

**SAINT CHARLES BORROMEIO CHURCH**

**WOONSOCKET, RI**

**(401) 766-0176**

**September 1, 2013**

**22nd SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**



“Everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, but the one who humbles himself will be exalted.” Luke 14: 11

**PASTOR: REV. GERALD F. FINNEGAN, S. J.**

**MASS SCHEDULE**

**VIGIL SATURDAY 5:00 PM - SUNDAY 9:00 AM**

**WEEKDAYS TUESDAY - FRIDAY 9:00 AM**

## MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday - August 31 5PM - St. Charles Parishioners  
Sunday - Sept. 1 9AM - Margaret "Peg" Shiel  
Tuesday - Sept. 3 9AM - St. Charles Parishioners  
Wednesday - Sept. 4 9AM - Mass of Thanksgiving  
Thursday - Sept. 5 9AM - Paul "Zeb" Rich  
Friday - Sept. 6 9AM - Lucille Blake  
Saturday - Sept. 7 5PM - Rose & Edward Crepeau  
Sunday - Sept. 8 9AM - Tom Kirby

### Last Weekend's Offertory

Offertory Envelopes \$1,896.00

Loose Money \$ 315.00

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Total \$2,211.00

*Thank  
You*

### Scripture for the week of September 1,

**1 SUN** Sir 3:17-18, 20, 28-29/Heb 12:18-19, 22-24a/Lk 14:1, 7-14  
**2 Mon** 1 Thes 4:13-18/Lk 4:16-30  
**3 Tue** 1 Thes 5:1-6, 9-11/Lk 4:31-37  
**4 Wed** Col 1:1-8/Lk 4:38-44  
**5 Thu** Col 1:9-14/Lk 5:1-11  
**6 Fri** Col 1:15-20/Lk 5:33-39  
**7 Sat** Col 1:21-23/Lk 6:1-5  
**8 SUN** Wis 9:13-18b/Phlm 9-10, 12-17/Lk 14:25-33

*"Nothing is far from God"  
~Saint Monica*



By the time these words reach you, our city will have celebrated its 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary. I hope you have enjoyed the celebration and discovered our St. Charles Borromeo banner at the corner of Social and N. Main St. Albert Beauparlant promised us a good spot for our banner, and he certainly came through on his promise. May this celebration help our city to carry on in these difficult times!

Fr. St-Godard is hosting a celebration on Sunday, the 24<sup>th</sup> of November, to celebrate the founding of our city in 1888 and has invited the churches which were then in existence in the city to take part in it. There are four Protestant churches and two Catholic one which were then in existence. Our church and Precious Blood are the two Catholic churches. As you well know, our church was the first Catholic church of the city. The parish was founded in 1846 and the present church building was built in 1868. When you see pictures in the local papers of Monument Square at the time of the city's founding, if they are looking north, the tower of our church is clearly visible. Recently in The Call there was an article describing the renovations taking place at the Cathedral in Providence. It mentioned the fact that the Cathedral and two other churches in the diocese, St. Mary's in Newport and St. Joseph's on Hope St. in Providence, were the only churches built in Rhode Island by the famous 19<sup>th</sup> century architect Patrick Keeley. We have to correct this article. There were four such churches, our parish church being the fourth.

Our bulletin this week is reverting to a simpler form. Thanks to our secretary Lucille Hannon who has made this transfer possible.

## PARISH, AREA AND DIOCESAN NEWS

This weekend's 2nd Collection is for the **Annual St. Vincent de Paul Fund Drive**. Checks should be made out to St. Vincent de Paul Society. All donations are used to purchase food. SVD members appreciate the great support we always receive from parishioners in our effort to provide groceries to those in need in our city.

Come sample your favorite foods from 21 of Northern Rhode Island's best restaurants as the Haven of Grace hosts its 11th Annual **Flavors of Northern Rhode Island** on Wednesday, September 11 from 5:30 PM to 7:15PM at Cercle Laurier, 165 East School Street, Woonsocket. Tickets are \$15 and are available at the door.

The **Haven of Grace** is offering its first **Harvest Raffle**. For \$10 you will be entered in 37 drawings throughout the month of October. Prizes range in value from \$15 to \$100. Proceeds will benefit homeless women. For tickets or information please call (401) 487-5824 or (401) 585-0308.

**EXPERIENCE AN EVENING WITH DAN SCHUTTE AND FRIENDS** Sponsored by Mount St. Charles Academy. Dan will also perform with members of the Mount St. Charles music department. Event details: Friday, September 13 - 7PM at Mount St. Charles Academy, 800 Logee Street, Woonsocket.

Dan has been composing music for worship for more than 30 years, including extensive collaboration with the St. Louis Jesuits. His more recent pieces exhibit an enduring ability to reach into people's hearts and draw them into prayer. He is one of the best known, most prolific and influential composers of music for the liturgy today.

\$10 per person For more info, please call Marc Blanchette (401) 769-0310 or e-mail him [blanchettem@mountsaintcharles.org](mailto:blanchettem@mountsaintcharles.org)

**CHRISTMAS BAZAAR NEWS** - On the September 8 weekend, the Christmas Bazaar Committee will present the **CHRISTMAS BAZAAR THEME BASKET WISH LIST BOARD**. The items listed on the board are being requested to complete specific Theme Baskets and our 1st Annual R.I. Lottery Ticket Tree. You can help by choosing one or more cards, purchasing the items listed and bringing them to church by Sept. 22. Many of the items can be purchased at the North Smithfield Stop & Shop or market of your choice.

Please help us to continue making the outstanding

Theme Baskets and Special Raffles that define our bazaar. For more info, please contact Karolyn Baril (401) 762-5108.

### **RACHEL'S VINEYARD RETREAT WEEKEND**

The weekend retreat is from Friday, September 13 to Sunday September 15. It provides post-abortive women and men an opportunity to process their pain and sorrow while allowing an opportunity to form a spiritual connection with their lost child(ren). Participants will experience the compassion and forgiveness of Jesus as they begin the journey toward healing. Our retreats are offered in English and Spanish. If you are interested in learning more about this special confidential retreat weekend, call (401) 421-7833 - Ext.218. See flyer on bulletin board.

**9th ANNUAL HUMAN LIFE GUILD DAY** - This year's event will be held on Saturday, September 28, 9AM to 4PM at St. Philip's Church in Greenville. Bishop Tobin will be the main celebrant and Rev. Christopher Mahar will be homilist for the 9AM Mass. Following Mass there will be a reception with the Bishop in the parish center with a conference that will include educational talks reflecting the latest life-related issues, an overview of diocesan pastoral care programs available for men and women and opportunities to become involved in diocesan programs. All are invited to attend the Mass, but pre-registration for the conference that will follow and the cost is \$25 per person. Deadline to register is September 21. Call Carol Owens at (401) 421-7833 x 218

### **SAINT AMBROSE ANNUAL CLAMBAKE & RAFFLE**

- St. Ambrose Church, 191 School St. Albion, is holding its annual Parish Clambake on the parish grounds on Sunday, September 8 from noon until 5PM. In addition to great food items and a cold beer tent, the fun-filled day includes games for children, games of chance for adults and raffles. Admission is free for this annual celebration. Clamcakes, red and white chowder, dynamites, hot dogs, hamburgers, fries, homemade baked goods, cold beer and old soft drinks will be available for purchase. The Clambake Club Raffle drawings are held every hour for a total of \$5,000 in prizes. Only 250 Clambake Club tickets will be sold; tickets are available for \$100 each at the Rectory Office. For more info or to reserve a ticket please call (401) 333-1568.

## REFLECTION ON THIS WEEKEND'S READINGS

### IMAGINE THIS

It is said that we are made in the image and likeness of God.

But this does not seem very likely, sorry to say.

Quite a few other "images and likenesses" settle into our eyes and ears instead. Glance wide-scale over all the world. Tribe against tribe, religion against religion, genocide, racialism, and so on. These are now a regular feature.

Think about marriage, that institution which still cradles the future of—not just of its delicate offspring—but of whole cultures. Hasn't marriage become something extra, or "just for the time being," followed by divorce, which is a lot of trouble so why get married in the first place?

Wouldn't you agree that sexual mores in the Western world are in the process of finally separating themselves from commitment, responsibility, and even care? It is all in the name of freedom, but at what price?

And how about a number of Roman Catholic priests and bishops whose actions have either directly or indirectly hurt the lives of children and young people, while still professing to be dedicated to Jesus? "There is no greater love than to give up your life for your friend," Jesus said. How is it even possible that people who profess formally the image and likeness of God could possibly do the complete, evil opposite?

I know, I know, the good has to be factored into the mix as well. But with so much powerful loss stirred in, what can be left of the image of God in human beings?

The poet E. E. Cummings wrote a particularly strong poem that includes the following lines:

King Christ, this world is all a-leak,  
and life preservers there are none,  
and waves that only he can walk  
who dares to call himself a man.

It sounds like a general maxim, but the person he refers to in this poem, who did in fact become a man, was Jesus. He let himself be rocked and wrecked and finally sunk. Then he resurrected and walked and continued to walk the waves of our rough, drowning world.

Here was a man who was God, certainly, but also a human being. Within himself, in the place where it matters most, Jesus had complete openness to love. He received it and he let it go out to others. Do you and I dare to be a human being? Deep within our own selves, in imitation of Jesus, are we capable of making room for God the lover to live in us? If we gradually allow it to, love-incarnate will come to life in us.

If we addict ourselves instead, if we "exalt" ourselves, as Jesus puts it in the Gospel, we will wrap our souls in layer after layer of fraud. We will try to become our possessions, we will try to become what other people think of us, what culture manipulates us to be.

Here is a better image than the ones we are fed daily: tiny ship-worthy boats that are us—if only we do not think we are sprawling ocean liners, possessing everything. In a word, if we "conduct our affairs with humility" ([First Reading](#)), we can allow God to love us and live in us.

And then we will make a difference in the world. We will become the image and likeness of God's tolerance shining forth.

John Foley, S. J.