

Fr. Ken's Korner



Greetings and blessings of the week,

I hope that the week has been a good one for you. Time is flying by – back to school sales are already in the circulars! Labor Day will be here before you know it. The summer seems as though it just got here and it is already nearing its conclusion. However, there are still a couple of summer activities during the month of August. Wednesday, August 13, is the altar server trip to the Pawtucket Red Sox, with the remaining tickets available to others. As was said before, there is a waiting list (which we will keep on hand in the event that someone who planned on going has to cancel. The bus will be arriving at the church parking lot on Wednesday at 2:45 pm. The bus will leave at 3:00 pm. The game is between the Red Sox and Yankee Triple A affiliates. The game is not until 7:05 PM. We will return after the game. There is a reason that we are going to McCoy Stadium so early. Bring a baseball and a black sharpie with you to the game. The reason for this is that there is an On-Field Autograph Session from 5:00 – 6:00 pm! Who knows, you might get an autograph of the next up and coming player, or a future Hall of Famer!

We will round out the end of the month with our parish picnic on Sunday, August 24 at the Holy Ghost Field in North Plymouth. Please remember to sign a list at all the entrances of the church so that we can ascertain what we need to get for food for the day. Speaking of the 24<sup>th</sup>, that afternoon a priest friend will be arriving here at St. Peter's -- so I may be a little late in getting to the picnic. His name is Fr. Witold Kania. He is a priest from Poland where he teaches at the University of Silesia as part of the Faculty of theology, division of Christian philosophy. He is helping at a parish in Houston for the summer and will return to Poland in September. In addition to a degree in Philosophy, I believe he also has a degree in bio-ethics. Besides speaking Polish (obviously), he is fluent in Spanish, which he uses in the parish in Houston. He also speaks some French, and speaks English as well. It will be his first visit to Plymouth. He stayed with me in my previous parish in Newton, while studying at the National Institute for Bioethics, which was at the time located here in the Boston area. So, if any of you speak Polish, brush it off and give it a try with Fr. Witold!

Speaking of teaching and studies, we are planning to have another program here at the Parish Center for ten Wednesday mornings. The classes will run from 10:00 am until 12:00 noon. This will be offered as part of the Archdiocese of Boston Chrism program. The presenter for the course is Celia Sirois. The subject matter for this ten week offering; the Johannine Writings: i.e., the gospel and letters of St. John. This program is open to all interested, not only here at St. Peter's, but also for people from other parishes in the area. We will be receiving further information regarding this



course. Any other pertinent data will be forthcoming once we have received it. Celia Sirois is well known and much sought after as a presenter who possesses a thorough knowledge of the subject matter that she teaches.

This past Sunday, August 3<sup>rd</sup>, Fr. Bob officiated at the Sunday baptisms here at St. Peter's. Our newest brothers and sisters in faith received the first of the Sacraments of Initiation as they were baptized in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Congratulations to them and their families as Ryan Francis Scichilone, Matthew Joseph King, Lillian Victoria McLeary, and Brady Patrick Protz were welcomed into our family of faith. We pray that they may grow in the knowledge and love of God by finding in their families support, encouragement, and role models of what it means to believe in, follow, and live according to the teachings and values of Jesus Christ.



Congratulations to parishioners Kate Gain and Justin Leonard who were married on August 3<sup>rd</sup> at St. Mary's in Southbridge ( family roots in Southbridge). August 3<sup>rd</sup> was also celebrated by Charlene Martinelli. It was her birthday. The same day is also shared by Jack and Ginny Nasuti as they celebrated their forty-fifth wedding anniversary. August 4<sup>th</sup>, the feast of St. Jean (John) Vianney, was Jack Nasuti's birthday. Later Friday evening, the Ultreya for those who lived Cursillo was held. Happy 37<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary to John and Barbara Ready on August 14<sup>th</sup>. Gregory and Susan Belmonte observe their 38<sup>th</sup> anniversary the following day, August 15<sup>th</sup>. The 15<sup>th</sup> is also the second birthday of Riley Quinn Vaccarino.

This week's church calendar includes several notables among the saints. Monday, August 11th, is the feast day of a woman who was a close friend and collaborator with St. Francis of Assisi. It is the day on which we honor St. Clare of Assisi. She died in 1253, after having founded the Poor Clares who resided at the church of San Damiano in Assisi. She directed this convent as its abbess for forty-two years. She was known to have led an austere life, characterizes by the practice of charity and loving care. While visiting San Damiano, I recall that there was an arrangement of flowers kept at the place in the convent that marked where she died. Tuesday, we celebrate the feast day Jane Fremiot, who was born in Dijon, France. She died on December 13, 1641. She was married to the Baron de Chantal, and the mother of six children. As a widow, along with her spiritual director, St. Francis de Sales, she founded, in 1610, in the city of Annecy (a wonderful place to visit!) in France, near the Swiss border, the Visitation order of nuns. She established some eighty-five monasteries before her death. She is known to us as St. Jane Frances de Chantal. August 14, Thursday, is the feast day of a St who died while some of us were alive (those who were born before 1941). It is the feast of St. Maximilian Kolbe. He was born near Lodz, Poland, Later he became a Franciscan Conventual. He was missioned in Japan. He died in the concentration camp in Auschwitz in 1941 as the result of a lethal injection. He offered his life in exchange for the father of a family.



Friday, August 15<sup>th</sup>, is the feast of the Assumption. It is a holy day of obligation. There will be two Masses for the holyday. Friday morning, there will be a 9:00 am Mass. Friday evening, there will be a Mass celebrated for the holy day at 7:00 pm.

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

