

## Mass Schedule and Intentions

**March 1 – March 8**

**Sat. 28 February – 1st Sunday of Lent (Vi)**

4pm Pro Populo

**Sunday 1 March – 1st Sunday of Lent (Vi)**

8am John Cunha

10am Mary Sellers

5pm Jeanne Robidoux

**Monday 2 March – Feria (Vi)**

9am Yvonne D. Loranger

**Tuesday 3 March – St. Katharine Drexel (Vi)**

9am Christopher Bourgeois

**Wednesday 4 March – St. Casimir (Vi)**

9am Richard T. Saunders

**Friday 6 March –Feria (Vi)**

9am February Months Mind

**Saturday 7 March – 2nd Sunday of Lent (Vi)**

4pm Gert Deslauriers

**Sunday 8 March –2nd Sunday of Lent (Vi)**

8am Leonel Resendes

10am Rose Cunha Moniz

5pm Pro Populo

## Financial Report

### Income:

Parish Collection .....	\$4,962.34
Shrine and Candles.....	\$161.25
Total .....	\$5,123.59

February Budget.....	\$22,000.00
February Actual.....	\$20,536.12

### Major Expenses:

Avg. Weekly Staff Salaries .....	\$1,706.50
Avg. Weekly Staff BC/BS .....	\$570.41
Avg. Weekly Pension.....	\$197.73
Monthly Property Insurance.....	\$1,444.64

## PRAYERS PLEASE

Please remember to pray for the sick of our parish especially: **Lionel Marot and Todd Talbot**;

Please also remember our parishioners who are serving abroad in the military especially **Bryon Kuehne**.

## SANCTUARY LAMP

Each week the sanctuary candle over the tabernacle can be burning in memory of a loved one. If you are interested in this type of memorial, please contact the parish office. The Sanctuary Lamp this week is in memory of **Bob Pigeon**.

**FUNERAL** – A funeral Mass was celebrated this week for Alice Kut. Please keep Alice and her family in your prayers.

## PASTOR'S COLUMN

**CATHOLIC CHARITIES** – I am pleased to announce that Bob and Sandy Vigeant have accepted my invitation to be this year's **Catholic Charities Chairpersons** for our parish. We look forward to having a successful appeal.

**CREMATION AND FUNERALS** – recent events have prompted some questions about the Church's policy with regard to cremation and in light of that this parish's policy. Basically although cremation is now permitted, it does not enjoy the same value as burial of the body. **Catholic teaching continues to stress the preference for burial or entombment of the body of the deceased.** If cremation is to take place, the church asks that it be done after the funeral with the body present and that the cremated remains must be buried. This parish is fully compliant with the Church's instructions with regard to cremation. One thing to note is that **if there is no intention to bury the cremated remains then a funeral mass cannot be scheduled.** I stress again the cremated remains must be buried and the place and date of the burial must usually be decided upon before the Funeral Mass. Burial is the only acceptable conclusion to Catholic funeral rites.

I urge you all to make your wishes clear with regard to your own funeral arrangements and unless there are extenuating circumstances the Church would prefer that you not be cremated. I have inserted in this bulletin a flyer with some information from the United States Bishops regarding **Catholic Burial Practices**.


**SOUND SYSTEM UPGRADE** – This week the engineers will come and set up a demonstration for us. You will be able to hear the new speakers this coming weekend 7/8 March. Obviously this is a temporary set up and the aesthetics will not be as the final installation but it will give us an idea of the advantages we can expect.


**LENTEN DEVOTIONS** – During Lent we will have **Stations of the Cross** each Friday evening at 6:30pm. We will end with Benediction. Please consider attending these wonderful devotions as one of your Lenten spiritual practices.

**EVENING PRAYER AND BENEDICTION** – Every Monday night at 6:30pm we have Evening prayer and Benediction. It has attracted a nice following and I would encourage more of you to experience these twenty minutes of prayer. It is a very beautiful way to start your evening and may make for a worthwhile Lenten Devotion.

**gocsfx@gmail.com**

**FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT**

 **Religious Education** helps to build a strong foundation. **Level 3 family mass** 10am Sunday, March 1. **First Eucharist Parent Meeting** is Sunday, March 1, 6pm in the church for all parents of children receiving for the first time this spring. **Confirmation 1 Level 8 Retreat** Saturday, March 14, 11-5pm at SFX School gym, we will conclude with Mass. **Confirmation will be held Thursday, March 19, at 7p.m. at St. Francis Xavier.** Rehearsal is Wednesday, March 18, 7pm in Church. All candidates and sponsors should attend. A parent is required to substitute if sponsor cannot be there. **We are still** collecting items for our troops. Six boxes have been sent out already. List of items is found outside Rel. Ed. Office.

 **ST. FRANCIS XAVIER SCHOOL** – Winter vacation has ended. The second trimester is rapidly coming to an end. Last Wednesday the student body attended mass and received ashes to mark the beginning of the Season of Lent. All students also received information on the Rice Bowl Program. There are still openings in most grades and Kindergarten. Please contact the school at 508-995-4313.

**CATHOLICISM 101**

**HOW LONG DOES THE PRESENCE OF CHRIST LAST IN THE EUCHARIST?** – The presence of Christ continues in the Eucharist as long as the Eucharistic special subsist.  
*Coming next week: What kind of worship is due to the sacrament of the Eucharist?*

<b>20-Week Club</b>		
<b>Week 12 Club 30</b>		
\$25.00	#345	Robert and Sandra Vigeant
\$20.00	#258	Delima Genard
\$15.00	#34	William Whithead
\$10.00	#12	Tom and Aimee Lafleur

**THE ANCHOR – SUBSCRIPTION TIME AGAIN** – Renewal notices have been sent for the Diocesan Newspaper, *The Anchor*. Each parish is assessed a number of households for subscriptions. Our assessment is 400 families at \$5,600 per year. We collected \$1,248 from subscribers last year and the parish paid the difference of \$4,352 to meet the assessed quota. Please return your *Anchor* envelope in the weekly collection basked before April 1.

**BE RECONCILED TO GOD**

The Diocesan Reconciliation Weekend  
21-22 March 2009

*Watch the video and listen to the radio ads on*

**www.bereconciledtogod.com**

 <b>CALENDAR</b>		
<b>Sunday</b>	Rel. Ed. 1-6	8:40-9:40am Parish Ctr.
	Rel. Ed. 2,4,5,7	11:15-12:15pm Parish Ctr.
	Confirmation 1&2	3:45-6pm Parish Ctr.
<b>Monday</b>	Rel. Ed. 1-7	4:15-5:30pm Parish Ctr.
	Benediction	6:30pm Church
<b>Wednesday</b>	MAK Group	9:30-10:30am Hospitality
<b>Thursday</b>	Adult Choir	7-9pm Church
<b>Friday</b>	Stations of the Cross	6:30pm Church
Please visit our web site <a href="http://SFXACUSHNET.ORG">SFXACUSHNET.ORG</a> for a complete printable and viewable church/school calendar of events.		

**The Law of Fast**

All adults (18 and older) are bound by the law of fast up to the beginning of their 60<sup>th</sup> year. On days of fast, those bound by the law are limited to a single full meatless meal. Two other meatless meals, sufficient to maintain strength, may be taken according to one's needs; however, together these two meals should not equal another full meal. There are two prescribed days of fast: Ash Wednesday and Good Friday.

**Law of Abstinence:**

Those who are 14 years of age and older are obliged to observe the law of abstinence. On days of abstinence, those bound by the law abstain from meat. On all Fridays of Lent, abstinence is prescribed and Ash Wednesday.

**LENTEN RICE BOWLS** – Please continue to donate your extra coins in the Rice Bowls. Perhaps donating the money instead of stopping at Dunkin Donuts or Starbucks as a Lenten sacrifice! All Rice Bowls will be collected on Holy Thursday.

**INSIDE THIS BULLETIN SEE  
BISHOP COLEMAN'S  
LENTEN MESSAGE**

**EXEGESIS** – This online gathering will be an opportunity to explore the “sense” of the scripture and identify ways scripture may be applied to real life. There is also a presentation each week on the Church's understanding and use of scripture. Begins 7pm March 3. Contact Fr. David Frederici at 508-737-6842 or [www.youngadultfaith.com](http://www.youngadultfaith.com) to RSVP.

**LENTEN REFLECTIONS ON THE GREAT THEMES OF ST. PAUL** – These evenings will reflect upon the life and letters of St. Paul; the tension between the flesh and spirit – sin and grace and justification by faith. St. John Neumann Parish Hall, E. Freetown, Tuesdays, March 10, 17, 24, 31, 7-9p.m.

**PARISH NURSES** – The Wednesday blood pressures WILL NOT be available until the first Wednesday in March (March 4). There will be blood pressures after masses.

**CERTIFICATES**

Food certificates are available before the Saturday 4:00pm Mass and after the 8:00am Sunday Mass and before and after the Sunday 10:00am Mass; also from the parish office during the week. Please support your parish by purchasing your groceries in this way.

**ARE YOU REGISTERED?** - To be registered means you are receiving mailings from the parish office. This does not necessarily mean you receive budget envelopes. If you have been attending our church and would like to register, please stop by the parish office. You will need copies of sacraments received for ALL members of your immediate family.

**CONFESSIONS**

Saturdays 10:00-11:00am  
Saturdays 3:00-3:45pm  
Mondays 5:30-6:30pm

**DEADLINE FOR BULLETIN** - publication is Monday 12 noon. If there is a Monday holiday, then the deadline is by Friday. **All announcements must be written.** Please be as brief and to the point as possible as space is limited.

**ADULT CONFIRMATION CLASSES** – Adult Confirmation classes we be held in April and May for those parishioners who are 18 years of age or older and have never been Confirmed. These classes are held at Bishop Stang on Monday evenings. Interested parishioners will need to fill our paperwork and meet with Msgr. prior to registering. Please contact Maureen in the parish office for further details.

**PLEASE NOTIFY US OF ADDRESS CHANGES**

**COMMUNION TO THE HOME BOUND** – If you are sick or homebound and unable to get to Holy Mass, please call Msgr. to arrange for a visit so that we can bring you Holy Communion and assess your pastoral needs.

**TAX FORMS** – It’s that season once again. If you would like a printout of your yearly donations for 2008, please call Maureen in the parish office.

**FLOWERS** – If you would like to donate the flowers for the weekend Masses, please see Maureen in the parish office to discuss the options.

**TROPICAL PARADISE DINNER DANCE** – After a long, cold snowy winter, join your fellow parishioners at the Century House March 14 for a Tropical Paradise featuring a sit-down dinner of your choice of Baked Stuffed Chicken or Scrod, dancing and more! Tickets are \$25 each before and after all weekend masses and in the Parish Office. Shake off those winter blahs and come join the Conga line! Feel free to wear your Hawaiian shirt as dress is casual.

**CATHOLIC YOUNG ADULT GROUP** - All Catholics between the ages of 21-35 who are interested in continuing their spiritual growth as well as socializing with other young Catholic men and women in the greater New Bedford area are welcome to join the **Catholic Young Adult Group**. The group meets on the first Saturday of every month at St. Julie Billiard Church.. The next gathering will be on Saturday, March 7<sup>th</sup> at 7pm. There will be a presentation given by Father Jay Mello (“Living a Life of Holiness: The Lenten Season”) followed by dinner at a local restaurant. For more questions, please contact Fr. Jay at 508-993-2351 or at: [fatherjaymello@gmail.com](mailto:fatherjaymello@gmail.com).

**DIOCESAN DIVORCED & SEPARATED SUPPORT GROUP**

This group meets at the Family Life Center in N. Dartmouth from 7-8:30pm on the second and last Wednesdays of each month. There is no fee and is open to all separated/divorced persons.

**MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER**

For a deeper understanding and richer communication and better quality marriage, plan to attend a Marriage Encounter weekend. For more information, call 1-800-367-0343 or [www.mene.org](http://www.mene.org).

**Readings for the week of March 1, 2009**

Sunday: Gn 9:8-15/1 Pt 3:18-22/Mk 1:12-15  
Monday: Lv 19:1-2, 11-18/ Mt 25:31-46  
Tuesday: Is 55:10-11/ Mt 6:7-15  
Wednesday: Jon 3:1-10/Lk 11:29-32  
Thursday: Est C:12, 14-16, 23-25/Mt 7:7-12  
Friday: Ez 18:21-28/Mt 5:20-26  
Saturday: Dt 26:16-19/Mt 5:43-48  
Next Sunday: Gn 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18/  
Rom 8:31b-34/Mk 9:2-10

✂ Please clip and return.

**St. Francis Xavier  
Faith Formation  
1 March 2009**

**Student Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Level:** \_\_\_\_\_