

# Holy Family Parish

PO Box 405 – 5 Main Street  
Russell, Massachusetts 01071  
413-862-4418

*February 18, 2018 – First Sunday of Lent*

## Growing Our Parish



Writer Erma Bombeck once said "Volunteers are the only human beings on the face of the earth who reflect this nation's compassion, unselfish caring, patience, and just plain loving one another", and I believe there is merit in her words. We at Holy Family Parish have been very fortunate to have so many committed volunteers who work with us regularly in so many different capacities. Volunteering gives such a great feeling because you know you are making a difference in the lives of others; you are making a difference in your community; you are modeling kindness and love; you are living your faith. One of our great volunteer opportunities is working at the Our Community Table soup kitchen in Westfield. On the first Sunday of each month, a volunteer group and/or family from Holy Family Parish prepares and serves dinner to roughly 60 people less fortunate than ourselves.

Because we want everyone to have the opportunity to be a volunteer group, each group is invited to submit their receipts for the cost of the meal to the church for reimbursement.

We are currently looking for volunteer groups to work at the Our Community Table soup kitchen on the first Sundays of January, February, March and December. Please consider sharing your time and support to those in need.

If you are interested in volunteering, please speak with Jo-Anne Auclair. You may also contact me by email at [yankeefan65@verizon.net](mailto:yankeefan65@verizon.net) or call 848-2029 (home) or call or text 454-3878 (cell).



**CRS- Catholic Relief Services Rice Bowls** - Join our parish community and nearly 14,000 Catholic communities across the United States –in a lifechanging Lenton Journey with CRS Rice Bowl. Pick up your family's rice bowl from the entrance of the Church this weekend, and don't forget to download the CRS Rice Bowl App! Remember, what you give up for Lent changes lives.

**Diocesan Listening Sessions—**  
With Bishop Rozanski

The Following Sessions will be held from 7:00-8:30 pm. All are welcome to attend!



**February 28<sup>th</sup>** –St. John Cantius Hall- Northampton  
**April 12-** St. Thomas Parish – West Springfield

### Questions to be asked:

1. What is the Church doing?
2. What is the Church doing but needs improvement?
3. What should the Church be doing?



OK, Show of hands...  
Who's tired of snow?

**Snow Alert!** Daily Mass and/or Communion Services will be cancelled if the Gateway Regional School District announces a 2-hour delay or cancels classes.

Please check local TV channels for info on school cancellations before heading to Mass!



# MASS SCHEDULE

February 17<sup>th</sup> -25<sup>th</sup> , 2018

## Saturday, February 17<sup>th</sup> Vigil

5:00 p.m. Medical Professionals

## Sunday February 18<sup>th</sup> First Sunday of Lent

8:15 a.m. Homebound/ Hospitalized members of the Church

9:30 a.m. **NO** Faith Formation Classes

11:00 a.m. Those recuperating from Surgery or Serious Illness

## Monday, February 19<sup>th</sup>

8:00 a.m. No Mass or Communion Service

## Tuesday, February 20<sup>th</sup>

8:00 a.m. Faith Formation Teachers and Aides of our Parish

## Wednesday, February 21<sup>st</sup> Saint Peter Damian, Bishop

8:00 a.m. Parish Volunteers

## Thursday, February 22<sup>nd</sup> The Chair of St. Peter the Apostle

7:30 a.m. Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

8:00 a.m. Communion Service

## Friday, February 23<sup>rd</sup>

8:00 a.m. Lucien Belanger † requested by the Pommerville Family

7:00 p.m. Stations of the Cross and Communion Service

## Saturday, February 24<sup>th</sup> Vigil

5:00 p.m. Those Seeking Employment

## Sunday, February 25<sup>th</sup>, Second Sunday of Lent

8:15 a.m. Intentions on our Prayer Board

9:30 a.m. Faith Formation Classes

11:00 a.m. Our Faith Community

There will be **two** collections this weekend at all Masses.

The first collection is the regular **Sunday Offering** and **The Support for Home Missions.**

The Second Collection will be for **Maintenance and Improvements. All Contributions are Greatly Appreciated!**

**During Lent:** Masses on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday are held in the Parish Hall.

Mass/Service on Thursday and Friday are held in the Parish Church.

**Pastor: Fr. Ron F. Sadlowski**  
(413-862-4418)

**Deacon David Baillargeon**  
(413-667-3147 or cell phone: 413-207-1301)

**Faith Formation (Religious Ed) Director:**  
Deb Bogoff ~ 413-888-7412

**Cemetery Superintendent**  
Please contact the parish office

**Administrative Assistant:** Carla Tacke

**Office Hours:**  
Monday-Wednesday 9:00 a.m. to 1 p.m.  
Email: [holyfamily.parish@aol.com](mailto:holyfamily.parish@aol.com)  
Phone/FAX: 413-862-4418

**Parish Website:** [holyfamilyrussell.org](http://holyfamilyrussell.org)

**Baptisms & Marriages:**  
Please call the office at 862-4418 to schedule.

**To request a Mass Intention,**  
**call the office at 862-4418**

**NEW PARISHIONERS—Welcome!**  
**PLEASE CALL THE PARISH OFFICE**  
**TO REGISTER**

# MASS SCHEDULE

**Saturday Vigil:** 5 p.m.

**Sunday Masses:**  
8:15 a.m. & 11 a.m.

**Daily Mass IN PARISH HALL**  
(Mon, Tues, Wed, Fri): 8 a.m.

**Communion Service IN PARISH HALL**  
Thursday 8 a.m.

**Confessions (In Children's Room):**  
Saturday 4:15 to 4:45 p.m.  
Sunday 7:30-8:00am

**Religious Education:**  
Sunday, 9:30 to 10:45 a.m.  
Holy Family Parish, Russell

**Suggested donations for Huntington Food Pantry:** Fruit snacks, Pudding, Flour, Sugar and Dried Milk. Also needed are Pasta and Pasta sauce. Canned soups, broth, chili, corned beef hash, and ravioli. Canned tuna, salmon, crabmeat and chicken. Mac & Cheese. Meals in a Box. Canned fruit, dried fruit, fruit cups, and veggies (including beets). Canned and dried beans. Coffee, tea, bottled water, juice and juice boxes. Instant oatmeal, hot and cold cereals, granola and breakfast bars, peanut butter and jelly, graham crackers, snack crackers, salad dressing, condiments and spices, Gluten Free options.

Place your donations in the blue bin at the entrance of Church.

Monetary donations may be mailed directly to Huntington Food Pantry, PO Box 477, Huntington, MA 01050-0477.

**Lector and Usher Schedule**

<i>Date</i>	<i>Mass</i>	<i>Lector</i>	<i>Ushers</i>
Feb 17	5:00 pm	Diane DeMoss	
Feb 18	8:15 am	Phil Winterson	Del Lavature Mel/Mike Scuderi
	11:00 am	Ellen Hirtle	
Feb 24	5:00 pm	Ginny Hardie	Bill Hardie
Feb 25	8:15 am	Bill Lucardi	Steve Morawski
	11:00 am	Chelsea Edinger	Dave Norton

**Parish Prayer Request Board and Pastoral Visits**

Call Fr Ron at 862-4418 with your prayer requests. Also, if you or a family member will be hospitalized, admitted to a nursing home or rehabilitation facility and would like a Pastoral Visit, please notify Fr Ron.

*Reflection* by Rev. Leonard N. Peterson

Last December, a 49 year old American female tourist was killed in a shark attack off the coast of Costa Rica. It was described as an extremely rare incident. Less rare but equally deadly were the hurricanes that swept into Texas and Louisiana earlier last Fall, which destroyed lives and property. Both the creatures that live in the oceans and the oceans themselves can be so deadly.

But water has another power. It is life giving and life preserving. Dehydration is deadly for our bodies. This is true in a higher realm. This leads to a consideration of the water of Baptism. That takes us to the heart of the annual Lenten season that is upon us. One could say that Lent is all about baptism.

Lent as we know it had a gradual development. In the early days of our Church, it was a period of penance and preparation for new catechumens, those seeking Baptism and entrance to the Church. As the living Church

evolved, Lent became an observance for the whole Christian body, already part of the Church but in need of reform and renewal.

Its hallmarks remained prayer and fasting leading to reform of one's life. All this leading to a glorious rebirth in celebrating the Passion, Death and Resurrection of Jesus Christ in Holy Week.

In the recent past, of the generations before us, a collective groan may have been heard across the Catholic landscape, as six weeks of fasting and abstinence of meat loomed on the horizon.

"What are you Lentening on?" became a familiar question friends asked one another. Cigarettes and alcoholic beverages were put aside by many people, which still remain a good idea. There was a rule that specified, for all the days of Lent except for Sundays, only one full meal and two other light meals for all those aged 21 to 59. Now such fasting and abstinence from meat is required only on Ash Wednesday and the six Fridays of Lent.

Conscientious people wrestled with what the fast meant for them. Cooks called on their creativity to come up with meatless meals. Macaroni and cheese contested with pizza as Friday night staples, before we headed out to church for the evening "Stations of the Cross."

The rigid rules are gone, which can be seen as a good thing. The younger generations that grew up with the "personal choice" concept of Lenten penance nevertheless do so without the constraint of multiple rules. Fortunately, the beautiful devotion of the Stations, lost for a time, has survived and is making a comeback.

The accent is slowly shifting to observing the kind of fasting Scripture recommends, as Isaiah chapter 58 describes: fasting from injustice to others; sharing one's food with the hungry; and giving clothing and shelter to the homeless poor. The goal and the hope is that we all find ourselves at the end of Lent not just six weeks older but better at keeping our baptismal promises. We are then sprinkled with life giving water at Easter Liturgies.

Of course, our Lenten resolve has to be genuine and never half-hearted because Jesus proved on the cross His whole hearted love for each of us. So we shouldn't want to be like the critically-ill lawyer who was found frantically leafing through the Bible in his hospital room. When asked the reason, he replied, "I'm looking for loop holes."



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