

Please Pray for...

All who have died especially **Shirley Quattrucci, Derek Davis** and all those who died this week, especially those who have died as a result of the terrorist attacks. We offer our sympathy and our prayers that they will rest in peace.

Those who are sick in the hospital or recovering:

Pauline Casavant, Cheryl Boucher, Fr. Martin Donahue, John Waage, Theresa Johnson, Gloria Butler, Theresa Cassavant, Paula & Juan Miranda, Raymond Brodeaur, Howard Cooper, Bonnie Sheldon, Baby Aiden, Frank Harvey, Diane Gosselin,, David Auger, Barbara Gaudette, Tom Pawlowski, Joseph Nisel, David L'Heureux, Dolly Choquette, Rochelle Warren, Baby Ryan, Jean Wheeler, Catherine Baril, Tim Josti Sr., Fr. Chet Devlin, Lea Derosier, Alice Sullivan, Jeanne Provencher, Darlene Kennedy, Ruth Flynn, Erlene Lachapelle, Lillian Remillard, John Ahearn, Noel Donabedian, Laurie Vickers, Ruth Costa, Thomas Lilley, Pamela Collette, Patricia Johnson, Betty Cabana, Laurie Gablaski, Carey Dubois, Diane Cyr, Baby Jana, Theresa Thibault, Ernest Tremblay, Elizabeth Lemerise, Heather Lech, Frances Barrett, Baby Oliver, Theresa Suchocki, Baby Parker, Patricia Burdette, Ann Gablaski, Eddie LaFlamme, Addison Lacaire, Richard Chabior, Pat Benoit, Jeanne Lacroix and Amy Richard

PARISH PRAYER INTENTION FOR THE WEEK

For those afflicted with Alzheimer's and their families

OUR SACRIFICIAL OFFERINGS NOVEMBER 21 & 22

Envelopes	\$5,759.00
Loose	\$ 386.35
Total collection	\$6,145.35
Number of envelopes	199
Attendance	540

FOOD PANTRY REQUEST FOR THIS WEEK Shampoo and Toothpaste

ADVENT NEWS

THE GIVING TREE will be set up his weekend for you to help make Christmas merrier for the children of some of the needy families of our community. All of the red tags are requests for clothing. By agreement with Toys for Tots, we do clothes and they do toys.

There are a few tags on the tree from the Refugee Apostolate of the diocese and also a few for very needy older adults. We ask you to take a tag, purchase the gift, wrap it and attach this tag securely to the gift and return it to the tree by noon on Sunday December 13. All gifts should be new clothes.

FIRST PENANCE / ADVENT PENANCE SERVICE will be celebrated next Sunday, December 6 at 2:00 pm. The children of grade 2 will receive the sacrament of Reconciliation for the first time and their families and all of you are invited to join them for this celebration. Following the service there will be celebration party in the church hall. A good way to prepare for Christmas is to receive the sacrament of reconciliation yourself. It was to save us from our sins that He came among us on the first Christmas. His forgiveness is His gift to each one of us.



1st Sunday of Advent

FAITH FORMATION NEWS

The Faith Formation office will be open this week on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday from 10:00 – 5:00 pm. If you wish to leave Judi a message, she can be reached at **508-885-3111 Ext. 105**.

Faith Formation classes this week:

Sunday	9:00 to 10:00 am	Grades K thru 6
	6:30 to 8:00 pm	Grades 9, 10 & 11
Tuesday	4:15 to 5:30 pm	Grades 2 thru 5
	7:00 to 8:15 pm	Grades 6 thru 8

Socks for veterans:

The Junior High Faith Formation classes are collecting new winter socks for the veterans' shelter in Worcester. If anyone would like to donate socks for this project, there will be a box in the hall near the Faith Formation Office to collect them.

SPIRITUAL SECRET SANTA

Every year during Advent we have our Spiritual Secret Santa. This is a chance to give a spiritual gift to another member of the parish family and to receive one yourself. After Communion today, we invite you to fill out one of the small purple papers that are in the pews with your name and address and with the names of your family members. The papers will be collected and then the basket will be passed a second time for you to pick out the name of someone else. The gift you give is your promise to pray for that family each day during Advent. The prayer can take whatever form you choose during the fourth week of Advent we suggest that you send that family a card revealing that you are the one who has been praying for them. This is a small but simple way to keep the true spirit of the season as we prepare for God's greatest gift, His Son Jesus Christ.

CHRISTMAS STROLL / CHRISTMAS BAZAAR

Next Saturday December 5 we will join the other two churches of town in having a Christmas Bazaar. Each church will open from 9:00 am to 2:00 pm and offering a wide array of gifts crafts foods and activities. Our particular Bazaar will offer a display of crafts and Christmas ornaments suitable for giving; beautiful multi colored poinsettias, a home baked cookie table, raffles a lottery tree and a large supply of various religious articles, books, etc. for both children and adults. Our food offering will be meat ball sandwiches with same recipe as at the Italian Booth and hot dogs. All three churches will offering beverages and delicious treats. Do your shopping, help the churches, and especially look at the display of religious articles. Some little religious gift in a stocking might send a strong message to a child (or an adult) about the true meaning of Christmas.

Your help is needed to make this year's bazaar a success.

We need:

- **People to make Crafts to sell**
- **Bakers of Delicious Cookies**
- **Volunteers to set up on Friday, to sell on Sat. and to help clean up when it is done!**

Tia Paradis is the Chairperson; please call her at 508-909-6693 to volunteer your help.

November 29, 2015

Pastor's Notes:

A YEAR OF MERCY

Happy New Year Christian people! Today is the beginning of the new Church year. With that comes an invitation to walk with Jesus once more through the mysteries of His birth, life, death and resurrection. Our guide in doing this will be St. Luke and it will be from His Gospel that most of the Sunday Gospel readings will come. This is also to be a special year for us who follow Jesus. Pope Francis has declared this new liturgical year to be a Holy Year of Mercy. A Holy Year is a very special time in the life of the church. During holy years which usually occur only once every 50 years, a special indulgence is offered offering a remission of all the temporal punishment due for our sins when we die. In other words, anything that would have sent us to Purgatory will be erased and we will have smooth sailing into heaven. There are certain conditions for gaining this indulgence. One is to go to confession during the year and make it a good one by putting all of our sins behind us and starting anew. The Holy Father has decreed that all sins can be forgiven (even the most serious, like abortion) as long as we are truly sorry for them. Another part of it is to make a pilgrimage. It used to be that you had to go to Rome and visit the four major churches there. Now it is made easier for us. Our Bishop has declared eight churches in our diocese to be pilgrimage churches. Each church is to have a holy door to enter through, and each is designated as a special place of blessing. And guess what? We are one of the eight. That is truly an honor and we might expect that many people will visit our church during this coming year and seek the mercy of God in prayer here. I don't know all the details but I do know that we need to find some way of making people feel welcome. This will all begin on December 8, the feast of the Immaculate Conception. I wonder if by choosing our church God isn't telling us that it is time for us to come home to Him to seek His mercy.

WE STILL NEED MUSICIANS FOR CHRISTMAS:

REHEARSAL for the choir that will sing at Midnight Mass (which is actually at 11:00 pm) is on Sunday mornings following the 10:15 Mass. The first rehearsal for the choir that will sing at 4:00 pm vigil Mass on Christmas Eve will be on Saturday, December 12 at 9:00 am in church. People of all ages are welcome. Come and join us. Help us celebrate His Birth with joy and gladness.

CHURCH CLEANING

Each year we try to give the church a thorough cleaning and polishing in preparation of the major feasts of the year. We will be cleaning the church for Christmas on Thursday evening, December 10th beginning at 6:30 pm. Help is needed, to polish dust, wash and scrub. Laurie Zukowski is coordinating this project. There is no need to sign up just come with dust rag in hand and help.

FALL RAFFLE Winners – Congratulations to All!

November 20	David Derosier	\$50.00
November 21	Pauline Gaudette	\$75.00
November 22	Ann Rys	\$100.00
November 23	Catherine Lamothe	\$75.00
November 24	Judy Farrell	\$50.00
November 25	Monica LaPrad	\$50.00

Thank you to all who helped out in any way for the Thanksgiving Baskets and Meal.

Mass Schedule

Saturday, November 28 4:30 pm Richard Lacroix (1 st Anniv) by his Wife & Children
Sunday, November 29 8:00 am Edward, Aldona & Patricia Simakauskas by their Family 10:15 am Norman Pelletier by Al & Mimi Shedyak
Monday, November 30 8:00 am Robert Berthiaume (15 th Anniv) by Theresa & Family
Tuesday, December 1 8:00 am Holy Souls 2:00 pm Howe Village Mass
Wednesday, December 2 8:00 am For Parishioners
Thursday, December 3 8:00 am Holy Souls
Friday, December 4 8:00 am No Mass today
Saturday, December 5 4:30 pm Michael & David Lapierre by Cynthia & Debbie
Sunday, December 6 8:00 am Alta Greenlees by her Family 10:15 am Richard & Sheila Grogan & Katherine Kaiser by Theresa Grogan

Calendar of Events

Sunday, November 29	Coffee Shop – Open
9:00 am 10:15 am 6:30 pm	Giving Tree at all Masses Spiritual Secret Santa at all Masses Faith Formation Classes Grades K –6 Faith Formation Classes Grades 9, 10 & 11
Monday, November 30	
10:00 am 7:00 pm	Food Pantry - OPEN Inquiry / RCIA Class
Tuesday, December 1	
2:00 pm 4:15 pm 6:30 pm 7:00 pm	Howe Village Mass Faith Formation Class Grades 1 – 6 Drop In Center Open Faith Formation Class Grades 6 – 8
Wednesday, December 2	
7:00 pm	Prayer Shawl Ministry
Thursday, December 3	
10:00 am	Food Pantry – OPEN
Friday, December 4	
	Bazaar Set up
Saturday, December 5	
9:00 – 3:00 3:30 pm	Mini Christmas Church Stroll MQR, Methodist, and Congregational Churches Confessions
Sunday, December 6	Coffee Shop OPEN
9:00 am 10:15 am 2:00 pm 6:30 pm	Faith Formation Class Grades K – 6 Children's Liturgy of the Word First Reconciliation /Penance Service Faith Formation Grades 9, 10 & 11



