

EUCCHARIST INTENTIONS

Among the intentions for those who gather for the **Eucharist** this week will be:

MONDAY, JANUARY 21, 2002

One Mass – Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday
9:15AM JOSEPH DI MORA –
Debbie & David Osborn

TUESDAY, JANUARY 22, 2002

7:00AM WILLIAM ROSECRANS – Family
9:15AM LULU MEYER – Family

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 23, 2002

7:00AM NORBERT EDER – Wife
9:15AM LEONA SCHARF – Mathilde Desmond

THURSDAY, JANUARY 24, 2002

7:00AM EVELYN GORES – Family
9:15AM JOSEPHINE PALMIERI –
Angela Palmieri

FRIDAY, JANUARY 25, 2002

7:00AM MORNING PRAYER
9:15AM ANTHONY HUDSON – Wife, Anna

SATURDAY, JANUARY 26, 2002

5:00PM SALVATORE DIODATO –
Mr. & Mrs. Donald Sirianni

SUNDAY, JANUARY 27, 2002

7:30AM SHIRLEY LA ROSA – Sal & Lu Ignatti
9:00AM MARIE PEIFFER –
The Bells of St. Rita's

10:30AM MR & MRS WALTER LEWANDOWSKI-
Ted & Phyllis Adamski

* * * * *

**This week the Tabernacle Light
will burn in loving memory of Lester Bliek**

IN APPRECIATION ~ Another Christmas has come and gone and St. Rita's Parish has again answered the call to provide some cheer for families in need. 625 gifts were distributed to eleven charities making for a merrier Christmas for many needy families. Other groups in the parish helped twenty individual families in our area as well. The Social Action Ministry Committee extends its appreciation to all who contributed to the success of the project. Special thanks to all the volunteers who shared of their **time** in sorting and delivering the gifts.

From the Desk of Fr. Eloo . . .

~ CHRISTIAN UNITY ~

A REALITY OR AN ILLUSION?

Today marks the beginning of a week long prayer for "**Christian Unity**". How far has the Church gone in realizing this Unity desired by Christ? The 17th chapter of John's Gospel is known as "The Priestly Prayer" of Jesus for the unity of his Church. In this prayer, he says: *I have given them the teaching I received from You, and they know that I came from You. Consecrate them in the truth ~ Your Word is Truth.*

In this prayer, Jesus entrusted to his church his mission. The principal duty of the church is to **Know God**, to **Keep** and **Proclaim the True Knowledge of God and Christ's Commandment**. This knowledge comes when we internalize the Word of God, persevere in prayer and charity, and join in community celebrations.

How well has the church fared in a situation where the falcon seems not to hear the falconer? In a world afflicted by maladies like: dissension, selfishness, materialism, racism, and insensitivity unity and authentic witnessing are necessary to accomplish this mission. These divisions contradict the will of Christ and damage the holy cause of preaching the gospel to every creature.

Catholic Church means – Universal. No one is a stranger. In St. Paul's words, "*We have One Body, One Lord, One Spirit, One Faith, One Baptism and One God who is Father of all*". Christ desired one flock. He prayed for unity and love. Maintaining unity among peoples of different temperaments and cultures requires much love and understanding.

From the beginning, some began to reject the faith of the Apostles. Sects and divisions appeared. Historically we had Eastern and Western Churches. Later, the negligence of the hierarchy led the Protestants or Evangelicals to found "new churches". However, these had deeper political, social, and economic roots. This crisis led Christians to revise their views regarding the Bible, philosophy, and politics, and to pitch their camps with Catholic or Protestant in mortal duel.

It appears we are now realizing the folly of this disunity. Now we can talk about Ecumenism, a genuine and sincere effort to restore the desired unity. We must pray and work for this unity, for a church truly universal and sent forth into the world to be converted and saved.

PLANS FOR THE WEEK JANUARY 20, 2002

SUNDAY

8:00-11:00AM BREAKFAST CLUB - Gym
10:30 AM Babysitting during 10:30 Mass - Rm 4
7:30PM Fiesta Committee – Room 1
7:30PM BINGO at the K of C – Team 3

MONDAY

No School or Religious Education

6:30PM Parish Pastoral Council – Rm 1
7:00PM Catholic Update – Rm 3
7:30PM RCIC – Parish Office

TUESDAY

No Religious Education Classes

9:30-11:00AM M.O.M.S Group – Rms 1 & 3
1:00PM Recovery – Rm 3
7:00-8:30PM Jr. High Youth Group – Gym
7:00PM Liturgy Committee – Parish Office
7:30PM Scripture Study Group – Rm 3
7:30PM Health Ministry Presentation
Dr. Dennis Boike - Church

WEDNESDAY

6:30PM Confirmation Rehearsal (A-Ma) – Church
7:30PM Confirmation Rehearsal (Mc-Z) – Church
7:00-8:00PM Youth Bible Study – Barn-up
7:00PM Finance Council – Parish Office
7:00PM Stephen Ministry Group – School Library
7:30PM Contemporary Choir – Room 3
7:30PM RCIA – Rm 1
8:30PM Men’s Basketball – Gym

THURSDAY

7:00PM School New Parent Info Night – Gym
7:00PM Choir – Church & Rm 3
7:30PM Charismatic Prayer Group at St. Paul’s

FRIDAY

2:00PM Jesus Rosary – Church

* * * * *

PARISH SUPPORT

LAST WEEK	WEEKLY GOAL	VARIANCE
\$12,261	\$12,500	- \$239

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

PARISH CONTRIBUTION STATEMENTS for 2001 will be available after all Masses next weekend in Room 1. If you do not stop to pick up your statement it will be mailed to your home. Please pick up your statement, as this will save us the time and the expense of mailing them.

* * * * *

The Parish and School Offices will be closed on Monday, January 21 for the Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday.

We welcome the newest members of our parish family who were baptized this weekend:

EMILY ROSE BOBER
JOSEPH SALVATORE TRIPI

* * * * *

BIBLE READINGS:

- 20 Sun **Second Sunday of the Year** Is 49:3, 5-6 Ps 40:2, 4, 7-10 1 Cor 1:1-3
- 21 Mon 1 Sm 15:16-23 Ps 50:8-9,16-17,21,23 Mk 2:18-22
- 22 Tue 1 Sm 16:1-13 Ps 89:20-22,27-28 Mk 2:23-28
- 23 Wed 1 Sm 17:32-33,37,40-51 Ps 144:1-2,9-10 Mk 3:1-6
- 24 Thu 1 Sm 18:6-9;19:1-7 Ps 56:2-3,9-14 Mk 3:7-12
- 25 Fri **Conversion of St. Paul** Acts 22:3-16 Ps 117:1-2 Mk 16:15-18
- 26 Sat 2 Tm 1:1-18 Ps 80:2-3,5-7 Mk 3:20-21
- 27 Sun **Third Sunday of the Year** Is 49:3, 5-6 Ps 40:2, 4, 7-10 1 Cor 1:1-3

* * * * *

ALTAR SERVERS SCHEDULED
NEXT WEEKEND ~ JANUARY 26 & 27

Saturday, 5:00pm: Matt Casselbury, Josh Formella
Sunday, 7:30am: Taylor Smith, Kathrena Smith, Kyle Chapman
Sunday, 9:00am: Stacy King, Kristin Mannella, Emily Redman
Sunday, 10:30am: Aaron Savella, Courtney Weatherspoon, Sam Crowell

* * * * *

SACRISTAN: Week of January 20 Bev Geier

LINENS: Week of January 27 Marianne Dunham

* * * * *

BREAKFAST CLUB NEWS!

Each week a white contribution envelope is drawn from the collection. The person or family named on the envelope receives free breakfast for two.

This week’s winner: Catherine Smith

Next Week’s Special: Banana Nut Pancakes served with your choice of bacon or sausage and a bottomless cup of coffee for \$3.25.

* * * * *

ELEMENTARY RELIGIOUS EDUCATION classes will not be meeting for the next two weeks due to the Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday (January 21 and 22) and the celebration of the Sacrament of Confirmation (January 28 and 29).

JANUARY 20, 2002

The Webster Catholic Schools will have **New Parent Information Nights** to explain their Pre-Kindergarten through Grade 6 and Day Care Programs for the 2002-2003 school year.

Wednesday, January 23 at 7:00pm
Holy Trinity School 1456 Ridge Road (265-2002)

Thursday, January 24 at 7:00pm
at St. Rita School 1008 Maple Drive (671-3132)

Babysitting will be available both evenings. Applications for all programs will be accepted during school hours (8:30am to 3:00pm) from Thursday, February 28 through Thursday, March 7.

* * * * *

SACRAMENT NEWS

* **Rehearsals for Confirmation candidates** will be held on Wednesday, January 23 in Church. If the last name begins with A-Ma, the rehearsal is from 6:30-7:00pm. If the last name begins with Mc-Z, the rehearsal is 7:00 – 7:30pm. If you have any questions, please call Drew at 671-1100.

* * * * *

PIE SALE ~ Next Weekend! The St. Rita Society will be having their Annual Pie Sale **next weekend, January 26 & 27** after all Masses. There will be a wonderful variety of flavors and types. All proceeds will be used for the church parking lot project. Your support is welcome in purchasing a pie or making a pie to donate! Prices will vary slightly according to the size and type of pie.

**SAVE THE DATE ~ SATURDAY,
MARCH 16**
**Our Annual St. Patrick's Day
Dinner**

* * * * *

We have pamphlets available which list the **Daily Bible Readings** for 2002. Feel free to take one from the table in the back of church.

* * * * *

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL COORDINATOR

We are in need of a dedicated, hard-working adult to coordinate our **Vacation Bible School** Program this year. It will be held Monday, July 8 through Friday, July 12 from 9:30am - Noon. We have a great team of adult and teen teachers and aides. Know that you are giving children the gift of a special week this summer they'll never forget. Contact Maria Wehrle (787-2264) if interested.

PARISH HEALTH MINISTRY
Presents Dr. Dennis Boike

What's it going to take to get our family to talk?

Join us on Tuesday, January 22 at 7:00pm in Church. Let's improve our communications skills.

* Free **Blood Pressure Screenings** will be offered next weekend after Masses in Room 1.

* * * * *

CAREGIVERS GROUP
will meet on

Monday, February 4
at 7:30pm in Room 3

This gathering is for anyone who is presently caring for a loved one at home, in the hospital or nursing home. Come for support, prayer and reassurance.

● * * * * *

●
COMPANIONS IN GRIEF
Thursday, February 7
at 7:30pm in Room 1

Guest Speaker: Nancy Gullen Director of Parish Bereavement Groups
Topic: "Listen to Your Sadness"

All who have lost a loved one through death are invited to attend. All are welcome!

* * * * *

Thank you for joining us to "LIGHTEN UP!"

Thank you to the people of all ages who came to our parish mission to celebrate our faith together, and "Lighten Up" our lives with Doug Brummel.

Special thanks to all the volunteer greeters, reception helpers, sound & light technicians, those who helped with merchandise, etc. Your generosity in sharing your time and talents helped create a smooth program and a successful parish mission.

As Doug (*Andrew – the college student*) spoke of in the mission, we are called to share of our time and talents. **THANK YOU for sharing your gifts!**

* * * * *

The **SCRIPTURE STUDY GROUP** will be meeting **this Tuesday, January 22 at 7:30pm in Room 3.** Come and explore the richness of Old Testament history and the human characters that help tell the dramatic story of God's salvation for all of humankind.

ATTENTION ENGAGED COUPLES

St. Rita's will be hosting a Pre-Cana marriage preparation session on Saturday, February 9, 2002. This is a perfect opportunity for couples with winter and spring weddings to spend a fulfilling day preparing to spend their lives together in marriage. Couples may register by calling Steve and Mary Ann Kwiatkowski at 671-1997 or e-mailing marriageprep@saintrita.org