



**WOULD WE KNOW THE ANSWER IF WE HEARD IT?**

Sometimes we're just a little too sure of ourselves. This world of "education for everyone" with its freedom of information has made us just a little too reliant on our own judgment. We trust the facts and figures at our fingertips to answer all of life's questions except the big one: faith. For faith we have to trust someone else's facts, someone else's word: God's. God gave the Israelites scripture and prophets to guide them. And Jesus used those same prophecies to reveal His divine nature, His purpose as Messiah. The people who heard Jesus preach couldn't rely on their own testable facts or proven convictions, they had to let the Word of God enter their ears and hearts. That's how they knew His Truth.

Ask yourself, if God spoke to you today, would you rely on yourself, or would you know His answer when you heard it?



**ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT**

Monthly Adoration will take place on Friday, February 5, 2010 and every First Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 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.

**MEN'S & WOMEN'S CATHOLIC CONFERENCES**

The Annual Women's Conference will take place from 9:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. on Saturday, February 27, 2010 at the Cathedral of the Holy Cross.

The Annual Men's Conference will take place from 9:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. on Saturday, April 17, 2010 also at the Cathedral of the Holy Cross.

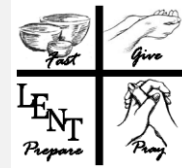
Cost for the conferences is \$20.00 (or \$30.00 with lunch included). For more information please visit our website at [www.catholicboston.org](http://www.catholicboston.org).

**SACRAMENT OF THE SICK**

This Sacrament is 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.

**PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY**

Giving comfort! The Prayer Shawl is given to a person as a means of bringing God's love, comfort and peace. The recipient can wrap themselves with the shawl and it gives them comfort and warmth. We have an ample supply of blessed shawls. If you know of someone who would benefit from receiving a shawl, please call the Parish Office at 978-957-0322.



***Drawing Nearer to the Lord***

**FASTING ALMSGIVING and PRAYER**

**In just over three weeks (February 17<sup>th</sup>) we will begin our observance of the holy season of Lent.**

**St. Paul calls us to see this Lenten season as an acceptable time to become the very holiness of God. With repentant hearts we should embrace these forty days as a time to return to God wholeheartedly. We were made holy at the moment of our Baptism. Let us reclaim that holiness and walk once again in the light of the Lord.**

**From its earliest days, the Church has urged the baptized and the catechumens to observe the threefold discipline of fasting, almsgiving, and prayer as a preparation for the celebration of Easter.**

**During Lent, the Church encourages attendance at daily Mass, self-imposed times of fasting, and generosity to local, national, and worldwide programs of sharing.**

*What will I do for Lent this year?*

**ELECTRONIC GIVING**

By: NetCharge

**(ONLINE GIVING MADE FAST AND EASY)**

Since the inception of this program, several parishioners are now making automatic monthly donations and are very satisfied with the program. For those who wish we will be continuing with our traditional way of giving with offertory envelopes. For more information or to sign up for electronic giving, please visit our parish website ([www.stmar.org](http://www.stmar.org)) and click on electronic giving or call the Parish Office at 978-957-0322.



**Week ending 1/18/2010**

Offertory Collection	\$4,963.00
Grand Annual to Date	\$39,252.00
Haiti Relief	\$5,700.00

The second collection this weekend will be the annual collection for the Church in Latin America.

If you use envelopes or Electronic Giving and would like a statement of your donations for tax purposes, please call the Parish Office and one will be mailed to you.



**Religious Education Program  
ANNUAL CALENDAR RAFFLE**

By now, you should have received tickets for the Annual Religious Education Program Calendar Raffle. The drawings begin March 1 and continue through Easter Sunday, April 4. Tickets are \$5.00 each or a book of 5 for \$20.00. If you didn't receive tickets in the mail or if you need more, they may be picked up during class times, at the back of the church or at the Parish Office Monday through Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. All proceeds benefit our Religious Education Program.



**LECTORS**

**BRINGING THE WORD TO LIFE**

A *Workshop for Lectors and Other Proclaimers* is being offered by the Boston College School of Theology and Ministry on Saturday, February 6, 2010, 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. at 9 Lake St., STM Chapel, Brighton Campus (Snow Date: Saturday, March 13). It will be presented by Douglas Leal, former parish Director of Ministries in Los Angeles, CA, and author of *Stop Reading and Start Proclaiming!* Reading Scripture aloud is more than merely reading the words well; it calls us to proclaim fully all of the life within those words. At this workshop, learn and practice the techniques that turn reading into vibrant proclamation—but not performance—as well as how to make supportive critiques to hone others' skills. For experienced proclaimers as well as those new to the ministry. FREE of charge, but registration is required. Information and registration at [www.bc.edu/stmce](http://www.bc.edu/stmce) or 617-552-6501.

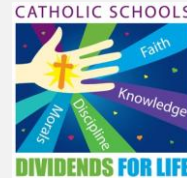


**PRAYER LINE**

The prayer line has been in existence since January 1999. We have taken thousands of requests and have received countless prayers of thanksgiving. None of this would have been possible without the support of those members who dedicate their prayers so faithfully. We would like to thank those who pray with us. However more faithful servants are needed to join us, so that we may be able to keep the prayer line strong. If you believe in the power of prayer, and pray regularly, we need you! If you are able to join us, or have an intention for the prayer line, please contact the Parish Office at 978-957-0322 or email your request to [prayerline@stmar.org](mailto:prayerline@stmar.org). ALL CALLS ARE CONFIDENTIAL. It is suggested that if the prayer is very personal, then it would be best to use the phone. Please pray for all the members of the Prayer Line so that we may remain healthy and continue to be able to devote our time to daily prayer for those who call upon us.



**ST. LOUIS SCHOOL  
CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK**



Saint Louis School will be proudly celebrating Catholic Schools Week during the week of January 31<sup>st</sup>. We have many fun activities planned and encourage current and potential families to stop by for our community activities throughout the week!

**Sunday, January 31 – 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.**  
Open House  
Book Fair – SLS Center

**Monday, February 1 – 9:00 a.m.**  
Eucharistic Celebration (Mass)  
Please join us!

**Tuesday, February 2 - 5:00 to 7:00 p.m.**  
Spaghetti Supper  
Open House and Art Fair  
Come tour our school and also see the wonderful display of art work!

**Wednesday, February 3 – 8:00 a.m.**  
Grandparents and Special People Day  
12:30pm - School Assembly

**Thursday, February 4**  
Student Appreciation Day  
Special events planned for our students

**Friday, February 5**  
Teacher Appreciation Day

**Registrations will be accepted throughout the week. Please contact Ms. Kristyna Dumais, Principal, at 978-458-7594 for a registration packet and to set up a personal tour of our school.**

**BEREAVEMENT MINISTRY**

The Bereavement Luncheon is a very rewarding ministry. You are helping a parishioner by cooking, baking or working at the luncheon.

The families of the deceased appreciate the convenience, hospitality and delicious food. Some of the relatives are now cooking for us. This shows that this ministry is appreciated and successful. Any help you can give would be greatly appreciated. For more information please call the Parish Office at 978-957-0322.

**JANUARY 24, 2010**

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**BREAD AND WINE**

This week, at all Masses, the gift of Bread and Wine is given in memory of the ***Masse and Elie Families***. Please remember them in your prayers.

We invite parishioners to donate the Bread and Wine for consecration at all Masses for a given week. This can be a personal donation or in memory of someone. The person donating or person(s) remembered will be listed in the bulletin on the weekend and will cover all Masses for that week. Suggested offering for this gift is \$50. Please call the Parish Office at 978-957-0322 to schedule this special memorial.

**MASS INTENTIONS**

**This Weekend – January 23 & 24**

**Saturday**

4:00 p.m. Normand C. Fauvel (10<sup>th</sup> Ann.)

**Sunday**

7:30 a.m. Larry Traub

9:00 a.m. Laura Morrissette (13<sup>th</sup> Ann.)

11:00 a.m. Edward J. Doukaszewicz IV (5<sup>th</sup> Ann.)

**Weekday Masses**

Monday 7:30 a.m. Parish Intention

Tuesday 7:30 a.m. Mary Lyons

Wednesday 7:30 a.m. Parish Intention

Thursday 7:30 a.m. Henry J. Masse

Friday 7:30 a.m. Marion Savard

Saturday 7:30 a.m. Parish Intention

**Next Weekend – January 30 & 31**

**Saturday**

4:00 p.m. Normand C. Fauvel

**Sunday**

7:30 a.m. Joey and Jason Valkavitch

9:00 a.m. Joseph "Larry" Lavoie

11:00 a.m. David Capra (19<sup>th</sup> Ann.)



**THANK YOU NOTES**

We received the following note of appreciation from a family who received gifts from your generous donations through our Christmas Giving Tree:

Happy Holidays! I would like to thank everyone for the gifts. It was a blessing. Thank you so much.