

## URI CATHOLIC CENTER NEWS

This is a busy weekend! Nearly forty students have participated in our **Fall Retreat** which was held at the Rejoice in Hope Youth Center in Cranston. Many thanks to our Spiritual Chair, Kelsey Sheehan, and her lead team for planning an outstanding retreat. It started on Friday night and wraps up this morning, in time for the retreatants to attend the **Baptism of Lucy Anne Harper**, the newborn daughter of FOCUS missionaries Justin and Bridgette Harper. Congrats to the Harpers and prayers for Lucy on her baptism day! Today is also the **Pancake Breakfast** over at the Catholic Center. Our missionaries and other volunteers have worked very hard to plan this major fundraiser and appreciate your generosity in advance.



Speaking of the Mission Trip, many thanks again to Eva Mancuso-Feeney and her husband, Sean Feeney, for hosting the **“Macaroni for the Missions”** event on November 5 at their home, which raised **\$4,425.00!** Many thanks to Eva and her team for all their hard work, and many thanks to all who participated. Looking ahead, keep **Saturday, January 2, 2016** in mind. At the 5pm Mass that night, the missionaries will be introduced to our parish community and will be sent forth with our blessing. Following the liturgy, the missionaries will be on hand to meet parishioners and share a bit of food and fellowship. It'll be a great send-off for our missionaries and a great opportunity for our community to see firsthand the people they have so generously helped to participate in the trip. They will leave for JFK airport around midnight and depart for Nicaragua early on the morning of January 3.



There were no classes this past Wednesday, Veteran's Day, at either URI or at Prout, so we planned a little last-minute **road trip!** A group of students attended the morning Mass at 9am and then we drove up to Mount Saint Mary's Abbey in Wrentham, MA, the first monastery of Cistercian nuns in the United States. We got to see the grounds, visit the gift shop, buy some Trappistine candy (the nuns' famous Butter Nut Munch is made, along with all of

their other products, right there in Wrentham!), and join the nuns for midday prayer. Afterward, we went to lunch and then had time to do some early Christmas shopping at Wrentham Village. It was a great day!

As look forward to the **Solemnity of Christ the King**, our parish feast day and the last Sunday of the liturgical year, the Catholic Community at URI has been thinking of ways to commemorate the event at our 8pm Mass that night. We'll be welcoming some guests from other campuses and Fr. Chris Murphy, a friend and the chaplain at Bishop Hendricken High School, will be our guest preacher. And because Pope Francis has said so powerfully that Christ still walks our streets and that we as a Church are called to go out into the streets to witness to our love for God, we'll end the Mass with a candlelight procession from Christ the King to the Catholic Center (weather permitting). Our Newman Club will have already sponsored our annual **Thanksgiving dinner** for our students and missionaries prior to the Mass, so it will definitely be a special day of community, prayer and celebration.

Thanks again to all whose generosity have made the operation of the Catholic Center and all its programming possible! **-Fr. Joe**