

Fr. Ken's "Korner"



Greetings and blessings of the week,

I hope that the week was a good one. One thing seems to be for sure after the weather that we have been having: there shouldn't be a water shortage! Things have been going along as usual in the parish this week. Many of our young adults will be returning to, or beginning their first year at college. Soon it will be time to "ramp up" as another school year gets under way, including religious education classes. We are grateful for any help that anyone may be able to give to assist us with this critical component of our parish life.



If you are interested in becoming involved in any capacity, please call the religious education office.

Once again a reminder concerning religious education: it is a lifelong process that does not conclude with reception of the Sacrament of Confirmation. As a part of religious education for adults, as was mentioned last week as well, the Christm Program will be offering a Wednesday morning series conducted by Celia Sirois on the Johannine (St. John) writings in the New Testament. The time will be from 10 a.m. until noon every Wednesday from September 10 until November 12. The class will take place in the Parish Center.

As happens every August, the choir will not be singing at the 10:30 a.m. Mass for the next couple of weeks as they take a much deserved break. Speaking of the choir, we welcome anyone who may wish to become a member of the parish choir. It is not necessary to be able to sight read in order to be a choir member. If anyone is interested in becoming a part of our excellent choir, you may call Terry at the Parish Center and leave your name and telephone number, or speak to either Paul Matinzi or Carl Petit before or after the 10:30 Sunday morning Mass.



As though you haven't already heard, just a reminder that the parish picnic will be held a week from today, on Sunday, August 24th, at the Holy Ghost field in North Plymouth on Sunday afternoon. Please join us for an afternoon of food and camaraderie with fellow parishioners. Thank you to all who have donated food, baked, or offered to help in the many different ways that are necessary for an event such as this to happen.



This past week five of the seven Sacraments were celebrated in the life of our parish. We welcome Bensen von Hess as the newest member of our parish was baptized by Fr. Vincent Gianni, a long time friend of the family. May he grow in the ways of faith and find in the example of family and friends an example of what it means to be a follower of Jesus Christ. The second and third Sacraments are ones that are a part of our weekly parish spiritual diet: Reconciliation and Eucharist. The fourth, the Sacrament of the Sick was administered this week by Fr. Bob and I to people in either the hospital or a nursing home. The fifth Sacrament that took

place here in our parish was the wedding of Justin Lauzon and Katelyn McKenna. Fr. John Culloty, pastor of St. Timothy's in Norwood, who has known the family for years, was the officiate for the ceremony.



This past Wednesday night (the bulletin goes out to print on Wednesday morning) was the trip for altar servers and parishioners to McCoy Stadium to watch the Paw Sox take on the New York Yankee Triple A affiliate, the Scranton Wilkes-Barre Yankees. As in the past, we went by a Plymouth and Brockton motor coach. It is a great way to go and take in a game and not have to worry about the price of gas, and the hassles of fighting traffic!

The Metropolitan Tribunal of the Archdiocese is offering a second summer evening for the South Region of the Archdiocese concerning annulment information. This is offered because some people may desire to learn more about what the Catholic Church teaches about annulments, or may be interested in beginning the process. The purpose of this meeting is to offer basic information and provide answers to questions people may have. No registration is required. If you desire further information, or if you have questions in this regard, please contact the Tribunal at 617-746-5900. This meeting for the South region of the Archdiocese will take place at St. Thecla Parish in Pembroke, 145 Washington Street.



This week's Church calendar includes the feast of St Jean (John) Eudes, a French priest who died in 1680. He founded the Congregation of Jesus and Mary (also known as the Eudists) for training of clergy. He also founded the Sisters of the Good Shepherd, who were known for assisting women, who were in a variety of ways, in trouble. On several occasions while in Paris, I have stayed at the residence of the Eudist Fathers at the Foyer St. Eudes on Rue Jean Dolent. Wednesday, the 20th, is the feast of another French saint, who is perhaps better known. It is the feast of St. Bernard de Clairvaux, who died in 1153. He was the abbot of the Cistercian monastery of Clairvaux, a reformer and spiritual author. You may recall the prayer, the Memorare ("Remember, O most gracious virgin Mary..."). St. Bernard, who founded sixty-eight monasteries, is the one who wrote this prayer that has been prayed by countless people throughout the centuries. Thursday, August 21st, we celebrate the feast day of a saint who has had an



influence on all of us. It is the feast day of St. Pius X, who died August 20, 1914. (his incorrupt body is visible in St. Peter's at the Vatican) He undertook liturgical and canonical reforms, especially communion for children (lowered the age requirement to what it is today from what was older prior to the change) and frequent communion for adults. He is the patron saint of sick pilgrims. Saturday, the 23rd, is the feast day of the first declared saint of the New World. Isabel de Oliva who died at age 31, in 1617. She was nicknamed "Rosa" because of her beauty. Thus, she became known ever after as St. Rose of Lima. Living a life characterized by penance and solitude, she spent her time caring for the homeless, the elderly and the sick. She is the patroness of the Philippines, South America, as well as florists and gardeners.

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