

XVI Sunday in Ordinary Time

Mass Intentions

Sat., July 16 **Our Lady of Mount Carmel**

Mi 2:1-5; Ps 10:1-4, 7-8, 14; Mt 12:14-21

4 pm ... ☩ Charles Richard by Simone Richard

Sun., July 17 **XVI Sunday in Ordinary Time**

Gen 18:1-10a; Ps 15:2-5; Col 1:24-28; Lk 10:38-42

7:30 am ... ☩ Charles Young by Dottie DeCotis

9:30 am ... Our Parish Family

5 pm ... ☩ Robert J. Kirby (1st Anniv.) by Margaret-Ann Moran

Mon., July 18 **Saint Camilus de**

Lelis Mi 6:1-4, 6-8; Ps

50:5-6, 8-9, 16bc-17, 21, 23; Mt 12:38-42

12 pm ... ☩ Romain & ☩ Louise Marcoux by Diane Gallant

Tue., July 19

Mi 7:14-15, 18-20; Ps 85:2-8; Mt 12:46-50

12 pm ... ☩ Robert "Doc" Reel by his family and friends

Wed., July 20 **Saint Apolionaris**

Jer 1:1, 4-10; Ps 71:1-4a, 5-6ab, 15, 17; Mt 13:1-9

12 pm ... ☩ Frank Kenney, Sr. (70th Anniv.) by Anne Kenney

Thur., July 21 **Saint Lawrence of Brindisi**

Jer 2:1-3, 7-8, 12-13; Ps 26:6-7ab, 8-11; Mt 13:10-17

8:30 am ... ☩ Dot, ☩ Ray, & ☩ Roger LaRochelle by Lil LaRochelle

Fri., July 22 **Saint Mary Magdelene**

~ OFFICE CLOSED ~

Jer 3:14-17; Ps 63:2-6, 8-9; Jn 20:1-2, 11-18

6 pm ... ☩ Eileen Fogarty Sullivan by P. Jerome

Sat., July 23 **Saint Bridget**

Jer 7:1-11; Ps 84:3-6a, 8a, 11; Mt 13:24-30

4 pm ... ☩ Don Vandenberghe (63rd Anniv.) by Al Heidenreich

Sun., July 24 **XVII Sunday in Ordinary Time**

Gen 18:20-32; Ps 138:1-3, 6-8; Col 2:12-14; Lk 11:1-13

7:30 am ... ☩ Donald J. Leclerc by Esther & Don Leclerc

9:30 am ... ☩ Edward Heroux by Bridget Heroux

5 pm ... Our Parish Family

 **Sanctuary candle** The sanctuary candle burns this week for ☩ **Flora Myre** by Mikki Margaritis.

 **SUMMER HOURS** The office will be closed on Fridays during the months of July and August throughout the summer.

 **Saint Raphael Food Pantry** On Monday, July 11, the food pantry served **23** families and gave out **37** bags of groceries. We need Mac 'n Cheese and can always use brown paper bags!

 **CLASS OF 2016** Congratulations to **Conor Michael Cashin**, son of Joseph and Suzanne Cashin, who received a B.S. degree in computer game design with a minor in mathematics from Southern NH University of May 14.

Weekly Collection

Weekend of July 10, 2016

Regular Offertory

\$3,479.00 Make-Up Offertory

152.00 Loose Offertory

922.00 Online Parish Giving

250.00 **Total**

\$4,553.00

Stewardship

\$1,837.00 Stewardship Loose

259.90 Stewardship Online Giving

10.00 **Total Stewardship**

\$2,106.00



Catholic Charities

2016 Annual Campaign

Our goal this year is

\$26,000. Thank

you to those who have supported Catholic Charities. To date, your gift has helped us raise **\$12,350** towards our goal. **We are almost halfway there!** Envelopes are located at the back of the church. Thank you for supporting Catholic Charities New Hampshire. Please help us reach our goal!



ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION Bishop Peter A. Libasci of Manchester invites all couples celebrating their 25th, 30th, 35th, 40th, 45th, 50th or beyond Wedding Anniversary (anytime during 2016), to attend a **Special Anniversary Mass**. This celebration will be Oct. 16, 2016 at 2 p.m., at Saint Anselm Abbey Church, Manchester. If

you are celebrating such an anniversary, please contact the parish office **by Aug. 13, 2016**. We will need your **last name, first names and mailing address**. Please also indicate your special anniversary year.



Holy Year Pilgrimage Bishop Libasci is pleased to announce that as part of the observance of the Year of Mercy, he will be leading a diocesan-wide pilgrimage to Washington D.C. Central to this Pilgrimage will be our visit to the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception, America's Catholic Church. There we will have the opportunity to go through the National Holy Year Door! The pilgrimage is scheduled for September 26-28, 2016. For further information contact Canterbury Pilgrimages at [800-653-0017](tel:800-653-0017) or go to www.canterburypilgrimages.com.

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Life Line Screening, a leading provider of community-based preventive health screenings, will offer their affordable, non-invasive and painless health

screenings at St. Raphael Parish on **Sep. 14, 2016**. Five screenings will be offered that scan for potential health problems related to: blocked arteries which is a leading cause of stroke; abdominal aortic aneurysms which can lead to a ruptured aorta; hardening of the arteries in the legs which is a strong predictor of heart disease; atrial fibrillation or irregular heart beat which is closely tied to stroke risk; and a bone density screening, for men and women, used to assess the risk of osteoporosis. Register for a Wellness Package which includes 4 vascular tests and osteoporosis screening from \$149 (\$139 with our member discount). All five screenings take 60-90 minutes to complete. **In order to register for this event and to receive a \$10 discount off any package priced above \$129, please call [1-888-653-6441](tel:1-888-653-6441) or visit www.lifelinescreening.com/community-partners.**



Bishop Guertin

HIGH SCHOOL

Brothers of the Sacred Heart

Cardinal Jumpstart Summer Camp:

August 1-5 The staff at Bishop Guertin High School has created this unique summer camp intended to inspire

and expose students entering 6th through 8th grade to the importance of the STEAM field. Students will have the opportunity to investigate different areas of science, technology, engineering, arts and mathematics. Register today at www.BGHS.org or call 603.889.4107.

Durham Cathedral's gentle welcome underlines 'home' we can find

Earlier this month, I was able to spend some time in England and Ireland in connection with an academic conference. One of the highlights was an excursion to the medieval city of **Durham** and its famous cathedral.

Durham may well be the **greatest Romanesque cathedral in Britain**, and it enjoys a storied history. Begun in **1093**, the cathedral (*photo right*) and its monastic community is a continuation of the monastic settlement on the island of **Lindisfarne**, founded by **Saint Aidan** from Iona in Scotland and itself organized by **Saint Columba** from Ireland. Lindisfarne, like **Iona**, is an island and is located off the northeast coast of England. Originally a Celtic monastic community, it had become Benedictine by the time its monks fled in the wake of repeated **Viking raids**. Among Durham's highlights are the tombs of **Saint Bede the Venerable** and **Saint Cuthbert**, and I was privileged to pray and reflect in both spots in the cathedral. Although the cathedral is now under the control and care of the **Church of England**, our guide made a point of mentioning the cathedral's Benedictine connections. When we were departing, I mentioned to the ladies at the reception desk how much I appreciated the visit, particularly as a Benedictine.

"Oh, well, then you're especially welcome. This is your home too!" said one woman.

I smiled and agreed that **it did indeed feel like home**.

For Christian believers, that is precisely the way we should feel in a chapel, church, cathedral or abbey, isn't it? God's presence should be manifest in ways that speak to heart and mind through prayer, music, art, architecture and reverence. Amid the solemn, there should be **a sense of joy**. As Catholics, we find that truth most especially in the presence of the Eucharist in the tabernacle, but in Anglican and Protestant churches too, some of that same presence of God should be palpable. It surely was in Durham – and it prompted me to think about the **places of worship** that I have found **most meaningful**.

When I think of the opportunities I have had to visit some the great churches in the world, I'm both humbled and amazed. Saint Peter's and Saint John Lateran in Rome; Notre Dame and Sacré Coeur in Paris; Westminster Abbey, Westminster Cathedral and Saint Paul's in London; Salisbury, Canterbury and Durham in England; Saint Mark's in Venice and the



cathedrals of Florence, Siena and Pisa; the National Cathedral and Shrine in Washington; Saint Patrick and Saint John the Divine in New York; churches in Montreal, Dublin, Edinburgh and elsewhere. It leaves me **in awe over the beauty and history** I've experienced.

In truth, however, the churches where I have been most at home are three in number – and, as one might expect, they have all played an important part in my life.

The first is, of course, **my old parish church, Saint Francis of Assisi, in North Adams, MA**. To my great disappointment, the church was closed in 2008, and the Diocese of Springfield seems intent on pulling it down. In its day, however, Saint Francis (*below, left*) was a magnificent structure, its spire soaring heavenward, its stained glass brilliant in the morning and afternoon sun, and its marble altar gleaming. So much of my life, the life of my family and the life of my hometown is wrapped around its pillars. **Organized as a parish in 1863** during the American Civil War, the church was **dedicated in 1869**. I've been promoting new uses for the church for some years, but without power, position or money, it's hard to get much traction.

Whether the church stands in fact or in my memory, Saint Francis will **always be home to me**.

The second church should be no surprise either. From my first visit to **Saint Anselm Abbey** back in 1971 to my monastic profession, ordination and first Mass, the abbey (*below, center*) has been home as well. It is there that the monastic community sings

the daily Liturgy of the Hours, praising God for his greatness, goodness and graciousness. The soaring arches, the abstract but deeply moving windows, the shining white marble of the altar, the intimacy of the Blessed Sacrament Chapel with its lovely and winsome mosaics and powerful voice of the organ never fail to move me.

When I think of the many confreres who have come into **the community, founded in 1889**, or who have been called home to God, I realize that after than a quarter century, my life has become as much a part of the abbey as its bricks and mortar, stone and wood. For a monk, the abbey is our home in deep and abiding ways. This coming Monday, Abbot Mark and the community will **celebrate the 50th anniversary of the dedication** of the abbey church.

Finally, **Saint Raphael has become home too** – and **what a privilege** that has been! As I begin my 15th year of service as pastor of this parish, **established in 1888** as the first Benedictine foundation in New England, I realize that I cannot tell the story of my life – should anyone want to listen! – without discussing the impact of our little stronghold of faith right here in Granite Square on the West Side of Manchester, N.H., just due east of Sweeney Park and not far from the banks of the mighty Merrimack. So many dimensions of life – births, graduations, job changes, divorces, marriages, moves, illnesses, deaths and more – have **ouched and deepened my understanding** of faith, my resources of hope and my experience of love and grace that I shall be forever grateful. In **2014-2015**, Saint Raphael (*below, right*) celebrated the golden anniversary of our "new" church.

Sacred Scripture reminds us that "here, we have no lasting city," that our citizenship ultimately is in heaven. However, throughout the course of life, many of us are blessed in being able to call various spots along the way "home." Those churches in our lives that have felt like home are remarkable places indeed because while they embrace with a sense of home, they point us toward our eternal home.
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