

"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

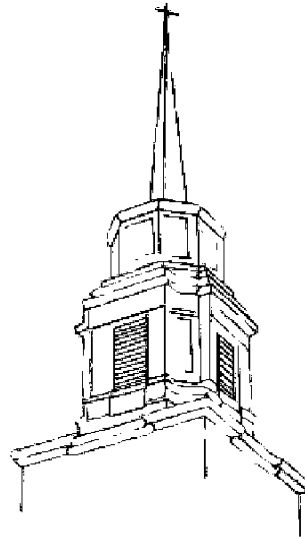
Donna Mastrovito
Dianne Gustowski

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

Mal 3:1-4

Heb 2:14-18

Lk 2:22-40

Worship Hymnal #1118

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, February 1, 2020

4:15 PM **All Souls in Purgatory and Deceased Members of F.O.S.S.; In Thanksgiving for God's Blessings for Nancy Leary**
7:15 PM **Joe Hickey**, req. by Family

Sunday, February 2, 2020

8:00 AM **Alexander "Al" Drisco (Birthday Remembrance)**, req. by Friends at VAAH; **Cecile Larochelle**, req. by Family
10:15 AM **Birthday Blessings for Rev. John Nicholson**, req. by Family
12:15 PM **Lorraine Vayo (Month's Mind)**, req. by Family; **Cornelia G. Foley**, req. by Family
7:15 PM **Joshua Kozaczka**, req. by Family

Monday, February 3, 2020

6:15 PM **Alejandro Lorente**, req. by Family; **Health and Intentions of Fr. Vall**

Tuesday, February 4, 2020

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

Wednesday, February 5, 2020

6:15 PM **Francis J. Polucha (6th Anniv.)**, req. by Family

Thursday, February 6, 2020

8:00 AM **Robert P. Beauregard**, req. by Frank Carroll and Family; **Paul Gingras**, req. by Family

Friday, February 7, 2020

6:15 PM **Marjorie Habib (Month's Mind)**, req. by Anna Mae Gentile and Judith Hayden

Saturday, February 8, 2020

4:15 PM **Bernard O'Brien (50th Anniv.)**, req. by Family ; **Patricia Brunelle (Birthday Remembrance)**, req. by Family
7:15 PM **Paul Letsky**, req. by Family

Sunday, February 9, 2020

8:00 AM **David Covello (2nd Anniv.)** req. by Family; **Jean Lotuff and Norman Brenner**, req. by Family
10:15 AM **Frank Riccardi**, req. by Wife Mary; **Kenneth (1st Anniv.) and Antoinette (5th Anniv.) Sullivan and Helen Etre (15th Anniv.)**, req. by Family
12:15 PM **Louis Boucher (14th Anniv.)**, req. by Family; **Barbara Jacques (7th Anniv.)**, req. by Family
7:15 PM **Pat Casey, Paul and Jimmy Hearn, Jr., req. by Family; Joshua Kozaczka**, req. by Family

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

Adapted from the Office of Worship monthly newsletter: On Silence at Mass

Silence says more than words. We live amidst a cacophony of noises, broadcasts, and accompanying tunes. Silence somehow washes that all away and invites us to a place deep within, a sanctuary where God comes to meet us. The Liturgy uses silence to foster disposition, meditation, and recollection. Even before the Mass begins, we are called on to be silent in order to dispose ourselves to the awesome mysteries we are about to celebrate. After each of the readings and the homily, we meditate on the meaning of what we have heard so that it might sink into our minds and our hearts. After receiving Holy Communion we sit in silence, recalling the Lord who has given himself to us as food and who now lives in us as we live in him. There is no word as powerful as silence. Silence cannot be done in haste. Only silence can enable us to embrace with our hearts what is being prayed, sung, or said. Silence must come before action, and the only reaction worthy to follow a meeting with God is kneeling in silence, humility, and joy.

Pope Benedict XVI has recommended Saint Joseph as an example for each of us who seeks to cultivate an interior quiet: "[Saint Joseph's] silence is steeped in contemplation of the mystery of God in an attitude of total availability to the divine desires. In other words, Saint Joseph's silence does not express an inner emptiness but, on the contrary, the fullness of the faith he bears in his heart and which guides his every thought and action." It is a silence thanks to which Joseph, in unison with Mary, watches over the Word of God, known through the Sacred Scriptures, continuously comparing it with the events of the life of Jesus; a silence woven of constant prayer, a prayer of blessing of the Lord, of the adoration of his holy will, and of unreserved entrustment to his providence. Let us allow ourselves to be "filled" with Saint Joseph's silence! In a world that is often too noisy, that encourages neither recollection nor listening to God's voice, we are in such deep need of it.

The liturgical reform in the first years of the twenty-first century has experienced a deep and growing desire for reverence in the Liturgy. In 2006, Cardinal Francis Arinze addressed the question, suggesting that nothing is more important than reverence. Indeed, we can say that the most important thing in divine worship is not that we understand every word or concept. No. "The most important consideration is that we stand in reverence and awe before God, that we adore, praise and thank him. The sacred, the things of God, are best approached with sandals off." When Moses approached God on Mount Sinai, he took off his shoes. Like Moses, when we approach the all-holy, the all-powerful God in the Sacred Liturgy, our only possible reaction is reverence, adoration, and bowing ourselves very low. kissing it, and clothing it with cloths or candles.

THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD

THIS WEEK'S HYMNS

Introit: Suscepimus Deus, Ps. 48: 10, 11
Op.: # 1212 A light of revelation to the Gen-
tiles...

Ps. 24, "Who is this king of glory? It is the
Lord."

Alleluia: # 208

Prep.: # 871 O Light of Gentile Nations

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

Comm.: Responsum accepit Simeona, Lk 2: 26

872 Now Let Your Servant Go in Peace

Cl.: # 602 Christ is the World's Light

THE CATHOLIC BOOK CLUB's next meet-
ing will be Monday, March 23 at 7:00 PM in the
rectory. The selection for March is TBA at this
time. We will update the selection as soon as
possible.

RCIA - Monday, February 3 at 7 PM in the St.
Francis Xavier Center continues the Catechu-
menate phase of the Rite of Christian Initiation
of Adults program. Anyone who is interested in
receiving Baptism, the Eucharist or Confirma-
tion is invited to attend. Please contact the recto-
ry office if you have any questions.

**THE ST. RAFOA PRAYER SHAWL MINIS-
TRY** will be meeting on Wednesday February
12 in the lower chapel from 9:30am to 11:00am.
All knitters and crocheters are very welcome. Do
you want to learn to knit or crochet? We could
teach you. If anyone would like a shawl for
someone, please call Connie at 508-755-5172.

SOUPER BOWL FOR CARING- This Sunday
St. John's will be participating in the Souper
Bowl. Many of you know that this is a youth in-
spired national program to fight hunger insecuri-
ty in local communities. This year's theme is
"The Game is Big. Our Mission is Bigger". At
the end of all Masses volunteers will be at the
doors of the church with soup pans ready to ac-
cept your donations. All donations will benefit
the Food for the Poor Program. Thanks to Dan
and Deb Donovan for organizing our efforts
again this year. We want to ensure that, as al-
ways on Temple Street, the hungry win.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

GRADES 1-6- This Sunday, February 2, 9 AM in the Church
Hall

GRADES 7-9- This Sunday, February 2, 11:15 AM in the
Church Hall

CONFIRMATION- This Sunday, February 2, 11:15 AM in
the Xavier Center

FIRST RECONCILIATION/EUCHARIST- Sacrament
preparation for First Reconciliation/Eucharist will continue
this Sunday, February 2 at 9:00 AM in the Xavier Center.
These classes are for any child who is in second grade or old-
er. 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 mastrovi-
to21@charter.net.

MUSEUM OF FAMILY PRAYER- St. John's Social Activ-
ities committee is sponsoring a trip to a Contemporary Experi-
ence of Fr. Peyton's Ongoing Ministry, the Holy Family Min-
istry, in North Easton, MA. The cost of the trip is \$20 per per-
son and includes Round Trip Transportation, Mass, Admission
to Museum (with private tour), Movie, and a Box Lunch. The
trip will take place on Sunday, March 29, leaving St. John's at
10:30 AM and returning around 4:30 PM. Tickets should be
purchased by March 21. Holy Cross Family Ministries is a
family of Catholic Ministries that promotes and fosters the
prayer life & spiritual well-being of families throughout the
world. They continue the mission of Fr. Patrick Peyton. "The
family that prays together stays together" and "A world at
prayer is a world at peace"

TAIZE PRAYER IN WORCESTER All are welcome for
Taize prayer- Sacred Music for Vespers on Sunday, February
9 from 7 - 7:45 PM. Catholics, Protestants, and Orthodox mu-
sicians come to together in sacred choir to sing simple, pure
music to support peace and respect between all Christians and
Non-Christians. Trinity Lutheran Church, 73 Lancaster St.,
Worcester. Social to follow with Mulled Cider and light re-
freshments. Free to people of all faiths and walks of life. Free
will offering gratefully received. Please call or text Will Ray-
mond if you have any questions. Cell/Text 978-368-3294.

In Our Catholic Community...

A MASS FOR HEALING will be held Tuesday, February 25 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.

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

BE LIKE BRIT AT THE RAILERS- On Saturday, February 29 Be Like Brit will be the Charity of Choice at the Worcester Railers Game thanks to Country Bank! It will also commemorate the 40th Anniversary of the "Miracle on Ice" and players will have special shirts on for the occasion. Be Like Brit has tickets for this event at no charge and they can be obtained by calling the BLB office at 508-886-4500.

HOLY HOUR FOR LAY PEOPLE TO PRAY FOR PRIESTS- On Friday, February 14 from 7 - 8 PM, a Holy Hour for lay people to pray for priests will take place at Immaculate Conception Church on 353 Grove St., Worcester. This holy hour will consist of time for silent adoration, as well as a short reflection, the rosary, and benediction. It takes place on the second Friday of every month. Please join us for this important act of service and prayer for our priests.

Financial Report

Last weekend we received \$9934.04. We have also received:
Monthly- \$1400 Candles- \$172.00
Parking- \$140.00 Stipends- \$160.00
Donation- \$10,000.00 Puerto Rico- \$564.00

Total- \$22,370.04 **Unrestricted-** \$21,806.04 **Restricted-** \$564.00

FOOD FOR THE POOR: \$2012 IMO Andrew Stencel; \$100 IMO John Trainor; \$100 from a friend; \$25 from a friend; \$100 from a friend; \$50 from a friend; \$50 from a friend; \$20 from a friend; \$20 from a friend; \$10 from a friend; \$100 from a friend; \$25 from a friend; \$50 from a friend; \$324 IMO Marvin DeGon; \$50 IMO Walter McGovern; \$20 IMO Kevin Casey; \$100 IMO Jim McDonald; \$50 IMO Dorothy Evangeline; \$50 IMO Christopher and Patrick Johnson; \$150 IMO Karen Burke; \$100 IMO Brian O'Connell

Expenses- \$16,090.45
Schola (785.20) Altar (1117.44) Administration (5739.13)
Rectory Cable/Phone/Internet (612.44) Church Gas (1125.38)
Rectory Gas (1588.04) Ascension Gas (1875.57) Stipends (1350.00) Lithuanian Donation (530.00) Marriage Prep (27.50)
Puerto Rico (564.00) Preserve the Flame (623.00) Rectory Alarm (34.73) Ascension Alarm (118.02)

Food for the Poor
Income- \$16,657 Expenses- \$3408.06

This weekend's second collection is the Monthly Special Needs Offering.

YEAR TO DATE- In January we had a cash gain of \$4,979.57. This puts our cash gain for FY 19/20 at \$91,235.02, Thank you for your generosity to St. John's.

Our Parish Community...

...Offers prayers and condolences to the families of Philip Bailey, Maria Hao Bui, William Chapdelaine-Comptois, Dorothy Palermo, Chris Doleman and John Andretti who have been born into eternal life.

Word of Life

"Neither Simon nor his companions could draw the net to land... And the net is still being drawn, while Christ fills it and calls to conversion those who, according to the Scripture phrase, are in the depths of the sea, that is to say, those who live in the surge and wave of worldly things."

-Cyril of Alexandria