

# Fourth Sunday of Easter

## April 21 & 22, 2018

### Mass Intentions

#### Saturday

5:00 PM For Margaret Maiorisi by her daughter-in-law, Ann Marie

#### Sunday

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

#### Next Saturday

5:00 PM For Fr. Bill Scanlon - 5<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

#### Next Sunday

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

12:00 noon First Communion Celebration

### Future Mass Intentions

No mass intentions will be accepted for after July 1<sup>st</sup> and all unpaid intentions already booked will be at the discretion of the Pastor, Fr. Angelo Carousi.

### Parish Stewardship

#### Weekend of April 7 & 8, 2018

Budget Collection	\$1,593.00
Fuel Collection to Date	\$1,942.00
April Monthly to Date	\$ 335.00
Easter Catholic Charity Collection	\$ 742.00
# of Budget Envelopes Used	77

### Catholic Charity Appeal

As of March 23<sup>rd</sup>, we have raised **\$6,096.00**, from 56 households in the parish. This represents 45.16% of our goal of \$13,500 and the participation of 13.25% of our households. Please try to make your pledge or donation as soon as possible to help us reach our goal. Envelopes are available on the ushers' table.

### 5 Minutes with the Word

The prayer pamphlet called *5 Minutes with the Word*, for *Easter Time* is available in the foyer of the church. Please feel free to take one for yourself and one for a friend or family member. It is a good way of trying to better understand the scripture reading each day and reflecting on their meaning in our lives.

### Religious Education News

Our Religious Education Program has ended for good. All children need to be enrolled into the program at whatever parish you join. If you have questions, please call Mrs. Cedor @ 401-946-3399 and leave a message for her. She will get back to you as quickly as she can.

*First Communion Candidates* need to attend a retreat afternoon on April 24<sup>th</sup> from 3:30 – 5:15 PM in the church hall. Rehearsal for First Communion will take place during the retreat.

*First Communion* will be celebrated on April 29<sup>th</sup> at a special 12:00 noon mass.

### Prayer Shawls Available

The Prayer Shawl Ministry has a number of blessed Prayer Shawls available for anyone who is sick, home bound, or preparing for surgery. Please see Ursula Zarella @ 5 PM Mass or Theresa Choquette @ 9 AM Mass or ask Fr. Bob.

### Congratulations

Saint Brigid Parishioners congratulate the following young women and men on their celebration of the Sacrament of Confirmation this past Thursday. They are: Brendan Blake, Victoria Butler, Janet Clements, Rebecca Clements, Glorianna Crichlow, Allyson Humphries, Michael Izzo, Skylar Stone, Melanie Vessella, Rachel Zarella.

### Thank You

A special Thank You to our Social Ministry Committee for having arranged and hosted the reception for our Confirmation Candidates and their family members. They are: Sandy Cerrito, Nadine Corona, Rose DeLuca, Norma Medici, Cynthia Galipeau, Doris Haskins, Louisa Iannotti, Carol Marrocco, Nettie McCormick, Sandy McCarthy, and Donna Perry. Job well done!

### Mother of Hope Day Camp

Mother of Hope, a Diocesan day camp, continues to provide children with a safe and wholesome outdoor experience at their beautiful setting in Chepachet, RI. An Open House and Family Day will be held on Sunday, May 20<sup>th</sup> from 1:00 – 4:00 PM for any interested families. Early registrations are now being accepted on-line at [WWW.Motherofhopecamp.com](http://WWW.Motherofhopecamp.com). Flyers are available in the foyer of the church.

## ***Father Bob's Ramblings***

The Gospel reading for the Fourth Sunday of Easter is always about the Good Shepherd. That is why this Sunday is often referred to as "Good Shepherd Sunday." The image of the Good Shepherd is one of Christianity's favorite depictions of Jesus. It shows his great love, care and concern as he constantly leads his flock to "green pastures." Jesus' commitment to us knows no limits: "I will lay down my life for my sheep."

Week after week when we come to worship here at Saint Brigid's, we are reminded of that image of Jesus as the Good Shepherd. Our beautiful stained-glass window above the altar, which we probably take for granted because we see it so often, helps to keep us focused on Jesus' great love for us.

During these days when we continue to grieve the loss of our Parish Community, I think it is important for us to be reminded over and over again how the Good Shepherd takes care of us, his flock that he loves. This year's gospel passage assures us that the Good Shepherd is never like a hired hand who deserts his flock when he sees the wolf coming and runs away. That is because he is a hired hand who only sees it as a job, works for pay, and doesn't take the time to get to know his sheep along with their needs and who they really are. The Good Shepherd does all of that and more.

Last Wednesday, April 11<sup>th</sup>, I needed to attend a meeting of the Council of Priests along with Bishops Tobin and Evans. The Council of Priests is a group of 16 priests, eight of which are elected by all the priests of the diocese, and the rest are appointed by the Bishop. At that meeting the Chancellor of the Diocese, Fr. Tim Reilly, presented a proposal to MERGE Saint Brigid Parish into Saint Rocco's. I was asked a few questions as was Fr. Carousi, however, he was asked more because they wanted more information from him about the future. After very little discussion to Council voted in favor of the MERGER to take place, effective July 1<sup>st</sup>.

Bishop Tobin was very clear that he wanted our parishioners to know that this merger is merely a "bridge to see if it will work out before a future decision is made to close the church." He further said that it was an opportunity for the parishioners of Saint Brigid's to keep their church open while being

able to join a larger and more viable community. He also wanted us to know that this decision will be reviewed in six months to a year to see how feasible it is to keep the church building open for one mass per week. It depends on attendance and financial support.

Like many of you, I am saddened at this decision, however, during these next couple of months we need to continue to be the strong, faith-filled community we have been. We need to pray for each other and for whatever decisions each parishioner must make as to their future involvement with a parish. Be assured that I am praying for all of us each day, because I, too, will always be a parishioner of Saint Brigid's.



### **Keep the Date**

Please keep the date of Sunday, July 1<sup>st</sup> to celebrate our parish at the 9:00 AM Mass along with an open-house from 11:00 AM – 2:00 PM at Sprague Mansion. More information to come.

### **BLOOD PRESSURE SCREENING**

The parish nurses will conduct the monthly blood pressure screening this weekend after all masses.