

Mass Intentions

Sat., May 6
4 pm ... ☩ Charles Richard by Simone Richard

Sun., May 7 **IV Sunday of Easter**
7:30 am ... ☩ Anne Foley by Connie Raymond
9:30 am ... ❖ First Communion Recipients
5 pm ... ☩ Bob McGrail (2nd Anniv.) by Sue McGrail

Mon. May 8
12 pm ... ❖ Our Parish Family

Tue., May 9
12 pm ... ☩ Phyllis & ☩ William Wisneski by Teresa Greene

Wed., May 10 **Saint Damien of Molokai**
12 pm ... ☩ Bernadette Lortie by Sue Audy

Thur., May 11
8:30 am ... ☩ Walter L. O'Kelly by P. Jerome

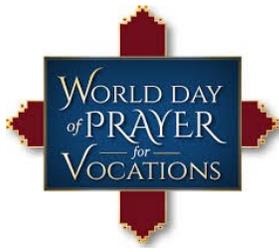
Fri., May 12 **Sts Nereus, Achilleus & Pancras**
6 pm ... ☩ Celia Comenski by Teresa Greene

Sat., May 13 **Our Lady of Fatima**
4 pm ... ☩ Leo & ☩ Doris Moreau by Elaine Plourde

Sun., May 14 **V Sunday of Easter**
7:30 am ... ☩ Mary Marszal by Elaine Wood
9:30 am ... ❖ Our Parish Family
5 pm ... ☩ Christian de Bellerive (6th Anniv.) by the Hunter and Chalifour families

 **Sanctuary candle** The sanctuary candle burns this week for ☩ **Mary Marszal** by Elaine Wood.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF May 7, 2017
Monday: Acts 11:1-18; Ps 42:2-3; 43:3, 4; Jn 10:11-18
Tuesday: Acts 11:19-26; Ps 87:1b-7; Jn 10:22-30
Wednesday: Acts 12:24 — 13:5a; Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8; Jn 12:44-50
Thursday: Acts 13:13-25; Ps 89:2-3, 21-22, 25, 27; Jn 13:16-20
Friday: Acts 13:26-33; Ps 2:6-11ab; Jn 14:1-6
Saturday: Acts 13:44-52; Ps 98:1-4; Jn 14:7-14
Sunday: Acts 6:1-7; Ps 33:1-2, 4-5, 18-19; 1 Pt 2:4-9; Jn 14:1-12

 Today the Church throughout the world prays for vocations. We ask that you make a special effort to ask the Lord for more vocations to the priesthood and religious life by praying for priests who have ministered to you throughout your life, both living and dead; keep our parish priest in your prayers throughout the week; encourage your children to consider a vocation as a priest or religious brother or sister; pray a rosary for more young men and women in our diocese to respond

Weekly Collection

Weekend of April 30, 2017
Regular Offertory \$3,020.00
Make-Up Offertory 299.00
Loose Offertory 431.25
Regular Offertory Online 230.00
Total Offertory \$3,980.25
Stewardship Online \$ 15.00

Last Year: Weekend of May 1, 2016
Total Offertory 4,929.40
Thank you for your generosity!

 **Parish Giving** eGiving ...
Now you can use your credit card or electronic check to support the mission of Saint Raphael Parish. Using electronic giving is easy to do. Go to our website (www.saint-raphael-parish.com) and click on the Giving button. In a few minutes, you can be sure that your gift will work every day of the year to help your parish.

 **The New Saint Raphael Follies & Revue Monday and Tuesday, June 5 and 6, 2017 at 7pm,**
at Saint Anselm College's Dana Center. Tickets are just \$10 and are on sale following all weekend Masses or at the rectory during regular business hours or by calling the rectory at 623.2604. You won't

 **Pentecost Mass and breakfast**
Members of this year's First Communion and Confirmation classes will be honored following the **9:30 am Mass on June 4, Pentecost Sunday, with a breakfast immediately following the Mass.** Please join us and **wear RED**, to honor the Holy Spirit, at whatever Pentecost Mass you plan to attend!

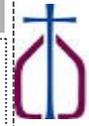
CALENDAR OF EVENTS

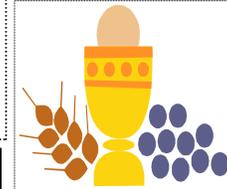
Mon., May 8
6:30 pm ... Youth Ministry
7:00 pm ... Food Pantry

Tue., May 9
12:45 pm ... Parish Nurse

Wed., May 10
7:00 pm ... Knit & Crochet

 **Saint Raphael Food Pantry**
On Monday, May 1, the food pantry served 15 families and gave out 25 bags of groceries.

 **2017 Annual Campaign for Catholic Charities has begun.** Our goal this year is **\$27,500. To date we have \$325 pledged.** Envelopes at the back of the church. Please consider donating to this worthy

 **Congratulations!**
We welcome to the "Table" the following youth who will receive their First Holy Communion at the 9:30 am Mass on May 7: **Anya Rae Blanc, Sarah Elizabeth Donnelly, Erich William Greeb, Jacob Connor Kilrain, Julie Denise Langlois, Levi Emerson Mailloux, Emily Aline Makris, Blessing Meelubari Mawo and Benjamin Gilford Richard.** Welcome!

In Sympathy Please pray for the repose of the soul of ☩ **Catherine Cochran**, who died April 28. Please keep her and her family in prayer.



During the month of May, month of Our Lady, all are welcome to join in the public recitation of the Rosary just before Saturday's 4pm Vigil and Wednesday's noon Masses. Eucharistic Ministers scheduled on these dates are asked to lead the Rosary.

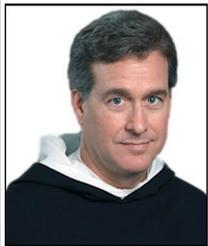
How a shepherd speaks can be a way of carrying the sheep



This past week, the greater part of the **Catholic clergy** serving in **New Hampshire** gathered together at a swanky hotel in the White Mountains. The gathering was not to play a few rounds of golf, throw back a couple of tall ones and then put up the feet and to watch the world go by. Instead, it was to pray and consider the **question of our preaching**. The annual convocation of the Diocese of Manchester is a time for all of us engaged in parochial and related ministries to reflect on who we are and what we do.

The answer to those two questions, in a sense, can be expressed simply in one name, **Jesus Christ**. Obviously, none of us in the 1st century carpenter and itinerant rabbi from Nazareth! But we are his priests, sacramentally configured to Christ in ordination, and summoned by his Mystical Body, the Church, to serve him in the people who come to us for liturgical worship, sacramental service, religious instruction and pastoral counseling. We are, as we used to hear fairly often, an *alter Christus*, “another Christ,” though who we are depends entirely upon God’s mercy and grace. **None of the powers a priest has stems from himself**, but rather from his union with the Lord Jesus in the Holy Spirit. While it is necessary for the priest to look at himself, the issues in his life, the state of his soul and the degree to which he lives in union with Christ, his primary gaze must be directed at **discovering the face of Christ** in all those who come to him.

This year’s convocation invited us to look at our preaching because that is the way the



Gospel texts the Catholic people hear proclaimed each week are understood, interpreted and applied. **Father Peter J. Cameron, O.P.**, (photo, left) the editor of *Magnificat*, the popular monthly liturgical and spiritual guide read by

many people in the U.S., was the presenter for our discussions. (I don’t know why we have the convocation at the Mountain Grand Resort hotel in Whitefield. It is a charming and gracious grand hotel, but the schedule of **talks, discussions** and **workshops** leaves us little or no time even to find the hotel amenities, much less sit around and soak them up! That’s probably just as well. There is, after all, much work to be done – and we weren’t ordained to be feted, fattened or flattered.)

Father Peter, as one expects from



rooted in the Scriptures read in a particular Mass, or a **sermon**, a talk derived from any dimension of Catholic life and devotion, consists not in what we priests say – but rather in what our people hear. That insight is self-evident – when we actually stop to think about it. For too many, however, not enough attention is paid to **how and why people hear certain things and miss others**. He urged us to include a clear proposal, a recommended action, a measure of humor or emotion, logical development and transition and personal credibility in our presentations. At this point, I’m sure some folks are wondering **what did he say about length** – and did Father Jerome hear any of *that*?

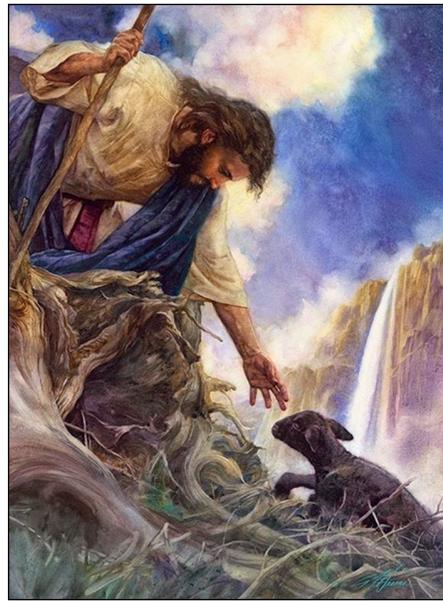
Father Peter’s general idea on length came in his first two talks Monday. Because I had a **late afternoon class** at Saint Anselm, I didn’t reach Whitefield until around 8 p.m., so I had to rely on some of the presbyteral brothers for the content starting off the program. Generally, however, Father Peter’s suggestion was that we have a **“seven to eight-minute” window of opportunity** to reach our people. However, he also authorized longer presentations if the content was good and the delivery engaging. Here, recognizing the difference between self-delusion and actual truth becomes essential! The upshot is that **every priest must strive to do his best**, whether the homily is long or short. But it must be of a length that his listeners can digest.

All this prompted me to think about priests

Dominicans, is an **excellent teacher**. He wove together the classic insights of Aristotle and Saint Thomas Aquinas, with a generous dose from popular television and theater. He reminded us that the **homily**, a generally talk

I have known and how they have reached me in their preaching. I remember old **Msgr. John P. Donahue**, pastor at Saint Francis of Assisi, North Adams, MA, my hometown parish of happy memory. He would thunder on about communism and he never forgot Catholic Charities – even in a wedding homily! But what always drew me to him was his **authenticity and commitment**. **Father Jude J. Gray, O.S.B.**, at Saint Anselm, one of the best homilists I’ve every heard, was a teacher of public speaking – and his suggestions were always something to take seriously. But again, his big heart drew me to his words.

One time, when he was preaching in the abbey, **a little girl started to cry** – relentlessly, piercingly and frenziedly. She would have destroyed any other monk at the pulpit. Father Jude just walked down to the family, likely terrified they would be expelled, asked if he could hold the child, picked her up and, in jig time, had her **cooing in his ear** – and he was launching into the next point of his homily! Maybe that would be a good exercise to practice. We might endeavor to find a



priest whose words have mattered to us, and then to reflect on why those words still echo in our hearts.

Today is the Fourth Sunday of Easter, often called **Good Shepherd Sunday**, a time when the Church asks for prayers for her priests and summons us to look to Jesus, the Good Shepherd, as the model of how we engage our people. The words of Jesus, I think, went directly to the hearts of his listeners who were open to the truth because **the heart of Jesus is an embrace of love and the gaze of Jesus is a beam**

of light and truth. He was, in a word, real and authentic, rooted in truth and the source of love. That is the standard of preaching behind everything Father Peter told us, behind everything we say and, God willing, behind everything we seek to do, to be and to become. I’m grateful for your prayers. © Rev. **Jerome Joseph Day, O.S.B.**