

✠ Divine Mercy Parish ✠

(Founded 2010)

Saints Peter & Paul Church
Est. 1903

St. Anne Church
Est. 1882

St. Adalbert Church
Est. 1910

Three Rivers, Massachusetts

Rev. Stefan J. Niemczyk, Pastor

Rectory: 2267 Main Street (413) 283-6030

Office Hours: Mon. & Fri. 9 A.M. to 3 P.M.; Tues., Wed., Thursday 9 A.M. to 1 P.M.

Divine Mercy Religious School & Parish Hall – 283-4320

Email: stspeterpaulanne@gmail.com ~~~ Website: www.churchofdivinemercury.org

December 11, 2011



Vigil of Sunday – 4:00 p.m. and 5:15 p.m. - **Sunday** – 8:00 a.m.(Polish) and 9:30 a.m.

Daily Masses – 7:00 a.m. (except Tuesday) - Tuesday – Novena & Mass 5:30 p.m.

Holy Day Masses – Refer to Mass Schedule

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**SACRAMENT OF PENANCE** – Saturday 3:00 p.m. First Friday at 6:30 p.m.

**SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM & HOLY MATRIMONY** – Contact Rectory to make arrangements

**SACRAMENT OF THE SICK (ANOINTING)** – Contact Rectory when the need arises

**SICK CALLS** – Anytime

Items for the bulletin should be submitted no later than Wednesday morning at 10:00 a.m. Editorial discretion on all items. Email: [stspeterpaulanne@gmail.com](mailto:stspeterpaulanne@gmail.com).

Director of Religious Education - Jean Brigham (283-4232)  
Parish Secretaries - Lydia McKee & Debra Ingalls  
Choir Director & Organist - Mark Narreau (583-8541)  
Organist - Mary Besko & Barbara Kelleher  
Web-site Editor - Paul Brozek

**Welcome to Divine Mercy Parish** ~ We are pleased to have you present today and extend to you the warmest of welcomes. It is fitting that we should celebrate the Holy Mass together at our Parish, the center of our spiritual life. We ask everyone gathered here to remember this is a holy place. It is a place where the Blessed Sacrament, Our Lord present among us, is kept in the tabernacle. It is also a sacred place for prayer. Therefore, please maintain a respectful silence in the Church out of consideration for the presence of Our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament, and those who are praying. Thank you for your understanding.



## WEEKLY CALENDAR



### **SATURDAY, December 10<sup>th</sup>**

- CCD Classes for Grades K-5 ~ 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.
- Confessions at 3:00 p.m.

### **SUNDAY, December 11<sup>th</sup>**

- CCD Classes for Grades 6-10 ~ 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.
- CCD Classes for Grade 11 ~ 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. in the Parish Center
- Chalice of Strength – Prayers for Priests & Vocations – 4:00 p.m. in the Church

### **MONDAY, December 12<sup>th</sup>**

### **TUESDAY, December 13<sup>th</sup>**

- Choir Rehearsal – check with Mark Narreau, Director
- **Sts. Peter and Paul Men's Guild Meeting at 6:30 p.m. in the Parish Hall.**

### **WEDNESDAY, December 14<sup>th</sup>**

- Alcoholic Anonymous – 7:00 p.m. – St. Maximilian Kolbe Room

### **THURSDAY, December 15<sup>th</sup>**

### **FRIDAY, December 16<sup>th</sup>**

### **SATURDAY, December 17<sup>th</sup>**

- CCD Classes for Grades K-5 ~ 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.
- Confessions at 3:00 p.m.
- **Men's Guild ~ Pork Loin Dinner in the Parish Hall at 6:00 p.m.**

### **SUNDAY, December 18<sup>th</sup>**

- CCD Classes for Grades 6-10 ~ 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.
- CCD Classes for Grade 11 ~ 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. in the Parish Center
- Chalice of Strength – Prayers for Priests & Vocations – 4:00 p.m. in the Church



## **Mass Intentions**

### **Saturday – December 10<sup>th</sup>**

7:00 a.m. +Joseph Swist – His Daughter Irene and Son-in-law John Dyl

4:00 p.m. +Donald Rooney – Andy & Cindy Leveillee

+Deceased member of Frank Kargol Family – Cis Misiaszek

5:15 p.m. +Lillian & George Currie – Their Family

+Jacqueline Janosz ~ 1<sup>st</sup> Anniv. – Her Sister Sophie Cuzzone

### **Sunday – December 11<sup>th</sup> ~ *Third Sunday of Advent***

8:00 a.m. +Fred Mastalerz – Julie & Carol

9:30 a.m. +Deceased Members of Antonio & Agata Frydryk Family – Their Family

+Stanley Wojtowicz – Stanley & Paul

### **Monday – December 12<sup>th</sup> ~ *Our Lady of Gaudalupe***

7:00 a.m. Divine Mercy Parishioners

### **Tuesday – December 13<sup>th</sup> ~ *St. Lucy, virgin and martyr***

5:30 p.m. +William Watson – His Wife and Children

### **Wednesday – December 14<sup>th</sup> ~ *St. John of the Cross, priest and doctor of the Church***

7:00 a.m. +Joseph Geslock – Mary and Stanley Trela

### **Thursday – December 15<sup>th</sup>**

7:00 a.m. +Gene & Helen Charette – Brother Normand and Family

### **Friday – December 16<sup>th</sup>**

7:00 a.m. +Roy Forkey – M/M Chester Kecki

### **Saturday – December 17<sup>th</sup>**

7:00 a.m. +Josephine Cioch – Her Daughter and Grandchildren

4:00 p.m. +Frank Augustine – Florence Ziemba Family

+Henry & Sophie Jacek – Their Son Fred and Daughter-in-law Joyce

5:15 p.m. +Clarence Pikul – His Wife Theresa and Family

+Deceased Members of the Milewski Family – Their Family

### **Sunday – December 18<sup>th</sup> ~ *Fourth Sunday of Advent***

8:00 a.m. +Walerian I Sabina Zwyrbla od syna Stanley & Joyce Zwyrbla

9:30 a.m. +Zygmunt Salamon – His Daughter

+John Olearczyk – From His Wife & Family

~~ **DIVINE MERCY SCHOOL OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS** ~~



**NO CCD – December 24<sup>th</sup> & 25<sup>th</sup> and December 31<sup>st</sup> & January 1<sup>st</sup>**

CCD Classes for Grades K-5 ~ Saturday's from 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.

CCD Classes for Grades 6-10 ~ Sunday's from 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

CCD Classes for Grade 11 ~ Sunday's 6:30-7:30 p.m. in the Parish Center.

Any questions or concerns call Jean Brigham, CCD Coordinator at 283-4232



~~ **ADORATION OF THE MOST BLESSED SACRAMENT** ~~

Wednesday – 7:30 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Thursday – 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Friday – 7:30 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Saturday – 7:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

*If you can give one hour, or substitute, please call Diana Roth @ 283-8709*

**“Attitude ~** We cannot control the wind, but we can adjust our sails.”

**For Reflection:**

“When people question about weather a Priest should marry?

A better question to meditate on “ Was Jesus married???”



**Pro-Life Reflection**

From today's Gospel, John 1: "I am the voice crying out in the desert..."

Be that voice that seeds life into the barrenness of the culture of death.

# ~~ DIVINE MERCY NEWS ~~

## UPCOMING EVENTS

Saturday, December 17<sup>th</sup> ~ Men's Guild Pork Loin Dinner



### MOTHER OF MERCY PRAYER FORCE

Anyone who would like their intentions prayed for please EMAIL them to [stjoseph1955@msn.com](mailto:stjoseph1955@msn.com). We have a network of prayer warriors who will pray for your intentions etc.



**STAR PROGRAM 2011 - 2012** Your **December** contributions to the STAR Program may be deposited in the weekly collection basket or may be mailed to the Rectory. Please make your check payable to Divine Mercy Parish and include the applicable coupon so you will be properly credited and entered in the drawings.



**PARISH WEB-SITE** - [www.churchofdivinemeracy.org](http://www.churchofdivinemeracy.org). Paul Brozek is the person that updates the web-site; if you have any comments or would maybe like to see something added, please contact the Rectory. Weekly bulletin can be viewed there.



**FOOD SHARE** - Please continue to assist with your donations to the Food Share program. All non-perishable items are accepted, including crackers, Jell-O, condiments, coffee, tea, jams, jellies, cake mixes, etc. Drop off donations in the box at church. *Thank you for your help!*



Substituted teachers are needed for CCD, especially for Sunday morning. If interested please call Jean Brigham at 283-4232 or call the Rectory during office hours and leave your name and telephone number.



**THE STS. PETER & PAUL MEN'S GUILD** will hold their December meeting on **Tuesday, December 13<sup>TH</sup>** at 6:30 p.m. in the Parish Hall. All current members are urged to attend, and any and all prospective members are cordially invited as well."



**MEN'S GUILD ~ PORK LOIN DINNER** The Men's Guild will be hosting a Pork Loin Dinner on Saturday, December 17<sup>th</sup> with a social at 6:00 p.m. and dinner following at 6:30 p.m. Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$5 for children 12 and under. The public is invited.



As a reminder to the members of the Men's Guild. They are looking for donations for the Sleigh Raffle. Tickets and information at the next meeting.



**OPLATKI "THE CHRISTMAS WAFER"** is available for purchase at the Rectory during office hours and/or after the weekend masses. (\$2.00 for a package of 4 wafers)



## ~~ AROUND THE AREA ~~

**CONFESSIONS** – Every Tuesday from noon to 2:00 p.m. at Our Lady of Sacred Heart on Boston Road in Springfield. English–Polish–Spanish. This is Fr. Tomasz Parzynski’s Parish.

**ANNUAL CHRISTMAS COOKIE SALE – December 21<sup>st</sup> & 22<sup>nd</sup>** Large Box is \$7.00 and Small Box is \$4.00. Orders over 2 boxes have to be prepaid. Orders can be picked up on December 21<sup>st</sup> after 1:00 p.m. or on December 22<sup>nd</sup> from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Call and place your orders at the Palmer Council of Aging on 1029 Central Street in Palmer 283-2670.

They make GREAT GIFTS and are homemade. Thank you and Merry Christmas. This fundraiser is sponsored by the Friends of the Palmer Senior Center, Inc.

**MARRIAGE HELP** - Retrouvaille is a Catholic program for couples who are experiencing marital difficulty. Retrouvaille offers tools to help couples heal and renew their marriage. Retrouvaille has helped tens of thousands of couples and can help you too! For confidential information or to register for the January program beginning with a weekend January 20th-22nd , please call 1-800-470-2230, send an email to held5@charter.net or visit the web site at [www.HelpOurMarriage.com](http://www.HelpOurMarriage.com)



### *Christmas Wafer History*

For centuries on Christmas Eve, families in Poland, Lithuania, the Czech and Slav Republics have practiced a beautiful tradition. It is the breaking and sharing of the Oplatek – Christmas Wafer. Oplatek taken from the Latin word oblatum, meaning Sacred Bread, has been the symbol of Christianity and Jesus Christ our bread of life.

On the Holiest Night of the year a festive 12 course meatless dinner is prepared for the gathered family and friends. An extra setting is placed for a beggar (our Lord) who may come to the door, or a poor family (the Holy Family) looking for a place to stay. The host or hostess leads the group in a special prayer and distributes an oplatek to the participants. Each person breaks off a piece of the other’s oplatek and continues until they have exchanged good wishes and blessings with everyone.

Traditionally at midnight the head of the household takes the pink oplatek and shares it with the animals on his farm or at his home. This custom brings us back to that Holy Night when even animals were able to speak, and to remind us that we are all God’s creatures.

# FIFTY QUESTIONS ON THE ORDER OF MASS

## A Brief Examination of Practice

These brief reflections are about developing good habits. Habits of fidelity to the liturgical books of the Roman Rite. They are based upon a conviction that only through fidelity to the Church's liturgical texts and rites can we bring about an effective *Ars Celebrandi*, an art of celebrating the sacred liturgy with authenticity.

(Continued from last week)

### THE PENITENTIAL ACT

#### **#9 ~ Can the priest use his own words to introduce the Penitential Act?**

No. The priest must use the words given in the Order of Mass to introduce both the Penitential Act and the Lord's Prayer.

#### **#10 ~ How many times must we strike our breasts at the "through my fault, through my fault, through my most grievous fault"?**

While the extraordinary form prescribes that the breast is struck three times, the current *Roman Missal* simply says we strike our breasts, without prescribing the number of times.

#### **#11 ~ Can I use my own words for the third form of the Penitential Act ("You were sent to heal the contrite of heart: Lord, have mercy...")?**

Yes. The invocations of Christ's mercy can be taken from the typical form in the Order of Mass, one of the seven forms provided by the USCCB, or from a form written by the priest. However, it should always be borne in mind that the character of the eight models provided by the Missal is a proclamation of the praise of God's mercy, not a public confession of our sins. The emphasis on our sinfulness is in the acclamation "Lord/Christ, have mercy." Not in the changeable trope. Each trope is addressed to Christ in praise of his great mercy!

#### **#12 ~ Is the concluding prayer of absolution similar to the absolution given in the Sacrament of Penance?**

No. This prayer "lacks the efficacy of the Sacrament of Penance."

#### **#13 ~ When does the priest pray the "Kyrie eleison" or "Lord, Have Mercy"?**

The triplex "Lord have mercy/Christ, have mercy/Lord, have mercy" is always a part of the Penitential Act. When it is not included as a part of the Penitential Act (the first two forms) it is sung or prayed after the Prayer of Absolution. It is never appropriate to replace the forms of the Penitential Act with a simple "Lord, have mercy/Christ, have mercy/Lord, have mercy."

### THE GLORIA

#### **#14 ~ Can another hymn be used in place of the Gloria?**

No. No hymn may be used in place of the Gloria.



## ~~ DONATIONS ~~

**GENERAL FUND** ~ \$100 in memory of Sophie and Henry Jacek from their son Fred and daughter-in-law Joyce

\$100 for Christmas Flowers from the Rosary Sodality

Christmas Candy Donation in memory of Stanley & Celia Swiatlowski from Natalie & David Taylor and Ron & Jane Swiatlowski

### ***SINCERE THANKS***

***For your generosity & support of our parish  
God Bless All***

### **Bible Word Search: Christmas Traditions**

All the words listed below are in the puzzle - left, right, up, down or diagonally. Find each word and circle or highlight it. After you have found all the words, use the leftover letters in the correct order to form the ***mystery answer***. The answer is on the back page, but no peeking!!!

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|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
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| H | H | C | S | U | N | U | T | C | R | A | C | K | E | R |
| O | E | A | T | A | O | S | H | T | A | E | R | W | P | M |
| P | P | E | N | B | I | Y | O | H | N | R | S | S | A | I |
| P | H | P | E | N | T | T | S | G | G | B | L | B | R | S |
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| H | C | I | F | S | G | N | I | C | I | O | J | E | R | W |

### **SEARCH WORDS**

Angels, Bells, Blessings, Bows, Candles, Decorations, Friends, Fruitcake, Gingerbread, Greetings, Holiday, Ivy, Joy, Lights, Magi, Malls, Mistletoe, Nativity, Nutcracker, Ornaments, Peace, Poinsettias, Presents, Reindeer, Rejoicing, Rudolph, Santa, Shepherds, Shopping, Sleigh, Stockings, Tannenbaum, Tree, Wrap, Wreaths, Yule

## VOTIVE LAMP INTENTIONS

1.+Edna Burns – daughter Patty. 1. Zsp. Joseph & Frances Swist – daughter. 1.+Earl McKee – wife Lydia. 1.+Frank & Mary Falk – daughter & son-in-law. 1.+Felix & Catherine Misiaszek – son Peter & daughter-in-law. 1.+Phyllis Misiaszek – brother Peter & sister-in-law. 1.+Sister Josephine – Niece. 1.+St. Anne special blessings on grandchildren. 1. St. Anthony for a special favor. 1. +Joseph Misiaszek Peter & sister-in-law. 1. Zsp. Deceased members of Salamon & Marcinkiewicz families. 1. +Deceased members of Gut & Yurkunas family. 1.+Helen & Francis Ford – Pat. 1. Zsp. Jana Wasiuk – od zony z rodzina. 1. Thank you God, for prayers answered & continued blessings & good health – B.R. 1. God's blessing & continuing recovery for Eleanor – Charlie. 1.+Michael A. & Mary Wojnilowicz – son Michael. 1. Pray for world peace – Holy Rosary Sodality. 1. For a friend's health. 1.+Edward Ziobrowski – family. 1. For all members of the military – Rosary Sodality. 1. For an end to abortion – Rosary Sodality. 1. Health for our sick parishioners – Rosary Sodality. 1. For Priestly and Religious vocations – Rosary Sodality. 1. +Darryl Tyburski – love Mom, Dad, sister Betty & brothers Tom & Ray. 1.+Edward Godek – wife Pat. 1. Health & God's blessings for Irene Orluk – Sophie. 1.+Kowalczyk family – family. . 1. Healing for Susan B – LJF. 1. Rest in peace Michael – LJF. 1. God's blessings & health for daughter-in-law Donna. 1. +John Olearczyk – wife & family. 1. +Rusty Nowak – wife & son. 1. +Nancy Szostek – Gloria Nowak. 1. Health & God's blessing for daughter & family. 1. God's blessings & recovery for my sister Dee – Gloria Nowak. 1. God's blessing & good health for Camden Lee – Gloria Nowak. 1. +Wally & Sabina Zwyrbla. 1. God's blessing & complete healing for Grant – love Uncle Tom & Aunt Alice. 1. Thank you, Jesus, for prayers answered & continued blessings – Pauline & Ed. 1. Zsp. Franciszke I Wojciecha Frydryk – Syn. 1. Zsp. Stella I Leo Pulaski – J.F.. 1. Zsp. Anne I Michala Zbylot – J.F.. 1. Zsp. Edna I Frank Pytka – J.F.. 1. Zsp. John I Michael Boronski – J.F.. 1. Z sp. Patricia Kohler – J.F.. 1. +Germaine Morin – Gloria Nowak. 1. For Father Stefans Guardian Angel to help keep him healthy, safe & protect him always – L.R.. 1. For the intentions of the Prayer Line & Mother of Mercy Prayer Force – L.R.. 1. For the souls who did not give proper honor to Our Lady – L.R.. 1. In celebration of a new Secular Franciscan order at St. Francis Church in Belchertown – L.R.. 1. To Blessed Mother for complete healing for Ted & Del Mc. – L.R.. 1. Health & happiness of K.T.E.N. – M.P.. 1. God's blessings & health for J.J.P.B.J. – M.P.. 1. +Victor Bukowski – R.C.. 1. +Richard Wawro – love, wife Barbara. 1. +John Mastalerz – wife & family. 1. +Louis Zglobicki – wife & family. 1. Blessed Mother – blessings & good health for daughters & granddaughters. 1. St. Lucy – E.. 1. Health & blessings for Ted McClosky – E. Sabourin. 1. Safe travel for daughters. 1. St. Jude & St. Anthony – E.. 1. +Raymond Sabourin, Sr. – wife & family. 1. Blessings & good health for daughter & son & their families. 1. +Fred Mastalerz – love Julie & Carol. 1. +Anthony Zieminski – wife & family. 1. +Stephen & Sophie Noga – son Stephen. 1. +husband & son – love – A. Pietrewicz. 1. God's blessings & speedy recovery for Nick Falcetti – Vicki & Art Miner. 1. God's blessings & good health for Eddie Koss – Stanley

& Mary. 1. Bleated God's blessing for Eileen & Roland **62<sup>nd</sup>** anniv. – Gloria Nowak. 1. 1. +Tom Marciniac – sister Connie. 1. +Leo Garceau – wife Connie. 1. +James Potts – C. Misiaszek. 1. +Frank Kargol (**50<sup>th</sup>** anniv.) – family. 1. +Joe Misiaszek – Cis & family. 1. God's blessings & recovery for Carol Shea – Sally Olearczyk. 1. God's blessings for full time job. 1. God's blessings & good health for Hedy Workum – Emily Izyk. 1. God's blessings & good health for all our families. 1. Jesus I Trust In Thee. 1. +Fred & Helen Krawczyk – daughter & son-in-law. 1. +Henry Stefanowich – Anna. 1. +Sophie Socha (birthday remembrance) – Anna. 1. To St. Lucy for a special favor. 1. God's blessings for Alice Smola – son Rich. 1. God's blessings, good health & continued success for Rep. Todd Smola – EK&GK. 1. +Walter Smola – wife Alice. 1. In loving memory of Grace Kulpa – daughter Debbie. 1. +Grace Kulpa – husband Ed. 1. God's blessings & good health for my grandson – Babci. 1. +Frank Miskiewicz – Barbara. 1. +Sophie & Joseph Socha – Barbara. 1. God's blessings & good health for Eddie Koss – Barbara & Anna. 1. God's blessings & good health for Hedy Workum – John & Irene Dyl. 1. God's blessings & good health for Eddie Koss – John & Irene Dyl. 1. +Victor Bukowski – wife Frances & family. 1. Zsp. Rodzicow Witkowskich – od corki. 1. +Gernaine Morin – Lydia McKee. 1. +Genevieve Vaz – Lori. 1. God's blessings – Gale Benoit. 1. Living & deceased members of Lemanski & Vaz families. 1. Christmas Blessings – 3 Rivers Postmaster. 1. healing, strength, protection. 1. For Mom & Dad's health – TKNE. 1. The Lemanski family. – S.. 1. A.J. & Joanne & S.K.L. – S.. 1. +Jennie Vaz – S.. 1. Lori Vaz – S.. 1. +Julia A. Machnik – S.. 1. Gale Benoit – S.. 1. +Stella Maestrone – S.. 1. :Jesus I Trust In You" family blessings of health & strength. 1. +Dad Richard Wawro – Deb & Pete. 1. +William Gilbert. 1. +Helen Starzyk. 1. +Eleanor Starzyk. 1. +Betty Bielaska. 1. God's blessing for KDJ & good health. 1. +Fred Mastalerz – Pat Godek. 1. Family health & God's blessing. 1. +Anna Frydryk – Veronica Kokoszka. 1. To Pope John Paul I for good health of Blanche Wostena – children. 1. Zsp. Kelley Kenney, **1<sup>st</sup>** anniv. – the Wostena family. 1. To St. Anthony of Padua for special intentions. 1. Zsp. Joseph Wostena, Jr. – wife & children. 1. Zsp. Franciszek Czyzyk – od rodziny Wasiuk. 1. +Frank & Sophie Swiatlowski – family. 1. God's blessing & healing for Jake. 1. God's blessings for our family. 1. +Alphonse Roszko – wife & family. 1. +Joseph Marchelewicz – family. 1. Special intention for Father Stefan – S.. 1. +Edward Rudnick – family. 1. Miracle of strength for Little Ben – Pat & Linda. 1. Thanksgiving to St. Joseph – Sonny & Diana. 1. Thanksgiving to St. Philomena – Sonny & Diana.

**IN LOVING MEMORY** – Please remember in your prayers the soul of Germaine (Gerry) Morin. May she rest in peace.



~~ BACK PAGE HUMOR & MORE ~~

SENIOR DRIVER

Parked on the side of the road waiting to catch speeding drivers, a Massachusetts state trooper sees a car pattering along at 24 mph. He thinks to himself, "This driver is as dangerous as a speeder!" So he turns on his lights and pulls the driver over.

Approaching the car, he notices that there are five elderly ladies - two in the front seat and three in the back, wide-eyed and white as ghosts.

The driver, obviously confused, says to him, "Officer, I don't understand. I was going the exact speed limit. What seems to be the problem?"

The trooper, trying to contain a chuckle, explains to her that 24 was the route number, not the speed limit. A bit embarrassed, the woman grinned and thanked the officer for pointing out her error.

"But before you go, Ma'am, I have to ask, is everyone in this car OK? These women seem awfully shaken."

"Oh, they'll be all right in a minute, officer. We just got off Route 128."



***We would all like to wish Father Stefan a very***

***Happy Birthday***

***We all love you very much,  
have a wonderful day!***



***Mystery Answer is "Worship"***