

Mass Intentions

Sat., September 2

8:30 am ... For the Celebrant's Intentions, Five First Saturdays
4 pm ... Bob Gagne by Pat Tremblay

Sun., September 3 XXII in Ordinary Time

7:30 am ... Mary Marszal by Elaine Wood
9:30 am ... Alice Carignan by Armand & Kathy Carignan
5 pm ... Our Parish Family

Mon. September 4 - Labor Day, parish office closed -

9 am ... St. Mother Theresa by Kathleen Perkins & Family

Tue., September 5 Saint Teresa of Calcutta

12 pm ... Dorothy Seidel by Mary Jenkins

Wed., September 6

12 pm ... Thanksgiving to Saint Francis of Assisi & Saint Anthony of Padua for favor received by Lillian Pepin

Thur., September 7

8:30 am ... Robert Kelly by P. Jerome, O.S.B.

Fri., September 8

6 pm ... Stephanie Schehl by Connie Raymond

Sat., September 9 Saint Peter Claver

4 pm ... Katherine Jaskolka by Al & Barbara Heidenreich

Sun., September 10 XXIII in Ordinary Time

7:30 am ... Our Parish Family
9:30 am ... Carrie Kohler (18th Anniv.) by Armand & Kathy Carignan
5 pm ... Frank Connelly by his family

Weekly Collection

Weekend of August 27, 2017

Table with 2 columns: Offertory type and amount. Includes Regular, Make-Up, Loose, Online, Total Offertory, Stewardship Make Up, and Holy Day Make Up.

Last Year: Wknd of Aug. 28, 2016

Total Offertory \$10,337.60

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Mon., September 4 \*\*FOOD PANTRY CLOSED\*\*
Tue., September 5 12:45 pm ... Parish Nurse



Saint Raphael Food Pantry
On Monday, August 28, the Food Pantry served 24 families and gave out 53 bags of food.



Goal: \$27,500
Raised: \$10,925
Balance: \$16,575

We are still quite a bit away from reaching our goal. Please consider helping extend Christ's compassion!



Respect Life Committee's 7th Annual Baby Bottle fundraiser to benefit CareNet Pregnancy Center was a great success! Thank you to all who donated towards the

NH Right to Life is holding its Annual Benefit Banquet Thursday, Oct. 12 at 5:30pm at the Executive Court Banquet Facility, Manchester. Tickets are \$60 per person.

Sanctuary candle The sanctuary candle burns this week for Don & Rita DeCotis by Dottie DeCotis.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF September 3, 2017

Monday: 1 Thes 4:13-18; Ps 96:1, 3-5, 11-13; Lk 4:16-30
Tuesday: 1 Thes 5:1-6, 9-11; Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14; Lk 4:31-37
Wednesday: Col 1:1-8; Ps 52:10-11; Lk 4:38-44
Thursday: Col 1:9-14; Ps 98:2-6; Lk 5:1-11
Friday: Mt 5:1-4a or Rom 8:28-30; Ps 13:6a,b,c; Mt 1:1-16, 18-23 (18-23)
Saturday: Col 1:21-23; Ps 54:3-4, 6, 8; Lk 6:1-5
Sunday: Ez 33:7-9; Ps 95:1-2, 6-9; Rom 13:8-10; Mt 18:15-20

Thank you

Thank you to Bob Clark and Armand Carignan for cleaning the choir loft last week. We are looking forward to the choir's return in just two weeks!



Our SRP Choir will resume singing at the 9:30 am Sunday Mass on Sept. 17. Practices are Thursdays from 7:30-8:45 pm.



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 2017), to attend a Special Anniversary Mass.

In Sympathy

Please pray for the repose of the soul of James McGhee, professor emeritus of theology at Saint Anselm College, who died Aug. 26. P. Jerome, O.S.B. celebrated his funeral Mass Sat. morning at the abbey. Please keep him and his family in prayer.



I Kenneth Penn & Irene Lemire

II Mark Fahey & Ashley Vannasse



## Diana: A princess whose fairy tale gave way to a generous heart

I was just entering the refectory at Saint Anselm Abbey for breakfast, when I heard the news. One of the monks asked me, in a whisper, had I heard the news about **Princess Diana**. I replied, “No, nothing. What’s up?” That’s how I learned of the death of most famous woman in the world and one of the most radiantly beautiful in a traffic accident in a Paris highway tunnel.

Like millions, I had been a fan of **Diana Spencer (1961-1997)** ever since her engagement to **Prince Charles, heir to the British throne**. I was so taken by the



fairy tale dimension of Diana’s story that I got up in the darkness to watch the 1981 wedding ceremony live from Saint Paul’s Cathedral, London, then wrote a newspaper column on why Americans are so fascinated by royalty.

In Diana’s case, it was easy to see why and where the fascination emerged. She was indeed beautiful. She was marrying someone everyone believed to be her Prince Charming. From a shy, retiring but fun-loving child care worker in London, she quickly developed into the **darling of the paparazzi** – the pack of press and freelance photographers who would hound her to her death. Her fashion sense impress. Her smile charmed and disarmed. Her generosity of heart and spirit captivated. Alas, it wasn’t enough to prepare her for the strict decorum and approach to life in the Royal Family, although little could

ready her for the discovery that another woman was the heart’s desire of her husband. In the ensuing years, despite the births of their little boys, the **Princes William and Harry**, the bond between Charles and Diana frayed and snapped. The choices each made left the United



Kingdom and many people elsewhere stunned and disappointed. And yet, despite the scandals and the headlines, **20 years after Diana’s death**, she still captivates as much as ever.

Some of Diana’s most lovely qualities remain undiminished – and they are very much worth consideration and reflection even by those of us who will never travel the world, dance with a star in the White House or wave from the balcony of Buckingham Palace. The qualities that Diana manifested in some poignant ways include **compassion, global concern, spiritual hunger and family love**.

Just at the time Princess Diana came to the international stage, the world was coping with **the AIDS crisis**. Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome and Human Immuno Virus were infecting and killing tens of thousands throughout the Western

world. Initially, great fear surrounded those who were infected. **Fear of transmission left many patients alone and without support**. Princess Diana made a point of visiting AIDS clinics at home and abroad to signal not only her support but also to **remove the stigma** of a disease, often sexually transmitted and the fear of physical contact with patients.

For many, the fact that the majority of patients were gay men generated claims that God was condemning homosexuality. Princess Diana made it clear that we

may have our moral perspective, but that **compassion is always Christ’s answer** to those who suffer. “HIV does not make people dangerous to know, so you can shake their hands and give them a hug: Heaven knows they need it,” she declared. The intensity of the AIDS crisis has lessened substantially in most places, but infections still occur. The disease still develops and patients still need our compassion and concern.

Another area where Princess Diana made an impact was in the removal of land mines. In battle grounds around the globe, land mines were buried to keep out enemies and undesirables. Even long after a conflict was ended, **land**

**mines still lurked under the soil** waiting to rip apart a body, tearing limb from limb, blinding victims and killing many innocents years after the resolution of a war. Even a Princess of Wales cannot change the whole world,

but she could focus attention of governments and international bodies on a lingering threat. **She could help make the world just a little bit better** – and for someone saved from maiming, it makes everything possible.

Princess Diana was photographed in every imaginable context. Her dresses, hair styles,

friends and associates and scenic backgrounds reflected her life of privilege and opportunity. Photos with kings and queens, presidents and prime ministers, Hollywood celebrities, international athletes, Nobel Prize winners, artists, writers, singers and others became daily fare. Yet the photo of Diana that I most preferred is the one where **she is pictured with a little woman in her 80s**, a woman in a white and blue sari, a woman educated by Irish nuns, who spoke with an Albanian accent and who carried an Indian passport. That woman, of course, is the famous Mother Teresa, foundress of the Missionaries of Charity, and now a saint of the Church. The princess looks so tall next to Mother Teresa, but not so tall as to be unable to seek the counsel of a woman of faith who had, as she acknowledges in her own diaries, experienced some moments of darkness and confusion. **Not only did Diana assist Mother Teresa in her work, but she sought her prayer and insight**. Knowing that we need to tend to our spiritual life is the key to genuine happiness and freedom.



Finally, Princess Diana, even in the midst of grief over the collapse of her marriage, and despite the development of new romantic interests, **never forgot her responsibility as the mother of two little boys**. She protected them from the prying eyes of paparazzi. She made sure their education was of a high standard. She wanted them socialized to appreciate the ordinary world and to engage regular people. All things considered, one would be a king



and the other a duke, both extending the monarchy well into the 21<sup>st</sup> century. More important, Diana made certain that they would be good men who would care about their country and her people.

Diana, Princess of Wales, admitted that she was no saint, yet she was, in many ways, a good woman. She was born to privilege and raised to the pinnacle of worldly acclaim, but she likewise was one who never lost the common touch and always remembered compassion, duty and love. May God be good to her! And may we learn some of the lessons she taught so well.

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