

Mass  for the
Intentions *for the Week*

Mon	Dec 26	7:00 am	Joseph Fasano
Tues	Dec 27	9:00 am	Ray McCarthy
Wed	Dec 28	7:00 am	James Kenney
Thur	Dec 29	9:00 am	Joseph Fasano
Sun	Jan 1	11:30 am	Brad Ryan

Prayer Requests

Please Pray for...

Herbert, Brad, Ysaura, Lourdes, Angie, Dickie, Bobby, Eileen, Lou, Paul, Alyssa, Nancy, John Riley, Larry, Lucas, Meredith, Sister Therese McKenna, Doug R., John Dewire, Debbie, Ginny, Joe, Carol R., Mary O., Walter's family, Frank, Kay, Kelly, Avery, Bill, Ted, MJ, Lizzy, Marie P., Tami, Jane, Molly, Mary C., John C., Emilio Spag, Tony Spag, Diane B., Casendra B., Frank A., Mary Beth M., Steve, Frank, Charlie, Julie, John Larson, John, Michael, Mary Kelly, Ferdinand, L.E., Marion, Catherine Tom, Jared, Carol S., Bo., Anne, Daniel Hurley, Frank N., Matthew, and the residents, patients, and staff of area nursing homes and Emerson Hospital.

If there is someone who is sick and whose name you would like in the bulletin so that we may hold them in prayer, please contact the Parish Center. We will leave a name on the list until you call and tell us otherwise or until our periodic clearing of the list.

A Reminder from the RCAB

Merry Christmas from all the priests of the RCAB! The Christmas Collection supports the retirement, medical and financial needs of the priests of the Archdiocese of Boston. These priests have given their lives to faithfully serve Christ, the Church, and *you*. Please be generous in your support of this important collection. For more information, please visit www.CareForSeinorPriests.org.

Christmas Tree Pick Up Reminder



Christmas Tree Pickup—It's that time of year again! The Christmas Tree Pickup will take place on **Saturday, January 7th**. This fundraiser helps defray the cost of Service Trips for High School Youth. Please consider helping out this year. Cost

for pickup is a donation of \$15-25. If you are interested in having your tree picked up and disposed of, please call Doug Struck at 978-254-5470, or email Patty Bruttomesso at treepickup2012@gmail.com. Deadline for pickup requests is **Wednesday, January 4th**. Thank you in advance for supporting our Youth as they work to serve others!

Weekly Schedule

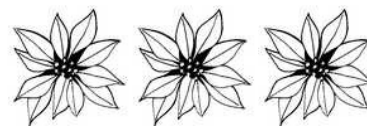
Rosary before and after daily Mass

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament Wed Dec 28 at 7:00 pm at the church

Christmas Flower Fund

Thank you to all those who contributed to the Flower Fund to decorate the sanctuary as a way of memorializing the following loved ones!

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|-------------------------------|------------------------|
| Alexander F. Ardizzoni | Kenneth McKenna |
| Arena Family | Leon Moreau |
| Anthony and Olga Benecasa | Phillip Moreau |
| Blake Family | Uncle John Paino |
| Busson Family | Paino Family |
| Gerard Callanan | John & Mary Reilly |
| Cincotta Family | Brad Ryan |
| Dana Family | Antonino Scimone |
| Charlotte and Ernest Dearborn | Antonino J. Scimone |
| Romeo DiCicco | Domenica Scimone |
| Edward Farmer | Alan Shaw |
| Fasano Family | John F. Sheehan |
| Thomas A. Finneran | Mary Florio Snay |
| Edmund G. Hall | Tony Spagnuolo |
| Patricia Joachim | Margaret & John Taliak |
| Paula O'Brien Leclair | Jack Watts |
| Vera Macdonald | |



Faith Formation News

Upcoming Installments in the "What Are They Saying About...?" Series to be Offered

Join us in the New Year for the next installments in the popular "What Are They Saying About...?" series. Beginning on Thur Jan 5th and continuing monthly, Rev. Msgr James A. Mongelluzzo S.T.D. will present a five-part discussion on **Sacraments and Sacramentality**, beginning with an overview, and then highlighting the Sacraments of Initiation, Eucharist, Sacraments of Healing, and Sacraments at the Service of Communion... This exciting series will be held at St. Irene Parish Hall at 181 East Street, Carlisle. All sessions will begin promptly at 7:30 pm.

On Thur Jan 12th Rev. Bryan Hehir will be our guest presenter for "**What Are They Saying About Catholic Social Teaching?**". Fr. Hehir is the Parker Gilbert Montgomery Professor of the Practice of Religion and Public Life at the Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University. He is also the Secretary of Health and Social Services for the Archdiocese of Boston. Don't miss this compelling presentation, being offered at 7:30 pm at Monument Hall.

Wrapping up our January offerings, Professor PHEME Perkins will present "**What Are They Saying About Paul, the Apostle?**" on Tues Jan 24th. This lecture will also be held at Monument Hall, beginning at 7:30 pm.

For more information, please contact Ken Meltz, Holy Family's Director of Faith Formation, at 978-369-7442 or dff55church@aol.com.

A Christmas Message to Parishioners, Neighbors, Visitors and Friends

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

There's a Christmas gift I wish for every year and I'm pleased to tell you it's a gift I *receive* every year - and that gift is YOU! That includes *all* of you reading this letter and especially included are any of you who have drifted away from the life and prayer of parish life - and have come home to the church this Christmas. I treasure this gift, the present of your presence at the Lord's Table.

If you've been away, as some of you may have, I can guess at some of the reasons: deep disappointment over the tragedy of the abuse crisis; hurt and betrayal at the closing of churches; mistrust of Church leadership; disagreement with Church teaching; the incredibly hectic pace of life these days; or perhaps finding your faith fading into the margins of your life... If any or all of those reasons are true for you, then please know that many bring the very same burdens and questions with them to Mass each week. This is a difficult time in the life of the Church but there still remains, at the heart of our life and prayer together: the love of God, the grace of the sacraments, the gospel's truth, outreach to the poor and our solidarity in the faith we share.

The number of students in our religious education program (K-12) is over 540 and there are scores of adults who assist our faith formation staff in helping our young people grow in the faith. Over the 7 years of Holy Family's history, this is an all time high! This tells me that young families are joining our parish and that this program enjoys a good reputation. Parents aren't convinced by what I say in the bulletin or from the altar - they're convinced of a program's worth through conversations in the supermarket aisle, waiting at bus stops and on the sidelines of soccer fields. The word is out and the word is good! This year we are presenting an ongoing series of faith formation for adults in the parish. I am not exaggerating when I tell you that this program is the envy of many parishes in the archdiocese and I am so pleased that our parish staff has worked so hard to make this happen.

Our Sunday worship is blessed by beautiful music, good preaching and ministers of Word and Sacrament who take their responsibilities seriously and reverently. Our parish outreach continues to respond to the needs of the poor locally, regionally, nationally and internationally. In every area of parish life we have generous volunteers *and* in every area of parish life we are looking for more volunteers to join the effort, share the burden and grow in the grace and peace that such work offers.

Do I sound like I'm bragging about our parish? Maybe I am! But I'm writing this only to be sure that you know how our parish life extends far beyond Christmas Eve and Christmas Day - and to invite you to become a more regular, more faithful, more involved member of Holy Family.

Be sure of this: *You are welcome at Holy Family Parish!* If you want to know God's love for you, you are welcome. If you want to follow the gospel of Jesus, you are welcome. If you want to pray, you are welcome. If you seek the truth, you are welcome. If you are strong or struggling in your faith, you are welcome. Regardless of your status in the Church, regardless of your marital state, regardless of your prior religious experience, regardless of your personal history, background, or sexual orientation, please know that you are welcome at Holy Family Parish. *If you want to strengthen and deepen your life in Christ, you are welcome!* If you have questions, want to talk, or need more information about the parish, please call or email the church and ask to talk to me, Sr. Rose, Ken Meltz or anyone else on our staff. We would love to hear from you.

A new year stretches before us, a time for making resolutions. I'm resolved to pray for your return to parish life and I'm hoping you'll resolve to deepen your relationship with God through Holy Family Parish. *Merry Christmas!*

Fr. Austin Fleming

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