Mary Immaculate of Lourdes

(Formerly St. Mary's Parish, 1870-1910)
Newton/Needham, Massachusetts

Newton & Needham's Oldest Roman Catholic Parish



September 23rd, 2012 in the Year of Grace
The Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost and
the Twenty-Fifth Sunday of the Year

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ON THE PARISH CALENDAR....

Sunday, September 23rd:

VIRTUS training program, 12:15 p.m., lower rectory conference room.

Virgilio Family Christening, 1:00 p.m., main church

Tuesday, September 25th:

Benedictum Book Club, 10:30 a.m.-12 Noon, lower church hall

Saturday, September 29th:

Aufiero Family Christening, 2:00 p.m. Confirmation Mass Rehearsal, Candidates and Sponsors, 5:15 p.m.

Sunday, September 30th:

MASS OF CONFIRMATION, 5:30 p.m.
Bishop Edyvean will confer the Sacrament of
Confirmation according to the 1970 Missal.
A Reception will follow in the downstairs hall after
Mass.



SACRIFICIAL OFFERINGS FOR THE SUPPORT OF OUR PARISH

"What return can I make to the Lord for all His kindness to Me?"



OFFERTORY FOR SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 16th: \$4,275.00 + \$1,726.00 (OTHER OFFERINGS) = \$6,001.00

SECOND COLLECTION: SERVANTS OF ST. CAMILLUS DISASTER RELIEF SERVICES MISSIONARY CO-OPERATIVE APPEAL \$2,436.00

DAILY LATIN MASS

September 24th-29th, A.D. 2012

Monday, September 24th: 12:30 p.m. Our Lady of Ransom

Tuesday, September 25th: 5:30 p.m. Ferial Day

Wednesday, September 26th: 12:30 p.m. St. Isaac Jogues & Companions, Martyrs

Thursday, September 27th: 5:30 p.m.

Saints Cosmas & Damian, Martyrs Friday, September 28th: 12:30 p.m.

St. Wenceslaus, Duke & Martyr



Saturday, September 29th: 9:00 a.m.

DEDICATION OF ST. MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL (MICHAELMAS)

TIME AFTER PENTECOST



WE INVITE EVERYONE
TO JOIN US FOR
COFFEE HOUR

DOWNSTAIRS EACH SUNDAY AFTER THE 10:30 LATIN MASS.

SEPTEMBER IS THE MONTH OF OUR LADY OF SORROWS



(Front Cover: The child-martyr St. Agnes receives the heavenly crown. This scene is depicted on the stain glass window of our church by the confessional on the rectory-side. It was dedicated by the mission chapel of St. Joseph's, Needham. At the time this church was built—1910—St. Joseph's in Needham was not yet its own parish, but a mission of Mary Immaculate of Lourdes. St. Joseph's became its own parish in 1917.)

THE SPIRIT OF FANATICISM

In the 1890's and early 1900's a Chicago journalist Peter Finley Dunne created a character he called "Mr. Dooley". The fictional Mr. Dooley would hold forth on all the issues of the day from his perch at a south side Chicago pub, the commentary written out phonetically to convey the Irish colloquialisms of a Roscommon immigrant. One of his observations was on the

definition of a fanatic: "a fanatic is a man that does what he thinks th' Lord wud do if He only knew th' facts iv th' case."

A fanatic is generally understood to be a person who is wildly extravagant in his opinions and views, generally about matters religious. We have been watching on the world-stage over the past few days the convulsions of religious fanaticism on the part of Muslims directed against American diplomatic posts and identifiable institutions on the justification that the USA is responsible for a privately produced anti-Muslim video that appeared on YouTube.

At the same time in the news there is a horrible event in Pakistan involving a mentally handicapped Pakistani Christian girl who has been imprisoned and accused of blasphemy against Islam. The story took an unexpected twist when the imam of the local mosque, who had been inciting his followers against the local Christians, was arrested for having framed the Christian girl by planting defaced pages of a religious book in her bag. His motive (according to the Muslim prayer-caller who went to the police) was to create a pretext for the violent expulsion of Christian families from the neighborhood.

We are told by secularists in the media that the greatest danger facing humanity is "fundamentalism". This is a misnomer. As a technical term, fundamentalism refers to a split in America's mainline Protestant churches at the beginning of the 20th century, between those who wanted to revise Christian belief to accommodate the spirit of the modern age and those who wanted to uphold orthodox Christian belief according to the Protestant interpretation. The five "fundamentals" from which the fundamentalist movement took its name were 1) the Divine Inspiration of the Bible, 2) the Virgin Birth 3) the Bodily Resurrection of Christ, 4) the historical reality of Christ's miracles, and 5) the atoning purpose of His Crucifixion. Belief in such fundamentals is hardly a danger to society.

People who are religiously indifferent or antireligious want to use "fundamentalism" as an all -embracing term of opprobrium for the fixed belief systems of the world's religions, but they often reveal themselves to have an especial animosity towards orthodox Christianity, be it Catholic or Protestant.

What they should be condemning is the spirit of fanaticism and its related spirit obscurantism, which seeks to hinder, on principle, the advancement of knowledge and learning. It is fanaticism and obscurantism on display in the attacks on American interests abroad, the rioting, the murders.

And fanaticism can find its way into any person or group at any given time. It need not be connected to any religion. We can think of the fanaticisms attached to national ethnic identity or to political ideology.

Fortunately, as Catholics, we have built-in protections against the spirit of fanaticism. We have a rule of faith and a living Magisterium to guide us in keeping our balance. We have a well developed moral code to show us what may and may not be done and why. We have the historical examples of what fanaticism has done to disfigure the name of our own Church to keep us humble. And we also have a catholic attitude of prudent openness to the progressive developments of human life in our time.

It is perfectly in keeping with an orthodox, morally straight Catholic belief to be also enlightened, humane, and ever-vigilant against the spirit of fanaticism.

(Fr. Higgins)



PHOTO:
Pope Benedict
XVI meets
Muslim religious
leaders in
Beirut, Lebanon,
last week.

NEWTON UPPER FALLS HERITAGE DAY SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 23rd, 2012: 3-6 p.m. Emerson Playground (Emerson Community Center in case of rain)

Sponsored by the Newton Upper Falls Community
Development Corporation Newton Upper Falls
Council

Outdoor bands, Children's Activities, Arts and Crafts Booths, Face Painting, Food Vendors, Games, BBQ Treats, Entertainment



MILITARY SERVICE PRAYER LIST:

We remember all of our military servicemen and women, especially ... Sgt. Dennis Geary, U.S. Army (Afghanistan), Matthew Simard, 1st Lt., USMC (Afghanistan), Michael Simard, PFC, USMC, Christopher Raymond, 82nd Airborne (Afghanistan), Lance Cpl. Alex Tomchik, USMC, Brian Rainey, US Army (Afghanistan), Joseph Rainey, US Army, Sgt. Kevin James Howard, USMC (Afghanistan), Sgt. Brian Joseph Howard, USMC (Afghanistan), Sgt. William J. Duggan, U.S. Army, 342nd Military Police Detachment, deployed to Afghanistan March, 2010; 2nd Lt. Richard S. Pluta, deployed to Iraq; Sgt. 1st Class David Garduque; ;Sgt. Jeffrey R. Quinn, USMC;

(Please let us know if you would like someone on active duty prayed for by name.)

Pray for Tommy Holcum, severely wounded in a Taliban ambush in Afghanistan.

Pray for Pfc Bowe Bergdahl, captured by the Taliban in Afghanistan.





Calendar of Masses (Intention of the Mass–Special Remarks–Requested by:)

	`	9	1 ,	
SATURDAY September 22nd	4:00 p.m.	Joyce Higgins	Special Intention	Marie Danca
SUNDAY	7:30 a.m.	Pro Populo		
September 23rd The 17th Sunday after Pentecost and the	9:00 a.m.	Intention of the Celebrant		
	10:30 a.m.	St. Padre Pio Edward Boyle		Maria Centofanti Mr. & Mrs. William
25th Sunday of the Pear		David Placko Jack Montazolli	Special Intention	Kasper Pappin Family Pappin Family
		Richard Dykas	Memorial	John & Mary Bennett
	De to	Florence Nowack Theresa Gordon Ann Marie & Gerald Johnston	Memorial Birthday Memorial Special Intention	Bennett Family Betsy Eldridge William & Karen Provencher
S ODGERGON		Derek Schreck	Memorial	Jason R. Pascucci
Street days of the language of humana street figures	5:30 p.m.	Intention of the Celebrant		0
MONDAY September 24th Our Lady of	7:30 a.m.	Purgatorial Society of Mary Immaculate of Lourdes Parish	Memorial	
Ransom	12:30 p.m.	Commemoration of all the Faithful Departed	Memorial	
TUESDAY September 25th	7:30 a.m.	Intention of the Celebrant		
	5:30 p.m.	St. Padre Pio		Maria Centofanti
WEDNESDAY September 26th	7:30 a.m.	Children & Grandchildren	Special Intention	Catherine Mastaj
	12:30 p.m.	Barbara Reidy	Memorial	Claire Brassil
THURSDAY September 27th	7:30 a.m.	Brian Battaglia	Birthday Intention	William & Karen
	5:30 p.m.	Sr. Maria Cecilia da Silva, MICM	Special Intention	Provencher Alison MacKenzie
FRIDAY September 28th	7:30 a.m.	John Moore	Memorial	Catherine Mastaj
	Health of the Sick			
	12:30 p.m.	Special Intention		Irlanda M. Nuñez
SATURDAY September 29th Michaelmas	9:00 a.m.	Denise McNamara Alison MacKenzie Alec Jones Willette Dukam	Memorial Birthday Intention Special Intention Memorial	James McNamara MacKenzie Family Jean Jones John & Mary Bennett
	4:00 p.m.	Cynthia Murphy	2nd Anniversary Memorial	Kerr Family
	D	.1 ()	11	

September 23rd, A.D. 2012 The 17th Sunday after Pentecost and the 25th of the Year Mary Immaculate of Lourdes, Newton/Needham, Massachusetts

HEALTH OF THE SICK

"In every man there is Jesus, but in the sick we see Jesus twice."
—Padre Pio

For all those on our parish prayer list, especially for... Louis Komuves, Sr. Catherine Grandfield, Mary Adams, Hugh Doyle, Lorraine Orlando, Rob Quagan, Paul Wenger, Nathan Johnston, Frank Downey, Janet Pino,



Fr. Carney Gavin, Irene Campana, Gerry Mazzarella, Maureen Nyhen, Francis McNary, Warren Yee, Betty Chrishi, Marie Rappazzini, Mary Trombetta, Helen Reid, Brenda Winegarner, Jean Johnson, Lois Ludwig, Paula Apothacary, Jeanne Ciocca, Sam Adams III, Altair da Silva, Christina Kwash, Kitty Ward, Missy Ochsner, Spagnuolo Family, Katie O'Connell, Janet Bourgeois, Judy Sartell, Lana Tomchik, Matthew Banks, Patrick Rainey, Judy Pederson, Ed Donovan, Danny O'Brien, Evelyn Donovan, Helen Donnelly, Priscilla Brossard, Mary Sims, Billy Hickey, Lee-Anne Ketchum, Arthur Nauss, Rod MacLeod, Monica Wellenstein, Teresa Tambunan, Mary Platt, Sean Monaghan, Bill McIlheny, Sheila Whittle, Michelle Fay, Bobbie Hoffmann, Beverly Balconi, Martial Rainey, Dennis McCarthy, Edward Crestitelli, Sharon Kopchik, Erin Marie Fell, Dominic Cantillo, Theresa Higgins, Lita Uilaoghaire, Norman Alibrandi, Joyce Higgins, Karen Starbird, Jack

Buckley, Edward Fahey, Nancy Daly, Mary Hoffmann, Marie Schroter, Dorothy Alibrandi, Annie Procopio, Marie Danca, David Kase, Thaddeus Davulis, Andrew McCloskey, Barbara Sullivan, Wanda Lempitski, Thomas Corcoran, Tony Palladino, Joe Bellino, Lucia LoPresti, Polly Sullivan, Fred Strom.

"I do not promise to make you happy in this life, but in the next"—Our Lady of Lourdes to St. Bernadette, February 18th, 1858



SPECIAL INTENTION: For all the expectant mothers of our parish family.
"St. Gerard Majella, pray for us"

Prayer for Motherhood:

O good St. Gerard, powerful intercessor before God and Wonderworker of our day, I call upon thee and seek thy aid.

Thou who on this earth didst always fulfil God's designs, help me to do the Holy Will of God. Beseech the Master of Life, from Whom all paternity proceedeth, to render me fruitful in offspring, that I may raise up children to God in this life and heirs to the Kingdom of His Glory in the world to come. Amen.



Hawarden, Wales

The website address is: www.poorclarestmd.org





Requiescant in Pace

Martin Ward, aged 82 (brother of our sexton Sean Ward) Helen Panella Jeffrey Gronski, aged 62 This week's bulletin is sponsored through the generosity of THE FRANCISCAN FRIARS OF THE ATONEMENT

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASSES FOR THE 2012-2013 SCHOOL YEAR:

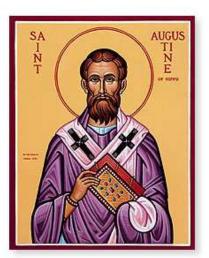
Religious Education Classes for Kindergarten-Grade 5 will begin TODAY, Sunday, September 23rd. Classes will meet in the downstairs church hall, from 8:30-10:00 a.m. (The children will participate in the 9 a.m. parish Mass in the main church after they have had a Children's Liturgy of the Word downstairs.)

Classes for Grades 6-8 (Pre-Confirmation) will start on **October 14th**, from 4:15-6:30 p.m. in the downstairs church hall. Class includes fulfilling the Sunday Mass obligation by attendance at the parish 5:30 p.m. Mass.

Registration will take place on the first day of class. New students are always welcome.

BENEDICTUM BOOK CLUB

The first meeting for the Fall will be held this coming Tuesday, September 25th, 2012, from 10:30 a.m.-12 Noon in the lower church hall of Mary Immaculate of Lourdes. The book for discussion will be:



ON CHRISTIAN TEACHING,

By Saint Augustine of Hippo

For more information, please contact Tina McCormick:

TinaM@post.harvard.edu

617-970-1448

CONFESSIONS ARE HEARD SUNDAYS BEFORE AND AFTER THE 10:30 LATIN MASS

OUR SEPTEMBER WEDDINGS

Congratulations to the following 3 couples who received the Sacrament of Matrimony at Mary Immaculate of Lourdes this month

I. Stewart and Noel Rainey (September 8th)
II. Nick and Laura Keough (September 8th)
III. Steve and Erin Marco (September 15th)

Some milestones in the lives of our parishioners

DOUG KINGSLEY, son of parishioners Doug and Joanie Kingsley has begun his freshman year at Providence College this fall. Doug graduated from St. Sebastian's, Needham, this past spring.

FAMILY ENRICHMENT

"Building Stronger, Happier Families": that is the motto of Family Enrichment. A group of parish couples is inviting fellow parishioners from Mary Immaculate of Lourdes to join them in a course on Matrimonial Love offered by FAMILY ENRICHMENT OF MASSACHUSETTS (www.FEMass.org). The group will be meeting twice a month, beginning in October, 2012, through March, 2013. For more information on the course, please visit the website or contact Tina McCormick at TinaM@post.harvard.edu or 617-970-1448.

SAINT MARY'S, WALTHAM: BIG BAND CONCERT

Dick Donovan's Big Band under the direction of Steve Taddeo will be performing on Monday, September 24th, at 6 p.m., on the front lawn of St. Mary's Church, 133 School Street, Waltham. Please invite your family and friends to come out and enjoy the evening.



LATIN MASS TEXTS

Traditional Propers

Seventeenth Sunday After Pentecost

Vestments: Green

INTROIT: Psalm 118: 137, 124. Thou art just, O Lord, and Thy judgment is right; deal with Thy servant according to Thy mercy. Psalm 118: 1 Blessed are the undefiled in the way: who walk in the law of the Lord. V. Glory be to the Father...

COLLECT: Grant, O Lord, unto Thy people grace to withstand the temptations of the devil, and with pure minds follow Thee, the only God. Through our Lord.

EPISTLE: Ephesians 4:1-6 Brethren: I, a prisoner of the Lord, beseech you that you walk worthy of the vocation in which you are called. With all humility and mildness, with patience, supporting one another in charity, careful to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. One body and one spirit, as you are called in one hope of your calling. One Lord, one faith, one baptism. One God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in us all, who is blessed for ever and ever. Amen.

GRADUAL: Psalm 32: 12, 6 Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord: the people whom He hath chosen for His inheritance. *V*. By the word of the Lord the heavens were established; and all the power of them by the spirit of His mouth.

ALLELUIA: Alleluia, alleluia. *V.* O Lord, hear my prayer; and let my cry come to Thee. Alleluia.

GOSPEL: Matthew 22:34-46 At that time, the Pharisees came to Jesus, and one of them, a doctor of the Law, asked Him, tempting Him: which is the great commandment of the Law? Jesus said to him: Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with thy whole heart, and with thy whole soul and with thy whole mind. This is the greatest and first commandment.

And the second is like to this: Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself. On these two commandments dependent the whole Law and the prophets. And The Pharisees being gathered together, Jesus asked them, saying: what think you of Christ, whose son is He? They say to Him: David's. He saith to them: How then doth David, in spirit, call Him Lord, saying: the Lord said to my Lord: Sit on my right hand until I make Thy enemies Thy footstool? If David then call Him Lord, how is He his son? And no man was able to answer Him a word; neither durst any man, from that day forth, ask Him any more questions.

OFFERTORY: Daniel 9: 9, 10, 18, 19 I, Daniel, prayed to my God, saying: Hear, O Lord, the prayers of Thy servant; show Thy face upon Thy sanctuary, and favourably look down upon this people, upon whom Thy name is invoked, O God.

SECRET We humbly implore Thy majesty, O Lord, that the holy mysteries we are celebrating, may free us both from past sins and future transgressions. Through our Lord.

Preface of the Holy Trinity

COMMUNION: Psalm 75: 12-13 Vow ye, and pray to the Lord your God, all you that round about Him bring presents: to Him that is terrible, even to Him who taketh away the spirit of princes; to the terrible with all the kings of the earth.

POSTCOMMUNION By the grace of Thy sacraments, O almighty God, may our passions be subdued and our eternal salvation assured. Through our Lord.

Music Programs for this Sunday's Masses

Mass of Pope Paul VI (1970 Missal)

September 23rd, A.D. 2012, Saturday vigil, 4 p.m. Sunday 7:30 and 9:00 a.m., & 5:30 p.m.

Twenty-fifth Sunday of the Year

Introit: Cf.Ps 37:38,40,28 Salus populi

"I am the salvation of the people, says the Lord; from whatever tribulations they cry out to me, I will give heed to them; and I will be their Lord for ever."

Kyrie – Chant

Gloria – Missa De Angelis (English) Responsorial Psalm

Gospel Acclamation

Credo I: (extra sheet)

Offertory: Ps 138:7 Si ambulavero

"If I walk in the midst of tribulation You shall preserve my life, O Lord; You shall stretch forth Your hand against the fury of my enemies; Your right hand has delivered me."

Mass Setting: Mass VIII Missa De Angelis

Sanctus(English)

"Mortem tuam annuntiamus, Domine, et tuam resurrectionem confitemur, donec venias"

Lord's Prayer Agnus Dei

Communion: Ps 119:4,5 Tu mandasti

"You have ordered that Your commandments be kept diligently; O that my ways may be guided towards the keeping of Your statutes."

Post Communion Hymn

Salve Regina (Gregorian Chant)

Recessional Hymn:

Jesu, Joy of Our Desiring (Parish Hymnal **No.120**)

Mass of St. Gregory the Great (1962 Missal)

September 23rd, A.D. 2012, Sunday, 10:30 a.m.

Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost

Processional Hymn

Lord, For Thy Tender Mercy's Sake **from Lidley's Prayers** (Richard Farrant c. 1530 –1580)

Asperges: Chant

Introit: Ps. 118:137,124,1

"Justus es, Dómine, et rectum judícium tuum: fac cum servo secúndum misericórdiam tuam.(Psalm) Beáti immaculáti in via: qui ámbulant in lege Dómini."

> Ordinary Prayers: Missa XI Orbis Factor (Kyrie, Gloria, *Creed, Sanctus, Benedictus and Agnus Dei)

Gradual: Ps. 32:12,16

"Beáta gens, cujus est Dóminus Deus eórum: pópulus, quem elégit Dóminus in haereditátem sibi. Verbo Dómini caeli firmáti sunt: et spíritu oris ejus omnis virtus eórum." Alleluia: Ps. 101:2 "Allelúja, allelúja. Dómíne, exáudi oratiónem meam: et clamor meus ad te pervéniat. Allelúja."

Offertory Verse: Dan. 9:4,17-19

"Orávi Deum meum ego Daniel, dicens: Exáudi, Dómine, preces servi tui: illúmina fáciem tuam super sanctuárium tuum: et propítius inténde pópulum istum, super quem invocátum est nomen tuum, Deus."

Offertory Hymn: Salve Regina (Gregorian Chant)

Communion Hymn: Pange Lingua (Gregorian Chant)

Communion Verse: Ps. 75:12-13

"Vovéte, et réddite Dómino Deo vestro omnes, qui in circúito ejus affértis múnera: terríbili et ei, qui aufert spíritum princípum: terríbili apud omnes reges terra."

Recessional Hymn

Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring **BWV 147** (Johann Sebastian Bach d.1750)

Noon Angelus (Chant)

Mary Immaculate of Lourdes Parish

270 Elliot Street Newton, MA 02464 617 244 0558

Parish Staff

PASTOR: FATHER CHARLES JEREMIAH HIGGINS

VISITING ASSISTANT PRIESTS: FATHER ALVARO SILVA

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION: JEAN JOHNSON (DIRECTOR)
PATTI STROM (LATIN MASS CHILDREN'S CATECHISM)

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC: MRS. BOBBIE HOFFMANN

PARISH SECRETARY: MARGIE BIBBO FIRST SACRISTAN: MANNY GOGUEN

SACRISTANS: FRANCIS GALLAGHER, CAMERON MACKENZIE,

TOM GOGUEN, PETER GOGUEN

SEXTON: SEAN WARD (RET. CEMEMTERY SUPERINTENDENT)

RECTORY HOUSEKEEPER: LAURIE SPINELLI

Telephones

Parish Office: 617-244-0558/FAX 617-965-4815

Email: miol@parishmail.com

Website: www.maryimmaculatenewton.org

<u>Parish Cemetery of Saint Mary's, Needham</u> GUARDIAN ESTATE MANAGEMENT INC.

For all Cemetery business, please call the Parish Office: 617-244-0558

Welcome, New Parishioners and Sunday Visitors

Mary Immaculate of Lourdes Parish is a
Canonically open parish of the Archdiocese of
Boston, which has a Traditional Latin Mass
apostolate. Both the ordinary form of the Roman
Rite (1970 Missal) and the extraordinary form
(1962 Missal) are celebrated here with the blessing
of His Eminence Sean Cardinal O'Malley,
Archbishop of Boston. We encourage new
parishioners to please register in the parish and to
introduce yourselves to the Pastor, and we are
always glad to welcome Sunday visitors here to our
beautiful, historic church. We look forward to your
coming again.

Mass Schedule

Sunday: 4:00 PM (Saturday Vigil), 7:30 AM 9:00 AM, 10:30 AM (Traditional Latin), 5:30 PM

Weekdays: Monday—Friday 7:30 AM

Traditional Latin Low Mass:

Mon., Wed. & Fri., 12:30 PM; Tues. & Thurs., 5:30 PM, Sat. 9:00 AM.

<u>Holy Days:</u> if Mon-Fri., 7:30 AM., 12:30, 5:30 & 7:30 PM.; if on Saturday, 9 AM & 12:30 PM

SACRAMENTS

Baptism: Upon request. Please contact Father Higgins.

Penance (Confession):

Saturday 8:30-9:00 A.M. and 3:30-4:00 PM Sunday, before and after the 10:30 a.m. AM Mass, First Fridays (before the 12:30 p.m. Mass)

Matrimony:

Engaged couples should make arrangements with the parish church so as to allow for adequate sacramental preparation (six months), including a Pre-Cana program.

Pastoral Care of the Sick

Anointing of the Sick (for those who are gravely ill or facing serious surgery); **Communion of the Sick for the Homebound:** Please contact Father Higgins.

Parish Mission Statement

"What then is a parish? It is the smallest section of the one universal flock which has been entrusted to Peter

by the Lord. Under the authority of a responsible priest who has received the care of souls from his bishop, the parish is, within the Church of Jesus Christ, the first community of Christian life; it is a community cut to human dimensions, in which the shepherd can know his flock and the flock can know their shepherd ... At the heart of this area, we find the parish church with its bell-tower, its baptistery, its confessional, its altar and tabernacle, a symbol of unity and the centre of community life."

(Pope Paul VI)

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CARDINAL SEÁN'S BLOG

Cardinal Seán shares his reflections & experiences.

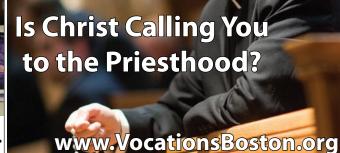
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