

# V Sunday in Ordinary Time

## Worship Schedule

### Saturday, 7 February

3:30 pm ... Confession & Reconciliation  
4 pm ... ☩Bernard & ☩Theresa Young by Elaine Young

### Sunday, 8 February

### V Sunday in Ordinary Time

7:30 am ... Our Parish Family  
9:30 am ... ☩Bob Murphy by Bill & Mary Ellen Biser  
4:30 pm ... Confession & Reconciliation  
5 pm ... ☩Bobby Annan by Jack & Colleen Byrne

### Monday, 9 February

12 pm ... ☩Lucille M. Kelley by Margaret-Ann Moran

### Tuesday, 10 February

### Saint Scholastica

12 pm ... ☩Francis Frisoli by Col. Andrew & Elizabeth Breuder

### Wednesday, 11 February

### Our Lady of Lourdes

### WORLD DAY OF THE SICK

11:30 am ... Confession & Reconciliation  
12 pm ... ☩Robert Cere, Sr., by Lionel & Lillian Coulon  
6 pm ... Healing Mass for the sick

### Thursday, 12 February

8:30 am ... ☩Alice-Marie Cleary Murphy by P. Jerome

### Friday, 13 February

5:30 pm ... Confession & Reconciliation  
6 pm ... ☩Charles Richard by Lorraine Richard

### Saturday, 14 February

### Saints Cyril and Methodius

3:30 pm ... Confession & Reconciliation  
4 pm ... ☩Elmer Soderberg (6th Anniv.) by Jaye Soderberg

### Sunday, 15 February

### VI Sunday in Ordinary Time

7:30 am ... ☩Cecile D. Moore by a friend  
9:30 am ... ☩Henry & ☩Mable Wallich by Anna Wallich  
4:30 pm ... Confession & Reconciliation  
5 pm ... Our Parish Family



**Sanctuary candle** The sanctuary candle burns this week for **Bertrand Tardif** by Bill & Judy Dupere.



**Roots/Routes of Faith! Following in the Footsteps of Saint Paul**—Saint Raphael is planning a **2015 pilgrimage to Greece and Turkey**. The trip looks likely to run **Oct. 7-18**, and will likely include **three nights at sea** as we **cruise key Greek isles in the Aegean!**

Interested? Mark your calendar, and watch for a full itinerary later this month.

**Winter Weather Policy** If the Manchester Public Schools are closed due to weather, all parish facilities and events are canceled — unless otherwise stipulated. Check WMUR-TV for daily Mass cancelations.

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### Sunday, 8 February

9:20 am ... Children's Religious Ed—Parish Hall  
10:30 am ... Coffee and Doughnuts—Parish Hall  
10:45 am ... Children's Choir—SBA Library

### Monday, 9 February

6—7:30 pm ... Youth Ministry/Grades 6-8  
7—8 pm ... Food Pantry

### Tuesday, 10 February

12:30 pm ... Parish Nurse—Church Conf Room  
6:30—8 pm ... Youth Ministry/Grades 9-12

### Thursday, 12 February

7 pm ... Knitting Group—Church Conf Room



**Saint Patrick's Dinner** Our annual Saint Patrick's Dinner will be **Saturday, March 7 at 5 pm**. To purchase tickets (\$15 each), please call 603.494.3941. If you would like to donate, items or funds, towards the event for the raffle prizes, please drop them off at the rectory M-F between 9 am and 4 pm.



### Parish Council

**Parish Pastoral Council openings...** We have two positions open on the Parish Council. Parishioners are invited to vote for **two candidates** during this weekend's Masses.

The Parish Council will meet on **Monday, Feb. 16, at 7pm** in the Parish Hall classroom.

World Day of the Sick



February 11

**World Day of the Sick** Saint Raphael Parish will have a **Mass for healing of the sick on Wednesday, Feb. 11, the Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes, at 6pm** in the chapel. Parishioners and friends of the parish

who desire to receive the Sacrament of the Sick and who are able to attend this Mass are invited to call the office in advance so that materials may be prepared. Call Kerri Stanley at 603.623.2604.



### Giving Hands

The parish knitting and crocheting group will meet on **Thursday, Feb. 12, at 7 pm** in the conference room at the back of the Sanctuary, entering through the side

door. If you would like to learn to knit or crochet and help us make projects that are donated to the community, or if you're an experienced knitter/crocheter who would like join a group of warm-hearted crafters for an evening of fellowship, please come and join us!

## World Day of the Sick, Lourdes show how the ill help build up Kingdom!

When **Bernadette Soubirous** (1844-1879) died, she had suffered severely for some years from tuberculosis. There is irony in that fact, because Bernadette is the famous **Saint Bernadette** (*photo, right*) who experienced visions from the **Blessed Virgin Mary in 1858** and whose steadfast testimony to the extraordinary revelations she had been granted led to the establishment of the great basilica and shrine at **Lourdes** in southern France. Our Lady directed Bernadette to seek the waters bubbling up from the spring by digging, and these waters have long been associated with miraculous healing. And yet, the young visionary herself was not granted such a recovery.

The long association between Mary, her shrine and the sick is the basis for the Church's annual declaration of **Feb. 11, the feast day of Our Lady of Lourdes, as World Day of the Sick**. The Church requires no one to believe in any part of the amazing story of Lourdes, or in any of the great Marian apparitions, but she heartily endorses the cult of veneration of Mary that follows from such belief. Clearly, something special exists in the bond between Mary, often called the **Refuge of the Afflicted**, and the sick.

This coming **Wednesday, Feb. 11**, Saint Raphael will celebrate the feast of Our Lady of Lourdes with a **Mass for the healing of body, mind and soul at 6 p.m. in our chapel**. It will be wonderful opportunity for those members and friends of

the parish who suffer from illness or the effects of aging, as well as their loved ones, to receive the **sacrament of the anointing of the sick** within the liturgy. If the weather is bad and we must cancel, we will reschedule.

As Catholics, we believe that the **ancient practice of anointing the body with oil and the accompanying prayers** provide the occasion for individuals who are suffering to receive **consolation, strengthening and, perhaps, even healing from God**.

The sacrament is not some magic formula of word and action designed to provide immediate relief. It is a **prayerful and humble request, made in faith, that God will provide support and encouragement** in mind,



heart and soul for the sick – and, **if it be his will, healing**. On many occasions, some patients have testified to

genuine physical relief.

Almost everyone I have encountered in the sacrament, however, acknowledges an improvement in attitude. Having received the sacrament, they feel more confident, more hopeful and more resolute as they move forward in their lives.

**Our society makes a strong effort to diminish illness and infirmity**, despite the fact that such conditions surround us all. Our media overwhelm us with images and accounts of the young and the beautiful. The **Church, conversely, recognizes that the sick have inherent dignity and rights as human beings**. Moreover, she teaches us that **the sick have a special mission** precisely because of their weakness.

The sick remind us of humanity's dependence on divine Providence. Their sufferings

share in the redemptive suffering of Christ. The sick can teach us many virtues: patience when we must carry the cross of illness, of hope

when we must look to God's plan for us in this life and in the next, of cooperation when we must rely on and work with our doctors, nurses and technicians, of courage when we are called to fight or endure, of acceptance when medical science has done all it can to assist us.

Perhaps no more public demonstration of this reality is to be found than in the last years of **Pope John Paul II**, now himself a saint, who shouldered the burdens of the papacy even as his physical condition became ever more frail. When he died in **2005**, John Paul II left us a remarkable example of the dignity of the human person in the face of debilitation and, ultimately, death. I imagine that in our families and among our

friends, we have known men and women who lived truly and heroically, patiently and virtuously, even as they faced sickness or death.

Each of us, of course, **must face our own mortality – but happily and blessedly, we need not face it alone**. Christ always attends us as we remember that we must all die in order to return home to the Lord.

Whether our illness or disease is temporary or chronic, we must get on with the business of living in this world and so a healthy reliance on the power of Christ's sacraments, as well as the instruction that comes from the biblical Word of God, makes a huge difference in whether we **experience sickness "well."** For some, infirmity means a time of anger, frustration and even despair. We certainly know that it can be a time of pain, fear and loss. But, for the faithful Christian, for the Catholic looking forward to the Eternal Banquet of Life in the Kingdom of God, **sickness can be a time of insight, humility, prayer and encounter with the Lord**.

**Saint Benedict**, as he so often does in the **Holy Rule**, captures the essence of what sickness can mean for Christians. *"Care of the sick must rank above and before all else, so that they [the sick] may truly be served as Christ, for he said: 'I was sick and you visited me (Mt 25:36),'* and *'What you did for one of these least brothers you did for me (Mt 25:40),'* he writes in **Chapter 36**. He also admonishes the sick in the same chapter that, while they are able, to *"bear in mind that they are served out of honor for God, and let them not by their excessive demands distress their brothers who serve them."* Then Benedict affirms another dimension of this reality by adding, *"Still, sick brothers must be patiently borne with, because serving them leads to a greater reward."*

Later in Chapter 36, Saint Benedict makes provision for special quarters and attendants for the sick, discusses hygiene and diet, and emphasizes that *"the abbot should be extremely careful that they suffer no neglect."*

Read in broad terms, Saint Benedict's teachings certainly **challenge 21<sup>st</sup> century Catholics to recognize the needs of the sick and aging and to respond to them with love and compassion**. I hope we see many of you at our Mass Wednesday evening! Wouldn't it be a great sign of the Kingdom if we had to move from the chapel to the church because of the crowd?!



# February 8, 2015

## Readings for the week of February 8, 2015

**Monday:** Gn 1:1-19; Ps 104:1-2a, 5-6, 10, 12, 24, 35c; Mk 6:53-56; **Tuesday:** Gn 1:20 — 2:4a; Ps 8:4-9; Mk 7:1-13; **Wednesday:** Gn 2:4b-9, 15-17; Ps 104:1-2a, 27-28, 29bc-30; Mk 7:14-23; **Thursday:** Gn 2:18-25; Ps 128:1-5; Mk 7:24-30; **Friday:** Gn 3:1-8; Ps 32:1-2, 5-7; Mk 7:31-37; **Saturday:** Gn 3:9-24; Ps 90:2-6, 12-13; Mk 8:1-10; **Sunday:** Lv 13:1-2, 44-46; Ps 32:1-2, 5, 11; 1 Cor 10:31 — 11:1; Mk 1:40-45



### The Penitential Psalms

This year's Lenten Bible Study will examine the penitential psalms that have been used for devotional practice during Lent since the days of the Early Church. **Our class will**

**meet each Tuesday after the noon Mass from Feb. 17 to March 31, usually around 1 pm.** Please bring a bag lunch if you are hungry – drinks will be provided. Facilitated by Anna Wallich, SRP's pastoral assistant.

We are still looking to increase our group of altar servers **especially for the 4 pm Saturday Vigil, 7:30 am, and 5 pm Sunday Masses.** Typically, candidates are considered as soon as they reach third grade and have made their First Communion. **If you are interested in training to be a server, please contact Kerri Stanley in the rectory at 623.2604 in order to set up a training session.**



### Prayer for the Year of Consecrated Life

O God, throughout the ages you have called women and men to pursue lives of perfect charity through the evangelical counsels of poverty, chastity, and obedience. During this Year of Consecrated Life, we give you thanks for these courageous witnesses of Faith and models of inspiration. Their pursuit of lives teaches us to make a more perfect offering of ourselves to you. Continue to enrich your Church with forth sons and daughters who, having found the pearl of great price, treasure the Kingdom of Heaven above all things. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, make God, for ever and ever. Amen.

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### Prayer for the YEAR OF CONSECRATED LIFE



**Don't forget to pick up your prayer card after Mass today!**

## Weekly Collection

### February 1, 2014

Offertory Regular	\$ 3,438.00
Offertory Make-Up	328.00
Offertory Loose	842.00
Offertory Online Giving	160.00
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$ 4,768.00</b>
Stewardship	\$ 60.00
Solemnity of Mary	\$ 15.00
<b>Food Pantry</b>	<b>\$ 85.00</b>

*Thank you for your generosity!*



### Saint Raphael Food Pantry

Due to the storm, the food pantry was canceled on Monday, Feb. 2. Be sure to LIKE us on our new Facebook Page—**Saint Raphael Food Pantry / Hope Chest** to

get news and updates!

### Parish Giving

Saint Raphael has implemented the online giving option for your convenience. You can access the link via our website,

[www.saint-raphael-parish.com](http://www.saint-raphael-parish.com) and follow the steps to register for automatic payments or just a one time donation. Have questions? Call the rectory at 623.2604 and we will be happy to answer any questions you may have. **Laminated cards are located on the table at the back of the church for you to drop into the collection basket during the offertory collections.**



**Please join us!** Head down to **Shorty's Mexican Roadhouse in Bedford, NH** for an afternoon of great food, and great company on **Tuesday, Feb. 17 from 11:30 am—10 am.** Mention the

Knights of Columbus to your server, and 15% of your total food bill will be donated back to Goffstown, NH Council #5112, which serves and meets at Saint Lawrence and Saint Raphael. This applies to all dine in and take out orders! New members are always welcome, too!



**Congratulations to Saint Raphael CYO High School team, the Avenging Archangels, on their progress this season. They are currently in second place with 4 wins and only 2 losses. Congratulations to the team and their coach, Leo Dionne. Keep up the great work!**



The book group will meet on **Thursday, Feb. 19, at 7 pm** in the church conference room to discuss Theodore Dreiser's *Sister Carrie*. Published in 1900 amid great controversy, the novel offers a gritty portrait of a young woman swept up in and undone by greed and the desire for success. Please join us!