

## WEEKLY MASS INTENTIONS



- Saturday, October 15th, @ 5:00PM, 1st Anniversary Mass for **Mary Zahorodni**, requested by the Zahorodni & Farrell Families.
- Sunday, October 16th, @ 8:00AM, Anniversary Mass for **Arthur Szczepanski**, requested by Mother & Family.
- Sunday, October 16th, 11:00AM, Mass for **Tommy Tanski**, requested by the St. Catherine's Choir.
- Sunday, October 16th, @ 5:00PM, Mass for **Margaret Finneran**, requested by the Pluta Family.
- Monday, October 17th, @ 8:30AM, Mass for **John Keane**, requested by Kathy & Mike Reilley.
- Tuesday, October 18th, @ 8:30AM, Month's Mind Mass for **John Keane**, requested by the O'Bryan Family.
- Saturday, October 22nd, @ 5:00PM, Mass for **Doris & John Lyons**, requested by Jack Lyons.
- Sunday, October 23rd, @ 8:00AM, Mass for **Josephine & Peter Pac**, requested by Pat & Gil Hatch.
- Sunday, October 23rd, @ 11:00AM, Mass for **Patricia Landmann**, requested by Mike & Kathy Reilley.
- Sunday, October 23rd, @ 5:00PM - **Grade 6 Mass**.
- Tuesday, October 25th, @ 8:30AM, 4th Anniversary Mass for **William Shea**, requested by Fay Shea.
- Wednesday, October 26th, @ 8:30AM, 33rd Anniversary Mass for **Rebecca & Steve Balboni**, requested by the Balboni Family.
- Friday, October 28th, @ 8:30AM, 80th Birthday remembrance for **Catherine Lavins**, requested by the O'Bryan Family.

## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS

**GRADE 6 MASS** - The Grade 6 Class Mass will be on Sunday, October 23rd, at the 5:00PM Mass. Attendance is mandatory. Please arrive by 4:30PM for rehearsal. If your child cannot attend this Mass, please contact your child's teacher or Kathi Bonner prior to October 23rd. **Please remember to bring a food item for the Simsbury Food Pantry.**

**GRADE 3 & GRADE 8 PARENTS:** all class lists are on the website with the catechist info. The lists at Henry James are updated each week for all grades.

### THE RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

**CALENDAR FOR 2011/2012** is on the website ([www.stcatherine.info](http://www.stcatherine.info)). There are copies of the calendar on the table at Henry James each Sunday as well.



## SCRIP TIP...

Fall is calling, so head outside!! Whether it's fall sports, hobbies, or clean up around the yard, take advantage of St. Catherine Scrip program to help cover those expenses. Did you know that Cabela's, L.L. Bean & Lands End offer rebates to St. Catherine that are over 10%?! Need a new pair of soccer cleats or football equipment? Try Dick's or the Sports Authority who give us an 8% rebate. If working in your yard is your hobby, buy a Lowe's, Home Depot, Wal-Mart, or Target card. What ever you need, we either have it or can get it...and then you can get busy...outside!

Buy Scrip cards on-line at [www.shopwithscrip.com](http://www.shopwithscrip.com), use the Saint Catherine enrollment code **7A65C56C279L1**. Or stop by the Scrip desk after Mass or look in the Atrium for Scrip order forms. Fill it out and drop it off at the office with your check, we'll process your order! Cards will be sold after Mass.

**Thanks for your support!!!**

## Estate Planning Questions?

Are you confused by the constant changes in estate and tax law? Do you have questions about how to best plan for your family? If so, please plan on joining us for an informative session with estate planning attorney and fellow parishioner Jay Kearns on **Wednesday, October 19th, at 7PM in Russell Hall**. Sponsored by the Parish Legacy Fund, the session will not only help educate parishioners about estate planning but also provide a relaxed and informal setting to ask questions they may have about current estate law.

**If you plan on attending, please RSVP to Peter Pabich at [ppabich@comcast.net](mailto:ppabich@comcast.net) WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU!**

## Offertory Collection for 10/9/11

Weekly Collection:	\$ 9,648.45
Loose Cash/Checks	\$ 1,112.45
Envelopes	\$ 8,536.00
Budgeted for Week:	\$ 9,000.00
Overage:	\$ 648.45
Refurbishment/Repair	\$ 3,818.05
Cathedradicum*	-\$ 530.66
School Tax*	-\$ 530.66
<b>WORLD MISSION SUNDAY COLLECTION - 10/23</b>	



**PUMPKIN BLESSING FOR CHILDREN!**

Please join us for our 4th Annual Pumpkin Blessing on **Sunday, October 30th, at the 11AM Mass**. There will be a party in Russell Hall afterward from 12N-1PM. Families must sign up in advance for this event. A flyer is coming home with all Religious Education children in Grades K-4. Please return it no later than Monday, October 24th.

### UPCOMING MEETINGS

Monday, October 17th, 7PM - **Prayer Shawl Mtg.** - Library  
 Tuesday, October 18th, 7PM - **Men's Club SCC** - Library  
 Tuesday, October 25th, 7PM - **Men's Club Mtg.** - Russell Hall  
 Wednesday, November 9th, 7PM - **RCIA** - Library  
 Parish Council Meeting - TBA



## FROM FATHER MICHAEL...

Recently on a trip to his homeland, the Holy Father, Pope Benedict XVI, spoke before the German Bundestag in the historic Reichstag Building and told them that the world today is becoming more and more secularized, thus the world is losing an understanding of who God is. The pope reiterated the Church's teaching that God is the source, the summit, and the font of life. *We are*, because of Him who is, was, and will always be.

In recent homilies I have tried to give analogies and examples as to how these "lost generations"—those who are ignorant of God versus those who choose not to believe in Him—are going about their everyday lives associating the wonders of this world and life itself not as gifts and blessings from the Almighty, but rather outcomes of human capabilities. The power of secularization, some may call it the cleverness of the evil one, is everywhere: in good families that lead lives that value sports and pleasure activities over worshiping God and doing His good in the world; in government programs and policies that act to devalue, not strengthen, the human person; in TV shows and movies that regularly take directed swipes at faith and God; in our society's almost cavalier attitude toward the power of marriage and the importance of family life in our human lives; in the lack of concern for neighbors; and in the constantly dismissed rituals of faith which are now called antiquated traditions by the highly educated secularites. I watched one of these examples effectively and quietly at work the other evening when I went to see a movie, *The Ides of March*.

One of the lead characters, "Governor Mike Morris," well-played by George Clooney, is seeking the presidential nomination from his party. Having worked in state government and politics the movie is, I believe, sadly very true to life in many ways as it highlights selfishness and abuse of power at the expense of humanity.

In press interview after press interview presidential-hopeful Mike Morris stresses the point that he is not "a Christian, Jew, Muslim or atheist, my religion is written on a piece of paper...the US Constitution...and I will...blah, blah, blah." He then goes on to clinically and all-importantly tell you he was raised a Catholic but does not practice anymore. He wins great applause for this. In campaign stop after stop the movie professes his beliefs and future policies...taking swipes at religious teachings on marriage; and offers an example of terminating a child for the good of the campaign. At a funeral service, a grief stricken father takes an opportunity to "belittle the Church's teaching on the mystery of God's plans..." All are subtle but if one pays attention one can see Hollywood's agenda to neutralize the importance of God and the power of the personhood. I must say that on some issues, such as the death penalty, the presidential hopeful walks right in line with the teachings of the Church, which must have been a mistake, but certainly highlights the incongruity of holding one opinion on abortion and the opposite opinion on the death penalty...thereby "valuizing" human life depending on the good or evil associated with it!

Perhaps because I am a Catholic priest I am reading too much into this movie? No. Don't ever underestimate the power and cleverness of Satan. He has many unwitting and unwilling helpers, unfortunately. I believe the pope to be correct. Our world is fast becoming a world of unbelievers not always because of choice but rather due to a life of non-association with faith or worship or church. Too many have fallen away because it has become a generational thing; their parents did not attend and so

they too do not know of God. It is the opposite of the young girl at Columbine High School who, just before being shot 12 times from three feet away, was asked if she believed in God. She said "yes." And when asked by her potential murderer "Why?" She simply responded, "Because my parents gave me this faith and now I believe on my own." He shot her 12 times without damage to any organ or artery. Miraculously she lived.

As I walked out of the movie I was thinking how sad it must be to have no belief in God, to think this world, this life, is it. If that is a choice by one's own making, so be it—though still sad. But if it is out of ignorance, how terribly unfortunate to live a life thinking and depending on "me" alone. I also thought that night, and do today, that I am blessed as a priest to be here among so many people and so many families who practice their faith—every day and in the midst of many temptations and distractions, yet God is there in their lives in how they live their lives. Taking children to Mass and religious education, joining our youth ministry programs, Feeding the Hungry, in the Pantry Partners, in the Men's Club Tuesday night spiritual discussions, in the ladies knitting prayer shawls for those in need of prayers, in the raking of the neighbors' leaves, in the Comitas meals, in the Lazarus Committees caring at funerals, and on, and on, and on. Take that Hollywood! There is *the* antidote to secularization of this world of which Pope Benedict speaks. And I see abundantly clear in the people who believe and act for the good of others. That is God's plan. Plain and simple.

Twenty-Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time. In today's Gospel we hear the Pharisees asking Jesus about whether it is lawful to pay taxes to Caesar, hoping to entrap the Lord. But Jesus, knowing what they are about, asks, "Whose image is this and whose inscription?" They replied, "Caesar's." At that he said to them, "Then repay to Caesar what belongs to Caesar and to God what belongs to God. In our decisions as to what we do vis-à-vis the government's role in our life versus God's (Church's) role in our lives, all that we need to do is look in the mirror—whose image do we see? Then pay our ultimate allegiance to that reflection.

### Praying for All Souls

During the month of November it is tradition in the Catholic Church to particularly remember the noble souls of our dearly departed. We will do that in a special way here at St. Catherine of Siena.

You will find ALL SOULS envelopes in the vestibule and atrium. Take one, fill out the names of your loved ones who have died, and place them in the collection basket. I keep them and will pray the breviary all month for them. During Masses on Fridays in November we will celebrate morning prayer in the context of Mass for the names of your dearly departed. Let us keep this tradition alive and keep our family and friends' noble souls in our prayers. This is the Communion of Saints in action.

Friday, October 28th — Saturday, October 29th  
From 5 p.m. to 5 p.m.

Our parish will join the Archdiocese of Hartford in adoration of the Blessed Sacrament for the souls of unborn children lost to abortions. Please join us and the Lord in prayer. Registration sheets are in the vestibule and atrium.

**End of Bulletin**  
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