

From the Pastor

Holy Penance:

One of the most beautiful descriptions of the sacrament of Penance or Reconciliation or Confession (all are correct) is found in the Decree of the Second Vatican Council *Lumen Gentium*: "Those who approach the Sacrament of Penance obtain pardon from God's mercy for the offense committed against him and are, at the same time, reconciled with the Church which they have wounded by their sins and which by charity, by example, and by prayer labors for their conversion." Baptism washes us clean of all sin, both original sin, which comes to us through our wounded human nature, and actual sin, that is, the sins we ourselves have committed. Adults who are baptized (often at the Easter Vigil) experience this full grace of the sacrament of Baptism; original sin and all actual sins are cleansed. This is why, in the ancient world, Baptism was sometimes delayed and given on the deathbed, as was the case with the Emperor Constantine. But most of us were baptized as babies and so had no actual sin at that time. For us all, no matter when we were baptized, life is long and difficult and we are weak and needy sinners. We read in the first letter of Saint John. "If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us." The Lord himself taught us to pray, "Forgive us our trespasses." The sacrament of Reconciliation or Penance is God's own answer to this need of ours for forgiveness after Baptism, and he has willed it to bring forgiveness and strength to us through the ministry of his Church.

10:00am Mass Ad Orientem
Good Shepherd
Saint Stanislaus

GS
5/6
6/3

SS
5/13

Saint of the Week

27 April Saint Zita

Born around the year 1212 in the small town of Monsagrati near Lucca in Tuscany, Zita became a serving maid for the wealthy Fatinelli family at the age of twelve. She was extraordinary hardworking and obedient, willingly doing whatever was asked of her, and even taking on tasks that other avoided. This only provoked her fellow servants, who treated her unkindly from morning to night. Her masters were only slightly less cruel, but Zita bore the abuse with patience. She made frequent pilgrimages to a nearby monastery, for prayer, and turned her attention to the needs of the sick poor. A number of wondrous stories are told of Zita. Once, she was found rapt in prayer when she was meant to be preparing the family's bread. When she returned to the kitchen, the loaves were already out of the oven, crusty and warm. The angels had baked them. Eventually, Zita was promoted to housekeeper, and in this capacity showed great kindness to her former persecutors. After her death in 1272, the citizens of Lucca began to pray to the quiet, humble serving-woman. Not fifty years after her death, Dante in his *Paradiso* had already christened her Saint Zita. She is patron saint of housewives, servants, and especially those who have lost their keys. Her body lies incorrupt in the church of Saint Frediano in Lucca.

Saint Zita, pray for us!

Bible Study

There will be Bible Study in the Parish Hall on the 21st of April at 6:30pm

Starting the 30th of April there will be Confessions every Monday evening from 6:30-7:30. We will have exposition of the Blessed Sacrament as well during that time. On April 30th confessions will be at Saint Stanislaus. During May, confessions will be at Good Shepherd. Then in June at Saint Stanislaus.

From the Pastor Cont..

Respect Life Ministry

World Day of Prayer for Vocations will be observed on Sunday, April 22nd, also known as "Good Shepherd Sunday"

The purpose of this day is to publicly fulfill the Lord's instruction to, "Pray the Lord of the harvest to send laborers into his harvest" (Mt 9:38; Lk 10:2). Please pray that young men and women hear and respond generously to the Lord's call to the priesthood, diaconate, religious life, societies of apostolic life or secular institutes. You can find many resources to promote a culture of vocations on the US Conference of Catholic Bishops' vocations webpage (www.usccb.org/vocations).

Jesus wants to establish with his friends a relationship which mirrors his own relationship with the Father: a relationship of reciprocal belonging in full trust, in intimate communion. To express this profound understanding, this relationship of friendship, Jesus uses the image of the shepherd with his sheep: he calls them and they recognize his voice, they respond to his call and follow him. This parable is very beautiful! The mystery of his voice is evocative: only think that from our mother's womb we learn to recognize her voice and that of our father; it is from the tone of a voice that we perceive love or contempt, affection or coldness. Jesus' voice is unique! If we learn to distinguish it, he guides us on the path of life, a path that goes beyond even the abyss of death.

~Pope Francis, Regina Caeli, April 21, 2013

Respect Life Prayer Intention:

May Jesus, the Good Shepherd, inspire all hearts to care for the most vulnerable members of society.

The next Respect Life Prayer Service on Saturday, May 5th at 8:45am. All are welcome!

Junior Youth Group Schedule (ages 9-12)

5/6 11:00-12:30pm meeting
5/20 11:00-12:30pm meeting

Youth Group Schedule (ages 13+)

4/23 5:30-6:15pm adoration; 6:30-9:00pm movie night and meeting
5/7 6:00-8:00pm meeting
5/21 5:30-6:30pm adoration; 6:30-9:00pm movie night and meeting

Movie Night with Father Leonard Monday, April 23rd 6:30pm In the Parish hall.

Based on the New York Times bestseller, WONDER tells the incredibly inspiring and heartwarming story of August Pullman, a boy with facial differences who enters fifth grade, attending a mainstream elementary school for the first time.

*Adoration before the movie from 5:30-6:15
All are welcome!*

Good Shepherd Parish Food Pantry

Donations of non-perishable food items are always welcome.

The food pantry is available to anyone in need on Thursday 10:00am -12:00pm or by appointment.

Catholic Pilgrimages to the Shrines of Spain and The Holy Land:

Michael Milano from Our Lady of Mount Carmel is leading pilgrimages to the Shrines of Spain in September and the Holy Land in November.

Spain, September 10-21, 2018, \$3,899.00 per person including air from Providence.

Holy Land, November 7-17, 2018, \$3,899.00 per person including air from Providence.

Most meals included. Holy Mass daily at the Shrines.

For a Flyer or more detailed information please call: Cathie or Michael Milano at 1-800-773-2660

Living the Fatima Message invites you to: Joseph's Yes: the strength and joy of encountering Joseph with Jesus and Mary at Fatima—our Holy Family, Saturday, May 12, 8am-3pm, sponsored by Bishop Connolly High School, 373 Elsbree St., Fall River, MA. Live Our Lady's "peace plan" through Mass, Living Rosary, Eucharistic Adoration, and Confession. Listen to reflections by religious and laity from around the diocese, have fun with your family in the children's activity room, and learn from keynote speaker, Mother Olga of the Sacred Heart, founder and mother servant of Daughters of Mary of Nazareth, Quincy. Please bring your own brown bag lunch and join us May 12 for any part, or for the entire program. Accessible facility. No charge. Free will donations graciously accepted. Free parking. Full schedule at fb.com/livingfatima – click events – or email livingfatima@gmail.com or call 781-521-3677

Quo Vadis Vocation Retreat taking place July 9, 2018 through July 13, 2018 at Betania II Retreat Center in Medway. This retreat is offered by the Diocesan Office of Vocations to help the high school aged men of our Diocese discern the Lord's call in their life.

Emmaus is a retreat for men and women (ages 20+) who seek to grow in their relationship with Jesus Christ, regardless of their present level of faith or practice. We want to invite you to join us on our next Emmaus weekend. You will be welcomed by a loving community, spend time in personal and communal prayer, and celebrate the sacraments. The next Emmaus is June 8th-10th at Cathedral Camp in East Freetown, MA. For more information or to apply online, email us at emmausretreats@gmail.com or visit our website: www.emmausretreats.com.

Jesus is the good shepherd and laid down his life for us that we may have new life. Give your marriage new life by attending a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend. The next Weekends are May 19-20, 2018 in Warner, NH and June 9-10, 2018 in Medway, MA. For more information, call Stephen and Michelle O'Leary at 800-710-9963 or visit them at <https://wwmema.org/>