

Congratulations

Congratulations to the Class of 2021!
Our Lady of Peace Womens' Groups'
recipients of this year's scholarships



Catherine Bezio

is the daughter of Robert and Laura Bezio of Erving and a graduate of Frontier Regional High School in So. Deerfield. She will be attending UMass Amherst.

Ella McDaniel

is the daughter of Evan and Carolyn McDaniel of Greenfield and a graduate of Greenfield High School. She will be attending Smith College in Northampton.

Our Lady of Peace Church

Sunday, July 11, 2021

FROM THE DESK OF FR. STAN

My dear friends.

Living our faith—more than a matter of mere words

In our first reading from the prophet Amos 7:12-15, we have the opportunity to reflect on the role of a prophet in ancient Israel, and in our own times. First, it is important to note that the primary role of the biblical prophet was not to predict the future, but rather to speak God's word in the present, either to someone in power, or to a people that has drifted away from the path God asks them to follow. Thus, at the start of the reading, we find an effort to remove him from the territory: "Amaziah, priest of Bethel, said to Amos, 'Off with you, visionary, flee to the land of Judah! There earn your bread by prophesying, but never again prophesy in Bethel, for it is the king's sanctuary and a royal temple.'" Thus, we learn that Amos has threatened the power of both throne and temple, king and priest.

Next, we find in our passage a response to a question that a prophet is typically asked: What right do you have to claim to speak on God's behalf? Here is Amos' answer to Amaziah the priest: "I was no prophet, nor have I belonged to a company of prophets; I was a shepherd and a dresser of sycamores. The Lord took me from following the flock, and said to me, Go prophesy to my people Israel." In other words, Amos didn't look for or sign up for the job. He didn't go to a school for prophets. Instead, he was directly called by God, who has given him the message that threatens those in power.

What is Amos' message? He is the great prophet of social justice. He points out the vast disparity in the society of his day. While some live sumptuously and in great splendor, others barely subsist. In the market, they are cheated by corrupt economic practices. In the courts they do not get their rights. Even in houses of worship they do not receive the respect they deserve. The people of Israel have forgotten their origins. They started out poor, as slaves in the land of Egypt. God chose to defend and provide for them precisely because they were small and vulnerable—abused by those in power. Now when many of the people have become wealthy, they have forgotten that God requires them to take special care of the widow, the orphan and the stranger (immigrant or alien).

In our gospel reading, Mark 6:7-13, Jesus sends out the twelve Apostles, two by two, to announce the prophetic message that he has come to bring, the offer of salvation to all, and especially those who are ill-treated, rejected and cast aside. There is an urgency about the message: "He instructed them to take nothing for the journey but a walking stick—no food, no sack, no money in their belts. They were, however, to wear sandals but not a second tunic." Jesus knew that, just as in Amos' day, many would reject him and his message. "Whatever place does not welcome you or listen to you, leave there and shake the dust off your feet in testimony against them."

And now, to us, the members of Jesus' Church community, the message of salvation is entrusted. As disciples, it is our mission to bring good news to our world, and most especially to those who are deprived of justice, peace, human dignity and even the basic necessities of human life. In that way the Good News is something more than a mere matter of words.

An Invitation to a life of deeper prayer...

The Discalced Carmelite Order was founded by Sts. Teresa of Avila and John of the Cross in 1592. The charism of the order is to live a life of prayer and contemplation and to love others, in allegiance to Jesus Christ and in imitation and under the protection of Our Lady of Mount Carmel. A Rule of life for Seculars was first published in 1708 and the most recent Constitution was approved by Saint Pope John Paul II in 2003. Today there are 35 communities of OCD Seculars in the Northeast, including the Saint Elizabeth of the Trinity Community which meets monthly in Longmeadow, MA. If you feel called to a life of deeper prayer, in community with others, you may contact Trish Regan, OCDS, president of the St. Elizabeth of the Trinity Community, for more information at 413.567.6816.

Greenfield Summer Eats

Children and youth 18 and under can eat for free with 7 days of Grab & Go Breakfast and Lunch, with Service Days on Monday, Wednesday and Friday, 11:00-12:30P, from June 21st through August 20th at Greenfield High School, Greenfield Middle School, Newton School, Oak Courts, Leyden Woods, Greenfield Gardens, Fosters Market and Franklin County Fairgrounds.

A note of thanks

Our parish has received a message of appreciation for our support of the Community Meals program. They write "It is humbling to bear witness to the Church's continuous support of our agency's efforts!"



Saturday, July 10-Rosary at 3:15P

4:00P *Ken Stratton*

by Sue

Sunday, July 11

8:00A *Jimmy Brodie* 1st anniversary
by Sandy

10:00A *Fran & Betty Rosewarne*
by Louise Boucher Croll

Saturday, July 17-Rosary at 3:15P

4:00P *Kenneth Reil*
by his wife & children

Sunday, July 18

8:00A *Joseph & Marie Bucci*
by Deacon Joe & family
10:00A *Henry Sikora*
by Jeannette & family

DAILY MASS

Monday, July 12

8:00A *Christine Smith*
by the Routhier family

Tuesday, July 13

8:00A *Theresa Waryas*
by her family

Wednesday, July 14

8:00A *Wisnewski family*
by their family

Thursday, July 15

8:00A *Respect for all life*
by Dennis & Cyndee Grader

Friday, July 16

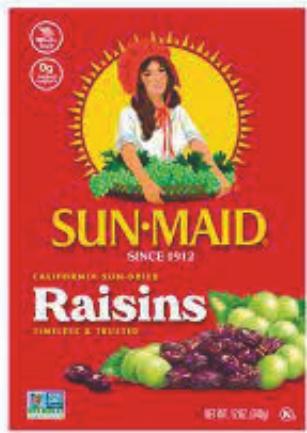
8:00A *Holy Communion Service*

MEMORIAL DONATIONS

In memory of *Sandy Weller* by Tom & Janet Graves, Mike & Sue Hastings, Virginia Kostanski, Margaret Rewa,, Paul & Eileen Mariani and Steve & Marcia Caloon; in memory of *Agnes Dobosz* by The Arbors and Don & Rita LaPierre; and in memory of *Mary Conway* by Virginia Kostanski and Ron & Connie Sicard.



Please remember in your prayers all who have died recently
+Deanne Letourneau



KIDS ARE OUT OF SCHOOL FOR THE SUMMER

Many of those who attend the Monday Community Meals come on foot so things that are small and easily carried are helpful. We can use **fruit bars, granola bars, fruit roll ups, boxes of raisins, juice boxes, boxes of gold fish crackers, pretzels, animal crackers and single-serving potato chips, peanut butter and crackers and cheese in small packages, peanuts in small bags, Rice-a-Roni & Knorr noodles, canned meals like Dinty Moore beef stew & Campbell's chunky soups, applesauce, and fresh fruit like bags of apples or oranges.** All easy to carry and healthy, too!



INTERESTED IN BECOMING CATHOLIC?
Or maybe you still need to receive all of your Sacraments of Initiation?

Inquiry sessions will begin in September. If you wish more information, call Marguerite 863.2585 Ext. 103

WOMEN'S GROUP will meet on Tuesday, **July 13** at 6:00P. We are looking for Christmas Bazaar craft ideas and/or someone who could lead a group craft project.

MISSION APPEAL, please place your contribution in an envelope with your name and parish envelope number on it, and place it in the collection basket, or mail it in, any time during the month of July. Thank you for your generous support! Please make all checks payable to Our Lady of Peace.

REMEMBER A SPECIAL DAY!

Do you want to mark an anniversary, a graduation, a new job, a new baby, good health, thanks for a blessing, birthday or any life event with flowers by the cross or statues in the church? Call the rectory with your request.

PARISH COLLECTIONS

Weekend of July 4

Regular	\$4,731.00
On-line	\$1,929.00

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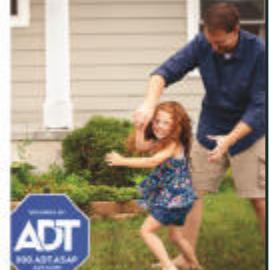
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