



Nothing new to say

A prophet with nothing new to say - how can that be? Think for a moment about John the Baptist. John's ministry called the children of Israel to repentance, a message they had heard for centuries. John spoke of the Messiah, the great gift from God who had been promised for so many years. John called people away from wickedness and back to living a righteous life. And not one of these messages was new.

What John did was remind people of things they already knew. Even when he rebuked people for the sins in their lives, John spoke secrets their hearts already knew. Each seeker could have named the sin in their own lives if they only had enough courage to face their failings and their God.

You see a message doesn't have to be new to be powerful. John's ministry was effective because He called people back to God from the banks of the Jordan and the river bank of your life today. What will you answer? I too should be a voice

"I have always wondered what it would be like to answer a call as sacrificially as John the Baptist did. Ten lifetimes of pulpit preaching or parish service couldn't add up to one year of John's ministry. He is the mark I hold myself up to when I think I have given enough. His is the voice I hear when I pride myself on my Christian service. John is the example of what I should be, a voice calling perpetually, sacrificially: "Look here is the Savior, come to Him!"
R.T. Hopkins



We beseech thee to listen to our prayers, O Lord, and by the grace of thy coming enlighten our darkened minds: Thou who livest and reignest with God the Father in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God forever and ever. Amen.



**'O HOLY NIGHT'
A Nativity Walk**

Our Youth Ministry will be hosting "O Holy Night" - A Nativity Walk at the Ste. Marguerite d'Youville Parish Center on December 16th, 17th, and 18th. The Center will be open all three days from 10am to 12pm, 2pm to 4pm, and 7pm to 9pm. Please take a moment to stroll through and view the many different Nativity Scenes. Free Will Donations accepted Refreshments, gifts & crafts are available for purchase.



600 CLUB DRAWING THIS SUNDAY

Ste. Marguerite d'Youville Parish Club **600 Club Drawing** for December will take place this Sunday, December 14, 2008 at 9:00 a.m. Please join us in Ste. Marguerite Church 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 the door prize



SACRAMENT OF THE SICK

This Sacrament will be offered every Sunday after the 11:00 a.m. Liturgy. We ask that you come to the front pew and wait for the priest to finish greeting the people and return to the sacristy for the Sacred Oils.



GIVING TREE

Thanks to all who have purchased presents for our Giving Tree. The gifts should be brought to the Church and placed under the tree this weekend. Your generosity will provide gifts to the children of our parish and school who would otherwise not receive any.



A PARISHIONER IN NEED

A fund has been started for Joey Kilmartin, one of our young parishioners. Joey is a Junior High School student who has tragically lost both of his parents. Anyone wishing to donate to the fund may do so at any Jeanne d'Arc Credit Union branch. Please make donations to:

**The Joey Kilmartin Charitable Fund
God bless you for your generosity!**



At this time of the year many people are struggling with heating bills, finding enough money to feed their families or to pay medical bills. Help those of our parish who are in need by making a generous donation to the St. Vincent de Paul Society using the Poor Boxes located at the church entrances. SVDP bins for your clothing donations are located in the parking lot behind the Parish Center.

*The St. Vincent de Paul food pantry will be open on **Saturday December 20th** from 9:30 to 11:30am in the Parish Center.*



**St. Louis
Charismatic Prayer Group**

There will be no St. Louis Charismatic Prayer Group meeting on Tuesday December 23rd or Tuesday December 30th.

**Prepare the way for the Lord
Luke 3:4**

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

FROM FR. BOB

In the midst of all the preparations you make for Christmas, all the priests at the rectory hope you will drop by on Sunday, December 21st, from 2-4pm to allow us to show you the hospitality you continually show us. This is a wonderful time of the year for so many. I just hope that there are a few minutes out of your craziness to sit with a cup of tea or coffee and just appreciate the special moment of Christmas – brought to you by the Incarnation of our Savior, Jesus Christ. Come, Lord Jesus, Come – into our hearts and souls and bless us all.

Speaking of bringing Christ to Christmas, thanks to everyone who has helped with the Giving Tree and the other special service moments this month. Without your sacrifice and support, we couldn't minister in such a wonderful way to these families and children.

Over the coming two weeks we will be wishing Fr. Fillion well as he leaves his ministry here in Dracut, but continues it in the Manchester area. Sad for us, but a good decision for him. I hope people will take the time to drop by one of the two receptions or leave a card at the office, mail it in to us, or even drop it in the offertory collection or the sacristy.

I would like to make a suggestion to you all. Serving the parish is our goal and we need your support and help. A GREAT WAY of helping build the parish is to invite your friends and neighbors to Christmas Mass this year. You then become an ambassador for the parish. Reach out and invite them to prayer with you – share your faith – it is a great GIFT – with “zero” cost, but an abundance of grace. Fr. Chris and I will be celebrating at the opposite parishes we did last year. Fr. Chris will be at St. Francis and I will be at Ste. Marguerite for the major feasts this year. So, I hope to see you next week at the Rectory and celebrating with us at Christmas Mass. God bless.

Peace,
Fr. Bob.

*Please
join us*

TRIM-A-TREE PARTY

Fr. Bob, Fr. Chris and Fr. Lyons are hosting an Open House and Trim-a-Tree Party at their residence, 115 Wheeler Road in Dracut, on Sunday, December 21, 2008 from 2:00 to 5:00 pm. Please drop

by and allow them to share their hospitality with you. Please bring your presence only; with optional Trim-A-Tree ornament.

CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

Christmas Eve

4:00 p.m. Ste. Marguerite's
4:00 p.m. St. Louis School Center

Christmas Day

8:00 a.m. Ste. Marguerite's
10:00 a.m. Ste. Marguerite's

Thank You

Thank you to Parish Club President, Lucien Dalpe, and to all who made the Children's Christmas Party a great success!

Thank you to Santa and Mrs. Claus for taking time from their busy schedule to visit with our children. The children had a wonderful time. *"The smiles, food, drinks, pictures and toys were fabulous!"*

ADVENT PRAYER TO JESUS

*You are our eternal salvation,
The unfailing light of the world.
Light everlasting,
You are truly our redemption.
Grieving that the human race was perishing
through the tempter's power,
without leaving the heights
You came to the depths in your loving kindness.
Readily taking our humanity
by Your gracious will,
You saved all earthly creatures, long since lost,
Restoring joy to the world.
Redeem our souls and bodies, O Christ,
and so possess us as Your shining dwellings.
By Your first coming, make us righteous;
At your second coming, set us free:
So that, when the world is filled with light
and you judge all things,
We may be clad in spotless robes
and follow in Your steps, O King,
Into the heavenly hall.
Unknown Author, 10th century*

FINANCIALS

Due to the early deadline for this bulletin, the financial report for last week will appear in the next bulletin. The second collection this weekend is for Retired Religious. The next weekend will be the Parish Monthly Support.

ELECTRONIC GIVING

By: NetCharge
(Online giving made fast and easy)

We are pleased to announce a new online giving option for our parish. This option became available on December 1, 2008. Many have been inquiring about this type of giving choice to help them better manage their personal finances. For those who wish we will be continuing with our traditional way of giving with offertory envelopes. Please read the brochure it gives all the details on how to utilize our electronic giving. If you have any questions or concerns about the electronic giving please don't hesitate to call Joanne Monday through Friday from 9am to 3pm.

DECEMBER 14, 2008



GIFT OF BREAD AND WINE

We invite parishioners to donate the bread and wine for consecration at all Masses for a given week. The person remembered will be listed in the bulletin on the weekend and will be remembered at all Masses for that week.

Suggested offering for this gift is \$50.00. Please call the Parish Office at 978-957-0322 to schedule this special memorial.

Mass Intentions

Saturday, December 13th

4:00 p.m. Laura and Fernando Morrissette

Sunday, December 14th

7:30 a.m. Mr. Marcel Painchaud (15th Ann.)

9:00 a.m. Arthur J. Gagnon (1st Ann.)

11:00 a.m. Lillian Provencher (4th Ann.)

Weekday Masses

December 15th through December 20th

Monday 7:30 a.m. Ronald Nickerson
Tuesday 7:30 a.m. Genevieve Larochelle
Wednesday 7:30 a.m. Elzear Larochelle
Thursday 7:30 a.m. St. Jude & St. Anthony
for favors received.
Friday 7:30 a.m. Kerry Ann McGann (24th Ann.)
Saturday 7:30 a.m. Mr. & Mrs. Leo Cloutier and
Mr. & Mrs. Alphonse Thibeault

Saturday, December 20th

4:00 p.m. Leo Morrissette (4th Ann.)

Sunday, December 21st

7:30 a.m. Dorothy Barker (4th Ann.)

9:00 a.m. Donald, Danny and Diane Buote

11:00 a.m. Mr. & Mrs. Andrew Tardiff and
Raymond Tardiff

Weekday Masses,

December 22nd through December 27th

Monday 7:30 a.m. Michael Shabouian (2nd Ann.)

Tuesday 7:30 a.m. Pauline Lemoine

Wednesday **Christmas Eve**

4:00 p.m. Ste. Marguerite's

4:00 p.m. St. Louis School Center

Thursday **Christmas Day**

8:00 a.m. Ste. Marguerite's

10:00 a.m. Ste. Marguerite's

Friday 7:30 a.m. Norman Ruest

Saturday 7:30 a.m. Parish Intention

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.

