

THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER



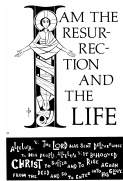
Fr. Ken's "Korner"

Greetings and blessings of the week,

I hope it has been a good week for you. Well, one of the surefire portents that spring is really here (believe it or not!) is the fact that Tuesday is opening day at Fenway Park. In a matter of days, thousands of people will be descending upon Boston and the hinterland as the annual trek from Hopkinton to Boston takes place with marathoners from around the globe.

Last Sunday, at the 10:30 Mass, there was some unexpected activity as a fire engine and ambulance both arrived at church after a 911 call had been placed. Thankfully, Tom Connors was released after being brought to the hospital to check out what had happened. Terry Curley is not able to work in the office at the parish center due to her recent surgery. We are grateful to Doris Roncarati, Peg McVarrish and Barbara Santos who are "picking up the slack" until Terry's return. We have been asked to pray for a woman who will soon be undergoing surgery. Kindly remember in your prayers a woman whom I anointed three weeks ago. Her daughter told me that her mother, Felicia Augustino, died on March 9th. She was a resident at Life Care. Please also pray for the repose of the soul of Theresa Rose for whom there was a Mass of Christian Burial on Wednesday, April 2nd. The following day, Thursday, April 3rd, a funeral Mass was prayed for Edward Crowley, Sr. Please remember, and pray, for their families in their time of loss. May they find in their faith, family, friends, and memories a source of strength, hope and consolation during this difficult time.

This week's Archdiocese of Boston Bicentennial Blurb has to do with another bishop of Boston in whose honor an archdiocesan high school is named. The fourth bishop of Boston also a native son of Boston. He was born of Irish parents on April 27, 1822. As with many clergy of the time, after attending the cathedral school, he attended the Sulpician (a French Religious Order) college in Montreal. Following his college years, he too, as was the case with his predecessor, Bishop John Bernard Fitzpatrick, entered the Seminary of St. Sulpice in Paris France. John Joseph Williams who became the vicar-general for Bishop Fitzpatrick, while rector at St. James Parish, established the first Conference of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul in New England in the year 1842. March 11, 1866 he was consecrated as the fourth bishop of Boston. Boston was rising to prominence as a diocese in the United States. Due to this fact, Boston became an archdiocese in 1875. As a result of this, Bishop Williams became the first Archbishop of Boston on February 12, 1875. (South Shore people are most likely familiar with the high school named in his honor, Archbishop Williams High School. He became the Metropolitan of the area. It was during his tenure that other area dioceses were created by being "sliced off" from the Archdiocese of Boston. The diocese of Springfield, MA. Was established in 1870. This was followed by establishing the diocese of Providence, RI in 1872. Subsequently to the north of Boston, the diocese of Manchester, NH was created in 1884. Directly to the south, in 1905, the diocese of Fall River, MA had its beginnings. It was during his time as archbishop that the Cathedral of the Holy Cross in Boston's South End was dedicated on December 8, 1875. So too,



in 1884, St. John's Seminary became the academic institution to train men who were in formation to become priests who would serve in the parishes of the archdiocese. It was also during his time that the Society of Jesus was given permission to open Boston College in 1863. This time of growth for the church in Boston also had an impact upon the Dorchester area as 1863 also saw, through the generosity of Andrew Carney, the birth of the Carney Hospital. It has served many over the course of its history. Institutions were founded to care for the young. The Little Sisters of the Poor, who have a stellar history of care for the sick, opened their Home for the Aged in 1870. St. Elizabeth's hospital dates from 1868. Other nursing facilities began during this flourishing time. The Sisters of St. Joseph began their presence in Boston in 1873. They were followed by religious orders of both men and women. One of the well known churches in Boston, Mission Church, staffed by the Redemptorists, had its origins in the 1860's. The Marists began to work here in 1883. The Augustinians planted their roots in Lawrence in 1861. French immigration from Canada had been going on since 1815. It "...began to attract special attention about 1870. in 1868 the first distinctively French parish was organized in Lowell..." (Catholic Encyclopedia). This was followed by Italian and Portuguese congregations. Archbishop Williams was "... known best as an administrator..." (Catholic Encyclopedia). Archbishop Williams was one of the bishops who attended the First Vatican Council, called by Pope Pius IX. The Council began on December 8, 1869 and was adjourned on October 20, 1870. He was also involved in the establishment of the North American College in Rome (It is surrounded by Rome, but actually is part of the Vatican City State).



Thank you to Pat Gallagher and Anne Wylie for their coordinating the Novena for Divine Mercy. We had the closing prayers and Eucharistic Adoration last Sunday. There were a number of people who took part in this hour of prayer, including people who had come to join us from other parishes.

Happy belated birthday to Faith Whelan whose 8th birthday was on March 27th. Julie Donegan's 6th birthday was on Wednesday, April 2nd. Thursday, April 3rd is Gerry Krebs birthday. Also, on Thursday, our deacon, John Hulme celebrated his birthday. His wife, Pam, has a birthday on April 12

April 4th is shared by several parishioners (one child's name that I marked on a piece of paper and cannot find). She shares the day with Hayley Gallant who turned 10 on April 4th. Happy Birthday

also to Denise Noyes who shares the same birthday. Mariah McKenna, who became 14 years of age and Conor Breen who celebrated his 12th birthday both share April 5th as their "jour de naissance". Happy Birthday to Carol Houston as she marks the day of her birth today, April 6th. Tomorrow, April 7th, birthday wishes to Meghan McKenna as she celebrates her 18th birthday.

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

