

MASS INTENTIONS

SATURDAY
5:00 PM Leon Cormier (30th Anniversary)
 Jeanne Leblanc

SUNDAY
8:00 AM Lawrence Whelan
9:45 AM Deceased members of the Dooley family
11:30 AM Mildred Farquhar (Birthday Remembrance)
 Ray Biron (15th Anniversary)

MONDAY
8:00 AM Gene LaCoss (10th Anniversary)

TUESDAY
8:00 AM Shawn O'Malley
 Ann Margaret Carey

WEDNESDAY
8:00 AM All priests living and deceased

THU. & FRI. **8:00 AM** **Communion Service**

SATURDAY
5:00 PM Henry Shaw (20th Anniversary)
 Dean Pickett (65th Birthday Remembrance)

SUNDAY
8:00 AM Lawrence Whelan (1st Anniversary)
 Rhea McGuirk
9:45 AM Sr. Claire Pelletier, DHS
11:30 AM James Bocian
 Louise Dion (7th Anniversary)
Baptism: Dominic James Ciccone

COFFEE SHOP will be open after the 8 AM and 9:45 AM Masses. Join us for coffee, donuts and friendship.

LITURGY OF THE WORD FOR CHILDREN will be celebrated during the 9:45 AM Mass this Sunday. These liturgies are for children five years of age and older.

PARISH OFFICE HOURS for the week will be Monday through Friday from 9 AM to 3 PM.

BABYSITTING DURING THE 9:45 AM MASS is provided in the Church Hall for infant or pre-school children. We have both teenage and adult helpers to supervise. No registration necessary.

THE ROSARY is prayed each morning at 7:30 AM before Mass.



Today's Gospel provides a blueprint for good stewardship: "Let the man who has two coats give to him who has none. The man who has food should do the same."

PARISH TITHE: Thanks to your generosity \$650.00 will be given to the Our Lady of the Lake Giving Tree.

RETIREMENT FUND FOR THE RELIGIOUS

RELIGIOUS FACE RISING COSTS: Data submitted to the National Religious Retirement Office reveals that the average annual cost of care for women and men religious age 70 and over has more than doubled since 1989. Current statistics put this figure at \$35,077 per person annually, with skilled care reaching nearly \$55,000. Your donation to the Retirement Fund for Religious provides critical support to religious institutes in meeting the escalating costs of elder care. **Please pray for all religious and give generously to today's second collection.**

Sound System Update: As mentioned a few weeks ago, we have launched a drive to purchase a new sound system to replace our current system, which is on "borrowed time" and is not able to support our current sound needs. To date, we have raised \$8,800 toward our goal of \$15,000. Having reached the 40% needed for a down payment, we hope to have the system installed before Christmas. Donations may be mailed to the parish office or placed in the collection basket. Checks can be made to Our Lady of the Lake with the notation "sound system". Donations made in memory of a loved one, will be remembered on our Memorial Board in the gathering area of the Parish Family Center.

THE GIVING TREE: All gifts for our Annual Giving Tree must be returned UNWRAPPED with the ornament tag attached before the 11:30 AM Mass today. Thank you.

Ministry at Keystone Nursing Home: During the winter months, 3 of our parishioners who minister at Keystone Nursing Home on Fridays will be in Florida. If you could help us with this ministry, please contact Joan Burns at (978) 342-2978.

PARISH SUPPORT

199 Sunday Envelopes @	\$4,271.00
14 Paid Ahead Envelopes @	150.00
45 Make Up Envelopes @	786.00
Loose Cash@	1,302.00
SUNDAY COLLECTION	\$6509.00
WEEKLY PARISH OVERHEAD (9673.00)	
DEFICIT	(3164.00)
ANNUAL SUNDAY REVENUE	\$900.00
DEFICIT YEAR-TO-DATE	(15,157.50)

Monthly Maintenance	\$844.00
Fuel Collection	\$155.00

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT



CHRISTMAS EVE: Thursday, December 24th
Masses at 4 PM, 6 PM, and 12 AM (Midnight)
Preceded by Choir Music at 11:30 PM

(Please note that the 4 PM Mass is always extremely crowded. You may wish to come early or consider attending another Mass.)

CHRISTMAS DAY: Friday, December 25th
Mass at 10 AM

Religious Education

Staff Members: Lisa Sciacca *Director of Religious Ed. High School & Youth Ministry*
 Debbie Wood *Grade Level Coordinator Grades 1-5 and Special Needs*
 Michelle Lutter *Grade Level Coordinator Grades 6-8, Beginnings, CLW Kindergarten*

RELIGIOUS ED. CLASSES WILL MEET THIS WEEK. THERE ARE NO SCHEDULED RELIGIOUS ED. CLASSES FROM MONDAY OR TUESDAY, DECEMBER 21 & 22 UNTIL WE GATHER THE FIRST WEEK IN JANUARY! BEGINNINGS WILL MEET ON DECEMBER 29TH.



JOIN US!! – in Celebrating “JESUS IS THE REASON FOR THE SEASON”. Our 1st through 5th grade students will present *their* beautiful dramatization of the Christmas story during class times (4:15 – 5:15 PM) on Monday and Tuesday, December 14th and 15th, capped by a birthday party celebration in the church hall.

After dropping children off at 4:15 PM, parents and friends are invited to find a seat in the church to await the performance. We are still looking for donations of cake frosting or decorations which can be left on the table at the entrance to the Parish Family Center at any time, and especially unfrosted cupcakes which can be dropped off on Sunday, Dec. 13th or before classes on Dec. 14th.

YOUTH MINISTRY is looking for adults who have a love of teens and who would like to be a part of a youth ministry adult planning team. Please call the Religious Ed. Office if you are interested.

ADULT VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: We are still in need of a few adults to help with Child Care from November to May during the 9:45 AM Mass each Sunday. Volunteers typically serve once a month. Please call Lisa at (978) 345-7469 if you are interested.

RELIGIOUS ED. COMMISSION would like to welcome a few new members. The Commission members serve as a support for the Religious Ed. Program, offering feedback and ideas, and helping with events. If you would like more information, please call the Religious Ed. office.



Men’s Spiritual Study Group: What should a Christian do to guarantee a happy, good life? Find out as we explore I Peter, Wednesday, December 16th at 7:30 PM in the Parish Family Center. Any questions, call David LaLiberty at (978) 537-1134.

EVENTS OF THE WEEK	
SUNDAY:	8:15 AM Peer Retreat Team 8:30 Beginnings 9:40 Kindergarten 1 PM Youth Group Caroling 6 PM HS II
MONDAY:	4:15 – 5:15 PM Gr. 1-5 Christmas Pageant 6:45 – 8 PM Rel. Education Gr. 6-8
TUESDAY:	4:15 – 5:15 PM Gr. 1-5 Christmas Pageant 7 PM Folk Group
WEDNESDAY:	7 PM 12 Steps 7 PM Compassionate Companions 7:30 PM Men’s Spiritual Study Group
THURSDAY:	7 PM Boy Scouts 7 PM Overeaters Anonymous
FRIDAY:	7 PM Choir 7:30 PM Al Anon
SATURDAY:	7:30 PM AA



Mark Your Calendars! Christmas Concert—January 3rd:

We have been incredibly blessed by God with wonderful liturgical music at Our Lady of the Lake. On Sunday afternoon, January 3rd, the Feast of the Epiphany, at 2 PM, we will have a Christmas Concert with music provided by our five music groups. This is a wonderful opportunity for us to gather together as a Parish Family to celebrate the Christmas Season. A free will offering will be taken with proceeds to benefit a fund for a new sound system. Please join us!



Our Helping Hands Ministry needs your help. We are looking for 2 people who are interested in helping with cleaning the church (vacuuming and sweeping between the pews), from mid-December to mid-May on Monday mornings after mass or Sundays after 2 PM. If interested, please contact Frank Ricardo at the office.

Montachusett Interfaith Hospitality Network: The week of December 27th will be Our Lady of the Lake’s turn to once again minister at the MIHN shelter. This local homeless shelter allows families to remain united while they endeavor to get back on track. We provide meals and staffing every eleventh week in cooperation with several other area churches. If you are currently a volunteer, please respond to the information you will be receiving from Heidi Champagne and Joyce Leger. If you would like to volunteer, please contact Heidi at 978-582-9910.



FEBRUARY CALENDAR RAFFLE

Once again, a raffle has been organized for the month of February. A cash prize will be drawn each day of the month. Calendars are \$10 each with a total of \$3,000 given away. Detailed information, along with chances, will be mailed to all parishioners in early January. Raffle chances will be available before Christmas to purchase as gifts. These early entry forms will be available at the entrances of the Church the weekend of December 20th.