

Mass Intentions

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)
Mary O'Brien & James Richards	Memorial Mass	9:00 a.m. Monday	(3/22)
Mary O'Brien	1st Anniversary Mass	9:00 a.m. Thursday	(3/25)
George Woodbury	Memorial Mass	9:00 a.m. Friday	(3/26)
Ernest Woodman	1st Anniversary Mass	4:00 p.m. Saturday	(3/27)
Ella Mae Williams	8th Anniversary Mass	5:30 p.m. Saturday	(3/27)
Nancy J. Frontiera	Birthday Remembrance	10:00 a.m. Sunday	(3/28)

RECONFIGURATION PROJECT

As you know, Archbishop Seán has directed that every parish participate in the reconfiguration process of the Archdiocese 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 Forgione, 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 continues. Our recommendations have now been sent to the Regional Bishop. The Bishop will then forward 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. Fathers Morin and Mulloy have written to Bishop Irwin to urge that Saint Margaret Parish remain open. As this difficult process continues, may we all be prayerful and mutually supportive.

**Lenten Mission—This Week:** 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 reason 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 7:30 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.

**Stations of the Cross:** Join us for this meaningful Lenten devotion on then Fridays of Lent (March 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 21—Saint Margaret Church, 431 Lincoln Ave**  
We are hosting the service this evening. Let's have a good turnout of our own parishioners to welcome members from the other churches in our community. Pastor Bob Leroe of the Cliftondale Congregational Church will give the sermon and the combined choirs will lead the singing. All welcome. March 28—East Saugus United Methodist Church, 85 Chestnut Street

**Next Monthly Breakfast:** This 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 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.

***Lent: Spring training for Christians!***

**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).

**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).

**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.*

**Protecting God's Children:** We will be providing two more opportunities for those who volunteer in any and all capacities in the Parish to participate in the child sexual abuse prevention program, "Protecting God's Children." In order to be a parish volunteer participation in this program is mandatory. The program is being offered on Tuesday March 30 from 7:00 to 9:30 p.m. and Saturday, April 3 from 10:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. in the Parish Hall.

**The Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick:** In the Letter of St. James we find the question, "Is there anyone sick among you?" The response is that the sick are to call the priests of the Church who are to pray over them and anoint them with oil in the name of the Lord. This Sacrament is not to be looked upon as the "Last Rites" but as a powerful instrument of God's healing and strength. Therefore prior to surgery or when diagnosed with or living with a serious illness avail yourself of this gift. On the First Friday of each month, (April 2) this Sacrament is offered following the 9:00 a.m. Mass or call the Rectory for a more convenient time.

**Knights of Columbus Annual Pancake/Sausage Breakfast:** All are invited to this annual event on Sunday, March 28 from 8:30 a.m. to 12 Noon at the K of C Hall. Donations are \$10.00 per family; \$3.00 per person.

**Second Collections:**

Bishop's Overseas Appeal                      March 20 & 21  
Parish Monthly (Palm Sunday)                  April 3 & 4

**Offertory Collection:** The Offertory Collection last weekend was \$2,967.00 and the Parish Monthly Collection was \$2,096.00. 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.

**First Communion** will be celebrated on Sundays at the 10:00 a.m. Mass on April 18 & 25, May 2 & 9



**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.

**Ministry to the Homebound:** Do you know someone who is not able to come to Mass but would appreciate receiving Holy Communion on a regular basis? If so, would you let us know by calling the Rectory (781-233-1040). One of our Ministers of Holy Communion will be glad to visit them. Thank you.

**Is God Calling?** Like the Father in the Gospel, God welcomes us home in spite of our sinfulness and calls us to a life of holiness. Where are you at home? Are you being called to a life as an ordained or a consecrated person? If God is calling you, call the Vocation Office at 617-746-5436.

**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:**