

ST. JOSEPH PARISH

Rev. Daniel C. O'Connell, Pastor

Organist-Music Director: Joseph Cipoletta

Parish Secretary: Fran Ryan

Faith Formation: Pat Harris

Tel: 617-523-4342 Parish Office Hours: Mon-Fri 9:am-3:00pm FAX: 617-523-8459

Sacrament of Penance: Sat 3:15pm

E-Mail: st.josephs01@verizon.net

Website: stjosephboston.com

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, January 7

4:00 PM Gertrude Shea — Living

Sunday, January 8 — Epiphany

9:00Am Arthur Coughlin

11:30AM Mr. and Mrs. Paul Gargan

5:00 PM Joe LaPointe

Monday, January 9

12:10PM Diane and Ryan Patterson

Tuesday, January 10

12:10 PM Open Hearts Memorial Guild

Wednesday, January 11

12:10 PM In Memory of the Marron Family

Thursday, January 12

12:10 PM Paul Rooney

Friday, January 13

12:10 PM Patrick Keaney

Saturday, January 14

4:00PM Rosalie Famiglietti

Sunday, January 15

9:00AM In Memory of the Marron Family

11:30AM Swithen and Jolyon Rodrigues

5:00 PM For the Faithful Departed
thru the Intercession of Mary

Parish Support

OFFERTORY

Clergy Benefit Trust December 24-25 \$4,514.

January 1 \$2,860.

*Thank you for your continuing support.***PLEASE NOTE:** The Archdiocese has changed the scheduled Special Collection for January 15, 2012 to **SUNDAY, JANUARY 22, 2012.** You may use your envelope marked special collection, January 15 in the collection on Sunday, January 22.

MARTIN LUTHER KING DAY

We will celebrate Martin Luther King Day with a Mass on Monday, January 16th at 10:00am!



Martin Luther King

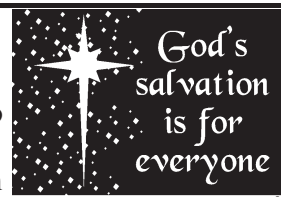
SESQUICENTENNIAL ANSWER: What caused the repeal of the anti-Mass laws? French army and navy units arrived in Boston in 1778 to help fight the British. When an army officer, the Chevalier de St-Sauveur was killed, Boston had a choice of allowing a funeral Mass or losing the French support. A funeral Mass was held in King's Chapel. The large obelisk outside commemorates this event.

EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

The prophet Isaiah returns one more time in this Christmas season, now on the feast of the Epiphany. In the final chapters of Isaiah (chapters 56-66), the prophet is proclaiming God's word to the Israelites who have returned to Jerusalem after the Exile in Babylon. What at first was a joyful return, has turned inward. Those who have taken up positions of power after returning to Jerusalem have marginalized even the Israelites who remained in the land during the Babylonian Captivity, not to mention the people of other nations whose defeat of Babylon actually facilitated Israel's restoration. In response, Isaiah proclaims that God's salvation is for all. Every nation will stream to Jerusalem to worship the Lord.

Isaiah's message is reflected in Matthew's Gospel as he tells the story of the birth of Jesus. Christ comes for everyone! The followers of Christ in Matthew's community are not only the Jews who became Christians, but also the Gentiles who came to believe that Jesus was the Messiah. In Matthew's Gospel this latter group is represented by the Magi, who come from afar, while the Jewish Christians, who believe in God's word, are represented by Joseph, the faithful spouse of Mary.

While the Epiphany is a great and joyous feast, it contains a cautionary message as well. God's salvation is for everyone. That means that no one can be excluded from the invitation to follow Christ. And once they choose to do so, they become our brothers and sisters in the Lord. If that is the case, when we demean, cast aside, or ignore others, we open ourselves to the same condemnation with which Isaiah castigated the powerful in Jerusalem in the sixth century BC. If we add statues of the Magi to our Nativity scene, it also means that we must add the stranger, the foreigner, the person not like us, to our life in Christ.



**REFLECTIONS FROM
FATHER CHARLES SHEEHY**

Many years ago a High School boy was really shocked to learn that the day after Christmas was really a pretty empty one. The big day was all over as far as the big city was concerned.

Actually it made a lot of sense for many people. Many children had toys but the really blessed were newly born children. Now tiny girls and boys were wonderfully loved. Catholic children became children in Baptism.

So the real Christmas was wonderfully there, just beginning for new parents. We may have wondered in days gone by why some countries waited for that mysterious Epiphany, the coming of the Wise men with their gifts of Gold, Frankincense and Myrrh.

The Catechism of the Catholic Church shows Jesus as: "The First Born Son who sets us free by His suffering and death." His resurrection speaks to us: whatsoever you do to the least of my people that you do unto me.

When first published in English a very scholarly person read the whole Catechism. We can be quite sure that few others did the same.

There are times when it can be very helpful.

***HELP SUPPORT THE PARISH
WE LOVE***

Our 150th Celebration

GALA FUND RAISING DINNER

Less than two weeks away!

Do you have your ticket?

WHEN: JANUARY 20, 2012 TIME: 7:00pm

WHERE: MILLENNIUM BOSTONIAN HOTEL

CHRISTMAS THANK YOU!!!

Thanks to all of you who donated to our Christmas Flower Offering to help beautify our church and allow us to keep your beloved ones in our prayers.

Thanks to all who helped to make our Christmas Celebrations and Church as beautiful as it was. Working together the task was accomplished in a wonderful way. When we work together, His work continues!

Thanks too, for all who gifted the Rectory in the many ways you did. Your kindness and Christmas 'goodies' were appreciated by all.

Thank You!
Father Dan



**RELIGIOUS
EDUCATION NEWS**

A special Thank-you goes out to everyone who participated in the Christmas Pageant on Christmas Eve. You all did a wonderful job of explaining the Christmas Story to the Parish. We want to especially thank Tracey Flaherty and Michelle Vilms for all their work for the Pageant. God Bless you all.

January: Religious Education: 8th, 22nd at 10:00 AM
in the Parish Hall

Family Mass: 22nd at 9:00 AM

Reconciliation Preparation Meeting

Parent Meeting: January 11, 7:00PM, this Wednesday, in the Parish Hall

This meeting is for one parent/adult of everyone making First Penance on February 5, at 2:00PM.

Your Christmas Cards and religious pictures are needed by our Religious Education Program. Please leave in the box by the Kids Corner at the back of the Church. Thank you!

"Please donate all your **can tabs** to support the Burn Camp at Shriners Hospital in Boston. You can deposit your **can tabs** in the container at the back of the church near the door. Thank you for your help with this Parish Project."

GIVING TREE

Thanks to your kindness we were able to raise \$804.00 for the poor in Haiti. Our contacts, working through Catholic Relief Services, asked if we could send the money to the Timkatec Children's Center which is an orphanage offering help, assistance and joy to children devastated by the problems that exist in their country. Your love will bring many a smile to these children during this entire Season. Thank you and God Bless.

WHAT GOES UP MUST COME DOWN This Sunday **after the 5:00pm Mass** your help is needed to take down our Christmas Decorations. Many hands make light work. It will take but a moment, won't you join us,

2012 CALENDAR

PLEASE TAKE ONE HOME! Thank You to the Boston Harborside Home of -J.S. Waterman and Sons · Waring · Langone, 580 Commercial St, Boston, for donating the 2012 calendars to St. Joseph Parish. Hopefully you have all gotten your 2012 calendars that are available at the back of the church.