

## readings for the week

Sunday: Is 63:16b-17, 19b; 64:2-7/  
1 Cor 1:3-9/Mk 13:33-37  
Monday: Is 2:1-5/Mt 8:5-11  
Tuesday: Is 11:1-10/Lk 10:21-24  
Wednesday: Is 25:6-10a/Mt 15:29-37  
Thursday: Is 26:1-6/Mt 7:21, 24-27  
Friday: Is 29:17-24/Mt 9:27-31  
Saturday: Is 30:19-21, 23-26/Mt 9:35---10:1, 5a, 6-8  
Next Sunday: Is 40:1-5, 9-11/2 Pt 3:8-14/Mk 1:1-8

### save the date

The Youth Group will host a **Pancake Breakfast** on **Sunday, December 21 after the 10:45am Mass**. Members of the Youth Group will be cooking pancakes and scrambled eggs and serving breakfast to you. There is no charge for breakfast although a free will offering will be accepted.

### youth group raffle

The Youth Group will be having a raffle on Sunday, December 21 during the Pancake Breakfast. Tickets will be available after all Masses on December 6 & 7, 13 & 14, and 20 & 21. Two Christmas floral arrangements will be raffled as well as gift baskets. Watch the bulletin for updates!

## coming on december 28 – the 3 ½ stories of christmas!



Save this date and join us on **Sunday, December 28** when the Christmas angel himself (performed by actor, Frank Runyeon) will tell us **The 3 ½ Stories of Christmas**.

## who is frank runyeon?

He has performed Biblical texts for tens of thousands of people in almost every state in America. He is probably still best known, however, from his 20 years on TV. He starred opposite Meg Ryan on *As the World Turns*, won 2 Emmys as a cast member of *Santa Barbara*, and guest-starred on *Falcon Crest*, *Melrose Place* and *LA LAW*. He received his B.A. in Religion from Princeton, and his Masters, with honors, from General Theological Seminary. He tours *3½ Stories* concurrently with his other one-man dramas: *AFRAID!* – *The Gospel of Mark*, *Sermon on the Mount*, *The Letter of James*, and *The Gospel of John*. Frank also speaks frequently on the subject of *HOLLYWOOD vs. FAITH*: the struggle to live as a Christian in the age of the media.

## Advent Day of Prayer and Reflection

On Tuesday, December 9, 2008, Sacred Heart Parish will be hosting an 'Advent Day of Prayer and Reflection' from 8:45am to 1:30pm. Our presenter will be Sister Virginia Sheehan, SND, a dynamic and gifted speaker who has given many retreats and days of reflection throughout New England.

The day will begin with registration at 8:45am, followed by Mass at 9:00am celebrated by our pastor, Father Stan. Included in the program will be reflection, fellowship and lunch served by the ladies of the parish. This is a wonderful way to prepare for the coming of the Lord. Bring along a friend and take some time for yourself this Advent. All are welcome! There is no charge. Donations will be accepted.

**To register or for further information, call Larry & Carol Deraleau at 749-4139 or the parish office at 875-4563. you'll be glad you did.**

## the exonerated

The Church of the Holy Family in Hebron (185 Church St.) will be hosting a presentation of a nationally renowned film entitled *The Exonerated* on **Sunday, December 7, 2008**. It is presented by Connecticut State Prison Chaplains, Sr. Patty Cook, RSM and Deacon Tom Casey.

*The Exonerated* tells the true stories of six people sent to Death Row for crimes they did not commit. You will hear six riveting stories about innocence, injustice and redemption. The presentation begins at 4:00pm with the movie and discussion followed by a pot luck supper from 5:30-6:30pm. (Last name beginning with A-L – Main Dishes; last name beginning with M-Z – Salads/Desserts/Bread). Coffee/Tea/Soft Drinks provided. Closing prayer is at 6:30pm.

## wanted – needed!

**\*\*GREENS\*\* for holiday decorating.**

Please drop off by the kitchen door or call Sandy at 875-4563. THANK YOU!

Dear Sacred Heart Family,

It is obvious to me that this is a parish where the people show love, care and concern for one another. This is consistent with being a family, the Body of Christ. There are times, for a number of reasons, where we may not see a parishioner at Mass for weeks or months at a time, the yoking of our parish with Saint Maurice and the new Mass schedule has made this more evident. We may lose touch with them. They lose touch with us. They may feel forgotten.

As parishioners we are all responsible for our brothers and sisters. If you haven't seen someone at Mass for a while, I invite you to call them or pay them a visit

To show them our love  
To see if they are well  
To tell them they are missed  
To show them we care  
To tell them we need them  
To see if we can help

Some people already do this. But if we are going to hold this parish together and make it grow, we all need to do it. However, if you are not comfortable making a call or visit, let me know and I will make the connection.

We are less than a month from Advent, the beginning of a new church year. A good time to tell people that we care. A good time to gather our family back home for Christmas at Sacred Heart.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Larry Deraleau

Since the closing of Freihofer's our bread supply has dwindled. It is devastating to see the look of despair on the faces of those people who depended on this bread and it is no longer available to them. We are earnestly looking for new ways to help fill this need.

About the shelter: Under the direction of Mary Engle, Shelter Director, much has been accomplished. We have 5 well-trained paid staff and two extraordinary caseworkers. In collaboration and coordination with the University of Connecticut we have developed a program where four students will be volunteering at the shelter. They will receive training in their study of social service. This is a 6-month training period where they will learn the fundamentals of working with the client through to the actual signing in of the client. This training will be done in 3-month increments. We are also working in collaboration and coordination with other agencies such as Clayton House, HUD, River East Hockanum Valley, Genesis and Mack Shelter, all having programs that benefit our clients.

Before a client is admitted into the Cornerstone shelter he/she is checked for any drugs, alcohol or weapons that may be on his/her person. There is also random drug testing. When admitted, he/she sits with the supervisor, reads the rules that must be followed, such as chores they must do, the importance of cleanliness and that a daily shower is required. He/she must make an appointment to see a caseworker each week of the month he stays with us. He/she signs an agreement stating that.

The client is required to have an exit plan, a goal for the future. If they do not have one, then the caseworker will develop one. Many of the people who seek shelter are known to be shelter-jumpers. We have learned that with a goal the client can see that there is hope. For example, there is Barry, who because of such a plan, his hard work, and that of our caseworkers has obtained housing through HUD. To keep this housing Barry will be obligated to follow through with educational and job training. Michael, who has been training to drive a big rig, and – because of his exit plan – has been able to move back home with his family. We cannot forget Joey, a new client who wants to go back to school. Our caseworkers are hard at work helping him help himself. These are just a few of the great things that have happened over this past year. We know without a shadow of a doubt none of the above could have happened without your support. *Thank you!*

Upcoming events:

**Thanksgiving & Christmas Day Celebration**

**Needed: Fresh vegetables**

**December 12<sup>th</sup> Christmas Party for 150 needy children in the TriTown area**

**Needed: Gifts from ages 1-10, Gift Cards for older children 11-16 yrs.**

**Ongoing needs: Eggs, cheese, butter, coffee & bread**

Abundant Blessings,

Helen Syriac  
Executive Director

**breakfast with santa**

Saturday, December 6 – 8:30-9:30am and 10:15-11:15am. Call 896-0749 for info and reservations.

**cornerstone news and update**

Dear Friends,

I wish I could tell you that there is no longer a need to feed the hungry and shelter the homeless. In fact, the need is greater than ever. Although I'm going to focus on how the Cornerstone shelter is operated, I would like to tell you a little about the soup kitchen. As a result of our national economy we have seen an increase in Moms and their children coming into the soup kitchen to eat. To be able to offer that hot meal or extra glass of milk to the children is a blessing. In fact, one little boy saw a box of cereal and wanted to take it home for his breakfast. Of course we gave it to him.

## FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

---

### the work of the church

<b>SATURDAY</b> 5:45pm	FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT <b>Mass: Dorothy Bardin</b> , requested by the Sacred Heart Parish Family
<b>SUNDAY</b> 10:45am	FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT <b>Mass: Deacon Chuck White, Anniversary</b> , requested by the Sacred Heart Parish Family - and - <b>Robert Brown</b> , requested by the Sacred Heart Parish Family
<b>MONDAY</b> 9:00am	<b>Liturgy of the Word with Communion</b>
<b>TUESDAY</b> 9:00am	<b>Liturgy of the Word with Communion</b>
<b>WEDNESDAY</b> 9:00am	FRANCIS XAVIER, PRIEST <b>Liturgy of the Word with Communion</b>
<b>THURSDAY</b> 4:30-6pm 7:00pm 7:45pm	JOHN OF DAMASCUS, PRIEST & DOCTOR <b>Sacrament of Reconciliation</b> , living room <b>Mass: Deceased Members of the Labbadia &amp; Davia Families</b> <i>Intercessory Prayer</i>
<b>FIRST FRIDAY</b> 9:00am 10am – 5pm 5:00pm	<b>Mass: For the People of the Parish</b> <i>Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament</i> <i>Close of Adoration</i>
<b>SATURDAY</b> 5:45pm	SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT <b>Mass: Maria Silvestro, 1<sup>st</sup> Anniversary</b> , requested by the Sacred Heart Parish Family
<b>SUNDAY</b> 10:45am	SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT <b>Mass: Anthony Fornabi</b> , requested by Marie Whitham - and - <b>Robert Brown</b> , requested by the Sacred Heart Caregivers

### meetings

<b>SATURDAY</b> 7:30pm	<b>Narcotics Anonymous*</b> , South Rooms
<b>SUNDAY</b> NO NO	<b>Fellowship before and after Mass</b> <b>Faith Formation Grades 1-Conf Prep</b> <b>Youth Group</b>
<b>MONDAY</b> 7:00pm 7:00pm	Offices Closed <b>Knights of Columbus</b> , South Community Rooms <b>Haiti Ministry</b> , Deacon Chuck White Memorial Haiti Ministry Room
<b>WEDNESDAY</b> 4:00pm 8:00pm	<b>Faith Formation Grades 1-3 &amp; 5</b> <b>Alcoholics Anonymous*</b> , South Community Rooms
<b>THURSDAY</b> 10:00am 8:00pm	Bible Study, South Community Rooms <b>Alcoholics Anonymous Big Book*</b> , South Rooms
<b>SATURDAY</b> 7:30pm	<b>Narcotics Anonymous*</b> , South Rooms
<b>SUNDAY</b> 9:15-10:30am 6:30-7:45pm 7:45-9pm	<b>Fellowship before and after Mass</b> <b>Faith Formation Grades 1-5</b> <b>Faith Formation Grades 6-Conf Prep</b> <b>Youth Group</b>