

★ Have a Happy Day ... ★
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Labor Day

SATURDAY, September 5, 2009 VIGIL: Twenty Third Ordinary Sunday

8:00 AM ☩ All Souls in Purgatory req by Mary Yando

4:00 PM ☩ Thomas Whitehead req by Jean Domingue

☩ Eugene Frechette req by Pat & Ron Akins

SUNDAY, September 6, 2009 Twenty Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00 AM ☩ Andrew & Helen Brown req by the family

☩ Paul & Jeanne Fournier req by their daughter

10:30 AM ☩ Mary Jane McGrath req by Helen Lavalle,
William & Sharon Milnik

MONDAY, September 7, 2009 – Labor Day

8:00 AM ☩ Father Vern's intentions req by Rita Gallagher

TUESDAY, September 8, 2009

8:00 AM ☩ Alice Burke req by Chris McGinnis

WEDNESDAY, September 9, 2009

8:00 AM ☩ Families of the Parish

THURSDAY, September 10, 2009

8:00 AM ☩ Morning Prayer

FRIDAY, September 11, 2009

8:00 AM ☩ Morning Prayer

SATURDAY, September 12, 2009 VIGIL: Twenty fourth Ordinary Sunday

4:00 PM ☩ Thomas Buczko req by the Buczko family

☩ David Crowther req by Rachele Rushford

SUNDAY, September 13, 2009 Twenty Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00 AM ☩ M. Louise Scherpa 31st ann req by the family

☩ Maryann and Fipina req by the family

10:30 AM ☩ Stephanie Dougal req by the Grady family



Then he looked up to heaven and groaned, and said to him, "Ephphatha!"---that is, "Be opened!" And immediately the man's ears were opened, his speech impediment was removed, and he spoke plainly.

- Mk 7:34-35

Scripture Readings for September 12-13, 2009

Is 50:5-9/Jas 2:14-18/Mk 8:27—35

Religious Vocation Corner: Did not God choose those who are poor in the eyes of the world to be rich in faith and heirs of the Kingdom? Count your blessings. Then come and help others count theirs, too, as priest or religious. If you feel you have such a vocation, call Fr. Gary Dailey at 413-452-0816 or E-Mail: g.dailey@diospringfield.org. Please take home our Vocation Cross, God will bless you.

The Pastor's Thoughts...

-Sincere thanks to everyone who worked so hard to make this year's Annual Tag Sale yet another success. Despite the weather conditions, many volunteers braved the elements and the sale thus far grossed \$13,500 with a profit to our Building Fund of \$8,300. We are deeply grateful to Ray Coulombe, this year's Chairman and his wife, Nita for directing and coordinating this big undertaking and to all our members who so generously gave of themselves to make our success happen. It is these kinds of efforts that bring us together as a community and strengthens our bonds as we work together for the good of all. Thank you!

-The Lord does answer our prayers! We are pleased to welcome to our Religious Education Staff, Joan Quinn as coordinator for our High School program. Joan is new to Belchertown and to the parish. She comes to us with a Master's Degree in Social Work, having had a special interest in working with teens. She has many fine qualities and gifts that will contribute well to our program and we are very pleased to welcome her and her husband to our community.

-I am deeply grateful to Fr. Jack Roach for his coverage of the parish during my final week of vacation. With Fr. Jack here, I know you are all in good hands. He asked that I share the following with you:

Grateful Thanks: I am very grateful for the warm and welcoming hospitality you extended me as I covered for Fr. Vern this past week. I so enjoyed the celebration and the Luau on Sunday afternoon with the young parishioners and wish them well in all of their fund raising events. **Thank You! Thank You! Thank You!** Fr. Roach

An Opportunity of a Lifetime: Join Fr. Roach and others who will be making a trip to the foundational Community of the Missionaries of the Poor in Kingston, Jamaica in January of 2010. The proposed dates: January 6-20. There we will share in the prayer, ministry and communal life of this extraordinary group of young brothers. If at all interested or want more information, please call Fr. Roach at 1-413-624-5508.

-On Thursday, September 3rd Bishop Maguire reached the great age of 90 years. Our heartfelt best wishes and prayers go out to him, as well as our gratitude for his many years of faithful service to the Church and to our Diocese. I was particularly blessed to be his Master of Ceremonies for several years and so enjoyed the warmth of his friendship; he was and is a "Good Shepherd."

-Now that all the announcements of Pastoral Planning have been made, its reality is hitting home to us as we share the loss and grief of many of the communities we have known or been part of in our journey of Faith. I am particularly saddened by the closure of Blessed Sacrament in Northampton, as I was pastor there before coming to Belchertown. Nevertheless, we must trust in the wisdom of those who were charged with making these tough decisions as we seek to realistically embrace the future of our Catholic Church here in Western Massachusetts. May we continue to pray for understanding and trust as we move forward in these difficult and challenging times.

God be with you and bless you!

Fr. Vern

TWENTY-THIRD 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 August 29-30.....	\$5,331.45
Weekly Sunday Average	5,822.18
Weekly Sunday Goal.....	6,500.00
Mortgage & Expansion Collection for August 1-30.....	6,046.00
Monthly Mortgage & Expansion Goal.....	6,000.00
Monthly Mortgage & Expansion August Overage.....	46.00

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 12 Noon – 1:00 PM, Tuesday 12 Noon – 1:00 PM and Tuesday 1:00 – 2:00 PM.**

Liturgical Roles

Weekend of September 12-13, 2009

Lectors

4:00 PM Phaneuf
8:00 AM Crosby
10:30 AM Schmidt & William

Ministers of the Eucharist

4:00 PM Pat A., Buczko, Couture, Lemire, Racine, R. & L. Zlotnik
8:00 AM Barrett, Crosby, Dubois, McGinnis, Miffitt, Tovet, Lund
10:30 AM Adams, Cominoli, Dell

Altar Servers

4:00 PM A. Ronnau, K. & A. McNamara
8:00 AM B. Patel & D. Nauman
10:30 AM W., J. & B. Kervick

Pro-Life Corner – A Former worker at a Dignitas suicide clinic told the *London Daily Mail* that she began to see the clinic not as compassionate place for ending lives but as a money-making killing machine, taking advantage of the disabled and terminally ill. (*Life News*, 6/1/09)

Let us pray that those who have been blinded to the humanity of the unborn may open their eyes to the truth.

St. Francis 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: There were no bricks purchased in this time period. Thank you for your support and please remind your friends that they, also, can “buy a brick”. They are only \$10.00 each.

Generations of Faith needs Catechists & Classroom Assistants

We still have openings to fill before our first G of F session on the weekend of September 12/13. Won't you consider signing up now? Call Judy at 323-6272 for information.

Openings are:

Saturday PM Session: Elementary Catechist (1 opening)
Sunday AM Session: Pre-school Catechist and Assistants
Elementary Catechist (1 opening)
7th/8th Grade Catechists
10th Grade Co-Catechists & assistant

Sunday PM Session: Elementary Catechist
7th/8th Grade Catechist and Assistants
Pre-school Assistant
Adult Co-Catechist

Subs for all grade levels and time slots.

Generations of Faith starts on the weekend of September 12/13. Registration materials were sent to all parish households. Don't delay. Send in your registrations now and join us this year for a study on prayer. Forms can be downloaded from the parish website at www.stfrancisbtown.org.

Wanted: Parent/Child magazines – Our Pre-school class designers are looking for magazines that have pictures of children in them. If you have copies to donate, please drop them off on the rectory porch with “Judy” on them. Thank you.

Pack 507 reminds parents that membership is FREE to church family members and to children of adult volunteers. Also the first five First Graders will be registered FREE—this is a new age group 507 wishes to recruit and welcome! Out of town members are also welcome and transfers can be arranged at no cost. For info/applications, etc, call Gloria: 323-0966.

Thank You! Thank You! Thank You! To Chairman Ray and his wife, Anita, Coulombe and all of the volunteers who assisted to make our 2009 Parish Tag Sale another successful venture, adding over \$8,300 to the St. Francis Building Fund. There have been other years which produced a higher income, but none that have tested the resolve, spirit and ingenuity of our workers that this event did. The adverse weather conditions on Friday and Saturday, with steady and sometimes heavy rain falling, made this Tag Sale much more challenging. Extra expenses were incurred to help keep the goods dry and make it more comfortable for shoppers, but the workers were forced to work in the rain. It was obvious, also, that our excellent reputation of past tag sales was an incentive for many of the shoppers to brave the elements and take advantage of this sale. Thanks to all who participated.

The Parish Fundraising Committee

SEPTEMBER 6, 2009

Michael Sweeney Prayer Line

From August 21 through August 24, 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.

Prayers are asked for healing of Ray, Sr.'s broken arm and leg.

Healing for a woman with a bad case of poison ivy.

Prayers are asked for the M. family for peace and happiness in their hearts and souls.

Healing for Tom, a diabetic, who has an infected foot.

Good results from a procedure for Bob for placement of a stent.

Successful surgery for Janie 9/3, and a good outcome.

Thanksgiving for a happy wedding celebration for a family.

Safe traveling for a man 8/25-8/27.

Renewed intention for Patrick after an emergency appendectomy.

A safe and enjoyable trip for a woman 8/27-8/31.

Thanksgiving for a safe return from Wisconsin for Tim.

Healing for a man with Shingles.

Prayers for Shannon who is having medical problems.

Prayers asked for a couple during a difficult time.

Renewed intention for healing for Roger.

Successful surgery for Mary Stedman.

Prayers for a successful procedure for Ron 8/31.

Renewed special intention for a woman for good results from a procedure and for improved health.

Thanksgiving for the life of Ralph F. Potter, Jr. Please pray for the repose of his soul and for his family 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 or email cmcginnis6622@verizon.net.

Bethlehem House sent thanks to St. Francis parishioners for participating in the Bottle Program and the generous donation of \$1,744. "Our ministry is so dependent upon the generosity of good people like you. Thank you for ...helping Moms and saving babies from Abortion. May God bless everyone at St. Francis for their openness to life and supporting our ministry." Pamela Hibbard, Director.

Free Chapel Concert at Providence Place – Talented singer Madeline Lukomski, 11, is the featured soloist Sunday, September 13, 2:30 PM. with two other gifted soloists, Traci Mnich and Fred Marion. Dan Kane will accompany. More info at 413-534-9700.

Sarah Hart Concert Coming soon!!! "Singing is Praying Twice. 2 performances offered on Saturday, September 19, 7 PM and Sunday, September 20. 2 PM, in the Church. Gather with friends and parish family for an experience of music and song with Sarah Hart. A gifted songwriter, musician and performer, Sarah travels around the world to share her gifts. Check out her music at www.sarahhartmusic.com. Get tickets at the door: \$5 for children & seniors; \$10 for adults, \$25 for families.

Slice of Heaven: Charity Golf Tournament and raffle for a laptop computer: September 21, 2009 at the Stockbridge Golf club Proceeds benefit the Marian Fathers' Seminarian Campaign and the Catholic Youth Center of Pittsfield. \$640 for a foursome. Raffle for MacBook Pro laptop computer \$20 per ticket or 6 for \$100. Register at www.marian.org/slice or call 413-298-1208.