

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

February 5, 2012

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, February 4, 4:30 p.m.

2nd Anniv.: Ernest Nault

Requested by his family

Sunday, February 5, 8:30 a.m.

John Donahue - Requested by a friend

Sunday, February 5, 10:30 a.m.

1st Anniv.: Stephen Coyne

Requested by his family

Tuesday, February 7, 7:00 a.m.

Charles Lazutka

Requested by Ed & Barbara Vaitkunas

Wednesday, February 8, 7:00 a.m.

George Maroney - Requested by his family

Friday, February 10, 7:00 a.m.

Rick Belair - Requested by his family

Saturday, February 11, 8:00 a.m.

Special Intention

Saturday, February 11, 4:30 p.m.

William Norberg - Requested by his family

Sunday, February 12, 8:30 a.m.

21st Anniv.: Barbara Shenette

Requested by the Durocher Family

Sunday, February 12, 10:30 a.m.

Joseph Roy - Requested by his family

5th Sunday in Ordinary Time

STEWARDSHIP PRAYER

O God, our loving creator and giver of all good gifts, bless our parish and the diocese, strengthen our faith and grant us the spirit of Christian stewardship so that we may give generously of our time, talent and treasure to the spreading of Your kingdom here at North American Martyrs and throughout the world. We ask this through our Lord Jesus, your Son, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God forever and ever. Amen.

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.

2/5 - Team 8

2/12 - Team 1

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 Joseph Toth, Betty Gallant, and for the souls of all the faithful departed,

for those who are ill:

Emery Lucier, Anthony Real, Janie Bouges, Mary DePasquale, Eugene Gosselin, James Stefanik, Fred Brown, Ray Perron, Debra Lynne Iles, Jacob Roy, Christopher Lonergan, Marilyn Adamski

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

THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM



**was celebrated on
January 28, 2012, for**

Ryan Frank Trachimowicz
Son of Timothy & Gina (Martin) Trachimowicz

We congratulate the parents and welcome **Ryan Frank** into the Church and our parish.

Men's Fellowship Group

Please join the Men's Fellowship Group on **Saturday, February 11 at 7:30 a.m.** as we continue our lively, faith-filled discussions. For more information, please contact Tj at 508-721-2557.



The annual North American Martyrs Parish Mardi Gras Dinner will be held on **Tuesday February 21, 2012** at 6:00 pm in the Parish Hall. Appetizers will be served at 5:30 p.m.

Tickets for the Turkey and Ham Dinner at \$10.00 each will be available in the front foyer of the church on the weekends of February 4/5 and February 11/12 after all Masses. Entertainment will be provided by Gary Landgren with his honky tonk piano.

Informational Presentation on Benefits of Hospice and End of Life Care

**Presentation Date: Wednesday, February 8, 2 p.m.,
North American Martyrs parish hall**

The director of Notre Dame Hospice in Worcester will be here to give an informational presentation on end of life care and the benefits of hospice. They will have booklets and brochures as well as information on free community resources. If you have questions or concerns regarding caring for the terminally ill or aging family members, or if you are a Eucharistic minister or visit the sick and homebound, it would be helpful to attend this presentation. Attendees will leave with a better understanding of end of life care, hospice, and a greater level of comfort in interfacing with these special parishioners and/or family members.

STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION

"Rising very early before dawn, he left and went off to a deserted place, where he prayed... He told them, 'Let us go on to the nearby villages that I may preach there also. For this purpose have I come.'"
(Mark 1:35, 38)

Through today's Gospel reading we see a perfect example of stewardship. Jesus gives His time to doing all that God wishes - healing the sick and preaching. Yet Jesus also makes time to be alone in prayer. It is only through prayer, through spending time with God, that any of us can find the strength to do all that God wishes us to do. Be sure to find time this week to be with God.



COLLECTIONS

The collection for last weekend was \$5,350. We are very grateful for your outstanding generosity.



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

Dawn Michaud will be walking in support of the MDA in the 2012 "Muscle Walk" on February 12. If anyone would like to show their support, please see Pete Michaud after the 8:30 mass or you can contact him at 508-755-5863.

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, February 6**. Everyone is welcome. If you or anyone you know is in need of a Prayer Shawl, please contact Angela Rothera at 508-832-4390.



If there are any persons who have difficulty hearing the Mass, there are hearing aide headsets available for use during Mass. Please contact Father Gee for more information.

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

**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.

**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION
JANUARY CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

- Sunday, February 5
8:30-11:30 a.m. - Mass followed by
First Eucharist Class
- Tuesday, February 7
7:00 p.m. – Religious Education Board
- Thursday, February 9
7-8:30 p.m. - Scripture Study
- Sunday, February 12
8:30 a.m. – Eucharist Class Mass (Sibert/Noel)
9:30-11:30 a.m. – First Eucharist Class
6:30-8:00 p.m. - Grade 7/8 Class
- Thursday, February 16
7-8:30 p.m. - Scripture Study
- Thursday, February 23
7-8:30 p.m. – Lenten Faith Sharing
- Friday, February 24
6-10 p.m. – Reel Morals (EYF)
- Sunday, February 26
10:30 a.m. - “Come Follow Me” Early
Childhood Program
- Tuesday, February 28
7-9 p.m. – Eucharist Parent Meeting



While America turns their attention to the matchup between the Giants and the Patriots (Go Patriots!) in Super Bowl XLVI, more than a quarter of a million young people are working to

transform Super Bowl weekend into the nation’s largest celebration of giving and serving through the Souper Bowl of Caring.

This weekend, our youth from grades 7 & 8 will hold soup pots at church doors. They will join young people in churches all across the country to collect money for those who are hungry and hurting. It’s a simple, yet significant act of caring for others. **Drop \$1 in the soup pot as you leave Mass this weekend.** Those who need help may not know that you cared, but God will. And our young people are developing hearts for giving that can last a lifetime. All of the money collected is donated directly to local food pantries/soup kitchens.

5th Sunday in Ordinary Time

“Rising very early before dawn, he left and went off to a deserted place, where he prayed.” (Mark 1:35)

Jesus certainly had a full day. With his first four chosen disciples in tow, he went into the synagogue and not only taught but cast out an unclean spirit. He next slipped away and healed Simon’s mother-in-law. Then, as soon as sunset marked the end of the Sabbath, a horde of people crowded around the doorstep begging Jesus to heal and deliver them. He extended himself to the whole crowd, touching each person with the power of God. Surely this exhausting ministry lasted beyond a normal bedtime.



We could certainly understand if Jesus burrowed under the covers the next morning. Instead, Mark tells us that Jesus rose in the wee hours and headed out to a deserted spot to spend time with his Father. Instead of assuming he knew what God wanted and how to accomplish it, he stopped and listened for God’s guidance. Out of that profound communion emerged clarity about his next step: It was time to preach in other villages.

That’s the way it was with the Lord: never a dull moment! Jesus was constantly on the move. Even his prayer was dynamic. He didn’t get up early just to enjoy a good sunrise and recite a few prayers. No, he was asking, seeking, and knocking. He was determined to discover his Father’s plan, and he was ready to make any adjustments he needed in order to stick to that plan.

Make no mistake. Jesus was active, not just busy. Like a runner crouched at the starting block, his prayer was one of active waiting, not passive wandering. That’s what God wants for us as well. There’s a kingdom to be built. There are people to evangelize and ministries to advance. The hungry need feeding, the wounded need comfort, and the confused need direction. What part does God want you to play? Seek him in prayer, and you’ll find out.

Adapted from The Word Among Us

TEEN DANCE for Middle School Students

Saturday, February 18, 2012, 7:00 - 10:00 p.m.

Location: North American Martyrs Parish Hall

Admission: \$5 at the door

DJ Mike Fournier, Refreshments Available

Proceeds will benefit “Keeping Auburn Warm” which offers fuel assistance to low income people or those with an emergency financial situation.



Annual Diocesan Men’s Conference

Saturday, March 24, 2012

www.firstmensconf.org

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



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