

## SAINT PETER AND SAINT PAUL, APOSTLES

### Fr. Ken's Korner



Greetings and blessing of the week,

I hope that this past week, the last full week of June, was a good one for you Happy Parish

feast day! Today is the feast of Saints Peter and Paul.



Last Sunday afternoon's reception for Fr. McCarthy was a very successful event, in no small part due to the efforts of the members of the Women's League, as well as many others who helped to set up, break down and clean the hall, as well as bake and prepare things for the afternoon's festivities. It was like the multiplication of the loaves with all the "goodies" that were brought for everyone to eat! There was a steady stream of visitors throughout the entire event that ran from 2:00 PM until 5:00 PM. It was a wonderful testimony to how well the people of St. Peter's love him and appreciate the service that he rendered during his assignment here at St. Peter's.



Speaking of service to St. Peter's Parish. The Frau behind the voice that has graced us here at St. Peter's all these many years, celebrated a milestone

in her life. Emily Alves marked her fiftieth anniversary here at St. Peter's. The service that she has rendered to our parish, much of which goes unseen to the general parish, is more than most would imagine. We thank her for all that she does for us to help us to pray and sing at our parish liturgies, as well as they various devotional prayers that she leads every morning before Mass and the "housekeeping" after Mass every day to make sure that the church is secure before she leaves the church for the day. May God's blessings cradle her in the sunshine of God's love as the sky enfolds the sun, may her life be lived in the light of the Son.

Continuing along with the theme of serving our parish, once again as the summer arrives, we find the front of the church ablaze with the multicolored flowers that add a festive and aesthetic enhancement to the building. Thank you to Derryl Lawrence for his generous contribution of the flowers and the new trees on either side of the lower church entrance, as well as the potted trees on the landings going up to the upper church. Being a parishioner who loves and takes pride in his parish, he donates material and time to beautify the church and rectory grounds.



Are you looking to save yourself some baking for the Fourth of July celebrations? We have the answer here at St. Peter's this weekend. Once again this year, the Dominican Sisters will be visiting us with their wares that they sell in order to support their ministries. After all the Masses, they will be selling their bread, brownies, and delicious apple and blueberry pies. Supporting their efforts will make you feel happy twice: once when you buy some to help them, and, when you eat the food.



The parish day trip to New York is scheduled for Wednesday, July 16<sup>th</sup>. The round

trip cost of the bus is \$53 per person (you couldn't do it on your own for that amount!). Please, if you intend to take part in the day, to sign up by July 9<sup>th</sup> so that we can have an idea as to how many people plan on going. It is a 55 passenger Plymouth and Brockton bus that we have used before for New York trips. We have to have an idea of whether or not we will have sufficient people to cover the expense. This trip is also open to people who are not parishioners. Please call the Parish Center office to sign up.

Please pray for the repose of the soul of John Donovan for whom we had a funeral Mass on Monday, June 23<sup>rd</sup>. Mr. Donovan was Deputy Superintendent of the Boston Police Department for many years. He then had a second career as head of security for Holy Cross College in Worcester. For all you Crusader alums, Fr. Brooks and Fr. Markey were here for the Mass.

Congratulations to parishioners celebrating milestones. Anna Rezendes celebrated her birthday on June 7<sup>th</sup>. Chris Lavache celebrated a milestone birthday on June 19<sup>th</sup>, as did Katie O'Neil who marked her entry into double digit birthdays as she turned 10 on June 23<sup>rd</sup>. Happy birthday to Malgorzata Vecchi whose birthday was on June 25<sup>th</sup>. Happy "jour de naissance" to Kim McKenna whose birthday was Friday, June 27<sup>th</sup>. Today, June 29<sup>th</sup>, Paul and Carolyn Matinzi celebrate their thirty-fifth wedding anniversary.



Thank you for your generous support in last week's second collection for the Propagation of the Faith. Our guest speaker at all the Masses, Fr. Clyde Philips from Maryknoll enjoyed his weekend here with us. As I mentioned in a previous "Korner", he and I have been friends and studied at the Vatican together. It was his first visit to Plymouth, Interestingly, he, being born and raised in Hilo, Hawaii, made the comment as we were driving down on Water street by Isaac's that it reminded him of Kona on the Big Island of Hawaii!

Tuesday, July 1, is the feast day of Blessed Junipero Serra, a Franciscan friar who died in 1784. Being from Spain, he arrived in New Spain in 1750. He is well known as one of the builders of the state of California (as a matter of fact, there is a statue of him in the U.S. Capitol representing important people from each state of the Union. He established nine of the California Missions. As a matter of fact one of our parishioners, when she lived in the San Diego area, regularly attended Mass at the Mission Parish. July 3<sup>rd</sup>, Thursday, we observe the feast of St. Thomas the Apostle. He is associated with the founding of the church in south India. He is a patron saint of builders, as well as the patron saint of both India and Pakistan. July 4<sup>th</sup> is the feast day of St. Elizabeth, Queen of Portugal. She had a devotion to caring for the poor and is the patron Saint of Catholic Charities.

As we celebrate our national Independence Day this week, it behooves us to pause and reflect upon the blessings and freedoms that we have received, as well as the sacrifices of those, in the Armed Forces and elsewhere, who work to preserve those freedoms. May those who put themselves in harm's way to preserve our freedoms be kept safe until they return home to their loved one's. May we come to a deeper awareness of what it means, and what it demands of us as a nation, when we say "God Bless America."



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