

"To Preserve The Flame" **SAINT JOHN'S CHURCH**

44 Temple St. Worcester, MA 01604

Phone: 508-756-7165

Parish Websites www.stjohnsworcester.org and www.stjohnsfoodforthepeople.org

PARISH STAFF

Pastor

Fr. John Madden
frjohnmadden@gmail.com

Associate Pastor

Fr. Juan Sebastian Sanchez

Assisting Priests

Fr. Charles Arney
Fr. Jean Robert Simbert Brice
Fr. James Mazzone
Fr. Conrad Pecevich

Deacon

Van Nguyen
Michael Chase

Coordinators of Religious Education

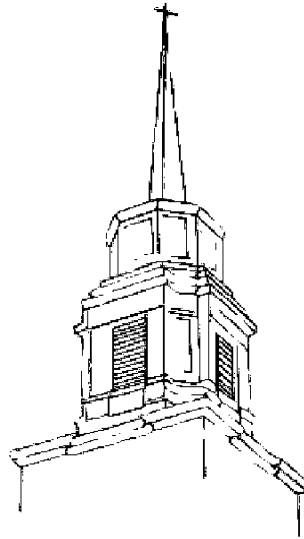
Donna Mastrovito
Dianne Gustowski

Director, After-School Program and Ascension Clothing Center

Sr. Patricia Murphy, SSJ

Music Ministry

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



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

Gn 15:5-12, 17-18

Phil 3:17-4:1

Lk 9: 28b-36

#1138 in Worship Hymnal

Rectory Office Hours:

Tues.-Fri. 9 am - 4 pm
Jimmy Archibald, Manager
stjohnsworc@gmail.com

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 the rectory for
an appointment

Sacrament of the Sick

Please contact the parish office

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 16, 2019

4:15 PM **Carl Steele (2nd Anniv.)**, req. by Family; **Christine Durkin**, req. by Helen Friel
7:15 PM **Dennis Cashman**, req. by Family

Sunday, March 17, 2019

8:00 AM **Patrick Johnson**, req. by Family;
Lucy Thompson (43rd Anniv), req. by Daughter Barbara
10:15 AM **Robert Siemaszko (3rd Anniv.)**, req. by Family; **Jean Cosmo**, req. by Family
12:15 PM **Birthday Blessings for Bernadette Boucher**, req. by Family; **Milton Joseph Pepin, Sr.**, req. by Wife Helen and Family
7:15 PM **Mary Helen Ford**, req. by Dave Young

Monday, March 18, 2018

6:15 PM **Joe Hickey**, req. by Family

Tuesday, March 19, 2019

6:15 PM **Oswaldo Molina and Mery Valencia**, req. by Family; **Joseph Cullen**, req. by Family

Wednesday, March 20, 2019

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

Thursday, March 21, 2019

6:15 PM **Joe Comeau**, req. by Family

Friday, March 22, 2019

6:15 PM **John Tomlinson**, req. by Family

Saturday, March 23, 2019

4:15 PM **Roger Hessel (4th Anniv.)**, req. by Frank Carroll; **Christa Earnst**, req. by Marje and Paul Korpinen
7:15 PM **Judith Ann Daley (10th Anniv.)**, req. by Family

Sunday, March 24, 2019

8:00 AM **The Maclaren Family**, req. by Al and Sue Johnson; **Joseph Gallati (Month's Mind)**, req. by Family
10:15 AM **Joseph and Madeline Nozzolillo**, req. by Family
12:15 PM **Philip Delongchamp**, req. by Family
7:15 PM **Scott and Gwen Gow**, req. by Family

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

My dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

Lent comes late this year. Late though it may be, most of us are not immediately eager for the austerities of Lent. Though perhaps not ready for it, we all nonetheless need Lent. We need Lent because we are sinners called to repentance. We need it because we are Christ's disciples called to holiness and we need Lent because the demands, distractions and allures of modern life can imperceptibly skew our priorities and dampen the spiritual joys that rightly belong to those whose faith is fervent.

For forty days Lent calls us to re-prioritize our lives that they may be centered on Jesus Christ and His Gospel. We do this through deepened prayer, more frequent penances and more generous almsgiving. We undertake these practices not to revert to old ways six weeks later. We undertake them that, through conversion of life, we may know Christ better and share more deeply in the joy of His Easter triumph throughout the whole of our lives.

The Lenten season is austere in its observances, reserved in its liturgies and sacrificial in its call for generosity. But because its practices draw us closer to Christ, Lent is also renewing, inspiring and exciting. So often we let things come between us and the radical call to take up the Cross and follow Christ with a selfless love of God and neighbor. Lent gives us the incentive, framework and communal support to acknowledge the primacy of God in our lives and to seek our consolations by putting God first. When we do that, we realize that the security, happiness and peace for which we daily strive come not from the acquisition of things, the esteem of others or the experience of pleasures. Rather, they are found in drawing close to God, experiencing His love and being confident in His promises. That continuing discovery can make our lives simpler, happier and more meaningful. What we "give up" is more than compensated by what we gain.

We all have so much to gain this Lent. I urge you to reflect on Christ's love and mercy. Examine your life, confess your sins and draw close to God through your prayer and acts of penance, regular celebration of the sacraments and sacrifice for those in need.

Lent may start late this year but it is also just in time. May we embrace its opportunities that we may reap its rewards --- Christian joy, not only at Easter, but throughout our lives on earth and forever in Heaven.

With every prayerful best wish, I remain

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Most Reverend Robert J. McManus
Bishop of Worcester

THE SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

THIS WEEKEND'S HYMNS

Introit: *Tibi dixit cor meum*, Ps. 27 (26): 8, 9

Op.: # 881 How Good, Lord, to Be Here!

Ps. 27, "The Lord is my light and my salvation."

Gospel Acc.: # 208 B, "Praise and honor to you, O Lord Jesus Christ."

Prep.: # 880 Transform Us

Eucharistic Accs.: # 304, 305 A, Amen, 311

Comm.: *Visionem quam vidistis*, Mt. 17: 9

471 O Sun of Justice

Cl.: # 467 The Glory of These Forty Days

ONGOING EVENTS AT ST. JOHN'S

March 19– Bible Study, 7 PM in the rectory.

March 25– Catholic Book Club, 7 PM in the rectory. The selection is "Catholics in America" by Russell Shaw.

ANNUAL PARTNERS IN CHARITY APPEAL is underway. The theme for this year's appeal is "Generate Joy". The goal for this year is \$76,600. To date we have collected \$47,914.00. Thank you for your generosity.

JOIN THE ST. JOHN'S ONLINE ADULT FAITH FORMATION COMMUNITY- For the first time ever, St. John's is offering an online faith formation community for adults in the parish. The goal of this group is to offer online spiritual formation studies that come in the form of an email or text message. Parishioners in the group can participate in the studies and share their thoughts and questions with the group as a whole. This Lent we will kick off our first study using Bishop Barron's popular "Seven Deadly Sins" series. You can join the Adult Faith Formation group by texting the word "Madden" to 84576 on your cell phone or visiting stjohnsworcester.flocknote.com/everyone

BACH-A-THON– The Worcester Chapter of the American Guild of Organists will present Bach-A-Thon on Saturday, March 23 at Trinity Lutheran Church in Worcester benefiting St. John's Food for the Poor and Abby House. The day begins at 9 AM and ends at 8 PM. Our own Sean Redrow is scheduled to play at 3 PM. All are welcome to attend.

2019 WALK FOR THE HOMELESS- Join Team St. John's Food for the Poor at the "Kick Off" Party at Coney Island on Wednesday, April 10 from 5-7 PM. The walk will be held on Sunday, May 19 at Elm Park, Worcester. For more information please contact Linda Murphy at 508-987-8304 or Connie Bartelson at 774-262-2512.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

First Reconciliation/First Eucharist– This Sunday, March 17, 9-10 AM in the Xavier Center.

Grades 1-6– Sunday, March 24, 9-10 AM in the Church Hall.

Grades 7-9– Sunday, March 24, 11:15AM -12:15 PM in the church hall.

Confirmation (grade 10)- Sunday, March 24, 11:15 AM -12:15 PM in the Xavier Center.

UNPLANNED- Emmanuel Catholic Radio invites you to a PRIVATE PRE-SCREENING of the new movie, "UNPLANNED" – the story of Planned Parenthood clinic director-turned-pro-life leader Abby Johnson. Showcase Cinemas North Worcester, 6-9 PM, Thursday, March 28. Tickets price: \$20. Space is limited, so reserve your seats today: Call 508-767-1230; Online: 1230radio.com/Donate; or by Mail: Emmanuel Radio, PO Box 20027, Worcester, MA 01602. Bring a group from your Church!

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 (March 10) through Trinity Sunday (June 16).

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 this Tuesday, March 26 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.

THE LITHUANIAN SCOUTS will be celebrating their annual Spring Festival (Kaziuko Muge) at Maironis Park 52 South Quinsigamond Ave in Shrewsbury on Sunday, March 31, starting at Noon. A Lithuanian dinner with kugali and a chicken dinner will be available and served from 12:30 p.m. There will be vendors present plus the author, Ursula Wong, who wrote about the Lithuanian resistance. The youngsters from the Lithuanian School will provide entertainment. Everyone is invited for an afternoon of fun.

19TH ANNUAL DIOCESAN CATHOLIC MEN'S CONFERENCE AT ASSUMPTION COLLEGE- Men (of all ages, including teens and college students) are invited to this important annual Conference, scheduled for Assumption College on Saturday, April 6. Visit the conference website at www.firstmensconf.org for information and to purchase tickets online and elsewhere. Come and hear dynamic talks from outstanding Catholic leaders: Kevin Dunn, Francesco Cesareo, Trent Horn, Father Warren Savage, Mike Aquilina and Eric Mahl. Bishops and priests will hear confessions. Bishop McManus will offer the Conference Mass. For a Conference brochure, further information or registration, call Sara Smillie at 508-929-4345. Adult tickets are \$45 until March 25, afterwards \$60. Student tickets are always \$30.

Financial Report

Last weekend we received \$10,274.66 We have also received:

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|-------------|-------------|----------------------|-----------|
| Monthly- | \$116.00 | Restoration- | \$75.00 |
| Candles- | \$546.00 | Parking- | \$320.00 |
| Stipends- | \$1600.00 | Latin America- | \$410.00 |
| Novena- | \$18,653.00 | IMO Deacon Paul- | \$50.00 |
| Free Press- | \$49.00 | Partners in Charity- | \$3720.00 |

Total- \$35,723.66 **Unrestricted-** \$31,518.66 **Restricted-** \$4205.00

FOOD FOR THE POOR: \$100 from a friend; \$30 from a friend; \$50 from a friend; \$50 from a friend; \$50 from a friend; \$20 from a friend; \$100 from a friend; \$25 from a friend; \$50 for Lenten Sacrifice; \$225 IMO Kenneth Sullivan; \$90 IHO Angelo Pappas; \$110 IMO Ethel Lavoie; \$150 IMO Joshua Ernst; \$250 IMO David Schwartz; \$25 IMO Eileen Woodward; \$100 IMO Cirilo and Matilde Varias; \$30 IMO Joanne Brosnan; \$50 IMO John McNamara; \$30 IMO Connie DeCaro; \$25 IMO Kathleen Donahue Jones; \$50 IMO Rev. Albin Yankauskas

Expenses- \$15,560.87

Schola (2207.77) Funerals (764.00) Administration (5014.77) Clergy Benefits (2014.00) Maintenance (247.75) Ascension Sidewalk (250.00) Ascension Electric (817.08) Partners in Charity (3720.00) Advertising (250.00) Altar (100.00)

Food for the Poor:
Expenses- \$3965.63

Our Parish Community...

...Offers prayers and condolences to the families of Henry Enrikaitis, Willis Gould, and LoriAnn Kil-loran who have been born into eternal life.

Word of Life

“Listen to Jesus and follow him. That’s the message of the Transfiguration.”

–Pope Francis