February 5, 2017 - Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Celebration of the Eucharist
Saturday Vigil Masses: 4:00 & 6:30 P.M.
Sunday Masses:  7:00, 9:45, and 11:15 A.M.
Weekday Masses (Monday - Saturday): 6:30 A.M.
Holy Day Masses:  4:00 P.M. (Vigil)
                  6:30 A.M. & 5:30 P.M.

Confessions:
Wednesdays, 4:30 - 5:30 P.M.
Fridays, 6:00 - 7:00 P.M.
Saturdays, 3:00 - 4:00 P.M.

Baptisms:
Please call the rectory in advance to schedule baptismal instruction.

Marriages:
Couple should contact the rectory at least one year in advance. A marriage preparation program is required.

Rev. Robert D. Bruso
Pastor

Rev. Stephen E. Lundrigan
In Residence

Rev. Richard G. Roger
Retired

Deacon Ronald J. Aubuchon
Deacon Robert S. Connor, Jr.

Mr. David M. Lasky
Music Director, Organist

Mrs. Patricia A. Secino,
Religious Education Director and
Director of Evangelization and RCIA
# Mass Intentions

<table>
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<th>Day</th>
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<th>Mass on pg. 208</th>
<th>Saturday Masses</th>
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| Saturday  | February 4   | 208             | 4:00 p.m. Mr. & Mrs. Napoleon Langlois (anniv.) by their granddaughters, Rita & Theresa  
|           |              |                 | 6:30 p.m. Rachel I. Ouellette by Jim & Annette Provo |
| Sunday    | February 5   | 208             | 7:00 a.m. Jonathan Roberge by Mr. & Mrs. Arcade Richard  
|           |              |                 | 9:45 a.m. Therese Hamel (8th anniv.) by her family    |
|           |              |                 | 11:15 a.m. Oscar Brodeur (2nd anniv.) by his family   |
| Monday    | February 6   | 212             | 6:30 a.m. Gabrielle Grenache by her estate            |
| Tuesday   | February 7   | 214             | 6:30 a.m. Larry Despres by his family                |
| Wednesday | February 8   | 215             | 6:30 a.m. Lien (Theresa) Le by her family             |
|           |              |                 | 4:30 - 5:30 p.m. Confession                          |
| Thursday  | February 9   | 215             | 6:30 a.m. Camilla R. Leger by Mr. & Mrs. Harry Hess   |
|           |              |                 | 1:00 p.m. Mass at Manor on the Hill in the Adult Day Care Center |
| Friday    | February 10  | 216             | 6:30 a.m. Parishioners of St. Cecilia Parish          |
|           |              |                 | 6:00 - 7:00 p.m. Confession                          |
| Saturday  | February 11  | 218             | 6:30 a.m. Raymond Blanchette by Rev. Robert E. Gariepy |
|           |              |                 | 1:30 p.m. WEDDING: Brogan Buckley & Matthew Shafer   |
|           |              |                 | 3:00 - 4:00 p.m. Confession                          |
|           |              |                 | **Vigil Masses**                                    |
|           |              |                 | 4:00 p.m. Nelson Crochetter (11th anniv.) by John, Mary & Michael  
|           |              |                 | 6:30 p.m. Bernadette Goguen by Carol & Lena          |
| Sunday    | February 12  | 219             | 7:00 a.m. Richard Mason (1st anniv.) by Carla & Richard McGrath  
|           |              |                 | 9:45 a.m. Roger LeBlanc (anniv.) by his family       |
|           |              |                 | 11:15 a.m. Marie Houle (17th anniv.) by her family   |

## 2016 St. Cecilia’s Parish Contribution Statements

Now available. To request a contribution letter, please email BettyAnn at bettyann.stc@verizon.net, if you are unable to email your request, please call the rectory and leave your name and address.

*The parish is very grateful for all your generosity throughout the year!*
A Message From Our Pastor

Dear Friends,

How do we let our light shine? How do we give witness to our faith in Jesus? Do we just talk the talk or can we walk the walk?

To be a disciple of Jesus Christ is to be called to share the Good News. By baptism, we are made missionaries. That doesn't mean we have to go to the ends of the earth. It means that we are expected to live our lives in such a way as to demonstrate to those we meet what it means to be a Christian. A Christian is a person who, following Jesus’ two great commandments, puts God first in life and loves one’s neighborhood as they love themselves.

In the first reading, Isaiah gives us a practical hint as to the way we can do it. “Share your bread with the hungry, shelter the oppressed and the homeless,” he says. If we do not live what we believe, we become salt without savor, worthless, fit only to be thrown out.

The seal of the city of Boston features a city on a hill, because the founders of the city had come to the New World as religious refugees from what they believed was a corrupt religious and political establishment in England. They wanted to hold themselves to a higher standard. They wanted their city to be a city set on a mountaintop so that it could not be hidden. They would stand on their own merits as witnesses to the Christian faith. If they succeeded or if they failed, everyone would know about it.

This country was built on the hopes and dreams of immigrants. From every corner of the world they came to America to build better lives for themselves and for their children.

There was a time when “French Hill” was more than the name of a location. It described the reality of the neighborhood. In every store, the little signs saying “Ici on parle francais” alerted the customers that at least one of the store clerks could serve them in their own language. Over the years, the immigrants’ children and grandchildren became Americanized and there was no need for the signs.

Every immigrant group, whether from Canada or the Caribbean, Italy or Ireland, Africa or Arabia, seems a little strange at first. It is a part of America as a melting pot that no group is perpetually excluded. The greatness of America has been our capacity to accept differences while sharing individual gifts. Did you ever have a pizza? A poutine? Chinese food? Pita bread? Then you’ve shared in the diversity that is America. Nothing sounds sillier than someone saying he doesn’t want to eat a certain item because he has never had it before. You’ve got to at least try something before you decided whether you like it or not.

Closing ourselves off to anything new or unusual makes us smaller people. And closing our borders to refugees without first finding out if they are a real threat or not makes us unworthy of our own heritage. Let the light of our faith and the virtue of our authentic patriotism continue to be like a city built on a mountaintop or a lamp on a lampstand, directing the innocent victims of war and terrorism to a safe harbor, a new homeland, a blessed and fortunate nation whose strength has always been in its loving embrace of the stranger – the United States of America.

May God bless you all,

Father Bob Bruso
Religious Education/CCD Classes

Monday Classes for Grades 7-10 continue this week on Feb. 6 at 7:00 pm.

Sunday Classes for Grades 1-6 continue on Feb. 12th at 10 am. Attending the 11:15 am Mass is included in the program.

Last Week’s Stewardship Collection was $ 7,077. The Monthly Collected total $ 1,755.
Thank You!!

5th Sunday in Ordinary Time
“Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.” (Matthew 5:16) The generosity of being a good steward of your gifts has a positive effect on people and is contagious! Good works encourage more good works. Let your light shine! Recognize that God is working through you and don’t put yourself above the people you have been called to help.
Homemakers/PC Aides
The Home Care Program of Catholic Charities is currently accepting applications for Homemakers/PC Aides to work in the North Central area. A variety of hours and schedules are available. Must have a reliable car and phone. Please call 800-461-7131.

Interested In Becoming A Deacon?
Find out everything you wanted to know about the Diaconate program for the Diocese of Worcester. If you are a male, college graduate (or have an equivalent to a degree) and are between the ages of 31 and 60 and have an interest, now is your opportunity to get some answers. Spouses are welcome and urged to attend with you. **Saturday, February 11 at 10 am** at St. Anne Parish Center, 130 Boston Turnpike, Shrewsbury. For more information, contact Diaconate office: 508-929-4335 or visit worcesterdiocese.org.

Banns of Marriage
**Week #3**
Brogan Buckley & Matthew Shafer

The Rosary Is Prayed
Monday thru Friday
at 3:00 p.m. in the church. Please Join Us!

Worldwide Marriage Encounter
"Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy." As we reflect upon the beatitudes, let us explore how to understand our spouse better by attending a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend. The next WWME Weekends are Mar 17-19, 2017 in South Kingstown, RI and Jun 10-11, 2017 in Medway, MA. For more information, call Stephen & Michelle O’Leary at 800-710-9963 or visit us at [www.WWMEMA.org](http://www.WWMEMA.org).

Attention Lectors
Your Schedules are Ready for Pickup in the Sacristy

St. Cecilia’s Bingo
Friday Evenings at 6:30 PM
Doors Open at 4 PM
Come Try Your Luck!

DEFUND
PLANNED PARENTHOOD
A De-Fund Planned Parenthood Rally will be on **Saturday, February 11, 2017 at 12:00 Noon on Main Street in Fitchburg across from the Planned Parenthood office at 391 Main Street**. Signs and rosaries will be available as well as hot drinks and hand warmers. For more information please contact Joyce Aucoin at 978-345-0129 or aucoinjoyce@gmail.com

Looking For A Job?
St. Cecilia Church, Leominster MA
February 5, 2017

Homemakers/PC Aides
Statement from Bishop McManus

January 31, 2017
Statement from Bishop McManus on Executive Order on immigration:

It is hard to imagine an American alive today who does not include immigrants to this country in his or her family tree, ancestors who were in search of a better life, or escaping political or religious persecution, or fleeing the ravages of war. It is particularly this last case that is most disturbing in light of President Trump’s Executive Order addressing the U.S. refugee admissions program and migration to the United States. In light of that, I add my voice to that of the USCCB’s chair of the Committee on Migration, Bishop Joe S. Vásquez of Austin, Texas, who issued the following statement: “We strongly disagree with the Executive Order’s halting refugee admissions. We believe that now more than ever, welcoming newcomers and refugees is an act of love and hope. We will continue to engage the new administration, as we have all administrations for the duration of the current refugee program, now almost forty years. We will work vigorously to ensure that refugees are humanely welcomed in collaboration with Catholic Charities without sacrificing our security or our core values as Americans, and to ensure that families may be reunified with their loved ones.”

Our own local experience has been one of great success in assisting refugees from Syria and many other countries through Catholic Charities, working in collaboration with the U.S. government. Let us hope and pray and voice our support for efforts to rectify this policy, while respecting the right of every nation to protect its borders and its citizens. As Christians we cannot ignore the Gospel imperative to welcome the stranger in our midst, especially those whose dignity as children of God is not being respected. In the Catechism of the Catholic Church, (# 2241) our faith encourages us to welcome all people “in search of the security and means of livelihood which they cannot find in their country of origin.” As our Holy Father, Pope Francis said to our nation’s leaders in September 2015, “…if we want security, let us give security; if we want life, let us give life; if we want opportunities, let us provide opportunities. The yardstick we use for others will be the yardstick which time will use for us.”

Please Patronize Our Advertisers who sponsor our colorful weekly bulletin at no cost to the parish. Mention to them that you saw their ad in the bulletin. Besides providing the bulletin free of charge to the parish, funds from bulletin sponsors help needy families in our area through the St. Vincent de Paul Society. More Sponsors Are Welcome - if you or someone you know would like to sponsor our parish bulletin please call the rectory at 978-537-6541.