



Saturday, February 19

5:00pm Stephen Mahoney 20th Anniversary

Sunday, February 20

8:00am Andrew Walsh 6th Anniversary

11:30am Joseph Passagio 1st Anniversary

Wednesday, February 23

9:00am Barbara Calhoun Memorial

Friday, February 25

9:00am Marie Nagle 22nd Anniversary

Sunday, February 27

11:30am John Whittaker 15th Anniversary

IN OUR PRAYERS...Rose Terry, Rena Cosmopulos, Debrah Carella, Annemarie Omera, Tricia McDonald, Christopher Grimes, Sheila Stanton, Francis Nelson, Rita Boyd, Thomas Donnelly and Ellsworth Rice who are ill; also for Eileen Luukko who died this past week and Dennis Griffin who was buried this past week from St. Helen Church.



"You have heard that it was said, An eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth. But I say to you, offer no resistance to one who is evil. When someone strikes you on your right cheek, turn the other one as well." - Mt 5:38-39

PARKING ETIQUETTE: As you know, most of the parking spaces for our church are arranged as in-line parking. We are very fortunate to have as much parking as we do. But many times the entire middle of a parking lane is empty (and unusable) because cars have parked at each end of the lane, and blocked access to the middle. This dramatically reduces the parking spaces that can be used. People are arriving late for Mass because they can't find any place to park. This is especially true in our smaller lot on the north side of the church. In all honesty, most people have no urgent need to depart the lot immediately after Mass, so we would ask that you try to remember those who will arrive after you by being courteous and kind enough to not block the lanes. Thank you.

WEEKLY COLLECTIONS

Offertory: February 13, 2011	\$5,487.00
Weekly Electronic Transfer:	\$708.46
Total:	\$6,195.46
Energy and Utilities:	\$2,866.00

YOUR CONTINUED GENEROSITY TO OUR INCREASED WEEKLY GIVING PROGRAM IS GREATLY APPRECIATED.

THE MONTHLY MAINTENANCE AND REPAIR COLLECTION will be taken up at all of the Masses next weekend and is a very important ingredient for the financial well-being of our parish. All of the monies collected remain right here, in the parish, and those monies allow us to meet our ever increasing bills and financial obligations. Your generosity to these monthly collections is truly appreciated.

MARDI GRAS: Join us to celebrate Mardi Gras on Tuesday night, March 8. We'll be starting with a traditional Mardi Gras supper of pancakes, bacon and sausage at 5:15pm, and we'll be entertained by "Awesome Robb the Magician" from about 5:45 until 6:30pm. All parishioners are welcome, but we're especially hoping that families with young children will be able to join us. The next day is Ash Wednesday, the beginning of the season of Lent, so it's appropriate to have a special celebration before the season of fasting begins. Pancakes, bacon and sausage are traditional because for many years, Christians would fast from eggs, sugar, flour and meat during Lent. Things aren't that drastic today, but the tradition continues. We'll also be throwing in a special feature of a traditional New Orleans Mardi Gras celebration, the King Cake with a figure of the Baby Jesus. The child or adult who gets the Baby Jesus will win a special prize. The cost for the whole night is \$4 per person, \$10 maximum for the family.

WIRELESS HEARING AIDS: We have purchased four hearing assistance units which might help those who have a hard time hearing words of the Mass. There is a small receiver pack and an attached wire with an earpiece which greatly enhances the volume of the spoken words of the Mass. If you think you could benefit, or would like to give it a try, simply call the Rectory and we'll make the arrangements. There's no cost to you, and for hygienic reasons, we'll give you the unit which you can bring with you to whatever Mass you attend.

From the Pastor's Desk



It seems odd to be so far into February and still we haven't yet begun the season of Lent. As you may know, or may want to know for planning purposes, Ash Wednesday this year falls on March 9. This is just about as late as it can be, which means that Easter (April 24) is just about as late as it can be. The late Easter date means that it will be a very busy Lenten season. The first couple of weeks of the Easter season will also be very busy. As we approach the season of Lent, the Archdiocese and every parish is making plans for some very important initiatives. Proceeding along a time line, we will shortly undertake the following projects: the Kick-off to the Annual Catholic Appeal over the weekend of March 5-6; "The Light is on for You" initiative will be held again this Lent and confessions will be heard on the Wednesday evenings of Lent, excluding Ash Wednesday; the "Catholics Come Home" initiative here in the Archdiocese will be starting up in early Lent, with the hope of welcoming Catholics back during Lent and especially at Easter. On our part, we'll be making every effort to assure the success of these undertakings, but to be honest, our greatest success will come only if you, the "people in the pews," commit yourselves to become involved. As we look down the line, I am hoping that many of you will take advantage of these efforts, and just as importantly, invite your friends and neighbors and families to do the same. Let's pray and work for the success of these many efforts here at St. Helen Parish and throughout the Archdiocese of Boston.

Father Maguire

ELECTRONIC CONTRIBUTIONS: Electronic giving is the latest and most efficient way to offer your weekly parish contributions. It will save you from writing a check each week, and it will provide the parish with a steady and reliable source of income every week. We thank the many parishioners who have already signed up and are using the system, and we hope others will give it a try. The system which we use here at St. Helen, ParishPay, electronically deducts donations to the parish from your checking account, savings account, credit or debit cards on a monthly basis. Donations can be changed at any time, and there is no cost to you. Anyone interested in further information or to sign up can go online at www.paritypay.com or go to our parish website homepage and click donations at the top of the right hand column.

LOW-GLUTEN HOSTS: Due to wheat allergies, some persons are not able to consume the regular Hosts which are distributed at Communion. Church law mandates that hosts to be consecrated at Mass must be made of wheat, containing gluten, and water only. Other ingredients are not permitted, nor may hosts be made of any other ingredients such as rice. This maintains the integrity of doing precisely what Jesus did at the Last Supper. As we have for some time now, we are able to offer these low gluten hosts for those people who find themselves unable to consume a "regular" Communion Host. If you or a loved one would like to make arrangements to receive such a Communion Host during any Mass, please contact the Rectory.

PARISH FINANCIAL SUPPORT: As always, I am very grateful to all of you who support our parish through your financial offerings. Your generosity makes it possible to do the many good and holy works which take place in our parish day in and day out. One year ago, we conducted an **Increased Weekly Giving Program** here in the Parish. At that time we asked every family to consider increasing their weekly/monthly contribution on a consistent basis. Your response was very good, and our weekly offertory increased. As time goes on, there is a tendency to cut back a little, and in light of that, I am asking everyone to re-commit yourselves to the level of financial support that is appropriate for you. My request is **NOT** a new Increased Giving Appeal, but rather, I hope, a gentle reminder of the level of support you might have pledged a year ago. If you have reduced your level of support, and could go back to a higher level, I would ask that you please try to do so. For some, present circumstances might allow a more generous gift each week, for others, present circumstances might mean a smaller weekly gift. All I suggest is a "renewed commitment" regarding everyone's financial support. There are no cards or forms to complete, just this gentle (I hope) reminder. And please do remember: the money you give to St. Helen Parish remains right here in our Parish. Thank you! -- Father Maguire

Readings for the Week of February 20, 2011

Sunday:	Lv 19:1-2, 17-18/1 Cor 3:16-23/Mt 5:38-48
Monday:	Sir 1:1-10/Mk 9:14-29
Tuesday:	1 Pt 5:1-4/Mt 16:13-19
Wednesday:	Sir 4:11-19/Mk 9:38-40
Thursday:	Sir 5:1-8/Mk 9:41-50
Friday:	Sir 6:5-17/Mk 10:1-12
Saturday:	Sir 17:1-15/Mk 10:13-16
Next Sunday:	Is 49:14-15/1 Cor 4:1-5/Mt 6:24-34

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LIFT – Catholic Worship for a new Generation: LIFT is an exciting monthly worship event for all ages which includes vibrant praise and worship music, dynamic, challenging speakers and Eucharistic Adoration. Their next event is this Tuesday, February 22 from 7-9pm at Fontbonne Academy, 930 Brook Road, Milton, MA as they welcome Fr. Tim Hepburn as the guest speaker. For more information, visit their website: www.liftedhigher.com.

MOMS AND TOTS: An informal gathering of mothers and their young children gathers on Monday mornings at St. Helen Parish Hall from 9:30-11:00am. Any mothers, or fathers, and their young children are cordially invited to drop by any Monday.. This might be an especially good way for new residents of Norwell, whatever the faith, to get to know their fellow townspeople.

HELPING HANDS is a group of parishioners who want to reach out to others in need. This group is willing to help anyone within St. Helen’s who has a sudden need for: meals, rides to appointments, errands, household chores, babysitting etc... It is important to know that in a crisis, there are people you can turn to in your church. We are here. Please call if you need assistance or if you know of anyone in need: Leann Kelly 659-7456, Marjorie Mahoney 659-4189 or the rectory at 659-2993.

EUCHARISTIC ADORATION: Every Wednesday, from 9:30am to 5:00pm, our church celebrates the adoration of Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament. This is a great opportunity for Catholics to come and worship Our Lord in the Eucharist quietly and privately. We are in need of parishioners to commit to an hour during this time, at your convenience, so that Our Lord is never alone. Do you have one hour to give to Jesus on Wednesday? Please call Myra Doran at 781-659-4882 for further information.

NEW PARISHIONERS!

Are you new to St. Helen Parish? If so, we hope that you find us a welcoming and inviting family of faith. If you would like to register with us, please fill out this form and return it to the Rectory (by collection basket or the mails). We’ll then be happy to send you a parish registration form.

Name _____

Address _____

Phone number _____

Q
A

Why do we confess to priests? Can't we just confess to God?

Let's just suppose for a moment that I, as an underpaid writer, decided that I needed some fast cash and so I rob a store! Whom would I owe an apology to? Certainly I would apologize to the store's owner, as well as my family, friends, parishioners, bishop, and the community in general. My bad act reflects on me and all who know me. People would say, "I heard your priest robbed a store..." Well, sin is much the same way. We are all affected by each other's sin since we are all members of the same body. Each of us is called to live out the baptismal call to make Christ more visible in the world. When we sin, we fail to hold up our part.

Confession is not only reconciliation with God, but also with the church. The priest represents the church community in the sacrament, so that as we are reconciled with God (who does not need a "middle man"), we are also reconciled with the church.

Two other thoughts: We know the time, place and moment we sin. With confession, we also know the moment we are forgiven. Finally, confessing to a priest helps us articulate our sins as well as get some direction and advice in growing in our faith. Finding a good confessor and going regularly makes all the difference.





IMPORTANT DATES:

February 20-26: NO classes due to February vacation.

February 27: NO Sunday AM classes. **GRADES 7 and 8 (Sunday evening)** will have class per schedule.

March 6: **GRADE 4** will host the 10am Family Mass. **SUNDAY EVENING GRADE 9** will have class per schedule.



March 9: **Ash Wednesday:** ALL Wednesday classes will attend the Ash Wednesday service from 4:15-4:45pm in the church during class time. Drop-off and pick-up are per their usual times at the hall.

March 13: **SUNDAY EVENING GRADE 7 and 8** have class per their schedule.

March 15: Early Release –NO GRADE 2 class. **GRADE ONE** will come to church with parent for class from 4-5pm. Units 3, 4, and 5 reviews are due. There will be sign-up sheets to sign up for May interviews at the back of church.

March 20: **GRADES 2 and 6** will host the 10am Family Mass.

PANDAMANIA: *Where God Is Wild About You!* **St. Helen Vacation Bible School 2011** will run from June 27-July 1, 2011 from 9am-12noon. We are accepting children from Pre-K (age 4) through Grade 4 and cost is \$35 per child or \$90 maximum per family. Meet our Bible Buddies!! Play games, listen to stories, sing songs and make crafts! Camp Counselors Wanted!! Grades 7-12. Call 781-659-7344 or email at reled@sthelenchurchnorwell.org to be a part of this exciting program. Registrations are being accepted now. With the interest of this program, we anticipate it filling quickly. Registration forms are at the back of the church.

CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES

High school students and adults needed

- Children's Liturgy during the 10am Mass, twice per month; contact Julie Ingargiola at jingarg@hotmail.com
- Father Bill's: either cooking or serving ; contact d.palzkill@comcast.net
- Eucharistic Minister or student lector; contact Religious Ed
- Seeking students who wish to be camp counselors and crew members for Vacation Bible Camp June 27-July 1 from 8:30am-12:30pm



HOSPITALITY COFFEE AND DONUTS:

We need family volunteers to set up and pick up donuts and coffee from Dunkin Donuts for the Family Masses once a month. Please call the Religious Ed Office at 781-659-7344. We pay the bill! Particular dates needed are June 5 and June 19.

PROJECT LINUS: Now that the 4th and 5th graders have completed their squares for their quilts – **we are looking for help to sew the patches together.** It requires just straight sewing. Please call the Religious Ed Office at 781-659-7344 if you can help.

CCD SNOW CANCELLATIONS

Now that the winter season is upon us, there may be occasions that CCD classes will be cancelled due to inclement weather. This is always a difficult decision to make...When in doubt, call the Religious Ed Office at 781-659-7344. We always put the cancellation announcement on the office answering machine. If Norwell schools are cancelled, St. Helen's CCD classes are also cancelled. If snow begins during the school day, we will call the respective schools to announce closure and then put the closure on the office answering machine. For Sunday classes, we notify WBZ TV and radio, although their announcements have not always been reliable. In addition, once again we put the cancellation announcement on the office answering machine. When in doubt, call the office at 781-659-7344 – not the rectory.

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