

# North American Martyrs

**Rev. John F. Gee, Pastor**  
**Rectory 508-798-8779**

**Joan Sundstrom, Religious Education Coordinator**  
**Religious Education Office 508-798-0612**

**www.namartyrsauburn.org**

**Parish e-mail: namoffice@verizon.net**

**Relig. Ed e-mail: namparish@namparish.com**



**Lord's Day** Saturday, 4:30 p.m.  
**Masses** Sunday, 8:30 & 10:30 a.m.

**Weekday** 7:00 a.m. (except Thursday)  
**Masses** 8:00 a.m. Saturdays

**Confessions** Saturday 3:00 to 4:00 p.m.

**Baptisms** By appointment

**Weddings** Please make arrangements 1 year in advance

## December 4, 2011

### MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, December 3, 4:30 p.m.  
**25th Anniv.: Thomas Halloran**  
*Requested by his family*

Sunday, December 4, 8:30 a.m.  
**Alexander Kowalewski**  
*Requested by Curt & Sue Litchfield*

Sunday, December 4, 10:30 a.m.  
**Jeff & Terry Jones**  
*Requested by Denise Johnson*

Wednesday, December 7, 7:00 a.m.  
**George Maroney** - *Requested by his family*

Thursday, December 8, 7:00 p.m.  
**Sister Mary Virginia**  
*Requested by Peter & Maureen Morse*

Friday, December 9, 7:00 a.m.  
**Rick Belair** - *Requested by his family*

Saturday, December 10, 8:00 a.m.  
**Beverly Amazeen** - *Requested by Bill Sipos*

Saturday, December 10, 4:30 p.m.  
**3rd Anniv.: Edna Doherty**  
*Requested by Elaine Doherty*

Sunday, December 11, 8:30 a.m.  
**4th Anniv.: Alphonse LaPorte**  
*Requested by his family*

Sunday, December 11, 10:30 a.m.  
**Robert Bolduc** - *Requested by his family*

## 2nd Sunday of Advent

### Feast of the Immaculate Conception

Thursday of this week is the Feast of the Immaculate Conception of Mary. It is a **holy day of obligation** and we should attend Mass. For your convenience, Mass will be celebrated on Wednesday at 4:30 p.m. and Thursday at 7 a.m. and 7 p.m.

The members of Saints Francis & Therese Catholic Workers will hold their annual bake sale this weekend in the front vestibule of the church after all the Masses.



**Bereavement** - Refreshments are offered to families after the funeral of a loved one. You may request this ministry by calling Fr. Gee at 508-798-8779.

**Hymn Requests** - Eagle's Wings is our liturgical music group that plays at the 8:30 mass. Please call Pete Michaud at 755-5863 or talk to him after mass.

**Coffee And ...** - Every Sunday after the Masses, teams of men in the parish serve coffee and doughnuts in the parish hall. Everyone is welcome.

**12/4 - Team 7**  
**12/11 - Team 8**

**Hall Reservations** -- To reserve the hall, please contact T Jablanski at 508-751-6476.

**Bulletin Items** -- Please submit by Wednesday at 8:00 a.m. all items to appear in the bulletin. Please contact Pam Ashmankas at 508-798-0612 or NAMparish@namparish.com.

**It's a joy to welcome new parishioners and visitors. Please let us know who you are.**



### Praying

**It is the most powerful thing we can do.**

Please pray for Vito DiTaranto and for the souls of all the faithful departed,

for those who are ill:

*Emery Lucier, Betty Gallant, Anthony Real, Janie Bouges, Mary DePasquale, Eugene Gosselin, James Stefanik, Fred Brown, Ray Perron, Jacob Roy, Christopher Lonergan, Debra Lynne Iles, Bob Bedker*

and for all the men and women serving in our country's military

### THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

was celebrated on  
**November 26, 2011, for**



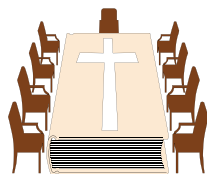
**Logan Zygmunt Patraitis**  
Son of Gerald &  
Lisa (Schonberg) Patraitis

We congratulate the parents and welcome **Logan Zygmunt** into the Church and our parish.



Fr. John Gavin of the Society of Jesus at Holy Cross College will celebrate one of our Masses each weekend.

Cat's Meows miniatures of North American Martyrs Church are on sale. They make very nice Christmas gifts. To purchase call Eleanor at the rectory 508-798-8779 on Thursdays between 9:00 AM and 3:00 PM. Or stop by the rectory during those times. The price is \$20.00 each.



The Parish Council will meet on this Monday, December 5, at 7:00 p.m. in the Rectory.

### Men's Fellowship Group

Please join the Men's Fellowship Group on **Saturday, December 10 at 7:30 a.m.** as we continue our lively, faith-filled discussions. For more information, please contact Tj at 508-721-2557.



### Kateri's Kitchen -- Open Saturdays, 10-12

We are asking our parishioners to help "stock our shelves" by donating ANY non-perishable food items. You may bring your donations to the altar at the offertory or to the classroom at the back entrance.

**We are especially in need of the following:**

**Ketchup  
Mustard  
Oatmeal  
Pasta Sauce  
Cookies**

**Mayonnaise  
Canned Meat  
Juice  
Baked Beans  
Crackers**

We are very grateful for your extraordinary generosity in bringing food. If you have any questions, please call Ann Marie Lucas at 508-752-4852.

**ADVENT LITURGY SERIES**  
Join your fellow Catholics in Auburn for a celebration of the liturgy each Tuesday at 7 p.m. during this season of Advent. This **Tuesday, December 6**, we will be meeting at **St. Joseph's Church**. Bishop Rueger will be the celebrant and homilist at this Mass.

The Prayer Shawl Ministry Group meets in the Kateri's Kitchen classroom on the first Monday of each month from **1-2:30 pm**. The next meeting will be **Monday, December 5**. Everyone is welcome. If you or anyone you know is in need of a Prayer Shawl, please contact Angela Rothera at 508-832-4390.



**STATE HOSPITAL CHRISTMAS GIFTS**  
Christmas gifts will be collected for people at Worcester State Hospital. **Wrapped gifts** should be placed in the boxes at both entrances of the church from December 11-19. No alcohol or glass, please. Please tag your gift "man" or "woman." Thank you.

### CHRISTMAS PAGEANT

There will be an organizational meeting on Sunday, December 4th in the church immediately following the 10:30 mass. Children through Grade 6 who are interested in participating in the pageant should attend. At this meeting, there will be sign-ups, parts assignments, and discussion of rehearsal dates. Rehearsals will be held on 12/11 and 12/18 after the 10:30 Mass, with an additional rehearsal on a weeknight the week prior to Christmas. If you have any questions, please call Beth Anish at 508-407-8172.



**COLLECTIONS**  
The collection for last weekend was \$5,788. We are very grateful for your great generosity.



**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION  
DECEMBER CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

Sunday, December 4  
**3 p.m.** – Confirmation Celebration, St. Paul’s Cathedral  
**6:30-8:00 p.m.** – 7/8 Class

Thursday, December 8  
**3:30-5:30 p.m.** – Rosary Praying (7/8 EYF)

Sunday, December 11  
**10:00 a.m.** - Confirmation Presentation Mass & Reception  
**1-3 p.m.** – Eucharist Parent/Child Meeting  
**6:30-8:15 p.m.** – 9/10 Class

Friday, December 16  
**5:30-7:30** – Milk & Cookies with St. Nicholas

Sunday, , December 18  
**10:30 a.m.** – “Come Follow Me” Program  
**6:30-8:00 p.m.** – 7/8 Class

The Sacrament of Reconciliation was celebrated for the first time by 41 of our children on Saturday, December 3. Please keep them in your prayers at this time and as they continue in their preparation to receive Jesus in the Eucharist for the first time in Spring 2012.

Evan Beudet	Patrick Bruso	Jacob Chunis
Jillian Chunis	Rebecca Dawson	Owen Fitzgerald
Cecelia Froio	Harrison Ganong	Margaret Gilmartin
Mia Giorgio	John Gowaski	Zachary Handfield
Nicholas Hunter	Katherine Jajliardo	Nathan Jette
Jordan Keller	Patrick Kennedy	Emma Lenahan
Kyle Lepard	Reese Levansavich	Jeremy Mahoney
Brianna McLaughlin	Caroline Messina	Erin Murphy
Michael Nadeau	Paul Noel	Kathryn O’Reilly
Benjamin Paluk	Mary Margaret Prunier	Alexa Reheuser
Briana Reidy	Jason Roberts	Courtney Robertson
Daniel Sibert	Kyrie Sullivan	Matthew Sullivan
Aaron Swank	Hannah Swenson	Paige Veideman
Jace Wetzal	Ryan Willard	

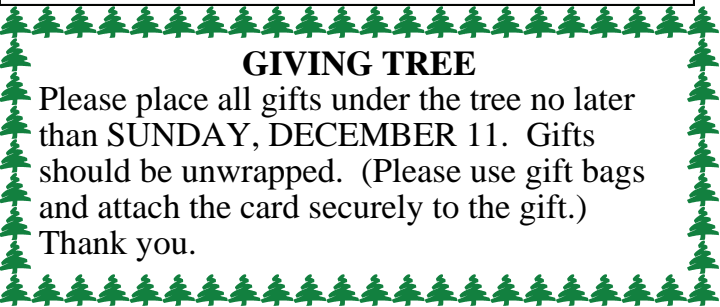
**WREATH/CEMETERY BASKET SALE**

Boy Scout Troup 101 is holding its annual sale of wreaths and cemetery baskets and logs thru December 19. To order or for more information, please call Vincent Pacifico at 508-832-8373 or George Fournier at 774-239-2240.



**GIVING TREE**

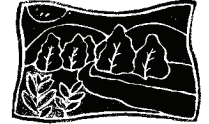
Please place all gifts under the tree no later than **SUNDAY, DECEMBER 11**. Gifts should be unwrapped. (Please use gift bags and attach the card securely to the gift.) Thank you.



**2nd Sunday of Advent**

“Comfort, give comfort to my people.” (Isaiah 40:1)

The people of Israel were in crisis. Their Temple in Jerusalem had been burned to the ground. Their king had been taken captive by King Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon. And most of the population had been forced out of their homes and sent into exile. Everything they treasured about their role as God’s holy people was taken away from them, and it left them traumatized, distressed, and despairing.



*Regard the patience of our Lord.*  
2 Pt. 3:15

Into this sad situation, God told his prophet to speak words of comfort and tenderness to his people. Don’t be afraid! The Lord is coming! He’s going to gather you all together, as a shepherd gathers his sheep, and bring you back home. So get ready to welcome him and his deliverance.

Like the Israelites, we all need comfort from God. None of us is free from the sadness that can come from life in this world. It could be the pain of an illness, the wound from a broken relationship, or the challenge of unemployment or financial stress.

No matter what we are facing, God wants to comfort us. He wants to speak tenderly to our hearts and tell us that he is with us. And more than anything else, he wants to tell us that Jesus, who is “God with us,” has opened heaven for us. We don’t have to endure our challenges on our own. We don’t have to go through this life doing nothing but trying our best and hoping for better days. We have access to the grace and comfort, the power and wisdom, of God himself!

So no matter how difficult or demanding life may seem, let these truths bring you comfort. Remember that nothing prevented Jesus from coming two thousand years ago and that nothing will prevent him from coming again to bring heaven down to earth. And finally, remember that even as we wait for that time, nothing can prevent Jesus from coming into our hearts right now and comforting us with his love.

**Adapted from The Word Among Us**

**MILK & COOKIES WITH ST. NICHOLAS**



Come meet St. Nicholas (Bishop of Myra) — beloved and revered protector and helper of those in need — and enjoy milk and cookies, listen to a story, and make a holiday craft on **Friday,**

**December 16th, from 6-7 p.m.** in the church hall. This activity is for children ages birth through 9 years. **If you plan on attending, you must register before the event** by contacting Colleen Hunter at 508-832-0874 or [cphunter1@hotmail.com](mailto:cphunter1@hotmail.com). Upon arrival, please check in at the sign-in table. Unfortunately, walk-ins cannot be accommodated.

**We are grateful to these parishioners, whose ads pay for the equipment and materials to produce this bulletin.**



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