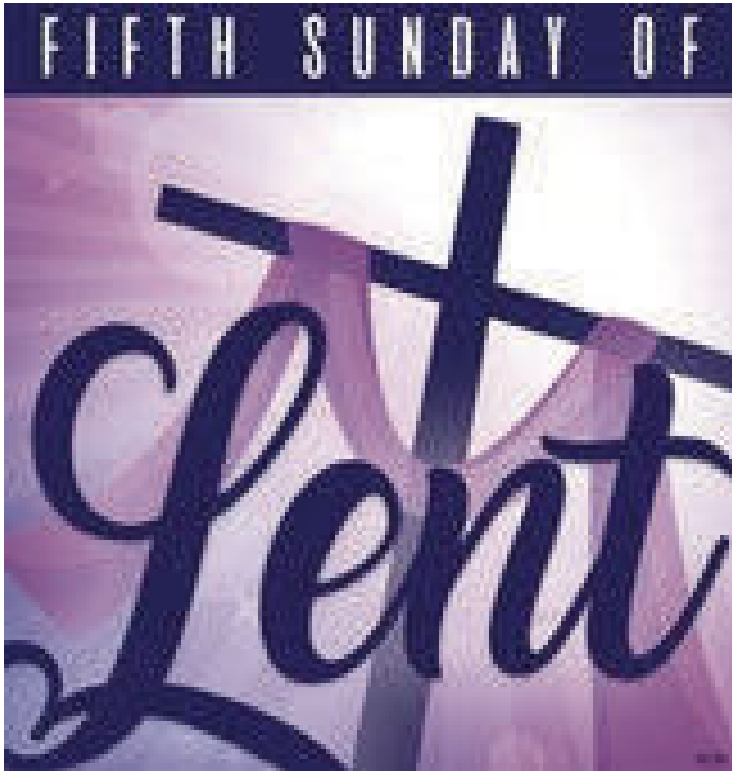


Our Lady of Peace Church

*"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**
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,

Neither do I condemn you!

With the celebration of the Fifth Sunday of Lent, we have just two short weeks remaining before Easter. Let's not waste them. In our first reading, Isaiah 43:16-21, while remembering and rooting himself in the memory of the past, the prophet focuses on something new that God is doing. In the past, God freed Israel's ancestors from Egypt, leading them through the sea, but destroying Pharaoh's army: "The Lord opens a way in the sea and a path in the mighty waters, who leads out chariots and horsemen, a powerful army, till they lie prostrate together, never to rise, snuffed out and quenched like a wick." But now God is doing something new, announcing that the people's captivity in Babylon is coming to an end, and that God will prepare a way through the desert for them to come home. "Remember not the events of the past, the things of long ago consider not; see, I am doing something new! Now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? In the desert I make a way..." A new exodus is going to take place.

The gospel passage, John 8:1-11, is the story of Jesus bringing forth something new. Trying to put Jesus in a difficult situation, the scribes and Pharisees "brought forth a woman who had been caught in adultery." They then ask him to interpret the ancient Law: "Now in the law, Moses commanded us to stone such women. So what do you say?" John informs us of the interrogators' duplicity: "They said this to test him, so they could have some charge to bring against him." What they are hoping to do is to make Jesus a law breaker if he says the woman should be freed, or an unpopular teacher with the crowds, who were expecting a new, more compassionate approach. What Jesus does, however, is masterful. He turns the tables on the scribes and Pharisees by making the discussion about them, and indeed, everyone who was listening. His famous response is, "Let the one among you who is without sin be the first to throw a stone at her." When hearing this, Jesus' opponents "went away one by one, beginning with the elders." Jesus, for his part, shows something wonderfully new. Without ignoring the seriousness of the sin, he demonstrates God's tender mercy and forgiveness. "Has no one condemned you? Neither do I condemn you. Go, and from now on do not sin any more."



You're invited! Please come! to the parish synodal listening sessions, our response to Pope Francis' initiative to try genuinely to hear one another, and in that way to discern what the Spirit is saying and asking us to do. Come, share your insights and concerns, to either gathering:

Wednesday, April 6

6:00-8:00 P

Elks Hall across from the church

Thursday, April 7

6:00-8:00 P

Fr. Casey Hall in our church

We are hoping for a broad representation from all sectors of the parish! We believe that everyone has wisdom to share!

The **Annual Catholic Appeal** is how we as Catholics connect with thousands of people across western Massachusetts who need the love and mercy of Jesus Christ. Support for food pantries, faith education, protection for the unborn, and evangelization. God's mercy message comes from your gifts to the Annual Catholic Appeal. You are the face of the Catholic Church today and in the future. Please take time to make your donation today. Thank you.

Alternatives Pregnancy Center thanks members of Our Lady of Peace Church for donating **\$1,484.00** to this year's "Dollars for Babies" campaign. Melissa Scherman, Executive Director, writes, "Please know how very grateful we are for the support of Our Lady of Peace. We are supported by the Christian churches in the area, and without this support we could not exist, so **thank you!**"

The **Young and Catholic Franklin County Board** is sponsoring activities for the young adults of our area. Please spread the word! They will be hosting a Bible study at the Holy Family Parish Hall, South Deerfield, on **April 8**. You may get further information by contacting Paul Maurais pmaurais@gmail.com or 774-462-9414, or check the website youngandcatholic.org.

Parish Scholarships, funded by the estate of the late Rev. James W. Casey, are now being offered: two for parishioners who are graduating from high school, four for those who are already in college. **Each scholarship is in the amount of \$1,500.00.** Application forms are in the sacristy, or you may call the rectory 413 863.2585.

**Saturday, April 2**

4:00P *Lorraine Coyle* 4th anniversary
by Joyce Phillips

Sunday, April 3-Fifty Sunday of Lent

8:00A *Elaine Godin*
by Ed & Robin Sargent

10:00A *Kristen Kaczewski*
by her family

Saturday, April 9

4:00P *Michael & Helen Milewski*
by Cindy & family

Sunday, April 10-Palm Sunday

8:00A *Carolyn Prunier*
by Paul

10:00A *Joseph Rodovich* 34th anniversary
by his family

**STATIONS OF THE CROSS & EUCHARISTIC
ADORATION** Saturdays during Lent at 3:00P.

DAILY MASS**Monday, April 4**

8:00A *Herman Podlenski* 30th anniversary
by Sue Hastings

Tuesday, April 5

8:00A *Weekly workers at the Community Meals*

Wednesday, April 6

8:00A *John Kiley family*

Thursday, April 7

8:00A *Carolyn Prunier*
by Paul

Friday, April 8

8:00A *Holy Communion Service*

ST. JOSEPH'S BREAD

Collections end this weekend
THANK YOU EVERYONE!



Total for March 24 = **141**

Total for 4 weeks of Lent = **304!**



The Bible tells us that people cut branches from palm trees, laid them across Jesus' path and waved them in the air as he entered Jerusalem the week before his death. They greeted Jesus not as the Messiah who would take away the sins of the world, but as a potential political leader who would overthrow the

Romans. They shouted "Hosanna [meaning "save now"]", blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Blessed is the kingdom of our father David that is to come!"



CLASSES will meet Sunday, **April & 10**. Our last Youth Mass will be Sunday, **April 3** with Grades 7/8 participating.

In addition to our Phlaum materials and discussions about Lent, our classes are working on "Circle of Grace" lessons. This is the diocesan safe environment program for Grades K-11. Carol Holubecki is the child advocate for our parish.

Classes are also doing a "brown bag project." Student decorate the bags and then bring them home to be filled with food for lunch. The bags will be given to the Community Meal program for

**OUR LADY'S
WINDOW**

April 4

Martha Shibilo 2nd anniversary
by her daughter, Donna Gates

April 8

Carolyn Prunier
on her birthday
by Marie & Marcia

**STASH BASH**
Saturday, April 23

9:00A-1:00P in the church hall

Deadline for accepting donations is Thursday, **April 14**.
Call Sandy 773.0217 or Bev 863.7783

PARISH COLLECTIONS

For the weekend of **March 27**

Weekly	\$2,157.00	On-line	\$484.00
Thank you for your continuing generous support.			



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