

# From Your Pastor

## October News Notes

**Our Annual “Clean Up the Church Day” – Next Saturday, October 17<sup>th</sup> from 9:30-12:00, with Lunch following.** I would like to invite you to join us again for our annual “fall clean up” of the church.” There’ll be plenty to do – big and small tasks, and everyone is welcome – young and old – even if you think you might be able to contribute only a little in the work. We need lots of cheerleaders. The gathering of the community for this event is as important as the work we accomplish. We will provide the cleaning materials and a hot lunch following our work. Just bring yourselves in your old clothes. Please sign up on the sheets at the doors of the church this weekend so we will be prepared for you. If you do not know today if you are free, please call Patricia McShane at the rectory during the week (617-782-5774).



**Celebrate the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe with Us** – Though the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe is celebrated on December 12, the parish Hispanic Community invites all of us to join them in a fall fiesta celebrating Our Lady *next Sunday, October 18, at the 12:45 PM Mass. A reception will follow the Mass.* The Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe commemorates the apparition of the Blessed Virgin to an Indian convert,

Juan Diego, in 1531, whom she instructed to convey to the bishop her desire that a chapel be erected in her honor on the spot where she had appeared. As a sign she imprinted her image on the peasant's mantle, which is preserved in the shrine and to the intercession of which many miracles have been attributed. The picture, which is on coarsely woven Indian cloth, is assumed to represent the Immaculate Conception, being the figure of a maiden with the sun, moon, and stars, and an angel under the crescent. Pope John Paul II named Our Lady of Guadalupe the Patroness of America.

**Parish Pastoral Council – We Need New Members** If you are interested in being considered for service on the pastoral Council or would like to nominate someone else to the Council, please contact Patricia McShane or

Msgr. Fay at the rectory (617-782-5774) as soon as possible. Those qualified for service are Catholics who participate fully in the sacramental life of the Church, and are active, registered parishioners who are 18 years or older.



The **ARISE Together in Christ** process continues its Third Season. If you would like to join a group, please contact Patricia McShane at the rectory (617-782-5774). You are able to join a group at any time during the Season, which runs through mid-November. As always, we ask you to pray regularly the *ARISE* Prayer (from the prayer card in the pew or the flap of the bulletin) for the success of this spiritual program.

**Pastor’s Parish Listening Session** – As we have done the past several years, I have scheduled an opportunity to offer a few words on the life of the Parish and to listen to your thoughts on the parish. When? → **Saturday, November 7<sup>th</sup>, 2:30-3:30 PM, Upper Church.** I also offer a **Listening Session in Spanish.** When? → **Sunday, November 8<sup>th</sup>, following the 12:45 Mass, in the School Cafeteria.**

**Flu Season Precautions** – Please help keep us healthy:

- Cover your nose and mouth with a tissue when you cough or sneeze. Throw the tissue in the trash.
- Wash your hands often with soap and water, especially after you cough or sneeze. Alcohol-based hands cleaners are also effective.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose or mouth. Germs spread that way.
- Avoid close contact with sick people. Influenza is thought to spread mainly person-to-person through the coughing or sneezing of infected individuals.
- If you are sick, or suspect yourself to be sick with a contagious illness, stay home from work or school and limit contact with others.
- Ministers of Holy Communion should wash their hands before Mass begins, or even to use an alcohol based anti-bacterial solution before and after distributing Holy Communion.



God bless each of you.

*Msgr. Fay*