Mary, Mother of Mankind Church

25 FOURTH STREET
✠ NORTH PROVIDENCE ✠ RHODE ISLAND 02911

6TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

He said to him, "See that you tell no one anything, but go, show yourself to the priest and offer for your cleansing what Moses prescribed; that will be proof for them." The man went away and began to publicize the whole matter. He spread the report abroad so that it was impossible for Jesus to enter a town openly. - Mk 1:44-45b

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

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February 14, 2021

Mass Schedule
Saturday Vigil: 4:00 pm
Sunday: 8:00 am and 10:30 am

Daily Mass
Monday-Thursday: 8:00 am
(The Rosary is prayed prior to Daily Mass)

Reconciliation
Saturday: 3:00-3:30 pm

Parish Office Hours
Monday-Thursday
9:00 am-3:00 pm

Pastor
Reverend TJ Varghese

Phone: 401-231-3542
Fax: 401-349-2890

MMMCHURCH@HOTMAIL.COM

WWW.MARYMOTHEROFMANKIND.ORG

From Fr. Varghese's Desk

The following Articles brings together the themes of St. Valentine and the Sacrament of Marriage. It is written by Francine & Byron Pirola and is used with permission.

According to some sources, St. Valentine was a bishop under the Roman Emperor, Claudius II. Knowing that single men make more willing soldiers, the Emperor, outlawed weddings hoping that it would alleviate the recruiting deficits of his army. Valentine, in defiance of the Emperor, performed weddings in secret for love-struck couples. He was eventually discovered and was arrested, and no doubt many of the defiantly married couples were also put to death. During his imprisonment, he healed the sight of the young daughter of one of his jailors. Legend has it that he penned a farewell note to the girl before his death, signing it "from your Valentine." He was executed in 269 AD on February 14th: a Christian Bishop and revolutionary who defied an unjust law, a martyr for marriage.

In his day and in ours, standing for marriage comes with a cost. This is true not only in the public square but also within the marriage relationship itself. Sometimes marriage is just darn hard! Misunderstanding, busyness, human weakness and tragedy can put our relationship under stress in a culture that tells us to just throw it away when a relationship becomes too demanding. The Catholic commitment to permanency in marriage is truly counter-cultural. Indeed, every long-time married couple is a revolutionary like St. Valentine; a living witness to a beautiful truth, we don't get to be long-time married without standing, again and again, against the cultural pressure to be unfaithful, to pursue our own self-interests and gratify our every desire.

For love to flourish in marriage, we must daily be willing to forgive each other for our imperfections; we must daily recommit to a costly love that sets our own interests aside and focuses on serving the other. Marriage is not free. It never was and never will be. Nothing of value ever is. Like a precious metal, it needs to be refined and purified to shine. Like a rare stone, it needs to be cut and polished to reveal its true potential.

The priceless jewel that is our marriage demands that we empty ourselves of self-interest in order to truly love and serve each other. Only then does our marriage become "sacramental", the living image of Christ who gives His life in love for each of us. God does not call us to mediocrity. God calls us to be a radical witness; to bring alive with our marriage the passionate love and extravagant mercy He has for every human person. God calls us to live this reality within our own marriage and, through our lived example, to proclaim it to our families and to the world.

Have a good week and God bless!

Fr. Varghese

MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday, February 13
4:00 pm John Tabis (35th Anniversary)
Sunday, February 14—Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time
8:00 am For a World of Peace and Harmony
10:30 am Alfredo and Assunta Ruggiero (Remembrance)

Monday, February 15
8:00 am Holy Souls in Purgatory
Tuesday, February 16
8:00 am Fred Lumb, Jr. (Remembrance)
Wednesday, February 17—Ash Wednesday
8:00 am Diana Carpentieri (Living)
7:00 pm Ash Wednesday Mass
Thursday, February 18
8:00 am Anthony Incollingo (Remembrance)

Saturday, February 20
4:00 pm Anna Cherella (Remembrance)
Sunday, February 21—First Sunday of Lent
8:00 am Special Intention
10:30 am Katherine Radican & Antonio Fascia (Rememb.)

No Second Collection Next Weekend

Sanctuary Candle, Altar Candles & Altar Bread

Candles will burn from **2/11 to 2/16/2021**
The ***Sanctuary Candle*** will burn for:
Joann Altieri (Living)
The ***Altar Candles*** will burn for:
A Special Intention
The ***Altar Bread*** is offered for:
A Special Intention
(Cost of the Sanctuary Candle, pair of Altar Candles or Altar Bread is **$10** for a living or deceased remembrance)
Please call the Rectory at **231-3542** to reserve yours Monday—Thursday from 9:00 am—3:00 pm!

Weekend of February 7, 2021
Offertory Report

Weekly Offering:	***$4,962.00***
On-Line Giving:	***$1,282.00***
Helping Hand Fund:	***$ 157.00***
Maintenance Coll.:	***$1,088.00***

Thank you for your support!

Faith Formation

Faith Formation Classes February 14:
NO CLASSES (Winter Recess)

Faith Formation Classes February 21:

Sun., February 21	**Grades 3, 5, 6**	**9:00am-10:00am**
Sun., February 21	**Grades 7, 8**	**11:30am-12:30pm**

Ash Wednesday 2021

Distribution of Ashes on **February 17th** will be at
8:00 am Mass and 7:00 pm Mass
with distribution of ashes

How Will Ashes Be Distributed?

Please note that on January 12, 2021 the Congregation for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments in Rome issued a directive that because of Covid-19, **ashes will not be rubbed on individuals' foreheads** this year. Rather, ashes will be sprinkled on the tops of peoples' heads. The faithful should be reminded that receiving ashes is only an outward symbol of our interior disposition and need for repentance and that the reception of ashes is never required and they may opt not to receive them if they feel uncomfortable.

DAYS OF FASTING AND ABSTINENCE

Church discipline requires that **Ash Wednesday** and **Good Friday be observed as days of fasting**. Those between the ages of 18 and 59 should take only one full meal on those days, without taking solid food between meals. Abstinence from meat is also required on Ash Wednesday and all Fridays of Lent. Those with serious health conditions are excused from these requirements.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Confessions are heard **each Saturday afternoon** at
3:00-3:45PM in Church.
All are welcome!

Office

The Rectory Office will be closed this
Monday, February 15th
for the Presidents Day Holiday!

Please remember Mary, Mother of Mankind Church in your will or estate.

Stations of the Cross

Stations of the Cross will be prayed
Monday evenings at 7:00 pm
starting Monday, February 22nd
Don't forget that on Mondays the Blessed Sacrament is exposed on the altar for adoration from 6 pm until 7:30 pm.

QUESTIONS OF THE WEEK

Adults: What can I do to be better prepared to proclaim the Good News with conviction?
Children: How can I share my faith and trust in Jesus with my friends?

SUNDAY SMILE

A wife comes home late one night and quietly opens the door to her bedroom. From under the blanket, she sees four legs instead of just her husband's two. She reaches for a baseball bat and starts hitting the blanket as hard as she can. Once she's done, she goes to the kitchen to have a drink. As she enters, she sees her husband there, reading a magazine. He says, "Hi darling, your parents have come to visit us, so I let them stay in our bedroom. Did you say hello?"

Confirmation Service Project

Our Confirmation class will be collecting items and making up backpacks for the Midnight Moment, an outreach program to benefit the homeless in Rhode Island particularly the Providence and South side areas. They are in need of the following items for men and women:
Backpacks - new or 'gently' used…winter hats, gloves and scarfs
Hand warmers…Socks
There will be a box in the church foyer. Whatever you can do to help will be greatly appreciated.

Prayer Request

To submit a prayer request for our
Prayer Chain please contact
Alexandra P. (300-2062) *or* Pauline N. (231-8012)

Online Giving

Your generosity during these times has been tremendous. Thank you for keeping us afloat. If you are still unsure about attending Mass, you may send in your budget envelopes to MMM Church, 25 4th St, No. Providence, RI 02911. You only need to send one envelope to represent all the regular weekly collections. And it is easier for the counters if you write separate checks for any special collections and for our Improvement and Repair Fund.
Please Consider Giving Online.
You can find instructions on our website at:
www.marymotherofmankind.org

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