The shepherds went in haste to Bethlehem and found Mary and Joseph, and the infant lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known the message that had been told them about this child. - Lk 2:16-17

SOLEMNITY OF MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD

JANUARY 1, 2012

Pray for Reverend Francis Chase, Frank McManus, Kati McManus, Susan Leddy**,** Alice Kirk, Carlotta Wolseley-Lauchiouach, Lauren Mae Fulone, Philip Astone, Sr., Nan Marquart, Ray Godfrey, Helen Johnson, Donald R. Dion, John Maguire, Lisa Fulone, Barbara Cranston Ebenfield, and all the other Faithful Departed, & for the sick, especially Louise Archibald, Father Bob Donovan, Jen Sturtevant, Ron Zinzer, Fred & Sandy Silva, T.J. Baudanza, Robert Rose, Dolores Howard, Michelle Roberge Janson, Doris Maguire, Jackie Tavares, Joe Logan & Judith Sullivan Fortin, & let us pray for our troops serving around the world, especially Benjamin LaCasse, Deana Masotta, Peter Burchfield, John Elfrey & Mark Page, & for the victims of the devastating natural disasters.

Mass Intentions for the Week

Sat., Dec. 31, 4 p.m. Mem. for Lauren Mae Fulone.
Sun., Jan. 1, 8:30 a.m. Mem. for Philip Astone, Sr.
Sun., Jan. 1, 10:00 a.m. Mem. for Nan Marquart.
Mon., Jan. 2, 9 a.m. Mem. for Ray Godfrey.
Tues., Jan. 3, 9 a.m. Anniv. for Helen Johnson.
Wed., Jan. 4, 9 a.m. Mem. for Donald R. Dion.
Thurs., Jan. 5, 9 a.m. Mem. for John Maguire.
Fri., Jan. 6, 9 a.m. Mem. for Lisa and Lauren Fulone.
Sat., Jan. 7, 4 p.m. Anniv. for Barbara Cranston Ebenfield.
Sun., Jan. 8, 8:30 a.m. Mem. for Elizabeth (Lib) Bigelow.
Sun., Jan. 8, 10:00 a.m. Mem. for Magdalena Schuhmacher.

From the Pastor

A word of sincere thanks for the many cards and gifts that I received during the Christmas Season. I am most grateful for such thoughtfulness. I also wish to thank all who made our liturgies outstanding celebrations: Kathleen Kanaley, our Music Director, Diane Quinn, Jeanine Kelly, and LaVada Studley for the children's pageant & orchestra; the Children's Choir; our Parish Choir and the string ensemble at Midnight Mass; Altar servers, lectors & Eucharistic Ministers; those who gave donations for flowers; and all who helped decorate the Church – a big "Thank you" for a loving work well done!

NOVENA OF THE MIRACULOUS MEDAL: is prayed every Tuesday after the 9 a.m. Mass.

OSTEOPOROSIS EXERCISES: Join us on Monday mornings at 9:30 a.m. in the church hall. Please bring weights, water, and a towel.

ST. ELIZABETH SETON PRAYER GROUP: will meet next on January 5, 2011, 2:30 p.m., in the Church. Maybe one of your New Year's resolutions will be to be more prayerful; come and join us! **Don't forget the Prayer Basket at the Tabernacle for your special intentions.

Religious Education

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASSES have recessed for the holidays. Grades 1 & 2 will meet again on Sunday, January 8. Grades 3 & 4 will resume on Monday, January 9.

Reminder: Religion classes for Grades 5, 6, 7, and 8 will resume January 3. Also, thank you to Father Medeiros for his kind hospitality and the refreshments provided at the rectory to all these classes before Christmas. The question and answer sessions on the priesthood, based on previously submitted student questions, were very informative and greatly appreciated.

ADULT RELIGIOUS EDUCATION: continues at St. Elizabeth Seton on Mondays at 5 PM and Wednesday at 4:30 PM at St. John's Church.

THE PARISH SUPPORT AND 25/25 DRAWING will be published in next week's bulletin due to the fact that the January 1, 2012 bulletin was due early. Thank you.

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL: Many thanks to you, the parishioners and friends of Saint Elizabeth Seton Parish, for your outstanding support to the Giving Trees. Your kind generosity meant that many needy Falmouth families were able to share in the joy of Christmas. --The Saint Vincent de Paul Society.

Additionally, Christmas time and the New Year is a time to reflect and thank all those who have helped us during the past year. We, Vincentians, wish to thank all of YOU. YOU have given of YOUR time, energy, and funds. You were always there when we need YOU. Thank you and Happy New Year to all of YOU.

BIBLE STUDY: meets the 2nd & 4th Thursdays of the month after the 9 a.m. Mass in the church hall. We are studying the "*Book of Genesis*." Come join us!

THE PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY: will resume its regular meeting schedule in January of the first and third Thursdays of the month, after the 9:00 am Mass. We are very grateful for the blessings this Ministry has brought to many people, both the recipients and the knitters. Please call Pat M. at 508-457-7699 if you know of anyone who would be comforted by a shawl, and come join us next year.

CALENDARS FOR 2012: are available, courtesy of Chapman, Cole & Gleason, at the Church's exits. Please take one .

Scripture Alive: **BIBLE SHARING:** ***On the Road with Jesus*** (Matthew Chapters 11-21) will be the focus for seven Wednesdays beginning **January 4, 2012 from 10 AM to 12 Noon at St. Pius X, South Yarmouth, MA** facilitated by Claire McManus, STL, Diocesan Director of the Office of Faith Formation. $20 fee for books and materials, but please bring your own Bible. Bible Sharing necessitates that the group be limited to 12 participants. Please register contacting the Office at 508-678-2828 or online at www.faithformation.org.

THE WINTER-SPRING MINI-RETREAT SERIES: led by Peggy Patenaude of Taking Time Out will be held on the **second Wednesdays of the month at Sacred Hearts Retreat Center in Wareham, MA for 10 AM to 12:30 PM.** Fr. Stan Kolasa will celebrate Mass at 9 AM before the January 11th Session: "A Fresh Start." Cost: $20. Pre-registration required. Contact Peggy at 508-548-9149 or timeoutretreats@comcast.net. For more information, visit www.timeoutretreats.com.

ST. MARY'S EDUCATION FUND 7th ANNUAL WINTER BRUNCH: On behalf of the Diocese of Fall River, you are invited to attend the **St. Mary's Education Fund Winter Brunch on Sunday, January 22, 2012, at the Coonamessett Inn at 12:00 Noon.** Proceeds benefit the St. Mary's Education Fund which provides "need-based" scholarships to children in need of financial assistance to attend one of the schools of the Diocese of Fall River. Please call Jane Robin at 508-759-3566 for reservations or to make a donation. Brunch Tickets: Adults $25. Youth $14 (under 13). Kids (under 7) complimentary. ***This makes a great Gift!***

MY ONE WILD and PRECIOUS LIFE: a favorite among women, will be held **January 27-30, 2012 at Miramar Retreat Center in Duxbury, MA.** For more information, contact Peggy Patenaude at 508-548-9149, timeoutretreats@comcast.net or visit her website at www.timeoutretreats.com. To register, contact Miramar at 781-585-2460 or at Miramarma@aol.com.

SAINT FRANCIS XAVIER PREPATORY SCHOOL is celebrating its fifteenth year of academic excellence. To help celebrate this milestone, there will be a Mass at 11:00 AM on Sunday, January 8, 2012, in Saint Francis Xavier Church followed by light refreshments in the school hall. All alumni and parishioners are cordially invited to both the Mass and reception.

COME FOLLOW ME: HOW You Get There Determines WHERE YOU ARRIVE is a Young Adult Retreat for men and women between College Age and 35 years old who are married or single. The weekend will be held at the Sacred Hearts Retreat Center in Wareham, MA beginning at 6 PM on Friday, January 20, and concluding with lunch on Sunday, January 22. This retreat will be facilitated by Deacon Bruce Bonneau, Asst. Dir. Adult Evangelization and Spirituality; Crystal-Lynn Medeiros, Asst. Dir. Youth and Young Adult Ministry; and Fr. David Frederici, UMass Dartmouth Chaplain. The cost of the weekend is $150 per person which includes meals and accommodations. A discount is offered to those willing to share a room if additional space is needed. To register, download the form at www.fallriverfaithformation.org. Registration deadline is Friday, January 13. Fore more information, contact Crystal-Lynn Medeiros at 508-678-2828 or via email at cmedeiros@dfrced.com.