

Fr. Ken's Korner



Greetings and blessings of the day,

I hope the week has been a good one for you. Not only do we find ourselves in a new season; but also a new month – the month of the Rosary: i.e.: October. Our parish religious education program

has settled in and is now in full gear. Thank you to all involved in this vital service to the youth of our parish so that they might come to a greater knowledge of their faith and God's love for them. This past Monday, September 22, our parish CAP team members met at the Parish Center. We are grateful to these members of our parish who have volunteered to serve on this team that is entrusted with working to ensure the safety of the children of our parish.



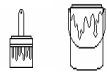
The presidential election is coming closer and closer – it will be here before you know it! As we approach this important event in the life and direction of our country, it is good to stop and reflect upon the merits, shortcomings, and platforms of those individuals running for elected office. Before you enter into the voting booth, invoke the grace of the Holy Spirit as to your decisions. It is for this purpose that we are conducting our parish novena for wisdom in the upcoming elections. Its purpose is not to be an endorsement of one candidate over another, or one party over another. Its purpose is to ask for God's wisdom and guidance as we elect our nation's leaders. It continues to be held at 10:00 AM on Mondays, following the 9:00 AM Mass – as well as Thursday evenings with a Mass and the novena prayers at 7:00 PM. Both of these take place in the upper church.



Did you know we have a "celebrity family" in our parish? As many of you are probably aware, the National Shrine of Divine Mercy is located a few hours drive from here in Stockbridge, MA. They publish a seasonal magazine called the *Marian Helper*. The Fall, 2008 issue features an article entitled "A family pilgrimage". It is an article on Bob and Carol Houston and their family. They have been visiting Eden Hill (Shrine site) for twenty years. This year, seventeen of them gathered to spend time together at the John Paul II guest House on Eden Hill in Stockbridge.



The masonry work continues on the brick on the lower level of the church. This phase of work on the church building should be done before the cold weather sets in. Thank you to Jack Nasuti and David Noyes who volunteered their time last Saturday to help scrape and paint windows at the church. It took five hours for the two of them to scrape and prime two of the six windows on the lower level parking lot side of the church. The onset of colder weather will most likely put this component of necessary work on hold until the warmer weather returns.



This afternoon, rain or shine, the South Region of the Archdiocese will be holding the region's bicentennial celebration of the establishment of the Archdiocese of Boston. The day will begin at 1:00 PM. Mass will be at 2:00 PM. Everyone is invited to come and share in the celebration of the day and spend it together as a family of faith. Thank you to Betty McKenna who volunteered, and Denise Noyes who helped her, in creating our parish banner which will be used at the bicentennial celebration at Sacred Heart School in Kingston today. This is a wonderful example of stewardship by using time and talent in the life and activity of our parish.



There have been a couple of significant scheduling dates that have to be shuffled around due to the fact that our original date and time for the Sacrament of Confirmation had to be changed because the PSAT exams ended up being scheduled for the same time and date that was established for Confirmation months ago. The date for Confirmation will remain the same: Saturday, October 18th. However, the time has been changed to Saturday evening at 7:30 PM. This also throws a "monkey wrench" into the October 18th evening date that was scheduled for the St. Peter's Women's League annual chicken dinner. The evening for the chicken dinner will be the following weekend: Saturday, October 25th. We are sorry for any inconvenience that this necessary change has brought about. However, the circumstances are beyond our control. October 18th, the night for Confirmation, the parish parking lot will be roped off immediately following the 4:00 PM Mass and will be reopened in time for Confirmation. The reason for this is that the parking logistics are further exacerbated by the fact that October 18th is the "doo-wop" night at Memorial Hall – soooo we need to make sure that the lot is used for our own purpose since it is a parish, and not town, parking lot.



Congratulations to Matthew Barcellos and Abigail Wilkinson who exchanged wedding vows here at St. Peter's on Friday, September 19th. Likewise, so did Anne Cadorette and Steven Newell on Saturday, September 27th. May the Lord's blessings and the years smile kindly upon them as they begin this new chapter in their lives. Please pray for the repose of the soul of Linda Longinotti who was buried at our parish cemetery on Thursday, September 25th.



This coming Saturday, October 4th, is the feast of St. Francis of Assisi. Since his feast day is on a weekend, we will have our annual "Blessing of the Animals" on the actual feast day of St. Francis. It will take place at the usual place, the parish parking lot at 12:00 PM (noon). Please make sure that your pets are leashed, or in some carrying device, so that all the pets can be safe and controlled. If the weather is such that it is impossible to have this take place, the blessings will be held at a later date. In addition to the feast of St. Francis, this week is "loaded" with feast days in the church calendar. September 29th is the feast day of the Archangels Michael ("Who is like God?"), Gabriel ("God's Strength), and Raphael ("God's remedy). Tuesday, September 30th, is the feast of St. Jerome, to whom we owe a great debt in terms of Scripture. He translated the Bible into Latin (the language of the Roman Empire at the time). October 1st is the feast of Ste. Therese de Lisieux, aka: the "Little Flower". October 2nd is the feast of the Guardian Angels. May the Lord's blessings smile kindly upon you and your loved ones in the coming week. Your brother in faith. Fr. Ken.

