

"To Preserve The Flame"
SAINT JOHN'S CHURCH

44 Temple St. Worcester, MA 01604

Phone: 508-756-7165

Fax: 508-754-5153

Parish Website www.stjohnsworcester.org

Food for the Poor Website www.stjohnsfoodforthe poor.org

PARISH STAFF

Pastor

Fr. John Madden
frjohnmadden@gmail.com

Assisting Priests

Fr. Jean Robert Simbert Brice
Fr. Conrad Pecevich

Deacon

Eduardas Meilus
Intern: Donald Pegg

**Coordinators of
Religious Education**

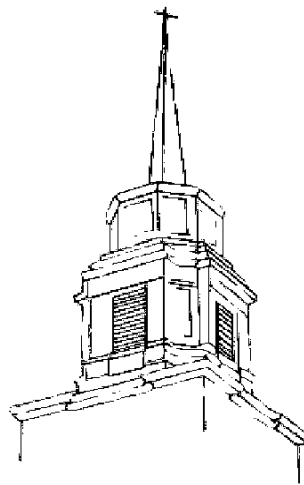
Donna Mastrovito
Dianne Gustowski

**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

Holy Days

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

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

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, July 11, 2020

4:15 PM **Eleanor Prevoski (6th Anniv.)**, req. by Family

7:15 PM **Msgr. Ed Tinsley**, req. by Family

Sunday, July 12, 2020

8:00 AM **Elizabeth Spurr**, req. by Family

10:15 AM **Joseph Zalieckas**, req. by Family

12:15 PM **Joan M. (Sullivan) Hickey**, req. by Ursula Arello and Eleanora Winston

7:15 PM **Dick Gauthier**, req. by Friends; **Robert N. Cote, Sr.**, req. by Family

Monday, July 13, 2020

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

Tuesday, July 14, 2020

6:15 PM **Health and Intentions of Joanne and Al Josefowski**, req. by Frank Carroll and Family

Wednesday, July 15, 2020

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

Thursday, July 16, 2020

6:15 PM **John Quinlivan**, req. by Frank Carroll and Family

Friday, July 17, 2020

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

Saturday, July 18, 2020

4:15 PM **Robert Henry (2nd Anniv.)**, req. by his Wife

7:15 PM **Msgr. Rocco Piccolomini**, req. by Family

Sunday, July 19, 2020

8:00 AM **Mary Mac and Bobby Zona**, req. by Family; **Richard F. Burke (6th Anniv.)**, req. by Family

10:15 AM **Robert H. and Dorothy M. McGinn**, req. by Family; **18th Birthday Blessings for Alexander Green**, req. by Family

12:15 PM **Rita Burgio**, req. by Family; **Milton Joseph Pepin, Sr.**, req. by Wife Helen and Family

7:15 PM **Sally Warren**, req. by Lynda Bombard

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

Dear Friends in the Lord,

A few years ago, in those halcyon days when we could meet together, our Book Club chose *Short Stories by Jesus* as our monthly selection. The author is Amy-Jill Levine. The book's subtitle is descriptive of the work itself and offers an insight into the personality of its author – *The Enigmatic Parables of a Controversial Rabbi*. Dr. Levine is a Jewish New Testament scholar. She has held office in both the Catholic Biblical Association and the Association for Jewish Studies. As with our own in-house scholar, Mahri Leonard-Fleckman, this gives Dr. Levine an advantage over the rest of us! I enjoyed her book very much and remember thinking what a great resource it would be. Then, of course, I forgot about it. Until seeing it in the bookcase a few weeks ago and was reminded of its value. As soon as I saw that the Gospel passage for today is Matthew's account of the Parable of the Sower, I went immediately to *Short Stories by Jesus*.

Unfortunately, the short story about the sower is not one of the parables that Dr. Levine treats in her book. I will have to steal my homily from another source! Still, both the book's Introduction and Conclusion help us to unlock the enigmatic teaching of this controversial Rabbi. The Introduction is entitled, "How We Domesticate Jesus' Provocative Stories" and, as early as page 2, Dr. Levine throws down the gauntlet:

Too often we settle for easy interpretations: we should be nice like the Good Samaritan; we will be forgiven as was the prodigal son; we should pray and not lose heart like the importuning widow. When we seek universal morals from a genre that is designed to surprise, challenge, shake up, or indict and look for a single meaning in a form that opens to multiple interpretations, we are necessarily limiting the parables and, so, ourselves.

The Conclusion is entitled, "The Power of Disturbing Stories" and sends us forth with a challenge:

The parables, if we take them seriously not as historical portraits of real people but as challenges to our stereotypes, help us to both locate our eccentric traits and our excellent talents; they can inspire and humble, challenge and comfort.

In Christ's Peace,
Fr. John Madden

THE FIFTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

THIS WEEK'S HYMNS

Introit: *Dum clamaram ad Dominum*, 19, 20, 23
(When I cried out to the Lord, he heeded my call
against my assailants...)

Op.: # 590 Word of God, Come Down on Earth, LIEB-
STER JESU

Ps 65, "The seed that falls on good ground will yield a
fruitful harvest."

Prep.: # 595 In This Place Your Word is Planted,
STUTTGART

Comm.: *Passer Invenit*, Ps 84: 4, 5

(The Sparrow has found herself a home, and the
Turtle Dove a nest in which to lay her young...)

593 This Is a Story Full of Love

Cl.: # 631 Father, We Thank You, Who Have Planted,
RENDEZ À DIEU

THIS SUNDAY'S READINGS

Is 55:10-11

Rom 8:18-23

Mt 13:1-23

REMINDER:

Holy Communion will be distributed at 11:30 AM on
Sunday morning and **Confessions** will be heard on Sat-
urday at 3:00 PM.

For both, please enter off of Harding Street and proceed
behind the rectory and church to the communion station/
confessional. Please wear a mask at all times and re-
main in your vehicle.

LIVE STREAMING- Sunday Masses will be live-
streamed according the following schedule on the par-
ish Facebook Page:

Saturday Vigil: Live-streamed @ 4:15 PM

Sunday Mass: Live-streamed @ 10:15 AM

PARTNERS IN CHARITY - We have received gifts
and pledges in the amount of \$68,345 toward our goal of
\$76,600. Thank you for your generosity to this annual -
and critical - diocesan appeal.

THE CLOTHING ROOM at the Ascension Campus
is back open. Donations can be brought there on
Tuesday's and Thursday's from 10 AM to 12 Noon or
to the St. John's Rectory anytime. Masks must be
worn upon entering.

THANK YOU to all the families, parishioners and
members of St. John's for another wonderful year in
Religious Education. More information will be forth-
coming about re-opening in the fall and how we plan to
proceed with classes. Have a great Summer!

JOIN OUR GENERAL FLOCKNOTE GROUP-

We encourage you to stay connected through Flock-
note during this challenging time and receive Father
Madden's weekly messages and other important up-
dates. We encourage you to use the commenting fea-
ture on Flocknote to share your thoughts, concerns, and
prayers - so our community as a whole can provide
support and prayers as needed.

NOT ON FLOCKNOTE? Simply fill out the short
form on the parish website to connect to St. John's on
Flocknote. You can choose which groups in the parish
you would like to hear from.

PLASTIC BAG DONATIONS- Our Soup Kitchen
and Food Pantry is in need of donations of plastic bags
for our "to go" meals and various donations that are
given out each day. Any and all donations are appreci-
ated and can be dropped off at the St. Francis Xavier
Center, the rectory, or left in the back of the church.
Thank you for your continued generosity.

IGNATIAN VOLUNTEER CORPS (IVC) NEW ENGLAND

a yearlong volunteer opportunity for
women and men 50 years of age and better, is recruit-
ing volunteers for the upcoming (September to June)
year. Volunteers give two full days/week of service
and commit to a monthly spiritual reflection program
in the Jesuit tradition. IVC works with non-profits in
the Boston/Worcester/Providence areas that address
problems of homelessness, education, immigration and
more. Get info and application by contacting regional
director Dave Hinchin newengland@ivcusa.org, or
check out the IVC New England website
www.ivcusa.org/new-england.

DAILY MASS ON TV AND THE INTERNET - If
you do not have Facebook and cannot stream the Mass
here at St. John's, tune in on Monday through Friday
on Charter TV3 on channel 193 at 9 AM for the local
Daily Mass on cable celebrated by various priests from
around our diocese. Also airs at 4:30 pm in Shrews-
bury on Ch. 28, and 5 pm in Clinton area on Ch. 8.

In Our Catholic Community...

SUMMER CHANCERY HOURS- Although the chancery is not yet open to the public, employees have been working in various departments throughout the crisis, both in office and at home. Beginning this Friday, June 19 through August 21 we will be CLOSED on Fridays.

WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER -

"God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him might not perish but might have eternal life." Let God amplify the love in your marriage by attending a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend. The next Weekends are September 12-13, 2020 in Medway, MA and Oct 16-18, 2020 in TBD, NH. For more information, call Stephen & Michelle O'Leary at 800-710-9963 or visit them at <https://wwmema.org/>.

DAILY MASS ON TV AND THE INTERNET -

If you do not have Facebook and cannot stream the Mass here at St. John's, tune in on Monday through Friday on Charter TV3 on channel 193 at 9 AM for the local Daily Mass on cable celebrated by various priests from around our diocese. Also airs at 4:30 pm in Shrewsbury on Ch. 28, and 5 pm in Clinton area on Ch. 8.

CAR DONATION PROGRAM Did you know you can donate your car, truck, motorcycle or boat to Catholic Charities and help us help your Worcester County neighbors? It's quick and easy to do. Just visit our website to donate your vehicle online at www.ccworc.org or call 1-888-CAR-7308 1-888-CAR-7308 to arrange a convenient pickup time and confirmation of your donation from Catholic Charities Donation Angel Program. The car in your driveway can help us to continue to offer many services to children, families and elders in our community so that they may regain home for a brighter future. Thank you!

Financial Report

Last weekend we received \$5700.26. We have also received:

Monthly- \$386.00
Stipends- \$130.00

Restoration- \$38.00
Parking- \$110.00

Total- \$6364.26 **Unrestricted-** \$6326.26 **Restricted-** \$38.00

FOOD FOR THE POOR: \$50 from a friend; \$100 from a friend; \$50 from a friend; \$100 from a friend; \$10 from a friend; \$50 from a friend; \$100 from a friend; \$100 from a friend; \$50 from a friend; \$150 IMO Kathleen (Rice) Hendrickson; 100 IMO Helen Largess Crewe; \$100 IHO Hannah O'Donnell's Birthday; \$50 IMO Dorothy Jolicoeur; \$105 IMO Anna Naum; \$500 IMO Joseph Sullivan; \$14,331.59 from Walk for the Homeless; \$25 IMO Jennifer Lamby; \$25 IMO Carol Doyle; \$25 in Thanksgiving for Live Streamed Masses; \$25 IMO Patricia Mangan; \$100 IMO M. Ruth She's 100th Birthday; \$200 IMO Kas-sia Smith; \$50 IMO Robert Henry

Expenses- \$9451.41

Schola (560.20) Altar (31.92) Administration (44383.98) Ascension Phone (151.57) Clergy Benefit Plan (1007.00) House (55.78) Haitian Wire (562.00) Advertising (200.00) Funerals (252.80) Ascension Electric (338.95) Energy Services (1342.21)

Food for the Poor

Expenses- \$5490.99

Our Parish Community...

...Offers prayers and condolences to the families of Charles Daniels, Doreen Kaminski, Keith Freeman, Agatha Moynagh, Ann Canavan, Msgr. Georg Ratzinger, Fr. Robert Brusio, Joe Hamilton and Joann Morrissey who have been born into eternal life.

...Welcomes Carmella Jacqueline Seymour who has entered the Catholic Community through the waters of Baptism.

Word of Life

"In Martha was the image of things present, in Mary of things to come. What Martha was doing, that we are now; what Mary was doing, that we hope for. Let us do the first well, that we may have the second fully. For what of it have we now? How far have we it? As long as we are here, how much of it is there that we have? For in some measure are we employed in it now, and you too when removed from business, and laying aside domestic cares, you meet together, stand, listen. In so far as you do this, you are like Mary." -St. Augustine