Week of November 19, 2017

The Pastor’s Thanksgiving Musings

Dear Family in the Lord,

I recently came across these words, A Proclamation for Thanksgiving Day, spoken in 1815 by President James Madison, who along with a joint resolution of the Senate and House of Representatives, recommended that a day be observed by all people of the United States “with religious solemnity as a day of thanksgiving and devout acknowledgements to Almighty God for his great goodness...” It concluded with these words:

“To the same Divine Author of every good and perfect gift we are indebted for all those privileges and advantages, religious as well as civil, which are so richly enjoyed in this favored land. It is for blessings such as these, and especially the blessing of peace, that I now recommend that a day be set apart as a day on which the people of every religious denomination may in their solemn assemblies unite their hearts and their voices in freewill offering to their Heavenly Benefactor of their homage of thanksgiving and of their songs of praise.”

May we so gather in this spirit in words spoken in a time when “separation of church and state” was not misinterpreted to mean that nothing of God may be spoken, seen, or acknowledged. Let us fervently pray, and act personally, that “In God We Trust” becomes an ever greater reality in our times and that the law of the land be based on the Divine Law that is foundational for all, the law from “the Lord and Giver of Life.”

With our gratitude and the great sense of joy that comes from gatherings and family fellowship, may we also remember that a grateful heart is reflected in a generous heart. The words of the Preface of the Mass used on Thanksgiving Day, leading into our praise of God in singing “Holy, Holy, Holy...” puts it well: “You have entrusted to us the great gift of freedom, a gift that calls forth responsibility and commitment to the truth that all have a fundamental dignity before you.” This truth fuels our voice, our action, and our stands and witness as a people of faith.

Perhaps the Collect, the opening prayer of Thanksgiving Mass, can be made ours as we prepare and celebrate Thanksgiving Day: “Father all powerful, your gifts of love are countless and your goodness infinite; as we come before you on Thanksgiving Day with gratitude for your kindness, open our hearts to have concern for every man, woman, and child, so that we may share your gifts in loving service.”

Blessings to you and yours as we reflect and enjoy in this week of Thanksgiving!

With you on the Journey.

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The Week at a Glance

**Monday, November 20**
SPA School Mass – 9:15 AM (C)
Hey, I was wondering... – 6:30 PM (C)

**Tuesday, November 21**
Televised Parish Mass – 7 PM, Channel 98

**Wednesday, November 22**
Walking with Purpose – 9:00 AM (PC)
Prayer Cenacle – 2:00 PM (C)
Thanksgiving Eve Mass – 7:00 PM (C)

**Thursday, November 23**
Thanksgiving Day - Parish Office closed
Thanksgiving Day Mass – 9:00 AM (C)
Televised Parish Mass – 7 PM, Channel 98

**Friday, November 24**
Parish Office closed

**Saturday, November 25**
Rosary – 3:30 PM (C)

**Sunday, November 26**
Children’s Dismissal – at 8:30 Mass (CLL)
Televised Parish Mass – 10 AM, Channel 98
RCIA – 11:30 AM (PC)
Music Ministry Rehearsal – 11:45AM (C)
Choir Practice Spanish Mass – 1:00 PM (CLL)
Rosary – 1:30 PM (C)
Spanish Mass – 2:00 PM (C)

**KEY:**
At 98 Summer Street:
C = Church
CLL = Lower Level of Church
VH = Vianney House (rectory next to Church)
At 845 Woodbury Ave:
PC = Parish Center (lower level of former church)
O = Parish Office (former rectory)
YC = Youth Center (lower level of office)
On Austin Street:
SPA = St. Patrick Academy
SO = SHARE Office (lower level Vianney House)

**Happy Thanksgiving!**

As we gather for our celebrations in gratitude later this week, please know that as we count our blessings, we offer thanks for the opportunity and privilege to serve and minister to all of you!

~ Fr Gary
& the Parish Staff
Intentions For Holy Mass

Monday  NOV 20  Feria (weekday)
8:00AM  Fern Magner, by her husband Jim & Family
9:15AM  St. Patrick Academy Mass – open to all

Tuesday  NOV 21  The Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary
8:00AM  Nancy Reardon, by Tom Eldredge

Wednesday  NOV 22  St. Cecilia
8:00AM  Joseph & Anne Parmentola, by their Family
7:00PM  Thanksgiving Eve Mass

Thursday  NOV 23  Thanksgiving
9:00AM  Thanksgiving Day Mass

Friday  NOV 24  St. Andrew Dũng-Lac and companions
8:00AM  Peter Scontras, by his Family

Saturday  NOV 25  St. Catherine of Alexandria
8:00AM  Pro Populo (For our Parish Family)
4:00PM  Vigil  Solemnity of Christ the King
        Theresa Lajoie (1st anniversary), by her Husband & Family

Sunday  NOV 26  Solemnity of Christ the King
8:30AM  Irene Laverdiere, by the Laverdiere Family
10:30AM  Jackie Murray (13th anniversary), by her Family
2:00PM  in Spanish  Intentions of Bonnie Brown, by Ramona Yuva
4:30PM  MacKenzie Rose Webb (23rd anniversary), by Mom, Nonnie, & Gapa

To schedule Mass intentions or for sacramental records, please see Marilyn Chavez at the parish office, 845 Woodbury Avenue, or call 436-4555.

Our reflection of God’s generosity to us!

Weekend of November 11/12, 2017

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Last weekend 254 envelope/$55 Online Giving users contributed 86% of our income.

Poor Box Donations $642.63

20/20 WINNERS

$25 Winners ~ Week 12

# 157  Connie Gardoqui
# 81   Greg & Linda Molda

Thanksgiving

We invite you to come together as a parish family that has much to be thankful for as we celebrate Thanksgiving later this week. Let’s begin with the source of all our blessings and “the” Thanksgiving table – the Holy Altar of the Lord! To give more the opportunity, we will offer two Masses and will distribute blest bread to be used at your family dinner table, uniting your gathering with our gathering at His Holy Table!

Thanksgiving Eve Mass on Wednesday at 7:00PM
Thanksgiving Day Mass at 9:00AM

There will be a free will offering for SHARE at both Masses.

(Please note that there will not be an 8:00AM Mass nor Adoration on Thursday this week.)

Sanctuary Lamp & Votives

The sanctuary lamp will burn this week in memory of Lawren Louise Knowles, with wishes for comfort and peace for her family on what would have been her fourth birthday, requested by Nancy & Kearn Knowles.

The votives at the Mary altar will burn for Jill Armitage, as requested by her husband Phil.

At the St. Joseph altar, the votives will burn in memory of Billie Dave Smith, requested by his wife Nancy.

Altar Flowers

The flowers on the high altar this week were given in remembrance of Ed & Claudette Grohosky, donated by their daughter, Anne Marshall.

Keep Christ the Focus!

We can all bemoan the secularization of Christmas, but, what’s more important is that we all go out of our way to turn up the focus on Christ in our own practices. A great way to do that is to send faith-based Christmas cards. Once again, our Knights of Columbus have ordered a variety of beautiful cards that will be on sale at very reasonable prices for you. All proceeds from sales benefit the parish. The Knights will have the cards displayed and for sale at our weekend Masses, beginning this weekend through December 9th. Don’t miss this opportunity!
Parish News

NEW! Last Sunday of the Year

Next Sunday we will celebrate the Solemnity of Christ the King, the last Sunday of the Church Year. We will mark the day with added solemnity at each Holy Mass, with the principal celebrations being Saturday Vigil Mass at 4:00 PM and the Solemn Mass at 10:30 AM on Sunday. We take this occasion to look back with gratitude at all who have shared their time, talent, and treasure to make our liturgy, day after day all through the year, a beautiful gift to the Lord and a source of inspiration for us all as we, at every Mass, are, in the words of the Liturgy itself, “invited to taste on earth the gifts of the world to come,” and at each Holy Mass we receive “a foretaste and promise of the Paschal Feast of Heaven.”

NEW! Hey! I Was Wondering

This Monday, Monday, November 19th, Fr. Gary will discuss a variety of short-answer questions that were submitted for coverage in this weekly Adult Faith Formation Series – questions regarding scripture, church organizational things, rituals around marriage, and others. We gather from 6:30 to 7:15 PM for the presentation followed by opportunity for Q & A until 7:45 PM. We meet in the back section of our church. (After the 20th, sessions will be suspended until after Christmas.) All are welcome to any or all weekly sessions.

NEW! Sacred Items

We soon will print an updated list as to where some of the sacred furnishings from the two former churches will find, or have already found, a new home. Some will be reused in our own parish, others in the new building that will house St. Patrick Academy, and others will go to local churches in need. Watch for more!

NEW! Advent Reflection Books

Thanks to the generosity of a parishioner, and his desire to help us all really enter into the rich Liturgy and Scriptures of Advent, we will have some booklets free for the taking to use in your personal and family prayer. Feel free to take one from the baskets at the church doors next weekend.

NEW! Cemetery Fall Cleanup Underway

Our gratitude goes to Calling All Cargo Moving & Storage, who did an excellent job with the recent move of our parish offices from Lafayette Road to Woodbury Avenue. Their crew was efficient, careful, and unbelievably strong! If you have a move in your future, you can reach them at 800-914-2462 or info@callingallcargo.com. We are also grateful to a parishioner who gave us a very generous donation to help defray a large part of the cost of the move.

NEW! Traveling Vocation Icon

This week, the Frazier Family will receive the Icon of Jesus Knocking at the Door into their home and intercede in a special way for Joe, Mike, Dan, and all in formation, for those discerning, and for many vocations to rise up from our community.

NEW! Giving Tree

We will once again participate in a “Giving Tree” project, in cooperation with NH Catholic Charities, to provide parishioners with an opportunity to help needy people. The Giving Tree will be up beginning next weekend in the back of the Church. Please take an angel tag, purchase the gift, attach the tag to the item (unwrapped), and then bring it back to leave at the tree no later than Sunday, December 10. If the angel tags are all gone, gift cards for gas or groceries are welcomed, and will be distributed by NHCC throughout the year. Gift cards, marked with an amount, should be left at the parish office or in the collection basket, not left under the tree, please! Your kindness and generosity will bring much joy to families in need! Thank you!

NEW! Church Open for You!

We are never closer to the Lord, this side of heaven, than when we are before His Real Presence in the Most Blessed Sacrament! It is for this reason, and to provide maximum opportunity for all, that our Church’s center door is open for you seven days a week from 7:00 AM to 7:00 PM. (Note that in Summer we stayed open later, but the time for closing has now moved earlier.) In addition, the Blessed Sacrament is exposed on the High Altar for adoration from 7:00 AM to 7:55 AM Monday through Saturday, and on Thursdays from 8:30 AM until 5:00 PM as well. Take advantage!

NEW! Trip to LaSalette Shrine ~ Last Call!

Members of Corpus Christi Parish are organizing a trip to the LaSalette Shrine in Attleboro, MA. The trip will include a viewing of the famous Festival of Lights, Fr. Pat’s Christmas Concert, and an opportunity for Reconciliation and to attend Mass. The cost is just $80 per person, which covers the cost of transportation by motor coach. Dinner is available at additional cost. The coach will leave from 508 Post Road in Greenland at 11:00 AM on Sunday, November 26th, and will return by 9:00 PM. For information, please contact Egizia Brown at 603-436-6381 or egiziarbrown@comcast.net.

Kids Break Open the Word

If you have young kids, preschool through Grade 2/3, we encourage you to join us for 8:30 Mass on Sundays so they can join their peers and prayer leader/catechist when we send them forth after the Opening rites to go to the lower level of the church to hear the scriptures and have them opened up for them at their level of understanding. Our Children’s Liturgy of the Word takes place at that Mass each week, with the kids rejoining the worshiping community at the Offertory for the second part of Holy Mass, the Liturgy of the Eucharist.

Parish Mass on TV and Online

In addition to the televised Mass on Channel 98, Corpus Christi Parish has its own YouTube Channel, where you can view the weekly Mass. Just visit CorpusChristiNH.org, look for the “Media” drop down menu, and choose “Recorded Parish Mass.” Bullet point #2 is called “Via Our YouTube Channel.” Click to find our weekly Masses, listed by date.
**Maintenance to Mission Updates**

**NEW! We’ve Moved!**

Our pastor and parish staff are now officially operating out of our new office facility, the renovated and repurposed former St. Catherine Rectory at **845 Woodbury Avenue**.

Please note this new mailing address. In order to prevent delays in our receiving your mail, please do not use the former Lafayette Road address, nor the Vianney House address of 98 Summer Street. The Vianney House address is simply for personal mail for Father or the Seminarians. Our business hours have also changed with our move across town. **The parish offices will be open Monday through Friday, from 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM.**

We will be still taking care of some finishing touches, like window treatments, area rugs, etc. We will soon announce an open house for later this month. *(Please use the front door of the building when coming to the office. The side door at ground level is for the youth room, and the side door with porch is private staff entrance.)* Thanks to all who helped in any way to make the major move so much easier!

**NEW! New Youth Center!**

The lower level of our new office building has been repurposed and renovated and is now our St. JPII Youth Center! When events occur there, you gain access by the side door at ground level. Watch for youth ministry events and come check it out!

**NEW! Lafayette Road Property Closing**

This week the pipes will be drained, all utilities shut off, and buildings secured on our Lafayette Road property, the site of the former St. James Church and Rectory. We will no longer being using any part of the facility. The buyer who has the property under Purchase & Sale agreement is moving forward with all he needs to take care of in order to move toward the final real estate closing and payment for the property, which will hopefully be taking place this winter.

**NEW! Renovation/Repurposing**

The construction work on the site of the former St. Catherine Church, repurposing the building to be our parish “Great Hall” on the upper level and a meeting center with various rooms on the lower level, along with a new expanded parking lot, will begin once we have received the funding from the sale of the Lafayette Road property after the real estate closing takes place there. We are now working on finalizing plans for that project, which will then go to the Diocesan Real Estate and Finance Councils for review and approval, and then to the Bishop for his go-ahead! Exciting times as the dream, vision, and planning of the past 3+ years becomes closer to reality! The wall partitions in the former St. James Hall are being moved and will be re-installed in the lower level hall to give us flexibility in that facility as we repurpose the former St. Catherine Church.

**Vocations! Pray! Invite! Encourage! Affirm!**

We are a parish that certainly is blest as we foster and prayerfully support vocations. Here are some ways you might consider being part of our community effort:

**Vocation Support Association**

Flyers with information are at the church doors, along with a form to clip and return to make a one-year commitment to be part of the VSA. We pray, in whichever way you wish, for vocations and for our three men in formation. We offer personal support through occasional cards/notes. And, if possible, we offer financial help with a suggested offering of $10 per month, if able. Thanks to all plugged in already!

**Informal Dinner & Conversation**

Fr. Gary invites young men, whether in high school looking toward college, or college age, or in 20s or early 30s in careers, or in 40s and up, to contact him if you’d like to do dinner, ask questions, explore how people who feel the Lord nudging – whether strong or slight – can have help in discerning God’s call in their life – whether to priesthood, marriage, or single life. Father can be reached by emailing frgary.ccnh@gmail.com.

**Vocation Prayer Cards**

Please take a copy of the newest Parish Prayer for Vocations cards available in baskets at the doors. Could you make this part of your daily prayer, or maybe even your family dinner prayer? Also, prayer cards through the intercession of St. John Vianney, patron saint of priests, can be found at the foot of his statue in the front of our church, near the Divine Mercy Shrine.

**Cemetery Clean-Up**

Calvary Cemetery will soon be undergoing its annual fall cleanup. In accordance with our published regulations, the cemetery staff will begin discarding non-compliant articles left on the graves, including unused shepherd’s hooks, tattered flags, and out-of-season artificial flowers and decorations. Please protect your articles by taking them home. We appreciate your cooperation as we prepare the cemetery for the fall and winter seasons.
Open House
Preschool – Eighth Grade

Bishop Gendron Senior Living Community, located at 192 Dover Point Road in Dover, has two one-bedroom apartments and a two-bedroom apartment just waiting for someone to make them their home. These apartments include heat/hot water, water/sewer, weekly housekeeping service, weekly flat linen service, and garbage removal. Bishop Gendron Senior Living Community loves providing social/activity programs as well as daily Catholic Mass and Rosary and more. We provide transportation for grocery shopping and department stores. For more information, please call Renee at 603-742-2612. She looks forward to speaking with you!

Catholic Charities
NEW HAMPSHIRE

Moving Lives Forward

Monday, November 20th ~ 9AM-2PM

Call ahead to schedule a tour or just stop by! Meet our teachers, our Head of School, Mark Schwerdt, and see our programming in action.

Saint Patrick Academy is a joyfully Catholic school with a curriculum that provides a lasting foundation in what is good, true, and beautiful. Saint Pat’s offers an integrated Virtues Program that inspires students to live and love well. Our students in grades 3-8 are participating in a STEM program developed specifically for Saint Patrick Academy. We will be moving to our new state-of-the-art campus on Banfield Road in April 2018. Our new school sits on 11 acres, complete with an athletic field, outdoor amphitheater, basketball courts, and playground.

Financial aid packages are now available.
For more details, visit saintpatrickacademy.org or call 603-436-0739.

Attention Students – $600 !!!

The NH Knights of Columbus is once again sponsoring a Student Respect Life Essay contest. The contest is open to any Jr. High (grades 6, 7, 8) and Sr. High (grades 9, 10, 11, 12) student in NH. The NH Knights of Columbus will make up to six cash awards of $100. The theme is: “How would you respond to claims that Pro-Life denies a woman’s ‘choice’?” Deadline is midnight, December 15th.

RULES: Essays may not be longer than 500 words; typed, and submitted as a PDF or Word Document and emailed to matu19@comcast.net. Include student’s name, age, grade, school, parent name and address, phone, parish name, and email address. Students may obtain help and information, including from parents, teachers, friends, and internet, but the essay itself must be their own work. Further contest details may be obtained from K of C NH contest chairman John Matuszewski (603-434-4098) or K of C NH State Pro-Life Chairman Ron Distasio (603-595-7837).

Messiah Sing Along!

All are invited to come for a Messiah Sing Along on Friday, December 1st, at 7:00 PM at The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints located at 55 Hampton Falls Road in Exeter. There is no fee and all are welcome. Since the audience will have the opportunity to sing with the choir, anyone interested in becoming more familiar with the music may attend the rehearsals on November 12 and 26 at 6:00 PM in the chapel. For details, email ElaineLH98@comcast.net.

Getting the Gospels

Parish of the Ascension in southern Maine will be sponsoring Getting the Gospels – Understanding the New Testament Accounts of Jesus’ Life on Saturday, December 9th from 9AM to 2PM. Presenter is Dr. Steven Bridge, professor of theology at St. Joseph College in Standish, Maine. The presentation will be in St. Christopher Church Hall, Barrel Lane in York. Registration begins at 8:30 AM. Bring your own lunch. For planning purposes, advance registration would be greatly appreciated. If you have any questions, please contact Rose Cronin at jcronin2@maine.rr.com or Theresa Palumbo at TPalumbo@necu.org.

Dr. Bridge teaches historical-critical courses on the Hebrew Scriptures, the Christian Gospels, and the Pauline Epistles, among others. He has authored over 100 articles and several critically-acclaimed books, including Getting the Gospels, which was awarded a prestigious Starred Review in Publishers Weekly. Copies of Getting the Gospels will be available at a discounted price of $10.

Worldwide Marriage Encounter

“When one finds a worthy wife, her value is far beyond pearls.” Spouses, find value in one another by attending a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend. The next WWME Weekends will be held January 19-21, 2018 in South Kings-town, RI, and March 9-11, 2018 in Duxbury, MA. For more information, please call Stephen & Michelle O’Leary at 800-710-9963 or visit them at https://wwmema.org/.