

**DZIEKUJE BARDZO!** to the many wonderful volunteers who, last Tuesday morning, made many cabbage pierogi for our 2018 Polish Fest. May God reward your dedication and hard work.

**All Parish Golumbki Chefs** are invited to come to the church hall kitchen this Tuesday morning to make golumbki. **Saturday, the 5th**, will be "cabbage-prep" day for pierogi. And **Tuesday, the 8th**, another pierogi-making day.

Many happy volunteers are needed each of these mornings starting around 8-8:30. May we count you in?

**OUR MOTHER'S DAY NOVENA OF MASSES** will begin in just two weeks—nine Masses beginning on May 13th for your Mother and the other special ladies whose names you will have submitted. Beautiful cards and return envelopes (for both living and deceased) are still available at the church entrances. Feel free to take as many as you will need, and please try to submit all names by Mother's Day.

**MAY IS MARY'S MONTH.** Honor our Blessed Mother by praying the Rosary each day. Daily Mass and Holy Communion would be a even better way to pay homage to her and her Son, Jesus.

This coming Friday, May 4th, is also the First Friday of the month. What better time to begin the "Nine First Fridays" devotion—that is, coming to Mass and receiving Holy Communion on nine consecutive First Fridays—than in the month dedicated to the Mother of God?

**LIVING THE FATIMA MESSAGE INVITES YOU** to a Day with the Holy Family at Bishop Connolly High School (373 Elsbree St., Fall River) Saturday, May 12th, from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. The Day will incorporate Mass, the Living Rosary, Eucharistic Adoration, Sacramental Confession, keynote speaker Mother Olga, and more. Free admission (donations gratefully accepted); free parking; bring your own brown bag lunch. Find the full schedule at fb.com/livingfatima or 781-521-3677.

**"SHARING FAITH AND HOPE"**...For the past 77 years, the caring people of our Parish and Diocese have ministered to the destitute--feeding the hungry, sheltering the homeless, and giving hope to the despairing—through the annual **Catholic Charities Appeal**. Sacramental ministry to the hospitalized, Catholic education for the young, and counseling for those who have lost their direction are just a few of the other ministries that are possible because of the generosity of so very many.

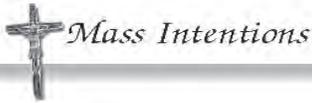


The 2018 Catholic Charities Appeal begins this Tuesday, May 1st. May I offer the following suggestion: for anyone who has not participated in the Appeal in the past, will you consider a small donation of \$25 this year? For all who have previously participated, will you consider an additional 5%, or even an extra \$5 or \$10 over your previous donation? I would not suggest this if I were not doing it myself each year. A pledge, payable monthly or quarterly, is always an option.

**Please support this year's Catholic Charities Appeal** as generously as you can. Every contribution is greatly appreciated. The mission continues; the situations are real; and your response is crucial.

--Father Conrad

**A DAY WITH MARY** will be observed this coming Saturday, May 5th, from 8 a.m. to approx. 3 p.m. at St. Francis Xavier Church in Acushnet. You are invited to participate in all or even part of this day of instruction, devotion, and intercession based on the message of Fatima. Mass at 9; confessions throughout the day. (Please bring your own lunch.)

**Sat. - Apr. 28 - Fifth Sunday of Easter**

**4:00 PM** +Theodore J. Pankiewicz  
Req. Joanne Cioper

**Sun. - Apr. 29 - Fifth Sunday of Easter**

**10:00 AM** +Jozefa Kwit  
Req. Helena Falkowska

**Mon. - Apr. 30 - Easter Weekday**

**7:30 AM** OLPH Parishioners,  
Living & Deceased

**Tues. - May 1 - St. Joseph the Worker**

**7:30 AM** +Jean Ballard

**Wed. - May 2 - St. Athanasius**

**7:30 AM** Health & Return to Sobriety  
Req. Gus S.

**Thurs. - May 3 - Sts. Philip & James**

**7:30 AM** Special Intention

**Fri. - May 4 - Easter Weekday**

**7:30 AM** +Stanley Rychtarczyk

**Sat. - May 5 - Easter Weekday**

**7:30 AM** +Helena Bobrowiecki  
Req. Allen & Gail Ponichtera

**Sat. - May 5 - Sixth Sunday of Easter**

**4:00 PM** +Irena G. Kalisz  
Req. Family

**Sun. - May 6 - Sixth Sunday of Easter**

**10:00 AM** +Janina & +Jacob Michalski  
Req. Bourque Family

**OUR NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING** will be this Tuesday evening, May 1st, at 7 o'clock in the parish hall. The main topic will be the Polish Fest; we will be tweaking many details.

**A MESSAGE FROM FATHER CONRAD**

Sisters and Brothers of Our Parish Family,

A recent newspaper feature focused on yoga and **it's benefits for those who practice it. That got me** thinking about Catholic meditation, ages old but still attracting new practitioners who find it not only spiritually beneficial, but also a key to physical and emotional wellness.

As a teenager, I had a small book of Catholic reflections that provided a few short paragraphs **for each day's meditation. It was a good** beginning. Upon entering our Franciscan seminary, I was happy to find meditation an important part of our daily prayers, even though, at 5:30 each morning, quiet meditation sometimes resulted in bowing heads, not necessarily for the name of Jesus!

Catholic meditation is a special—and easy--way of praying. Many of us remember the Baltimore Catechism definition of prayer: "lifting our minds and hearts to God." In meditation we put **ourselves in God's presence—just allowing ourselves the luxury of "being" with God. And in prayerful** silence, we use our thoughts and our imagination.

This is a completely different experience from yoga or other concepts from non-Christian eastern religions, where participants empty the mind and do not think about things. Catholic meditation is exactly the opposite: it is a very active mental task, a kind of prayer where we try **to reach the depth of God's message to us. Our** best meditations will be based on the Holy Scriptures, that is, the Bible.

**No special "equipment" is needed for your** meditation. But finding your quiet place and a dedicated time is important.

**If you think you're too busy for daily meditation, you're probably too busy. Take a little break and give it a try. I think you'll like it.**

Peace and Blessings,  
Father Conrad