MARCH INTENTIONS AND CHURCH SCHEDULE
Saturday, February 22
5:00pm (O) Michael LaPierre
Sunday, February 23
8:00am (O’N) Maria Carroll (Birthday Remembrance)
10:30am (O) William J. Nash (7th Anniversary)
5:00pm (O) St. Lucy’s Parishioners
Monday, February 24
9:00am Carl Louis McLanahan, Jr.
Tuesday, February 25
9:00am Kathryn Schofield
Ash Wednesday, February 26
9:00am St. Lucy’s Parishioners
12:00 noon Service with Ashes (not a Mass)
6:00pm St. Lucy’s Parishioners
Thursday, February 27
9:00pm Communion Service
Friday, February 28
9:00am (O’N) Vincent F. McMahon and Family
5:00pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
7:00pm Stations of the Cross
7:50pm Benediction
Saturday, February 29
5:00pm (O) Frank P. “Mickey” Mello
First Sunday of Lent, March 1
8:00am (O’N) St. Lucy’s Parishioners
10:30am (O) Guy Levesque (Birthday Remembrance)
5:00pm (O) St. Lucy’s Parishioners

In the above celebrations:
O = Rev. John O’Brien
O’N = Rev. Tom O’Neill

Children’s Homily continues at the 10:30am Sunday Liturgy on Feb. 23.

Don’t Give Up Chocolate For Lent! Instead, you can join us for the BEST LENT EVER – a free email program that will help you have a deep, powerful and unforgettable Lent! DynamicCatholic.com.

LIFE (Learning In Faith Experiences)
How is it that the season of Lent begins this Wednesday already? Having mentioned this with a good number of people, I’d like to share some of these reactions that stood out to me: What, already?, or I wonder what I’ll give up this year?, the next one is Maybe this year I can keep my Lenten promise. These sentiments are very telling as to how some people may look upon the Church season of Lent, perhaps in the same fashion as keeping a New Year’s resolution or maybe as a chore that must be completed. In reality, Lent is a time of renewal for the Church and for each believer. Let’s look at this Lenten season as one of opportunity, not missed opportunity. Lent calls, challenges and prepares us for the highpoint of our faith: the suffering, death and resurrection of Jesus our Savior. Lent offers us not just the time, but numerous ways to prepare ourselves and our families to fully be ready to enter into our most holy time of the year, Holy Week. For many people the following idea may sound a little ridiculous (okay, a lot but...do you ever see the TV reality show “Hoarders”?), Lent, to me can be like an episode of Hoarders. Okay, perhaps not so over the top, hoardish-style, but when I think of Lent, I like the image of a good, old-fashioned spiritual spring cleaning. In “Hoarders,” professionals come in to work with those who hoard – working with them to sort, reason, providing emotional support and guidance for the task ahead, and helping the hoarder to find (or return to) a sense of normalcy. As I said, this example is over-the-top, and most of us won’t have the need for professionals to come in to help us with our spiritual housekeeping. However, the spiritual housekeeping that we can do in our lives during Lent is to clear out and sort through the extras that have piled up because we may be too busy, overwhelmed, discouraged, feeling alone or hopeless, etc. With God’s help we can put those things back in their proper places, clear away the “hoard” that may be hiding behind, or dust and be rid of the cobwebs. How do we do this? With the tools that the Church provides us during Lent: Prayer, Fasting and Almsgiving. During this season of opportunity, these tools can help us to look within ourselves and also ourselves. The season of Lent offers us time; time to make a return to Christ, time to change our hearts, time to (re)learn to love like Jesus. How will you use of the tools of Prayer, Fasting and Almsgiving as you navigate the road of Lent this year?

Written by Colette M. Savaria, LIFE Coordinator

Guidelines for Lent 2020: Abstinence from meat on the Fridays of Lent (for those 14 and older) is required by Church law. Good Friday is also a day of fasting. Those between the ages of 18 and 59 should eat less (only one full meal that day and no solid food between meals). Serious health conditions excuse a person from these precepts.

The St. Vincent de Paul Conference will meet on Wednesday, Feb. 26 at 7pm in the Parish Center. All are invited to attend the meeting, which follows the noon Mass and Distribution of Ashes. To be involved in the service of Jesus is a sacred trust to which we have been invited. St. Vincent de Paul

CHURCH SUPPORT
February 16, 2020
Weekly Collection $5495.00
Electronic Giving $ 782.00
Building and Maintenance Fund $2617.00

Thank you for your generosity!

SCRIPTURE READINGs FOR THE WEEK
Monday: Jas 5:1-18/Mk 9:14-29
Tuesday: Jas 4:1-10/Mk 9:30-37
Wednesday: Jl 2:12-18 / 2 Cor 5:20-2/ Mt 6:1-16
Thursday: Dn 10:15-20/Lk 9:22-25
Friday: Is 5:5-6; Lk 9:14-15
Saturday: Ps 9:8b-14/Lk 5:27-32
Sunday: Gn 2:7-9, 3-1;Lk 5:12-19/Mk 4:1-11

Please pray for all the men and women who have served and who currently serve in the armed forces, and the military commanders who lead them. Pray also for our healthcare Parishioners and the work that includes (such as hospitals and nursing homes). Pray for the unborn, the premature, and the fragile among us so that we may deepen our respect for life at all stages.

A discussion Group about Bishop’s Baron’s book, Letter to a Suffering Church, had good participation and powerful dialogue. Many thanks to our facilitator, Tom Brown. For those who could not attend, a future date on a Tuesday evening is being planned. Please call the Rectory Office at 847-6153 (x202) if you are interested.

40 Days for Life Lenten Campaign: The Lenten Campaign will begin on Ash Wednesday, February 26 and conclude on Sunday, April 4. We are asking priests to adopt a day (7am/7pm) or individuals to adopt an hour for a peaceful and prayerful vigil at Planned Parenthood, Providence during the 40 Days of Lent. Please do not stand alone! If you are interested in learning more about the campaign that calls for prayer, fasting and community outreach to pray to end abortion in our nation, contact: Carol Owens, Office of Life and Family Ministry at 279-2518.

COMMUNITY ACTION COMMITTEE
Thank you to all who brought in unused cards for inmates at Adult Correctional Facility and RI Training Facility. Approximately 6-8 cardboard boxes of cards were collected and will be delivered to the Chancery in Providence by early March for distribution.

A collection of non-perishable items for the martin Luther King Center and St. Lucy’s Parish will be held during the Lenten season. Such items include: Spam, tuna, nut butter, jams, jellies, cereals, canned potatoes, rice, beans, salsa, canned root vegetables, corn, macaroni and cheese, coffee, tea, juices, unopened 100% whole grains like brown rice, quinoa, bulgur, barley, rolled oats, wild rice, whole wheat/grain pasta, whole grain cereal, gluten free foods, low salt or no salt foods. Please place food in the blue bin in the narthex of the Church. Thank you for helping to fulfill the Gospel command to “feed the hungry.”

Become a hospice volunteer! An Open House will be held on Wednesday, March 4th from 5:30 – 7:30. Refreshments will be served. Do you have a gift of music? Are you a veteran and want to assist with our Veteran’s program? Are you creative/artistic? Do you simply enjoy listening to others? No matter what your skills, you have something to offer our hospice patients and their families. Hospice volunteers bring a song, a prayer, visit with your registered therapy dog. Bring joy to someone’s life! For more information please call Paul Gauthier, Volunteer Coordinator Beacon Hospice, Meadows Professional Office Park, 1130 Ten Rod Rd, Suite A205, No. Kingstown, RI 02852. 401-294-6204. Paul.gauthier@amedysis.com.

Registered Nurses and Ultrasound Technologist Wanted: Seeking compassionate, pro-life, female RN to perform pregnancy and STD tests and assist with limited OB ultrasounds on our mobile medical unit alongside our clinic sonographer. Based out of Providence, the mobile clinic travels to various locations throughout Rhode Island. RN preferred, require OB experience. The hours are part-time and flexible. Please submit a resume, cover letter, and salary requirements to bravcy@rufl.org.

An Emmaus Retreat Program will be held March 13-15 at the Cathedral Camp in East Freetown, MA. 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. For more information or to apply send an email to emmausretreats@gmail.com.

Visiting the Sick: When a family member is in the hospital, please notify Sr. Sheila Murphy at 847-6153 (x205).