Mass Intentions FOR THE WEEK

Saturday, December 15	**4:00pm Russel Ford, Sr, Russel Ford, Jr Michael Ford**, req. by the Ford Family
Sunday, December 16	**9:00am Elizabeth LaMountain** req. by Bill & Barbara O'Brien
	11:00am Thomas Skeebos requested by SVDP
Monday, December 17	**8:30am Phyllis Mangan** req. by Tanya Connor & Fred Kirkpatrick
Tuesday, December 18	**8:30am All Souls Intentions of Theresa Braney**
Wednesday, December 19	**8:30am John Cosgrove** req. by the Moynahan Family
Thursday, December 20	**8:30am Jane Randell** req. by the Scripture Study Group
Saturday, December 22	**4:00pm Theresa Modzelewski** Birthday remembrance by her daughter Theresa.
Sunday, December 23	**9:00am Walter McCarthy** requested by the family
	11:00am For the Health & wellbeing of Louis & Lorraine Renaud, requested by Dee Archambault & Richard Renaud

Weekly Collection December 8 & 9

Adults	$ 3,550.00
Children	$ .57
Maintenance	$ 357.00
Other sources of Income	$ 339.00
Bottles & Cans	$ 15.00
Christmas Flowers	$ 190.00
Total of parish support	**$ 4,451.57**
Weekly support needed to meet budget expenses	**$ 4,250.00**
Retirement Fund for Religious	**$ 504.00**
SVDP	$ 60.00
Poor Box	$ 60.00

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

Dear Friends in Christ,

In Sunday's Gospel, crowds come out to meet St. John the Baptist, responding to his call to repentance and baptism. They ask "What should we do?" John responds to their questions by inviting them to integrity and justice.

Although we often think of Advent exclusively as a time of preparing for the coming of Christ, it is also a time of hearing the prophetic voices of St. John the Baptist and Isaiah in the Advent Scripture readings. These prophets remind us that God expects us to act in charity and justice towards our neighbor. St. John instructed the crowds in today's Gospel to provide clothing for the needy, to not defraud others, to act in honesty and without deception. On the whole, St. John called God's people to act with integrity.

Integrity is defined as having "firm adherence to a code of moral values" while being in a "quality or state of being complete and undivided" (Merriam-Webster's Collegiate Dictionary, Tenth Edition). Jesus calls us to show our love for Him by keeping His commandments and following Him with our whole hearts.

As we celebrate the Third Sunday of Advent, Gaudete Sunday, let us reflect upon how the Lord is calling us to greater integrity and conversion. The rose color of Gaudete Sunday reflects the joy of the nearness of Christ's birth. Let us rejoice in the gifts of Jesus and Mary to us and to our parish. May we receive the grace of becoming more aware of the needs of our brothers and sisters and of becoming more responsive to those needs.

In Christ,
Fr. Michael

December Coffee Shop
2 & 16

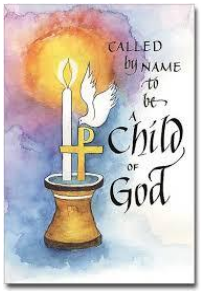
Please join us after the 9:00am Mass for fellowship in the hall.

Meetings

NA Sundays 7:30 pm in the hall
K of C 1st Tuesday of the month 6:45pm in the hall
Totus Tuus Retreat Tuesday at 6:00pm
SVDP Sunday Dec. 16 following the 9:00am Mass
Rosary Group Tuesday at 6:00pm in the church
Bible Study Wednesday at 7:00pm in the Church Hall
Please have read Luke 1: 39-45

St. Vincent De Paul
Serving those in Need

If you are a parishioner and are in need of assistance, please call #508- 987-8892 and leave a message on the SVDP private line and someone from the SVDP will return your call. Maybe you have lost your job and are behind on your utilities or can't afford to have oil delivered. We can help. We also can point you in the direction of other resources that are available.



We welcome

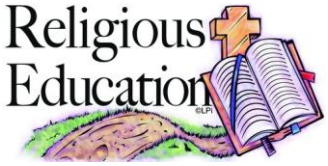
Angelica Marie Perdono

who was baptized last weekend.
May God bless her and her family.

Reflection on Last week's Gospel
submitted by Deacon Jim

The encounter with God does not happen apart from our daily lives. Health, happiness, health, and integrity are not achieved by turning away from who we are: they are found in the fertile soil where God's Word takes root. It is in our concrete history, in the tapestry of our joyful and say events, in the fragmented projects of everyday life, where God is revealed. The call to conversion is not heard first in society, not even in the chapel, but in an individual's own life, in the freedom and calm that every person caries within. Our nearest inhospitable desert is our self! There the Baptist's message is received, there we prepare the way, iron out our roughness, fill in the potholes and level off the bumpy places of our character; there smooth out the exaggerations and presumptions, so our eyes can see the Salvation of our God.
From Lector's Workbook

Please donate your bottles & cans after your holiday parties to St. Ann's Parish. We are also looking for volunteers to bring the bottles and cans for redemption. A signup sheet is on the bulletin board.



St. Ann's Religious Education 2018-2019
Grades 1-4 3:30 - 4:45pm
Grades 5-9 6:00 - 7:15pm
Confirmation Classes Wednesday at 6:00pm
Sandalwood Nursing Home - Christmas Giving Program
Monday, December 17, 2018 3:30 -4:30pm

Advent Penance Service Tuesday, December 18th at 6:30pm in St. Roch's Church

Christmas Pageant December 23 after the 9:00am Mass

Christmas Eve Mass
4:00pm & 10:00pm
Sing Christmas Carols with the choir at 3:30pm

Christmas Morning Mass 10:00am

Open House at the rectory
Sunday, December 30th after the 9 & 11am Mass

Find us on Facebook Like
https://www.facebook.com/SaintAnnParishOxfordMA