

PRAYER PARTNERS



Have you noticed the board of names in the narthex? Please take a name or two as prayer partners during Lent. These names are of persons in RCIA, First Communion or Confirmation. Bring a note or card of congratulations, stating your prayer for that person, to Sr. Harriet by Palm Sunday.

THE PASSION OF THE CHRIST

SUNDAY, MARCH 7TH, 5PM

Youth Ministry will be showing the movie *"The Passion of the Christ"* on Sunday, March 7th, at 5pm. It will be open to the parish community for attendance. **All young people will be required to submit a Permission Slip.** Please consider joining us for this reflection on Jesus Christ's Passion. Please let Cindy know if you plan on attending so we can provide refreshments, 279-8691.

WOMEN'S CLUB SUPPER & PRAYER

MONDAY, MARCH 15TH, 6PM

The next meeting of the St. Charles Women's Club will be on Monday, March 15th at 6pm in the parish hall. We will begin our meeting with our Soup and Bread Supper, followed by Sr. Harriet leading us in the Stations of the Cross. Please join us and bring along a pot of your favorite soup, bread or a dessert. Please RSVP to Kathi at 284-6846 and leave a message as to what you would like to bring. Also, if anyone is in need of a ride, please let Kathi know and we will make arrangements for you.

MARY'S WAY OF THE CROSS

SUNDAY, MARCH 21ST, 4PM

Women of the parish are again invited to participate in Mary's Way of the Cross on Sunday March 21st at 4pm (rehearsal at 2:45). If you are interested in reading one of the stations, please call Peg Gavenonis at 253-7418. Do consider partnering, such as mother/daughter, sister, or best friend teams!



STATIONS OF THE CROSS

MONDAY, MARCH 29TH, 4PM

Children will be leading us as we pray The Way of the Cross on Monday, March 29th at 4pm. Please consider joining us in the chapel.



Sunday (7)	5:00 PM	Youth Ministry / Movie Night / Hall
Monday (8)	4:00 PM	Religious Education
Tuesday (9)	12:30 PM	Craft Group / Hall
	3:30 PM	Religious Education
Thursday (11)	9:00 AM	Stations of the Cross / Chapel
	7:00 PM	Choir Rehearsal / Church
Friday (12)	9:00 AM	Adoration / Chapel (<i>unless a funeral is scheduled</i>)
Saturday (13)	5:00 PM	Confirmation Classes I & II / Hall
Sunday (14)	9:00 AM	First Eucharist Parent Meeting / Chapel
	4:00 PM	Lenten Penance Service / Church
	4:30 PM	RCIA / Hall

Rest in Peace

Dr. George A. Pearse, Jr., brother of Dave Pearse

The calendar is online
www.stcharlesnh.org/calendar.htm
The bulletin is online
www.stcharlesnh.org/weeklybulletin.html



CONFESSION

Lent is the primary time for celebrating the Sacrament of Penance, because Lent is the season for baptismal preparation and baptismal renewal. Early Christian teachers called this sacrament "second Baptism," because it is intended to enable us to start again to live the baptismal life in its fullness. Those who experience the loving mercy of God in the Sacrament of Reconciliation should find themselves standing alongside the newly baptized at Easter filled with great joy at the new life God has given all of us. **Individual Confessions are heard every Saturday afternoon from 3:45 – 4:30 PM in the Confession Room in the back of the Church.**

LENTEN PENANCE SERVICE

SUNDAY, MARCH 14TH, 4PM

A Lenten Penance Service will be held on Sunday, March 14 at 4pm in Church. After a brief reconciliation service, individual confessions will be heard. Visiting priests will be available.

Religious Education - 279-8691

SR. HARRIET CUTTING, S.N.D.
DIRECTOR OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

CINDY OSSOLA
CONFIRMATION & YOUTH MINISTRY COORDINATOR



RCIA meets Sunday, 3/14, and 3/28. Let us pray for Dawne, Aaron and Luis as they near full initiation into the Catholic Church at the Easter Vigil.

The "Elect" and "Recognized" continue their journey to the Easter Sacraments on the 3rd, 4th and 5th Sundays of Lent with the celebration of the Scrutinies. These minor rites, called the "Scrutinies," help those seeking full initiation with the Church to grow deeper in faith and to progress to their goal of full participation in the Eucharist. For the next few Sundays of Lent, at the 10:30 Mass, our parish community will bless Dawne Ackerson, Aaron Greene and Luis Adorno, to help them as they continue their journey. Please pray for them in a special way in the coming weeks.

Monday and Tuesday religious education groups continue all month at the usual times and places. Children are reminded to bring items for learning for the ministry basket.



First Communion

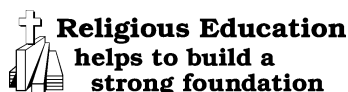
Parents will meet with Fr. Dennis in the chapel on Sunday, March 14 at 9 o'clock. Let us pray for the children preparing for First Eucharist to be celebrated at the 10:30 Mass on May 2.

Stations of the Cross

Children will be leading us as we pray The Way of the Cross on Monday, March 29 at 4pm. Please consider joining us in the chapel.

Confirmation

Confirmation candidates need to plan a time to receive the sacrament of Penance. Lent is a wonderful time period to receive this sacrament as we journey with Jesus Christ. Please refer to the schedule in the bulletin for weekly times as well as the Penance Service in March.



WHY DO WE HAVE TO GO TO CONFESSION?

Because God wants to reach us through the Church, the community of believers (1 Thess. 5:12-13). He wants us to be a family (1 Tim. 3:15). So He gave us spiritual fathers in the priesthood. The priests have the authority to administer His forgiveness to us (CCC 1461). "Whose sins you forgive, they are forgiven. Whose sins you retain, they are retained," Jesus told the apostles (Jn. 20:23).

Actually, we can go "directly" to God, but also through His Church. God sees the two as linked (Lk. 10:16, CCC 858). Our sin, even if we suppose it is only "against God," robs our fellow believers of something — of our being in communion with God and them. It diminishes the power of the Church because sin cuts us off from full communion together in the Holy Spirit (CCC 953). We become like a dead limb, just barely hanging on. Dead limbs can be harmful to the tree (Rom. 11:20-22).

The Church, you see, is like a body (Eph. 5:23, CCC 817). When one member suffers, the whole body suffers. To be reconciled, we must not only repent before God, we must also have reconciliation with the Church. That's the way God wants it (CCC 1469).

Remember what Jesus said we must do if we're making an offering to God and we recall that someone has a grievance against us? He said we should be reconciled with our brother first, then make our offering to God (Mt. 5:21-26). Why is that? Because reconciliation with God and with His people are tied together.

Confession also helps build the virtue of humility. Humility is the first step towards true repentance (Mt. 23:12). Because pride is the root of all sin, an act of humility such as confessing to a priest will help push out the pride in our lives (Ez.16:49-50). St. Teresa of Avila described humility as "honesty." We are able to honestly focus on our faults. In addition, the priest can keep us more objective about our sins. The priest can also give you a concrete "plan of action" to avoid sin in the future. If we go directly to God in the privacy of our own home, we can deceive ourselves. We can either be too harsh or lenient.

(CCC references are for the *Catholic Catechism of the Church*)

CAN YOU HELP?

ATTENTION HOME CRAFTERS

The Craft Ministry has put together some simple dish cloth kits which are knitted and/or crocheted. Kits are available in the parish office. Please sign out one or two kits and return the completed project (s) back to the parish office. For more information please contact Carole Landroche, 279-8129. Other kits will be available throughout the year.

CHURCH SUPPORT

February 27/28

Offertory / Envelopes (113)	\$3,201.75
Offertory / Loose	1,067.25
Heating & Air Conditioning / Envelopes (79)	812.00
Heating & Air Conditioning / Loose	383.00

Total \$5,464.00

OTHER DONATIONS

Memorial Easter Flowers (1)	\$100.00
Debt Reduction 4()	245.00
Religious Education (1)	5.00
Adult Faith Formation (1)	5.00
Catholic Schools 1()	5.00

Total \$360.00

Total Offering & Other Donations \$5,824.00

BUILDING DEBT

Loan from Diocese, 2 /1/10	\$545,000
Principal payments	15,000
Loan from Diocese, 2/28/10	530,000

Pledges receivable	111,000
Projected debt, 6/30/10	\$419,000

If you have any questions or comments on Building Debt information, please contact Peg Gavenonis, 253-7418.
Thank you for your generosity!

Mass Intentions for the Week

Saturday	(6)	Third Sunday of Lent
5:00 PM		Kathy Abelli/Putnam Family
Sunday	(7)	Third Sunday of Lent
8:00 AM		Joe Maroun/Family
10:30 AM		Kathy Abelli/Clark Family
Monday	(8)	Lenten Weekday
8:30 AM		Thomas & Honora Clough/Family
Tuesday	(9)	Lenten Weekday
8:30 AM		Myra DeAngelo/Fountain Family
Wednesday	(10)	No Mass
Thursday	(11)	Lenten Weekday
8:30 AM		Saint Charles Parishioners
Friday	(12)	Lenten Weekday
8:30 AM		Peter Sorrentino/Henry & Mary Hall
Saturday	(13)	Fourth Sunday of Lent
5:00 PM		Joseph Morris/Jack & Jackie Kudzma
Sunday	(14)	Fourth Sunday of Lent
8:00 AM		Mildred Barton/Helen & Jay Heiner
10:30 AM		Frances DiCecca/Clark Family

Sanctuary Lamp

In memory of the deceased members of our parish



Jesus said to them in reply, "Do you think that because these Galileans suffered in this way they were greater sinners than all other Galileans? By no means! But I tell you, if you do not repent, you will all perish as they did!" - Lk 13:2-3

**SECOND COLLECTION – MARCH 13/14
CATHOLIC RELIEF SERVICES
& CATHOLIC HOME MISSIONS**

This collection provides funding for Catholic Relief Services, USCCB Department of Social Development & World Peace, relief work of the Holy Father, USCCB's Migration and Refugee Services, and the Catholic Legal Immigration Network.

The national Catholic Home Missions Appeal provides a unique opportunity for Americans to assist struggling Catholic communities in the United States.

**MANCHESTER DIOCESE & LAKES REGION
CONTACT INFORMATION**

Manchester Diocese

Telephone – 669-3100

Website: www.catholicchurchnh.org

New Hampshire Catholic Charities

Telephone: 1-800-562-5249

Website: www.nh-cc.org

Laconia District Office NH Catholic Charities

17 Gilford Avenue, Laconia, NH 03246-2827

Telephone: 528-3035 – Fax: 524-7153

Email: laconia@nh-cc.org

Holy Trinity Catholic School

50 Church St., Laconia, NH 03246

Telephone: 524-3156 - Fax (603) 527-3534

Website: www.holytrinity.pvt.k12.nh.us

3rd Sunday of Lent - Luke 13: 1-9

Theme: Lent calls us to conversion.

Question of the Week: What steps are you taking this Lent to make sure that your faith bears fruit in good works?

READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF MARCH 7, 2010

Sunday:	Ex 3:1-8a, 13-15/1 Cor 10:1-6, 10-12/Lk 13:1-9
Monday:	2 Kgs 5:1-15b/Lk 4:24-30
Tuesday:	Dn 3:25, 34-43/Mt 18:21-35
Wednesday:	Dt 4:1, 5-9/Mt 5:17-19
Thursday:	Jer 7:23-28/Lk 11:14-23
Friday:	Hos 14:2-10/Mk 12:28-34
Saturday:	Hos 6:1-6/Lk 18:9-14
Next Sunday:	Jos 5:9a, 10-12/2 Cor 5:17-21/Lk 15:1-3, 11-32

THE PEOPLE'S VOTE ON THE DEFINITION OF MARRIAGE

By the Most Reverend John B. McCormack, D.D., Bishop of Manchester

On Tuesday, March 9th, the citizens of many towns in New Hampshire will offer a simple warrant article at their town meetings: that the citizens of New Hampshire should be allowed to vote on an amendment to the New Hampshire Constitution that defines marriage. I urge the citizens of this state to vote on Tuesday in favor of this article.

Since time immemorial, marriage has been understood as committed union between a man and a woman. Up until just a few years ago, few if any people anywhere in the world would have considered that marriage would ever be redefined at all, let alone to involve two people of the same sex. And yet, last year, the New Hampshire Legislature voted to do just that. By the barest of margins – 7 votes in the House and 2 votes in the Senate – the most fundamental institution of our society was changed. Most surprisingly, this change, which affects the fundamental societal relationship of what it means to be married, occurred without consulting the people.

Although the Catholic Church, of course, has its own teachings concerning the nature and the sacredness of marriage, the universal role that marriage plays in our world is something which does not revolve around religious beliefs. It is worth remembering that the nature of marriage as a union between a man and a woman is something which predates Christianity or Judaism, existing in the earliest recorded history.

It is difficult to imagine a more ancient and fundamental institution in our society than marriage. For that reason, as a citizen of New Hampshire, I would have hoped that the legislature would have acted with greater thoughtful consideration and restraint before throwing out thousands of years of tradition. A decision about how our society defines marriage is not something which should depend on the results of a partisan election. The consequence of the marriage vote last year is that, instead of being viewed as the cornerstone of our society, marriage is now going to be viewed as something which is susceptible to being defined and redefined according to the changing will of the legislature. It seems that we are now looking at a future where the definition of marriage will hinge on the attitudes of elected officials in any particular two year legislative session. A constitutional amendment is the only way to resolve this problem.

New Hampshire's founding fathers wisely established the constitutional amendment process to ensure that the people of the state have the final say regarding what our laws are. On a number of occasions throughout our history, we have determined as a citizenry that there are issues which are too important to be left to the decision-making of the legislature. There have been amendments with far less impact on all the people of our state that have been passed. For example, if we think it is essential to have the populace vote on whether highway funds should solely be directed to highway purposes, then surely we can ask the men and women of New Hampshire if they want to redefine marriage.

That is why I urge the citizens of New Hampshire to cast their votes on Tuesday in favor of the warrant articles which would call for the people of New Hampshire to be given the opportunity to vote on how marriage is to be defined under the laws of New Hampshire. I trust the people will support the longstanding meaning of marriage and the value this traditional understanding has in our society. Marriage is too critical to our social fabric to let it unravel on a rushed reaction to a particular view of the moment. Let the people be allowed to decide on this most basic of issues—our legal definition of marriage.

MEMORIAL EASTER FLOWERS



Our Easter Flowers will be a memorial to our loved ones. Please use the special envelope for your contribution and be sure to print the name of the person(s) on the envelope. (Please! print carefully). ***If you do not receive envelopes***, please use a plain envelope and be sure to include your name and the names(s) of the person(s) you would like remembered on our Easter Memorial List. All names will be posted Easter Weekend in the church. All donations and names should be in the office by Thursday, March 25th.