

Fr. Ken's "Korner"



Greetings and blessings of the week,

I hope that the week has been a good one for you. Well, summer of 2008 is now in the history books, as the "boys of summer" in Fenway begin the stretch for another championship season.

Speaking of Fenway, the Boys of summer, and a championship season, congratulations to the undefeated State Champion baseball team from Plymouth North who posted a record of 26-0 for the season. They were honored at Fenway Park before the September 9th night game.

This past week we began our parish religious education program for this year. The first night went smoothly. We thank all those who have volunteered to teach and do whatever else is necessary in the ministry of handing on knowledge of the faith to the younger members of our parish and faith community. The age spectrum of those involved goes from seniors in high school to senior members of our parish – reminding us that the gift we have been given transcends and unites all generations of faith.

Speaking of generations of faith, our archdiocese is marking that bicentennial of faith here in Boston that began with the French priests serving the Catholics of New England and has grown to what we know it as today. If you are a person who happens to frequent Boston and find yourself in the vicinity of Copley Square, there is an exhibit that marks the Bicentennial of the Archdiocese of Boston. It is in the Boston Public Library (which I believe was to have been the original site of Holy Cross Cathedral that found itself built in the South End instead). The exhibit continues to be on display in the Cheverus Room until September 30th. (Cheverus was the first bishop of Boston, a native of France, loved by Boston Catholics and non-Catholics alike and who wanted him to remain here, was summoned to return to France, where he became the Cardinal Archbishop of Bordeaux, France). While on the topic of generations of faith and growing in knowledge of one's faith: The RCIA program, which also includes a track for those adults who have not yet received the sacrament of Confirmation and wish to do so, will be starting soon. We will announce the date in the bulletin as soon as it is finalized. Several people who have not yet received the Sacrament of Confirmation have expressed a desire to take part in this program.



Just a reminder that next Sunday, September 29th is the South Region of the Archdiocese's Bicentennial Celebration. It will take place at Sacred Heart School in Kingston. We will have full use of the facilities – food, games, fun and the chance to meet Catholics from others South Region parishes and get to share the day with others with whom we

share the same faith as the people of God. Please join us for the day. The day will begin at 1:00 PM with a mass at 2:00 PM with Bishop John Dooher as the main celebrant joined by priests and deacons of the South Region. Please join us for a once in a lifetime event (since a bicentennial can only happen once).

As I am sure you most likely noticed on your way into church from the parking lot side - the pointing and replacement where necessary of the bricks on the sides of the

church has begun and is coming along well... Mr. Anthony Sgrosso, who did the brick work on the steps has been contracted to do the brick work that is now underway.

Last Sunday morning, for those of you who were at the 7:30 AM Mass when 911 was called because of a lady, Dorothy Appleton, who had to be taken to the Jordan Hospital, I am happy to announce that she is OK. She was kept overnight at the hospital and returned home on Monday. Thank you to all those who so quickly came to her assistance.

Happy forty-seventh anniversary to Richard and Thomasina Tavernelli whose anniversary is on Tuesday, August 23rd – as well as Roger and Joy Burns who celebrate their twenty-seventh wedding anniversary on Friday, September 26th. We extend happy birthday wishes to Larry Wylie who celebrated a milestone birthday on Monday, September 15th. Welcome home for the past week to David Wylie, who is a member of the U.S. Army Rangers. Please keep David in your prayers. I believe he is going to be deployed next month to Iraq.

This week we celebrate the feast of two very popular saints, one Italian and one of whom is French. Tuesday, September 23rd is the feast of St. Padre Pio of Pietrelcina. A person who needs no introduction, "Padre Pio" "...was born in 1887 in the small Italian village of Pietrelcina. A Capuchin priest who had received the stigmata, he spent fifty years in the monastery of San Giovanni Rotondo, where he was much sought after as a spiritual advisor, confessor, and intercessor...His life was devoted to the Eucharist and to prayer..." I visited San Giovanni Rotondo in 1999 while studying at the North American College in Vatican City State. I was privileged to pray Mass in the crypt where he is buried at the monastery. The other saint, whose body is incorrupt and rests in a church in Paris, I have visited the site on a few occasions. This French saint is well known the world over because of his love and devotion to the poor and the unfortunate. Saturday, September 27th, is the feast of St. Vincent de Paul. Born in Pouy, France, he died in 1660 in Paris. He "...renewed the clergy and defended the poor and abandoned; founded (1625) the Congregation of the Missions (Vincentians)..." In France, the Vincentians are known also as the Lazarist Fathers. He along with Ste. Louise de Marillac (whose body is also incorrupt, founded the Daughters of Charity. She and St. Catherine Laboure are both in a church around the corner from St. Vincent at a very popular shrine and place of prayer known as Rue du Bac (a must see for Catholics. It is here that the Miraculous Medal had its origins with Ste. Catherine Laboure) St. Vincent de Paul is the patron saint of charities, hospitals and prisoners.

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

