

**February
18
2024**

St. Clare Church & St. Vincent de Paul



Westerly, Rhode Island

Rev. Peter J. D'Ambrosia
Pastor / Administrator



Bradford, Rhode Island



1ST SUNDAY OF LENT

After John had been arrested, Jesus came to Galilee proclaiming the gospel of God: "This is the time of fulfillment. The kingdom of God is at hand. Repent, and believe in the gospel." - Mk 1:14-15

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

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St. Clare

MASS SCHEDULE

Weekday Mass: 8 AM
Saturday Vigil Mass: 5:30 PM Sunday Mass: 9 AM
Holy Day Mass: 8 AM

St. Vincent de Paul

MASS SCHEDULE

No weekday Masses
Saturday Vigil Mass: 4 PM Sunday Mass: 10:30 AM
Holy Day Mass: 12 PM

STAFF

Rev. Mr. Stephen Cote, Deacon
Rev. Mr. John McGregor, Deacon

PARISH OFFICE

All mail for both Parishes
4 Saint Clare Way
Westerly, RI 02891

**Monday to Thursday
from 8 AM to 2 PM**

Phone 401-348-8765
scc1svdp@gmail.com
Website: stclarewesterly.com

PARISH STAFF

Mrs. Jennifer O'Connor
Parish Secretary

Ms. Alice Duffy
Campus Manager

Mr. Anthony Prattico
Parish Accountant

Mr. Bruce Coon
Music Director

Mrs. Ellie Cote
Marriage Coordinator

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION
office@stpxri.org

Ms. Christine Magowan
Religious Education Coordinator
at St. Pius X Church



FROM YOUR
DIOCESE

FEBRUARY 2024

FROM BISHOP RICHARD G. HENNING

In November, I had the opportunity to attend a meeting with Governor Daniel McKee and his staff concerning his Learn365RI initiative. The Governor explained his deep concern for the young people of our state and outlined the post-covid challenges for education. While I was aware of these challenges in general, I was still shocked by the data the Governor presented. Far too many of the young people in our state have not fully returned to school following the pandemic. The rates of chronic absenteeism are much too high in many districts, particularly in urban and poor neighborhoods. The Governor explained his efforts to reduce absenteeism and the significant progress to date. He also explained his Learn365RI initiative to involve the wider community and provide young people with broader opportunities for learning year-round.

I thanked Governor McKee for his leadership in identifying this critical need and striving to improve the odds for our young people and for our wonderful State of Rhode Island. I fully support his efforts to convince families and students to give priority to their education. I applaud the Governor's understanding of the need to make the entire community aware of the gift of our young people and his invitation for churches and community organizations to assist in creative ways. I will be looking for ways that the Diocese of Providence and our parishes might assist these worthy efforts.

As we get further from the pandemic crisis that gripped the world in 2020, I hope that we are willing to examine our choices and learn from them. I am sorry to say that I think that the lockdown efforts failed the young in very significant ways. I realize that many of the choices made in those early months were driven by a lack of knowledge and a high degree of fear. I am not trying to point fingers or score partisan points. Hindsight is 20/20, as the saying goes.

Precisely that hindsight is what matters now. Children and young people have suffered the effects of isolation, and many missed critical moments of development and learning. They deserved better from us, and they deserve our honest accounting and efforts to improve now.

One lesson emerges from the experience of Catholic schools across the United States and here in Rhode Island. In many places, Catholic schools adapted to the lockdown more rapidly than other schools. They also reopened sooner than most, unless impeded by local strictures. The dedicated teachers and engaged parents helped to make the best of extremely difficult circumstances. As a result, Catholic schools across the U.S. maintained their learning and testing standards and even saw modest improvements even as the overall educational endeavor lost ground on an epic scale. As too many districts in Rhode Island suffer even now with high rates of chronic absenteeism, Catholic schools see daily attendance rates above 95%, a number that reflects ordinary absences for illness and family matters.

It is curious to me that this more successful navigating of the crisis occurred in schools that generally have much more limited resources than public schools, charter schools, and private schools. It tells me that money may not be the only or even most important factor in the mix. The federal government and many state and local governments set aside large resources to help schools during the pandemic. Early on in the emergency, they even shared some resources with Catholic schools. Over time the usual stance reasserted itself. Scandalously, some states later denied health and safety funds to children in Catholic schools.

I believe that Catholic schools achieved different results because of the culture of the schools. Catholic schools certainly strive for academic excellence, but there is something more to their

character that becomes apparent almost from the moment you enter one. Catholic schools have a sense of mission and a desire to educate and form the whole person. They teach integrity, faith and charity. They practice reverence for each and every human person. Parents are an integral and trusted part of the school family as they are the first and best formators of their children. Catholic schools forge a culture of love where children thrive as students and as persons.

I thank Governor McKee for his commitment to our young people and I encourage all to heed his call to take responsibility for forging a culture of education across this state and its many schools and religious and community organizations. I also express my gratitude to those who have devoted themselves to teaching and forming the young in every type of school.

After celebrating Catholic Schools Week, I would like to express my particular gratitude to the teachers and administrators in the Catholic schools of Rhode Island. I know that you make significant sacrifices to devote yourselves to this mission. The results you achieve speak for themselves.

I ask all of you who read this column to consider the choice for Catholic education in your family and to support this good work of forming a new generation in wisdom, integrity and faith.



MOST REVEREND RICHARD G. HENNING, S.T.D.
Bishop of Providence

Catholic Schools Week took place from January 28 to February 3. Please visit catholicschools.org for more information about open houses and other events.

READ MORE ONLINE: Scan the QR code

or go to provd.io/bulletin

DIOCESE of PROVIDENCE

Diocese of Providence | One Cathedral Square | Providence, Rhode Island | dioceseofprovidence.org

2024 Season of Lent

Stations of the Cross

Stations will be on Good Friday of Holy Week.
7:30 AM every Wednesday of Lent

The First Sunday of Lent, February 18, from 12 PM to 3 PM

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament with Confession at St. Clare Church
(Enter through the courtyard doors)

The Fifth Sunday of Lent, March 17, 12 PM to 3 PM

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament with Confession at St. Clare Church
(Enter through the courtyard doors)

Holy Week and Easter

Holy Thursday, March 28, at St. Clare Church

No morning Mass
6 PM - Mass of the Lord's Supper
Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament until 8 PM

Good Friday, March 29, at St. Clare Church

12 Noon - Stations of the Cross
3 PM - Good Friday Service

Saturday, March 30, Easter Vigil 7:30 PM - Vigil Mass at St. Clare Church

Sunday, March 31, Easter Sunday 9 AM - Mass at St. Clare Church 10:30 AM - Mass at St. Vincent de Paul Church



ROMAN CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF PROVIDENCE GUIDELINES FOR LENT

Abstinence from meat on Ash Wednesday and the Fridays of Lent (for those 14 and older) is required by Church law. Also, Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are days of fasting: those between the ages of 18 and 59 should eat less, meaning, take no solid food between meals and only one full meal that day. Serious health conditions excuse a person from these precepts. Pastors and parents are encouraged by the law of the Church to ensure that minors who are not bound by the law of fast and abstinence are educated nonetheless in an authentic sense of penance.

Following the implementation of the revised Code of Canon Law on November 27, 1983, the National Conference of Catholic Bishops in the United States determined that the rules of fast and abstinence which have existed for the last several years in this country be maintained. Namely, that the faithful observe suitable penitential practices on all Fridays throughout the year.

These penitential practices need not include abstaining from meat. However, as indicated above, the faithful must not eat meat on all the Fridays of Lent as well as on Ash Wednesday. They must also observe faithfully the fast regulations as they have been stated above in accord with the universal law of the Church (Cf. Code of Canon Law, Canons

2023 Annual Appeal Updates As of 2/12/24

St. Clare Church
\$52,995.00

St. Vincent de Paul
\$7,995.00

*Thank you so much
for your donations
to our Annual Appeal,
your generosity has
always been above and
beyond. May God Bless
you always.*

Thank you!



Ongoing Bible Study Class Schedule

St. Clare & St. Vincent de Paul Gospel of Mark (Ongoing)

Fr. Peter J. D'Ambrosia
at Saint Clare's Rectory,
Tuesdays, 6 to 7PM

Schedule

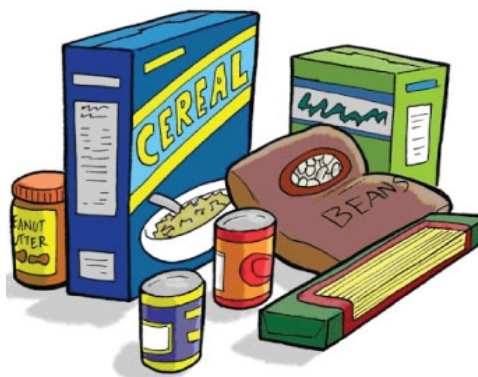
February 20 & 27
March 5, 12, and 19, April 2



LENTEN Food Drive

Needed items

Pasta sauce, crackers, cereal, juice, pancake mix, syrup, coffee, jelly, peanut butter, baked beans, canned meat (tuna, chicken, ham), canned fruit, instant potatoes, canned pasta, stuffing, Ramen noodles, quick bread, and Rice-A-Roni, any nonperishable items.



Cash donations would also be appreciated so that additional foods may be purchased for disbursement.

Checks or grocery gift cards can be dropped in any of the Poor Boxes located at each of the doors of the Church. Please no open items or items that are expired.

Thank you for your continued support and generosity for those in need. Although you may never see it, you make a difference to so many.

The First Sunday of Lent
Sunday, February 18, 2024



Two Parishes,
One Big Family

Lay Minister Daily Mass Schedule for
February 19 - 22

Masses This Week at St. Clare Church

Saturday, February 17, 5:30 PM

Mary Josephine Giorno by her daughters Mary & Carolyn

Sunday, February 18, 9 AM

Thomas Koepke by his Family

Monday, February 19, 8 AM

Sam Azzinaro, Sr. and Family by the Family

Tuesday, February 20, 8 AM

Ken Swain by George & Linda Schackner

Wednesday, February 21, 8 AM

Michael Renzi by his Family

Thursday, February 22, 8 AM

For the People

Friday, February 23, 8 AM

NO MASS

Saturday, February 24, 5:30 PM

Ken Swain by Patricia Gagnon

Sunday, February 25, 9 AM

Peter & Genevieve D'Ambrosia

St. Vincent de Paul Church

Saturday, February 17, 4 PM

Alexander Rizzo by his Family

Sunday, February 18, 10:30 AM

Raymond Ferland

Saturday, February 24, 4 PM

Aldolph & Josephine Tamulewcz

Sunday, February 25, 10:30 AM

Deceased members of the Pendola & DiPaola Families by the Family

Monday 2/19/24

Lector - Azzinaro

EM - Abbott

Tuesday - 2/20/24

Lector - Conway

EM - Abbott

Wednesday 2/21/24

Lector - Willis

EM - Azzinaro

Thursday 2/22/24

Lector - Nolan

EM - Azzinaro

Lay Minister Weekend Schedule

St. Clare

Saturday, February 24, 5:30 PM Mass

Lector - Paul Calitri

EM - Deacon

Sunday, February 25, 9 AM Mass

Lector - Jim Lamphere

EM - Deacon

St. Vincent de Paul

Saturday, February 24, 4 PM Mass

Lector - Bill Aiello

EM - Deacon

Sunday, February 25, 10:30 AM Mass

Lector - Cynthia Silva

EM - Deacon

Outgoing Eucharist Minister Schedule

St. Clare - February 18

A - Lynn Piola

B - Deacon Steve Cote

St. Clare - March 3

A - John & Renee Gentile

B - Barbara Wright

St. Clare - March 17

A - Lucille Sposato

B - Mary Conway

St. Clare & St. Vincent de Paul Church Support

<u>SCC</u>	<u>1/28/24</u>	<u>2/4/24</u>	<u>2/11/24</u>
Budget	3,521.69	7,702.44	9,865.69
Misc.	1,327.00	3,093.01	6,077.80
<u>SVDP</u>	<u>1/28/24</u>	<u>2/4/24</u>	<u>2/11/24</u>
Budget	1,599.29	2,838.00	2,310.00
Misc.	389.00	2,230.22	795.50

Budget includes: E-Giving, Mass stipends, monthly, energy, holy days, building fund.

Misc. includes: Poor box, diocesan collections, donations, rental of facilities, events, funerals & weddings.

Upcoming Collections 2024

March 3

Monthly

March 10

Energy

March 24

CRS Rice Bowl