

**Church of St. Sebastian**  
**August 24, 2014 — Twenty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**Scheduled Masses For This Week**

**Saturday, August 23, Vigil: 21st Sunday in Ordinary Time**

5:00 pm For our Parishioners

**Sunday, August 24, 21st Sunday in Ordinary Time**

9:00 am Mass

11:00 am Mass

**Monday, August 25, Weekday**

7:00 am Mass

**Tuesday, August 26, Weekday**

7:00 am Sweeda Family

-requested by daughter Sylvia Loferski

**Wednesday, August 27, Saint Monica**

7:00 am Mass

**Thursday, August 28, Saint Augustine, Bishop and Doctor of the Church**

7:00 am Mass

**Friday, August 29, The Passion of Saint John the Baptist**

7:00 am Mass

**Next Weekend Masses**

**Saturday, August 30, Vigil: 22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time**

5:00 pm Edward W. Lawlor, anniversary

-requested by his daughters Patricia and Regina

**Sunday, August 31, 22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time**

9:00 am Thomas Mager

-requested by Tim and Amy Brown

11:00 am Joseph Loferski, wedding anniversary remembrance

-requested by wife Sylvia

**Our Lady's Candle** burns this week as a anniversary remembrance for Edward W, Lawlor, requested by his daughters Patricia and Regina.

You can reserve the Our Lady's Candle by calling the rectory. Your intentions can be in thanksgiving, in memoriam, or for your private intention.

**THE PASTOR'S CORNER**

A prism refracts light. You see them sparkling in the sunlight as they hang in the windows of gift shops. They mimic the cut of diamonds: pear, princess, emerald, heart or radiant shapes. They attract both your eye as well as your wallet/purse.

Today's Gospel poses the ultimate personal response to Jesus. Jesus moves from the "talk" of others (whether accurate or hearsay about who he is) to the extremely personal. In other words, after he elicits the generic assumptions of who he is, he moves to the very personal and specific..."But who do **you** say that I am?" While I was commissioned thirty-six years ago to preach the Gospel, and as I begin this fifth year at the parish, hopefully I present a different facet of our Catholic faith each week to the parish community.

The catechetical level of the average Catholic is very interesting to observe. Whether in baptismal or marriage preparation, sacramental Confession, or in daily conversations, I'm either pleasantly amazed or staggeringly surprised at the level of faith manifested. As I mentioned last weekend, we need persistence in learning about the faith. Honestly, what do you think has been read more recently: *Fifty Shades of Grey* (which I haven't read!) or *The Gospel of Matthew*? As a follow up query, which one has greater impact today in our culture?

When is the last time **you** read any Gospel account from beginning to end; last week...last month... years ago...or never? If not, why not? If someone asks you who Jesus is, how can we (you *and* I) answer the question if we've never read the "Good Book?"

So, getting back to the question, who do you say Jesus is? The answer is found in faith...not feeling. "Faith seeks understanding" (St. Anselm). Our faith prism can only refract only if it captures the Light. Peter gives the correct answer because he slowly came to know him. He spent time with him, he listened to him, he observed him; and eventually died for him. How's **that** for an answer to the ultimately question!

Like the students returning to school...do your daily reading... and learn!



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**PARISH CHOIR**

Weekly rehearsals will begin on Thursday September 18th at 7:00 pm in the Fr. Randall Room. Please consider joining us in preparing each Sunday's 11:00 am Mass and for this year's Christmas Program. For more information, contact our Parish Music Director, Bill Cooper at 401-438-2465.

**SCHOOL SUPPLIES FOR SAINT PATRICK ACADEMY**

The Parish Outreach Committee is soliciting school supplies to assist inner city students at St. Patrick Academy. The following items can be deposited at the front entry of the Church over the next few weeks: **notebooks, loose-leaf paper, pens and pencils.** Thank you for your continued generosity.

**SAVE THE DATE ...SAVE THE DATE**

**OUR 100<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION**

Initial plans are underway to prepare for the **100<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY** of our parish on Saturday, **October 17, 2015.** The Saturday evening Mass will be followed by dinner and dancing at the Wannamoisett Country Club in Rumford. **One table is already reserved!!** Several committees will be formed soon to coordinate this historic event in our parish history. There will be more news as we move forward, in the meantime dig out those old photo albums of yours and share any pictures you may have of the parish. We will digitize them and return the originals to you.

**MONTHLY PRAYERS FOR THE SICK**

Names of friends, family, and fellow parishioners for whom prayers are asked will be listed monthly. If you would like a person included in next month's Prayers for the Sick please call the rectory. *Heather, Peter Pizzarello, Maureen, Caroline, Deborah Bessette, Sue Hazard, Benita, Betty Mullaney, Maureen, Sue, Theresa, and Michelle.*

**HOSPITAL VISITATION**

Parishioners are encouraged to call the parish office if they or a family member would like a pastoral visit either at the hospital or nursing home by Msgr. Darcy. Hospitals no longer inform houses of worship of the admission of patients due to the laws protecting the right to privacy.

**PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY**

The Parish Prayer Shawl Ministry meets on the first and third Tuesday of each month at 7 pm in the Fr. Randall Room. If you are aware of someone who would benefit from receiving a prayer shawl, please call the rectory.

**OUTREACH COMMITTEE PROJECTS**

The Outreach Committee asks that we continue to be mindful of the hungry throughout the summer season. Non-perishable foods are needed year round; so remember to bring a few items to Church each week and place them in the boxes near the choir loft stairs. Also, please remember to continue to bring in your Eastside Marketplace grocery receipts and leave them in the marked box in the vestibule throughout the summer. The parish receives 1% of the total, which is then donated to worthy causes. Thank you.

**WEEKLY SACRIFICIAL GIVING REPORT**

**August 17, 2014**

<b># of Budgets and Checks Received</b>	<b>72</b>
<b>Contributions-Budgets and Checks</b>	<b>\$2,333.00</b>
<b>Loose Contributions</b>	<b>\$ 445.00</b>
<b>Total Offertory</b>	<b>\$3,778.00</b>
<b>Feast of the Assumption</b>	<b>\$ 586.00</b>

Please remember our joint stewardship responsibility to support the parish. You may consider *Parish Giving*, our electronic stewardship program for parish contributions. You can register online on our website [www.stsebastianri.org](http://www.stsebastianri.org).