

"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
Fr.sebastian2019@gmail.com

Assisting Priests

Fr. Charles Armev
Fr. Jean Robert Simbert Brice
Fr. Conrad Pecevich

Deacon

Eduardas Meilus

Coordinators of Religious Education

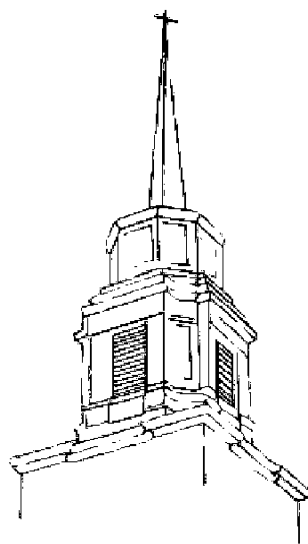
Donna Mastrovito
Dianne Gustowski

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

Is 7:10-14

Rom 1:1-7

Mt 1:18-24

Worship Hymnal #1010

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 visit the parish website
under the "Sacraments" tab

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, December 21, 2019

4:15 PM **Eleanor Prevoski (5th Anniv.)**, req. by Family;
Mary and Joe Paskavitz, Adele and Tony Dailida,
Francis and Rose Allelunas, req. by Family
7:15 PM **M/M Joseph P. O'Coin**, req. by Family; **Cheryl**
Seymour (Month's Mind), req. by Family

Sunday, December 22, 2019

8:00 AM **Al Johnson, Sr.**, req. by Family; **Victor Rivera**,
req. by Family
10:15 AM **Adele Zemaitis**, req. by granddaughter Danute
Miner; **Patricia Gaudette**, req. by Ed Bartolomei
12:15 PM **Sally V. Bennett (8th Anniv.)**, req. by son
Tommy and daughter Lucia
7:15 PM **Rose and Joseph Pezzella, Michael, Theresa and**
Alfred Lewis, req. by Family; **Joshua Kozaczka**, req. by
Family

Monday, December 23, 2019

6:15 PM **Lolita Catalan**, req. by Family

Tuesday, December 24, 2019— Christmas Eve

4:15 PM **For the People of St. John's**
10:15 PM **For the People of St. John's**

Wednesday, December 25, 2019— Christmas Day

8:00 AM **For the People of St. John's**
10:15 AM **For the People of St. John's**
12:15 PM **For the People of St. John's**

Thursday, December 26, 2019

8:00 AM **Joe Hickey**, req. by Friends

Friday, December 20, 2019

6:15 PM **Dennis Cashman**, req. by Family

Saturday, December 21, 2019

4:15 PM **Charles Dolan**, req. by Joe Fitzgerald
7:15 PM **Josephine Ginese (20th Anniv.)**, req. by Family

Sunday, December 22, 2019

8:00 AM **Edith Boudas (11th Anniv.)**, req. by Family;
Deceased Members of the Quinlivan Family
10:15 AM **Robert Pepi (1st Anniv.)**, req. by Family;
Hammy Williston, req. by Mike and Ivy Lobo
12:15 PM **Milton Joseph Pepin, Sr.**, req. by son Wife
Helen and Family; **Carmela Luca**, req. by Family
7:15 PM **Joshua Kozaczka and Bloeslaw Burzynski**, req.
by Family; **John W. Long (7th Anniv.)**, 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,

Christmas brings joy to the world and joy to our hearts as we contemplate and celebrate Christ's birth at Bethlehem.

We can readily appreciate Mary's joy as she gazed on the beauty, mystery and wonder of her newborn Son. It is a joy all mothers experience and one fathers and families share as they welcome and appreciate the gift of new life.

Mary's joy was deepened by the wondrous knowledge that the Child she bore was also God's Eternal Son who, through her, took on a human nature to be with us and to save us. That presence brought joy to a cold and drafty cave where Mary and Joseph took shelter with animals. Christ's presence brings joy to us no matter what our circumstances.

We marvel not only that God's Son took on our human nature, but that we, through the baptism Jesus instituted, also gain a share in God's divine life. Jesus is God's Son by nature. Through baptism we become God's children by adoption. And just as God was truly in Mary's arms in the Infant Jesus, so too, though in a different way, God is with us in our souls through baptism. Our God is not distant, indifferent or detached from our lives. He is with us. He is Emmanuel.

The Christmas Season begins with the birth of Christ and ends with the Feast of His baptism. The Season with all its beautiful liturgies, traditions and customs will quickly pass. However, for those who have become God's adopted sons and daughters through baptism and who remain in His grace, God does not pass from us. We have His presence, strength and peace with us always. Like Mary and Joseph we will face uncertainties, disappointments and unexpected trials, but we do not face them alone. We are aided by a strength greater than our own.

May the enduring presence of Christ to you and all the baptized extend the joy of Christmas and the blessings of God throughout the New Year and all of life.

With every prayerful best wish, I remain

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Most Reverend Robert J. McManus
Bishop of Worcester

THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

THIS WEEK'S HYMNS

Introit: *Rorate caeli desuper*, Is 45: 8
Op: # 386 O Come, O Come Emmanuel
Ps. 24, "Let the Lord enter; he is king of glory."
Alleluia: # 208
Prep.: # 875 The Angel Gabriel from Heaven
Came
Eucharistic Accs.: # 304, 305, Reciting tone
'Amen', # 311
Comm.: *Ecce virgo concipiet*, Is 7: 14
438 Lo How a Rose E'er Blooming
Cl.: # 388 Savior of the Nations, Come

CHRISTMAS HYMNS

Introit: *Hodie, scietis*, Ex 16: 6, 7; Is 35: 4 (Vigil)
Dominus dixit, Ps. 2:7 (Midnight)
Puer Natus est nobis, Is 9: 6 (Day)
Op: # 426 O Come, All Ye Faithful
Gloria: # 297
Ps.: 89, "Forever I will sing the goodness of the
Lord" (Vigil)
Ps. 96, "Today is born our Savior, Christ the
Lord." (Midnight)
Ps. 97, "A light will shine on us this day: the Lord
is born for us." (Dawn)
Ps. 98, "All the ends of the earth have seen the sav-
ing power of God." (Day)
Alleluia: # 208
Prep.: # 417 Angels We have Heard on High
Eucharistic Accs.: # 353, 356, 355, 311
Comm.: *Revelabitur*, Is 40: 5 (Vigil)
In Splendoribus, Ps 110: 3 (Midnight)
Viderunt Omnes, Ps. 98: 3cd (Day)
415 Of the Father's Love Begotten
413 Silent Night
Cl.: # 414 Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

Christmas Eve- Vigil Mass

4:15 PM

10:15 PM Schola Cantorum

Christmas Day Masses

8:00 AM

10:15 AM Lithuanian Choir and Lithuanian Christ-
mas Hymns will be sung before Mass

12:15 PM Parish Choir

There is no 7:15 PM Mass on Christmas

NEW YEAR'S DAY THE SOLEMNITY OF MARY, TE
MOTHER OF GOD will be celebrated with Masses on
Tuesday, December 31 at 6:15 PM and Wednesday, January
1 at 12:15 and 6:15 PM.

LEGACY OF HOPE UPDATE— To date we have received
\$445,525 from 161 gifts. Thank you for your generosity.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

GRADES 1-6— Sunday, December 22, 9 AM in the Church
Hall

GRADES 7-9— Sunday, December 22, 11:15 AM in the
Church Hall

CONFIRMATION— Sunday, December 22, 11:15 AM in
the Xavier Center

THE ANNUAL CHRISTMAS PAGEANT AND POT
LUCK will take place this Sunday, December 22 following
the 10:15 AM Mass. All are welcome! Please bring a dish
to share.

THE LITHUANIAN CHRISTMAS WAFERS are now
available in the sacristy after Mass or at the Rectory Tuesday
-Friday from 9 AM to 4 PM for a donation of your choosing.

THE CATHOLIC BOOK CLUB takes the month of De-
cember off. The next meeting will be on Monday, January
27 at 7:00 PM in the rectory. The selection for January is
"Night's Bright Darkness; A Modern Conversion Story" by
Sally Read

RCIA - Monday, January 6 at 7 PM in the St. Francis Xavier
Center continues the Catechumenate phase of the Rite of
Christian Initiation of Adults program. Anyone who is inter-
ested in receiving Baptism, the Eucharist or Confirmation is
invited to attend. Please contact the rectory office if you
have any questions.

THE FILIPINO CHOIR will be at the 4:15 PM Mass on
Saturday, December 28, 2019. After the Mass, a reception
will follow at the St. Francis Xavier Center. All are wel-
come to join in the celebration.

CATHOLICISM 101 ADVENT STUDY- The St. John's
Adult Faith Formation group will be hosting an online Ad-
vent study from December 1st to January 6th using Bishop
Barron's "Catholicism 101" video series. Join in and deepen
your faith this Advent season! See our page on the parish
website or text MADDEN to 84576 to join.

In Our Catholic Community...

A MASS FOR HEALING will be held Tuesday, January 28 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.

FELLOWSHIP OF THE KING - ELVIS PRESLEY TRIBUTE

will be held at Fiddlers' Green Pub, 19 Temple St. Worcester, MA On Friday, January 3, 2020 at 7:00 PM. Tickets are only \$10.00!! Please contact Beth Doyle at 508-847-2969 or bethdoyle61@gmail.com for more information. The Kitchen will be open so feel free to come early and enjoy a meal. Food Special: The King's Favorite: Fried Peanut Butter and Banana Sandwiches!

FESTIVAL OF LESSONS AND CAROLS IN CLINTON-

The Sacred Music Series at St. John Guardian of Our Lady in Clinton continues with a special Festival of Lessons and Carols on Saturday, January 11 at 7 PM Based on the Office of Matins for the Feast of the Epiphany, this festive ceremony will feature Scripture readings, the singing of beloved Christmas and Epiphany carols, and sacred choral music led by the Upper School Chorus of the Immaculate Heart of Mary School, Still River, under the direction of Michael Olbash. Freewill donations will be accepted at the door for the benefit of First Concern Pregnancy Resource Center of Clinton. This event was a resounding success last year -- help us make it even bigger and better this year! Located at 80 Union St. in Clinton and the church is ramp accessible.

Financial Report

Last weekend we received \$13,862.45. We have also received:

Monthly- \$75.00	Restoration- \$95.00
Candles- \$213.00	Parking- \$245.00
Stipends- \$650.00	X-Mas Flowers- \$160.00
Donation- \$500.00	

Total- \$15,800.45 Unrestricted- \$15,705.45 Restricted-\$95.00

FOOD FOR THE POOR: \$50 IMO Robert Henry; \$810 from Thanksgiving Charity Fun Run; \$880 IMO Walter McGovern; \$5000 from a friend; \$100 from a friend; \$1000 from a friend; \$100 from a friend; \$50 from a friend; \$100 from a friend; \$100 from a friend; \$100 from a friend; \$100 from a friend; \$100 from a friend; \$50 from a friend; \$500 from a friend; \$100 from a friend; \$25 from a friend; \$50 from a friend; \$500 from St. Mary's Jefferson; \$50 IMO Michael McCarthy; \$85 IMO Kevin Casey; \$100 IMO Stanley and Bernice Rutkowski

Expenses- \$21,769.70

Schola (936.28) Lithuanian Wafers (75.53) Altar (1110.00) Christmas (3250.00) House (24.39) Administration (2672.83) Church Plowing (2000.00) Ascension Plowing (750.00) Church Electric (1418.56) Rectory Electric (918.57) Marriage Prep (27.50) CCD (112.66) Diocesan Budget Bill (7365.00) Advertising (150.00) Funerals (200.00)

Food for the Poor

Income- \$17,185.00
Expenses- \$7182.07

Our Parish Community...

...Offers prayers and condolences to the families of John Abdelmaseh, Joseph Kane, Eva Paganelli, Raymond Gemme, Hayden Frye and Herman Boone who have been born into eternal life.

...Welcomes Cooper David Gurgone who has entered the Catholic Community through the waters of Baptism.

Word of Life

“This day in David’s city, a savior has been born to you, the Messiah and Lord.”

Luke 2:11