

Our Lady of Grace Parish

Dunstable, Groton, Pepperell, MA

HE IS RISEN

Hallelujah!



*Then the other disciple also went in,
the one who had arrived at the tomb
first, and he saw and believed.*

John 20:8 (NAB)

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Easter Sunday

April 5, 2015

WELCOME TO
OUR LADY OF GRACE PARISH
 OF
 DUNSTABLE, GROTON & PEPPERELL

We are glad you joined us today!

OUR TWO WORSHIP SITES



*St. James Church
West Groton*

*St. Joseph Church
Pepperell*

St. James Church
13 St. James Ave.
Groton, MA 01450

Father Robert Poitras—Administrator
 fr_bob@ourladyofgracema.org
 Ph: 978-433-5737 x303 Fax: 978-433-9566
 Web Site: www.ourladyofgracema.org

St. Joseph Church
28 Tarbell Street
Pepperell, MA 01463

Parish Office Hours: Monday - Friday 9a.m. - 5p.m.

For a *Sacramental Emergency*, please call the office and select ext. 302 and leave a message and Fr. Bob will get right back to you.

Parish Staff

Deacon: Michael Markham
 dcnmichaelmarkham@gmail.com

Director of Religious Education: Robert Daly
 Ph: 978-433-2028 Robert@ourladyofgracema.org

Business Manager: Debra Lackey, M.B.A.
 Ph: x307 Debbie@ourladyofgracema.org

Administrative Assistant: Cotty Reid
 Ph: x301 Cotty@ourladyofgracema.org

Music Coordinator: Ellen Blackwell
 Ph: 978-433-6131

Cemetery Manager: Joseph Viel
 Ph: 978-208-0266

Liturgy Schedule

At Saint James Church
 Sunday: 7:30 a.m. & 11:30 a.m.

At Saint Joseph Church

Weekday Mornings: Wed, Thurs, Fri 8:30 a.m.

Saturday: 4 p.m.

Sunday: 9:30 a.m.

Every 2nd Sunday of the Month:
 5:30 p.m. Rel. Ed. Mass For CY1 & CY2
 & Families

Confessions: 3:00—3:30 PM at St. Joseph Church
 or by appointment with the Pastor.

Information regarding any sacraments, (Baptism,
 Marriage, Anointing) please check our website or
 call the parish office.



A Note From Fr. Bob ~~

He is risen, alleluia! He is truly risen, alleluia! I hope that this Easter Sunday finds you and your family well, in the light of our risen Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. It is wonderful to think that the practice and discipline of Lent has concluded and we have now entered the Easter season. Not because Lent is too difficult or challenging but because of the new creation we have become having accepted and overcome those difficulties and challenges through the power of Christ's Resurrection.

To anyone who is joining us for the first time or returning home to the church, I welcome you with a warm and loving greeting to *Our Lady of Grace Parish*. It is my hope that you find our parish as a place where you can have a positive encounter with our Risen Lord, Jesus Christ.

This Easter finds me grateful for the many blessing God has given me throughout this season of Lent. The past 40 days have been a blessed time. During the course of these past 40 days I have had the honor to hear many confessions and witness the reconciling work of God in our parish. I have been blessed to witness the practice of fasting and almsgiving on behalf of many of our parishioners. I have also been blessed to see the humble prayer of so many of our parishioners, especially in our Friday night devotional prayer of the Way of the Cross. In all these Lenten moments of grace I found my prayer to be a prayer of thanksgiving to God for the wonders and faith he has shared with our parish and its parishioners.

I also thank each of you for allowing God to work through you to be an instrument of his love for me. Through your participation in our weekly liturgies, confession services, almsgiving practice and prayer, you have been a sign from God to me of the great work our God is doing here and now in our humble part of his kingdom here on earth.

The dark 40 days of Lent are over and the light and beauty of the Resurrection of Christ shines upon us this Easter. Today we rejoice that the tomb has no power over our Lord Jesus Christ. But this is not the end, it is only the beginning. As we hear God's word today, and renew our baptismal promises, and pray the Eucharistic Prayer, and receive Holy Communion, we must begin to figure out what it means for each one of us that Jesus Christ is truly risen in our own lives. Let us pray for the grace to take that first step away from the tomb of sin and death and with great joy proclaim through our words and actions, to all the world, that Christ is Risen, He is truly Risen, Alleluia!



On behalf of our parish staff, I wish you and your families a Blessed and Happy Easter!

Fr. Bob




*Have a Joyous
Easter!
~Fr. Bob
Dcn. Mike & Staff~*

MASS INTENTIONS

DAY	DATE	TIME	IN MEMORY/HONOR OF	REQUESTED BY
Saturday	April 11	4:00 PM	Alice Ryan (25th Anniversary)	Pat Burke (daughter)
Sunday	April 12	9:30 AM	Thomas DeVincentis	Rita DeVincentis

THIS WEEK'S EVENTS

DAY	DATE	TIME	EVENT	LOCATION
Monday	April 6		Parish Office Closed	
Wednesday	April 8	2:00 PM	Legion of Mary	Private Residence
		5:30 PM	Rehearsal for First Eucharist	St. Joseph Church
Thursday	April 9	11:00 AM	Prayer & Communion	RiverCourt Residences
Sat/Sun	April 11/12	All Masses	Baby Item Drive for Problem Pregnancy in Worcester	Both Churches
Saturday	April 11	9:30 AM	Sacrament of First Eucharist	St. Joseph Church
		12:30 PM	Sacrament of First Eucharist	St. Joseph Church
Sunday	April 12	5:30 PM	CY1 & CY2 Family Mass	St. Joseph Church



**Your Life is Precious!
Every Life is Precious!**

The Confirmation class along with parishioners will be having a baby item drive for Problem Pregnancy in Worcester

Collection at all Masses on April 11 & 12

<p>Onesies Sleepers Baby Gowns Bunting Blankets Baby Wash Clothes and Towels Diapers (any size) Baby Wipes</p>	<p>Toiletries (powder, lotion, Balmex, Desitin, Shampoo) Cash or Gift Cards (Target, Babies "R" Us or Walmart)</p>
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Problem Pregnancy helps mothers and fathers facing an unplanned pregnancy choose life by providing counseling, pregnancy tests, ultrasounds, health care options and baby goods.

*by Our Lady of Grace
Respect Life group*

Want to become involved? Please watch the bulletin for our next meeting date.
We would love to have you.

A
Jellybean Prayer

- *Black* is for our sin - the wrong things we have done.
- *Red* is for Jesus' blood - He shed for everyone.
- *White* is for a clean heart - when in Jesus we believe.
- *Gold* is for the streets in Heavens - promised when Jesus we receive.
- *Green* is for growing; hide His word in your heart.

Put your trust in Jesus - give your life a brand new start!

Scripture for the week of April 5, 2015

5	SUN	Acts 10:34a, 37-43/Col 3:1-4 or 1 Cor 5:6b-8/Jn 20:1-9 or Mk 16:1-7
6	Mon	Acts 2:14, 22-33/Mt 28:8-15
7	Tue	Acts 2:36-41/Jn 20:11-18
8	Wed	Acts 3:1-10/Lk 24:13-35
9	Thu	Acts 3:11-26/Lk 24:35-48
10	Fri	Acts 4:1-12/Jn 21:1-14
11	Sat	Acts 4:13-21/Mk 16:9-15
12	SUN	Acts 4:32-35/1 Jn 5:1-6/Jn 20:19-31

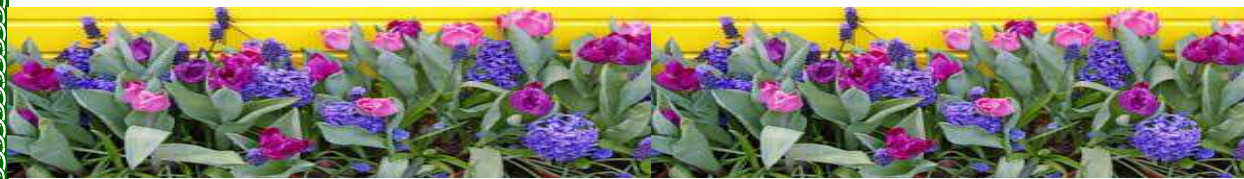
*Thank You to all who
donated to our Easter
Flower Offering in
memory and/or in honor
of loved ones!
Nice to see spring flowers
after such a hard winter!*



Thank You!

Thank You!

<i>Donated By</i>	<i>In Memory/Honor Of</i>
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Thank You!

Thank You!

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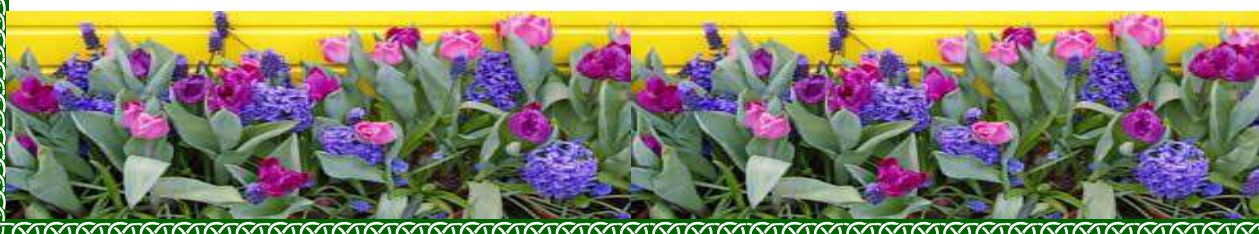


Thank You!


Thank You!

<i>Donated By</i>	<i>In Memory/Honor Of</i>
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*Please forgive me if any name had been inadvertently omitted or misspelled.
 ~~~ Bulletin Editor ~~~*








**THE CLERGY FUNDS**  
*Caring for the Health and Retirement Needs of our Priests*

**The Clergy Health and Retirement Trust**

**At Easter**, we honor and celebrate our priests. The Clergy Health and Retirement Trust helps care for the health and well being of our 638 priests, ensuring the highest quality of care and quality of life for the men who have dedicated their lives in service to our Archdiocese of Boston. Remember the priests who were there for you and your loved ones in times of need, and consider honoring them with a generous gift.

Thank you for helping to keep the promises made care for the priests who continue to give so much to our Church.


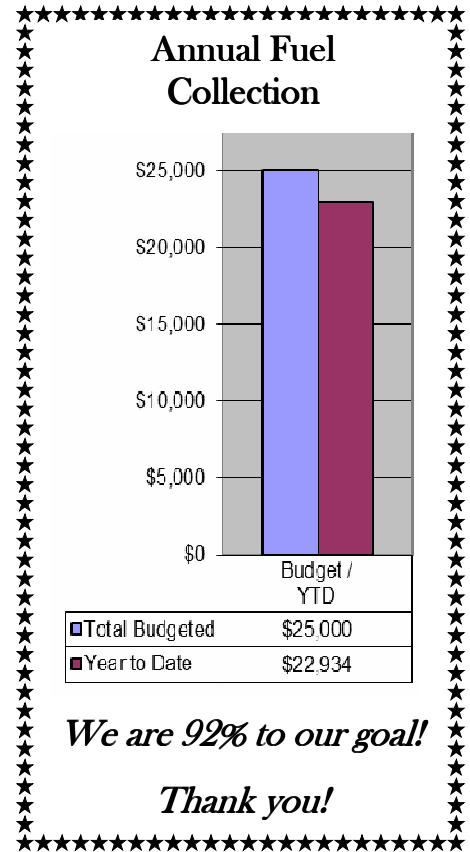

**A note about the EASTER COLLECTION**



All of the money collected during the Holy Saturday and Easter Day Masses will be sent into the Archdiocese for the Clergy Health & Retirement Trust Fund. **The parish does not keep any of this money.**


(NOTE: if you send us your Easter envelope early, that donation also goes to the Clergy Benefit Trust Fund.)

If you want to make a special donation to the parish during this season, please use the Offertory collections before or after Easter.

**Looking for volunteers to count offertory on the 4th Monday of each month.**

Please contact **Debbie Lackey** in the parish office at 978-433-5737




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

But the *angel* answered and said to the women, "Do not be afraid for I know that you seek *Jesus*, who was **CRUCIFIED.**" "He is not here; He is *Risen*, as He said."




Matthew 28:6



**Important Information for your DONATION STATEMENTS for 2014**

Statements for donations are only sent to those parishioners who submit their donations in a parish envelope or through our OnLine Giving system. *Loose checks put into the Offertory basket are not recorded into the database.*



Would you like to **Donate Altar Flowers** in memory of a loved one?



Please contact **Debbie or Cotty** in the office at 978-433-5737 Or email [Debbie@OurLadyofGraceMA.org](mailto:Debbie@OurLadyofGraceMA.org) [Cotty@OurLadyofGraceMA.org](mailto:Cotty@OurLadyofGraceMA.org) Your intention will be noted in the bulletin.



*“Today, thanks to Project Rachel, I am a different person. To experience the power of forgiveness is life altering...”*

# ***Come to the Waters of Healing***

## ***One Day Retreat for Hope & Healing After Abortion***

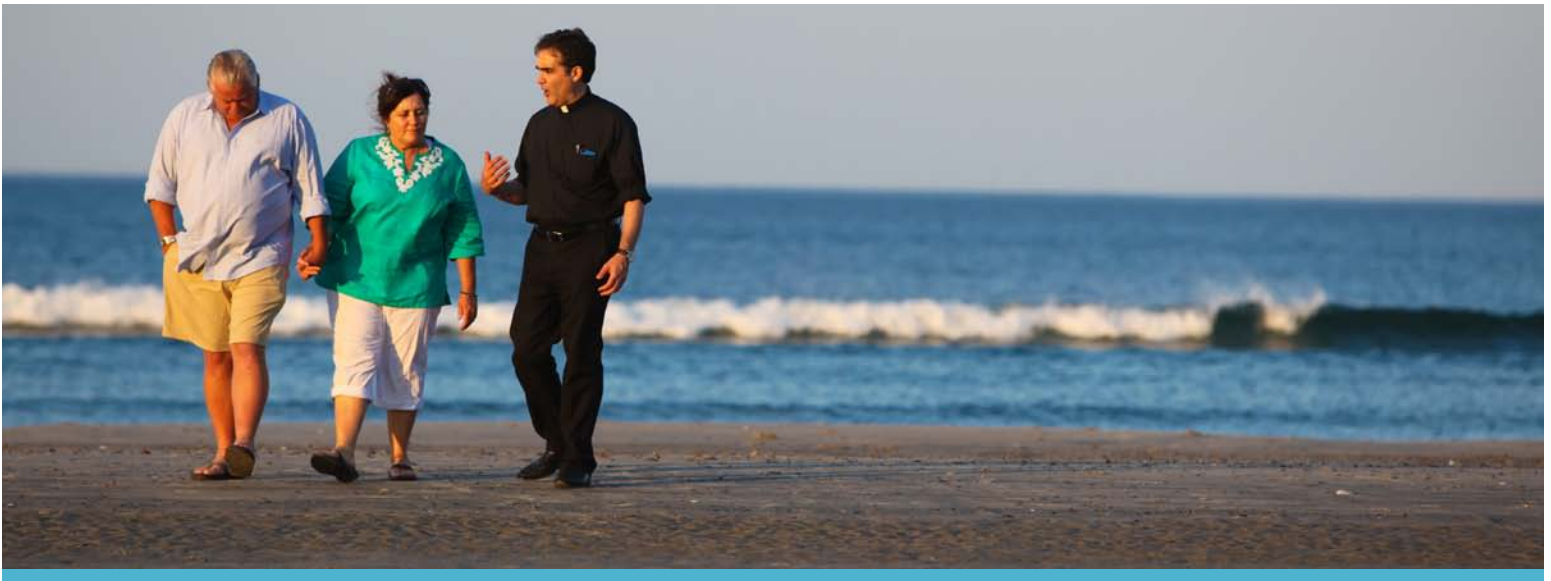
- ◆ Saturday, February 21, 2015
  - ◆ Saturday, March 28, 2015
  - ◆ Saturday, April 25, 2015
- 9:00AM – 5:00 PM

This one-day retreat is designed to help women hurting from past abortions experience the personal love of Christ and find hope for healing in a loving and confidential environment.

***Sponsored by the Project Rachel Ministry - Archdiocese of Boston***  
*Pre-registration is required. Limited to 10 participants.*

For more information, contact  
Project Rachel at (508) 651-3100 or  
[help@projectrachelboston.com](mailto:help@projectrachelboston.com)  
[www.projectrachelboston.com](http://www.projectrachelboston.com)





## Meet Fr. Joe— *Answering the call with compassion*

For Gary and Susan Pickering, Fr. Joe Mazzone is more than a pastor—he is family.

Like so many priests in our Archdiocese, Fr. Joe has been a source of strength and support, helping others find Christ's presence in times of joy and sorrow. When Gary and Susan's daughter Marcy passed away unexpectedly during surgery, Fr. Joe was the first person they called. Marcy had been a close friend of Fr. Joe's, and her faith life had blossomed with his help through challenging times in her life. Fr. Joe was there for the Pickerings as they said goodbye to their beloved Marcy then, and he remains by their side today. Together, they continue to grow in faith and friendship, confident that they will be reunited with Marcy again, and grateful for the hope they receive through each other in Christ Jesus.

**Our priests are there for us and our families without question or hesitation. Please consider showing your gratitude by supporting your parish collection this Easter.**

Thank you for helping to ensure a continuum of care and quality of life for all our active and senior priests.



*“Support your priests with your love and prayers, that they may always be shepherds after Christ’s heart.”*

*- Pope Francis*

To submit your special intentions to be remembered by our senior priests during the celebration of Holy Mass at Regina Cleri each week, visit [www.clergyfunds.org/intentions](http://www.clergyfunds.org/intentions).

To watch a short video of Fr. Joe Mazzone, please visit [www.clergyfunds.org](http://www.clergyfunds.org).



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*Caring for the Well-Being of our Boston Priests*

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Support your priests at the Easter collection



**Co-Workers in the Vineyard Conference**  
 The Mission of Evangelization in the Parish  
 April 10, 2015 9:00-3:30  
 Our Lady Help of Christians Parish  
 Newton, MA  
 Keynote Speaker:  
**Dr. Ralph Martin**

  
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