

2ND Week in Ordinary Time

January 14 - 20, 2018

Mass Intentions

Saturday

5:00 PM For the Parishioners of Saint Brigid's

Sunday

9:00 AM For the sick Parishioners of St. Brigid's

Next Saturday

5:00 PM For William & Dorothy Milazzo & William Michael Milazzo by Family

Next Sunday

9:00 AM For the Parishioners of St. Brigid's

Weekend Mass Schedule

The weekend Mass Schedule for the months of January and February will be **5:00 PM** on Saturdays and **9:00 AM** on Sundays.

Parish Stewardship

Weekend of December 30 & 31, 2017

Budget Collection	\$1,902.00
December Monthly to Date	\$817.00
Christmas Collection	\$2,395.00
Annual Collection to Date	\$9,192.00
# of Budget Envelopes Used	76

Weekend of January 6 & 7, 2018

Budget Collection	\$1,359.00
December Monthly to Date	\$460.00
Christmas Collection	\$2,395.00
Annual Collection to Date	\$9,692.00
# of Budget Envelopes Used	56

Catholic University Collection

A special collection to help support the Catholic University of America in Washington, DC will be taken up next weekend. Please use the envelope in your budget packet.

Blood Pressure Screening

The Parish Nurses will conduct blood pressure screenings next weekend after all masses.

Religious Education News

Religious Education classes continue this week. Grades 1 – 5 meets from 3:30 – 5:15 PM and Grades 6 – 9 meets from 6:30 – 7:30 PM.

2018 20-Week Club

There will be a person collecting on the 1st weekend of every month from December to April. All other weeks you can use the 20-Week Club payment envelope found on the ushers' tables.

2018 20-Week Winners

- January 7 – Frances Calore - # 279 and Robert Civetti - # 255.

Thank You

The children and staff at the William D'Abate Elementary School in Providence are extremely grateful for the enormous generosity of the parishioners of Saint Brigid's Church. Because of you Christmas was made a little more special for some needy boys and girls. The children have made "thank you notes" which are posted in the foyer of the church.

Thank you also to members of the Scalabrini Council of the Knights of Columbus for delivering Christmas flowers and cards to the home-bound and nursing home residents of our parish.

Adult Confirmation Classes

Any adult 18 years or older who wishes to take Confirmation Classes in preparation for receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation is asked to let Fr. Bob know before February 11, 2018. Classes will take place on Tuesdays February 27th, March 6th, 13th & 20th. Confirmation will be celebrated at the Easter Vigil on Saturday, March 31st.

Health Reminder

We all know that there are many germs floating around these days. Just a reminder, that if you have a cold or are recuperating from the flu or other viruses, please do not receive from the chalice and/or if you are a Eucharistic minister, please ask someone else to take your place. This may help stop some germs from spreading around.

Meetings This Week

Wed., 1/17/18, K of C, 7:30pm, Church Hall

Father Bob's Ramblings

This weekend's liturgy begins what is called Winter Ordinary Time. Winter is sometimes regarded as a season of faith, because we must trust in things that we do not see. The life of plants is concentrated in their roots, and hibernating animals have gone underground. Migratory birds have flown south, and some of us have also done the same! (I should be lying on the beach in St. Thomas when you read this!)

The same holds true with our Faith. Winter Ordinary Time is a time to trust in our call to be followers of Jesus, no matter what. We begin to hear about the public ministry of Jesus – his life, his teaching, his miracles, the message he preached, his interactions with his disciples and the encounters he had with so many different kinds of people. We also hear in our Scriptures the conflicts and divisions that his presence unmasked.

By walking with Jesus through the weeks of Ordinary Time, we also discover anew what it means for us to be disciples of the Lord. We set out on a journey of faith. Even though we have heard the Gospel stories before, each time we hear them again they hold something new for us. The season of Winter Ordinary Time, this year begins with John's account of the call of the first disciples. This is the key note for the weeks ahead. We have celebrated the birth of Christ. Now we are asked to "come and see" where he lives and what he is all about. Let us rediscover this exciting and challenging call of Jesus. Let us wrestle with his teachings and take pride in the liberating power of the Good News.

These days of rediscovering our call to be followers of Jesus will prepare us for the challenging season of Lent when we re-examine the way we live out this call and try to change those things that keep us from being the true disciples we are called to be.

Catholic Charity Appeal

The start of the 2018 Catholic Charity Appeal is fast approaching. Many of you will be receiving a mailing from Bishop Tobin this week asking for your support of the 2018 Appeal. For your convenience, a pledge card has been enclosed within this mailing. **Please be assured that our parish will receive credit for the gift that you make through the mail.**

The Story of the Warm Fuzzies

I'm sure you have all heard the story *How the Grinch Stole Christmas*. Well, this is a tale of what the Grinch tried to do many years before that.

At one time in Whoville there lived lots and lots of very happy people. They followed what Jesus taught them — **Love God and Love Others**. They didn't have much money, but they had lots of warm fuzzies. They used them to show love to one another. When they saw each other, they exchanged fuzzies and said, "God Bless you!" The strange thing about these fuzzies was the more they shared them, the more they received back. There were warm fuzzies everywhere!!



The Grinch was mean even back then and hated all this fuzzy stuff. He came up with a plan! He started a rumor that soon there would not be any more warm fuzzies and convinced them that they needed to hide theirs and never, ever share. So, they all hid their warm fuzzies. Soon people didn't trust each other anymore.

For the first time ever, loneliness, fear and hate came to Whoville. They stopped loving each other, and they stopped loving God, too — because GOD IS LOVE. All the fuzzies were locked in boxes and there was no more love to be found. No one was happy in Whoville, except, of course that mean old Grinch, who laughed with delight at his great achievement.

After a time, one of the children began to think about how things used to be in Whoville when people shared their warm fuzzies. It occurred to her that maybe the mean old Grinch had been LYING. The fuzzies were hidden because of FEAR. She came up with a plan.

Bravely she took all of her warm fuzzies that were hidden in boxes. During the evening, while the lazy Grinch slept, she quietly delivered her precious gifts to every child in Whoville. As each one received their fluffy treasures, they got out all their own fuzzies and began sharing them with others. As the warm fuzzies were given away they began to multiply. When the adults saw how happy the children were, they, too, began to exchange their own fuzzies. Soon Whoville was back to its original state where everyone loved God and cared about each other.

But when the Grinch saw this he said, "These happy people make me crazy with the love stuff. Someday, I'm going to steal their Christmas!!"