

second sunday of
ADVENT



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Our Lady of Peace Church

Sunday, December 5, 2021



My dear friends,

Celebrating the Year of the Eucharist

Bishop William D. Byrne has announced that we are now celebrating *The Year of the Eucharist*. He writes:

Since the Last Supper when our Lord gave us His Body and Blood for Holy Communion, the Catholic Church has taught and believed that the Eucharist is the Real Presence of Christ. His Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity in the Eucharist is the very “source and summit” of our faith. Over the last few decades, we have seen a great decline in belief and practice of our faith. Today, of the Catholic population in Western Massachusetts, only 18% attend Mass regularly and 70% of Catholics do not believe in the True Presence of Christ in the Eucharist. The crisis of faith among Catholics compels us as Church to address this fundamental teaching....

This will be an important year of grace for us as a diocese that will hopefully bring about a renewal of faith and a deeper love for God. I have commissioned a special committee to help with the planning and organizing of catechesis and events throughout the year. They have planned several ways to engage all Catholics of our diocese, such as strong teaching on the Eucharist in our Catholic schools and Faith Formation programs, as well as Adult Formation in our parishes. The newly created website (www.yearoftheeucharist.net) will include teachings, witness videos and resources for continued deeper study. I am encouraging increased periods of Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament in our parishes, Eucharistic processions as well as the celebration of the 40 Hours Devotion in all parts of our diocese....

Dear friends, I invite all Catholics, young and old to come to know Jesus truly present in the Eucharist. This is truly a time of grace, study, and prayer for all of us which hopefully will lead us to a deeper reverence for Jesus Christ, present in the Holy Eucharist and help us to invite others to this most wonderful gift....

Bishop Byrne has asked each parish to have parish members who will serve as liaisons to the diocese for this Year of the Eucharist. We are most fortunate in that Susan Hastings and Fred Smith have agreed to take on this responsibility. To begin, we will have the Blessed Sacrament exposed on the altar before the 4:00 p.m. Mass each Saturday, including during the recitation of the Rosary. Also, after Communion, we will spend some quiet time during which we can contemplate the presence of the Eucharistic Lord in our hearts and our lives. We know by faith that Jesus is always present to us. We, however, can be easily distracted by everything else going on in our busy schedules. Let us build a spirit of openness and receptivity to the presence of the Lord!

Prayer cards with the *Year of the Eucharist Prayer* are available for use in church, but I wanted to make the prayer more readily available for your use at any time. The prayer is as follows:

Jesus, I believe that you are truly present Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity in the Eucharist. In you I place my whole family. Heal our wounds and renew us in heart and mind with a greater reverence, devotion and love for you in the Holy Eucharist.

Our Lady, first tabernacle of the Word made flesh, intercede on our behalf to your Son, especially for the Diocese of Springfield and our priests. Through their love for the priesthood and the Eucharist, may they inspire young men to the priesthood that the Mass may continue to be offered so that we may be nourished with your Son's Body and Blood. Guide especially our youth to your Church so they may thrive by knowing the truth that only comes from Jesus.

Most Holy Trinity, I adore you! My God, I love you in the Most Blessed Sacrament.

Please offer this prayer each day during this special time devoted to a deeper understanding and appreciation for the gift that is the Eucharist. Scripture tells us that we are made in the image and likeness of God. We are made by God and for God. This means that each of us has deep within us a hunger for meaning and completion that can only be satisfied by a relationship with God. If you are experiencing such a hunger and ending up unsatisfied, it could mean that you are looking in the wrong places, chasing after the wrong things. And if you have experienced the joy and peace that only God can give, tell others about it! During this Advent Season, in the simplicity and stillness of the winter countryside, in the darkness of this time of the year, let us turn toward the Light who is coming into the world. May we be filled by his Presence, may he satisfy our hunger and quench our thirst!



Saturday, December 4-Rosary at 3:15P

4:00P *Carol Demers*
by Fran & family

Sunday, December 5

8:00A *Jerry O'Connor*
by his family

10:00A *Joseph Piurkowski*
by Michelle Turner

Saturday, December 11-Rosary at 3:15P

4:00P *John & Eva Crowley*
by Tami O'Malley

Sunday, December 12

8:00A *Joe & Marie Bucci*
by the Bucci family

10:00A *Jim Viens* 5th anniversary
by his family

DAILY MASS

Monday, December 6

8:00A *Frank Langenback*
by Char, Meg & Mark

Tuesday, December 7

8:00A *Sean Connelly*
by Eddie & Dottie Pelis

Holy Day Vigil

6:00P *Paul Socquet, Sr.*
by Our Lady of Peace Women's Group

Wednesday, December 8-Immaculate Conception

8:00A *Carolyn Prunier*
by Paul

Thursday, December 9

8:00A *Kimball Farr* 20th anniversary
by Gay & Cathy

Friday, December 10—Holy Communion Service



AFTER-SCHOOL PROGRAM at Montague Catholic Social Ministries is in need of snacks for the kids. The school day is long and snacks are appreciated.

RCIA for anyone interested in learning about Catholicism will meet Sunday, **December 12, & 19** at 9:00A in the rectory. Call Marguerite 863.2585 ext. 103.



WOMEN'S GROUP will meet Tuesday, **December 14** at 6:00P in the church hall. Members are asked to bring gifts for the homeless shelter. Gifts must be wrapped and marked with the size for a man or women. They are in need

of socks, underwear, t-shirts, and personal hygiene items. Members may also bring goodies to share!



Hospitals and nursing facilities do not notify us when our parishioners are admitted either on a temporary or permanent basis. We rely on family members or friends to keep us updated on these situations so that we may connect with that person. Please call Marguerite 863.2585 ext. 103 and share this information.

PRAYER LINE is available for all parishioners who have special intentions for which they would like the parish to pray. Call the rectory with your intention.

Our Lady's Window

December 5

Cornelius O'Shea
by Gladys Lapinski

December 6

Sally (Otto) Sedgwick
by her family

December 10

Stanley & Jennie Choleva
by their family



MASSES AND OUR LADY'S WINDOW intentions are available for 2022. Often intentions are in memory of someone who has died but the intentions can be for anniversaries, health, or happy occasions. You may call the rectory with your special intentions.

PARISH COLLECTIONS

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