

MOTHER'S DAY will be here before we know it—only four weeks away. Our Mother's Day Novena of Masses will begin on Sunday, May 13th, and continue to May 20th. These nine Masses will be celebrated for the special intentions of, and in honor of, all living mothers, wives, mothers-in-law, grandmothers, godmothers, aunts, daughters, sisters, and friends—and for the blessed repose of the souls of the deceased—whose names you will have submitted. Flowers fade, and that special dinner will soon be a memory. But the gift of Masses is eternal!

Top quality greeting cards by Barton-Cotton of Baltimore, suitable for any and all of these special ladies, are available at the church entrances. Please feel free to take as many cards as you will need (but, please, not more than you will need). Smaller envelopes without greeting cards, for submitting names of the deceased, are also available.

THE DIVINE MERCY NOVENA was a source of graces and blessings for all who participated. May we all try to appreciate what our Lord's Divine Mercy on us means. And may we, in turn, strive always to extend that mercy to all others.

"THANK YOU" to the generous volunteers who came together last Saturday and Tuesday mornings to prepare pierogi for our upcoming Polish Fest.

ALL PARISH GOLUMBKI CHEFS are invited to the first golumbki-making party in anticipation of this year's Polish Fest this Tuesday morning, the 17th, starting around 8-8:30 in the parish hall kitchen. Many helping hands will be needed. Please use the kitchen entrance at the rear of the church.

Also, another pierogi-making get-together will be next Saturday morning, the 21st, again starting around 8-8:30. Many "pinchers" and others will be needed—no previous experience necessary.

BINGO, a wholesome evening of fun and excitement, continues this Thursday and every Thursday evening (except holidays) at 6:45 in our parish hall. Door and kitchen open at 4:30.

THE SUMMER POLISH FEST is just around the corner. Circle June 16th and 17th on your calendar! It is not too early to keep a keen eye open for nice sale items appropriate for booth prizes and to obtain gift certificates to restaurants, etc. Our goal is 100% parishioner participation in whatever way you are able to ensure another successful Polish Fest this year.




COME AND SHARE YOUR HOPES AND DREAMS for our Church! Over the next several weeks, Bishop da Cunha will be hosting a series of "listening sessions" in each deanery as part of the diocesan strategic planning process. In the New Bedford Deanery, the gathering will be this coming Friday, April 20th, at St. Julie's from 6:30 to 8 in the evening. OLPH Parishioners are encouraged to attend to offer your thoughts and ideas as an essential part of the process.

A HOLY HOUR FOR VOCATIONS will be led by Bishop da Cunha in the Cathedral of St. Mary of the Assumption next Sunday afternoon, April 22nd, at 3 o'clock. The occasion is Good Shepherd Sunday and the 55th annual World Day of Prayer for Vocations, established to publicly fulfill Jesus' instruction to "*Pray the Lord of the harvest to send laborers into His harvest:* (Mt 9:38; Lk 10.2). It would be wonderful if you could be part of this beautiful time of prayer.

FEEDING THE HUNGRY is one of the corporal works of mercy. Because OLPH has neither a food pantry nor a food kitchen to feed the hungry poor, we support other parishes' food pantries through Catholic Social Services.

All non-perishable food items collected here are picked up and distributed by CSS to the various food pantries sponsored by Catholic parishes in our area. There is always a basket in our church's main lobby where our donations of non-perishables are collected. The need is real and knows no particular time or season.


Mass Intentions



Sat. - Apr. 14 - Third Sunday of Easter

4:00 PM +Nancy & +Bill Brightman
Req. Stephen Louro

Sun. - Apr. 15 - Third Sunday of Easter

10:00 AM +Lydia Maher
Req. Nicole Michalski & Family

Mon. - Apr. 16 - Easter Weekday

7:30 AM OLPH Parishioners,
Living & Deceased

Tues. - Apr. 17 - Easter Weekday

7:30 AM +Stanley Skrabasz

Wed. - Apr. 18 - Easter Weekday

7:30 AM God's Blessing, Release from
Alcoholism
Req. John D.

Thurs. - Apr. 19 - Easter Weekday

7:30 AM Special Intention
Req. Joanne Kwapniewski

Fri. - Apr. 20 - Easter Weekday

7:30 AM +Danielle Tan

Sat. - Apr. 21 - Easter Weekday

7:30 AM Health & Blessings
Req. Armindo & Cynthia Linhares

Sat. - Apr. 21 - Fourth Sunday of Easter

4:00 PM +Helena Bobrowiecki
Req. Ernest Duval

Sun. - Apr. 22 - Fourth Sunday of Easter

10:00 AM +Robert Cyr
Req. Wife Joan

A MESSAGE FROM FATHER CONRAD

Sisters and Brothers of Our Parish Family,

Easter is the greatest feast of the Church year. And it is more than a one-day event. It is a time of joy and a reaffirmation of our faith and belief in the Resurrection of our Lord from the dead. Without the Resurrection, our faith would be meaningless! It is a season of celebrating God's love for us in giving us His Son as our Redeemer, that we might live with Him forever.

April first began the Fifty-Day Easter Season. Celebrating the Easter Season (or the Christmas Season for that matter) is hard for us to do in the culture in which we live, that stresses "moment" rather than a season—a culture that rushes to celebrate holidays before they arrive. And when the holiday does arrive, many are so worn out with their excessive pre-holiday celebrations, they say "Thank God it's over!" How strange that is.

The Church reminds us that there is a *season* of grace to celebrate with each of the two great feasts of the Church (Easter and Christmas)—and that the celebration *begins* with the Day and extends out from there:

Fifty Days of living the Paschal Mystery! *Fifty Days* of surrendering in joyful faith and love, as the Spirit of God takes possession of our lives! *Fifty Days* of entering even more deeply into the baptismal mysteries of death and resurrection!

Rather than being a time of mindless hoopla, a season of Christian festival is a time of finely-tuned awareness. The Great Fifty Days are an invitation to awaken our memory of God's presence and power in our lives.

As we continue to celebrate this glorious Fifty Day Easter Season, may we allow ourselves to celebrate fully this great Season of Grace we are given each year!

May the blessings of our Risen Lord be yours in abundance!

Father Conrad