

August Memorials

The **Altar Breads** to be consecrated in all of the Masses here in the Chapel during the month of August have been donated for the greater honor and glory of God in memory of “**T.J. Merritt** by his loving parents.

The **Altar Wine** to be consecrated in all of the Masses here in the Chapel during the month of August has been donated for the greater honor and glory of God in memory of **Beverly Dupuis**.

The **Sanctuary Lamp** which will burn before the tabernacle during the month of August has been donated in Thanksgiving to our Blessed Mother and to St. Joseph by **Dorothy Harding**.

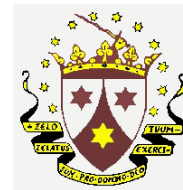
The **Oil in the Altar Candles** that will burn during the month of August has been donated for the greater honor and glory of God in memory of **Tom Tighe, Jr.** by a friend.

Words of Fr. Kilian Healey from his book **Awakening Your Soul to the Presence of God**.

The first way of learning to live with God so as to love Him dearly is to elevate the mind to Him through the visible things around us. Wherever we go, God is there: “If I ascend into Heaven, Thou art there. If I descend into hell, Thou art present. If I take my wings early in the morning, and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea, even there also shall Thy hand lead me, and Thy right hand shall hold me.”

Whatever we look at, God is within it. Look at the sun. It brings light and warmth into our life. It reflects the goodness of God, who has created it. Gaze at the moon and the stars. They are the lanterns placed by God in the heavens to guide the weary traveler. Bless God who has made them, for the heavens and earth are full of His glory; made them, “Look upon the rainbow, and bless Him that made it: it is very beautiful in its brightness. It encompasseth the heavens about with the circle of its glory; the hands of the Most High have displayed it.”

So the beauty of nature reflects the beauty of God. For those who will not close their eyes, and who harden not their hearts, beautiful things are seen as the fingerprints of God. “A whirlwind and clouds are the dust of His feet” All things are his messengers, making known His goodness, His justice, and His power.



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I am sorry to announce that we are going to have to make a major change in the schedule of our daily Masses here in the Chapel. I think everyone knows by now that for reasons of health, I had to retire after a mild heart attack last April. We thought that a replacement would be sent here either just before or after our Provincial Chapter in June. As it worked out, no replacement was available, and there probably will not be anyone available for at least a few months.

I really see the necessity of making a change in our schedule to reflect the change in numbers of our active staff. So as a result we are eliminating the 8:30 A.M. Mass until such a time as we have three active priests in our community once again. I know that this will be a disappointment and an inconvenience for some people, but it is the Mass that is least attended, and there are other Masses in the area at or around that time each day. For example, there is an 8:00 A.M. Mass in the Chapel of the Discalced Carmelite Nuns at 15 Mt.

Carmel Drive in Danvers, a 9:00 o'clock Mass at St. Mary of the Annunciation in Danvers, an 8:00 o'clock Mass Mon. thru Friday at Saint Richard of Chichester in Danvers, and a 9:00 o'clock Mass Mon. Tues. and Wed. at St. Ann's Church on Lynn Street in Peabody. This change will become effective on August 15th, the Feast of the Assumption into Heaven of the Blessed Virgin Mary. (***This year because the feast falls on a Monday, it is NOT a Holy Day of Obligation.***)

Unfortunately, this change of schedule will require that we re-schedule all of the 8:30 Masses that had been scheduled in advance. In all cases we will be able to re-schedule to a different time on the same day or to a day very close to the original date. Kathy Riley from the Carmelite Gift Shop will be in touch with those who reserved the Mass by phone.

I am happy to report that although the Air Conditioning system does have issues that will have to be addressed in the not too distant future, Our system was not the cause of the recent water problems that we had in the Chapel ceiling. Much to our relief, that was caused by a problem with the drainage system of the stores on the upper level and was very quickly attended to by the Mall Maintenance crew.

CHAPEL OFFERINGS: Once again I feel it necessary to remind you that the principal source of income for the Chapel is the Offertory collection at the two Saturday afternoon Masses. As I'm sure you all know, because I have shared the information with you more than once. **WE DO HAVE TO PAY RENT FOR THE CHAPEL AND THE GIFT SHOP!** We pay by the number of square feet that we occupy, and it is quite expensive. Our rent for the Chapel and the Gift Shop amounts to about \$110,000 a year. You have all been very generous in maintaining this Chapel in the past, and we look forward to you helping us out now and in the future. The truth is that we count way too many one dollar bills in the collection. I would ask you to please reflect on your weekly offering to the Chapel. Has it increased in recent years or are you still throwing one or two dollars in the basket? Where could you buy a cup of coffee for a dollar today? How much do you tip the girl in the hair salon after having your hair done? Would she be happy with a dollar? What is the average tip in a restaurant? Is a two dollar or three dollar offering suitable for what you receive at Mass.

I am asking you to **pleeeaaassssee** increase your offering each Saturday. I sincerely believe that for the vast majority of people who come to Mass here in the chapel, a five dollar offering would not be a burden.

For example there were 235 people at the 4:00 Mass last Saturday and the collection at that Mass was \$707.00. It averages out to \$3.00 each. Interestingly enough, there were 136 people at the 5:30 Mass and that collection amounted to \$670. That averages out to about \$4.92 each. I have found it to be quite consistent, that the people attending the 5:30 Mass are always more generous in their offerings than those at the 4:00. As you can see, the total of the offerings at those two Masses \$1,337.00.

I would never put a dollar value on the Mass, but I am asking you to be a little more conscientious in helping us to pay the expenses involved in maintaining this Chapel. At the same time, I really do wish to thank those who very generously contribute to the Chapel on a regular basis, whether it be in their donation in the Offertory collection each week or in the payment of their annual pledge to the support of the Chapel. Your generosity is deeply appreciated.

The average of the two Saturday Offertory Collections is between \$1,300 and \$1,450. If that could be increased by about \$300 a week, You would make me very happy, and make my life much easier. I would also like to leave the Chapel in a better financial condition for the new Director whenever he is appointed.

Occasionally we do receive some bequests from people who have remembered us in their wills. Usually they are not large sums of money, but they come as a very unexpected surprise and are most welcome. When you are setting up your estate plans, please be so kind as to remember the Chapel. The legal name of the Chapel is: Society of Mt. Carmel of Massachusetts. You will be remembered for ever as a benefactor of the Chapel and the Order of Carmelites, not only here in our Chapel but in all our Carmelite ministries where Masses and prayers are offered regularly for our benefactors.

“It is possible to give away and become richer. It is also possible to hold on too tightly and lose everything. Generous people shall be rich. By watering others, they water themselves.” Proverbs 11:24-25