

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Fr. Ken's "Korner"



Greetings and blessings of the day,

I hope that the past week has been better for you than it was for the Red Sox in Toronto! Monday, we celebrated the 100th anniversary of the song "Take me out to the ballgame" – just in time for the season opener at Fenway. The Sox won! The Bruins are in the playoffs and the Celtics –have the best record in the NBA! The Marathon will be here soon. It is a great spring in Boston for sports.

Kindly remember in your prayers several women in our parish who are recuperating from surgeries this past week – one of whom had to have unexpected hip surgery. Speaking of surgery and recuperation, Terry Curley is still on the road to recovery. There was some additional shoulder surgery than what was anticipated. Hopefully her healing process will continue to progress. At this time we still do not have an idea of when she will be able to return to work here at the Parish Center Office.



This past weekend, at Our Lady of Lourdes Parish in Carver, there was a multi-parish retreat for ninth grade students who are in religious education programs and preparing for the Sacrament of Confirmation. Blessed Kateri Tekakwitha, St. Mary's, Our Lady of Lourdes, and St. Peter's all joined in this combined effort. As we look to the future, staffing and available resources (financial and otherwise), as well as clergy staffing, this pattern of multi parish efforts will very possibly become the norm in order to be able to provide for the spiritual needs of parishioners.



We are grateful to Elizabeth Reardon for taking on the role of coordinator of the altar servers in our parish. Several new servers are helping to fill the ranks in this ministry for our parish. This past weekend Anna Resendes, Annie Donegan and Lily Whelan all made their debuts in the role of altar server. We thank them for service and enthusiasm. Any boy or girl ten years old, or older, who is interested in becoming an altar server, please call the Parish Center so that we can forward your name and telephone number to Elizabeth. Speaking of Altar Servers, just a "heads-up" advance notice regarding the scheduled summer trip to the Paw Sox game. The scheduled date for this trip is Wednesday, August 13th. We will be leaving in the afternoon and returning after the night game, starting at 7:05 PM, is over. It is a special events game (more on this later). The Paw Sox will be playing the AAA team from Scranton Wilkes-Barre (the YANKEES AAA affiliate!) Altar servers will have a deadline given by which to sign up (As in the past, it is free for altar servers as an appreciation for their service to our parish). After that deadline, they will not necessarily be guaranteed a seat. We have chartered a forty-seven passenger bus with the Plymouth and Brockton Bus. As in the past, the remaining seats will be made available to parishioners at a reasonable cost. The past two years it has been \$20 for the bus and a ticket to the game. (There may be a minimal increase depending upon the charter cost for the bus.)



Happy Birthday to Jack Holland who celebrated his seventh birthday on Saturday, April 12th. Likewise, birthday



greetings to Lindsey LeBlanc whose tenth birthday is Thursday, April 17th.

This past Tuesday, April 8th, we celebrated the bicentennial of the establishment of the Diocese of Boston (later to become an archdiocese). This week the Archdiocese of Boston is once again hosting the 2008 Boston Catholic Conferences for Men and Women. The 2008 Boston Catholic Women's Conference will be held on Friday evening, April 18th, at Boston College's Conte Forum (where the basketball and hockey games are played). The following day, Saturday, April 19th, Conte Forum will



also be the site of the 2008 Catholic Men's Conference. This event has been very well received since it began – and continues to gather Catholics together for this time of faith sharing, witness, and prayer. Several of our parishioners have once again signed up to attend this event. If you are interested in conference details contact www.catholicboston.com or call 617-977-0916, or email info@catholicboston.com. Speaking of events and the church, I am sure that many of you are aware that Pope Benedict XVI will be in the United States this coming week. He will be addressing the United Nations (hence, it makes sense to celebrate a Mass in New York, since this is where the U.N. is located. He will also be meeting with President Bush in Washington, where he will also celebrate a Mass before returning to the Vatican. If you are so inclined, here are a couple of sites to keep up to date on this papal visit. One is national coverage April 15-20 on EWTN or you can log on to www.ewtn.com for coverage. On a local level, Fr. Robert Reed has told us that the archdiocese's CatholicTV will carry full coverage of this event "from the Pope's arrival in Washington all the way to his departure from New York. Each of the liturgies and Papal appearances will be preceded by at least one-half hour of lead-in coverage and full color commentary." The Boston CatholicTV has "established a special web page for all streaming and archived video of the Papal trip. It is www.PopeinAmerica.com



St. Jude Parish in Waltham, MA. (located on Main Street on Rte. 20 just before you enter Watertown) will be the host site for the 4th Annual Gathering for Pastoral Visitors. It is referred to as a breakfast meeting that will begin at 9:00 am until 12 noon. (Gathering time will be from 9:00 to 9:30 am) The topic for the day is "A Reflection on Mary's Visit to Elizabeth" with Celia Sirois (with whom many of you may be familiar. The registration cost is \$10. The flyer says "Please register by April 21: we require pre-registration because we cannot fill the meeting room beyond capacity due to safety concerns." You may register by sending by mail your Name, Phone number, Parish and Town, along with the \$10 registration fee. Please mail to Office of Parish Outreach Ministries/Health Care Ministry, 2121 Commonwealth Avenue, Brighton, MA 02135. Celia Sirois is well known and always draws good a good number of people to her talks. If you plan on attending, make sure that you get your registration in early because most likely there will be more people than the hall can accommodate.



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