

MEETINGS THIS WEEK

- St. Joseph's Parish Council Executive Committee: Tuesday, December 1st, 5:00 p.m., friary.
- St. Joseph's Women's Sodality: Tuesday, December 1st, 6:30 p.m., Fr. Hayes Center.
- St. Joseph Bible Study: Thursday, December 3rd, 7:00 p.m., friary meeting room.



St. Joseph's Knights of Columbus will host Breakfast with Santa next Sunday, December 6th, in the Fr. Hayes Center following the 8:00 and 10:00 a.m. Masses. All are invited.

**CANS AND BOTTLES**

Bring your empty cans and bottles to St. Joseph's. Their Redemption will financially benefit our parish. Through the thoughtfulness of parishioners Trish and Tim Boutot, owners of Boots Bounty Discount Beverage and Redemption Center in South Portland, a mobile collection vehicle will be in the church parking lot near the rear entrance to the church at specific hours each weekend: after the Saturday 4:00 p.m. Mass; after the Sunday 8:00 a.m. Mass; prior to the Sunday 10:00 a.m. Mass and before the Sunday 5:00 p.m. Mass. Drop your redeemable cans and bottles in the container and watch St. Joseph's income grow! The collection will continue throughout the month of December.

STUDYING IN BOSTON? NEED HOUSING?

Check out Bayridge Residence, student housing for college women. Great location, food, and people. Spiritual activities are directed by Opus Dei. FMI, contact Irene Dorgan or Claire Hadley at 617-536-2586, ext. 100.

MERCY AUXILIARY RAFFLE

The Auxiliary to Mercy Hospital is sponsoring a \$10,000 Holiday Raffle. Tickets are \$100 each (ticket sale limited to 250). First prize: \$10,000, Second prize: \$1,000, Third prize: \$500. Winners will be drawn on December 5th. FMI, call 879-3605.

MCAULEY HIGH SCHOOL PLACEMENT TEST

McAuley High School, 631 Stevens Avenue, Portland, will hold its second high school placement test for the class of 2014 on Saturday, December 5th. Students who take this exam will be eligible for an Academic Excellence Full Tuition Scholarship. Registration begins at 8:15 a.m.; exam will end at 11:15 a.m. FMI, call 797-3802. Walk-ins are welcome!

WOMEN'S SODALITY CHRISTMAS LIGHTS

Christmas Lights enrollment tickets are available in the church pews. Each light signifies the remembrance of a departed loved one or the honor of a special individual. A donation of \$2.00 per light is requested. Tickets may be returned in the collection basket or to the friary office. Please mark your envelope as "**Christmas Lights**".

**MITTEN TREE**

During this Christmas season, the Knights of Columbus will again need your help in collecting items for those in need. Please bring hats, mittens, gloves, or scarves for our "mitten tree" in the rear of the church. In addition, a box will be available for baby items, new or used clothing, blankets, and diapers. This box will also be used to collect new or used backpacks in good condition. The backpacks will be given to the homeless. All other gifts will be given to a local charity for distribution to the needy during the Christmas season.

**CDs AVAILABLE**

Just in time for the holidays! On A Wing and a Prayer, the music group that sings under the direction of Louis Philippe at the 5:00 p.m. Mass, has just released its second CD – Volume Two: WE ARE CALLED. The CD includes lots of favorite hymns along with some original songs – *We Are Called, Rain Down, Angels In The Background, Shine Jesus Shine, Many And Great, Remember Me, Unless A Grain Of Wheat, There Is a Longing, The Lord Is My Hope, Mary Did You Know, Merry Christmas and Glory Be, and On a Wing And a Prayer*. The CD only costs \$10 and makes a perfect Christmas gift. Anyone who wishes to get a copy of the new CD (or the first CD) can see Louis Philippe after the 4:30 p.m., and 9:00 a.m. Mass at St. Pius X, or after the 5:00 p.m. Mass at St. Joseph's, or call 857-9002 to place phone orders. Louis also has two solo CDs available, NOEL NOEL (a mix of traditional French Canadian favorites and English songs) and LA VIE EN ROSE (a tribute to Edith Piaf with songs in French and English).

ADOPTION

Women facing unexpected pregnancies deserve to know about all their options. For an understanding ear and information on life affirming choices, call Catholic Charities Maine Birthline, 871-7464, ext. 2670, or email prm@ccmaine.org. All inquiries are strictly confidential.



MASS INTENTIONS

Among the intentions remembered at the Masses during the upcoming week are:

Monday, November 30

8:00 a.m. Holy Souls in Purgatory

Tuesday, December 1

8:00 a.m. Margaret Winchuk McGuigan

Wednesday, December 2

8:00 a.m. Joanne Orlando

Thursday, December 3

8:00 a.m. Living & Deceased Capuchins & Their Benefactors

Friday, December 4

8:00 a.m. Thomas McGrath

Saturday, December 5

8:00 a.m. Alexander Beck
4:00 p.m. Anthony Casale, Sr.

Sunday, December 6

8:00 a.m. Our Parish Family
10:00 a.m. Rosemarie Vaughan
5:00 p.m. Theresa King

MARIE JOSEPH SPIRITUAL CENTER

Marie Joseph Spiritual Center in Biddeford Pool, will offer the following retreats:

One Day Advent Retreat, with Sr. Aline Plante, P.M., December 3rd. Cost \$18. To register, call 284-5671.

Women Come Gather in Faith, with Sr. Sylvia Genesse, P.M., December 2nd. Cost \$10. Bring a bag lunch and Bible to register, call 284-5671.

Young Adults' Advent Retreat: Keeping Our Eyes Fixed on Jesus, with Fr. William Brown, OMV and Fr. David Nicgorski, OMV, December 11th-13th, 2009. In preparation for Christmas, this Advent retreat for young adults in their 20s and 30s will provide an opportunity to discover how the disordered attachments in our lives keep us from ordering our life to Christ and experience the freedom He desires for us. Cost \$145.00. FMI, and to register, call Marie Joseph Spiritual Center at 284-5671.



FATIMA AND BERNADETTE

Camp Fatima for boys and Camp Bernadette for girls are now accepting registrations for the 2010 summer season. The camps, located in the Lakes Region of New Hampshire, offer two-week overnight sessions for children ages 6-15. To request a brochure and DVD, contact Michael Drumm at 603-364-5851, email mdrumm@diocamps.org, or log onto www.diocamps.org.

WOMEN'S SODALITY'S ANNUAL CHRISTMAS PARTY



Members of the St. Joseph's Women's Sodality will hold their Annual Christmas Party on Tuesday, December 1st, at 6:30 p.m., in the Fr. Hayes Center.

Religious Education NEWS

Sweetser Giving Tree: Again, this year we are sponsoring a Giving Tree to help provide gifts for children who are in Sweetser's crisis and residential programs. For many of the children, these are the only gifts they will receive this holiday season. Our "Giving Tree" will be in the back of the church. The gift tags are on the tree. Help a child by taking a tag, purchase a gift and return the gift with tag to the tree or Religious Education Office by **December 11th**. Thank you!



REMINDER:

Our First Penance Ceremony will be on Saturday, December 5th, at 9:00 a.m., in the church, for second graders and their parents in the Religious Education Program and St. Brigid's School.



YOUTH MASS

St. Joseph's Youth Choir will sing at the 10:00 a.m. Mass next Sunday, December 6th. This youth Mass is hosted by the 4th grade Religious Education class.

VERITAS

Veritas, Portland's young adult ministry, invites community members of all ages to the following events: Several Knights from a local Knights of Columbus council will present a talk about their organization, its history, and its mission. If you are interested in learning about this international Catholic men's organization, finding out how to become a Knight, or you already are a Knight, then you're invited. We will meet on November 30th, 6:30 p.m., at Guild Hall, Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, Congress Street, Portland. You can learn more about the Knights of Columbus at <http://www.kofc.org>.

Praise the Lord with music, worship, and Eucharistic Adoration! Hour of Power, December 2nd, at Holy Family Parish, 66 North Avenue, Sanford. To offer your musical talents or for event information, contact Becky at hourofpowerportland@gmail.com or Chris at 653-1429.