

SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER

Fr. Ken's Korner



Greetings and blessings of the Easter season,

I hope that everyone had a good week and was able to participate in the liturgies of Holy Week. Good Friday afternoon, we began a new tradition here at St. Peter's. We had the Stations of the Cross for children at 3:00 pm on Good Friday, with over one hundred people in attendance! It was well received and the children (and adults) actively participated in this devotional practice. Thank you to Kate Donegan and Rowena Lindsay for carrying the cross from station to station and leading the children who followed them in procession. Speaking of children, we had a wonderful moment that reflected the words of Jesus about becoming like a little child in order to enter the kingdom of heaven. It happened Holy Thursday night at the Mass of the Lord's Supper. When it came time for that part of the service that is the washing of the feet, we found ourselves with only ten people instead of the traditional twelve. Genevieve Cote, four years old, begged her mother to bring her up to have her feet washed. Her mother, Gina, asked if it was ok – so Genevieve and Gina made the number twelve people. You should have seen the smiles on the faces of the congregation as they watched Genevieve during the foot washing ceremony! Thank you to everyone who worked together to help make the Holy Week services flow so smoothly. Congratulations and welcome to Julie Ann Blanchard who has taken part in the RCIA program and became a Catholic at the Easter Vigil by the Reception into full communion of the Catholic Church. She made her profession of faith, received the Sacrament of the Eucharist for the first time, as well as received the Sacrament of Confirmation.



Speaking of Holy Week, you may have noticed that it was a "tad chilly" in the church early Easter morning. We had trouble with the heat, but finally got it to work for the Easter Vigil on Holy Saturday night. Easter Sunday and Monday morning was altogether another story. Finally, we were able to remedy the situation on Easter Monday afternoon. The flame rod needed to be replaced in order for the furnace to work properly. Thankfully, everything is now back to normal and the furnace is functional once again.

Please keep Terry Curley in your prayers. She will not be working at the Parish Center office for a while due to having undergone shoulder surgery on Wednesday. It will take time for her shoulder to rehab to the point that she will be able to return to work. Time will tell as to her readiness as far as being able to return to work. We are grateful for those parish volunteers who will be helping to "pick up the slack" during her absence. Tuesday, March twenty-fifth, we had a burial service for Alissa Burton, who was only twenty-two years of age. Please keep her, her family and friends in



your prayers. We all know that it is difficult to lose someone we love – to lose someone at such a young age is a difficult thing to have to undergo.

On a happier note, belated congratulations to Sheila Fey and Stephanie Feeney. They were also inducted into the National Honor Society at Plymouth North High School, along with Alexis Wylie and Amanda Brisbois. Happy belated birthday to John Montanaro, whose birthday was on Good Friday, March twenty-first. This past week, we had a priest who stayed with us at St. Peter's rectory.. His name is Fr. Thomas Provenzano. Tom, the son of "Sonny" and Ida Provenzano, is a Salesian (Don Bosco) priest. He is stationed in New Rochelle, New York.

Today is the last day of the Divine Mercy Novena. We are grateful to Ann Wylie and Pat Gallagher for organizing and coordinating this devotional time of prayer. April twelfth and thirteenth, we will once again have a parish "baby shower" for the Archdiocesan Pro Life Office. Last year's effort went very well, as I am sure this year's will as well. There is an announcement posted on the bulletin boards in the church that lists the various items that are needed. Anything that you can do to help with this effort is greatly appreciated.



It is time for another Boston Bicentennial Blurb. The third bishop of Boston, John Bernard Fitzpatrick, was the first native born Bostonian to become a bishop of Boston. He was born on November 1, 1812 of parents who were Irish immigrants in 1805. He attended local grammar and Latin schools in Boston. He then, in 1829, went to study at the Sulpician seminary in Montreal. Following his eight years there, he entered the seminary of St. Sulpice in Paris, France and was ordained a priest on June 13, 1840. after having served at the cathedral and as a pastor in East Cambridge, he was appointed as coadjutor to Bishop Fenwick on March 24, 1844. it was during his time that the "Nativist" movement, sometimes popularly known as the "Know-nothings", wreaked havoc with a very strong anti-Catholic bigotry. Churches were destroyed in 1854 in Dorchester, Bath, Maine and Manchester, New Hampshire. In October of that year, in Ellsworth, Maine, Fr. John Baptist, S.J., "...was taken by a band of masked men, stripped, smeared with tar and feathers, and forced out of the place..." It was not an easy time to be a Catholic in New England, as even a schoolboy named Thomas Wall, on March 14, 1859, "was whipped for refusing to read the Protestant Bible and recite Protestant prayers in one of the Boston public schools..." Even though Bishop Fitzpatrick was not in the best of health, he continued his ministry as bishop up until the time of his death on February 13, 1866. It was he who sold the old church on Franklin St. for \$115,000.00 for the purpose of raising money to build a new cathedral, the Franklin Street area having turned into the "business district" of the city. (I believe the site is now the Wainwright Bank).



May the Lord's blessings be with you and yours in the coming week. Your brother in faith, Fr. Ken.