

"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
Intern: Donald Pegg

Coordinators of Religious Education

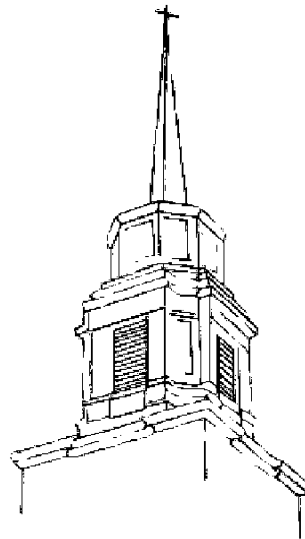
Donna Mastrovito
Dianne Gustowski

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 49:3, 5-6

1 Cor 1:1-3

Jn 1:29-34

Worship Hymnal #1112

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, January 18, 2020

4:15 PM **Francisco Luca**, req. by Son and Family;
Catherine Gallagher (27th Anniv.), req. by Family
7:15 PM **Dennis Cashman**, req. by Family

Sunday, January 19, 2020

8:00 AM **John O'Neil**, req. by Family; **Deceased Members of the Creedon and Bartleson Families**, req. by Family
; 10:15 AM **Rosalynd and Thomas Walsh**, req. by Family
12:15 PM **John and Helen Rosseel**, req. by Family;
Michael Duggan (10th Anniv.), req. by Family
7:15 PM **Joshua Kozaczka**, req. by Family

Monday, January 20, 2020

6:15 PM **John W. Long (Birthday Remembrance)**, req. by Frank Carroll

Tuesday, January 21, 2020

6:15 PM **Msgr. Ed Tinsley**, req. by Friends

Wednesday, January 22, 2020

6:15 PM **Alexander A. Drisco**, req. by Frank Carroll and Family

Thursday, January 23, 2020

8:00 AM **Lolita Catalan**, req. by Family

Friday, January 24, 2020

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

Saturday, January 25, 2020

4:15 PM **Joseph V. Kane**, req. by Family; **Margaret (7th Anniv.) and William McKenna (25th Anniv.)**, req. by Family
7:15 PM **Anthony Thompson (13th Anniv.)**, req. by Daughter Barbara

Sunday, January 26, 2020

8:00 AM **Marsha Bisceglia (4th Anniv.) and Deceased Members of the Miller Family**, req. by Family
; 10:15 AM **Terry McGurl**, req. by Family
12:15 PM **Thomas W. Bennett, Jr.**, req. by son Tommy and daughter Lucia
7:15 PM **Joshua Kozaczka**, req. by Family

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

Dear Friends in the Lord,

Today is the Second Sunday in Ordinary Time. It could be called the Third Sunday of the Epiphany. First was the visit of the Magi, second was the Baptism of the Lord and today, likewise, Jesus is manifested as the only begotten Son of God. On this 3rd Sunday of the Epiphany, John the Baptist reveals him as the "Lamb of God." An indication that he will fulfill his mission through a sacrificial offering on our behalf. Indeed, we now know, he will sacrifice his very self for the forgiveness of our sins. In the witness that he offers, John the Baptist admits three times, "I did not know him." We have seen that the Baptist, coming out of the desert, is an austere and passionate figure. Here we see that he is a humble man as well.

The Gospels make clear that the Baptist is not alone. From the beginning of his public ministry, people wondered who is he? Where is he from? What is this authority he speaks with? At one of the most critical moments he asks, who do people say that I am? And, then, more critically, who do you say that I am?

After the Resurrection, this dynamic continues. Mary Magdalene, the First Witness, does not recognize him. Nor do the disciples on the road to Emmaus. Not even his closest friends while fishing. Until, finally, they do see, "It is the Lord."

This pilgrimage of discovery continues throughout Church history. Catholic hagiography is filled with events in which the Saint does not immediately recognize the Lord, the Lamb of God. Most famously, I think, is St. Francis of Assisi, the "poor one" himself. I steal this from Terry Matz of Catholic Online:

One day while riding through the countryside, Francis, the man who loved beauty, who was so picky about food, who hated deformity, came face to face with a leper. Repelled by the appearance and the smell of the leper, Francis nevertheless jumped down from his horse and kissed the hand of the leper. When his kiss of peace was returned, Francis was filled with joy. As he rode off, he turned around for a last wave, and saw that the leper had disappeared. He always looked upon it as a test from God...that he had passed.

God gives us the same test, too. In the ordinary people and moments of our daily lives, Jesus is manifested to us. Often, in disguise. Often, then, we must admit, "I did not know him." As we continue our ordinary journey, we continue to move to where we can more faithfully echo John the Baptist's witness: *Now, I have seen and testified that he is the Son of God.*

In Christ's Peace,
Fr. John Madden

THE SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

THIS WEEK'S HYMNS

Introit: *Omnis terra adoret*, Ps. 66: 4

Op.: # 563 At the Name of Jesus

Ps. 40, "Here am I, Lord; I come to do your will."

Alleluia: # 456 When Jesus Came to Jordan

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

Comm.: *Laetabimur in salutari tuo*, Ps. 20: 6

Cl.: # 736 The Church's One Foundation

THE CATHOLIC BOOK CLUB's 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 27 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 interested in receiving Baptism, the Eucharist or Confirmation is invited to attend. Please contact the rectory office if you have any questions.

THE PARISH CHOIR- Thanks again, and as always to all of the Cantors, Choir, and Schola Members whose time and dedication, spirit, talent, and hard work contributed to the joy and festivity. From the beginning of Advent right through this Baptism of the Lord, they have helped us experience anew and afresh this holy and bright season! Bravo, everyone! You were and are amazing! THANK YOU! But now we start work for Easter! If you're in for learning how to sing all the things we sing – we teach you everything, and mostly provide you with the materials you will need! Just come and sing with us! Choir rehearsals are held Wednesdays at 7:00 and Sunday mornings at 11:30 in the Choir Loft of the Upper Church. You're always welcome! – Sean Redrow, Director of Music.

ST. JOHN'S CYC BASKETBALL is now 5-0! We won all 3 games last weekend. The team is playing well and we are so proud of them. They are a great group of kids. Our next game is this Sunday, January 19th at 2:20 PM against St. Mary's of Shrewsbury. All are welcome to come and support the team. It's free admission.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

GRADES 1-6– Next Sunday, January 26, 9 AM in the Church Hall

GRADES 7-9– Next Sunday, January 26, 11:15 AM in the Church Hall

CONFIRMATION– Next Sunday, January 26, 11:15 AM in the Xavier Center

FIRST RECONCILIATION/EUCHARIST- Sacrament preparation for First Reconciliation/Eucharist will begin on Sunday, January 26th at 9:00 AM in the Xavier Center.

These classes are for any child who is in second grade or older. If you have not registered your child for these sacrament classes, please complete the application available on the St. John's website. In addition, please bring a copy of your child's baptismal certificate, if your child was not baptized at St. John's, to the first class. Also, please note that the schedule for classes is available on our website. If you have any questions, please contact Donna Mastrovito at 508 450 8639 or at mastrovito21@charter.net.

JOIN THE "BIBLE CHALLENGE" - Pope Francis recently declared Sunday, January 26th to be the "Sunday of the Word of God" - a special day to honor, study and share the Bible. At St. John's we are embracing this call by starting a parish-wide Bible Challenge. Together our goal is to read the entire Bible in one year using an easy to follow plan that requires 20-30 minutes a day to follow. To participate simply join the parish Adult Faith Formation group on Flocknotes stjohnsworcester.org/adult-faith-formation. You will receive weekly email reminders with the readings for each day, along with other resources to help you follow the program and share the experience with the group. Paper pamphlets with the reading plan will be available at the back of the church for anyone who would like one.

CREATION SERIES CONTINUES IN AUBURN– The *Creation* documentary series will continue this month at North American Martyrs Church on Friday, January 31 at 7 PM with the episode "Respect." Each 30-minute episode will be presented in the parish hall on six Friday evenings throughout the year with discussion to follow. You can find more information about *Creation* by visiting www.saltandlighttv.org. No RSVP is necessary. For more information, please call 508-798-0612 or e-mail namparish@namparish.com. We hope you will be able to join us for this important series!

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.

CATHOLIC NIGHT WITH THE RAILERS

– Join us for our 3rd Annual Diocese of Worcester and Catholic Schools Night at the Worcester Railers on Saturday, January 25 presented by Assumption College! Our Lady of the Angels School will lead the National Anthem; Assumption School in Millbury will sing God Bless America; and All Saints Academy in Webster will sing America the Beautiful. The puck drop with Bishop McManus and Superintendent Perda is at 7:05 P.M. Proceeds from the "Chuck A Puck " 50/50 Raffle will benefit Catholic Charities. For parish/agency tickets visit www.railershc.com/diocese. At checkout confirm your school/parish/agency. Share the link with friends and family! All purchasers will get their tickets electronically delivered within 48 hours of the puck drop. For Parish/Agency related questions contact Matt DaSilva at matt@dailershc.com.

UPCOMING CURSILLO DATES- Cursillo or "short course in Christianity" is an uplifting and educational experience. The weekend is facilitated by a team of laypeople and clergy who deliver organized talks and discussions. Our 2020 weekend dates are: Men – February 6-9 & September 10-13; and Women May 28-31 & October 22-25. All Weekends will be held at the Immaculate Conception Spiritual Renewal Center in Putnam, CT. For additional information, please contact Pam Hamilton at 774.239.8909

Financial Report

Last weekend we received \$11,705.70. We have also received:
Monthly- \$380.00 Restoration- \$225.00
Parking- \$320.00 Stipends- \$390.00
Donation- \$300.00 Summer Program- \$1000.00
Free Press- \$78.00

Total- \$14,398.70 **Unrestricted-** \$14,173.70 **Restricted-** \$225.00

FOOD FOR THE POOR: \$25 from a friend; \$100 from a friend; \$500 from a friend; \$30 from a friend; \$100 from a friend; \$225 IMO Joyce West; \$50 IMO Jack Gagliastro; \$100 IMO Dorothy Evangeline; \$100 IMO Theresa O'Loughlin; \$300 from Eat to Give; \$160 IMO Walter McGovern; \$730 from Monthly Ladies Group; \$50 IMO Dickie Rafferty; \$2,000 IMO Kathy Tinsely

Expenses– \$27,929.85

Schola (970.40) Administration (5381.11) Church Water/Sewer (267.57) Rectory Water/Sewer (1446.86) Ascension Water/Sewer (240.87) House (179.85) Church Boiler (1775.00) Rectory Boiler (1973.50) Ascension Boiler (2805.00) Funerals (152.80) Extra Sanding (725.00) Church Electric (1679.73) Rectory Electric (1036.42) Ascension Electric (818.84) January Budget Bill (7740.00) Catholic U (393.00) Postage (225.00) Church Alarm (118.90)

Food for the Poor

Expenses- \$5932.05

Next weekend's second collection is to assist Puerto Rico in response to the several earthquakes over the past weeks.

Our Parish Community...

...Offers prayers and condolences to the families of Antonia Pena, Grace Rett, Joseph Turgeon, Richard White and Stephanie Mitchell who have been born into eternal life.

Word of Life

“Jesus came to the marriage as a common human being, but as Lord of heaven and earth he could convert the elements as he wished. How beautifully appropriate it is that when he began the signs that he would show to mortals while he was still mortal he turned water into wine. But when he had become immortal through his resurrection, he began the signs that he would show only to those who were pursuing the goal of immortal life...”

– St. Bede