Bulletin of the Catholic Community at Amherst College for Sunday, March 6, 2016

Sr. Chris Clark, DHM cclark@amherst.edu

Sunday, 5 pm. Mass in Chapin Chapel. “He ran to his son ...” Our celebrant on this Fourth Sunday of Lent is Rev. Bruce Teague, former Amherst College Catholic Chaplain. Students and staff choir members, lectors and extraordinary ministers of the Eucharist prepare for Mass from around 4:4:30 p.m. Missalettes are provided and all are welcome! Student and staff choir members, lectors and extraordinary ministers of the Eucharist prepare for Mass from around 4:4:30 p.m. Missalettes are provided and all are most welcome!

NOTE: Next Sunday, March 13 there is no on-campus Mass. We will resume on March 20 as Break ends.

See https://www.amherst.edu/campuslife/our-community/religiouslife/student/newmancatholic for weekly Bulletins, events and opportunities, Catholic links to help you connect, contribute, flourish and grow. Do you have news to share in our Bulletin? Email cclark@amherst.edu

Celebrants’ Schedule We are blessed by the presence, witness, and apostolic gifts of our celebrants. See the schedule at the Newman Catholic Club webpage https://www.amherst.edu/campuslife/our-community/religiouslife/student/newmancatholic Catholic Advisor Sr. Chris Clark, DHM is our Religious Life resource. Contact her 24/7 via cellphone 413-687-1858 or email cclark@amherst.edu. See her bio. at Chris Clark at Religious Life.

Let’s Keep the Doors Open! Newman Club News: Newman members are helping to organize Sunday Mass in Chapin Chapel at 5 pm. and planning for Retreat, fellowship, and Scripture Reflection/Study with Sr. Chris. The Newman Club is a resource for Catholics at Amherst or for those who would like grow in or learn more about the Catholic faith. Some ways we practice our faith: Celebrating the “Source and Summit” - Catholic Mass, usually at 5 pm. in Chapin Chapel on Sundays and as arranged for Solemnities; nurturing personal and spiritual development; being a community of love for God and neighbor; exploring and celebrating truth with professors, religious leaders, guests. Are you new to campus or the Newman Club? Email us at newman@amherst.edu

Newman Update from Sr. Chris: Newman Club leadership and any other interested members will meet with Sr. Chris in Valentine Terrace Room A every other week for organizing and planning. The next meeting is Wednesday, March 9, 6:00-7:00 pm. Beginning on March 20 as we return from spring break Sr. Chris will offer a Bible Reflection/Study series and the Newman Club is planning fellowship opportunities as well.

Newman Club Spring Retreat REGISTRATION for 3/11-13 - The Newman Club is preparing for the Spring Retreat with Fr. Savage and Sr. Chris at DeCice Hall at the Marian Center in Holyoke on Friday evening 3/11; day into evening on Saturday, 3/12; and part of the day on Sunday, 3/13.

While at DeCice Hall student retreatants will enjoy reflection, Fr. Savage’s conferences, resources, fellowship, relaxation, and the Lord’s Day Mass. Meals and snacks will be provided while there. When back on campus, students can enjoy meals and rest as usual for spring break. Transportation will be available to the site, about 20 minutes away from campus. Newman Club approaches AAS and the Catholic Advisor for funding; there is no fee for retreatants. Contact cclark@amherst.edu for information. Spaces are limited and first-come, first-served: register at http://www.decicehall.org/coming-events/register-for-an-event.html. (Thanks to Elizabeth Kelly for photo, Sacred Heart feature window, Daramalan College.)
ONGOING THROUGH 11/20-2016 - JUBILEE YEAR OF MERCY - “Merciful Like the Father” - observed from the Feast of the Immaculate Conception, through the Feast of Christ the King, November 20, 2016. Visit http://www.im.va/content/gdm/en.html

ONGOING - LENT 2016 - 40 days of Mercy - some spiritual resources: USCCB Lent 2016, Creighton University Lent, Ignatian Resources for Lent and Sacred Space Daily Prayer Online

ONGOING THROUGH LENT - CRS Rice Bowl, Hungering for the Journey - Our journey with CRS Rice Bowl begins in Colombia, where coffee beans are changing lives! What actions can we take this Lent to change lives – at home and around the world? Rice Bowls are available for pickup during Mass in Chapin Chapel. Visit http://www.crsricebowl.org.

MONDAY, MARCH 7 -- THE PARABLE OF MERCY: LUKE 15:32 Jubilee Year of Mercy Lenten Scriptures Seminar. 7:00 pm-8:30 pm. On March 7 - Experiencing God’s Mercy. Westfield: Our Lady of Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church, 127 Holyoke Road, Westfield MA 01085. In the parables devoted to mercy, Jesus reveals the nature of God as that of a Father who never gives up until he has forgiven the wrong and overcome rejection with compassion and mercy. We know these parables well, three in particular: the lost sheep, the lost coin, and the father with two sons (cf. Lk 15:1-32). Participants will be guided through four movements of the lectio divina method to interpret the deeper meaning of the parable in light of their own human condition and will be offered a pathway to experience the compassion and mercy of God.

Registration: Call Ann Schwein at (413) 265-2575, or email: schweina@elms.edu. Cost: $55 (Checks payable to Fr. Warren J. Savage). Please send check to: Ann Schwein, Religious Studies Department, Elms College, 291 Springfield Street, Chicopee, MA 01013. Resources Required: Participants are required to bring a Bible for reference, study and reflection. A Seminar Workbook and other handouts will be provided.

TUESDAY, MARCH 8: Westfield - St. Mary Parish will hold a Year of Mercy program on Tuesday, March 8 from 7-8 p.m. in the upper church. Speaker Valenda Liptak will focus on "The Gift of Reconciliation." All are welcome.
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 9, 7:00 pm: Westfield: Visit with Pastor Msgr. Weiss of Newtown, CT. Fr. Dan Pacholec writes in their Bulletin: “This week we warmly welcome Msgr. Robert Weiss – the Pastor of St. Rose of Lima Parish in Newtown, CT. You will remember Msgr. Bob from the news coverage of the Sandy Hook School Shooting in Newtown over 3 years ago. Msgr. Weiss is the Pastor of the only Catholic Church in Newtown, and was intimately involved in bringing compassion and care to the families of the 26 children and 6 adults who were killed that day. As a priest - as a man - I ask myself where I would get the strength that Msgr. Weiss had, to go to each family and sometimes to the morgue with the family, and help them try to cope with their children’s death. Msgr. Weiss celebrated many of the funerals for these families in the weeks following the shooting trying to bring a word of peace and comfort to them. Come and learn where he found his strength, and perhaps where you can find your strength, to deal with overwhelming life situations. Carolee McGrath from “Real to Reel” – our weekly Diocesan News Show – will be our host. We thank Catholic Communications for assisting in promoting and hosting our Parish Lenten Series.” The series continues Wednesdays through 3/23 at Our Lady of the Blessed Sacrament, 127 Holyoke Rd. Westfield, MA 01085. Call 413-562-3450 for information.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 9 - Forgiveness and Reconciliation - Chicopee: the second of two Lenten Mini-Retreats with Virginia Collins-English. Sponsored by the Institute for Theology and Pastoral Studies at Elms College; Wednesday, March 9, 2016 - Elms College, 291 Springfield Street, Chicopee, Mary Dooley Campus Center, Faculty Dining Room. Join us as we explore reconciliation with God and with others. A presentation of the purposes, challenges, and gifts of reconciliation, enhanced with scripture and poetry, meditation and writing time. Voluntary sharing and discussion and closing with shared prayer. All are welcome! Free and open to the public. Reservations: Ann Schwein at (413) 265-2575 or e-mail schweina@elms.edu. (Thanks to www.thepracticingcatholic.com for the image.)


MARCH 11-13 - Rachel’s Vineyard Retreat - held in the Springfield Diocese for any woman, man, couple, grandparent or sibling struggling with the emotional or spiritual pain of abortion. Upcoming weekend retreat dates are March 11-13, July 22-24, and Oct. 28-30. For more information or to register for a weekend, call 413.452.0661. All inquiries will be answered confidentially and retreats are strictly private.

FRIDAY THROUGH SUNDAY, APRIL 22-24 - Retreats for Women - West Hartford, Conn.: The Holy Family Passionist Retreat Center, 303 Tunxis Rd., will offer weekend retreats for women, based on the theme, “Into the Heart of Mercy.” Also offered June 3-5. To register, visit www.holyfamilyretreat.org or call 860-760-9705.

BEGINNING AFTER EASTER - Releasing Your Inner Superhero: Empowered to be Like Christ. A Year of Mercy Seminar. Superheroes possess extraordinary talents or abilities and are dedicated to the wellbeing of others. We too are endowed as Superheroes by nature of our baptism. This seminar explores the source and nature of our extraordinary abilities by comparing our mission “hear” and traits to those common to superheroes (“special powers”, a strong moral code, the motivation of call and responsibility, and a back-story explaining how and why the superhero serves). Deacon Roger Carrier will facilitate the discussion on Wednesdays after Easter, dates to be announced. Please contact Joanne Bagge for info 413-562-5484 or email jbagge@stmsaints.org

COMING IN SEPTEMBER - Year of Mercy Pilgrimage to Italy - Father Matthew Alcombright, parochial vicar of St. Thomas the Apostle Parish in West Springfield, will lead a Sept. 25-Oct. 6 Year of Mercy Pilgrimage to Italy. Information: Fr. Alcombright at 413-739-4779, Ext. 14 or fr.matt.alcombright@gmail.com.

A SAMPLER OF ONGOING EVENTS - more at http://www.iobserve.org/index.php?page=calendar

REGULARLY - EUCHARISTIC ADORATION - Amherst: every Thursday following the 8 a.m. Mass until 5 p.m. at St. Brigid Church, 122 North Pleasant St. The Divine Mercy Chaplet is prayed at 3 p.m. and repeated in Spanish, along with other prayers, from 4-5 p.m. South Hadley: Eucharistic adoration is held on the first Saturday of each month from 8 a.m.-3:30 p.m. at St. Patrick Parish on Main Street. Springfield: Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament is held Tuesdays from 9 a.m-5 p.m. at Holy Name Church, 323 Dickinson St. Springfield: Adoration with Benediction, led by Deacon Bob Farrell, is held on Thursdays from 5-6 p.m. at Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Church, 123 William Street.

MEETING MONTHLY - WOMEN’S GROUP - Westfield: The St. Mary's Women's Group meetings monthly in the evening. All women are welcome to join us to connect with other Christian women for fellowship, scripture reading, reflection and discussion. This is a great opportunity to spend a few moments with the women of our church and community to support and encourage each other on our life's journey. This group is open to women of all ages. Visit http://www.stmarysofwestfield.com/ or call 413-562-5477 for more information.

THIRD SUNDAYS: SACRAMENT OF THE SICK - South Hadley: The Sacrament of the Sick is held at noon on the third Sunday of each month at St. Patrick Parish on Main Street.
LAST SUNDAYS - MINI-RETREAT - Holyoke: A Mini Retreat at Immaculate Conception Church, 54 N. Summer St. Father Sean O’Mannion, national director of the Guard of Honor of the Sacred Heart of Jesus and pastor of Immaculate Conception Parish, will lead the retreat, which will begin with the Divine Mercy Chaplet, followed by a talk on Sacred Heart spirituality, exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, recitation of the rosary and Benediction. (Illustration Mickey McGrath OSFS’s “No Storm Can Shake My Inmost Calm”)

FIRST SUNDAYS - FAITH AND LIGHT GATHERINGS - Holyoke: Faith and Light, a gathering of people with disabilities, their families, friends and caregivers, meets the first Sunday of the month after the noon Mass at the Celebration Center at Jericho to pray, share, and celebrate together as a community. For more information, contact Sister Joan at 413-538-7450 or srjoan@jerichobeca.org. (Thanks to “Open Doors to Multicultural Families in Kent, WA for the image.)

FIRST TUESDAYS - ALWAYS OUR CHILDREN - Springfield: A support group and ministry for parents, families and friends of gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender persons will meet in the Community Room of the convent behind Sacred Heart Church, 395 Chestnut St., on the first Tuesday of the month at 7 p.m. Call 413-736-6803. Sr. Chris notes: FYI, the US Conference of Catholic Bishops’ Pastoral Message “Always our Children” is available at USCCB Issues and Action Always Our Children. (Thanks to Marquette University for their “Respect Life Month” poster.)

FIRST TUESDAYS - SUICIDE LOSS SUPPORT - Pittsfield: A Suicide Loss Support Group meets the first Tuesday of the month from 6-7:30 p.m. at the Brien Center, 10 Wendell Ave. Contact Peg Morse at 413-441-6316 to register or for more information.


EVERY WEDNESDAY - HOLY HOUR FOR LIFE - from 11:15 a.m.-12:15 p.m. at St. Jerome Church, 169 Hampden St., Holyoke

SECONDWEDNESDAYS - PARENT SUPPORT GROUP - Holyoke: A Parent Support Group for families of individuals with disabilities is held the second Wednesday of every month from 11 a.m.-noon or 6:30-7:30 p.m. at the Alleluia House at the Bureau for Exceptional Children and Adults at Jericho, 537 Northampton St. For more information, contact Laura at 413-538-7450 or laura@jerichobeca.org.

THIRD WEDNESDAYS - SPAGHETTI SUPPERS - South Hadley: The Knights of Columbus Council 1721 holds its Monthly Spaghetti Supper on the third Wednesday of the month from 4-6:30 p.m. in the St. Patrick Social Center. Includes spaghetti with meat sauce, garden salad, rolls, cake, coffee, tea or non-carbonated beverage. Take-Out dinners available. For more information, call the parish at 413-532-2850. Holyoke: The Mater Dolorosa School PTO will host a Spaghetti Supper from 4-7 p.m. on the first Wednesday of each month at the Pope John Paul II Social Center, St. Kolbe Drive. Cost is $6 for adults; $4 for children 5-12; and free for children 4 and under.

THURSDAYS - TODDLER PLAYGROUP - South Hadley: Children ages newborn to 5 are welcome to come and play, while caregivers enjoy conversation, on Thursday mornings from 9:30-11:30 a.m. in St. Patrick's Social Center. Snacks and beverages are provided.
**Volunteers Needed!** Homework House Holyoke provides free after-school tutoring and mentoring for children in Holyoke, Massachusetts who are at-risk for academic failure and dropping out of school. We give children a loving and caring environment. We help them improve their literacy skills so they can become productive members of our community. We work towards rekindling their interests in learning and self-improvement- one page at a time. Services are provided to school-age children without regard to race, religion, ethnicity, or gender. For a volunteer application and more information visit Homework House at [http://www.homeworkhouseholyoke.org](http://www.homeworkhouseholyoke.org)

**At Bethlehem House: Immediate Need for Cleaning, Counselors, Order Fillers and Sewers to run our serger to help make pack & play sheets, or work from home on your serger. We have fabric & pattern & sheets pre-cut. Call Pamela at 413-262-8517. Bethlehem House also seeks volunteers willing to work as counselors for clients served by the organization. Bethlehem House is a non-profit, faith-based organization. Working closely with area hospitals to identify clients in need, the organization delivers baby baskets to new moms and babies at four area hospitals. Services at Bethlehem House include a 24 hr. crisis hotline, counseling and referrals, free confidential pregnancy testing, assistance in obtaining prenatal care, financial/legal aid, job training, emergency food, maternity and baby supplies, childbirth and child care programs, breastfeeding classes, educational assistance, adoption information and abstinence and STD education. Please visit [http://www.bethlehemhousewma.org](http://www.bethlehemhousewma.org).

**Providence Ministries**, started 35 years ago by the Sisters of Providence in Holyoke, is located at 51 High Street, Holyoke MA. Visit them at [https://www.provministries.com](https://www.provministries.com), Sr. Chris adds: material support is a partial response, right? Let’s consider ways to connect. Let’s remember these ministries and the people and God they serve in our prayers. Providence Ministries is in desperate need of warm clothing and supplies this winter. Providence accepts contributions of all shapes and sizes! **Margaret's Pantry** is located at 56 Cabot St., Holyoke, MA 01040 (That’s in the heart of the Broderick House. (413) 538-8026.

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Business Hours: Monday 8:00 am – 6:00 pm & Tuesday- Friday 8:00 am – 4:00 pm. Donations accepted Monday – Friday 9:00 am – 3:00 pm/ Summer – closed on Fridays. This is a full service food pantry that provides food to residents of the greater Holyoke area. **Kate's Kitchen** serves a noontime meal to anyone, no questions asked, 365 days a year. Kate's also offers a brown bag supper on Wednesdays from 5-6 pm. Location: 51 Hamilton St., Holyoke, MA 01040 (413) 532-0233 . OPEN Monday - Sunday, 365 days/year. Volunteers welcome.

**St. Jude's Clothing Center** accepts donations of good used clothing and small housewares during business hours. We provide clothing, and small household furnishings to the needy of our community. The program sells clothing at a nominal cost, which in turn helps defray the expenses of the program. We provide some form of assistance to approximately 3,000 individuals each year. Location: 56 Cabot St., Holyoke, MA 01040 OPEN: Tuesday & Thursday 12:30 pm – 2:30 pm. Donations accepted Monday – Friday 9:00 am – 3:00 pm. CLOSED on Friday’s during the summer. Walk-ins always welcome. Open to the community/ Contact: Brenda @ 413-538-8026 for more info. Walk-ins are always welcome. St. Jude’s is open to the community.