

Feast of the Holy Family

30 December 2007



Ministers of the Liturgy

Saturday, 5:00 p.m.

Rev. Peter Grover, OMV,
presider

Chis Orrell, lector

Richard Barry, eucharistic
minister

Sunday, 8:00 a.m.

Rev. David Beauregard, OMV,
presider

Bill Croke, lector

Sunday, 9:30 a.m.

Rev. Thomas Gariepy, CSC,
presider

Zach Bourque & Megan Bourque,
lectors

Sunday, 11:00 a.m.

Rev. John Unni, presider
Chris Prew & Mike Lisi,
lectors

Tuesday, January 1 is designated as the World Day of Prayer for Peace. Pray for peace in all the troubled parts of our world, and for an end to violence in Pakistan.

There will be no 6:00 p.m. Sunday Liturgy tonight. The 6:00 Liturgy will resume next Sunday, January 6.

Richard Clark is enjoying some well-deserved time off this weekend. We are grateful to have Pen Macdonald at the organ console this morning.



Special Intentions

Sunday, December 30, 11:00 a.m.

Ruth and James Scully, Memorial

Prayers & Occasions

Joe Arico and Colleen Mahoney will be married here this afternoon.

Please pray for all our sick, especially Josephine Parker, Robert Caruso, John Saulenas, Charley Stanton, K. Champoux, Pat McCarthy, Roy Pille, Mary Cassidy, Jim Hayes, and Jeannie Ellis

Mark Your Calendars...

Volunteer Day at Community Servings

Saturday, January 19, 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.

Martin Luther King, Jr., Memorial Breakfast

Boston Convention & Exhibition Center,
Monday, January 21, 8:00 a.m.

6th Annual Mardi Gras Celebration St.
Cecilia Church, February 2, 7:00 p.m.-12
midnight.

Ask Father John

If you have a question for Father John that you would like to see answered in the bulletin, please send it to: AskFatherJohn@gmail.com Please note that this is not a private or confidential e-mail address. Children's questions are welcome too!

38th Annual Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial Breakfast - Last Day to Reserve Tickets

Today is the last day to reserve a place at one of our tables for the Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial Breakfast being held at 8:00 a.m. on January 21st at the Boston Convention and Exhibition Center. If you would like a place, please call the parish office or mention your interest to any staff person this morning. Tickets are \$35 each.

Join Us at Community Servings

Come join us from 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. on Saturday, January 19th when we volunteer in the kitchens of Community Servings. We need 12 volunteers to assist in preparing and packaging nutritious meals for those who are homebound with life-threatening illnesses throughout Eastern Massachusetts. No culinary skills required, but volunteers need to be at least 13 years of age. Community Servings is conveniently located next to the Stony Brook T Station in Jamaica Plain. To volunteer or for further information, please contact Mark Lippolt at: mark.lippolt@nemoves.com

The Solemnity of Mary, the Mother of God - January 1

January 1 is the Solemnity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, the Mother of God and is a Holy Day of Obligation. A Vigil Mass will be celebrated at 5:00 p.m. on Monday, December 31st.

The Feast of the Holy Family

Today's Feast of the Holy Family is a modern feast, instituted by Pope Leo XIII in 1893 and extended to the whole Roman Church by Pope Benedict XV in 1921. Strains on family life in those post-war days were enormous. From its inception, this feast was meant to inspire people with an image of family harmony even amid hardship. Formerly the feast was celebrated on the Sunday after Epiphany (now the Baptism of the Lord), but since 1969 the feast falls on the Sunday within the Octave of Christmas, or December 30 when Christmas falls on a Sunday. The Gospels chosen back in 1969 all depict stressful times in the family of Jesus: the flight into Egypt (today's Gospel for Year A), the Presentation in the Temple (with its warning of future sorrow), and Mary and Joseph's frantic search for their young son in Jerusalem.



World Day of Prayer for Peace

In 1968, Pope Paul VI called on all people of the world to together celebrate the "Day of Peace" on January 1. Since 1968, each year that day has been celebrated by Catholics and non-Catholics alike and is marked by a special annual peace message from the Holy Father. Truly, our world is in desperate need of prayers for peace.

Words from the past...

"If you want peace, work for justice."

-Pope Paul VI, 1972

"Life is the crown of peace. If we base the logic of our activity on the sacredness of life, war is virtually disqualified as a normal and habitual means of asserting rights and so of ensuring peace."

-Pope Paul VI, 1977

"Paul VI's phrase - 'Development is the new name for peace' - specifies one of the keys in our search for peace. Can true peace exist when men, women and children cannot live in full human dignity?"

-Pope John Paul II, 1987

"To say 'peace' is really to speak of much more than the simple absence of war. It is to postulate a condition of authentic respect for the dignity and rights of every human being, a condition enabling him to achieve complete fulfillment. The exploitation of the weak and the existence of distressing pockets of poverty and social inequality constitute so many delays and obstacles to the establishment of stable conditions for an authentic peace."

-Pope John Paul II, 1993

"Experience shows that disregard for the environment always harms human coexistence, and vice versa. It becomes more and more evident that there is an inseparable link between peace with creation and peace among men."

-Pope Benedict XVI, 2007

Mardi Gras Volunteers

Please join us in the parish hall (enter from street level at 20 Belvidere St.) on Thursday, January 3rd at 6:00 p.m. for a meeting "all about Mardi Gras volunteers." It is a time to fill out a CORI form, go over the logistics of the night, familiarize yourself with your responsibilities, and socialize with one another. People working on decorations should plan to be here for about two hours and should "dress down!" We hope to see you there! If you have any questions, please call Genevieve at 978-317-4978.



Human Rights Watch International Film Festival at the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston

The MFA Film Program and the Human Rights Watch International Film Festival present this outstanding series annually. This festival has become a leading venue for distinguished fiction, documentary, and animated films and videos with a distinctive human rights theme. The featured works help to put a human face on threats to individual freedom and dignity, and celebrate the power of the human spirit and intellect to prevail. Please visit the MFA's website (www.mfa.org) for a complete schedule.