@gmail.com](mailto:sfxprayerline@gmail.com)



### UPCOMING STUDY:

## BELOVED: Opening Your Heart

Six-lesson Bible study in 4 weeks that lays a strong foundation for our true identity as beloved daughters of God; with scripture readings, reflections, intentional prayer time, saint stories, person resolutions, personal goals, prayer intentions, deeper friendships and fruitful truths.

God's love for us is relentless and He calls us to a life of purpose. As we lean on Him, we'll learn that nothing in our lives is wasted. When we discover who we are in Christ, it makes all the difference in the world.

We begin on Tues. Nov. 13th with 2 different meeting times: noon and 7pm. Cost of book is \$20. Sign up will take place on Sunday November 3/4 & 10/11 or reserve a spot by calling the parish office at 508-995-7600.

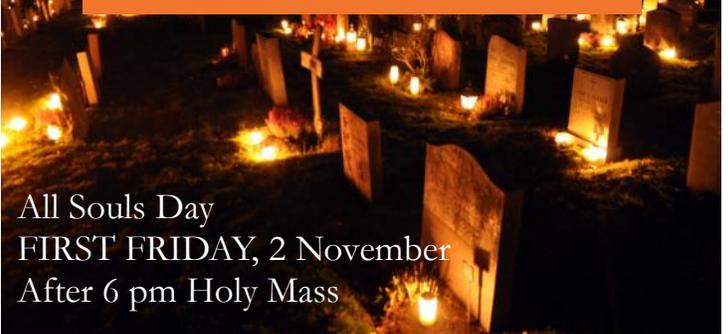
**HOLY DAY - ALL SAINTS!** On Thursday, November 1<sup>st</sup> we celebrate Holy Mass to our holy men and women who now live with God in heaven and his angelic host. In fact we begin our All Saints celebration early on Wednesday, October 31<sup>st</sup> with a 4:00 pm vigil Mass. On Thursday, November 1<sup>st</sup> we will hold two Masses, one at 9:00 am (which the parish school will attend weather permitting) and an evening Mass at 7:00 pm. The saints in heaven are not only those who have been canonized (proven) by the Church, but also those in heaven who have not been proven, (so that we still pray for them because of our not knowing for sure). As an annual "solemnity" All Saints is a **Holy Day of Obligation** and so it comes with the same necessity to attend Mass as does Sunday. The collections for all three Masses goes directly to the work of our *St. Vincent de Paul Society*. Please note also that **the parish office will be closed** on Thursday (as on all Holy Days), however our Eucharistic Adoration schedule will continue per usual.

## Be a Seminarian Sponsor!

Just as in past years we are hoping to raise \$5,000 for our parish Seminarian/Vocations Fund which supports our ongoing and future vocations to the priesthood, diaconate and religious life.

In order to meet our goal we try to raise \$2,500 from our fundraiser event which this year is on **Saturday, 17 November** and presented as **The Price is Right**. In order to raise the other \$2,500 we hope that 10 parishioners will come forward and donate \$250 each to the fund. We hold this vocations fundraiser every other year so we can support our seminarians who have school tuition or other costs and who, because they do not work as they prepare for ordination, need the financial support of their parish. **Please see Father Williams** if you are able to be a sponsor.

### CANDLE LIGHT PROCESSION



All Souls Day  
FIRST FRIDAY, 2 November  
After 6 pm Holy Mass

Join us as we process to the Acushnet Cemetery for a Christian rite of remembrance as we read the names of all those we buried this past year.



### NEXT BLOOD DRIVE

This Sunday, 28 October  
7:30 am to 12:15 pm

GIVE BLOOD - FOR LIFE!

## 30<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time - October 28, 2018

### IDEAS FOR PRAYER

BY DOM HUBERT VAN ZELLER

In taking account of the fact that truth asserts itself even in an environment of error we should note the reason for this. The explanation lies not in our power of discernment but in the magnetic quality of the divine attributes. Whatever there is of truth, goodness, love, beauty, justice and mercy in the soul is present only because God has put these qualities there and is attracting their activity back to him.

This is shown by the way in which the psalmist sings of the virtues God has planted in us and the works he has wrought in us: we have not planted, we have not wrought. *'You are my patience...you are my mercy . . . you are my hope.'* God is more than the inspiration of my patience, the example which teaches me to show mercy, the grounds of my hope. It is God within me expressing patience, mercy, hope.

Salvation itself is not mine, not something which I can claim as a personal possession, but is his free gift. Every evening we hear at Compline the promise that God will show to his faithful servant 'my salvation'. Beatitude is no do-it-yourself commodity. The prerogative of bestowing blessedness is God's, the condition of its possession is Christ's merits, the essence of it is God himself.

### CORI & SAFE ENVIRONMENT TRAINING FOR

**ALL MINISTRIES:** In the letter the Bishop wrote in August he informed everyone of a newly established Office of Safe Environment and changes to our abuse prevention training program and CORI procedures. In light of these changes this year **every person** volunteering in a ministry has to complete online Safe Environment Training. This training is done on a one-on-one basis, via the computer at <https://fallriver.cmgconnect.org/> and takes about an hour. If you do not have access to a computer or can not navigate the training on your own please call Janine Hammarquist in the parish office to make arrangements for us to provide you with an opportunity to complete this training using our computers at the parish. At the end of the training you will be prompted to print or download a certificate of completion which is good for 6 years. Once you have printed or emailed me the certificate, it will be sent to the diocese along with a completed CORI (Criminal Offender Record Information) Acknowledgement Form, Code of Conduct Form and a copy of a valid driver's license which you will need to come into the parish office to complete yearly. If you volunteer at more than one entity within the Diocese of Fall River only one training and CORI request is needed.

All Safe Environment Training Sessions and CORI forms need to be completed as soon as possible to be able to continue in a ministry within the parish.

Please contact Mrs. Hammarquist if you have any questions.

**WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA:** On **Saturday, 15 December** the Knights of Columbus (a fraternal Catholic organization) will once again be visiting the Bourne National Cemetery to lay wreaths at the graves of our veterans, many who died in service. If you know of a service man or woman who is buried (or interred in a columbarium) at the national cemetery and would like to have a wreath laid at their graveside, please see Steve in parish office for a short form to complete. **The cost of the wreath is \$15.00.** You may also make a donation toward one or more wreaths since this event also serves as a fundraiser for laying wreaths in the entire cemetery, even for those who have no loved ones to remember them. In this sense, combined with prayer, a donation may serve as a *spiritual work of mercy*. Just as a matter of information: Bourne National Cemetery is the 2<sup>nd</sup> largest veterans cemetery in the U.S. (second only to Arlington) holding the remains of 60,000 veterans.

**BISHOP STANG HIGH SCHOOL:** invites parents and students of all middle school grades to an **Open House on Sun, 4 November from 1-3 pm.** Bishop Stang is an excellent, Catholic faith-based, college preparatory school, making it a great transition from our parish middle school. Join them for an afternoon of information and fun.

**SHELTER VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY:** With predictions of a difficult winter in store Catholic Social Services will be opening its **Sister Rose House Overflow Shelter** (at 71 Division Street, New Bedford) again this year. They are looking for assistants to prepare and cook dinner from 3 to 5:30 pm, assemble cots and pillows from 4 to 7 pm and serve shelter guests from 5:30 to 7pm. If you are interested in volunteering (perhaps as a group) please contact Robin Muise at 774-553-5490. The shelter is also in need of food donations such as packages of ground meats, pasta, tomato sauce, bags of rice and potatoes, soups and such **so as to feed 30 people.** Breads, rolls, etc. are also accepted. Hats, gloves, socks, and toiletries will be gladly received.

### UPCOMING EVENTS

**ALL SOULS PROCESSION:** Our annual *candlelit* procession to Acushnet Cemetery will take place after the 6 pm Mass on **Friday, 2 November.**

**GENTLY-USED CLOTHING DRIVE:** On the weekend of **December 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup>** our *St. Vincent de Paul Society* in cooperation with **Gifts to Give** will have a mobile donation trailer placed in our parking lot to collect "gently used" clothes, sneakers, shoes, books, toys, puzzles and games. If you have such items you are looking to donate, please set them aside for this holiday season drive.