

# ASH WEDNESDAY



SATURDAY, February 21, 2009 VIGIL: 7<sup>th</sup> Ordinary Sunday  
 4:00 PM †Dorothy Roccanti, 3<sup>rd</sup> ann req by her family  
 †Rev. Stephen Ptaszynski req by Ptaszynski family

SUNDAY, February 22, 2009 Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time  
 8:00 AM †Mary Moriarty 26<sup>th</sup> ann req by Hugh Moriarty  
 †Roland King req by Denise Baran  
 10:30 AM †Gasper F. DeSantis, Sr. req by his family  
 †Emalienne Lapine 2<sup>nd</sup> ann req by Tom, Eileen & family

MONDAY, February 23, 2009  
 8:00 AM †Marianne Marcotte

TUESDAY, February 24, 2009  
 8:00 AM †Mitchell & Sally Gonet, Stanley & Mary Czaporowski  
 †Doris Ryan Birthday Remembrance req by her son, Kevin

WEDNESDAY, February 25, 2009 **ASH WEDNESDAY**  
 7:00 AM †John J. Austin req by the family  
 12:10 PM †Milton St. Mary 19<sup>th</sup> ann req by his wife & family  
 †Jackie Freeburn req by her sister  
 6:30 PM †All the families of the parish

THURSDAY, February 26, 2009  
 8:00 AM †Michelle Kowalski req by Spiritual Life Commission

FRIDAY, February 27, 2009  
 8:00 AM †Morning Prayer

SATURDAY, February 28, 2009 VIGIL: First Sunday of Lent  
 4:00 PM †Harry Shakarian req by Jennie, Eileen & Family  
 †Michael Angers req by the Fortin family

SUNDAY, March 1, 2009 First Sunday of Lent  
 8:00 AM †David Barrett req by his family  
 †Peter Kowal req by his family  
 10:30 AM †Michelle Kowalski req by Daniel & Joyce Eder  
 †Emil Kowal req by Wesley Nowak & family



*Jesus said to the paralytic, "I say to you, rise, pick up your mat, and go home." He rose, picked up his mat at once, and went away in the sight of everyone. They were all astounded and glorified God, saying, "We have never seen anything like this." - Mk 2:11-12*

**Readings for February 28-March 1, 2009**  
**Gn 9:8-15/1 Peter 3:18-22/Mk 1:12-15**

**Religious Vocations Corner** – As Peter, James and John had a “mountaintop experience” with Jesus, so, too, do those who are faithful to Jesus, experiencing His marvelous presence as they follow in His footsteps as a priest, brother or sister. If you think God is calling you, call Fr. Gary Dailey at 413-452-0816 or email: [g.dailey@diospringfield.org](mailto:g.dailey@diospringfield.org) web site [www.my.vocation.com](http://www.my.vocation.com).

## The Pastor's Thoughts...

-I am indeed grateful to Fr. Jack Roach for being with you as I enjoy the sunshine and rest on the island of Nevis. I return on Tuesday evening and look forward to being with you for Ash Wednesday.

-This Wednesday we enter the joyful season of Lent, preparing us for the glorious celebrations of the Triduum and Easter. The traditional imposition of ashes will be given at Mass following the Gospel at 7AM, 12:10PM and 6:30PM. The evening Mass is a Generations of Faith celebration and I look forward to seeing many of our participants, families and individuals.

-In preparation for the Lenten Season our Spiritual Life Commission has once again offered a Lenten Booklet to assist you in your daily journey. If you did not pick one up this weekend, do look for them on Ash Wednesday in the gathering space. The Commission is likewise making available our Lenten Prayer Banners in the rear of the church. During this season you are invited to write your special prayer intentions on the cards provided and attach them to either of the banners. These intentions will be remembered at all Masses celebrated during Lent and later burned in prayerful offering in the new Easter Fire at the Easter Vigil.

-Our weekly presentation on Social Justice has begun with great enthusiasm. It is held on Friday evenings in the Pine Room at 7PM and new participants are always welcomed. Each session is unique and you are invited to attend over the next several weeks as you can.

-Special thanks to Denise Baran for organizing a “Tupperware Fundraiser” for our expansion fund. Note that orders and payments are due this weekend. Denise can be reached at 323-6288 if you have questions.

-Once again I remind the men of the parish of the upcoming Men’s Conference which will be held at Cathedral High School on Saturday, March 21<sup>st</sup>. The speakers are dynamic and moving and I am sure that all who participate will leave with renewed and deeper faith. Registration information for men 16+ in years are to be found in the gathering space.

-A Catholic Women’s Conference will be sponsored by the Diocese on Saturday, April 25<sup>th</sup> at Cathedral High School. Some registration forms (black and white) are available in the gathering space. You are asked to register by March 25<sup>th</sup>. Information can be found at [www.diospringfield.org/womensconf.html](http://www.diospringfield.org/womensconf.html)

-Please remember that Lent is the new time for our Annual Catholic Appeal. Please make your response, using the request you received in the mail as soon as you can.

**God be with you this week and always!**

*Fr. Vern*



## SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

*In Gratitude to God for His many gifts,  
the members of this parish have returned  
the following resources in support of the parish  
and its ministries...*

The Sunday Collection for February 14-15.....	\$6,214.63
Weekly Sunday Average.....	6,301.44
Weekly Sunday Goal.....	6,500.00
Mortgage & Expansion Collection for February 1-15.....	5589.00
Monthly Mortgage & Expansion Goal.....	6,000.00
Monthly Mortgage & Expansion February Shortfall.....	411.00

### *Mortgage & Expansion Collection*

**The Monthly Collection for the Mortgage & Expansion Fund will be a second collection at all masses next weekend February 28<sup>th</sup> – March 1<sup>st</sup>.** The loan payment is a monthly obligation which our parish must fulfill just as any family does. Our goal is \$6,000.00 per month and all contributions above the goal will be retained for mortgage and expansion needs.

**Eucharistic Adoration and Visitation** - The Adoration Info Line number is 323-6272 Extension 6. Please, always call just before coming in for your hour to see if Adoration has been closed due to extreme cold or bad weather. The Adoration Chapel (entrance around the rear of the church) is open to all parishioners for a visit before the Blessed Sacrament. Hours of Adoration are 8:00 AM – 10:00 PM Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday. If you would like to be a part of our Adoration program, either as an assigned adorer or substitute, please call Pam at 323-7416. **The following hours are in need of an Adorer: Monday 2:00 – 3:00 PM, Tuesday 12 Noon – 1:00 PM and Tuesday 1:00 – 2:00 PM.**

## Liturgical Roles

*Weekend of February 28-March 1, 2009*

### Lectors

4:00 PM McKeon

8:00 AM Miffitt

10:30 AM Dell'Olio

### Ministers of the Eucharist

4:00 PM Yvon, Richard & Leslie Zlotnik, Abraham,, Beaupre, Pat A., Couture

8:00 AM Ricardi, Dubois, Coty, Fontaine, Barrett, Kielbasa, McGinnis

10:30 AM Lattrell, Lawrence, Letendre, Gary & Linda Racicot, Rose, Tyler

### Altar Servers

4:00 PM A. Beaupre, A. & M. Patel

8:00 AM B Dubois & F. Muraczewski

10:30 AM R. Racicot, L. & S. LeBlanc, A. Maggi

**The St. Francis of Assisi Food Pantry is in need of condiments such as mayonnaise, mustard, relish and ketchup. Once again, thank you for responding to our needs.**



**Brick Corner** – We would like to thank the following parishioners who have “purchased a brick” for our new church, either in their name or in the name of a loved one: The Czapla & Dewhurst Families – Five Bricks In Memory of Rita Rose Czapla on the 11<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Her Death – 1/15/1998

Thank you for your support and please remind your friends that they, also, can “buy a brick”. They are only \$10.00 each.

**7<sup>th</sup> Annual Catholic Men’s Conference:** Bishop McDonnell invites all men of the diocese to participate in this year’s Men’s Conference held at Cathedral High School on Saturday, March 21<sup>st</sup>. In addition to Tony Melendez and His Eminence Sean Cardinal O’Malley, we will have Robert Rogers, who has an inspiring message of hope. Robert was the only survivor of a flash flood that took the lives of his wife and 4 children. Come and hear his dynamic message. Dads, bring your sons along to hear these awesome speakers. All ages, 16 and up, are welcome to come. Brochures are available in the gathering space. Info at 452-0811

**The Our Lady of the Angels S.F.O.** will be having an information session for those interested in learning more about the SFO, as well as having their regular meeting on Wednesday, March 11, at 6:00PM in the Tovet Room of the church. All are welcome. For those with questions, call Lynn Carney at 323-5537, or Kathy Ricardi at 323-9023.

**Open House: St. John the Baptist School,** 217 Hubbard St., Ludlow, will be holding two Open Houses for prospective parents one: Thursday, February 26<sup>th</sup> from 6:30-8:00 PM Another: Sunday, March 1, from 12-1:30 PM. Staff will be present and tours will be available. Limited openings are available in Grades K-8. Please, consider joining us...you’ll be glad you did!

**Free Chapel Concert at Providence Place** – Holyoke Catholic’s A Cappella Singers will perform on Sunday, March 1, at 2:30 PM. These talented high school students will present a program rich in Sacred Church Hymns, traditional African-American Hymns, Taizé Chants, and Gospel Music. For additional information contact Runa Skar, at Providence Place: 413-534-9700.

**Mohegan Sun Casino Bus Trip** – Tell your friends and families...the Parent Partnership for Holyoke Catholic High School is hosting a trip on March 6<sup>th</sup>. Departing at 9:00 AM from the parking lot on Route 116, the corner of Center and Ash Streets in Chicopee. Tickets are \$30, but that amount is returned to you in a food voucher (\$15) and 3 \$5 bets. Call Barbara Moran at 33-2480 x1273.

**Living God’s Grace** – the second annual Catholic Women’s Conference: Saturday, April 25, 2009, at Cathedral High School, 260 Surrey Rd. Springfield. Women are being encouraged to plan ahead and order tickets. The day features talks by Msgr. Stuart Swetland, Camille Lewis Brown and Jill Ker Conway. Sarah Hart, a contemporary Catholic singer and songwriter will perform an afternoon concert and sing at the closing Mass. Fee: \$30. Info: 413-452-0535 or [www.diospringfield.org/womensconf.html](http://www.diospringfield.org/womensconf.html).

***Michael Sweeney Prayer Line***

From February 9 through February 16, 2009 the following intentions were added to our already long list of requests for prayers. Won't you please join us in praying for them all.

A renewed intention for a couple trying to buy a home.

Healing of bronchitis for a woman.

Healing for George Dion.

Healing for Arlene's family members.

Successful surgery for Irene 2/12.

Improved health for David.

That Joshua will receive the correct diagnosis and healing.

Prayers asked that Mary can avoid foot surgery.

That Irene Malin, who is 100 years old, will have a peaceful and happy death.

For Mary Beth to make the right decision regarding surgery.

Healing for Baby Jack..

A safe and enjoyable trip to and from Florida for a couple 2/14-2/21.

Thanksgiving from a couple who have found a new home.

Prayers are asked for the friends and families of those who died in the Buffalo plane crash.

Thanksgiving for the lives of Norman LeBlanc, Ralph Goodreau, James Diederich, and Charles Jackson. Please pray for the repose of their souls and for their families and friends in their bereavement.

Thanksgiving for all God's Graces and His answers to the requests of the prayer line. If you would like to have the prayer line members pray for you or a loved one, please call Chris McGinnis, 323-6622, Louise Groux, 323-4046 or Marion Masse, 323-7169.

**Touch Someone's Life With Love** - Prayer Shawl Ministry – If you know of someone who is ill or is mourning the loss of a loved one and would appreciate prayer support and the gift of a home made shawl, please call Pat Antonovitch at 323-7735 or Judy Dudek at 323-4339.

**Pro Life Corner:** The framers of the Declaration of Independence asserted that all human beings have inalienable rights, bestowed on them not by any human power, but by their Creator. Those who hold a more exclusionary view need to explain why we should divide humanity into those who have moral value and those who do not. This moral line-drawing poses a serious threat to the dignity and rights of other poor and vulnerable members of the human family who need and deserve our respect and protection.

**Lenten Regulations**

- 1.. *Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are days of Abstinence from meat as well as days of fast, when only one full meal is allowed. On days of fast two other meatless meals may be taken according to one's needs, but together they should not equal another full meal.*
2. *The other Fridays of Lent are days of abstinence from meat.*
3. *The obligation to abstain from meat begins at 14 years of age.*
4. *The obligation to fast begins at 18 and ends at 59.*
5. *Although the faithful may excuse themselves for a just cause from these laws of fast and abstinence, there is an obligation to substitute another penance and no Catholic should lightly excuse himself/herself from this obligation in the Lenten season.*