

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, March 21

4:00 PM Mary Brown & Theresa Fawcett..... Memorial

SUNDAY, March 22

8:30 AM Carmelo "Charlie" Muscolino.....Month's Mind

10:00 AM Edith Varraso Birthday Memorial

11:30 AM Mary SheehanMonth's Mind

MONDAY, March 23

9:00 AM Leo P. Trainor & Mary McMahon.....17th Anniv

SATURDAY, March 28

9:00 AM Mary & Thomas Kent.....Memorial

4:00 PM Walter Pagel..... Memorial

SUNDAY, March 29

10:00 AM William Laing5th Anniv

11:30 AM Josephine Ruffini Birthday Memorial

Please remember in your prayers the soul of Kathleen F. Harrington.

All that we have and all that we are comes from the Lord. "We are truly his handiwork," says St. Paul in the second reading, "created in Christ Jesus to lead a life of good deeds which God prepared for us in advance." See Ephesians 2:10

St. Clare Coffee House this Sunday, March 22 from 5:30 to 7:30 PM: Looking for positive message music? Listen to Contemporary Christian music, enjoy refreshments and good company. Free. Call Brain with questions at 781-380-8709.

Our Next Children's Liturgy will be **next Sunday, March 29** at the 10:00 AM Mass. Don't let your children miss out on this wonderful opportunity to be inspired to understand and practice their faith. Children in grades K-5 are invited to join us.

Lenten Mission: St. Clare will join for the second year St. Thomas More and St. Francis Xavier in a Parish Family Lenten Mission **Sunday, March 29th - Wednesday, April 1st.** The presentations will be provided by Dave Dumaine. Music will be by Phil & Sue Fortin who comprise the New Creation. This mission will feature a speaker who has extensive experience in speaking to kids of all ages. We especially encourage family attendance at the Mission.

Our Monthly Food Collection will be next weekend of **March 28 & 29.** Please bring your non-perishable donations to the Masses. Thank you for your continued generosity.

Lent 2009

Eucharistic Adoration – every Monday at 7:00 PM

Lenten Daily Mass at 9:00 AM

Stations of the Cross – every Friday at 4:00 PM

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

Offertory (March 14 & 15) \$6,341
Thank you for your ongoing generosity

The Second Collection this weekend of **March 21 & 22** will be for **The Easter Flowers.** St. Clare's has always been beautifully decorated for the special liturgical season, due to the fact that we have gifted parishioners who share their talents and make this happen!

A Second Collection will be taken next weekend, **March 28 & 29,** for our **Jubilee Celebration Fund.** We appreciate your showing your usual generosity.

During this season of Lent, God calls us to renew our faith, deepen our relationship with Christ, and share our many gifts with others. Christ has set the example as the perfect steward: "For the Son of man also came not to be served but to serve, and to give His life as a ransom for many." **The Catholic Appeal** is one way all of us can support the mission of Christ's Church in the 144 cities and towns of our Archdiocese. Please be thankful, intentional, and prayerful as you make a pledge to this year's Appeal. You can pick up information packets with pledge forms at the Church doors. For more information please call 617-779-3700 or visit www.BostonCatholicAppeal.com. Every gift matters. Thank you!

Operation Rice Bowl: Your participation in Operation Rice Bowl connects you through prayer and action with the poor and vulnerable overseas and in the United States. Visit www.orb.crs.org during the weeks of Lent to learn more about the people you assist through Operation Rice Bowl. Please pick up a Rice Bowl for your home found at the doors of the Church.

A Prayer Shawl Ministry is being formed in our Parish. Its vision is to combine the love and talent of knitting with purposeful prayer. Its goal is to reach out to those in our Parish family in need of comfort and solace during a time of illness. Another aim is to welcome new life at Baptism. Interested?

Liturgical Roles
March 21 & 22

Lectors:

4:00 PM: T. English

8:30 AM: R. Murphy

10:00 AM: J. Collier

11:30 AM: M. Santos

Eucharistic Ministers:

4:00 PM: M. Cahill, D. Hoffman, R. McDonough, C. McGaffigan

8:30 AM: C. Vitagliano, B. St. Jean, J. & F. Buonopane

10:00 AM: A. Moran, B. Little, J. & A. Sheehan

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

Priest Presiders – March 28 & 29:

4:00 PM: Fr. Tom Foley

8:30 AM: Fr. Tom Foley

10:00 AM: Fr. Paul Sughrue

11:30 AM: Fr. Paul Sughrue

Liturgy & Life

The American Religious Identification Survey reported that the percentage of adults who identify themselves as Catholics has dropped 15% in 18 years from 54% to 39%. This survey demonstrates sadly that New England Catholics find themselves not particularly attached. Please know that in our prayers and outreach how deeply disturbing this news is. Also be assured that we hope that those who have become non affiliated will always feel welcome to return.

Prayerfully, Fr. Paul

Respect Life: the Freedom of Choice Act (FOCA) is the most radical anti life legislation ever to be presented (see bulletin insert). It will declare a fundamental right to abortion on demand. It will require our tax dollars to fund abortion. It will require states to allow abortions by non physicians. It will bar laws protecting a right to conscientiously object to abortion. It will invalidate laws to protect women from unsafe abortion clinics. It will require that she need not be informed about her abortion. It will require states to allow partial-birth abortions. It will deny parents the right to be involved in their minor daughter's abortion. Next week cards will be available to ask our Washington representatives to vote against this legislation.

Sunday Breakfast: We are very grateful to Scout Troop #138 members who sponsored the Parish breakfast last Sunday. It was delicious, delectable and delightful! We hope you will be able to do it again!

The Pope Speaks: During this Lenten time Pope Benedict encouraged all Catholics to make time in Lent for silent reflection on the Scriptures. I urge you all to find prolonged moments of silence in order to review your lives in light of the loving plan of your heavenly Father. Prayer, in fact, reaches its culmination and becomes a source of interior light when the human spirit adheres to God's spirit and their wills fuse becoming almost as one.

Minute Meditations: Finding the Holy Spirit In Zen Silence by Alfonso Kim, M.M. A Maryknoll priest deepens his experience of the Trinity with Eastern meditation. "What I learned was that I have to be as simple as possible and I have to think as simply as possible. Many people in today's world are highly educated and can see things in complicated ways. But can we be simple? Can we be, as Jesus asked, like a child again?"

Wednesday, March 25 - Feast of the Annunciation of the Lord: This feast goes back to the 4th or 5th Century. Its central focus is that God became one of us. Mary is united with her Son in carrying out the will of God. Mary in her very life and being manifests what the incarnation is meant to signify in the life of all of us.

Following the fiscal third quarter end on March 31, 2009, we will be making the Parish Stewardship distributions. The need for financial assistance has increased greatly in our area, and we look to our parishioners for recommendations of additional charitable organizations for consideration. Please contact Dorothy Irvine at 781-848-6706 or the Parish House Office at 781-848-7480, or by e-mail: stclare1@verizon.net.

Faith Formation

Grade 2 Parents: Please remember that your children's **First Communion Retreats** will be held on Saturday, **March 28** and Sunday, **March 29** depending on their Communion Group Date. We guarantee them an enjoyable experience filled with many activities. Please bring your child to the Church Hall at the time assigned on the letter you received last month.

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

Individual Email Boxes for each Director:

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

Anyone interested in participating in the St. Clare Parish Musical this April, please contact Kathy at 781-849-9219 with your name and phone number. Children and adults all invited. Families especially encouraged! If you enjoyed this Christmas season of hymns, you'll really enjoy participating in this Spring musical.

LIFT – Catholic Worship for a New Generation: Tuesday, **March 24**, from 7:00-9:00 PM at Fontbonne Academy, Milton, with Bob Lesnefsky, aka Righteous B, as guest speaker. Young adults, teens, and families are welcome to come join in worship!

St. Mary Cemetery, Randolph: We are being asked to help promote the utilization of the Catholic cemetery. St. Mary Cemetery ministers to the Catholic community by helping them to face the harsh reality of death in the context of faith and the promise of eternal life. For further information call Bob O'Connor at 781-961-9323.

Archdiocese of Boston Eucharistic Congress: "No Greater Love" for college students and young adults, Friday evening, **April 3rd**, and Saturday **April 4th** at St. Stephen's and St. Leonard's Church, North End. Free Italian meal and great speakers. To register online go to www.EucharisticCongress.org.

Information for Internet Users

Our 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.

Marriage Internet Resources include the following sites: you may visit: www.lovelanguages.com, www.marriagealive.com, and www.thethirdoption.com.

www.CatholicMom.com is a web site founded by Lisa Hende, mother of two teenagers from Fresno, CA. The site offers many helpful resources for parents. It was founded in late 1999 in response to Pope John Paul II's call to live out the faith. The site also includes downloadable religious education materials geared to a variety of feast days, sacraments, or Bible events.

The Vatican's YouTube video news channel features news clips of Pope Benedict and major Vatican events. On January 23rd, the channel www.youtube.com/vatican was unveiled.

The internet is a wealth of information and resources, which can be very enriching.