

SAINT CHARLES BORROMEIO CHURCH
WOONSOCKET, RHODE ISLAND

(401) 766-0176

SEPTEMBER 15, 2013

24th SUNDAY in ORDINARY TIME



*“What man among you having a hundred sheep and losing one of them would not leave the ninety-nine in the desert and go after the lost one until he finds it? “
Luke 15:4*

Parish Website: www.stcharlesborromeo.com

MASS SCHEDULE

**VIGIL SATURDAY 4:00 PM - SUNDAY 9:00 AM
WEEKDAYS TUESDAY - FRIDAY 9:00 AM**

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday - Sept. 14 4PM - Yvette M. Paquette
 Sunday - Sept. 15 9AM - Tom Kirby
 Tuesday - Sept. 17 9AM - People of Saint Charles
 Wed. - Sept. 18 9AM - Lucille Blake
 Thursday - Sept. 19 9AM - Aldo Rossi and family
 Friday - Sept. 20 9AM - People of Saint Charles
 Saturday - Sept. 21 4PM - Kathleen "Penny" Rondeau
 Sunday - Sept. 22 9AM - Thomas J. Flood

Last Weekend's Offertory

Offertory Envelopes	\$ 4,220.00
Loose Money	\$ 233.00
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Total	\$ 4,453.00

*Thank
You*

Scripture for the week of September 15, 2013

15 **SUN** Ex 32:7-11, 13-14/1 Tm 1:12-17/Lk 15:1-32
 16 **Mon** 1 Tm 2:1-8/Lk 7:1-10
 17 **Tue** 1 Tm 3:1-13/Lk 7:11-17
 18 **Wed** 1 Tm 3:14-16/Lk 7:31-35
 19 **Thu** 1 Tm 4:12-16/Lk 7:36-50
 20 **Fri** 1 Tm 6:2c-12/Lk 8:1-3 34
 21 **Sat** Eph 4:1-7, 11-13/Mt 9:9-13
 22 **SUN** Am 8:4-7/1 Tm 2:1-8/Lk 16:1-13 or 16:10-13

"God came into the world to reawaken the thirst for great things in us."

~Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

We are surrounded this week by war, one behind us, the other possibly in front of us. We remember the awful tragedy of 9/11/01 when the Twin Towers went down and so many people lost their lives. It was an unbelievable sight we watched on the television as the airplanes went into the buildings and they began to dissolve. Then we were attacked. Now our nation is weighing the option of attacking Syria. Pope Francis has appealed to us to seek other means of helping the Syrian people. If you are radio listener or if you attend daily Mass here, you will know that we did have an hour of prayer last Saturday before Mass to honor the pope's plea. And it would seem that all these prayers are having an effect. Today (9/10) there seems to be a possibility of the removal of chemical weapons from Syria without an attack on our part. Thanks be to God!

We return to a 4 P.M. Mass this Saturday. The Sunday morning Mass will be at 9 A.M. Last year, you may remember, we had two Masses on Sunday, one at 7:30 A.M., the other at 10 A.M., preceded by our CCD classes at 8:45 A.M. This year we are reversing the Sunday order. The CCD classes will be after Mass rather than before it. Having the Mass an hour earlier is an attempt to split the difference between the two previous Masses. Of course, we cannot satisfy everyone, but that is as close as we can come to a reasonable compromise.

Our doors and sign are in the process of renewal. How do you like them?

Today's Gospel

Luke 15: 1-32

You the
 prodigal Father,
 lavishing kindness
 at the sight of our return,
 even if we are a long way off,
 running to meet us, with hugs, kisses,
 and killing of the finest calf just for a feast for us!

Prodigal Son, Prodigal Father and Prodigal Spirit,
 we feel awe and wonder at the love that you
 squander on us.

PARISH, AREA AND DIOCESAN NEWS

This weekend's 2nd Collection is for the **PRIESTS' RETIREMENT FUND**. Please be generous.

CHRISTMAS BAZAAR NEWS - Just a few cards remain on the Christmas Bazaar Wish List Board. You can help support the bazaar by taking one or more cards, purchasing the item listed and returning the item back to church next weekend. (9/22) Many of the items can be purchased at your favorite supermarket. Please help us to continue making the outstanding Theme Baskets and Special Raffles that define our bazaar.

For further info, contact Karolyn Baril, Bazaar Chairperson (401) 762-5108. Thank you and Happy Shopping!

CHRISTMAS BAZAAR COMMITTEE MEETING will be on Monday, September 23 at 6:30pm.

SISTERS OF MERCY NEED YOUR HELP - Mercy Ecology, Inc. is holding two fundraisers in Cumberland, RI

New Dawn, an educational Center for children, families and adults is holding a Wine Tasting at Diamond Hill Winery, 3145 Diamond Hill Road on Fri. Sept. 20 from 5 to 7PM. Silent Auction & Raffle, Music & refreshments.

Also, a Raffle for 4 New England Getaways: Watch Hill, RI, Scarborough, Maine; Madison, CT; and Jay Peak, VT

Tickets \$25 or 5 for \$100. Drawing Dec. 21st. See bulletin board for more info or call New Dawn for tickets! (401) 333-1341.

A ST. FRANCIS FEAST NIGHT OF SCIENCE AND FAITH - **When caring for creation hits home: Looking at climate change - Globally and Locally**

Friday, October 4 - 6:00 to 7:30 at St. Paul Church Hall

One St. Paul Place, Cranston, RI

Reflection: Why does the Church care about Climate Change by Paola Lois

Teaching: When caring for creation hits home: Looking at Climate change globally and locally by Bill Patenaude.

Guest Speakers: Janet Freedman, Coastal Geologist, RI Coastal Resources Management Council, David Vallee, Hydrologist-in-charge, Northeast River Forecast Center, National Weather Service, Taunton.

TAKE THE ST. FRANCIS PLEDGE - *A promise and a commitment by Catholic individuals, families, parishes, organizations and institutions to live our Faith by protecting God's Creation and Advocating on behalf of people in poverty who face the harshest impacts of Global Climate Change.* For more info and to register, contact Paola Lois at (401) 421-7833, ext. 220.

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

A **PRO-LIFE ROSE SALE** to help the Mother of Life Center will be held after the Masses on Saturday, October 5 and Sunday, October 6. All proceeds from the sale will benefit the Catholic, pro-life counseling services provided free to women who come to the Center's offices. Thank you for your support.

GENTIVA HOSPICE is looking for caring and compassionate individuals to provide companionship to our patients and support to their families. Tuberculosis screening, background check and orientation is provided at no cost to the volunteer. It could very well change your life and definitely make a difference to someone during the end of life's journey. For more information or to sign up for training, please call Samantha Koehler, Manager of Volunteer Services at (401) 738-1492 or e-mail her at Samantha.Koehler@Gentiva.com

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR AUTUMNFEST

FRY BOOTH: Both young and adult volunteers are needed to help in the Father Marot CYO Fry Booth with boxing fries, passing fries, serving chili/cheese sauce, running/cleaning, cooking (21+), cashiering (21+), and counting sales (21+). Your help will make the annual Father Marot CYO Center French Fry Booth a great success! To volunteer, please call the CYO Center at (401) 762-3252.

REFLECTION ON THIS WEEKEND'S READINGS

PRODIGAL US

Who would be dumb enough to adore something they constructed with their own hands! Do you cook dinner and then adore it?

Yet in the First Reading we find God becoming quite upset because the people put up cheap products as their God. While Moses is away, they build a golden calf and make it their God!

Ridiculous!

God had a different idea of his relation to the people. my paraphrase:

What about a two-way covenant of love? 'I will be your God and you will be my people. I will love you more than you can ask or imagine.' Won't you just love me in return?

They refuse and willfully run away to fill their paltry desires.

Picture God's anger as resembling what a parent would have toward a seriously disobedient child. He shouts at Moses,

"Let me alone, then, that my wrath may blaze up against them to consume them." (First Reading)

Moses acts as a family friend and says,

"Why, O Lord, should your wrath blaze up against your own people, whom you brought out of the land of Egypt with such great power and with so strong a hand?... Let your blazing wrath die down; relent in punishing your people."

Just calm down. They are just children. Give them some time. God agrees.

Yet, is this good advice? They were worshipping false gods! Maybe you and I do not fall down and adore all the man-made items that take up our time, but have you ever run away from God so you can have whatever arouses your own addictions?

What would that be? Beautiful houses, refrigerators, cars, magazines and clothes. And the famous "bottom line" in our businesses. And the great score at golf or softball or hunting or Bridge, or looking good. Or clothes or shoes. And money. And cigarettes. Or maybe it is drink, or voyeur sex. And do some of us worship the current "stars" in Hollywood or on MTV. Didn't we gain all these with our own hands?

The Gospel looks at the prodigal son. He is a great example of false worship. He left what he felt were the "shackles" of home life and of the obvious love of his father. He made himself "free"! Maybe his life of dissipation was an equivalent of our many houses, refrigerators, cars, magazines and clothes.

It doesn't work. The prodigal came crawling back home. We would expect his father to say, "Oh sure, now you turn up thinking everything will be just like it used to be. Well think again, pal." But instead his father actually runs to meet his son, embraces him and orders a huge feast of welcome. Did the young man get what he deserved? No. He got what his father prepared for him: entire forgiveness.

Here is the point. God does not want to keep us from the things we are attracted to. He wants us to value them in proportion to our real home.

Love God above all things. Then you can love everything and everyone else as they deserve.

We fail in doing this, of course, like the ancient Israelites and the prodigal son. But God puts his arms around us and cries, "Welcome, welcome, welcome. You came back! We can love one another again, can't we?"

And again we promise to do our best.

John Foley, S. J.