SACRAMENTS

Baptism: The fourth Sunday of each month. Registered parishioners should contact the parish office in advance of the birth of their child to prepare for baptism.

Marriage: Couples must meet with a priest 12 months in advance of their wedding date.

Communion to the Homebound and Anointing of the Sick: Please notify the parish office.

Holy Orders: If you would like to serve God by preaching the Word of God, by celebrating the Sacraments, and by serving those in need, you may have a vocation to the priesthood. Please speak to a priest today or contact the Office of Vocations at 401-831-8011.

MASS SCHEDULE
Saturday: 4:00 p.m.
Sunday: 9:00 a.m.
11:15 a.m.

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday: 8:00 a.m. in the Chapel

Confessions: Saturday 3:15 p.m.-3:45 p.m.

Holy Day Mass: 8:00 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. in the Main Church

Parish Registration: Every family in the parish should be registered. New families (including newly married) should register by completing a parish registration form available at the Church Rectory

PASTOR
Rev. Msgr. Raymond B. Bastia

IN RESIDENCE
Rev. Edward A. Sousa, Jr.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION DIRECTOR
Virginia DiMasi (401-258-4558)

PASTORAL MINISTER
Sr. Mary Ellen Maytum, R.S.M

ORGANIST
Donald Dame

CANTOR
Katie J. Kleyla

PARISH SECRETARY
Laurie Ricciardi

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The Tree of the Cross

In 2013 on the Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross, at the Mass he celebrated in the Chapel of the Domus Sanctae Marthae in Rome, Pope Francis delivered a homily about the “love story” of the Cross:

In commenting on the day’s readings — from the Letter to the Philippians (2:6-11) and from John’s Gospel (3:13-17) — the Pope said we can grasp “something” of the mystery of the Cross “on our knees in prayer,” and in “tears” as well. Indeed, tears actually “bring us close to this mystery.” “Without shedding tears,” and especially without “heartfelt tears, we shall never understand this mystery.” It is the “weeping of the penitent, the weeping of our brother and sister who see so many human miseries and likewise see them in Jesus, on his knees weeping.”

The Church Fathers, the Pope said, “always compared the tree of Paradise with the tree of sin; the tree that bears the fruit of the knowledge of good and evil, of knowledge, with the tree of the Cross.” The tree of Paradise “did such great harm,” whereas the tree of the Cross “brings us salvation and health, and pardons that harm.” It is this “itinerary that human history follows.” It is a way that enables us “to encounter Jesus Christ the Redeemer, who lays down his life for love.”

The tree of the Cross tells the story of God who “wanted to take on our history and to walk beside us.” In the First Reading the Apostle Paul “sums up the whole of God’s story in few words: Jesus Christ, though he was in the form of God, did not consider it a privilege to be like God.”

Rather, the Pope explained, he “emptied himself, taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men.” Indeed Christ “humbled himself and became obedient unto death, even death on a Cross.” This is “the itinerary that God’s story followed.” But, the Bishop of Rome wondered, why did it do so? The answer is found in Jesus’ words to Nicodemus: “For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.” God, Pope Francis concluded, “took this itinerary out of love; there is no other explanation.”

L’Osservatore Romano

The Most Holy Name of Mary

September 12

The Feast of the Most Holy Name of the Blessed Virgin Mary is an optional memorial celebrated in the liturgical calendar of the Catholic Church on 12 September. It has been a universal Roman Rite feast since 1684, when Pope Innocent XI included it in the General Roman Calendar to commemorate the victory at the Battle of Vienna in 1683. It was removed from the Church calendar by Annibale Bugnini, Secretary to the Commission for Liturgical Reform during Vatican II, but restored by Pope John Paul II in 2002, along with the Feast of the Holy Name of Jesus.

In Hebrew, the name Mary is Miryam. In Our Lady’s time, Aramaic was the spoken language, and the form of the name then in use was Mariam. In the book, The Wondrous Childhood of the Most Holy Mother of God, St. John Eudes offers meditations on seventeen interpretations of the name ”Mary,” taken from the writings of ”the Holy Fathers and by some celebrated Doctors”. The name of Mary is venerated because it belongs to the Mother of God. Meanings ascribed to Mary’s name by the early Christian writers and perpetuated by the Greek Fathers include: "Bitter Sea," "Myrrh of the Sea," "The Enlightened One," "The Light Giver," and especially "Star of the Sea." Stella Maris was by far the favored interpretation. These etymologies suppose that the Hebrew form of the name is Maryãm, not Miryãm. The Hebrew name of Mary, Miryãm, (in Latin Domina) means lady or sovereign.
About Mass Intentions
It is the long-standing tradition of the Church that each Mass have an intention, for either a living person, a person who has died, or a particular intention.

The value of ONE Mass is beyond our imagining, and the practice of having a Mass offered on someone else’s behalf is a reminder of our profound interconnectedness as members of the Body of Christ. Perhaps there is a deceased relative, a living friend or family member in need, or even an intention that you hold in your heart.

The 2018 Mass Book is available to book your Masses in advance for the upcoming year.

Worldwide Marriage Encounter
“Owe nothing to anyone, except to love one another; for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law.” Discover how to more easily love one another by attending a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend. The next WWME Weekends are Sep 16-17, 2017 in Medway, MA and Oct 21-22, 2017 in Contoocook, NH. For more information, call Stephen & Michelle O’Leary at 800-710-9963 or visit us at https://wwmema.org/.

AROUND THE DIOCESE:
WARWICK — Called By Name Ministry will offer The Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius of Loyola in an Everyday Life Retreat. This is a lived experience of praying, meditating and reflecting on Scripture in order to grow in union with God and to discern God’s will. The retreat will be offered each Thursday evening September 21, 2017 - May 10, 2018 from 7 - 8:30 p.m. at St. Catherine’s Church, 3252 Post Road. For more information, contact calledbynameri@gmail.com or call Deborah Notarianni at 401-742-7537 or Rita Pratt at 401-323-6719.

JOHNSTON — The Social Ministry of St. Brigid’s Church, 1231 Plainfield St., will sponsor their Italian Festival on Sunday September 24 at noon in the church hall. Tickets will be going on sale in the foyer of the church beginning the weekend of August 26 and 27. Ticket prices are $25 per person, children 6 - 10 are $10 and children 5 and under are free. A full course Italian dinner is being donated by the popular Marchetti’s Restaurant in Cranston along with a wine toast and home-made deserts by the ministry. For more information please contact Millie at 949-0617.

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING:
Monday September 11, 2017 at 6:30 p.m. in the Rectory.

SACRIFICIAL GIVING
September 3, 2017

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