

Fr. Ken's Korner



Greetings and blessings of the week,

I hope that the week has been a good one for you. We certainly find ourselves caught in the grasp of "old man winter" as the snow, the unsettled weather, and the less than "toasty warm" temperatures seem to be the norm so far this season. The only thing hot in New England this time of year is the "hot stove" talk about the deals and the upcoming season of the Boston Red Sox.

This time of year is difficult on the ill and the elderly. Our parish is no exception. We ask your prayers for the mother of Pam Hulme, Deacon John Hulme's wife. Pam's mother is elderly and has been very ill with pneumonia and other medical issues, in addition to the chemotherapy that is difficult on any one, let alone an eighty-five year old person. Pam's mother received the Sacrament of the Sick this week, as her condition is worsening.

This past week, the doorbell rang at the rectory before morning Mass. A wife, concerned about her husband, Michael, came to ask for prayers for him as his eyesight is seriously deteriorating to the point of possibly losing his eyesight. Please, if you would please be so kind, offer up some prayers for a thirty-seven year old mother of two. She is a parishioner who has some very serious issues going on that can have an impact upon whether or not she will be able to remain on a list for a heart transplant. She went to the hospital this past week. Once the procedure is done, she will return home where she must have a seven week post-surgery rest. As our list for those in need of prayers grows, we ask that you please continue to pray for Marie Kaseta who has been in the Jordan Hospital. Last Sunday, Marie was transported by ambulance to Mass General Hospital, where she is currently a patient. On a sadder note, we ask you to please pray for the repose of the soul of Charles Benedict who died on Sunday, January 11<sup>th</sup>. We were called to the ER at the Jordan Hospital where he died at age 58. His Mass of Christian Burial was prayed here at St. Peter's on Friday, January 16<sup>th</sup>. Please keep his wife, Anne, who is an emergency room nurse at the Jordan Hospital, and her sons and families in your prayers. As many of you know by personal experience, it is never easy to lose someone you love. When, as in the case of Mr. Benedict, when it comes unexpectedly and without warning, it is even more difficult to deal with. May his family find strength, support and hope through their faith, families, loved ones, and memories in this most trying of times for them. May he rest in peace and may perpetual light shine upon him.



Turning the page, in a manner of speaking, we look at the happier side of life here in St. Peter's. Thank you and congratulations to Peter Reardon. This past Sunday, Peter began his ministry as an altar server at the twelve noon Mass serving alongside his older brother, John as well as Erin and Katie O'Neil. While on the topic of altar servers, as you know ministry to those in grief and heartache is part of the call that Jesus puts before us – to care for those in need. The time of death, when emotions are raw and the heart is ripped asunder, there are so many things that need to be done. One of the realities that must be tended to, is the funeral Mass, also known as the Mass of Christian Burial. We have been blessed by men and women in our parish who have come forth to assist at funeral Masses as senior altar servers, thereby assuring that the pastoral and spiritual needs of the deceased and the bereaved are taken care

**VOLUNTEERS  
NEEDED**

of. We are in need of additional men and women who would be willing to minister to their fellow parishioners in this capacity. It is not something that necessitates that a senior altar server serves at every funeral Mass. The fact that there are several people enables this ministry of service to be offered without one person having to shoulder the responsibility of being at every funeral Mass. Kudos to David Gallerani of Cape Auto, as he was honored as "Businessman of the Year" on January 9<sup>th</sup> at a Plymouth Chamber of Commerce luncheon.

As those of you who are homeowners know, there is always something that needs to be done. So too, is the case with our parish buildings. As the flat roof on the Parish Center was being cleared of leaves and debris before all this winter weather descended upon us, it was brought to my attention that there may be some required roof work on the flat section. Once the weather changes to a milder time of year, we will take a closer look at the situation so as to determine what is the necessary course of action that needs to be taken.

This week we note two dates that are significant in the life of our nation concerning human rights and social justice that must not be arbitrarily or selectively offered, or denied, to any human being in their journey from womb to tomb. Monday, January 19<sup>th</sup>, we celebrate the birthday of Martin Luther King, Jr. He certainly was a voice that reminded us of the dignity and equality of all people in terms of human rights and social justice. January 22, is the 36<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the U.S. Supreme Court decision, Roe vs. Wade. Since 1973 there have been more than **49,000,000** abortions in the United States! Certainly, the most basic human right is the right to life, because without life the other issues are moot. Cardinal O'Malley has asked that parishes throughout the Archdiocese hold a Holy Hour for Life on Wednesday, January 21<sup>st</sup>. The designated time for this throughout the archdiocese is 7:30 PM. We will be having a Holy Hour here at St. Peter's on Wednesday to pray for this most fundamental right for all people. Please join us for this time of prayer.



Several people in our parish are celebrating birthdays this week. The first is Fr. Paul Bailey, whose birthday is today, January 18<sup>th</sup>. Right on his heels on January 19<sup>th</sup>, Nancy Doonan marks the anniversary of her day of birth. Tuesday, January 20<sup>th</sup> the Jaeger family will celebrate Tom Jaeger's birthday. January 22, another person well known to the parish celebrates his "jour de naissance." He, as he says, is marking his jubilee year. Fr. Roger Cormier reaches the milestone of his seventy-fifth birthday as he arrives in Florida for a break from the New England winter weather.



May the Lord's blessings smile kindly upon you and your loved ones in the coming week. Your brother in faith, Fr. Ken.

