

Our Lady of Peace Church

*"Let the Church always be a place of MERCY and HOPE,
where EVERYONE is WELCOMED, LOVED and FORGIVEN." ~Pope Francis*



Parish Staff

Rev. Stanley Aksamit **Pastor**
Rev. Galadima Goni **In residence**
Joseph Bucci **Deacon**
Marguerite Noga **Pastoral Minister**
Carol Holubecki **Religious Education**
Marcia Caloon **Office Manager**
Dottie Pelis **Financial Manager**
Elizabeth Hallett **Cemeteries**
Marie Putala **Hall Manager**
Bernie Chartier **Custodian**
Sharon Broughan **Senior Choir**
Joseph Zadroga **Modern Ensemble**

Lord's Day Masses

Saturday 4:00P
Rosary at 3:15P
Sunday 8:00A & 10:00A

Daily Mass 8:00A
Monday-Thursday
Rosary at 7:30A

Holy Communion Service
Friday 8:00A
Holy Days Vigil 6:00P
Holy Day 8:00A

Confession
Every Saturday 3:15P
or by appointment

Rectory Office Information

Office hours: Monday-Thursday
8:30A-12:00P
Closed on Friday
Phone: 413 863.2585

Website: www.ourladyofpeacetf.org
Email: church@ourladyofpeacetf.com

90 Seventh Street
Turners Falls, MA 01376

Organizations

Community Meals Program
Our Lady of Peace Women's Group
Altar Society
Montague Catholic Social Ministries

Parish Mission Statement

We, the parish of Our Lady of Peace, are descendants of various ethnic orientations and proud traditions. We are a Catholic community united in keeping our faith alive and growing. We nurture this faith by being committed to the Eucharist, prayer, family, social justice, education and service. We hope enthusiastically to reflect the life of Jesus by following His teachings of love and peace, by living the gospel values.

May we seek always to be inclusive of all, and strive to become
a community of diminishing strangers.



My dear friends,

From Christmas to the Baptism of the Lord

A Change in Liturgical Seasons

As we celebrate the Baptism of the Lord this weekend, we make a transition in the liturgical calendar. This Feast serves as the First Sunday in Ordinary Time, which means that the Christmas Season is now over. I don't know about you, but the various services of Christmas seemed to go by like a hundred yard dash this year. The reason for that is that Christmas fell on a Saturday, which meant that we had a very long Advent, with a full fourth week of that time of preparation. But, as a result the many beautiful moments of the Christmas story (Holy Family, Mary the Mother of God, and Epiphany) all flowed together within eight days. Nevertheless, I think we should try to keep the joy, peace and good will of Christmas in our hearts. As it says in Charles Dicken's *A Christmas Carol*, "I will honor Christmas in my heart, and try to keep it all the year."

A Word of Christmas Thanks

On behalf of Fr. Goni and our entire Staff, I would like to express my heartfelt thanks for your love and support. Thank you for all the cards, remembrances, gifts, food, baked goods and sweets that you gave us. We certainly felt the warmth of your generosity and kindness. I am also grateful for the many donations and food cards, which were a huge help at Community Meals, and for the many neighbors who contacted us for assistance at this special time of year. Our parish continues to be a beacon of hope for all those who are struggling.

From Deacon Joe

I would like to take this brief moment with Kay and Joanna to share our deep gratitude and joy for the time we share together to celebrate our wondrous Faith, especially during a Blessed time such as this. We are very grateful for all your generous thoughts and prayers and blessings and gifts. All your generosity is only exceeded by the LOVE that God has for each of us. We are truly blessed by you all and send out our blessings, prayers, sincere thanks & best wishes in our New Year.

God bless you all,

Dcn Joe, Kay & Joanna

A Look at the Scriptures

Last week, the Solemnity of Epiphany revealed that the salvation brought by Jesus was not limited to the chosen people of Israel. As St. Paul explained it in his letter to the Ephesians, the mystery has now been revealed, "that the Gentiles are coheirs, members of the same body, and copartners in the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel" (Cfr. Ephesians 3:2-6). The magi from the east, with their gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh, were the first signs of the universal scope of what God was accomplishing in Jesus.

Today, as we recall the baptism of the Lord, the revelation of who Jesus is continues. Our first reading from the prophet Isaiah 42:1-4, 6-7, states, "Here is my servant whom I uphold, my chosen one with whom I am pleased, upon whom I have put my spirit; he shall bring forth justice to the nations, not crying out, not shouting, not making his voice heard in the street...I formed you, and set you as a covenant of the people, a light for the nations to open the eyes of the blind, to bring prisoners from confinement, and from the dungeon, those who live in darkness."

Our second reading from the Acts of the Apostles 10:34-38, echoes this universal theme. Peter has been sent by God to the home of Cornelius, a Roman centurion, who comes to faith in Jesus Christ. Peter states, "In truth, I see that God shows no partiality. Rather, in every nation whoever fears him and acts uprightly in acceptable to him."

Finally, in the gospel passage, Luke 3:15-16, 21-22, we encounter John the Baptist, who points toward Jesus Christ, saying, "I am not worthy to loosen the thongs of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire." The highpoint of the text is the voice from heaven that clearly identifies who Jesus is: "You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased." It is in him, the Savior of the Nations, God's own beloved Son, that we are invited to believe and to have hope, for our present, and our future, are safely in God's hands.

["When the song of the angels is stilled, When the star in the sky is gone, When the kings and princes are home, When the shepherds are back with their flock, The work of Christmas begins: ...To find the lost, To heal the broken, To feed the hungry, To release the prisoner, To rebuild the nations, To bring peace among all people, To make music in the heart."](#)

~Howard Thurman



Saturday, January 8-Rosary at 3:15P
4:00P *Genevieve "Jean" Galvis* 43rd anniversary
by Jackie & Mark

Sunday, January 9
8:00A *William Dixon*
by John & Suzanne Davis
10:00A *Bob Casey & Celina Sojka*
by their family

Saturday, January 15-Rosary at 3:15P
4:00P *David Routhier*
by Mary Routhier & family

Sunday, January 16
8:00A *Francis & Lonnie Togneri*
by their family
10:00A *Phyllis Choleva*
by her family

DAILY MASS

Monday, January 10
8:00A *Lorraine Boguslawski*
by Joanna Saunders

Tuesday, January 11
8:00A *No Intention*

Wednesday, January 12

8:00A *No Intention*

Thursday, January 13

8:00A *No Intention*

Friday, January 14

8:00A *Holy Communion Service*

Our Lady's Window

December 20

Katy Marcum 30th anniversary
by her daughter, Cathy

December 24 & 25

Greg Kilburn

by Deb, Danielle & Brandon

January 9

Lorraine Saulnier

by Nancy

MEMORIAL DONATION for *Betty Lovern* by Bruce & Carol Dion; and donations to the Justice & Peace Commission for **Sean Connelly** by Marie Putala, John & Joanna Saunders, and Mengel, Metzger, Barr & Co.

RECTORY OFFICES will be closed Monday, **January 17** in observance of Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday.

PARISH COLLECTIONS
For the weekend of **January 2**

Weekly \$4,117.00

On-line \$934.00

Thank you for your continuing generous support.



AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM at MCSM is in need of snacks over the winter months. The kids appreciate a snack after a long school day and they rely on your generosity!



Angels of all sizes graced the church on Christmas Eve.



The Holy Family and a reluctant donkey.



Christmas cakes for Monday's Community Meal guests.



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