



# *The Heart of the Matter*

*A quarterly publication of Sacred Heart of Jesus Church, Hopedale*

*Becoming and Making Disciples,  
Welcoming All to Follow Jesus Christ*

**Winter 2017**

Dear Parish Family,

## *Up From the Waters!*

We begin our Lenten journey on Ash Wednesday, March 1st with an exciting homily series and an opportunity for small group support on the journey of faith. The theme "Up From the Waters" will have books available for group and individual use for reflection on the Gospels for each week of lent. We ordered one-hundred books and they will be available for \$8.00 each on a first come first serve basis.

This Lent we will hear the stories of the encounter between Jesus and the Samaritan woman at the well; Jesus healing the blind man and the washing in the pool of Siloam; and the raising and unbinding of Lazarus to new life. These Gospels accounts connect to our own baptismal story and invite us into a deeper understanding of our baptismal call to "make and become Disciples of Jesus Christ, inviting all to follow Jesus Christ!" This is our parish mission and we can all benefit in sharpening our skills in deepening our discipleship and inviting others to join us on the journey of faith.

The word Lent means "spring" it refers to the lengthening of the days as we head toward Easter. I am pleased that Lent is later this year with the hopes that we have a warm, snow free Easter; especially since we had a snow free Christmas. I am hoping that many will plan on attending the Holy Week Services beginning with Palm Sunday April 9th and coming to a culmination with the beautiful Easter Vigil on Saturday April 15th.

I invite you all to join us at one of the three services on Ash Wednesday; Mass at 9:00 A.M. and 7:30 or at the liturgy of the Word and distribution of ashes at 3:00 in the afternoon. Let's all together come "Up from the Waters!"

Fr. Bill



# Message Shapers

Sharing the Good News of the Gospel in ways that are relevant to 21<sup>st</sup> Century Disciples

## Introducing...

### *SNOWCAMPS and the CAMPS Ministry*

The CAMPS ministry was founded 34 years ago to engage Catholic youth in developing a personal and spiritual relationship with Jesus. CAMPS (which stands for Christ As My Personal Savior) is led by 40 energetic Catholic priests, youth leaders, and laypersons who are committed to this mission.

The success of CAMPS led to the creation of SNOWCAMPS, a weekend retreat for middle schoolers each winter. This year's retreat takes place March 3-5, 2017 in Alton, New Hampshire.

Pastoral Planning Team member, Grant Gosselin, first attended CAMPS as a high school student 27 years ago. "CAMPS was a transformative experience that still shapes my life today. As a young person, it was the first time that my religion and became personal as I developed a strong faith foundation in a fun and engaging environment. We are happy to send daughter to SNOWCAMPS this March."

We hope to generate enough interest for a group of 7th and 8th grade parishioners to experience SNOWCAMPS together.

Learn more at [snowcampsparty.com](http://snowcampsparty.com) and [campsministry.com](http://campsministry.com) or contact Grant Gosselin at [grantmgosselin@gmail.com](mailto:grantmgosselin@gmail.com).



*When Jesus had been baptized, just as he came **up from the water**, suddenly the heavens were opened to him and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting on him. And a voice from heaven said, 'This is my Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased.'*  
(3:16)

Enjoy our baptismal journey to Easter: encounter Jesus and the Samaritan woman at the well; Jesus healing the blind man; and the raising and unbinding of Lazarus to new life.

WEEK 1: My Son, the Beloved

WEEK 2: Get up and do not be afraid

WEEK 3: Living Water for the World

WEEK 4: I am the Light of the World

WEEK 5: The Life of the World

# Weekend Experience

Welcoming All To Vibrant Liturgy & Worship



## February 25th

5PM Appetizers

6PM – Full Italian Dinner

Tickets on sale **NOW!**

\$15 per person

\$5 children 10 and under

Gluten Free tickets are available



# BYOB



### Lenten Events

- Lenten Small Groups for fellowship on the Lenten journey ~ Tuesday through Saturday
- “Come home to God’s Mercy” ~ Individual Reconciliation offered at all parishes in the diocese of Worcester – each Wednesday 7-8PM at Sacred Heart
- Stations of the Cross ~ Wednesday 11:30AM
- Lenten Lunches for fellowship on the Lenten journey ~ Wednesday at Noon
- Stations of the Cross at the Milford parishes ~ Fridays 7PM
- Seder Supper – April 8, 2017 5PM.

### Virtual Events

- The Best Lent Ever – [www.dynamiccatholic.com/bestlentever](http://www.dynamiccatholic.com/bestlentever)
- Praying Lent – [www.onlineministries.creighton.edu](http://www.onlineministries.creighton.edu)
- The Lent Experience - [www.thelentexperience.com](http://www.thelentexperience.com)



- Tuesday – 7PM – 3 Jackson Way, Hopedale
- Wednesday – 7PM – Parish House
- Thursday – 11AM – Church Parlor
- Thursday – 7PM – Church Parlor
- Thursday – 7PM – 2 Butler Rd, Mendon
- Saturday – 9AM – Loft Library

Sign up in person at the information booth or online at <http://sacredhearthopedale.org/count-me-in/lenten-connect-groups/>

# Operations

## Good Stewards of What We Have Been Given



The new reconciliation room is located where the old "cry room" was located in the rear of the church. It is warm, friendly and inviting.

### Renovations update:

- The new Reconciliation Room is complete.
- The new parlor is complete.
- The new front doors are on order.
- New side doors are installed
- Handicap accessible bathroom being installed off the vestibule



Thank you for keeping your pledges to Our Family, Faith and Future Capital Campaign. These contributions make our renovations possible.



<b>Total Amount Pledged:</b>	<b>\$819,005.00</b>
Total donations to date	\$724,718.68
Total expenses to date:	\$657,915.54
Remaining pledges to be collected	\$94,286.32

### Large expense items:

Roofing & Gutters (Church & Parish Center)	\$126,736.99
Flooring expenses	\$56,755.23
Day Chapel, Family Room & Loft	\$54,244.08
Sanctuary renovations	\$225,525.91
New Windows	\$37,037.11
New Interior Doors	\$12,706.15
Reconciliation & Gathering Space	\$16,867.00

### Remaining large expense items: (estimate)

New Front Exterior Doors	\$35,000
Fire Alarm System	\$14,000
2 Handicap accessible bathrooms	\$25,000
Security Upgrades	TBD
Video Streaming	\$8,000

# Mission & Outreach

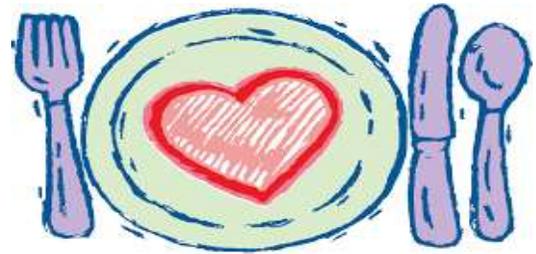
Looking outward to the needs of others and serving with compassion

## Community Suppers at Trinity Church

The Community Suppers at Trinity Episcopal Church in Milford is a great ministry and everyone who volunteers gets a great deal out of it. Trinity Episcopal Church has done these meals for many years on the last Wednesday, Thursday and Friday of every month. Currently, Trinity does Wednesday, the Methodist Church does Thursday (including Thanksgiving) and now the three Hopedale Churches (the Unitarian, Union Evangelical and Sacred Heart) provide the Friday meal.

Meals are planned early in the month based on the donated food currently on hand in the Trinity freezers. Once the menu is determined, the food needed to supplement that menu is purchased by the Unitarian Church and Sacred Heart. On our Friday night, we work together to complete the purchase of additional food items, prep, setup, service and cleanup activities.

Starting at 1:00pm, the prep work begins. Most often, our head chef is Alice Jacobson from Hopedale Unitarian. She is supported by volunteers from the 3 churches. A Google document has been created on our web page for volunteers to sign up for the segment(s) they wish to participate in. Prep work is from 1-3; set up 2:30-3:30; serving 4-6 and cleanup 4-6:30. Volunteers can sign up for any segment or any combination of tasks by signing onto the google doc or contacting Robin York or Jean Vendetti (their contact info is listed in the bulletin).



### COMMUNITY DINNER

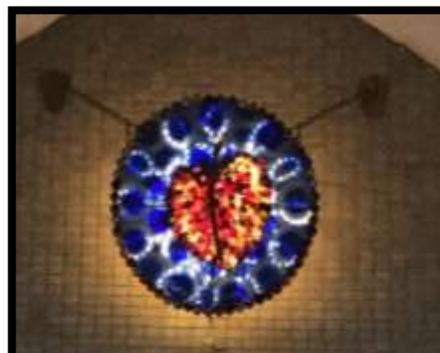
We serve approximately 70-100 meals per night and offer "meals to go" if there is enough left over. Our menu includes a soup, tossed salad, fruit salad, main entree with vegetables/pasta and desserts. Everything is homemade except for desserts and bread which are donated. Depending on the supply of desserts, some homemade pastries are needed. Over the past year, the number of volunteers has continued to grow. We have approximately 30 volunteers from all 3 churches. Many are repeat performers, often asking to be signed up for the following month before they even take off their aprons!

Those we serve are very grateful, very complimentary and many come all three nights.

This is a great ministry for our parishioners to get involved in - one that is all set up and ready to go. Great food, great people and lots of fun - come join in.

# Up Front & Personal

**Stained glass heart element in memory of Chico Claro by Tony Claro**



Sacred Heart had a special place in Chico's heart ever since he started going there sometime after he moved from Milford to Blackstone with his wife, Kristine. He baptized his three girls, Anna, Emily and Julie here. As you know, he also took great pride in going to the retreats as well as being part of some of the bible study groups. He valued the closeness and sense of community from the Sacred Heart family and it became a large part of his life. He was a devout and proud Catholic and lived his life in such an honest and genuine way and it was these values that he passed onto his children and are clearly present in them today. He was the most inspiring figure in my life and although his life got cut short at only 38 years old, I, as well as my brothers, Jose and Dave, were so proud to have had him not only as a brother but also a mentor. My Parents, Antonio and Maria, could not have asked for a better son and although, the grief of his loss is at times very hard on them, they constantly remind us that we are not in our final resting place and one day we pray that we will re-unite with him.

As for the piece; I always had an idea that I wanted to dedicate something to Sacred Heart in Chico's memory. Father Bill and I then met and discussed ways in which we could honor Chico's memory. We threw around a couple ideas and it was clear to me that a stained glass piece was a perfect fit to highlight what he was all about. Although, the shape is similar to the Sacred Heart symbol, to me it also represents Chico's big heart and his devotion to the Catholic faith. The light shining through all the pretty colors also reminds me of his radiant smile and the fact that he is still alive in our hearts and will always be there looking down upon us. The piece will always be a constant reminder of just how special Chico was to so many of us and also how dearly missed he is.

## Brenda M. Bonetti Memorial Scholarship and The Power of One Award



In memory of Brenda M. Bonetti, a scholarship is available to any graduating high school senior who attends Sacred Heart of Jesus Church in Hopedale.

The amount and number of scholarships awarded is under the sole discretion of the Bonetti Family Scholarship committee.



Minimum requirements:

- Registered parishioner at Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish.
- Accepted to a college or institution of higher learning in the coming fall.
- Participated in church ministries within the past 4 years and has continued through senior year.
- Worships regularly with the Sacred Heart Community.

If you feel that you meet the minimum requirements, then send a request for application to: [lfb@veizon.net](mailto:lfb@veizon.net).

**All applications must be received no later than May 1, 2017.**

Mail application to: Brenda M. Bonetti Scholarship c/o Susan M. Chaisson 11 Rogers Street Milford, MA 01757.

**Ernie Chaplin** has consistently worked to make a positive difference in the Hopedale community and in the Blackstone Valley. His specialty has been the very things that exemplify the work of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. He has worked to bring diverse ages and groups together to address an urgent community need--feeding the hungry. Through his work at Sacred Heart as a youth mentor and parish leader, he has brought different ages and groups together to serve others. His "Fill a Ford" effort has led in soliciting donations for a worthy cause, to participate in ways that get the word out about hunger in this area and then do something about it. He has coordinated the efforts of the Hopedale churches to assist Milford's Trinity Episcopal Church in feeding people at the last Friday of the month community --a program that serves people in Milford, Hopedale, and beyond. Through all of his efforts, he has maintained a focus on bringing people together to identify and solve problems for people who are in need. In the process, he has taught us all how to better care for those who are our neighbors.

**Alyssa Pool** was recognized with the student Power of One Award. Alyssa's excellent work ethic, quiet leadership, intellectual curiosity and compassionate devotion to all students that she interacts with are just some of the reasons why she awarded this honor. Alyssa exhibits without fanfare, the qualities that help create a more just and compassionate society, the kind of community that Martin Luther King Jr. dreamed about.

As chief editor of the Raider's Cry Literary and Arts Magazine, musician and teaching intern, Alyssa has encouraged others of many backgrounds and has been commended for her work with younger students.

Alyssa's contributions to Hopedale Jr.-Sr. High School reflect Martin Luther King Jr.'s legacy of justice, equality, civility and inclusion.



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CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

**MASS SCHEDULE**  
 Saturday – Vigil 4:00 PM  
 Sunday – 8:30 & 10:30AM  
 Daily – \*9:00 AM Mon – Thu  
 Holy Days – 7:30 PM Vigil  
 eve prior; 9:00 AM

\*Daily Mass is cancelled  
 when there is a funeral  
 AND when school is closed  
 due to inclement weather.

Communion Service –  
 Fridays 9:00 AM

Sacrament of  
 Reconciliation ~ Saturdays  
 at 3:00 PM or by  
 appointment.

Parish Office - 508-473-1900

Find us on **facebook.**    follow us on **twitter**

**Stephen Center**  
 508-473-1900

**Holy Week Schedule**

Palm Sunday - April 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup>  
 Saturday 4PM and Sunday 10AM  
 Tenebrae with Reconciliation –

- Wednesday, April 12<sup>th</sup> - 7:30PM

Holy Thursday – April 13<sup>th</sup> – 7:30PM  
 Good Friday – April 14<sup>th</sup>

- Walk the Walk 10AM
- Simple Meal – Noon
- Stations of the Cross – 3PM
- Veneration of the Cross – 7:30

**EASTER Vigil**

7:30 PM

**easter SUNDAY**

8:30AM & 10:30AM