

Our Lady of Grace Parish

Dunstable, Groton, Pepperell, MA



2nd Sunday of Easter April 12, 2015
~Divine Mercy Sunday~

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.

What is Divine Mercy Sunday?

Among all of the elements of devotion to The Divine Mercy requested by our Lord through St. Maria Faustina Kowalska, the Feast of Mercy holds first place. The Lord's will with regard to its establishment was already made known in His first revelation to the saint, as recorded in her *Diary*. In all, there were 14 revelations concerning the desired feast.

Our Lord's explicit desire is that this feast be celebrated on the first Sunday after Easter. This Sunday is designated in "The Liturgy of the Hours and the Celebration of the Eucharist" as the "Octave Day of Easter." It was officially called the *Second Sunday of Easter* after the liturgical reform of Vatican II. Now, by the Decree of the Congregation for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments, the name of this liturgical day has been changed to: "Second Sunday of Easter, or Divine Mercy Sunday."

The Importance of the Image

During his homily, John Paul also made clear that the Image of The Divine Mercy St. Faustina saw, which is to be venerated on Divine Mercy Sunday, represents the Risen Christ bringing mercy to the world (see *Diary* 49, 88, 299, 341, 570, 742). Pope John Paul II said: "Jesus shows His hands and His side [to the Apostles]. He points, that is, to the wounds of the Passion, especially the wound in His Heart, the source from which flows the great wave of mercy poured out on humanity.

"From that Heart, Sr. Faustina Kowalska, the blessed whom from now on we will call a saint, will see two rays of light shining from that Heart and illuminating the world: **'The two rays,'** Jesus Himself explained to her one day, **'represent blood and water'** (*Diary*, 299).

"*Blood and water!* We immediately think of the testimony given by the Evangelist John, who, when a soldier on Calvary pierced Christ's side with his spear, sees blood and water flowing from it (see Jn 19:34). Moreover, if the blood recalls the sacrifice of the cross and the gift of the Eucharist, the water, in Johannine symbolism, represents not only Baptism but also the gift of the Holy Spirit" (see Jn 3:5; 4:14; 7:37-39).

From thedivinemeracy.org



OUR CATHOLIC FAITH

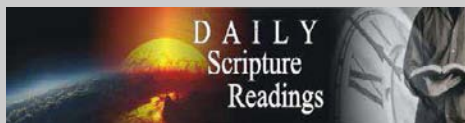


MASS INTENTIONS

DAY	DATE	TIME	IN MEMORY/HONOR OF	REQUESTED BY
Saturday	April 11	4:00 PM	Alice Ryan (25th Anniversary)	Her Children
Sunday	April 12	9:30 AM	Thomas DeVincentis	Rita DeVincentis
Saturday	April 18	4:00 PM	Eleanor Fucarile	Doug & Cotty Reid
Sunday	April 19	9:30 AM	Timothy McPartlan (1st Anniversary)	His Mother
		11:30 AM	Jane & Andrew Hartery Bernice Hartery (1st Anniversary) Owen Doherty	The Sheedy & Hartery Families

THIS WEEK'S EVENTS

DAY	DATE	TIME	EVENT	LOCATION
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 Group 1	St. Joseph Church
		12:30 PM	Sacrament of First Eucharist Group 2	St. Joseph Church
Sunday	April 12	5:30 PM	CY1 & CY2 Family Mass	St. Joseph Church
Wednesday	April 15	2:00 PM	Legion of Mary	Private Residence
		4:30 PM	Rehearsal for First Eucharist Group 3	St. Joseph Church
Thursday	April 16	11:00 AM	Prayer & Communion	RiverCourt Residences
		7:30 PM	Knights of Columbus Council Mtg.	St. James Hall
Saturday	April 18	9:30 AM	Sacrament of First Eucharist	St. Joseph Church



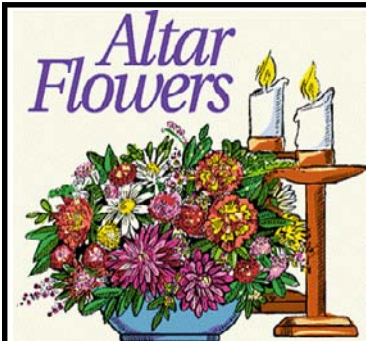
Scripture for the week of April 12, 2015

- 12 SUN Acts 4:32-35/1 Jn 5:1-6/Jn 20:19-31
- 13 Mon Acts 4:23-31/Jn 3:1-8
- 14 Tue Acts 4:32-37/Jn 3:7b-15
- 15 Wed Acts 5:17-26/Jn 3:16-21
- 16 Thu Acts 5:27-33/Jn 3:31-36
- 17 Fri Acts 5:34-42/Jn 6:1-15
- 18 Sat Acts 6:1-7/Jn 6:16-21
- 19 SUN Acts 3:13-15, 17-19/1 Jn 2:1-5a/Lk 24:35-48



*"Eternal God,
in whom mercy is endless
and the treasury of
compassion inexhaustible,
look kindly upon us
and increase
Your mercy in us,
that in difficult moments
we might not despair
nor become despondent,
but with great confidence
submit ourselves
to Your holy will,
which is Love
and Mercy itself."*

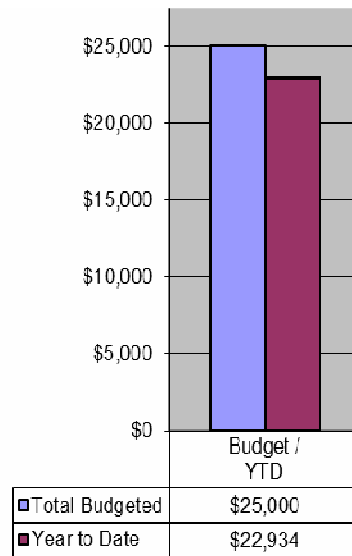
-St. Faustina's Diary, 950



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
 Cotty@OurLadyofGraceMA.org
 Your intention will be noted in the bulletin.



Annual Fuel Collection



We are 92% to our goal!

Thank you!

LABELS ARE FOR JARS™

Did your "Jar" fill up???
 Don't forget our "Labels Are For Jars" project to benefit Cor Unum, a meals program that feeds thousands (locally, in Lawrence) each year. Make your "loose change" turn into dollars \$\$\$ to feed the hungry.
 Please send a check for the amount you collected to
Cor Unum Meal Center
 118 South Broadway
 Lawrence, MA 01843
 Thank You!



The Clergy Health and Retirement Trust



THE CLERGY FUNDS

Caring for the Health and Retirement Needs of our Priests

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.

Online Giving is great because:

- It's convenient and easy to use.
- You control your own account
- It's green - no checks or envelopes.



Check it out on our website, just click the Online Giving link on our home page and get started today! www.OurLadyofGraceMA.org



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.

Thanks!

Important Information for your DONATION STATEMENTS for 2014

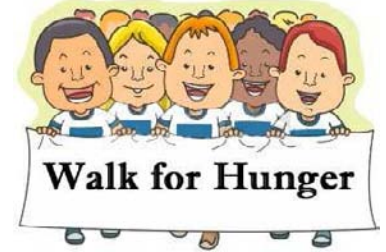
Statements for donations are only sent to those parishioners who submit their donations in a parish envelope or through our OnLine Giving system. *Loose checks put into the Offertory basket are not recorded into the database.*



PARISH HAPPENINGS



Our Lady of Grace **Walking the WALK!** **Project Bread: Walk for Hunger** **Sunday May 3, 2015**



Come join Our Lady of Grace Team in this year's Walk for Hunger!! The 47th annual walk will be held on Sunday May 3, and this marks the 10th consecutive year our Parish will be sending a Team.

The Walk for Hunger, sponsored by Project Bread, is the oldest continual pledge walk in the country and the largest area event to relieve local hunger. Every May, over 40,000 people walk all or part of a 20-mile course through Greater Boston, earning the pledges they have collected to support Project Bread's fresh approach to ending hunger in our state.

If interested in walking or if you would like more information on the event, please contact Vincent Pinque at [978-448-6071](tel:978-448-6071) or vincentpinque@charter.net. You can also join Our Lady of Grace Team on-line at http://support.projectbread.org/site/TR/Walk/General?team_id=76710&pg=team&fr_id=1250



KNIGHTS **OF COLUMBUS** IN SERVICE TO ONE. IN SERVICE TO ALL.

Next council meeting this coming
Thursday, April 16th, 7:30 pm
St. James Hall. (Brothers only)

Upcoming degree opportunities will never be closer to home:

Next Sunday, April 19th, at St Joseph's hall (Pepperell)

2nd degree candidates arrive at noon, degree starts at 1:00pm.
3rd degree starts after 2nd. 3rd degree candidates only register at 1:30pm

Please confirm your attendance for head count purposes by email, mikejane4@verizon.net.

DEACON'S **CORNER**

*Do you have a question you are
pondering regarding the Catholic Church
and its teachings?*

Ask Deacon Mike!

You can email him at:
dcnmichaelmarkham@gmail.com

**WHY DO
CATHOLICS....?**

COMMUNITY HAPPENINGS

Comedy Night BIG LAUGHS FOR LITTLE LIVES

To benefit



Join us for a Laugh Filled Night featuring



Dan Smith

Dan headlines all over New England and has entertained our troops overseas more than 30 times.

and some of the funniest comics in the area.

Friday, April 17

Lenzi's

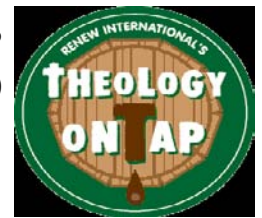
810 Merrimack Ave.
Route 110
Dracut, MA 01826

Refreshments – 7:00 P.M.
Show Starts – 8:00 P.M.
Cash Bar
Admission: \$30 per person

For Tickets: <https://mfhouse.brushfireapp.com/events/428849>

Nashoba Valley's Theology on Tap

is meeting to close their Spring season with a fun trivia night.



Please join us to show off your trivia skills and a chance to win!

Monday, April 20th @ 7pm

at the Nashoba Club,
14 Central Ave, Ayer



LIFT Worship Night

Join LIFT Ministries on

Tuesday, April 21st @ 7pm

for an inspiring night of worship at St. Anthony's Church in Lowell with guest speaker Colby Flis. The night will include uplifting music, a relevant talk, confessions, Eucharistic Adoration, and is FREE to attend and open to ALL AGES. A downloadable flyer, along with more information about LIFT, can be found on their website at www.liftedhigher.com. Come and worship with hundreds of Catholics from around the Boston area!



Enriching My Life of Prayer San Damiano House of Prayer

is offering a series on ways to deepen one's prayer life. Join us Wednesday Evenings

April 29th - July 8th 6:30 pm - 8:00 pm
333 Pawtucket Street, Lowell, MA

SUGGESTED DONATION \$10 per session or \$75 for all 11 sessions (or whatever you can give.

Please and thank you!) Please register by

Sunday, April 26th

at sandamiano333@gmail.com

For more information visit our website at www.sandamiano-houseofprayer.org

Sister Linda Greenwood, OSF (978) 441-0988
lgosf@netzero.net

Worldwide Marriage Encounter

The gospel says "But whoever lives the truth comes to the light, so that his works may be clearly seen as done in God". Let your marriage live in truth and works through God.



The next

Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekends
are **May 1 - 3, 2015,**
May 29 - 31, 2015 and
July 10 - 12, 2015.

In the first reading it says "I will be their God, and they shall be my people." God wants to be invited into your marriage.

For more information call Jim and Elaine Richard at 1-800-710-WWME or visit our webpage at www.wwme.org

UP-COMING OPEN HOUSES



Country Day School of the Holy Union 14 Main Street, Groton, MA

The Country Day School is a private, independent Catholic school serving students from pre-Kindergarten to 8th Grade. We would love to be a part of your child's academic, social and spiritual development. Come see if Country Day School is a good fit for your family. Tour our classrooms, and talk one-on-one with our teachers and administrators.

Call 978-448-5646 for a private tour. or visit www.cdsholyunion.org

OPEN HOUSE
Sunday, April 12
1:00—3:00 PM

You are cordially invited to attend an Open House at Northeast Catholic College - April 19-20, 2015.

All high school students and recent graduates are invited to attend our Spring Open House. Visitors will have the opportunity to attend classes, meet one on one with faculty and admissions representatives, stay in the student residences, attend Mass and participate in spiritual life on campus, and tour our campus.

Reserve your place today!

Contact the Admissions Office at admissions@northeastcatholic.edu or call [603.456.2656](tel:603.456.2656) or toll free: [877.498.1723](tel:877.498.1723).



NORTHEAST
CATHOLIC COLLEGE



Merrimack College is a selective, independent college in the Catholic, Augustinian tradition whose mission is to enlighten minds, engage hearts and empower lives.

Merrimack College Junior Discovery Days

Our Junior Discovery Day Information Sessions are designed for **high school juniors and their families** to hear directly from current Merrimack students. This student led session will highlight student life, academics and all of the many resources and opportunities available to you as a Merrimack student. A campus tour will follow the session. **Junior Discovery Days will be held from 10:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. on the following dates:**

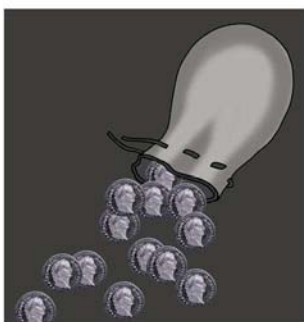
- ◆ Monday, April 20th
- ◆ Tuesday, April 21st
- ◆ Wednesday, April 22nd
- ◆ Thursday, April 23rd
- ◆ Friday, April 24th

CHILDREN'S SUNDAY FUN PAGE

Look at the cover of the bulletin & on page 3 to see what colors to use for Jesus below.

FAITH FACTS

THE APOSTLES:
JUDAS ISCARIOT
AND MATTHIAS



Judas Iscariot, one of the twelve apostles, betrayed Jesus at the first Easter. For thirty pieces of silver, he told the Jewish authorities where they could find Jesus and arrest him secretly.

Thirty pieces of silver was the price of a slave in those days.

Judas later returned the money, but then killed himself. Because of that, the eleven remaining apostles selected another of the early disciples, to replace Judas. This was Matthias. We know very little about him.

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Footprints For Children

The Lord will always walk with you
along life's blessed beach,
His footprints there beside your own,
always within reach.

Two sets of footprints,
side-by-side,
from dawn to setting sun,
Yet there may come a day,
my child,
When you'll see only one.
But do not think the Lord
has left you -

Nothing could be more wrong.
It's just that He has
picked you up,
to carry you along.

CODE -- BREAKER!

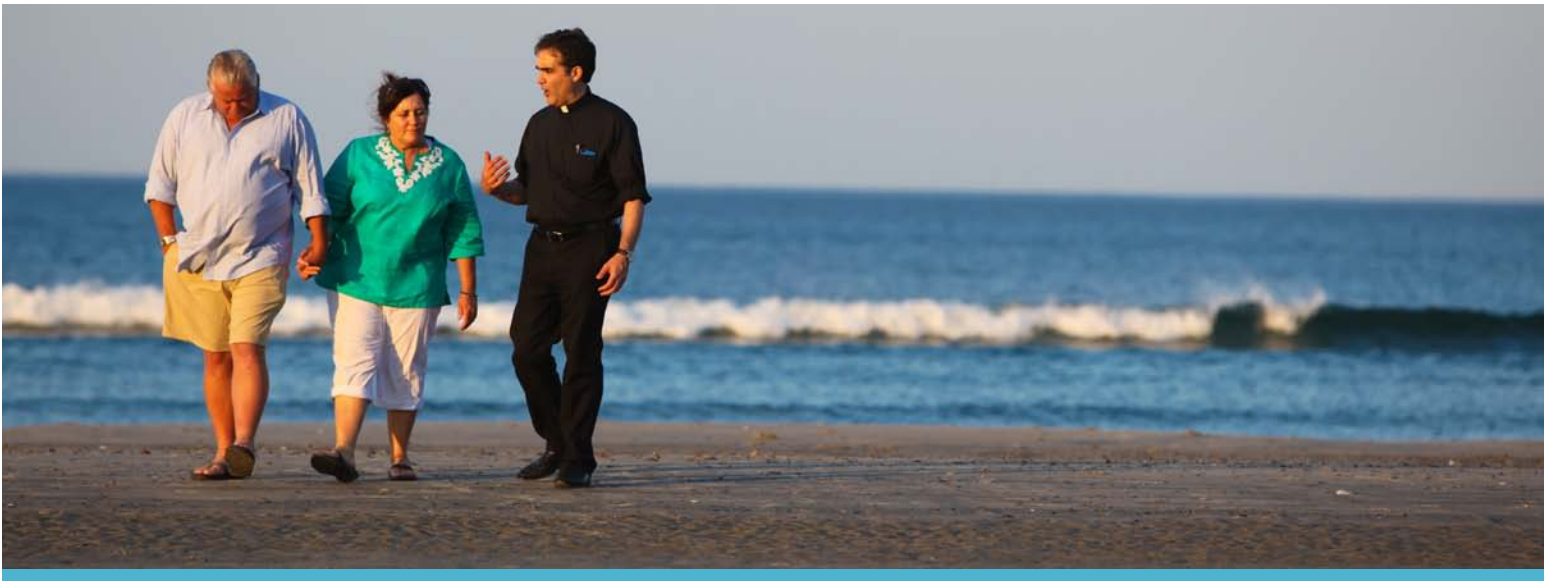
The sentence below is to be found in one of today's readings. Can you break the code and write in the sentence? Here are two clues: K = A, and B = R.

LVOCCON KBO DRYCO

GRY RKFO XYD COOX

KXN RKFO LOVSOFON.

ANSWER: Blessed are those who have not seen and have believed.



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.”

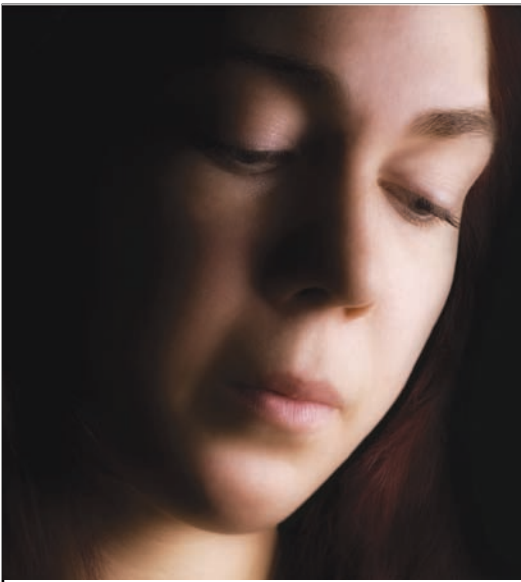
- Pope Francis

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.

To watch a short video of Fr. Joe Mazzone, please visit www.clergyfunds.org.



Clergy Health and Retirement Trust
Caring for the Well-Being of our Boston Priests



“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, April 25, 2015

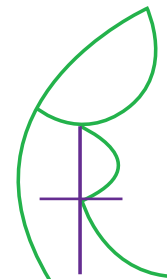
9:00AM – 5:00 PM

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



Project Rachel[™]
Archdiocese of Boston

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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
 Archdiocese of Boston
 Project Rachel is a confidential Catholic outreach ministry offering hope and healing to women and men hurting from past abortions. **Trust in the tender embrace of God's merciful love.**
 www.ProjectRachelBoston.com
 help@ProjectRachelBoston.com

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