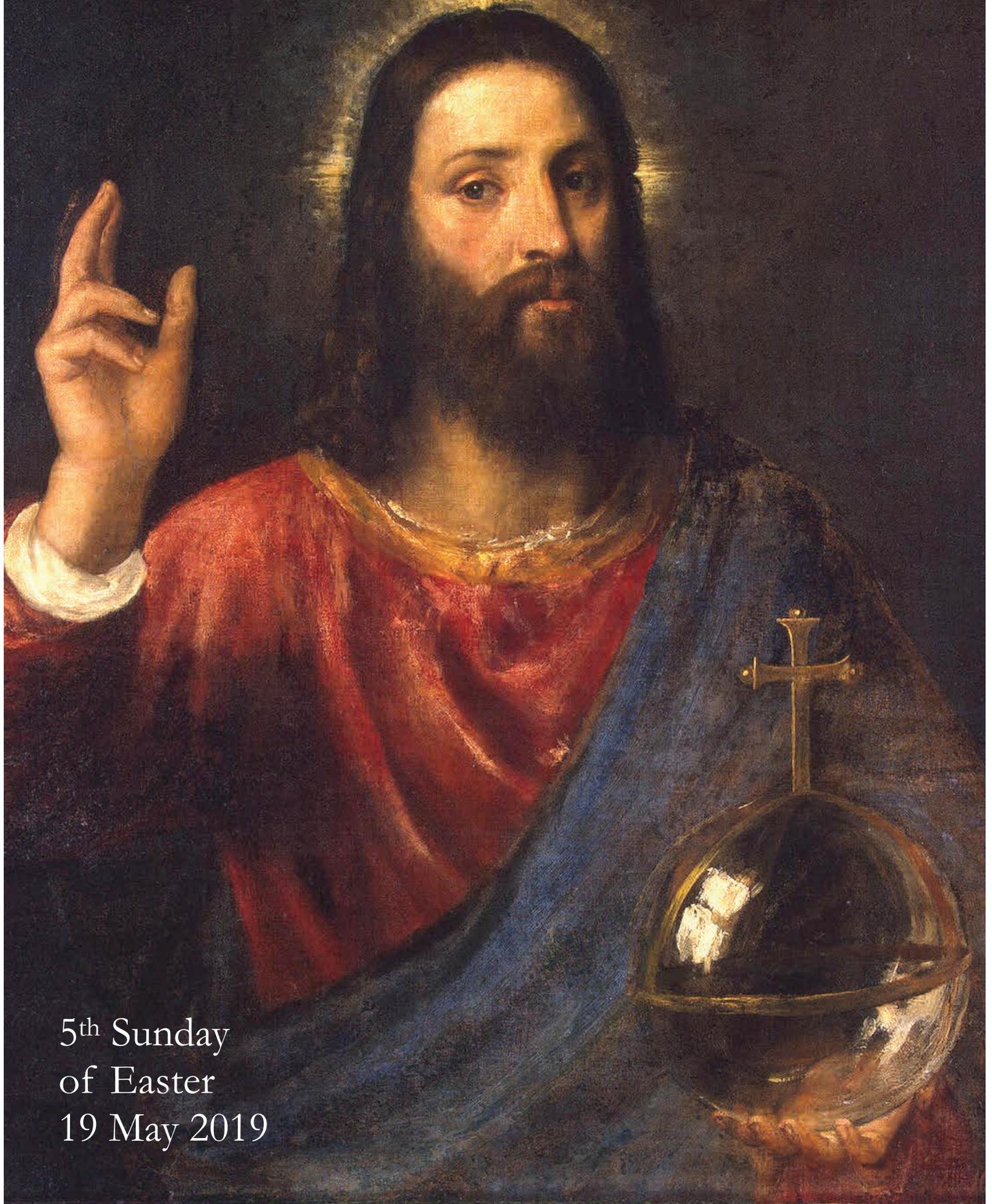


ST. FRANCIS XAVIER PARISH



5th Sunday
of Easter
19 May 2019

St. Francis Xavier, Acushnet – Diocese of Fall River

Mass Schedule

(May 18th - May 26th)

Sat.	May 18	5th Sunday of Easter (Vigil) (Wh) 4:00pm <i>Pro Populo</i>
Sun.	May 19	5th Sunday of Easter (Wh) 8:00am Erminia Vicente 10:30am Fatima & Carlos Couto
Mon.	May 20	St. Bernadine of Siena (Wh) 9:00am George Bevilacqua
Tues.	May 21	St. Christopher Magallanes (Rd) 9:00am Domingos Lima
Wed.	May 22	St. Rita of Cascia; Religious (Wh) 9:00am Mr. & Mrs. Jose Anjo & Family
Thurs.	May 23	Easter Weekday (Wh) 9:00am Roger Allain
Fri.	May 24	Easter Weekday (Wh) 9:00am Doris Farland
Sat.	May 25	St. Bede the Venerable; Priest (Wh) 9:00am Mary Nelson
Sat.	May 25	6th Sunday of Easter (Vigil) (Wh) 4:00pm Guy Sinagra
Sun.	May 26	6th Sunday of Easter (Wh) 8:00am Rose Engel 10:30am <i>Pro Populo</i>

Financial Report

Income:

4 th Sunday in Easter.....	\$3,205.78
Parish Building Fund	\$3,080.50

Prayers Please

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

Also, please pray for **David Aiden Fredette** who was baptized in our parish church on April 27, 2019.

Sanctuary Lamp

During Eucharistic Adoration please pray for the following person/s for whose intention the Sanctuary Candle burns this week: Intentions of Gloria Fernandes

CONFESSIONS

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

FROM FR. WILLIAMS

THE LEGACY OF JEAN VANIER

While the title “living saint” can be over- or misused, it is also important to recognize those persons who, in an extraordinary way, bring the holy into our everyday life. They show that holiness really is possible.

Last week someone who could justifiably be called a “living saint” passed from this life: Jean Vanier. As a young man in Canada, Jean became friends with Fr. Thomas Philippe, a Dominican who was also his philosophy teacher. One day Fr. Philippe invited Jean to come with him to another of his ministries, serving as a chaplain to an institution for those with mental illness.

While there, Jean was shocked by the treatment of the patients, with some being chained to walls, others living in filth, and more. As he was leaving, one of the patients asked him, “Will you be my friend?” Rather than say something nice but non-committal in response, Jean would invite the man who asked him the question, Raphael Simi, as well as two other patients, to live with him. Thus was born the work that would take up the rest of Jean Vanier’s life: l’Arche (the Ark).



Jean Vanier (lower right) with others from l’Arche

The point of l’Arche was not simply to provide better living conditions for the mentally disabled, but also to integrate their lives with those of the non-disabled who would live with them as equals. This movement now encompasses 150 houses where the disabled and non-disabled live together as equals, as brothers and sisters.

Jean offered a thought for how we can live out this spirit in our own lives: “Try and find somebody who is lonely. And when you go to see them, they will see you as the messiah. Go and visit a little old lady who has no friends or family. Bring her flowers. People say, ‘but that’s nothing’. It is nothing – but it’s also everything. It always begins with small little things. It all began in Bethlehem. That was pretty small.”

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. Janine Hammarquist, Rel. Ed. Coordinator

[jlh@sfxparish.com]

Mrs. Michelle Russo, Parish School Principal

[mrusso@sfxacushnet.com]

Mrs. Anabela Shaughnessy, Asst. Principal

[ashaughnessy@sfxacushnet.com]

HOLY MASS

Sunday 8:00am & 10:30am

Saturday Vigil 4:00pm

Monday-Saturday 9:00am

First Friday 9:00am & 6:00pm

Latin/Extraordinary Form: As Announced

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

"Behold, God's dwelling is with the human race. He will dwell with them and they will be his people... The One who sat on the throne said, "Behold, I make all things new." (Rev 21:3, 5)

The Holy Trinity is a thoroughly self-sustaining communion of three divine persons. To say this is of course true and not true. It is true in that we may firmly believe that the one and only Godhead of Father, Son, and Holy Spirit needs nothing outside itself to fulfill itself: its Nature, that is, its Divine Nature is thoroughly accomplished and fully content. Our opening sentence is also not wholly true in that all human descriptions of the Blessed Trinity fall short of its complete beauty and majesty. Even the great St. Thomas Aquinas, who once received a personal revelation that he had written well of God, received another more beautiful and majestic vision which left him saying (in comparison) that all he had written was "straw".

God did not need to create us or the world; neither we nor the world sustain him (Is 40:15-16). Yet, as we say and believe, "*He created us because he loves us*". This is a mysterious saying since how can one love someone before that person exists? Yet for God, whose essence *is existence*, even this is possible. For since God is outside of time, He sees all in the present, so that the past and the future converge in the "now".

We do not write these words so as to cause confusion. We write them to rejoice that the Lord is so mysterious and so far above us that even the word "far" cannot suffice to describe the distance. Yet, in his love God has forever bridged this distance by incarnating his divine Son with a human nature (i.e. in human flesh). The Incarnation, not some esoteric dream, but that particular act of Jesus being conceived in the womb of Mary, brought God to not only dwell on the earth, but to dwell among man forever. This is a blessing beyond all human comprehension in that it was achieved to save us from our corruption. All that we can do in its wake is to bow low and humbly before the divine favor.

In order to encapsulate this glorious thought for this 5th **Sunday in Easter**, we place on our bulletin cover a work by the great Venetian master, **Titian**, entitled *Salvator Mundi* (1570). The English translation of this title is "Savior of the World", and its simple imagery is packed with profound symbolism. First, God can now be portrayed in human form because He has become man. Next, the world is made anew by the Holy Cross which is shown rising above the earth toward heaven. Third, Christ is shown blessing the world by the second of God's divine blessings. The first blessing is *creation* which was corrupted by the sin of man; the second now comes as *salvation*, the making of "all things new" in the sinless and obedient human nature of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

We should think of this painting as an earlier instinctive rendering of the Divine Mercy long before the gracious depiction of Jesus, received and presented by St. Faustina; for salvation comes to the world as the merciful blessing of God.

5th Sunday of Easter - May 19, 2019



Religious EUCHARISTIC ADORATION: On all Monday evenings 7:30-8:30pm. May is Level 1, all students in this grade level should make every attempt to join us for this hour accompanied by an adult.

Last Class for all grade levels Sunday May 19th. Registration for the 2019/2020 year will be scheduled in the summer. Please watch the bulletin for dates & times.

To keep informed of important dates please visit our Parish Master Calendar on our website at www.sfxparish.com.

The Religious Education Office will be closed from May 29th until June 9th.

Mrs. Hammarquist jlh@sfxparish.com

CATHOLIC CHARITIES APPEAL 2019: Thanks to all parishioners and others who have given to the bishop's appeal on behalf of our parish. This year we are taking part in the Catholic Foundation's pilot program in which they complete the parish mailing and the returns go directly to the Catholic Charities Appeal office. We then receive a report of all donations. As of the first two weeks of the campaign we have reported \$8,945 in pledges as compared to \$11,615 in the first two weeks of giving in the year 2018. Please give generously to the bishop's appeal.



*Christ Preaches to the Apostles (fragment)
Duccio (1311)*

"I give you a new commandment: love one another. As I have loved you, so you also should love one another. This is how all will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another." (Jn 13:34-35)

ST. FRANCIS XAVIER
PRESCHOOL - GRADE 8



ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
ACUSHNET, MASSACHUSETTS

Our teachers certainly enjoyed their week of appreciation and the outpouring of love from our school families! We were sure to spoil our teachers with some special treats! Time is moving quickly and our students are in the "home stretch" of the academic year! It definitely helps that the final days are sprinkled with field trips, celebrations, and an Easter Dress-down Day! Our 8th graders are almost finished. In just a few short weeks they will present the annual Appreciation Dinner for their parents and teachers, as well as enjoy their retreat and field trip prior to graduation. Summer is definitely in sight and parents are beginning to plan for their children to be "busy and not bored" during the months away from school! Parishioners Phil Martin and Michelle Cordeiro are teaming up this summer to offer our popular three-week *Summer Fun at St. Francis* program during the month of July! Please visit our school website (www.sfxacushnet.com) for more information and registration forms. We would love to add your children to the program! As always, continue to pray for our parish school...

God Bless, Michelle Russo/Principal

UPCOMING SECOND & SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

May 19th - Diocesan Assessment
May 30th - Ascension Thursday
June 2nd - Ecclesiastical Students

PARISH CALENDAR

Sunday	May 19	
Holy Rosary	7:30am & 10:00am	Church
Rel. Ed Levels 1-6	9:15-10:15am	Parish Ctr.
Rel. Ed Levels 7-9	11:30am -12:30pm	Parish Ctr.
Monday	May 20	
Vespers & Benediction	6:30-7:00pm	Church
<i>Eucharistic Adoration:</i>		
<i>Rel. Ed Level 1</i>	7:30-8:30pm	Church
Tuesday	May 21	
Vespers	6:30pm-7:00pm	Church
Wednesday	May 22	
Vespers & Benediction	6:30 - 7:00pm	Church
Saturday	May 25	
Holy Rosary	3:30pm	Church

READINGS FOR WEEK OF MAY 19, 2019

Sunday: Acts 14:21-27/Ps 145:8-9, 10-11, 12-13 [cf. 1]/Rv 21:1-5a/Jn 13:31-33a, 34-35
 Monday: Acts 14:5-18/Ps 115:1-2, 3-4, 15-16 [1ab]/Jn 14:21-26
 Tuesday: Acts 14:19-28/Ps 145:10-11, 12-13ab, 21 [cf. 12] Jn 14:27-31a
 Wednesday: Acts 15:1-6/Ps 122:1-2, 3-4ab, 4cd-5 [cf. 1]/Jn 15:1-8
 Thursday: Acts 15:7-21/Ps 96:1-2a, 2b-3, 10 [3]/Jn 15:9-11
 Friday: Acts 15:22-31/Ps 57:8-9, 10 and 12 [10a]/Jn 15:12-17
 Saturday: Acts 16:1-10/Ps 100:1b-2, 3, 5 [2a]/Jn 15:18-21



Women of Grace

Please pray to Our Lady of Guadalupe for the protection of all life. Consider *lighting a candle* (\$3) in the Pro-Life room (near elevator) in front of the image of Our Lady of Guadalupe for your intentions, the prayer room is open during the week until 4pm.

Every **first Tuesday** of the month **7:30-8:30pm** we make our Holy Hour before the Blessed Sacrament praying the Rosary, for special intentions and the intercession of Our Lady of Guadalupe. Bring your Bible and catch up on Holy Scripture or just sit quietly with the Lord. All parish women are invited to join in this restful hour on **Tues. June 4th.**

Thank you SFX Parish for our new shoes!

RWANDA SHOE DRIVE



Please keep up the prayers for our two new Deacons of the Church:

Steven Booth & Tony Pimentel



ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY: As we move through the Easter season it is time to replenish our shelves that were reduced after the preparation of our Easter baskets. We are in need again of the following items: breakfast cereal, peanut butter

& jellies, soup, canned ravioli & spaghetti (such as Spaghettios), canned tuna & chicken. Once again thank you for all your material support throughout the year.

SFX PRAYER LINE

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

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY: In all the goings-on with the recent ordinations we neglected last week to make you aware of another very special day in the life of our parish: the anniversary of the diaconal ordination of **Deacon David Pepin** which falls on May 18th. Because our bulletin is emailed on the Thursday before the celebrated Sunday, many of you will become aware of this before the weekend Masses. Please be sure to wish Deacon Dave a happy day on his 17th complete year as a servant to Christ and his Church.

PRAY THE ROSARY IN MAY THE MONTH OF MARY



Pray with Us in the Church:

Monday through Saturday after daily Mass
Saturday evening and Sunday: 1/2 hour before Mass

HOLIDAY CLOSING: The parish office will be closed on Monday, **27 May for Memorial Day**. Also, due to the trip of many of our parishioners to Acadia National Park (and other parishioners/adorers being away for that weekend) once we end Eucharistic Adoration (as usual on Saturday afternoon) we will not start up again until Tuesday morning (28 May) immediately following the 9 am Mass. Basically, there will be no Eucharistic Adoration on Memorial Day. Please note that there will also be *no* Vespers and Benediction Monday evening and also *no* Confession on Monday evening.

There will however be **9 am Morning Mass** and Confession after the 9 am Mass on Memorial Day.

If you have any questions regarding this schedule please call the parish office. (Please just don't call us on Memorial Day, because we will not be here!)

IDEAS FOR PRAYER

BY DOM HUBERT VAN ZELLER

The holy man Job had a number of things which irked him, but the essential test was an affliction of the spirit which was draining the marrow of his being. In the same way it is not this or that mishap which we are up against in the spiritual life. It is our being, or 'substance', which suffers.

It suffers moreover from the one direction in which relief is expected. Pledged now to faith more than to anything else, the soul is exposed to what seems to be a loss of faith: *'My God, why have you forsaken me?'* If faith had not come to mean everything, had not come to be life itself, the loss of God's protecting presence would not have caused such desolation. Now, when there is no other reality, every support has gone.

Yet even in this extremity there remains an obscure area of the will which not only resists despair but which is content to be treated to despair. In this way one may be miserable and at peace simultaneously, may be resisting and surrendering in the same act: *'Lord, if it be possible let this chalice pass from me, yet not my will but yours be done.'* Natural misery but supernatural peace; emotional resistance but deliberate acceptance.

CATHEDRAL CAMP OPEN HOUSE: Please stop by at 167 Middleboro Rd in East Freetown to walk around and see this private day camp on **Sunday, 9 June** from 1:00 to 3:00 pm. This camp, operated by the Diocese of Fall River, offers eight, one-week summer sessions of fun for kids whose ages are between 4 and 14. Boating, swimming, archery, arts/crafts, dance, music and outdoor adventures await the young campers. Come visit on June 9th and register to win a free week of camp.

WEEKEND ROSARY CONTINUES AT SFX PARISH: We are praying the Most Holy Rosary every day at the parish during May. For the weekend Masses we are doing this each half-hour before the Mass begins. Please come one half-hour early to the 4:00 pm Saturday and the 8:00 am and 10:30 am Masses this month to join in the rosary and the honor our parish is paying to the Blessed Mother and her Son.

CURSILLO CONVOCATION: On Saturday, June 22nd at the Ames Sport Center at Stonehill College (from 10 am to 5pm) the Diocese of Fall River and The Holy Cross Retreat House present a day-long event which will include presentations, panel discussions and music. Attendees can browse exhibits and vendor displays and explore service opportunities with faith-based organizations. Food and snacks will be on site. The event will conclude with Holy Mass with celebrant, Bishop Edgar da Cunha.

QUO VADIS DAYS & VOCATIONS: Once again the Diocese of Fall River Office of Vocations is presenting Quo Vadis Days at the Betania II Retreat Center in Medway, MA. This year it will run from **July 8-12**. This retreat is for boys ages 14-19 (those entering high school to those entering college) so they might seek to grow in their faith and in Christian fraternity, and learn how to discern one of the most important things in their lives: their vocation or particular calling by God. Throughout the week there is plenty of time for comradery and athletics, but also much time set aside to talk about living the Catholic faith, understanding the different vocations, prayer, Holy Mass and Eucharistic Adoration. This is an opportunity for your sons to build friendships with others their own age also looking to live out their faith in this challenging time, as well as to get to know the seminarians in the diocese. The cost per boy is \$100. If your son is interested, please see Father Williams after the Masses or email him at rjw@sfxparish.com.

LAKESIDE FESTIVAL: On Memorial day weekend (May 24th to 27th) St. John Neumann Church of East Freetown will hold its 35th family festival on its extensive parish grounds. You can go to <http://sjnfreetown.org/lakeside-family-festival> to find out more about the times of operation for each day. Come for the food, the classic car show, the huge barn sale, the rides and the entertainment, but most of all come to support one of your sister parishes in its effort to continue a local family tradition.

Thank You: To everyone who assisted in any way in the preparations of the ordination events of Steven Booth and Tony Pimentel. God knows the good you have done to support His vocations!

CORPUS CHRISTI PROCESSION

Late-Easter through post-Pentecost is one of the most exciting periods of the Catholic liturgical year. Only one week after celebrating the Ascension of the Lord (May 30th) we will celebrate Pentecost Sunday (June 9th). The Sunday following is The Most Holy Trinity (June 16th) and the Sunday following that takes us to the **Feast of Corpus Christi**, the Most Holy Body & Blood of Christ (June 23rd).

Now is the approach of a most exciting time for a Eucharistic parish such as our own. We are looking forward to another wonderful Corpus Christi **Procession** on **Sunday, 23rd of June** originating from Our Lady's Chapel at 2:00 pm. We always attend as a parish group and we hope that many, many parishioners (and Adorers) will join us this year to bring the Eucharistic Lord out into the world. We will provide more information as it is forthcoming. Thank you.