



Saturday, February 26

5:00pm Anne Brown and Georgina Smith Memorial

Sunday, February 27

11:30am John Whittaker 15th Anniversary

Wednesday, March 2

9:00am Michael Martindale Memorial

Thursday, March 3

9:00am Virgilio Petrilli 7th Anniversary

Friday, March 4

9:00am Mass for Priestly Vocations

Saturday, March 5

5:00pm Lawrence O'Brien 9th Anniversary

Sunday, March 6

8:00am Ryan O'Donnell 1st Anniversary

10:00am Ryan O'Donnell 1st Anniversary

11:30am William Reardon 30th 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 Tom Meehan, Sr. who was buried from St. Helen Church this past week.



"Look at the birds in the sky; they do not sow or reap, they gather nothing into barns, yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are not you more important than they?" - Mt 6:26

BROWN BAG SUNDAY: For many years now, the people of our parish have been extremely generous in supporting the Norwell Food Pantry by bringing non-perishable food to Mass over the weekend of the first Sunday of every month. We thank you for your wonderful display of "faith in action." The next Brown Bag Sunday is March 5/6 and bags will be available in the vestibule over the weekend of February 26/27.

FIRST FRIDAY: The monthly First Friday Mass for Priestly Vocations will be celebrated this Friday, March 4 at 9:00am. Please join us as we pray that more men will hear and respond to God's call to serve as ordained priests.

WEEKLY COLLECTIONS

Offertory: February 20, 2011	\$6,426.00
Weekly Electronic Transfer:	\$708.46
Total:	\$7,134.46

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

2011 CATHOLIC APPEAL: Next weekend, March 5-6, will be Catholic Appeal Weekend here at St. Helen. As a Catholic community, we are called as we approach the Lenten season to love and share our blessings with our brothers and sisters in Christ. We do so by continuing to participate as fully as we are able in the building up of His kingdom. This month, Cardinal Sean is asking every Catholic household to participate in the 2011 Catholic Appeal, which funds the many central ministries and services of the Archdiocese of Boston. The Appeal is to our Archdiocese what the weekly collection is to our parish – so your participation and support are critical. Because of the economic downturn, support of the Catholic Appeal is even more urgent this year. On Appeal Weekend, we will be showing a video message from Cardinal Sean and asking every Catholic household to make a pledge. Cardinal Sean thanks all the families from St. Helen Parish that contributed \$37,340 to the 2010 Catholic Appeal. This year, we hope to have 190 households participate. Our financial goal is \$45,500. If we exceed our financial goal, we will receive 25 percent of all funds raised above goal for use in our parish. Please know that your participation is important and that all gifts matter. We encourage you to take home an information packet from Mass this weekend so that you can prayerfully consider how you will participate. Those of you that gave to the Appeal last year should also receive a letter this week from Cardinal Sean. Please bring your completed pledge card and pledge envelopes to St. Helen's next week to place in the collection basket. Thank you.

ASH WEDNESDAY SCHEDULE: Ash Wednesday is March 9. Blessed Ashes will be imposed during Masses at 6:30am, 9:00am and 7:00pm and also during a Liturgy of the Word which will take place at 4:15pm in the church. The annual collection for the support of the Christian shrines in the Holy Land will be taken up at each Mass and service.

OLD PALMS: With the approach of Ash Wednesday, we invite you to bring your old blessed palms with you to Mass next weekend. There will be baskets in the vestibule into which you may place them. These palms will then be burned to create the ashes which will be blessed and imposed on Ash Wednesday.

From the Pastor's Desk



First things first: has anyone come across my invitation to the April wedding of Prince William and Kate Middleton? I'm sure I'm on this list and I don't want the mailman to deliver the invitation to the wrong address!..... This coming week will be the last full week before we start the season of Lent on March 9, Ash Wednesday. There will be several important moments by which we will be preparing ourselves for Lent, and a couple of programs which will take place during Lent which will help us use the days of Lent as wisely and well as possible. We'll be holding a Mardi Gras supper on the night before Ash Wednesday and then we'll have several Masses as well as a Liturgy of the Word during which ashes will be imposed on Ash Wednesday. During Lent, Celia Sirois will be offering two scripture based programs for adults of the parish and anyone else interested in learning more about the scriptures. Starting on Friday, March 11, and running through all the Friday's of Lent, Celia will offer weekly sessions entitled, Praying the Lenten Lectionary, when we will study the scripture readings for the following Sunday. These sessions will take place in the Parish hall from 10:00-11:30am. Starting on Monday, March 28, Celia will hold a Bible Study on the Gospel of St. John from 7:00-9:00pm. Celia has conducted many scripture sessions here and they have always been very well received. I hope that many of us will be able to take advantage of one or both of these new programs.... How about a pleasant thought to "brighten" our day? Day light savings time begins just two weeks from this Sunday. "Bring it on!"
Father Maguire

SNOW REMOVAL: While we haven't had any significant snowfall for a couple of weeks now, the plowing and shoveling bills for many of you are surely more than usual. The parish is in the same boat. Thus far this winter we have spent \$9,643 in plowing bills for our parish property. It's just another bill that we need to pay, and maybe it's a small reminder of where the money you donate every week goes. Any additional one time boost in weekly/monthly donations would come in very handy.

SOCK DROP was a **GREAT** success! As always you came through with flying colors! Some three hundred pairs of socks were donated and are on their way to "Friends of Boston's Homeless." We thank Peter Cronin for coordinating the drive. The donation of something as simple as a pair of white socks reminds us that we need not do great things to help others, just do the things that indeed do help others greatly.

THE LIGHT IS ON FOR YOU: On all the **Wednesdays of Lent from 6:30-8:00pm** (with the exception of Ash Wednesday), St. Helen and all the parishes and chapels of the Archdiocese of Boston will be open for individual confessions. Inviting Catholics to experience Christ's healing love through the Sacrament of Reconciliation is one of the major initiatives of Cardinal Sean and the Archdiocese this year. The Archdiocese has set up a website, www.TheLightIsOnForYou.org to help you prepare. It has videos on the Sacrament of Reconciliation, sheets on how to make a good confession, answers to frequently-asked questions and more. Please make plans to come on Lenten Wednesdays and spread the word of this special outreach of mercy to those you know.

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 and bacon 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.

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.

HEALING MASS - this Tuesday, March 1 at 7:30pm, in the lower church of St. Paul's Church, Hingham Square. Father James Rafferty will be the presider. Those who have serious illnesses or who are awaiting surgery may receive the Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick. Others may come forward after Mass for the Laying On of Hands for their own or others' needs.

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

Are there right and wrong ways to pray?

Think of all the ways that people communicate with one another: Post-its, cell phones, fax machines, letters, e-mail, voice mail, movies, videos and of course, the old reliable telephone. All are ways in which we enhance the most basic form of communication—talking. At times, some are more appropriate than others. A wedding invitation is usually not faxed, and love letters are normally not written on Post-its. But in a pinch, any method will do.

Prayer is much the same way. There is no right or wrong way to pray. We approach God in prayer, in different ways, at different times in our life. Sometimes our prayer is spontaneous and free flowing; other times, it is more formal and communal. Memorized prayers may bring us more comfort and new experiences of prayer may help us with a deeper insight into God. The situation, setting, and our emotions will determine what fits best.

If there is a general "right way" to pray, it would probably be that our prayer be genuine, heartfelt and done with love and confidence. Even in our darkest hours, the Lord is present with us. We may not feel as though we do things in the best possible form, but in life's hard pinch, any way will do. Just remember to bring the most important thing to prayer: yourself.

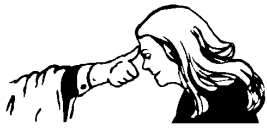




IMPORTANT DATES:

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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FAX NUMBER: **781-659-7861**

EDITOR/ CONTACT: **Dianne Cronin**

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Comments:
