

Mass Intentions

Edward & Alice Worthy	Memorial Mass	4:00 p.m. Saturday	(3/13)
Joan Grella	Memorial Mass	5:30 p.m. Saturday	(3/13)
Maria Gulino	10th Anniversary Mass	8:30 a.m. Sunday	(3/14)
Donald J. Shea	10th Anniversary Mass	10:00 a.m. Sunday	(3/14)
Ella Mae Williams	Anniversary Mass	9:00 a.m. Tuesday	(3/16)
George Woodbury	Memorial Mass	9:00 a.m. Wednesday	(3/17)
James T. Currie	Birthday Remembrance	9:00 a.m. Friday	(3/19)
Walter & Mildred Wormstead	Memorial Mass	4:00 p.m. Saturday	(3/20)
Laureen Hussey	1st Anniversary Mass	5:30 p.m. Saturday	(3/20)
Patsy DeThomas	4th Anniversary Mass	8:30 a.m. Sunday	(3/21)
Ralph Pittore	Memorial Mass	10:00 a.m. Sunday	(3/21)

RECONFIGURATION PROJECT

The first phase toward reconfiguration of the Archdiocese has ended. Archbishop Seán P. O'Malley, O.F.M., Cap. extends his gratitude for all the time, effort and emotion expended in this initial phase. As you know, Archbishop Seán directed that every cluster of parishes gather with representatives from each parish to assist him in determining the best use of our resources and personnel for the future mission of the Archdiocese of Boston. Representing Saint Margaret Parish at these meetings were Fr. George, Carol Nadeau, Jim Forgiione, Eileen Mahoney, Rosemary Reed and Gerri Milgroom. Each cluster was asked to recommend to the Archbishop which parish, and also which two or more parishes, could close **if he felt it was necessary**. This was an invitation and opportunity for the faithful of the Archdiocese to participate actively in a very difficult task. At this time, it is important to remember these are recommendations, not final decisions. No one found the process easy, but our cluster accepted the call of the Archbishop to help our Church. The committee members deserve our respect and appreciation for the work they did. Our cluster made the following recommendations:

- That the process was flawed and provided insufficient time to examine all the data.
- That due to the size and activity of all the cluster parishes, no parish should close at this time.
- Should the Archbishop find it necessary to close one parish in our cluster, it was recommended that St. Margaret Parish, Saugus, be closed because of the results of the committee's deliberations based upon all data provided. The actual vote of those present was Most Blessed Sacrament, Wakefield 2; St. Florence, Wakefield 11; Incarnation, Melrose 6; St. Margaret, Saugus 18; and "close no parishes" 7.
- Should the Archbishop find it necessary to close more than one parish in our cluster, it was recommended that St. Florence Parish be closed because of the results of the committee's deliberations based upon all the data provided. The actual vote of those present was Most Blessed Sacrament 8; St. Florence, 16; Incarnation, 14; and "close no parishes", 6.

The consultation process now continues. First, our recommendations are sent to the Vicar, who forwards our recommendations along with his own recommendation to the Regional Bishop. The Bishop forwards all the material and his recommendations to the Central Committee. After reviewing all the material of our cluster and others, the committee will offer a recommendation to Archbishop Seán. After hearing from the Presbyteral Council, the Archbishop will announce

his decisions. The whole process should take about two months. Please continue to pray that the Holy Spirit will guide and bless us through this process and beyond.

Both Father Morin and Father Mulloy have written to the Vicar, Father Vincent Mellone, and Bishop Irwin to urge that Saint Margaret Parish remain open. As this difficult process continues, may we all be prayerful and mutually supportive.

We will have an informal 'listening session' concerning this reconfiguration process on Thursday evening, March 18 at 7:00 p.m. in the Parish Hall.

Stations of the Cross: Join us for this meaningful Lenten devotion on then Fridays of Lent (March 19, 26, April 2 & 9) at 7:00 p.m. Following Stations, we will have Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament until 9:00 p.m. This time will be marked by silence and for personal prayer. Come, be still, and pray in His presence.

Ecumenical Services: There is a wonderful Ecumenical Spirit in our Community. You are welcome to participate in these services on Sunday evenings at 7:00 p.m.
 March 14—Unitarian Church, Main at Summer Street
 March 21—Saint Margaret Church, 431 Lincoln Ave
 March 28—East Saugus United Methodist Church, 85 Chestnut Street

Lenten Mission: Please join us for this year's annual Mission, which will be Monday through Thursday, March 22 – 25. The focus will be the Gospel of St. Luke. There are two reasons why we have chosen this focus: to help us gain insight as we read from the Gospel of Luke throughout this liturgical year; and Luke is often referred to as a physician - we as church need his medicine. The evening sessions will be at Blessed Sacrament Church at 7:00 p.m. Morning Mass during the Mission time will be at Saint Margaret's at 9:00 a.m. All are invited to participate in this important annual event in the life of our parishes.

The Sacrament of Baptism: is usually celebrated on the third Sunday of each month at 12 Noon. The Preparation Meeting prior to the Baptism of a child is every other month. Future Baptism Preparation meetings for parents & godparents are: April 1, June 3, and August 5, October 7, December 2, 2004. These are held in the Parish Hall and begin at 7:00 p.m. Please call the Rectory to register.

Parent Meeting: for those who have a child preparing for First Holy Communion. Meeting will be this evening, Sunday, March 14 at 7:00 p.m. in the Parish Hall.

Next Monthly Breakfast: Sunday, March 21 from 8:30 to 12 Noon. Donation: Adults (\$5.95) and children (\$3.00). We are very encouraged by the large number of people who came to last Sunday's breakfast! Thanks for your support.

The Silver Ring Thing: is coming to our area on Saturday & Sunday, March 27 & 28 at Merrimack College, North Andover, MA. This is a high-tech program using music, skits, and comedy performances about sexual abstinence to answer the old question, "Why Should I Wait?" Clearly the best mix of high-tech sound, lighting, special effects about guys, girls, dating, love, second chances, choices. For Middle School through College. On both evenings from 7:00 to 10:00 p.m. there will be a special seminar for parents by Doctor Meg Meeker, author of the book "Epidemic: How Teen Sex Is Killing our Kids." Pre-registration required (\$15.00 for the Silver Ring plus follow-up materials).

Annual Penny Sale: Always a lot of fun and a good fund raising event for the Parish, we will have the Penny Sale on Saturday evening, March 20 at 7:00 p.m. in the Parish Hall. Your help is needed to make the Penny Sale a success. Please donate new items with a value of \$5.00 or more. You may leave them in the front entry way of the Rectory at any time or when you come to Church on the weekend.

Saint Margaret's Annual Tea: will be held on Sunday, May 2 at 1:00 p.m. Anyone interested in hosting a table, helping with the event or would like more information, please call Simone Sarnie (781-233-4088) or Gloria Johnson (781-231-5187).

The Living Rosary: March 16, 6:30 p.m. Our Lady of Fatima Church, 50 Walsh Ave. Peabody. All Welcome.

United Parish Food Pantry: Our thanks for your continuous support of the local food pantry. The second weekend each month we invite you to bring non-perishable food to Church. The food is then brought to our local food pantry (located at the Cliftondale Congregational Church) where it is distributed on Friday mornings from 9:00 a.m. to 12 Noon. Please know that your gift of food is always needed and very much appreciated. *Thank you.*

A Good Steward: The parable in today's Gospel clearly warns that we, like the fig tree, will be judged by our fruit. Since God mercifully provides us with the Time, Talent and Treasure, let us give witness to our faith with deeds of kindness and generosity.

Second Collections:

Parish Monthly Collection March 13 - 14
Bishop's Overseas Appeal March 20—21

Offertory Collection: The Offertory Collection last weekend was \$3,270.00 Thank you for your generosity to the Parish.

Religious Education

Grades 1 to 6: Classes are held on Sunday mornings from 8:30 to 9:45 a.m. at the Belmonte Middle School.

Grades 7 & 8: The next meeting is Friday, April 2 from 6:45 to 9:15 p.m. in the Parish Hall.

Grade 9, Year I Confirmation will continue on Wednesday, March 17, 2004 at 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. in the Parish Hall.

The Sacrament of Penance: During the Lenten season each grade level will participate in a Penance Service at which the students will have an opportunity for personal confession. Grades 5 & 6 on March 13; Grades 7 & 8 on March 20. Parents are invited to participate in each of these services.

Teen Youth/24-Hour Fast: St. Margaret Parish will hold its fourth annual inspirational 24-Hour Fast this year from 6:00 p.m. on Thursday, April 8, through approximately 9:00 p.m. on Friday, April 9. Prior to the Fast, the teens will be raising funds to be donated to needy organizations in the town of Saugus. The 24-Hour Fast is open to and welcomes any teen of high school age. Please see the bulletin board at the back of the Church for further information or call Bev Gorman at 781-233-8306 to receive the necessary package of information. Consent forms must be signed by parents or guardians and returned as soon as possible so that we can prepare and plan for the number of teens who will participate in the Fast.

Annemark Nursing Home Collection: In conjunction with the 24-Hour Fast, the teens will be making Easter cards for the patients at Annemark Nursing Home and collecting the following items which are needed by Annemark for the patients' activities program: baby dolls, baby doll clothes and carriers, teddy bears, bingo prizes, hand lotions, nail polish and remover, nail files, cotton balls, games, large dice, large puzzles, arts and crafts materials (such as fun foam), party materials, VCR movies (PG ratings), wrapping paper, stencils, rulers, measuring tapes, construction paper and scissors (round tips). If you are interested in making a donation, you can bring any of the above items to any of the Masses on March 27 and 28 or April 3 and 4. If you have any questions, please call Bev Gorman at 781-233-8306.

Matthew Kelly will be at Immaculate Conception, 10 Fellsway East, Malden, on March 14, 15 & 16. Matthew is a 30 yr. old Australian young man who has a powerful story. You are invited to go and hear his witness to the faith.

Parish Offertory Envelopes: We encourage the use of Parish Envelopes for your weekly donation to help support our Parish. If you wish to receive envelopes, please give us the following information:

Name:

Address:

