

**First Communion – Rooms 1-4**Saturday, April 24th @10:00amRehearsal – Wednesday, April 21st @4:30pm**First Communion – Rooms 5-8**Saturday, April 24th @1:00pmRehearsal – Wednesday, April 21st @6:30pm**First Communion – Rooms 9-12**Saturday, May 1st @10:00amRehearsal – Wednesday, April 28th @4:30pm**First Communion – Rooms 13-16**Saturday, May 1st @1:00pmRehearsal – Wednesday, April 28th @6:30pm

All **HOME PROGRAM** packets are **NOW** due. Packets can be left on the porch of the Rectory or returned to the Religious Education Office.

EUCHARISTIC CONGRESSApril 23-24th

Join hundreds of college students and young adults for the 3rd Annual Boston Eucharistic Congress for college students and young adults. The Congress is on April 23-24th at Sacred Heart & St. Leonard's Churches in the North End of Boston. Talks will be by Fr. Benedict Groeschehl, Cardinal Sean O'Malley, college students and others. Mass will be celebrated, Eucharistic Adoration, service projects, Sacrament of Confession, and an authentic Italian dinner and procession through the streets of Boston. For more information visit www.eucharisticcongress.org

**REMEMBER
IN YOUR
PRAYERS**

Please remember in your prayers the men and women who are in the military today, especially William Albano, Cpt. USMC Michael Burke,

Cpt. USMC John Burke, Commander Karl Eimers, Louise Balduf, Graham P Johnston, Father Bill Devine and USMC Phillip Giardino, Jr. Also, Daniel Sheehan, Shane McAulay, Daniel Wagner, Sean Davey, Corporal Eric Thomas, USMC Marc Manning, Cpt. Joseph A. Colantoni, Brendan Quinn, Sgt. James R. Jarvis III, Cpl. Michael P. Johns, Staff Sgts. Andrew & Arielle Grato, Sgt. Eric Seiden, Army Airborne Specialist Matthew Blanchette, & Staff Sgt. Chris Butler. Also, Frank Fleming, Sgt. Neil W. McCabe, USMC Ryan Davis, Kevin Michael Ryan, William Lopatka, Elizabeth V. McCarthy, PFC Hyder Alsatlawi, USMC Sean Wilson, USAF Ryan Wilson and John W. Collins III. Also remember US Coast Guard Matt Bonneau, Sgt. Thomas Landreth, USAF Daniel W. Loring, Officer Training Jesse Boyd and Sgt. FC Thomas D. Chadronet, SPC Christopher Redd, Sgt. Nicole L. Jenkins, Cpt. Bill Lord, Lt. FC Sarah Lord, CWO-3 Thaddeus Yukna and Lt. Comm. Anthony LaCourse. If you have a family member, friend or loved one who is serving in the military please give those names to Father Steve at the Rectory so we can publish them in the Bulletin each week and pray for them and their families.

ADOPTION BY CHOICE

Adoption by Choice: a program of Catholic Services, licensed in Massachusetts and Rhode Island is sponsoring an adoption information session on Tuesday, May 11th beginning at 6:30pm at Catholic Social Services Central Office, 1600 Bay Street, Fall River, MA. This session is for all interested in adopting a newborn born here or a child from another country. Children in need of loving homes are from the United States, Russia, China, Kazakhstan, Ethiopia and other parts of the world. For more information or directions call the Rectory or visit www.cssdioc.org. There is no charge for this session.

UPCOMING RETREAT

LIVE, LAUGH, LOVE: May 4th 10am-4:30pm at Sacred hearts Retreat Center in Wareham. The Retreat will be facilitated by Peggy Patenaude of *Taking Time Out*. Register by April 15th and save \$10. For more info or to register call the Rectory or timeoutretreats@comcast.net

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

Once again, the last couple of weeks have not been easy for us as priests. Many times recently the emotional scars of clergy sexual abuse have been re-opened and surfaced again for me. It pains me greatly. The heinous crimes that were carried out by a few priests and the failure of our leadership to act appropriately to discipline them is something that as priests we try to deal with everyday. That effort will continue for the rest of my life. One night last week Father Jay and I went to a local restaurant for a quick bite to eat. I want to share that experience with you. As Father Jay and I were eating, a guy who is now an adult recognized me from across the room. He was an Altar Server here at St. Mary's when I was first here. He yelled "hey Father Steve" from the other side of the room and came over to talk for a few minutes. It was great to see him again after so many years. When he returned to his buddies the conversation quickly and loudly turned to priests and altar boys. I no longer had much desire to eat. What they were saying hurt!

Just yesterday a priest friend of both Father Jay and I was the "breaking news lead story." He had made a terrible choice for himself and will unfortunately have to live the consequences from that decision for the rest of his life. My question is if he was any other profession besides being a priest, would he be the top news story? I think not!

The Globe the other day published a quote from somebody asking this question: "Why would anyone choose voluntarily to affiliate with such an organization?" "Easter this year was joyless for Catholics." This week, I want to try to answer that question for our parish and for myself. The answer is simple: The Eucharist!! We choose to celebrate Christ present in the Eucharist. For us, I strongly disagree that Easter this year was joyless. Our Easter Liturgies were joyful celebrations attended by large crowds of enthusiastic people who desire to welcome the Risen Lord into their lives. From time to time it is good for all of us to be reminded of the "Good News." This week, it was a welcome point of emphasis for me as a priest.

I am very much aware of the sin and in some cases crimes that were committed in the past. It is something I live with and feel everyday. On the rare occasion when I don't remember the past, the Boston media is always willing to remind me. I pray every day for the grace of ministry and will continue to serve proudly and that someday the media will print and broadcast the joy of the present that will allow all of us to look forward to and hope for an even brighter future.

God Bless,

Father Steve



Jesus said to Simon Peter, "Simon, son of John, do you love me more than these?" Simon Peter answered him, "Yes, Lord, you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Feed my lambs." - Jn 21:15



SATURDAY, APRIL 17

4:00 Preston Richard 1st Ann

SUNDAY, APRIL 18

9:00 Philomena Briggs Birthday Remembrance
11:00 Jeanne Tran Memorial

MONDAY, APRIL 19

9:00 Frank Fortin Memorial

TUESDAY, APRIL 20

9:00 The Hyland Family Memorial

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 21

9:00 The Malloy Family Memorial

THURSDAY, APRIL 22

9:00 The Wenger Family Memorial

FRIDAY, APRIL 23

9:00 The Flaherty Family Memorial

SATURDAY, APRIL 24

4:00 Carol Poirier Memorial

SUNDAY, APRIL 25

9:00 Shannon Hurley 15th Ann
11:00 Bill Palladino Memorial

Please remember in your prayers the above intentions, the ill and infirmed of the parish, members of our Benefactor Society and all our beloved deceased especially Joseph Childs whose Funeral Mass were celebrated this week..



The Sanctuary Candle is lit this week in loving memory of Paul Marcotte. If you would like to remember your beloved sanctuary candle in their memory please call the Rectory. A donation of \$25 is requested.

ST. MARY'S PRAYER LINE

If you have a prayer request or are interested in joining our Prayer Line please call 508-612-3757.