

"To Preserve The Flame"
SAINT JOHN'S CHURCH

44 Temple St. Worcester, MA 01604

Phone: 508-756-7165

Msgr. Tinsley Center at Ascension Campus: 774-243-6351

PARISH STAFF

Pastor

Fr. John Madden
frjohnmadden@gmail.com

Assisting Priests

Fr. Charles Armev
Fr. James Hoey
Fr. James Mazzone

Deacons

Paul Dacri
Van Nguyen

**Coordinators of
Religious Education**

Donna Mastrovito
Dianne Gustowski

Director, After-School Program

Sr. Patricia Murphy, SSJ

Music Ministry

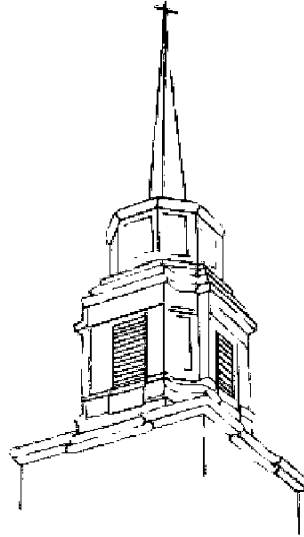
Sean Redrow, Director
Lucia Clemente Falco, Asst. Dir.

Rectory Office Hours:

Tues.-Fri. 9 am - 4 pm
Jimmy Archibald, Manager

Parish Email

stjohnsworc@gmail.com



MASS SCHEDULE

Lord's Day Masses

Saturday Vigil: 4:15 & 7:15 pm

Sunday: 8 am, 10:15 am,
12:15 pm & 7:15 pm

Weekdays

Monday-Friday 6:15 pm

SUNDAY'S READINGS

2 Chr 36:14-16, 19-23

Eph 2:4-10

Jn 3:14-21

Worship Hymnal #1037

Parish Website

www.stjohnsworcester.org
www.stjohnsfoodforthe poor.org

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Mon.-Thurs.. 6:45 pm

Saturday- 3 pm

Holy Days

Vigil 6:15 p.m.

Holy Day 12:15, 6:15 p.m.

Sacrament of Marriage

Please contact the parish office at
least one year prior to planned date
of marriage

Sacrament of Baptism

Please contact Deacon Paul for
an appointment

Sacrament of the Sick

Please contact the parish office for
a priest

**Monthly Mass for Healing
Followed by the Celebration
Of the**

Sacrament of the Sick

4th Tuesday of the month
6:15 pm

Mass Intentions

Saturday, March 10, 2018

4:15 PM **Joseph and Edna Gustowski**, req. by Family; **Alfred Lamountain-Burke**, req. by Peggy and Andy Sokolowski

7:15 PM **Frank V. Wright**, req. by Family

Sunday, March 11, 2018:

8:00 AM **Irene Recko (1st Anniv.)**, req. by Patty, Al, Nancy and Loraine; **Tim Plouffe**, req. by Sue and Al Johnson

10:15 AM **Joe and Phil Fitzgerald**, req. by family; **David Covello**, req. by Family

12:15 PM **Health and Intentions of Fr. Francis Britto, S.J.**, req. by Frank Carroll; **Mary Prunier**, req. by Family

7:15 PM **Scott Gow**, req. by Family

Monday, March 12, 2018

9:15 AM **John F. Madden**, req. by Family

12:15 PM **Deceased Members of the Ramelli Family**, req. by Family

6:15 PM **Patricia Vera and Mary Valencia**, req. by Family

Tuesday, March 13, 2018

6:15 PM **Joseph Pezzella**, req. by Family

Wednesday, March 14, 2018

6:15 PM **Bill Pugliese (3rd Anniv.)**, req. by Family

Thursday, March 15, 2018

6:15 PM **Robert V. Hoey**, req. by Fr. Jim

Friday, March 16, 2018

6:15 PM **A Special Intention**

Saturday, March 17, 2018

4:15 PM **Carl Steele (1st Anniv.)**, req. by Family;

7:15 PM **Joe Hickey and Dan Best**, req. by Family

Sunday, March 18, 2018:

8:00 AM **Lucy Thompson (42nd Anniv.)**, req. by Daughter Barbara; **Patrick Johnson**, req. by Family

10:15 AM **Joseph A., Joseph R. and Madeline Nozzolillo**, req. by Family; **Victor Kruczynski, Sr.**, req. by Family

12:15 PM **Bill Pugliese, Jr., Genevieve and William Pugliese, Sr.** req. by Family; **Birthday Wishes for Bernadette Boucher**, req. by Family

7:15 PM **Msgr. Ed Tinsley**, req. by Family
The Angelus and Rosary are prayed each weeknight at 5:45 p.m.

The Rosary is prayed each weekday **beginning with the Angelus at 5:50 p.m.**

Dear Friends in the Lord,

Our 95th Annual Novena of Grace in Honor of St. Francis Xavier concludes on Monday. As always these days have been filled with prayer, community and insight as we have turned to the powerful intercession of Francis Xavier, the co-patron of the missions along with St. Therese of Lisieux (whose Novena we hold from September 23—October 1).

Along with all at St. John's, I want to thank the many guests who have joined us for the Novena. Both those who have attended for years and years and those who have joined us only recently. To be honest, around day four we got a bit tired, but as we move toward the conclusion we don't want you to leave!

We all must thank those who are responsible for the smooth running of the Novena: Frank Carroll who does so much "advance work," Dolores, our Liturgy Director, Sean, our Music Director, Bobby, our Collection Director as well as Deacons Paul and Van, Rich, Mike and all the servers and collectors.

The speakers, of course, as well. When the flyers came out a few weeks ago, Msgr. Scollen observed that we did not have a "celebrity" (eg Cardinal O'Malley, Bishop Reed) this year. I mentioned that having him for a full day was the celebrity portion of this year's Novena! The truth is, as some have mentioned, we have developed a terrific list of regular speakers. There was no one here for their first time this year. It is obvious to me that this familiarity helps all of us to hear them more clearly. I think it is obvious to everyone that they are happy to be with us and this comfort opens them more fully to the Holy Spirit. They have been excellent.

Finally, we are most thankful to St. Francis Xavier himself. His response to God's call and the missionary work which followed changed the world and the Church. Still today, more than five hundred years later, his example and intercession draw us more deeply into God's love and the mission we each undertake. Thus giving us confidence that the world and the Church will continue to grow closer to God.

St. Francis Xavier pray for us:

THAT WE MAY BE MADE WORTHY OF THE PROMISES OF CHRIST.

In Christ's Peace,
Fr. John Madden

THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT

THIS WEEKEND'S HYMNS

Introit: *Laetare Ierusalem*, Is. 66, 10. 11; Ps. 122 (121)

Op.: # 2 Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow (Novena Booklet, p. 18)

Ps. 137 "Let my tongue be silenced, if I Ever Forget You!"

Gospel Acc.: # 208 "Praise and Honor..."

Prep.: St. Francis Hymn (Novena Booklet, p. 25)

Eucharistic Accs.: # 353, 356, 355, 311

Comm.: *Ierusalem quae aedificatur*, Ps. 122 (121)

Cl.: Holy God, We Praise Thy Name (Novena Booklet, p. 26)

ONGOING EVENTS AT ST. JOHN'S

March 13— Bible Study, 7 PM in the rectory.

March 15—RCIA in the 7 PM rectory.

March 16— Centering Prayer Group, 7 PM in the rectory.

March 26— The Catholic Book Club, 7 PM in the rectory. The selection for March is "Abandonment to Divine Providence" by Fr. Jean Pierre Cassaude, S.J.

PARTNERS IN CHARITY, the annual appeal to support the spiritual, educational and charitable ministry of the Diocese is underway. This year's theme is "Faith in Action— Loving God by serving others." The appeal's patron is Dorothy Day, Servant of God. This year our parish goal is \$76,600. Please be generous in supporting this diocesan effort. Donations may also be made online by visiting www.partners-charity.net.

HAITIAN APOSTOLATE MONTHLY CALENDAR RAFFLE —to support our annual trip to Grand Goave, Haiti and the mission of the Be Like Brit orphanage and St. Francois parish will be held in April. Tickets are available after the Masses or at the rectory. They are \$10, 3 for \$20 and 6 for \$50. Thank you for your generous support of those in need!

THE ST. RAFOA PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY will be meeting on Wednesday March 14 at 9:30-11:00 am, in the lower chapel. All knitters and crocheters are welcome to come. If you would like a prayer shawl for someone for any reason, please call Connie at 508-755-5172.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASSES

Grades 1-6— Sunday, March 18 at 9 AM in the church hall.

Grades 7- 9— Sunday, March 18, 11:15 AM in the church hall.

Confirmation— This Sunday, March 11, 11:30 AM –12:45 PM in the Xavier Center.

First Reconciliation/First Eucharist this Sunday, March 11 at 9 AM in the Xavier Center.

EASTER EGG HUNT will be held on Sunday, March 25th immediately following the 10:15 AM Mass in the rectory. We'll have many more eggs hidden this year, plus maybe a surprise guest or two!

ANNUAL CONFIRMATION SENDING MASS will be on Sunday, March 18th at 10:15 AM. Please join us in praying for, and welcoming these candidates into full initiation to the Catholic Church. Confirmation candidates please report to the church by 9:45 AM. A reception will follow in the Xavier Center. All are welcome.

LENTEN REGULATIONS FOR 2018

All Fridays in Lent are days of abstinence for all who have completed their 14th year. On Week Days of Lent there is no obligation to fast. However, voluntary acts of self-denial are recommended. Voluntary Self-Denial may include, in addition to fasting, participation in daily Mass, spiritual studies, Lenten Devotions, Stations of the Cross, saying the Rosary, deeds of mercy and kindness. Easter Duty Obligation must be made from the first Sunday in Lent (February 18) through Trinity Sunday (May 27).

DEEDS OF MERCY AND KINDNESS:

Brown Bag It— paper bags will be available in the church with a list of the food items most needed in our food pantry. You are invited to take a bag and when filled return it to the statue of St. Therese.

Baby Bottles and Rice Bowls will also be available. You are invited to place the money you would have spent on what you "give up" for Lent into the bottle and/or bowl. The bottles support the great pro-life work of Visitation House here in Worcester. The bowls support the great work done by Catholic Relief Services all across the globe.

ST. JOHN'S LENTEN DEVOTIONS

The Stations of the Cross are celebrated every Friday in Lent after the 6:15 PM Mass.

In Our Catholic Community...

A MASS FOR HEALING will be held Tuesday, March 27 at 6:15 PM. After the Mass the Sacrament of the Sick will be administered. Anyone seeking the healing touch of God's love and mercy is welcome.

NOTRE DAME ACADEMY'S open house for prospective students will be held on Sunday, March 25 from 2-4 PM. Students currently in 5th-8th grade are encouraged to attend. Please visit their website www.nda-worc.org to pre-register. NDA is the only Catholic private and independent college preparatory school for young girls in grades 7-12 in Central Mass.

FISH FRY TO BENEFIT POLISH LANGUAGE

CLASSES- Our Lady of Czestochowa Parish will serve a fresh haddock fish fry on Fridays during Lent from Noon-6 pm in the lower level of the church, 34 Ward St., to benefit Saturday Polish Language School. Includes fried fish, chips and coleslaw for \$10 eat-in or take-out. Chowder, soup, drinks and pastry are available for an additional charge.

THE LITHUANIAN SCOUTS will be celebrating their annual Spring Festival (Kaziuko Muge) at Maironis Park 52 South Quinsigamond Ave in Shrewsbury on Palm Sunday, March 25, starting at Noon. The Scouts are celebrating 100 years of scouting. A Lithuanian dinner and a chicken dinner will be served from 12:30 p.m. There will be vendors present plus the author, Ursula Song, who wrote about the Lithuanian resistance. The youngster from the Lithuanian School will also provide entertainment. Everyone is invited for an afternoon of fun.

XAVIER: MISSIONARY AND SAINT will be aired by WCCA TV Ch. 194 on Friday, March 16th at 9:30 PM. Narrated by Academy Award-winner Liam Neeson, and filmed on location in the footsteps of the Jesuit missionary, this documentary features stunning scenery from Rome, Spain, Paris, India, China, and Japan as well as interviews with world-renowned scholars in the fields of history and theology.

Financial Report

Last weekend we received \$11,947.66. We have also received:

Monthly- \$2362.00	Restoration- \$425.00
Candles- \$393.00	Parking- \$245.00
Stipends- \$595.00	Novena- \$6161.00

Total- \$22,128.66 **Unrestricted-** \$21,703.66; **Restricted-** \$425.00

FOOD FOR THE POOR: \$885 IMO Mary McConville; \$110 for new van; \$130 IMO David Covello; \$25, \$6, \$250, \$100, \$100, \$50 from a friend; \$50 IMO Christopher and Patrick Johnson; \$25 IMO Pat Gaudette; \$20 IHO Quentin Donahue; \$210 IMO Kathleen Cushing; \$100 IMO Donald Donovan; \$25 IMO Suellen Lamothe; \$250 IMO Peter Liddy

Expenses- \$21,467.87

Schola (922.08) Administration (2402.13) Novena (2100.00) After School (173.43) Altar (923.94) Rectory Phones (581.60) Clergy Benefit Plan (1006.67) State Payroll Taxes (976.45) Church Gas (1032.85) Rectory Gas (1461.07) Ascension Gas (1962.75) Postage and Envelopes (1837.25) House (279.80) Haitian Apostolate (532.00) Advertising (400.00) Repairs and Maintenance (205.85) Federal Payroll taxes (1483.10) Ascension Electric (1108.32) Fire Alarm (146.18) Copier (402.40)

Food for the Poor

Income- \$15,126.25

Expenses- \$5,988.54

This weekend's Second Collection is for the St. Francis Xavier Novena.

Our Parish Community...

Offers prayers and condolences to the families of Christopher Bosowski, Robert Ryngiewicz, Russell McCrohon and Mary Polli who have been born into eternal life.

Word of Life

“Look upon us, Lord, and let all the darkness of our souls vanish before the beams of your brightness. Fill us with holy love, and open to us the treasures of your wisdom.”

–St. Augustine