

“Why Catholic?” Corner



Is there a particular format to the meeting? The meeting opens with the listening of a song related to the assigned topic and a prayer which is found in the book. The music is on a CD that is provided for each group.

After a brief sharing on how the group lived the results of the past meeting, there is a first and then a second reflection and sharing, based on a text from the Scriptures and a related text, usually a story to help relate the Scriptures to daily life.

The group discusses a possible action that can be done as a result of the sharing and the meeting ends with prayer.

As you can see, the format is simple and allows plenty of space for individual sharing and discussion. The material provided is thought provoking and helps us look deeply into the lived experience of our faith.

Franco-American of the Year

Congratulations to Therese Daigle who was named as Franco-American of the Year for 2013. This is a recognition long overdue. Therese sent all of her children to a French school so they would know how to speak the language and be part of the culture. She has always helped in the background working selling chances, etc., working in the kitchen at the Pancake Breakfast and the Ham and Bean suppers and many more activities that were held in the past 43 years of the Franco-American Day Committee.

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA)



This is a program of religious formation for persons who wish to be baptized in the Catholic Church; persons who were baptized in another Christian church, but wish to become Catholic; persons who were baptized but never received the other sacraments, especially Confirmation; or any person who wants a refresher course in the Catholic faith. Do you know anyone in any of those groups? If so, please speak to them about becoming part of the RCIA. These sessions begin in September through to Easter, every Monday evening from 7:00 pm to 8:30 pm. To be eligible for reception of the sacraments, participants must attend the **entire** program. Interested persons are invited to call the Parish Office at 978-452-4812 and leave their name along with the best way to be reached and someone from the team will contact them to provide additional information.

Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Lawyers don't always fare so well in popular culture. Even the television shows that exalt some aspects of the legal profession (like Law & Order or The Good Wife) also have some lawyers that are less than noble in both their personal and professional lives. Even in Shakespeare's time this ambivalence toward lawyers was evident in Henry VI, Part 2 when Dick the butcher, one of the rebels, proposes to kill all the lawyers since by their arguments they can have a man condemned as easily as freed. Still, every day people turn to lawyers seeking their help with a host of problems. The love-hate relationship continues.

In the Gospel this weekend, the scholar of the law is looking for the way to life. His question is sincere. He is trying to understand what is required of him. He can quote the law, indeed, probably even lives by it. But the question of who is a neighbor is one of legal precision. The interpretation of the Mosaic law based the fact of one being a neighbor on a covenantal relationship. Those who worshipped the one God were considered as one's neighbor. In the time of Jesus this narrow interpretation was being reconsidered. Some religious scholars suggested that a more universal application was needed, while others held to the tradition that Samaritans, foreigners, and those outside the law were not neighbors under the law. Jesus makes his position clear, although by coming at it from the other direction. It is the Samaritan who shows himself to be a neighbor.

Maybe that is where the argument lies for us today. We cannot define with legal precision who is going to be a neighbor to us. All we can do is decide to be neighborly toward others, that is, to show them the very love with which we love ourselves. And then rely on God's mercy that someone will be there for us as a neighbor in our time of need.

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SJA Accepting Applications

Are you interested in having your child attend Ste Jeanne d'Arc School? We are still accepting applications for the 2013-2014 school year. Ste Jeanne d'Arc School is a K1 – 8 Catholic independent school located in Lowell, Massachusetts. We offer accelerated classes, a K – 8 French program, extensive athletic programs, extra-curricular activities and an Extended Day Care Program. A 2010 National Blue Ribbon School, we invite you to see what we have to offer. To learn more, visit our website at www.sidarc.org. Parents interested in applying can download an application from our website or request an admissions package by contacting the Admissions Office at 978-453-4114.

Dear Parishioners,



The hot and hazy days of summer are upon us. These days are not lazy, however. Fr. Chris is spending lots of time getting acclimated to the community and I'm sure, wondering what is in store for him next. Fr.

Peter has been a welcome guest of the parish and is ready for full duties when I am away on World Youth Day. We are grateful for Fr. Cormier's steadfast service and friendship to our faith family.

Much of our programs have ended or slowed down for the summer months but onward the planning goes. I have met with a team of parishioners to design a renovation to St. Rita Hall/Church regarding the inadequate bathrooms in the Hall/Church and to explore air conditioning. We will soon be sending request to architects for their input. Our new facilities management company at St. Marguerite's is quickly discovering some persistent problems that need addressing on the Parish Center's roof and elsewhere. I am very grateful to the numbers of people from our communities that so generously meet the needs of growing communities.

Also, note that the planning to form vibrant and outreaching Baptismal Preparation and Funeral Support Teams are well on their way. We anticipate doing training in September and October. If you are interested in learning more or know of someone who would be good at either of these ministries, please contact me (frmarc7482@gmail.com).

This weekend at the 10:00 am Mass at St. Rita's the World Youth Day Pilgrims will be given the blessing for pilgrims and be spiritually sent on their journey to Brazil to join with Pope Francis and millions of young-adult Catholics from all over the world. We physically leave on Saturday, July 20, 2013. To all for your prayerful support and to the many that have supported this pilgrimage with your time and treasure, thank you! We could not and cannot do it without your support and prayers. Beginning on July 20th, you can follow the adventures of the Boston Pilgrims (of which our group is a part) on www.WYDRioBoston.com. I look forward to sharing stories about this pilgrimage upon my return.

**Blessings,
Fr. Marc**

***The Sanctuary Light will burn this week for
A Special Intention.***

Parish Support

Weekly Offertory needed to meet budget	\$4,488.00
Offertory Collection June 29/30	\$4,274.50
On-Line Giving & Back Envelopes	\$929.66
Collection Over Budget	\$716.16
Fiscal Year Needed to date	\$233,376.00
Fiscal Year Collected to date	\$253,420.13
Peter's Pence	\$1,082.00
Seating Capacity 450 X 3 masses	1,350
Mass Attendance last weekend	382
Weekly Offertory needed to meet budget	\$4,488.00
Offertory Collection July 6/7	\$4,334.00
On-Line Giving	\$623.00
Collection Over Budget	\$469.00
Fiscal Year Needed to date	\$4,488.00
Fiscal Year Collected to date	\$4,957.00
Uganda Mission	\$2,589.00
Seating Capacity 450 X 3 masses	1,350
Mass Attendance last weekend	346

The Second Collection this weekend is for our Monthly Parish Utilities.

Catholic Appeal Update



The 2013 Catholic Appeal campaign is well underway at Saint Rita and Ste Marguerite d'Youville Parishes. At Saint

Rita's, 93 parishioners have participated and have raised \$19,291.00 toward the parish campaign goal of \$23,834.00. At Ste Marguerite d'Youville's, 133 parishioners have participated and have reached their parish campaign goal of \$27,634.00.

Thank you to all who participated up to this point. Your generosity will benefit hundreds of pastoral, charitable, and educational programs at work within the Archdiocese of Boston, and at Saint Rita and Ste Marguerite d'Youville Parishes. **With \$4,543.00 left to raise at Saint Rita Parish, we need the participation of every parishioner.** Your gift to the Catholic Appeal brings to life the parable of the Good Samaritan and is an important way we as a parish community join together in the Church's universal work to serve others.

If you have yet to participate in the 2013 Catholic Appeal, please take a pledge form which is available in the back of the Church or visit our website at www.BostonCatholicAppeal.org. Please note that you may make a pledge payable in monthly installments up until January 31, 2014. For more information, please contact the Parish Office. Thank you!

JULY 14, 2013

The Week Ahead

Saturday, July 13th

- 8:30 Sacrament of Reconciliation - Chapel
- 8:30 Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament – Chapel
- 11:45 Benediction – Chapel

Sunday, July 14th

- 11:30 Baptism Preparation - Church

Saturday, July 20th

- 8:30 Sacrament of Reconciliation - Chapel
- 8:30 Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament – Chapel
- 11:45 Benediction – Chapel

Sunday, July 21st

- 2:00 Sacrament of Baptism - Church

Date/Time	Celebrant	Date/Time	Celebrant
July 13/14		July 20/21	
4:00PM (SR)	Fr. Marc	4:00PM (SR)	Fr. Peter
4:00PM (SM)	Fr. Chris	4:00PM (SM)	Fr. Cormier
7:00AM (SR)	Fr. Chris	7:00AM (SR)	Fr. Peter
8:30AM (SM)	Fr. Cormier	8:30AM (SM)	Fr. Chris
10:00AM (SR)	Fr. Marc	10:00AM (SR)	Fr. Peter
11:30AM (SM)	Fr. Peter	11:30AM (SM)	Fr. Chris

*Anticipated celebrant may change without prior notice

Parish Office Hours

Our Parish office hours are as follows:

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday
from 8:00 am to 4:00 pm

Wednesday
from 8:00 am to Noon

Closed Weekends and Holidays.



Year of Faith
— 2012 - 2013 —
Archdiocese of Boston

JULY 14, 2013



Saturday, July 13th

8:00

4:00 Lucille Charbonneau (Dec.) by Margaret Larkin

Sunday, July 14th – 15th Sunday in Ordinary Time

7:00

10:00 M/M Simon Hall & Edith Fontaine (Dec.)
by Irene Dufault

Monday, July 15th

9:00 Sr. Leonidas Marie (Dec.) by Sisters of Charity

Tuesday, July 16th

9:00 Sr. Mariette Lessard (Dec.) by Sisters of Charity

Wednesday, July 17th

No Mass

Thursday, July 18th

No Mass

Friday, July 19th

9:00 For the members of the parish

Saturday, July 20th

8:00

4:00 Mary Doucette (15th Ann.) by her daughter

Sunday, July 21st – 16th Sunday in Ordinary Time

7:00

10:00 Joan I. Martin (Dec.) by her husband & family



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CHURCH CITY: **Lowell, MA**

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FILENAME: **03-0380.33b**

PHONE NUMBER: **978-452-4812**

FAX NUMBER: **978-957-5266**

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Comments:
