

From Your Pastor

Lent Begins on Ash Wednesday, February 17

THE SEASON OF LENT. “Lent runs from Ash Wednesday until the Mass of the Lord’s Supper exclusive on Holy Thursday. Through the twofold theme of repentance and baptism, the season of Lent disposes...the faithful to celebrate the paschal mystery.

“Catechesis should impress upon the minds of the faithful not only the social consequences of sin but also the essence of the virtue of penance, namely, detestation of sin as an offense against God. The role of the Church in penitential practices is not to be neglected, and the people are to be exhorted to pray for sinners.

“During Lent, penance should not only be inward and individual but also outward and social, and should be directed towards works of mercy on behalf of our brothers and sisters.

“The faithful should be urged to take a greater and more faithful share in the Lenten liturgy and penitential services. They should be advised particularly to approach the sacrament of penance during Lent...so that

they may share in the joys of Easter Sunday with purity of heart.”

(From the General Norms for the Liturgical Year and Calendar, and Ceremonial of Bishops)



Please come to the Sacrament of Reconciliation this Lent.

The Church encourages all Catholics to celebrate the Sacrament of Penance each Lent. In addition to our normal Saturday afternoon confession time, St. Columbkille and all the Catholic parishes and chapels of the Archdiocese will be open on Lenten **Wednesdays from 6:30-8:00 pm.** Please take advantage of this opportunity to make a good Lenten confession. Please also reach out to the Catholics you know that have been away from the regular practice of our faith and invite them to seize this chance to begin again. The Archdiocese has a website for this initiative, www.TheLightIsOnForYou.org, which has great material to help everyone prepare to make a good confession.

LENT 2010 SCHEDULE

ASH WEDNESDAY Mass Schedule and Distribution of Ashes – Masses on Ash Wednesday will be celebrated at 7:00 and 9:00 am (Lower Church) and at 5:30 and 7:00 pm (Upper Church). Ashes will be distributed during Mass.

Daily Mass Schedule – Daily Masses during Lent will be celebrated at 7:00 and 9:00 am and at 5:30 pm.

The Light Is On For You – In addition to Confessions on Saturday from 3:00-4:00 pm, Confessions will take place on Wednesday evenings from 6:30-8:00 pm on February 24th and March 3rd, 10th, 17th, 24th and 31st.

Stations of the Cross – Stations of the Cross will be celebrated on Fridays of Lent at 5:00 pm (before the 5:30 Mass).

Lenten Regulations – **ABSTINENCE:** Catholics over 14 years of age are bound to the obligations of abstinence. Abstinence is to be observed on Ash Wednesday and the Fridays of Lent. On days of abstinence, meat may not be used at all.

FAST: Catholics over 18 and up to the beginning of their sixtieth year are bound to the obligation of fasting. Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are the days of fasting. On these days, only one full meal is allowed. Two other meatless meals, sufficient to maintain strength, may be taken according to each one's needs, but together they should not equal another full meal. Eating between meals is not permitted, but liquids, including milk and fruit juices are allowed.



God bless each of you

Mrs. Fay

SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Prayers Are Requested for those who are ill; for vocations to the Priesthood and to the Consecrated Life; for married couples and for families; for the safe return home of the men and women in our military services; and for the repose of the souls of Mary McGovern, Mary Costello and the deceased members of our parish, our families and our benefactors.



The **ARISE Together in Christ** process begins this week. Please know that you are able to join a group at any time during the Season, which runs through Lent. As always, we ask you to pray regularly the *ARISE* Prayer (from the card in the pew or the back flap of the bulletin) for the success of this process in the parish. Thank you very much.

Our Increased Weekly Giving Program – The response to our *Increased Weekly Giving Program* continues to be encouraging. I would like to thank those families who have responded to my request for a reasonable increase in your weekly offering. If you have not yet returned your response envelope, please do so as soon as you can. And please reply by using the special response envelope so I may properly acknowledge your response. Your participation in St. Columbkille Parish's *Increased Weekly Giving Program* is very important. Thank you for your commitment to the parish.

The 2009 Grand Annual Collection – We will be concluding our 2009 Grand Annual Collection this month with the publication of this year's donors. We are very near our goal this year as you can see in the bulletin, and we ask you to help us over the top. If you have not yet had the chance to make an offering, envelopes for this important collection are available at the doors of the church. Thank you very much!

Project Rachel. Do you know someone who is carrying grief and sorrow over past abortions? **Project Rachel** is the post-abortion ministry of the Catholic Church to help those dealing with the pain of abortion. **Project Rachel** will offer three "Come to the Waters" post abortion healing retreats this spring: Sunday, February 28, Saturday, March 13, and Saturday, June 5. For more information and registration for the date of your choice, contact **Project Rachel** at 508.651.3100 or help@projectrachelboston.com.

Health Precautions – We have received word from the Archdiocese that we may resume the option of a handshake as a sign of peace at all the Masses and the distribution of Holy Communion under both species at the 9:30 AM Sunday Mass on Palm Sunday, March 28th.

Anonymous Donor – In December, I reported to you that we needed to replace the parking lot fence along Market Street. I am happy to announce to you today that a generous family in the parish has donated the cost of this expenditure. The donor wishes to remain anonymous. But since God knows who it is, please offer a prayer of thanksgiving for this family.

Employment Opportunity – On behalf of the Massachusetts Catholic Conference, we want to make you aware of jobs available with the CENSUS 2010. Great pay - \$22.75 per hour; weekly paycheck; flexible hours & schedule; paid training; work in your own neighborhood. Apply today by calling 866-861-2010. Two forms of unexpired ID required. Visit www.census.gov for more information.

Donations were made for the month of February for the Candles in loving memory of Rose A. Dawson, Rose A. Flynn and Margaret Versiackas by the Dawson Family.

Please Remember The St. Vincent de Paul Boxes as you leave Mass today. The next meeting will be Tuesday, February 23 at 7:00 pm in the rectory.

Upcoming Parish Events

Healing Mass: Thursday, February 25 at 7:00 pm

PARISH GIVING

Parish Offertory (Feb. 6 – Feb. 7): \$6,220

Peter's Pence (Feb. 6 – Feb. 7): \$1,694

Grand Annual (to date): \$56,930
361 donors

St. Vincent de Paul (Feb. 6 – Feb. 7): \$121.00

Thank You for Your Generosity

**From a Sermon on Right Attitude during Lent
by St. Leo the Great, Pope (d. 461)**

Dear friends, at every moment the earth is full of the mercy of God, and nature itself is a lesson for all the faithful in the worship of God. The heavens, the sea and all that is in them bear witness to the goodness and omnipotence of their Creator, and the marvelous beauty of the elements as they obey him demands from the intelligent creation a fitting expression of its gratitude.

But with the return of that season marked out in a special way by the mystery of our redemption, and of the days that lead up to the paschal feast, we are summoned more urgently to prepare ourselves by a purification of spirit.

The special note of the paschal feast is this: the whole Church rejoices in the forgiveness of sins. It rejoices in the forgiveness not only of those who are then reborn in holy baptism but also of those who are already numbered among God's adopted children.

Initially, men are made new by the rebirth of baptism. Yet there still is required a daily renewal to repair the shortcomings of our mortal nature, and whatever degree of progress has been made there is no one who should not be more advanced. All must therefore strive to ensure that on the day of redemption no one may be found in the sins of his former life.

Dear friends, what the Christian should be doing at all times should be done now with greater care and devotion, so that the Lenten fast enjoined by the apostles may be fulfilled, not simply by abstinence from food but above all by the renunciation of sin.

There is no more profitable practice as a companion to holy and spiritual fasting than that of almsgiving...The love that we owe both God and man is always free from any obstacle that would prevent us from having a good intention. The person who shows love and compassion to those in any kind of affliction is blessed, not only with the virtue of good will but also with the gift of peace.

The works of mercy are innumerable. Their very variety brings this advantage to those who are true Christians, that in the matter of almsgiving not only the rich and affluent but also those of average means and the poor are able to play their part. Those who are unequal in their capacity to give can be equal in the love within their hearts.

FEBRUARY 14, 2010

ARISE Together in Christ

Gracious God and Father,
we enter into your presence
realizing you know us better than we know ourselves.
You know the cares and sufferings
we carry in our hearts.
You call us to holiness
and we trust you to lead us together
on our journey to be a renewed Church,
for with you all things are possible.
Create us anew in Jesus Christ your Son.
Liberate us from all that keeps us from you.
Heal us from every form of sin and violence.
Transform us to live your Word more profoundly.
Awaken us to the sacred; rebuild trust among us.
Enliven our parishes; reunite our families.
May your Holy Spirit empower us
to live as a community of love,
freed to share in your work
of recreating our world and restoring justice.
We believe you are doing something new,
calling us to arise together in Christ
to celebrate the fullness of life. Amen.

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LEVÁNTATE Unámonos en Cristo

Dios y Padre de infinita bondad,
acudimos a Ti sabiendo que nos conoces
mejor que nosotros mismos nos conocemos,
y sabes el peso que llevamos
en nuestro corazón.
Nos llamas a la santidad
y, porque para Ti todo es posible,
confiamos que nos guiarás unidos
por la senda que nos lleve
a ser una Iglesia renovada.
Créanos de nuevo en Jesucristo tu hijo.
Libéranos de todo lo que nos aleja de Ti.
Sánanos de toda forma
de pecado y violencia.
Transfórmanos para vivir
tu Palabra más profundamente.
Despierta en nosotros
la sed de lo sagrado.
Restaura entre nosotros la confianza.
Vivifica nuestras parroquias;
y reunifica a nuestras familias.
Que tu Espíritu Santo nos fortalezca
y nos congregue en una comunidad de amor,
liberados para servirte y continuar tu misión
de recrear el mundo y restaurar la justicia.
Creemos que haces algo nuevo,
con tu llamado a levantarnos en Cristo
para celebrar la plenitud de la vida. Amén.

Masses for the Week

Sunday, Feb. 14 – 6th Sunday in Ordinary Time

- (Sat.)** 4:00 pm Joseph & Helen Iannelle, 7th Ann.
7:30 am *Missa pro Populo*
9:30 am Michael & Margaret Reilly, Mem.
11:15 am Mary Stanton Powers, 53rd Ann.
12:45 pm Amparo Guerra, Mem.
5:00 pm Paddy, Bridget &
Breda Flaherty, Mem.

Mon. 7:00 am Johanna Cecilia Murphy, Mem.

Tue. 7:00 am Special Intention

Wed. 7:00 am Ash Wednesday

Thu. 7:00 am Andrew & Eileen Doyle, Mem.

5:30 pm Loreta Antonellis Cedrone, Mem.

Fri. 5:30 pm Alice G. Maher, 10th Ann.

Sat. 7:00 am Julia & Angelo DiMattia &
Vincent Gasbarro, Mem.

Sunday, Feb. 21 – 1st Sunday of Lent

- (Sat.)** 4:00 pm Rose A. Dawson, Rose A. Flynn &
Margaret Versiackas, Mem.
9:30 am Remo, Teresa & Joseph Cardarelli, Mem
11:15 am Mary & John Tighe, Mem.
12:45 pm Maria Andrea Valencia, 2nd Ann.
5:00 pm *Missa pro Populo*

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CHURCH NAME: **Saint Columbkille**

CHURCH CITY: **Brighton**

ROUTING CODE: **W**

RUN NUMBER: **15**

FILENAME: **03-0479.12b10**

PHONE NUMBER: **617-782-5774**

FAX NUMBER: **617-782-7283**

EDITOR/ CONTACT: **Patricia**

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Comments:
