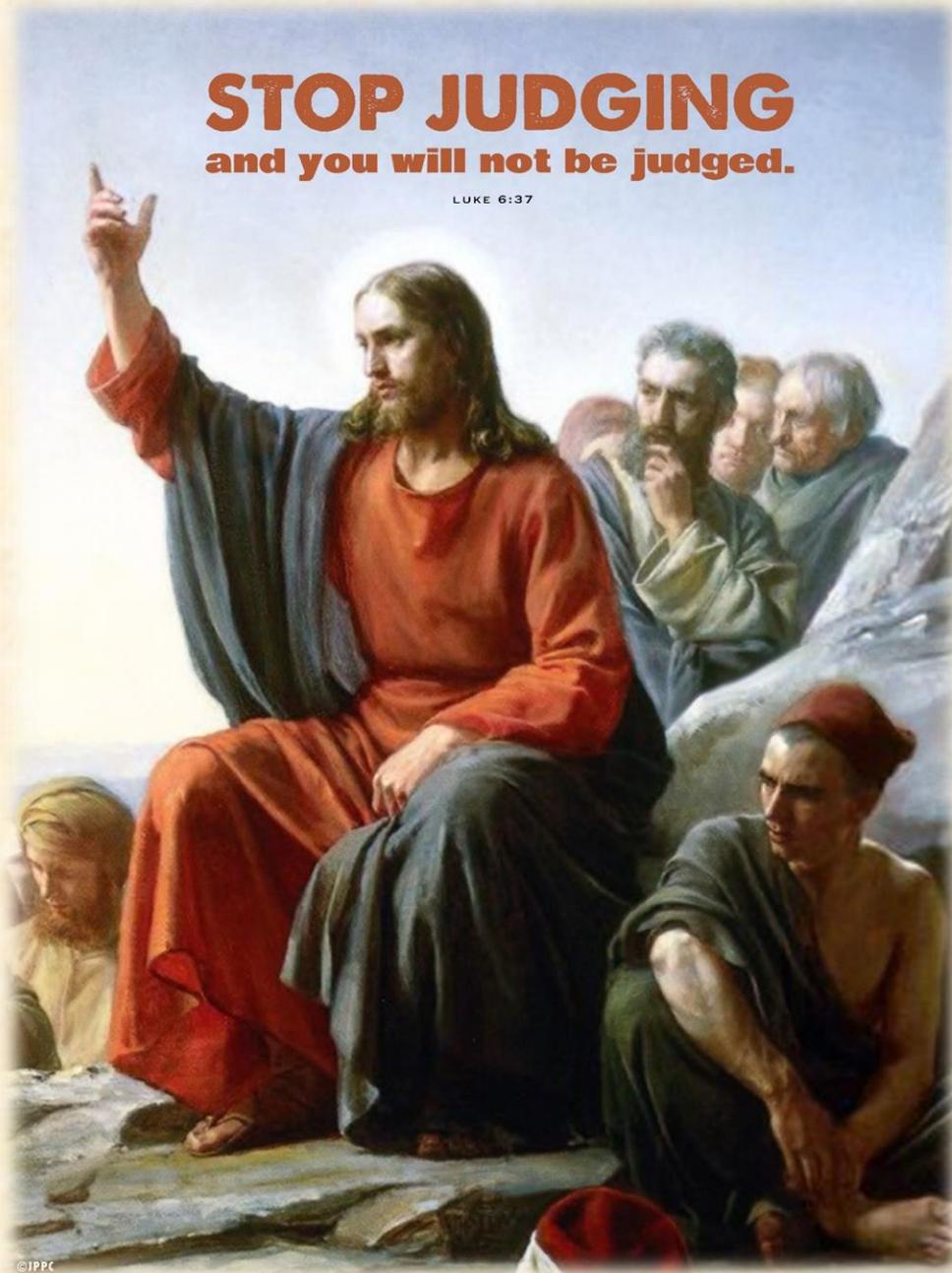


Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

February 20, 2022

STOP JUDGING
and you will not be judged.

LUKE 6:37



Saint Mary 14 Park Street + Sacred Heart 58 Church Street + Saint Mark 105 Stanley Street
North Attleborough, Massachusetts

Transfiguration of the Lord Parish

Rev. Rodney E. Thibault, J.C.L., Pastor

Rev. Deacon Joseph E. Regali

Mrs. Monica T. Forte, Administrative Assistant

Mrs. Jean Howard, Business Manager

Mrs. Elaine Corvese, Director of Religious Education, Grades 1-8 & Confirmation

Ms. Nicole Barton, Music Director

Mr. Miguel Peixoto, Buildings Supervisor

Mr. James Kitsock, Building Maintenance

Saint Mary-Sacred Heart School

Mrs. Charlotte Lourenco, Principal

57 Richards Avenue,

North Attleborough, Massachusetts 02760

(508) 695-3072 FAX (508) 695-9074

smsh@smsh.dfrcs.org www.smshschool.com

Saint Mary Cemetery

Mr. Jarrod Ward, Superintendent

Towne Street

North Attleborough, Massachusetts 02760

(508) 695-1173 or email ripco@comcast.net

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saint Mary Church • Saturday 3:00 pm

Sacrament of Baptism

Baptisms are currently scheduled on scheduled Saturday afternoons at 1:00 pm, with a limit of four families at each baptism. Please contact Monica Forte in the office at stmaryna@noozi.com for more information and available dates.

Sacrament of Marriage

Marriage is usually celebrated on Saturday morning and afternoon. Please contact the Parish Office at least nine months in advance to begin preparation.

Sacrament of the Sick

Pastoral care to those in need of the sacrament of the sick is arranged with our parish priests. Please call the parish office to arrange a visit.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Adoration is offered on the 1st Tuesday of each month in Saint Mary Church, beginning at 9:00 am with Morning Prayer and ending at 6:00 pm with Evening Prayer and Benediction.

Parish Offering

If you are attending in person, you can drop your contribution in the collection basket. If you prefer, you are welcome to mail your budget envelope to the parish office, at 14 Park Street, North Attleborough, MA 02760. You may also leave your envelope in the drop box located outside the parish office door, to the right on the landing. Or you can use this link for on line giving:

<https://app.gabrielsoft.com/guest/mafrdiocese/31>

Thank you for your ongoing support!

Masses

Masks: Please wear a mask at Mass. *The Diocese of Fall River is strongly encouraging all parishioners to follow the CDC guidance and to wear a mask while attending Mass or any other liturgical celebration unless unable because of a medical condition or under the age of 2.* Please be considerate of those around you and allow for space near those not in your family whenever possible.

Masses will continue to be available livestreamed (technology permitting) and saved online for later viewing. To see the Transfiguration of the Lord Facebook page to see live Masses you can go to:

<https://www.facebook.com/Transfiguration-of-the-Lord-Parish-North-Attleborough-106529317647894/>

If you do not have a Facebook account, click "not now" under the log in information.

You may also find us on YouTube at

<https://tinyurl.com/ysfaxaty>

Parish Office

14 Park Street, North Attleborough,
Massachusetts 02760

Parish e-mail • stmaryna@noozi.com

Parish website • www.saintmaryna.com

Phone (508) 695-6161 Fax (508) 695-5248

Faith Formation e-mail • smshff@comcast.net

MASS Intentions

February 20– 7th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Saturday February 19
4:00 pm Richard “Dick” Quinn

Sunday February 20
8:00 am Tom Sirois

Sunday February 20
9:30 am Bob Schnack

Sunday February 20
11:00 am Margaret Carroll

Monday February 21
No Daily Mass – Presidents’ Day

Tuesday February 22
8:00 am John & Elizabeth McCarthy

Wednesday February 23
4:30 pm Mark Pion

Thursday February 24
8:00 am Helen Poirier

+++++

February 27– 8th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Saturday February 26
4:00 pm Wayne Burtchell

Sunday February 27
8:00 am Mary Louise Paolino

Sunday February 27
9:30 am Michael Lafflam

Sunday February 27
11:00 am Ann Merrick

+++++

Weekend Masses

Saturday 4:00 pm Saint Mary Church
Sunday 8:00 am Saint Mark Church
Sunday 9:30 am Saint Mary Church
Sunday 11:00 am Sacred Heart Church

+++++

Weekday Masses

Monday 4:30 pm Saint Mary Church
Tuesday 8:00 am Saint Mark Church
Wednesday 4:30 pm Saint Mary Church
Thursday 8:00 am Communion Service
Saint Mark Church

+++++

Parish Contributions and Expenses

Collection figures from February 5/6: \$23,000.32

2021 Fourth Quarter Parish Financial Figures
(Oct./Nov./Dec.)

Income: \$213,760.19 Expenses: \$165,253.08

From Father Rodney

Sometimes a word or a phrase from Sacred Scriptures just jumps off of a page and makes you really think about the impact that the words truly have. That was my experience when I was reading the readings for the 7th Sunday of Ordinary Time. I had just returned from having a nice family lunch at my parents’ home in Fall River – after a miserable and frankly, rather scary drive in that snow storm – you know, the one where we were only going to get a dusting to an inch of snow! – and I decided to pick up the readings so that I could think about what I might preach about this Sunday. The Psalm response reminded me of who God truly is for me and for all of us. “The Lord is kind and merciful.” These simple words from the 103rd Psalm made me think about the last time I went to confession. It dawned on me that I simply asked for forgiveness, and it was given to me. It was that simple. Of course, I now have been thinking of our mandate as Christians, namely, to treat each person as God treats me. “The Lord is kind and merciful” but am I? Certainly, in the confessional I always am but when someone wrongs me, am I kind and merciful? That is the true challenge that faces each of us. Do we live a God-like existence? As we continue to journey through life, it is a constant challenge to remind ourselves that we are challenged to be kind and merciful with those who push our buttons! Yes, indeed, “the Lord is kind and merciful” may we act the same towards one another each and every day...even when we don’t feel like being kind and merciful.

Lent 2022

On Ash Wednesday, March 2 we will usher in the Season of Lent. Please mark your calendars to attend the additional Lenten practices that will be offered. On Friday evenings, Father Rodney will be in the confessional between 6:00PM-6:25PM for confessions. At 6:30, Stations of the Cross will be prayed followed by the celebration of Mass at 7:00PM. Hopefully, this will give more people an opportunity to take advantage of Lenten devotions. Please note that this will happen at Saint Mary Church throughout the season of Lent 2022.

Donation Statements

The 2021 year end tax reports are available for those parishioners using the budget envelope system. Please contact Monica in the office, email preferred, (stmaryna@noozi.com), if you would like your statement. You may also call (508-695-6161) and leave a message with your name and address. Letters can be mailed or emailed to you.

Join the “Ashes to Fire Choir”!

You – yes, **YOU!** – are invited to join our “Ashes to Fire Choir” this Lenten and Easter season. Can’t commit to a full year of choir? This is a perfect opportunity to get involved in the



music ministry here at Transfiguration of the Lord but not have the yearlong commitment. The ATF Choir will run from Ash Wednesday through Pentecost and provide music for Palm Sunday and the Holy Triduum. You are welcome to join us in singing for the Ash Wednesday evening service (come early for a quick run through of music 30 minutes before Mass) and our first rehearsal will follow Mass. Weekly rehearsals will be on Wednesdays from 7-9pm with the possibility of additional rehearsals as needed. You do not have to know how to read music, but it is helpful. All are welcome. **For more information, please see our music director, Nikkie Barton, after Mass or via e-mail at**

Transfigurationmusicdirector@gmail.com **If you play an instrument, we also welcome you to join us!** We are always looking for instrumentalists to enhance the liturgy.

The Children’s choir will be starting back up again starting the first Sunday of March. Rehearsals will



be held at **Sacred Heart following the 11am Mass until 1:30pm.** The children’s choir will sing on Palm

Sunday and Easter Sunday. (More information to follow regarding Mass times) Grade 1-6 and 7-12 are all welcome. **If you play an instrument, we also welcome you to join us!** We are always looking for instrumentalists to enhance the liturgy. (String, brass, woodwind, drums/percussion, guitar, bass, piano, etc.) **For more information, please see our music director, Nikkie Barton, after Mass or via e-mail at** Transfigurationmusicdirector@gmail.com

Prayers please

On Saturday morning, 5 March 2022 at 11:00AM, Bishop da Cunha will confer the Sacrament of Confirmation on 158 of our Confirmation students. Please keep our *confirmandi* in your prayers as they prepare to confirm the faith that their parents and godparents accepted for them on the day of their baptism. This will be an historic event in the life of our relatively newly formed parish as all three former parishes will celebrate the sacrament together for the very first time. This event will be celebrated in the Bishop Feehan auditorium. Likewise, it will be live-streamed so that parishioners who would like to watch this event will be able to do so.

FAITH FORMATION

Director of Religious Education
Mrs. Elaine Corvese smshff@comcast.net

Faith Formation Office Hours
Monday – Thursday 10:00 am – 3:00 pm

First Communion will be held on *Saturday, May 14, 2022, at Saint Mary Church*, groups as follows:
10:00 am for students with the last name A-J
1:00 pm for students with the last name K-Z.

Date of Confirmation: will be held on **March 5, 2022, at 11:00 am Bishop Feehan High School Auditorium** for Confirmation candidates in Groups A and B.

Monthly Adoration

Monthly Adoration is offered the *first Tuesday of every month (March 1 is next)*. You are invited to join us in adoration of the Blessed Sacrament in Saint Mary church, beginning at 9 a.m. with Morning Prayer and ending at 6 p.m. with Evening Prayer and Benediction. You can drop in at any time for as long as you like or, if you would like a specific time slot, please call Joanne Regali 508-643-3821 and leave a message. *Note: "Our hours of adoration will be special hours of reparation for sins, and intercession for the needs of the whole world, exposing the sin-sick and suffering humanity to the healing, sustaining and transforming rays of Jesus, radiating from the Eucharist." (by Saint Mother Theresa of Calcutta)*

Men’s Group

Men’s Group NEXT SATURDAY!

Join us next Saturday Feb 26 at St. John’s in Attleboro as we hear again from Jason Evert as we explore Men as Initiators of Life. Program starts at 7am and runs through 8:15am. Join us at 6:30am for a free breakfast! Food, fellowship and fun! Each week stands on its own so even if you can only make one week it will be worth it for you and us!



Knights of Columbus

Council #330 of North Attleboro was founded over 120 years ago in 1898 and this Council has always represented the entire Catholic community of North Attleboro. Charity is our leading principle, and our focus is on providing support and assistance locally. We are looking for Catholic men to join our Council and help us support our community as our members have been doing since 1898. If you are interested in learning more about membership, please contact Jim Schromm, jim.schromm@verizon.net or (508) 643-3623.

Transfiguration of the Lord Parish Saint Vincent de Paul Society

The Saint Vincent de Paul Society would like to extend to our parishioners and Father Rodney a most heartfelt *Thank You*. Your generous contributions at Thanksgiving helped to fill our pantry shelves to serve those in need throughout the Town of North Attleborough. We also receive many monetary donations all year long but most especially during the holiday season, which enable us to help those struggling to make ends meet. We would also like to thank Elaine Corvese and the Faith Formation families with their generous collection of Health and Beauty Aids. The families we serve cannot use Food Stamps to purchase these items, which can be quite costly.

If you need assistance, please call the help line for our parish Saint Vincent de Paul Society. They can offer information about the types of assistance available. Please call 508-212-4755 for help or more information.

Can You Help?

As we begin to plan social functions in our parish, we are looking for people who will be able to assist us at events where food will be served. **Per the North Attleborough Board of Health and the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, we will need to have on site a person or persons who have current Food Protection Manager Certification (Food Safe Serve Certification), Allergen Awareness Certification and Choke Saver/CPR Certification.** In order to secure a temporary food



permit from the Board of Health for the event, these certifications must be submitted along with our application 14 business days prior to the event. At

this time we would like to start a list of those in the parish (or friends of parishioners) who would be willing to assist us with certification for these events. When an event is being planned, the coordinators would contact those on the list to see if they are available for those specific date(s) and times. If you have any or all of these certificates and would like to be on our call list, please email Monica Forte in the office at stmaryna@noozi.com with your name, contact information (phone and email) and certification type and date of expiration. Thank you for your help.

New Permanent Diaconate Class Formation to Begin

His Excellency, the Most Reverend Edgar M. da Cunha, Bishop of Fall River, has authorized the formation of a new class of Permanent Deacons beginning in September 2022. A series of Information Nights will be held in the months to come. Zoom sessions will be held on Saturday, February 19, 2022, Monday, March 21, 2022 and May 29, 2022 from 7:00 – 8:30 pm. In person sessions will be held on Monday, June 27, 2022, and Sunday, August 14, 2022, from 7:00 pm – 8:30 pm. Registration is required and may be completed on our website. All the sessions cover the same material. If you are interested in learning more about the process for becoming a deacon in the Diocese of Fall River, please join us for one these Information Nights. You may register for one of these sessions by visiting our website – frpermanentdiaconate.com.

Those interested in pursuing a vocation to the diaconate, scheduled to begin the Aspirancy phase in September 2022, are invited to submit a preliminary application and a letter of support from your pastor. The deadline for submitting these materials to the Office of the Permanent Diaconate is August 1, 2022. Additional details and the preliminary application are available on our website – frpermanentdiaconate.com.

If you have any questions, please contact Deacon Frank Lucca or Rev Robert Oliveira, Co- Directors of the Office of the Permanent Diaconate at office@frpermanentdiaconate.com or contact the Office of the Permanent Diaconate at 508-990-0341

Scheduling Baptisms

Parents requesting the baptism of their child should be registered members of the parish who attend weekend Mass on a weekly basis. Baptisms are celebrated on Saturdays at 1:00 pm at 14 Park Street with a maximum of four families. Please contact Monica in the office via email (stmaryna@noozi.com) for more information and visit the parish website www.saintmaryna.com and click on the “Sacraments” tab for more detailed information.

Parish Office Closed



Please note that the Parish Office will be closed for the Presidents’ Day Holiday, Monday, February 21.

Readings for February 20

Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

First Reading

A reading from the first Book of Samuel

In those days, Saul went down to the desert of Ziph with three thousand picked men of Israel, to search for David in the desert of Ziph. So David and Abishai went among Saul's soldiers by night and found Saul lying asleep within the barricade, with his spear thrust into the ground at his head and Abner and his men sleeping around him.

Abishai whispered to David: "God has delivered your enemy into your grasp this day. Let me nail him to the ground with one thrust of the spear; I will not need a second thrust!" But David said to Abishai, "Do not harm him, for who can lay hands on the LORD's anointed and remain unpunished?" So David took the spear and the water jug from their place at Saul's head, and they got away without anyone's seeing or knowing or awakening. All remained asleep, because the LORD had put them into a deep slumber.

Going across to an opposite slope, David stood on a remote hilltop at a great distance from Abner, son of Ner, and the troops. He said: "Here is the king's spear. Let an attendant come over to get it. The LORD will reward each man for his justice and faithfulness. Today, though the LORD delivered you into my grasp, I would not harm the LORD's anointed."

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Responsorial Psalm

R The Lord is kind and merciful.

Bless the LORD, O my soul;
and all my being, bless his holy name.
Bless the LORD, O my soul,
and forget not all his benefits.

R The Lord is kind and merciful.

He pardons all your iniquities,
heals all your ills.
He redeems your life from destruction,
crowns you with kindness and compassion.

R The Lord is kind and merciful.

Merciful and gracious is the LORD,
slow to anger and abounding in kindness.
Not according to our sins does he deal with us,
nor does he requite us according to our crimes.

R The Lord is kind and merciful.

As far as the east is from the west,
so far has he put our transgressions from us.
As a father has compassion on his children,
so the LORD has compassion on those who
fear him.

R The Lord is kind and merciful.

Second Reading

A reading from the first Letter of Saint Paul to the Corinthians

Brothers and sisters: It is written, *The first man, Adam, became a living being*, the last Adam a life-giving spirit. But the spiritual was not first; rather the natural and then the spiritual. The first man was from the earth, earthly; the second man, from heaven. As was the earthly one, so also are the earthly, and as is the heavenly one, so also are the heavenly. Just as we have borne the image of the earthly one, we shall also bear the image of the heavenly one.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia

Gospel

The Lord be with you. **And with your spirit.**

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

Glory to you, O Lord. †

Jesus said to his disciples: "To you who hear I say, love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who mistreat you. To the person who strikes you on one cheek, offer the other one as well, and from the person who takes your cloak, do not withhold even your tunic. Give to everyone who asks of you, and from the one who takes what is yours do not demand it back. Do to others as you would have them do to you. For if you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? Even sinners love those who love them. And if you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? Even sinners do the same. If you lend money to those from whom you expect repayment, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, and get back the same amount. But rather, love your enemies and do good to them, and lend expecting nothing back; then your reward will be great and you will be children of the Most High, for he himself is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked. Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful.

"Stop judging and you will not be judged. Stop condemning and you will not be condemned. Forgive and you will be forgiven. Give, and gifts will be given to you; a good measure, packed together, shaken down, and overflowing, will be poured into your lap. For the measure with which you measure will in return be measured out to you."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ