



**BE PREPARED, HE WILL COME**

Most of us have had the experience on more than one occasion of missing an opportunity because we were not aware of it in time. We find ourselves in trouble because we were not prepared for the unexpected. In Matthew 24: 37-44, Jesus points out a deeply significant event that always happens when we least expect it: the coming of God into our lives. Although Jesus speaks of His final coming, there is more to this expectation than some far off date. We must be expecting, looking for God down every road we walk, every day. If we practice this awareness of His presence in our lives from day to day, taking time for prayer, reflection, confession and repentance of our sins, reading, serving, we will find again and again the joy of Him coming to meet us "unexpectedly" expected. And we will be ready to welcome the King whenever He arrives on that great final day.



**ADVENT PENANCE SERVICE**

During the Season of Advent, many people are moved to receive the Sacrament of Penance in anticipation of the Savior's coming. The parishes of St. Marguerite d'Youville and St. Francis will hold a joint Advent Penance Service at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, December 17, 2007 at St. Francis Church. Everyone is invited.

**ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT**

Adoration will take place on Friday, December 7, 2007 from 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. We hope that you will sign up for a specific time as we must have someone present at all times and we also hope that many people will drop by for a visit and a moment of prayer before the Lord. We are asking that this Adoration moment center on both a prayer for Vocations and also your own personal needs. Let us pray for one another.

**GIVING TREE**



If you picked up a tag from our Giving Tree last weekend, you are asked to buy the gift listed on the tag(s), wrap it and attach the tag to the gift, place the gift under the tree as soon as possible but no later than next Sunday, December 9, 2007. If you chose a Gift Certificate to help a needy family, place the certificate in an envelope and attach the tag to the envelope. This will provide gifts and/or food to those of our parish and school who would otherwise not receive any. Please help to make this a Merry Christmas for these families. (There may be a few tags left on the tree this weekend).



**FEAST OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION**

Saturday, December 8, 2007 is the Feast of the Immaculate Conception, a Holy Day of Obligation.

Masses will be celebrated at 7:00 p.m. Friday and 7:30 a.m. on Saturday, at Ste. Marguerite's and 7:00 p.m. Friday and 9:00 a.m. Saturday at St. Francis. Please be reminded that attending the 4:00 p.m. or 7:00 p.m. Mass on Saturday will not fulfill your Holy Day obligation. These Masses are for the Second Sunday of Advent.

**CHRISTMAS FLOWERS**

The envelope for Christmas flowers which is in your packet should be placed in the offertory collection as soon as possible so that the memorial names are received in time to be placed in the Christmas bulletin. There is no second collection for this envelope. If you do not receive weekly envelopes, Christmas flower envelopes are available at the rear of the church.



**AMOUNT NEEDED WEEKLY \$8,357.00**

**Income received from 11/12 to 11/18, 2007**

Offertory Collection	\$6,027.00
Other Income	\$ 369.00

**TOTAL PARISH INCOME \$6,396.00**

**WEEKLY GAIN or (DEFICIT) (\$1,961.00)**

Campaign for Human Development \$1,800.00

**Grand Annual (to date) \$41,166.00**

**Income received from 11/19 to 11/25, 2007**

Offertory Collection	\$5,408.00
Other Income	\$ 84.00

**TOTAL PARISH INCOME \$5,492.00**

**WEEKLY GAIN or (DEFICIT) (\$2,865.00)**

**Grand Annual (to date) \$42,846.00**

Christmas Flower Donations \$1,374.00

**GRAND ANNUAL DRIVE**

As we approach the end of the tax year, this would be an opportune time for you to make a tax deductible donation to the Grand Annual Drive. Not only would this reduce your tax liability, it would greatly address the financial needs of the parish. If you have already given, you may want to add to your donation. If you have not yet given, please consider making a donation at this time.

## FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT



This weekend, the First Sunday of Advent, we begin a new Liturgical Year: the Year of Matthew's Gospel. It is also the beginning of the Bicentennial Year for the Archdiocese of Boston. Over the past 200 years, the Church of Boston has contributed so much to the faith and faithful of the area, the country and truly, the world. We are not without "down" moments, but overall, we have a lot of which to be proud – the people, parishes and leadership over those years. You are invited to the three days of Advent Prayer on December 3, 4, 5 at 7:00 p.m. There will be prayer and reflection on Monday and Tuesday and a Liturgy on Wednesday. The prayer begins at 7:00 p.m. it will not be long, but it will be an excellent opportunity for us to begin the celebration year in prayer – together. Please come.

### **ADVENT DAYS OF PRAYER**

**December 3, 4, 5, 2007 – 7:00 p.m.**

**Monday, December 3, 2007**

The Church of Boston – Witness to the Word  
Prayer Service with Exposition of the  
Blessed Sacrament

**Tuesday, December 4, 2007**

The Church of Boston – Sign of the Kingdom  
Prayer Service

**Wednesday, December 5, 2007**

The Church of Boston – Presence of the  
Body of Christ  
Celebration of the Eucharist (Mass)

### **BICENTENNIAL PRAYER**

All loving and gracious God, we thank you for the Gift of your Son, Jesus Christ.

For two hundred years We have journeyed together as members of his Church In the Archdiocese of Boston.

We have tried to live the Gospel message in service to one another. Continue to walk with us as we seek to be receptive to your grace in Word and Sacrament.

Send us your Spirit to enlighten our minds, strengthen our wills and open our hearts. By our witness may others know you through the intercession of Mary Immaculate, may the Church in Boston Journey together in Christ with courage, joy and peace. Amen.

### **FIRST PENANCE**

We congratulate and offer our prayers to the students of our second grade Religious Education Program who will receive the Sacrament of Penance for the first time on Saturday, December 8<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 a.m.



### **TRIM-A-TREE PARTY**

Fr. Bob, Fr. Chris and Fr. Lyons are holding an Open House and Trim-a-Tree Party at their residence, 115 Wheeler Road in Dracut, from 2:00 to 5:00 p.m. on Sunday, December 16, 2007. They hope that you will allow them to share the hospitality that they receive from you and drop by for a bit. Bringing an ornament to decorate the tree is optional. We are much more hoping to share a few moments with you.

### **THANK YOU**

Our appreciation to Mr. Ed. Waterworth, his committee and volunteers for a great job at the Turkey Raffle. Thanks to all who donated items and all who attended for your support of this annual fundraiser.



The members of the St. Vincent de Paul Society would like to offer their sincere appreciation to our parishioners, the Knights of Columbus Arthur U. Joyal Council #4225, the Dracut Rotary, the Dracut House of Pizza and St. Francis Parish for providing the Thanksgiving Food Baskets that were distributed to sixty one families in need. You are all in our prayers.

The St. Vincent de Paul Society Members, Ste. Marguerite d'Youville Conference, will meet at 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, December 6, 2007 in room 101 of the Parish Center. Please help those in our parish who are in need by making your donations to the St. Vincent de Paul Society by using the Poor Boxes at the church entrances.



St. Joseph the Worker Shrine presents "Ring the Bells of Christmas", a concert by Lowell's own Spindle City Singers, directed by Mr. Normand L. Ayotte, on Sunday, December 16, 2007 at 3:00 p.m. There is no charge for admission but a free will offering would be appreciated to help defray the costs associated with the concert. All are invited.



### **600 CLUB DRAWING NEXT SUNDAY**

Ste. Marguerite d'Youville 600 Club Drawing for December will take place next Sunday, December 9, 2007 at 9:00 a.m. Please join us in the Parish Hall for a Pancake Breakfast from 8:00 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. Door prize for this drawing is \$50.00. You must be present to win door prize.

## *DECEMBER 2, 2007*

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### **MASS INTENTIONS**

#### **This Weekend – December 1 & 2**

##### **Saturday**

4:00 p.m. Edward Fauvel  
7:00 p.m. Doris Thuillier

##### **Sunday**

7:30 a.m. M/M Alphonse L. Thibeault  
9:00 a.m. Jeannette Cormier (3<sup>rd</sup> Ann.)  
11:00 a.m. John J. Cashman

##### **Weekday Masses**

Monday 7:30 a.m. James Murphy (1<sup>st</sup> Ann.)  
7:00 p.m. Evening of Prayer  
Tuesday 7:30 a.m. Raymond Loiselle  
7:00 p.m. Evening of Prayer  
Wednesday 7:30 a.m. Lorraine Chandonnet  
7:00 p.m. Evening of Prayer  
Thursday 7:30 a.m. Jeannette Farrell  
Friday 7:30 a.m. Charles Gardner (8<sup>th</sup> Ann.)  
7:00 p.m. Holy Day Mass  
Saturday 7:30 a.m. Holy Day Mass

#### **Next Weekend – December 8 & 9**

##### **Saturday**

4:00 p.m. Victor & Daisy Tremblay  
7:00 p.m. Deceased Members of the Tanguay Family

##### **Sunday**

7:30 a.m. Catherine Gamache  
9:00 a.m. Dorothy Barker (3<sup>rd</sup> Ann.)  
11:00 a.m. Thomas Waterworth, Sr. (32<sup>nd</sup> Ann.)

### **PPC, FINANCE & STAFF MEETING**

A joint meeting of the Parish Pastoral Council, the Parish Finance Committee and Parish Staff will take place at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, December 10, 2007 in the Parish Center Hall.

### **YOUR PARISH COUNCIL AND FINANCE COMMITTEE**

In an attempt to facilitate communication in our parish, the members of these two committees are at your service and are willing to receive your concerns. Please do not assume that they can answer your question, but they are willing to listen and bring it to the next meeting.

#### **Parish Pastoral Council**

Deacon Gerard Hardy	<a href="mailto:deac96@comcast.net">deac96@comcast.net</a>
Deacon Everett Penney	<a href="mailto:e.penney@comcast.net">e.penney@comcast.net</a>
Paul Bergeron	978-453-2020
Christine Carignan	978-453-3385
Daniel Dery	978-454-7223
Joshua Dery	<a href="mailto:firestata16@hotmail.com">firestata16@hotmail.com</a>
Roma Fauvel	978-957-6486
John McGann	978-957-1429
Rita Moore	978-459-8464
Joanne M. Murphy	978-957-4558
Judie Plourde	978-957-6924

#### **Finance Committee**

Kathleen Patenaude	978-957-0538 (Chair)
Robert Audet	978-957-3112
Roland N. Toupin	978-957-1733
Lauren Dery	978-454-7223
Tom Waterworth	978-957-0664