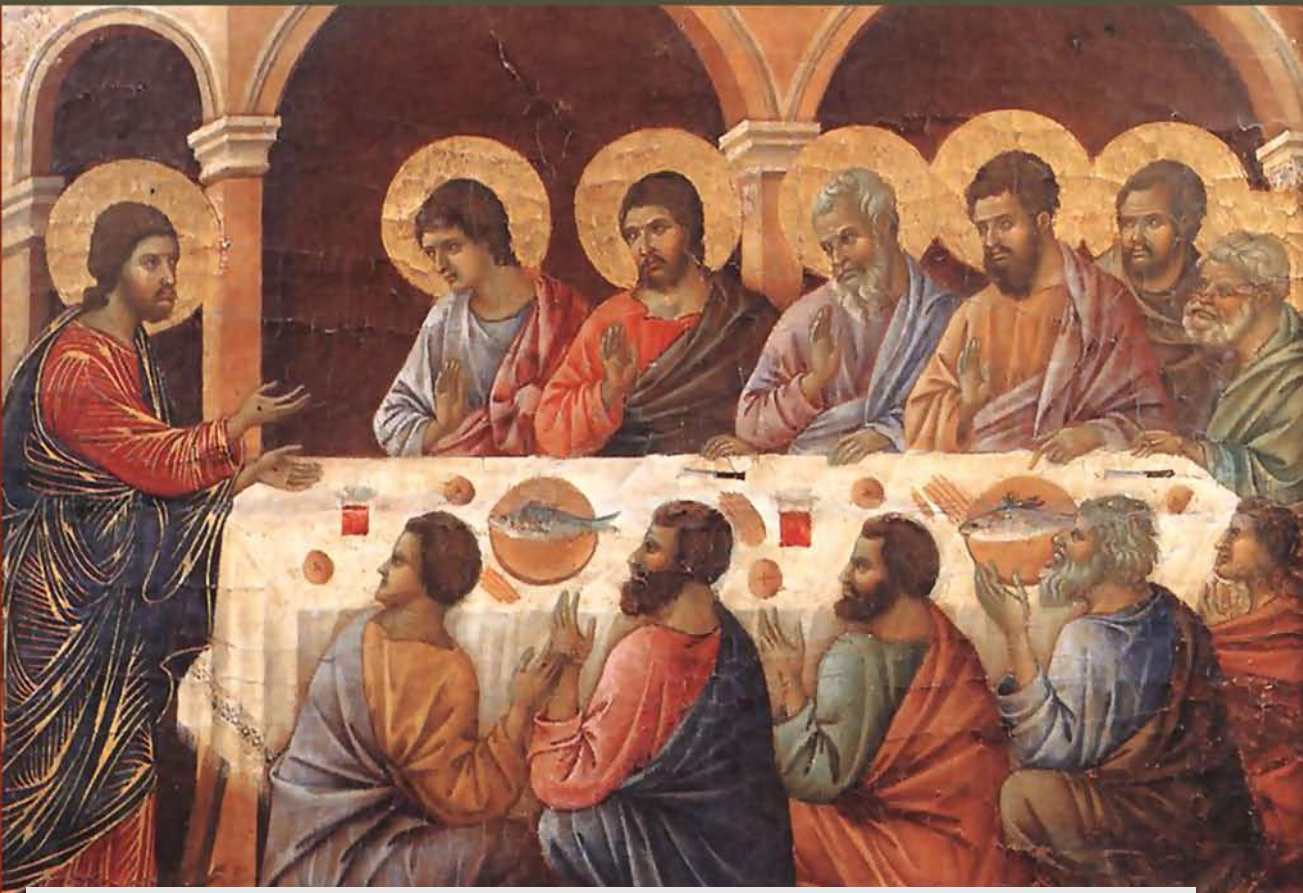




# Peace



**St. John the Baptist Parish - April 19, 2015**

*Father of all, we pray to You for those whom we love, but see no longer. Grant them Your peace; let light perpetually shine upon them; and in Your loving wisdom and almighty power work in them the good purpose of Your perfect will through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*



### *Mass Intentions*

Saturday, April 18th	4:00PM	<b>Yvonne Arakalien</b> ~ 2nd Anniversary ~ by her family
Sunday, April 19th	10:00AM	<b>Lorie Murphy</b> ~ Anniversary by family
Monday, April 20th	9:00 AM	<b>Richard T. Opie</b> ~ by his family
Tuesday, April 21st	9:00 AM	
Wednesday, April 22nd	9:00 AM	
Thursday, April 23rd	9:00 AM	
Friday, April 24th	9:00AM	<b>Josephine Clark</b> ~ Birthday ~ by her family
Saturday, April 25th	9:00 AM	<b>at St. James</b>
Saturday, April 25th	4:00PM	<b>Frederick Cooney</b> ~ Birthday Remembrance
Sunday, April 26th	10:00AM	<b>Captain Red Slavitt</b> ~ Birthday Remembrance ~ by his family

#### **Mass Schedule**

**Saturday** ~ 4 PM  
**Sunday** ~ 10:00 AM  
**Monday to Friday** ~ 9 AM  
**Holy Days** ~ As announced

#### **Sacraments**

**Reconciliation** ~ Saturday 3 to 3:45 PM; or by Appointment  
**Marriage** ~ Couples are asked to call the parish office at 978-372-8537 at least 6 months prior to the planned wedding date  
**Baptism** ~ **2nd Sunday of each month @ 2PM**  
Contact the parish office at 978-372-8537.

#### **Saint John the Baptist Mission Statement:**

*We celebrate the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ centered in the Eucharist, Sacraments and prayer. We teach the Gospel in order to strengthen the faith of each individual in their knowledge of and in their relationship with God. We live the Gospel by loving each other, granting forgiveness, and doing works of service and charity.*

#### **Parish Contact Information**

**Address:** 110 Lincoln Ave, Haverhill,  
**Phone:** 978-372-8537   **Fax:** 978-373-1505  
**Pastor:** Father Robert Murray  
**Parochial Vicar:** Father Peter DeFazio  
**St. James Rectory:** 978-372-8537  
**Rectory Address:** 6 Cottage Street  
Haverhill MA 01830

#### **Religious Education**

**Grades K ~ 9** Classes meet every other week  
Sunday 8:30 to 9:55AM in the lower Church  
**Phone:** 978-521-4557  
**Administrator:** Reneé Barrick  
stjohnthebaptistreligious@gmail.com

#### **BULLETIN DEADLINE**

Our Sunday Bulletin goes to the printer every Tuesday at Noon. Please email bulletin notices to stjamesrcc@hotmail.com no later than 8AM on Tuesday. Thank you.

Welcome to St. John the Baptist.

We're glad you are here to celebrate Mass with us today. If you are new to our parish or haven't been here in awhile, *WELCOME*. If you would like to register as a parish family, registration forms can be found at the back of the Church. You can either mail it to the Rectory or drop it in the collection basket.



This week I went to visit Representative Brian Dempsey, one of our parishioners and the Chairman of the States' Ways and Means committee. This is the committee that plans and presents the state budget, the use of the taxes collected throughout the Commonwealth. We met to discuss the funding of a very important program for our Pantry and in the name of many Pantries in this area and across the state. The Massachusetts Emergency Food Assistance Program (Mefap) is an important contributor to the Merrimack Valley Food Bank, which supplies our Open Hand Pantry with most of the food that we distribute. The Food Bank relies on the funds from the Mefap program to fund itself for obtaining and storing surplus food, employees, and administrative costs to run their distribution centers around the state. There is a fear among the local food banks like ourselves that some of the funding may be cut. This would result in a reduced amount of food that would be available to many of our most vulnerable citizens, i.e., those who use the food banks.

I was accompanied by some of the other religious leaders from around the city who also directly and indirectly run and support the nine food banks that exist in Haverhill.

We were accompanied by an organizer from the Merrimack Valley Project, a non-profit group that helps us to organize around issues that affect the quality of life in the community and to address the roots of the local and identifiable problems and not just the symptoms, i.e., again food insecurity. The root of the problem is sometimes complex, like unemployment and under-employment, choosing between paying for medical expenses or buying food, disability and food stamp allotments versus family size and other challenging problems that some people face daily. We have been meeting to try to find a way to address the underlying issues and change the overall system at least for some in order to reduce the need for so many food banks. This is a great example of the Social Justice Ministry of the Church in a very concrete and immediate way. I recall the words of a former archbishop of Brazil, "When I feed the poor I am called a saint, when I ask why are they hungry, I am labeled a communist" (Dom Helder Camara). The MVP people help us to organize and ask the right people why is it like this and what can we change to reduce this problem.

One of the exercises we have been doing in all the pantries is to ask people as they exit the Food Pantry, "What are the circumstances that have brought you here today?" Many times we have heard the painful stories of job losses, insufficient retirement income, underemployment after the recession of 2008, and medical and medicine issues that threaten the ability to supply food sometimes for one's self or family. This has happened at many food pantries and in some church community meetings. We all are coming to some of the same conclusions. One observation we have made is that the food pantry is cyclical, in that on the Tuesdays following when the checks are received, fewer people visit the pantry. This underscores the notion that people do not visit us unless they have to. (Market Basket has thousands of choices and is regularly re-stocked, we have less than forty five items and sometimes run short on some of the popular items like milk, eggs and cheese). I hope you pray for the success of the Pantry, in thanksgiving for the employees and volunteers and for all the clients who visit there regularly, that God will help us help them, and that no one will ever be hungry in Haverhill.

As an another example of Social Justice Ministry, the building beside the St. James Rectory, the former Winter Street school is being re-engineered to build apartments for 12 individuals and families. This is also a project supported and planned by the Archdiocese to help provide affordable housing along a bus route and with access to other services. Working in collaboration with different partners, the Church sometimes accomplishes great works that can improve the quality of life for many people. This is what resurrection people do, they make Christ appear to address the needs of others and it takes all of us.

*Peace, Fr. Murray*

### **MEN'S PRAYER GROUP**

A Men's prayer group meets every First Saturday of the month from 7:15 to 8:15AM in the lower church of St. James. The hour consist of 15 Minutes of Adoration, a group rosary and a brief discussion on various topics followed by coffee and doughnuts. We promise to finish promptly for all those who need to leave at 8:15AM! Please see Fr. Murray or Fr. Peter



**Clergy Schedule**

**April 18th ~ 19th**

4:00 PM St. James Fr. Peter  
 4:00 PM St. John's Fr. Leo  
 7:00 PM St. James (Vietnamese)  
 8:30 AM St. James Fr. Murray/Deacon Leo  
 10:00 AM St. John the Baptist Fr. Peter  
 11:30 AM St. James Fr. Murray/Deacon Nelson  
 5:00 PM Fr. Peter

**April 25th ~ 26th**

4:00 PM St. James Fr. Leo  
 4:00 PM St. John's Fr. Peter  
 7:00 PM St. James (Vietnamese)  
 8:30 AM St. James Fr. Peter  
 10:00 AM St. John the Baptist Fr. Leo  
 11:30 AM St. James Fr. Peter/Deacon Nelson  
 5:00 PM St. James Fr. Peter/Deacon Leo

***Schedule subject to change without notice!***

*Would you like to pray for a priest each day? Pick up one of the light blue prayer sheets at the entrances.*

**St. Vincent dePaul Society of St. James Parish  
 Quarterly Report 1/1/15 - 3/31/15**

*Starting balance:* \$6,884

Receipts

\$4,704	SVDP boxes
\$1,587	Ash Wednesday collection
\$327	reimbursement Healy Heating Prog.
\$400	reimbursement security deposit
\$7,018	total

Expenses

\$8,037	rent for 21 families
\$1,483	gas & electric bills for 10 families
\$1,199	food for 33 families
\$1,323	home heating oil for 5 families
\$400	funeral for 1 family
\$345	storage for 3 families
\$190	bus & train tickets for 5 families
\$97	medicine for 2 families
\$143	SVDP expenses (phone and postage)
\$160	misc. for 5 families
\$13,377	total

*Ending balance = \$525*



We are always accepting food donations for the Open Hand Food Pantry which is sponsored by our parishes. We greatly appreciate all of the help from our parishioners! We are currently in need of **crackers, tuna, canned chicken,**

**pasta, peanut butter, jelly, cereal and oatmeal.** If you would like to donate food items, you can drop them off in the baskets located at the entrance to St. James and St. John the Baptist churches.

Thank you for helping us to help those in need!



Parishioners of St. James and St. John the Baptist will be participating in Project Bread's Walk for Hunger on Sunday, May

3<sup>rd</sup>. Last year, Project Bread funded over 400 community food programs (such as our own Open Hand Food Pantry) that offer help without stigma... offering a hand-up, not a hand out. Please consider joining our team or making a donation on our group page. Search "St James and St John the Baptist Churches" on the Project Bread Walk for Hunger website. If you're interested in joining our team please call Gabriela at (978)590-0415 or email her at [stjamesandjohn4youth@live.com](mailto:stjamesandjohn4youth@live.com).



The 2015 Catholic Appeal is well underway. I would like to thank all of you who have given so generously to support our parish. If you yet to make a pledge to the Catholic

Appeal, please take a pledge form from the back of the church. You also can make a gift or pledge online at [www.bostoncatholicappeal.org](http://www.bostoncatholicappeal.org). Thank you for your support and for helping us reach our goal.

Readings for today's Mass begins on page 155 of the *Breaking Bread Missal 2015*. Proper parts of the Mass begin on page 3.

**WEEKLY COLLECTION**

**Offertory April 12th: \$3,078.40**

**Parish Monthly: \$1,035.00**

This weekend we have one collection our regular Sunday Offering. Thank you for the support of your parish!

Next weekend we have two collection, our regular weekly offertory and the Home Missions and Black & Native American, Military Archdiocese collection that provides for Catholic chaplains throughout the world for American servicemen and service women. The Home Missions subsidizes the evangelization and formation activities of mission dioceses. The Black and Native American strengthens evangelization and outreach programs which would otherwise be in danger of disappearing among the Black, American Indian, Eskimo and Aleut communities of the United States. For more information please visit [www.usccb.org/hm](http://www.usccb.org/hm) or [www.milarch.org](http://www.milarch.org).

*Father in heaven,  
author of all truth,  
a people once in darkness  
has listened to your Word  
and followed your Son as  
he rose from the tomb.*

*Hear the prayer of  
this newborn people and  
strengthen your Church  
to answer your call.*

• Roman Rite •

**ACTIVITES COMMITTEE**

The next meeting for the Activities Committee is scheduled for tonight, April 19th at 7:00PM in the lower church hall. Plans for future events and services will be discussed. If you have any interest in being part of this committee, now is the time to come and see what it is all about. New members are always welcome.

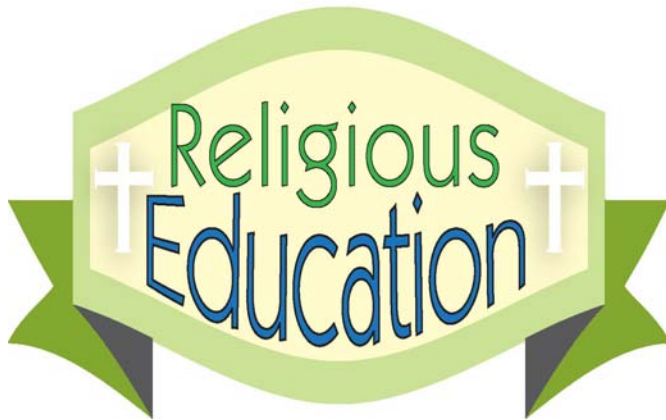


The flowers that have adornrf our altar for the Easter season have been donated in memory of the following: Sidney M. Corthell, Carolyn J. Prescott, Mr. &

Mrs. Gesmoundo Montibello, Mr. & Mrs. Patrick McGravey, Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Dennis, Mr. & Mrs. William Davison, Mr. & Mrs. Wilfred Cormier, Mrs. Jeannette Lynch, Peggy Lynch, Mark Parris, Diamond Tincher, Clifford Cormier, Lawrence Montibello, Agnes & Ralph Bourneauf, Melnott & Corinne Connor, John & Helen Riley, Mary Petell, Mary Elizabeth Bostwick, Jack Amodio, Marguerite Gallant, Joan M. Lucey, Dennis P. Lucey, All deceased AA Members, Wesley Burrill, Sean Girard, Yolanda, Dominic & Vincenza DiFruscio, William & Evelyn Bibeau, Henry & Cecelia Lavoie, The Dubois Family, Mr. & Mrs. C. Ethier, John Costa, The Farley Family, William Poole, Marjorie & Henry Charron, Pauline Flanagan, Harold C. Stultz, Myrtle E. Stultz, Daniel Helps, Josephine Beninati, Frederick D. Cooney, The Morin & Sanville Families, Bud Kelley, Gloria Kelley, Genevieve Canty, Dennis Ray, The Raymond & Fuber Families, Muriel Bernier, Marilyn Cailler, Walter Hedwig, Leo & Anne Secorsky, Concetta Fischella & Family, Joshua Bonnell, Michael & Mary Kaznosky, Mary Pechnik, Tina (Pechnik) Kelly, Lillian (Pechnik) Daniels, D'Arcangelo & DiFruscio Families, Our Lord Jesus Christ, Carlene & John Rogers, Josephine DiLando, Catherine Sestito, Joseph Sestito, James H. Connors, Olympia LoConte, Nellie Janowski, Joan Proctor, Connie Brown, Deceased members of the Calvi & Grieco families, The McGrath Family, William & Mary Mahoney, The Camille Family, the Hall & Duchemin Families, The McCusker Family, The Bernier Family, The Bastarache Family, deceased family and friends of the Murray Family, The Favaloro Family, Pat Mather, The Clarke Family, Marie & Joseph Yuele, Louise & William Walsh, Joseph H., Emma L. & Richard Rousseau, Albert & Gilbert Madore, DiPirro, Fitzpatrick and Petrosino Families.



Please continue to keep all our Men and Women of the Armed Services and their families in your prayers.



### 2014-2015 School Year

March 2015

April 2015

*April 19th ~ School Vacation ~ no classes*

*April 26th ~ 8:30AM ~ 9:55AM*

First Holy Communion ~ Practice #1

May 2015

*May 3rd ~ 8:30AM ~ 9:55AM*

First Holy Communion ~ Practice #2

*May 9th ~ 10:00AM*

First Communion Mass

A full schedule can be found on our website:

[www.stjamesandjohnhaverhill.org](http://www.stjamesandjohnhaverhill.org)



### **SUMMER RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**

Registration Packets for Returning Families for the 2015 Summer Religious Ed Program are located outside the RE

Office. Returning Families are those who did attend and successfully completed the 2014 Summer RE Program. Packets include details and related forms and ALL paperwork and fees are due returned no later than May 1, 2015. Please stop in before or after any weekend Mass to pick up your family packet. Packets will be available throughout Lent and the Easter Season!

New inquiries are asked to call Renee in the RE Office at 978-521-4557 or to Email her at [stjohnthebaptistreligioused@gmail.com](mailto:stjohnthebaptistreligioused@gmail.com)

Would you like to know about our future  
**Youth Group** events?

Email us at [stjamesandjohn4youth@live.com](mailto:stjamesandjohn4youth@live.com)



The Marian Society devoted to Our Lady of Fatima will **pray the Rosary at St. John the Baptist Church on Wednesday mornings at 8:30 AM**. Please join us in praying this beautiful devotion to the Blessed Virgin Mary. Everyone is welcome. Rosary beads and pamphlets are provided.



**Please continue to pray** for all those who are sick or in need and especially for: The Family of Richard Gilmore, Sr., The Yell Family, Zoe L., Bob O., Sheila, Pat L., Linda G., Mariah C., Lynda C., Shirley W., Eleanor H., Maria S., Christine H., Daniel R., Bill V., Kevin, Frank D., Barbara O., Eleanor A., Jimmy L., Crystal, Bob C., Dan D., Arnold W., Steve W., Taylor B., Shelley, Ron & Rita S., Rosemarie D., Bill B., Chirag P., Janice, Sue K., Mary M., Janine C, Lottie, Rebecca H., Rita H., Francesca M., Justin S., Patrick, Ray B., Fr. Conole, Fr. Gino, Fr. Keith, Fr. Sweeney, Diane P., Diane F., Cathy S., Cristina O., Mary L., Ronnie Ann H.

### **Readings for the Week of April 19, 2015**

Sunday: Acts 3:13-15, 17-19/1 Jn 2:1-5a/Lk 24:35-48

Monday: Acts 6:8-15/Jn 6:22-29

Tuesday: Acts 7:51--8:1a/Jn 6:30-35

Wednesday: Acts 8:1b-8/Jn 6:35-40

Thursday: Acts 8:26-40/Jn 6:44-51

Friday: Acts 9:1-20/Jn 6:52-59

Saturday: 1 Pt 5:5b-14/Mk 16:15-20

Next Sunday: Acts 4:8-12/1 Jn 3:1-2/Jn 10:11-18



### **REQUESTED USE OF PARISH HALL and TABLES & CHAIRS**

ALL requests for the use of any of the parish facilities must be made by calling the Parish Office and booked on to our facilities calendar. Please do not ask the priests after Mass as the schedule changes on a daily basis and they aren't always aware of all scheduled events in all of the venues. Help us to help you by complying with this simple request. You can check the calendar on our website!



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Rachel mourns her children; She refuses to be consoled, because her children are no more. Thus says the Lord: "Cease from your cries of mourning. Wipe the tears from your eyes...There is hope for your future."  
Jeremiah 31:15-17



Project Rachel is a confidential Catholic outreach ministry offering hope and healing to women and men hurting from past abortions.  
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