



Mass Intentions

Saturday, January 3rd

Vigil: The Epiphany of The Lord

4:00 PM Gloria LeClair
Requested by her husband & family

Sunday, January 4th

The Epiphany of The Lord

8:00 AM William V. West
Requested by his family

10:30 AM All Deceased Members of the
Vincenza Salamone Family
Requested by her family

Monday, January 5th

St. John Neumann, bishop

7:00 AM For all Seminarians

Tuesday, January 6th

Blessed Andre Bessette, religious

7:00 AM Gloria A. LeClair & son Francis
Requested by John & Gina Fanelli

Wednesday, January 7th

St. Raymond of Penafort, priest

5:30 PM John & Angelina Zarrella
Requested by Mario & Grace Zarrella

Thursday, January 8th

7:00 AM Antonio Minisalchi
Requested by John & Gina Fanelli

Friday, January 9th

7:00 AM Sarah & Anthony Celuzza
Requested by their family

Saturday January 10th

Vigil: The Baptism of the Lord

4:00 PM Lucia Salamone
Requested by her three daughters & family

Sunday, January 11th

The Baptism of the Lord

8:00 AM Charles & Alice Cosentino
Requested by John & Gina Fanelli

10:30 AM Dominic Dantini

Requested by his grand & great grandchildren

January 3 - 4, 2009

The Epiphany of the Lord

"And you Bethlehem, land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; since from you shall come a ruler, who is to shepherd my people Israel."

READ AND PREPARE

Next week's Scripture readings:

First Reading: Isaiah 55:1 - 11

Second Reading: 1 John 5:1 - 9

Gospel: Mark 1:7 - 11

PREVIOUS WEEK OFFERINGS

Needed to Meet Budget	\$4,889.00
Sunday Offering	\$5,944.00
Children's Collection (\$10.00)	\$10.00
SURPLUS this week	\$1,065.00
+ Christmas Collection	\$5,854.00
SURPLUS Year to Date	\$745.00

Parish Council meets Tuesday, January 6th @ 7:00 in hall.

THIS WEEKEND SPECIAL COLLECTION:

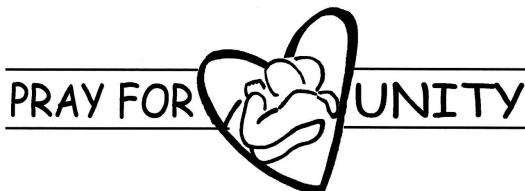
The Catholic University of America is the national university of the Catholic Church in the United States, located in Washington, D.C. It provides an academically rigorous education guided by Catholic intellectual tradition to 6,000 students every year. This week is the National Collection for The Catholic University of America. Every dollar given directly supports financial aid for students from dioceses across the country, including ours. Please be generous.

Item of the Month - The Youth Group is accepting donations for Our Father's House and the Veterans' Homestead. **This month's item is deodorant.** Items can be placed in the marked boxes at the entrances of the church. Thank you for your support.

INTERESTED IN BECOMING A DEACON? Find out everything you need to know about being a deacon. Come to the Information Session scheduled on **Monday, January 12, 2009 at Our Lady of Loreto Parish Center** located at 33 Massasoit Road, Worcester. If you've ever thought about becoming a deacon and wanted to know more about what it would involve, now is your opportunity! There is no obligation. Married and single men between the ages of 31 and 60 who hold a college degree or equivalent are invited to attend. Wives are encouraged to attend. The Session begins at 7:00 PM (Snow date: 1-26-2009).

A VERY SPECIAL TRIP TO ITALY

Father Bob has joined with Nick Desimone's family to organize a trip to Italy to witness Nick's ordination to the transitional diaconate at St. Peter's Basilica in Rome this October. There will be two informational meetings: **Sunday, January 4, 2:00 PM, at Our Lady of Loreto Parish Center, 33 Massasoit Rd., Worcester** and **Sunday, January 18, 2:00 PM, at St. Anthony's Church Hall.** There's a website with more information: www.travelillum.com/trc/dea, or speak with Father Bob.



Dear Friends,

One of our favorite images of Christmas is that of the Three Wise Men, a/k/a the Three Magi or the Three Kings. In many cultures the feast of the Epiphany is the time for gifts giving, whether it is the Three Kings themselves who bring children their gifts, as in Puerto Rico, or the kindly old witch La Befana in Italy. (La Befana is just a corruption of Epifania, Epiphany.) But the significance of this feast is far greater than that.

God revealed Godself in the Person of Jesus Christ, first seen and held by Mary and Joseph. Then the angels announced His presence to the marginal outsiders, the shepherds, day laborers on the hillsides. Then the revelation was shared with total strangers, foreigners from the East, the traditional enemies of the people of Israel. This is not accidental, therefore. This is God's will, God's plan for the salvation of all.

Recently I read a mission statement from a parish out of state. Their stated mission was "to lead all *parishioners* to heaven and the Beatific Vision." Let's hope our vision is broader than that. May our mission at St. Anthony of Padua Parish be to become a true beacon to all people, taking as our example God's messengers, who shared the Good News with the world.

Pace e Bene,

Married Couples: Want to give a gift that keeps on giving? Register for the next Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend. It's the best gift you'll ever give each other and your marriage! The next Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekends in New England are **January 16-18, February 13-15, and March 6-8.** for more information call Ralph & Jane Becker at 1-800-710-9963.

The Serra Club of Worcester North invites you to join us in offering daily prayer for priests and seminarians of our Diocese. The names for the week of January 4th through January 10th: Deacon James Linderman; Deacon James Conner; Rev. Francis Roberge; Rev. Thomas Hultquist; Rev. Ernest Allega; Rev. Timothy Brewer; Deacon Frederick Harkins.

St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry Items

Please don't forget about the pantry. Items needed are: bathroom tissue, cereal, canned vegetables, beef stew & canned soups, spaghetti sauce, jam or jelly, canned fruit, cake mix, frosting. Many people rely on this weekly service that St. Francis provides. Continue to do what you can. Thank you!

Mount St. Alphonsus Pstoral Center, one of the largest Roman Catholic centers in the world, announces its upcoming programs.

DAY OF PRAYER: Wednesday, January 21, 2009 from 9:30 AM – 3:00 PM. The theme for the January Day of Prayer is "St. Paul's Letter to Philemon". The day will include presentations and discussions, and celebrations of the Sacrament of Reconciliation and Eucharist. There will also be time to enjoy the Mount's majestic building

TAIZE PRAYER: Wednesday, February 4, 2009 at 7:30 PM. come here the Mount's choir sing these simple repetitive and scripture-based chants made glorious with harmonies, in candlelight only. Donations are welcome. Thousands of people from around the northeast make a pilgrimage to the Mount each year. For more information, please visit www.VisitTheMount.com, or call (845) 384-8000.

TV Worth Watching: A Conversation with Bishop McManus on the Church's priorities in 2009 will air on FATV 8 on **Thursday, January 8th at 9:30 AM & 5:00 PM and Friday, January 9th at 9:30 AM.** You may also watch online at your convenience at www.worcesterdiocese.org and click on the icon in the lower right of the Home Page.

Too early to be thinking about summer camp? Camp Fatima and Camp Bernadette don't think so. They are both accredited by the American Camp Association. Camp Fatima for boys and Camp Bernadette for girls are now accepting registrations for the 2009 summer season. The camps, located in the Lakes Region of NH, offer 2 week overnight sessions for children, ages 6-15. For more information, contact Michael Drumm at 603-364-5851 or email mdrumm@diocamps.org, or visit us on the web at www.diocamps.org. Please don't wait as sessions do fill up quickly.

"We are all God's children so it is important to share His gifts. Do not worry about why problems exist in the world-just respond to people's needs." - *Mother Teresa* -

Here are some thoughts on "Living as a Disciple"

Jesus calls each of us to live as His disciple. What does this mean?

To be a disciple is:

- To place God first above everything, then transform the way we live so that our commitment to God is evident.
- To acknowledge that all we are and all we have is God's free gift to us.
- To accept the responsibility that comes with God's gifts, that is, to use them as God intends.
- To put our trust in God, not in money or things.
- To be active in prayer and works in the family, the parish, the workplace, the community.
- To show our thanks for God's gifts by offering the first and best portion of our time, talent and treasure.

