

**Church of St. Sebastian**  
**March 26, 2017 - Fourth Sunday of Lent**

**MASS INTENTIONS**

**SATURDAY, MARCH 25, VIGIL: FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT**

5:00 pm ZOLA VENTRE, 5th anniversary, by Mr. and Mrs. Charles Hewitt

**SUNDAY, MARCH 26, FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT**

9:00 am INTENTIONS OF PARISHIONERS

11:00 am Mass

**Monday, MARCH 27**

7:00 am FR. CLYDE WALSH

5:30 pm Mass

6:00 pm Stations of the Cross

**Tuesday, MARCH 28**

7:00 am MARCANGELO MONTECALVO

7.25 am Novena Prayers to Our Lady of Perpetual Help

5:30 pm Mass

**Wednesday, MARCH 29**

7:00 am ERIC MONTCALVO

5:30 pm Mass

**Thursday, MARCH 30**

7:00 am FREDERICK & MARY PAGE

5:30 pm FR. RUSSELL B PAGE

**Friday, MARCH 31**

7:00 am SICK OF THE PARISH

5:30 pm Mass

**SATURDAY, APRIL 1, VIGIL: FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT**

5:00 pm ANNE M DANIELS, 11th anniversary, by her husband and family

**SUNDAY, APRIL 2, FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT**

9:00 am Mass

11:00 am BEATRICE D TEMKIN, 1st anniversary, by her family

**My Dear Parishioners,**

I would like to share with you some thoughts on the three basic Lenten disciplines.

1. **FASTING:** Expresses our desire to find happiness in God rather than in the satisfaction of our physical needs. The control we gain over our appetites helps us recognize more deeply that all true and lasting pleasure comes from God. Knowing this, we are freed to gratefully accept food and savor it, or to avoid or limit foods that we know are unhealthy for us. Through fasting, our relationship to ourselves is reoriented to God.

2. **ALMSGIVING:** Provides assistance to the poor among us and helps us recognize God as the true source of our security. Property and wealth exercise less control over us when we give away or share our wealth out of love for God and for others. Almsgiving is a way of bringing our relationship into the orbit of Christ's love.

4. **PRAYER:** Changes our relationship to God. Through prayer, we admit our need for a power that is greater than ourselves. We acknowledge our limitations and let go of the drive to control everything. In the process, we open ourselves to all that God has to offer us.

St. Padre Pio used to pray this prayer during Lent:

*Stay with me, Lord,  
because I am weak  
and I need your strength.  
You are my life  
and without you  
I am without fervor.  
You are my light  
and without you  
I am in darkness.  
Stay with me Lord,  
for I desire to love you  
and always be in your company.  
Stay with me, Jesus, in life with all its dangers,  
I need you. Amen.*

Have a good week.

**Mons. Montecalvo**

**Parish Meetings and Activities**

3/26	Religious Ed	10 am	Classrooms
3/27	Religious Ed	4 pm	Classrooms
	Stations of the Cross	6 pm	Church
3/28	Book Club	7 pm	Fr. Randall Rm

Prayers are asked for these friends, family, and fellow parishioners. If you would like someone included in the Prayers for the Sick please call the rectory. *Bartholomew Steib, Natalie Swift, Leah Davis, Frances Geary, Sandy C., John Haddad, Bob, Sylvia L., and Bob K.*

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**MONTHLY MAINTENANCE COLLECTION**

**NEXT WEEKEND**

Our Monthly Maintenance Collection helps defray the cost of maintaining our beautiful church, rectory and parish grounds. The parish is very fortunate to have staff members who take great pride in keeping our facilities in magnificent shape. A monthly collection of \$3,000 would pay for this ongoing and necessary maintenance. Please be generous to this important collection to continue necessary improvements on our parish property.

Dear Monsignor Montecalvo,

I am writing to extend my sincere appreciation to the parishioners and to the Outreach Committee of St. Sebastian Church for their very generous gift of \$1,783 to our diocesan "Keep the Heat On" program. Please extend my personal gratitude to all who were involved in supporting this important effort.

As important as your financial gift is (and believe me, it is important and I am grateful!) equally important is the spirit of caring and solidarity that inspires your donation. The knowledge that other people care lifts the spirits and warms the hearts of those in need, as surely as the heating assistance warms their homes.

So, once again, thank you very much. May God bless and reward your generosity to those in need.

Sincerely yours,

Thomas J. Tobin

Bishop of Providence

**The Sanctuary Lamp this week is a birthday remembrance for Helen V Lawlor, requested by her daughters Patricia and Regina.**

**LENT 2017**

**LENTEN SCHEDULE**

**Weekday Mass: Monday through Friday at  
7:00 am and 5:30 pm**

**Stations of the Cross - Mondays at 6:00 pm**

**Confessions – Saturdays at 4:00 - 4:45 pm**

**Rice Bowls are available in the vestibule**

**Lenten Parish Mission—March 25 at 6 pm**

**Communal Penance Service to be announced**

**LENTEN PROJECT —**

**IMMIGRATION & REFUGEE SERVICES**

The Community Outreach Committee will be collecting items during Lent for the Diocese of Providence's Immigration & Refugee Services to welcome refugee families who will be arriving in Rhode Island. (The items needed are toiletries (toilet paper, soap, toothpaste, shampoo etc.), cleaning supplies (mop, broom, waste basket, trash bags, etc.) baby products (diapers, bottles, powder, lotion, etc.) and school supplies (notebooks, pens/pencils, backpacks, etc.).

Kindly place the items in the bin located in the vestibule. Any questions, contact Karin Schrott at 401-465-7444 or [karinschrott@gmail.com](mailto:karinschrott@gmail.com).

Thank you for your kindness and support of our Lenten Projects.

**Have you given prayerful consideration to your gift for the 2017 Catholic Charity Appeal? We need each of you to help us be the "Hands of Christ" in supporting the people and the work of the Diocese.**

**Parish Goal: \$79,822.00**

**Actual to Date: \$31,385.00**

**Amount Needed for Goal: \$48,437.00**

**Number of Families: 54**

**Number of Cash Gifts: \$ 27,645.00**

**WEEKLY PARISH FINANCES**

**MARCH 19, 2017**

**Contributions at Mass                 \$ 4,119.00**

**Online Contributions                 \$ 635.00**

**Total Offertory                         \$ 4,754.00**

**Expenses This Week                 \$ 2,412.00**

***A sincere thank you for your support!***

Please consider enrolling in Parish Giving, our electronic stewardship program for parish contributions. You can register online at [www.Parishgiving.org](http://www.Parishgiving.org) or on our parish website at [www.stsebastianri.org](http://www.stsebastianri.org).