

**Prayers** are requested for the Parishioners of St. Clare Parish, for those who are hospitalized, for our deceased relatives and friends, and for the following intentions:

**SATURDAY, January 3**

4:00 PM: Edward P. Barkowski.....2<sup>nd</sup> Anniv

**SUNDAY, January 4**

8:30 AM: Ruth E. Brightman.....6<sup>th</sup> Anniv

10:00 AM: Charles E. Johnson.....Memorial

11:30 AM: Thomas Griffin.....19<sup>th</sup> Anniv

**SATURDAY, January 10**

4:00 PM: Patrick Finnegan.....1<sup>st</sup> Anniv

Nora McDonough.....7<sup>th</sup> Anniv

**SUNDAY, January 11**

10:00 AM: Rita Palmer.....5<sup>th</sup> Anniv

11:30 AM: Natalie Rose Burns Foster.....6<sup>th</sup> Anniv

**Please remember in your prayers the soul of Barbara A. Welch.**

**The three wise men** who came from the East to pay homage to the Infant Jesus brought Him rich gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh as part of their worship. What gifts have I brought to this celebration to offer to the newborn Savior?

**Additional names** of those remembered by flowers on the Christmas altar: Andrew Orrock, Alice Guilbault, Eleanor Guilbault, and Patrick Flanagan.

**Guest Speaker:** The Holy Name will welcome **Mike Panciotti** as the guest speaker at their monthly Mass and meeting Sunday, **January 11<sup>th</sup>**, after the 8:30 AM Mass. All are welcome and encouraged to attend. Mike will speak on "First Impressions" as Coordinator of Faith Formation Grades 9 & 10.

**Jubilee Organizing Committee Meeting:** The next meeting is Wednesday, **January 7, 2009**. We hope all members will make a special effort to attend.

**Holy Hour for Life:** A Holy Hour for Life will be conducted by Deacon Mike Cavanaugh at St. Clare Parish on Wednesday, **January 21<sup>st</sup>**, at 7:30 PM. Please know as well that Thursday, January 22<sup>nd</sup>, the 36<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Roe vs. Wade, has been designated a national day of prayer. Please make every effort to attend the Holy Hour for Life!

**Fr. Bill's Place** will be visited on Tuesday, **January 6**. If anyone is interested in baking desserts, please leave them in the kitchen area in the Church Parish Hall by noontime of that day. Thank you.

**Pine Street Inn:** Thursday, **January 8**, is the date of our monthly visit to serve our friends a hot meal. **Desserts are always needed and appreciated**, which you may leave in the kitchen area before noon that day.

**Please Remember the Needy:** Please be generous in donating to our Poor Boxes, which provides monthly meals for those at Pine Street Inn, Boston, and Fr. Bill's Place, Quincy. Your pennies are donated to the Catholic Daughters to purchase cribs for the unborn.

**The Altar Breads and Wine** to be used in all the Masses this week have been donated in loving memory of **Albert Skoglund and Christel Skoglund**.

**WE ARE THE STEWARDS ...**  
and this is how we live our stewardship

<b>Christmas</b>		<b>\$11,918</b>
<b>Offertory</b>	<b>(December 27 &amp; 28)</b>	<b>\$7,308</b>
Thank you for your ongoing generosity		

**The Spirituality of Stewardship**

Receiving God's Gifts gratefully;  
Nurturing God's Gifts responsibly;  
Sharing God's Gifts in love and justice;  
Returning God's Gifts generously.

**Pastoral Review of 2008:** It is of interest to review the past year in terms of sacramental and spiritual activity within the Parish. These statistics indicate that God was truly at work through St. Clare Parish. In the year 2008 the index of sacramental activity was as follows: 58 Baptisms, 90 First Communions, 88 First Confessions, 82 Confirmations, 10 Marriages, 48 Funerals, 1,043 visits to the sick with communion, and 72 anointings at the Alliance Nursing Home, Braintree Rehab., Braintree Manor, Guardian Nursing Home, Kindred Health Care, Milton Hospital, New England Sinai Hospital, Quincy Medical Center, South Shore Hospital, Southwood Nursing Home, Weymouth Health Care Center and Winchester Hospital. A Eucharistic Minister also is responsible for 2,205 visits to John Adams Nursing Home distributing communion there weekly.

**The Parish Web site, StClareBraintree.org**, is worth a visit. From this website one can review recent bulletins, register in the Parish, and take a daily retreat. Please utilize the new technology in helping to bring your Parish into the home.

**The ARISE Together in Christ Program** is being conducted throughout the Church of Boston and is being hosted in the Braintree Collaborative by St. Francis of Assisi. The next segment, "Change Our Hearts", will be presented during Lent. Those who wish to participate have been invited to do so by Linda Muldoon, Pastoral Associate at SFA. To register, call Linda at 781-843-1332.

**Liturgical Roles**

**January 3 & 4:**

**Lectors:**

4:00 PM: G. Cahill

8:30 AM: C. Cavanaugh

10:00 AM: R. Moran

11:30 AM: R. Burke

**Eucharistic Ministers:**

4:00 PM: M. Cahill, C. McGaffigan, T. Kane, R. McDonough

8:30 AM: Deacon Mike, F. Buonopane, M. Walsh, C. Mahoney

10:00 AM: A. Moran, J. & A. Sheehan, M. Smith

11:30 AM: I. Barone, M. Rochon, P. Manter, J. Donovan

**Priest President – January 10 & 11:**

4:00 PM: Fr. Tom Foley

8:30 AM: Fr. Paul Sughrue

10:00 AM: Fr. Paul Sughrue

11:30 AM: Fr. Tom Foley

**Bible Question:** Why is Jesus referred to as the “Son of Man”? In the four Gospels this term is used a total of 81 times by Jesus of himself. Obviously, it is a term that stresses the humanity of Jesus. He is indeed the Son of God, but likewise, as the son of Mary, He is the son of man. As one fully identified with human nature, it is appropriate that Jesus will judge all humans.

**Sunday, January 4 - St. Elizabeth Ann Seton (1744-1821):** A mother of five children, in 46 years, St. Elizabeth was able to found the first Parish, a religious community for women, and the first orphanage. Her husband died while she was 30 and witnessing Catholicity in action she converted to Catholicism in March of 1805. Her example teaches us that we should never think that being too active will prevent us from aspiring to a saintly life. She is the first American born citizen to be beatified.

**March for Life -January 22:** make your reservations now! A bus will leave Immaculate Conception Parish, Weymouth, on Wednesday, **January 21** at 9:00 PM and return early morning on January 23. Cost: adults - \$35 & students - \$10. Register with Sally Healy at 781-848-3796.

**All Souls Community Forum: Help for the Homeless** – Saturday, **January 10**, 2:00-4:00 PM. Joe Finn, Exec. Director of the MA Housing & Shelter Alliance, and Tom Washington, Director of Community Relations of Fr. Bills & MainSpring will describe the work of their agencies at All Souls Church, 196 Elm Street, Braintree. Donations of toiletries, blankets and towels will be accepted. See [www.allsoulsbraintree.org](http://www.allsoulsbraintree.org).

**The Secular Franciscan Order** is making an appeal for new members. This group invites the laity to a deeper commitment to follow the Lord. The order has a large membership and hopes to encourage commitment to the Parish among its members. For further details, call Alice at 781-843-1652.

**Alcoholic Anonymous Twelve Step & Twelve Tradition Meeting** will meet in the Parish Hall Conference Room **every Friday** from 8:00 to 9:00 PM. This meeting is open to both men and women. For further information call Dave at 617-413-3430.

**Pilgrimage to Lourdes, Paris, Nevers, & Lisieux** sponsored by St. Michael’s Church, Avon. **September 4-12**, \$3,669 pp/double occupancy which includes air, hotel, breakfast & dinner daily, sightseeing & admissions fees, Mass daily. **Optional pre-tour to Fatima & Spain, August 30-September 5**, \$1,399. Please contact Fr. Louis Palmieri at 508-586-7210 at St. Michael’s.

#### Dear Parishioners of St. Clare,

I would like to thank you for your recent gift to Bread for the World. Your generous contribution and participation strengthens our shared mission of ending hunger in God’s world. Our fight against hunger and poverty is crucial, especially at a time like this. It is through the generosity of Churches like yours that Bread for the World is able to continue the battle. We are so grateful for the gifts your congregation has made. You can find more about what we are doing to end hunger by visiting our website at [www.bread.org](http://www.bread.org). Thank you again for your gift. We truly appreciate your support.

In Christ’s peace, Gary R. Cook, Director of Church Relations

#### Faith Formation

**Classes resume on Monday, January 5, 2009.**

**Snow Cancellation Policy:** If school has been cancelled or dismissed early due to snow - there will be no Faith Formation classes that afternoon or evening. Also, please use your own discretion regarding safe travelling conditions. (FYI: When there is a half day of school for teacher meetings, we DO have faith Formation classes)

**If you have any questions or concerns**, please call the Faith Formation Office at 781-848-7481.

**Individual Email Boxes for each Director for your convenience:**

Debbie Clancy (**Gr K - 5**): Faithformation4K25@Verizon.net

Ann Marie Tranfaglia (**Gr 6-8**): Faithformation4628@Verizon.net

Mike Panciotti (**Gr 9 & 10**): Faithformation4910@Verizon.net

**Save the Date:** The next **Family Movie Night** will be on Friday, **January 16**, at 6:30 PM in the Parish Hall. (More information to follow!)

**Camp Fatima for Boys & Camp Bernadette for Girls** located in the Lakes Region of New Hampshire are now accepting registrations for the 2009 summer season. The camps offer 2-week overnight sessions for children ages 6-15. For more information, contact Michael Drumm at 603-364-5851 or visit [www.diocamps.org](http://www.diocamps.org).

**St. Andrew Dinner:** The Vocation Office is inviting High School boys to the St. Andrew Diner, Tuesday, **January 13**, 5:30-8:00 PM, at St. John Seminary, Brighton. Those intending to attend should contact Fr. Paul & Denise Fortin at 617-746-5949.

**Thomas More College of Liberal Arts**, Merrimack, NH, is accepting applications for the Fall of 2009. Apply before February 1 to waive the \$25 application fee at [www.thomasmorecollege.edu](http://www.thomasmorecollege.edu)

**The Braintree Women’s Club** is sponsoring **10 General Federation of Women’s Clubs of MA Scholarships** ranging from \$500 to \$4,500 for Graduate Study, Undergraduate Study and High School Seniors involving art, nursing, education, music, speech therapy, study abroad, and public health. Deadlines are **February & March 1**. Please contact Anne Flaherty at 781-843-0539 for more information.

#### Spring Semester Gerontology Classes at UMass Boston:

Now accepting applications for its Frank J. Manning Certificate Program. Designed to give students the skills and resources they need to plan for an aging society, work or volunteer in the aging network, and advocate for elders. Daytime & evening on-campus classes. Now fully available online as well. Spring semester begins the week of **January 26**. For more information or an application contact Mary St. Jean at 617-287-7330 or [mary.stjean@umb.edu](mailto:mary.stjean@umb.edu).

**House & Office Cleaning:** Dependable and thorough; eager for work. Reference: St. Clare Parish. Call Diane 781-843-8075 or cell# 617-347-2869.

Remembering the Parish in your will is a wonderful way to thank God for your blessings and to help St. Clare’s Parish and our many good works.