

SAINT CHARLES BORROMEO CHURCH  
190 NORTH MAIN STREET  
WOONSOCKET, RHODE ISLAND

January 6, 2013



“Then they opened their treasures and offered him gifts of gold,  
frankincense and myrrh.”

Matthew 2: 11

# Saint Charles Borromeo Church

190 North Main Street Woonsocket, RI 02895  
Phone: (401) 766-0176 Fax: (401) 766-0185

Parish email :

rectorysaintcharles@gmail.com

Pastor's email :

fr\_finnegan@stcharlesborromeo.com

Parish Website:

www.stcharlesborromeo.com

## Pastoral Staff

Pastor: **Rev. Gerald F. Finnegan, S. J.**

Parish Secretary: **Lucille Hannon**

Religious Education Director: **Donna Zannelli**  
(401) 766-2890

Grades 1 & 2: **Becky Kilcline**

Grades 3 & 4: **Brother Allen**

Grades 5&6: **Judith Angell**

Music Ministry: **Wayne and Becky Kilcline**

Office of Community Services & Advocacy  
Woonsocket Satellite: **Amy Saramago (401) 762-2849**  
(on Tuesdays and Thursdays)

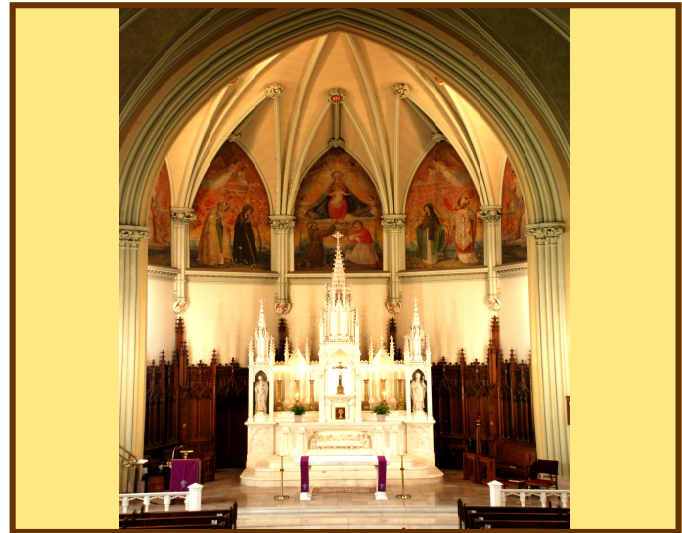
Cemetery Care:

**Jack Marzini**, Superintendent

**Robert Millette**, Assistant

**Ken DiPardo**, Assistant

Cemetery tel. # **(508) 883-6838**



## Mass Schedule

### Weekend Masses

Saturday 4:00 pm

Sunday 7:30 am and 10:00 am

**Brazilian Mass** 12:00 noon

Rev. Herivelto Pereira, C.SsR.

### Weekday Masses (lower level Chapel)

Tuesday through Friday: 9:00 am

**Wednesday—Bible Study - 9:30—10:15 am**

### Sacrament of Baptism

Please call the rectory after your baby's birth to prepare for this initial Sacrament of spiritual life.

### Sacrament of Reconciliation (Penance)

Confessions are available on Saturdays 3:00 to 3:40 pm or by appointment.

### Sacrament of Matrimony

Please call the rectory at least six months prior to the date of your wedding.

### Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick (and Communion Calls)

Please notify us if anyone is ill, in the hospital or at home and unable to get to church, especially those who are homebound and may wish to receive Holy Communion at home.

**If you are new to the parish, WELCOME!**

Please introduce yourself. We want to know you and to serve you. We hope you will favor your parish with your prayers, your presence, your talents and your financial assistance — according to your means.



**mass intentions**

Saturday January 5	4:00 pm	<b>Saint Charles Parishioners</b>	
Sunday January 6	7:30 am 10:00 am 12:00 pm	<b>Martha McIntyre</b> <b>Michael Zannelli</b> (10th Anniversary) <b>Brazilian Mass</b>	By Jeannine & Jim Gagnon By the family
Monday January 7			
Tuesday January 8	10:00 am	<b>Tom Kirby</b>	By Sally and Doris
Wednesday January 9	9:00 am	<b>Deceased Parkview Residents</b>	By Current residents
Thursday January 10	9:00 am	<b>Jeanne d’Arc Fontaine</b>	By Paulette Videau
Friday January 11	9:00 am	<b>Holy Souls in Purgatory</b>	By Lorraine & Carol
Saturday January 12	4:00 pm	<b>Mr. &amp; Mrs. Joseph Reilly</b>	By the family
Sunday January 13	7:30 am 10:00 am 12:00 pm	<b>Martha McIntyre</b> <b>Robert Bousquet</b> (5th Anniversary) <b>Brazilian Mass</b>	By Phillis Kerry, M/M John Logan By Roland & Susan Desilets

If you have requested a Mass Intention and would like to have a family member bring up the gifts, please see the Celebrant or a Eucharistic Minister before the start of the Mass.

**scripture readings**

*Week of January 6, 2013*

- 6 SUN** *Is 60:1-6/Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6/Mt 2:1-12 (20) Pss Prop*
- 7 Mon** *1 Jn 3:22:4:6/Mt 4:12-17, 23-25 (212) Pss II*
- 8 Tue** *1 Jn 4:7-10/Mk 6:34-44 (213)*
- 9 Wed** *1 Jn 4:11-18/Mk 6:45-52 (214)*
- 10 Thu** *1 Jn 4:19:5:4/Lk 4:14-22a (215)*
- 11 Fri** *1 Jn 5:5-13/Lk 5:12-16 (216)*
- 12 Sat** *1 Jn 5:14-21/Jn 3:22-30 (217)*
- 13 SUN** *Is 42:1-4, 6-7 or Is 40:1-5, 9-11/Acts 10:34-38 or Ti 2:11-14; 3:4-7/Lk 3:15-16, 21-22 (21) Pss Prop*

*The proper effect of the Eucharist is the transformation of man into God.*

~St. Thomas Aquinas

**Your kind contributions received last weekend**



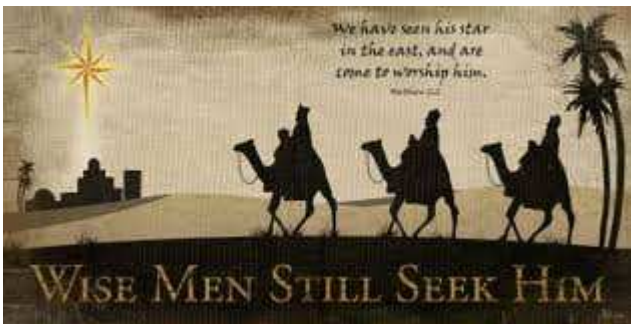
Offering Envelopes _____	<b>\$ 2,570.75</b>
Loose Money _____	<b>198.00</b>
Solemnity of Mary _____	<b>977.00</b>
<hr/>	
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$3,745.00</b>

**thank you**

*Notes from the Pastor*

So we are in the first Sunday of the New Year, 2013. In the calendar of the Church it is the Feast of the Epiphany of the Lord, that is, the day on which we celebrate the finding of the child by the three wise men from the East. This wonderful Gospel story is teaching us that this child, though firmly enclosed within the traditions and culture of his Jewish family, is going to grow up to be a universal personality. It is true that in his earthy career the Lord will emphasize the fact that he is sent first to his own people. Nevertheless, he is one who can recognize faith wherever he finds it, and he often finds it among his half-Jewish neighbors. It is the Samaritan leper who returns to give thanks, while the others don't. It is a Samaritan woman whom he invites to drink of the waters of salvation, and she does. Then, in the early community, the apostles, Peter especially, had to learn to enlarge their horizons. They are at first astonished that the Holy Spirit is coming down upon Gentiles, but they learn to adjust their minds and hearts to a God who is greater than they thought.

This lesson of "big-heartedness" is one which we all have to learn again and again during our lives. We are comfortable with the familiar. Once in awhile we have to learn to be uncomfortable with the Holy Spirit who is leading us into a larger room of strangers.



*And behold, the star that they had seen at its rising preceded them, until it came and stopped over the place where the child was.*



Look!  
Look up!  
O Jerusalem.  
Here comes the world  
running to walk in your light.

We are the sparkling and the dim,  
the kings and the beggars,  
the bosses and the  
slaves.

Shine  
your light on us all.  
Let your star chase away our dark.

Glow and grow  
within  
us.

**PRAY** ... especially **Tom Flood, Fritz Page, Donald Hickey, Lauri Luzzi, Robert Lachance, Paul Kogut, Ralph Descy** and the members of our parish, our families and our loved ones — who may be hospitalized, homebound or otherwise struggling with any form of physical,



...For the recently deceased, especially **Pauline Colerick, Paul Iben, Roland Gross**, all the deceased members of our parish, our families and our friends.



... for our military — the brave men and women, who are stationed in troubled spots around the world — especially family members of our parish, the community of Woonsocket and the State of Rhode Island.



### "The Christmas Mystery"

Here's what the Catechism reveals about the wonder of God becoming man in the form of a newborn: *To become a child in relation to God is the condition for entering the kingdom. For this, we must humble ourselves and become little. Even more: to become "children of God" we must be "born from above" or "born of God." Only when Christ is formed in us will the mystery of Christmas be fulfilled in us.*

*Christmas is the mystery of this "marvelous wxchange": O marvelous exchange! Man's Creator has become man, born of the Virgin. We have been made sharers in the divinity of Christ who humbled himself to share our humanity. To learn more, please go to [www.relevantradio.com](http://www.relevantradio.com), keyword: cat*

### RETROUVAILLE...A Lifeline

If your marriage is tearing the two of you apart, if there is little or no meaningful communication, if you are considering separation or divorce, we believe Retrouvaille can help. You are NOT alone! Our peer ministry is led by couples who have lived through the resurrection in their marriages using the tools taught in this program. Rediscover a loving marriage with a Retrouvaille (pronounced re-tro-vy) weekend.

The 2013 New England Retrouvaille marriage renewal weekends will be held on: January 11-13, April 5-7, and September 20-23, 2013. To register for the weekend or for more information, call (800) 470-2230 or visit [www.HelpOurMarriage.com](http://www.HelpOurMarriage.com).

### PEACE IS POSSIBLE

Paul VI, John Paul II

All of the values we are promoting in this letter rest ultimately in the disarmament of the human heart and the conversion of the human spirit to God who alone can give authentic peace. Indeed, to have peace in our world, we must first have peace within ourselves. As Pope John Paul II reminded us in his 1982 World Day of Peace message "World peace will always elude us until peace becomes a reality for each of us personally".

Challenge of Peace # 284

Also **SAINT THERESA'S BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION** on Sunday, January 6 with a Holy Hour at 2:30PM with Rosary Meditations from the writings of St. Therese. Refreshments will follow.

Thank you to the Bodnar family and also to any others inadvertently missed for contributing to the Christmas flowers adorning our sanctuary.



The Diocese of Providence's Office of Religious Education will offer a **YEAR OF FAITH Study Day** on the Second Vatican Dogmatic Constitution on **Lu-men Gentium** on Thursday, January 17 from 9AM to 3PM at the parish center of SS. John and Paul in Coventry, RI. Dr. Aurelie Hagstrom, Chair of Providence College Undergraduate Theology Department, will present three talks on this document. A time of reflection, opportunity for the Sacrament of Reconciliation and Mass will also be available. This day, if all other requirements are satisfied, will allow the participant to gain the plenary indulgence for the *Year of Faith*. For more details visit our webpage [www.discovercatholicfaith.org](http://www.discovercatholicfaith.org) or contact the Office of Religious Education at (401) 278-4646.

**NO SONG LIKE YOUR OWN: A WOMEN'S RETREAT** will be held at Miramar Retreat Center in Duxbury, MA January 27-29, 2013. For more info, contact Peggy Patenaude at (508) 548-9149 or e-mail her at [timeoutretreats@comcast.net](mailto:timeoutretreats@comcast.net). For more info, visit [www.timeoutretreats.com](http://www.timeoutretreats.com)

**RETREAT ON THE PRIESTHOOD** - Bishop Tobin invites high school seniors, college, and post college age men who are discerning a call to the priesthood to a "Retreat on the Priesthood" at the Seminary of Our Lady of Providence on January 11-12 from 7PM Friday to 6PM Saturday. There will be discussions, Mass, Eucharistic Adoration, and fellowship. Anyone interested in this quiet, prayerful time of discernment should contact Fr. Carl Fissette, Director of Vocations at (401) 331-1316.

### MASS FOR THE FEAST OF SAINT BROTHER ANDRE BESSETTE

On Monday, January 7 at 7PM, Mass will be celebrated for the Memorial of Saint Brother Andre (1845-1937) at Saint Mary Church, 77 Mendon Street in Uxbridge, MA

Brother Andre is known as the founder of St. Joseph Oratory in Montreal. He was above all else a friend of the poor, the sick and the needy. Inspired by St. Joseph, his chosen patron, he worked tirelessly to bring comfort to the suffering and the afflicted. During his lifetime he once lived in Connecticut and frequently visited his cousins in Rhode Island. Brother Andre was canonized by Pope Benedict XVI on October 17, 2010. The Mass on 1/7 will be celebrated in both French & English and will be followed by a reception in the parish hall. All are welcome.

## REFLECTION ON THIS WEEKEND'S READING

*"When King Herod heard this, he was greatly troubled,  
and all Jerusalem with him." (Gospel)*

### THE POWER OF POWERLESSNESS

There are different kinds of power and different kinds of authority. There is military power, muscle power, political power, economic power, moral power, charismatic power, and psychological power, among other things. There are different kinds of authority too: We can be bitterly forced into acquiescing to certain demands or we can be gently persuaded into accepting them. Power and authority are not all of a kind.

Imagine four persons in a room: The first is a powerful dictator who rules a country. His word commands armies and his shifting moods intimidate subordinates. He wields a brutal power. Next to him sits a gifted athlete at the peak of his physical prowess, a man whose quickness and strength have few equals. His skills are a graceful power for which he is much admired and envied. The third person is a rock star whose music and charisma can electrify an audience and fill a room with a soulful energy. Her face is on billboards and she is a household name. That's still another kind of power. Finally, we have too in the room a newborn, a baby, lying in its crib, seemingly without any power or strength whatsoever, unable to even ask for what it needs. Which of these is ultimately the most powerful?

The irony is that the baby ultimately wields the greatest power. The athlete could crush it, the dictator could kill it, and the rock star could out-glow it in sheer dynamism, but the baby has a different kind of power. It can touch hearts in a way that a dictator, an athlete, or a rock star cannot. Its innocent, wordless presence, without physical strength, can transform a room and a heart in a way that guns, muscle, and charisma cannot. We watch our language and actions around a baby, less so around athletes and rock stars. The powerlessness of a baby touches us at a deeper moral place.

And this is the way we find and experience God's power here on earth, sometimes to our great frustration, and this is the way that Jesus was deemed powerful during his lifetime. The entire Gospels make this clear, from beginning to end. Jesus was born as a baby, powerless, and he died hanging helplessly on a cross with bystanders mocking his powerlessness. Yet both his birth and his death manifest the kind of power upon which we can ultimately build our lives.

The Gospels describe Jesus' power and authority in exactly this way. In Greek, the original language of the Gospels, we find three words for power or authority. We easily recognize the first two: energy and dynamic. There is a power in energy, in physical health and muscle, just as there is a power in being dynamic, in dynamite, in having the power to generate energy; but when the Gospels speak of Jesus as "having great power" and as having a power beyond that of other religious figures, they do not use the words energetic or dynamic. They use a third word, *exousia*, which might be best rendered as vulnerability. Jesus' real power was rooted in a certain vulnerability, like the powerlessness of a child.

This isn't an easy concept to grasp since our idea of power is normally rooted in the opposite, namely, the notion that power lies in the ability to overwhelm, not underwhelm, others. And yet we understand this, at least somewhat, in our experience of babies, who can overpower us precisely by their powerlessness. Around a baby, as most every mother and father has learned, we not only watch our language and try not to have bitter arguments; we also try to be better, more loving persons. Metaphorically, a baby has the power to do an exorcism. It can cast out the demons of self-absorption and selfishness in us. That's why Jesus could cast out certain demons that others could not.

And that's how God's power forever lies within our world and within our lives, asking for our patience. Christ, as Annie Dillard says, is always found in our lives just as he was originally found, a helpless baby in the straw who must be picked up and nurtured into maturity. But we are forever wanting something else, namely, a God who would come and clean up the world and satisfy our thirst for justice by showing some raw muscle power and banging some heads here and now. We are impatient with quiet, moral power that demands infinite patience and a long-term perspective. We want a hero, someone with the blazing guns of a Hollywood superhero but the heart of a Mother Theresa. The guns of the world blasting away evil, that's what we want from our God, not the power of a baby lying mute and helpless against the cruel powers of our time. Like the Israelites facing the Philistines, we are reluctant to send a shepherd boy against an ironclad giant. We want divine power in iron, muscles, guns, and charisma.

But that's not the way intimacy, peace, and God are found.

Fr. Ron Rolheiser