

"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**

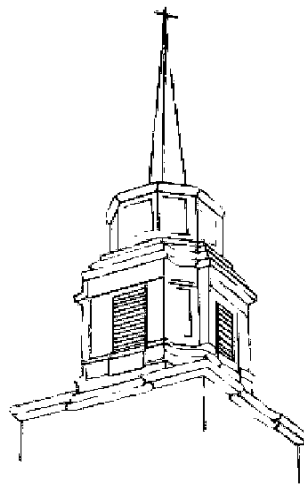
Donna Mastrovito
Dianne Gustowski

**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, September 5, 2020

4:15 PM **All Souls in Purgatory and Deceased Member of F.O.S.S.; For Our Lady of Siluva's Intercession and Protection for the Community of St. John's**

7:15 PM **Joe Hickey**, req. by Family

Sunday, September 6, 2020

8:00 AM **Ann Sullivan**, req. by Family; **Carol Santa Maria**, req. by Family

10:15 AM **Fr. Jim Hoey**, req. by Family

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

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

Monday, September 7, 2020

6:15 PM **Scott Gow**, req. by a Friend

Tuesday, September 8, 2020

6:15 PM **Doug Santimore**, req. by a Bob and Donna Mastrovito

Wednesday, September 9, 2020

6:15 PM **Joe Comeau**, req. by a Friend

Thursday, September 10, 2020

6:15 PM **Dan Best**, req. by Family

Friday, September 11, 2020

6:15 PM **Sirkka Duggan**, req. by a Friend

Saturday, September 12, 2020

4:15 PM **Alphonse Krusas**, req. by Family; **Hannah-Mary O'Connell**, req. by Family

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

Sunday, September 13, 2020

8:00 AM **The Gannon and Spurr Families**, req. by Family; **Alexander "Al" Drisco**, req. by Patty, Nancy, Lorraine and Friends at VAAH

10:15 AM **Helen M. Reilly**, req. by Ursula Arello and Eleanora; **Joseph Donovan, Sr. (5th Anniv.)**, req. by Family

12:15 PM **John Belanger (2nd Anniv.)**, req. by Family; **Milton Joseph Pepin, Sr.**, req. by Wife Helen and Family

7:15 PM **Frank Wright**, req. by Friends

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

Dear Friends in the Lord,

Last week's Gospel passage presented Jesus' first prediction of his Passion. As we heard, Peter did not accept it and went so far as to "rebuke him." In turn, Jesus offered Peter, and all of us, an important insight regarding the process of conversion and discerning God's will as he responded, "You are thinking not as God does, but as human beings do" (Mt. 16, 23b). Included in the Biblical notion of conversion is the need to "change one's mind." In the 12-Step community it is known that to live clean and sober one must turn away from "stinkin' thinkin'."

Following this exchange, Jesus then lays down the conditions of discipleship—denying oneself, taking up the cross... After which he leads three of them, Peter, James, and John, up a high mountain where he is transfigured before them. In so doing, he is offering another insight – literally. To know God's will – where to go and what we are to do – we need to "think" as God does. But, to get there and act, we must see as God does and not as human beings do. The insight of the Transfiguration is that we need insight to accomplish God's will in our lives.

This becomes abundantly clear when the rubber hits the road - for example, when trying to follow the instruction we receive in today's Gospel passage. It is often noted, not without reason, that the prophetic vocation is an arduous one. Who wants to go around telling people where they have gone wrong and warning them of the trouble which awaits them if they do not get back on track? All the biblical prophets had some reservations, a bit of hesitance in accepting the call. Understandably so. I believe that most of us, too, find it challenging to correct a brother or a sister, and few of us are particularly good at doing so. This is a significant reason for the division which is rampant today – in the country, in the church and, even, in our families. We are unable to correct one another in the manner which Jesus instructs and find ourselves at a growing distance from one another. Yet, the significant responsibility of "binding and loosing" has been given to not only Peter and the apostles, but to all of us.

To fulfill this call, then, we must begin to think as God thinks. In this way to convert from thinking of the other as stranger or competitor or enemy and begin to think of them as friend, as companion, as loved one. Thinking this way allows us to see as God sees and trust that, by God's grace and mercy, we will help each other up the high mountain. And see the glory of God which awaits us.

In Christ's Peace,
Fr John Madden

THE TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

PRAYER SHEETS AND BULLETINS are available at the back of the church. Please remember you must take them with you when you leave. Please do not leave them in the pews. The prayer sheet contains the Gloria and the Creed, the Prayer of St. Michael the Archangel and the Prayer in Time of Pandemic.

THIS WEEK'S HYMNS

Int.: *Justus es Domine*, Ps 119: 137, 124

(You are righteous, O Lord, and right is your judgment.)

Op.: # 642 Love Divine, All Loves Excelling HYFRYDOL

Ps 95, "If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts."

Alleluia: Gregorian

Prep.: # 818 Help Us Accept Eachother AURELIA
Eucharistic Accs.: 214, 215, 'Amen' common tone, 311

Comm.: *Vovete et reddite*, Ps 76: 12, 13

(Make vows unto the Lord your God, and accomplish them...)

939 Gift of Finest Wheat BICENTENNIAL

Cl.: # 805 God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending RUSTINGTON

THIS SUNDAY'S READINGS

Ez 33:7-9

Rom 13:8-10

Mt 18:15-20

REMINDER:

Holy Communion will be distributed at 11:30 AM on Sunday morning and **Confessions** will be heard on Saturday 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 remain in your vehicle.

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

Saturday Vigil: Live-streamed @ 4:15 PM

Sunday Mass: Live-streamed @ 10:15 AM

THE US CENSUS BUREAU will be at all Masses NEXT weekend, September 12 and 13. If you have not already registered with the Census, please feel free to see the Census 2020 personnel.

PONDER: CONTEMPLATIVE BIBLE STUDY,

YEAR B- This book, the fruit of our parish Bible Study and Professor Mahri Leonard-Fleckman's scholarship and faith, are still available. Please contact the rectory for a free copy. NB: only a few copies remain.

LECTORING AT MASS- Anyone wishing to continue as a lector, please see Dolores before or after Mass in the sacristy to work out a schedule. Thank you.

JOIN OUR GENERAL FLOCKNOTE GROUP- We encourage you to stay connected through Flocknote during this challenging time and receive Father Madden's weekly messages and other important updates. We encourage you to use the commenting feature on Flocknote to share your thoughts, concerns, and prayers - so our community as a whole can provide support and prayers as needed. To join 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.

THE VILLAGE AT ASCENSION HEIGHTS, located at 42 Vernon Street in Worcester, is now accepting applications for its open waiting list. Applicants must be 62 years of age or older and meet HUD low income guidelines. All apartments are one bedroom. For more information or an application please call (508) 752 -5590.

2000 HAIL MARY'S- On Wednesday, October 7, join us virtually in praying 2000 Hail Mary's through the recitation of all the mysteries of the Holy Rosary (Glorious, Joyful, Luminous and Sorrowful). You can join at any time of the day from 8:00 AM to 7:00 PM. You can go to our parish website stjohnsworcester.org and sign up for your prayer time slot for an hour or as many hours as you would like. Because of the Pandemic, we will be praying the rosary at home instead of in Church. We will do this in thanksgiving for graces we received through the intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary during this difficult time and for her protection from Covid - 19 through the power of the Holy Rosary. The schedule is 8:00 AM - Start of the Rosary; 3:00 PM - Divine Mercy Chaplet (resume the Rosary immediately after); and 7:00 PM - End of the Rosary. As part of this celebration, you can hear Mass via live stream or in Church at 6:15 PM, and also send a free will offering. You may donate online or send your check to St. John's Church, 44 Temple Street, Worcester, MA 01604. All are welcome to participate.

In Our Catholic Community...

MIRACULOUS MEDAL NOVENA- Our Lady of Mt. Carmel and Our Lady of Loreto Parish will begin its Miraculous Medal Novena Tuesday, September 1 for 9 consecutive Tuesday evenings at 7 PM, through October 27. A great opportunity for graces and the tremendous power of intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary, patroness of our parish. Mark the dates and plan to come and bring a friend. This year's speakers are September 1, Msgr. Stephen Pedone; September 8, Msgr. Robert K. Johnson; September 15, Rev. John F. Madden; September 22, Rev. Frederick D. Fraini; September 29, Bishop McManus; October 6, Rev. Jonathan J. Slavinkas; October 13, Deacon Paul Audette; October 20, Msgr. Thomas J. Sullivan; October 27, Rev. Juan D. Echavarría.

CATHOLIC MEN'S GROUP IN WORCESTER- Christ the King Parish will host a new (relatively) men's group meeting for prayer and spiritual development on First Fridays (Oct. 2), 7:30-8:30 PM, in the Church, 1052 Pleasant St., Worcester. The format will vary, but will incorporate prayer, the rosary, spiritual reading and discussion (and maybe get a bite to eat off campus). All Catholic men are invited and welcome.

PROCEDURES FOR REPORTING SEXUAL MISCONDUCT- If you are aware of an incident of sexual misconduct and the suspected offender is a priest, deacon, candidate, seminarian, religious, lay minister, employee or volunteer, you are encouraged to report the matter to the Diocese of Worcester. The report can be made by phone, contact Judy Audette, Victims Assistance Coordinator, (508) 929-4363 or in writing, and sent to 49 Elm Street, Worcester, MA 01609.

Financial Report

Last weekend we received \$6048.16. We have also received:

Stipends- \$55.00
Donation- \$610.00

Total- \$6713.16 Unrestricted- \$6713.16 Restricted- \$0.00

FOOD FOR THE POOR: \$965 IMO Kevin Brenner; \$72.73 from a friend; \$525 from a friend; \$20 from a friend; \$10 from a friend; \$50 from a friend; \$100 from a friend; \$20 IMO Suzanne Nicholas; \$250 IMO Barbara Donoghue; \$60 IMO Christopher and Patrick Johnson; \$50 IMO Msgr. Ed Tinsley; \$500 from St. Rose of Lima, Northborough

Expenses- \$13,801.57

Confirmation (1033.79) Postage (27.32) Schola (386.64) Be Like Brit Sponsorship (6000.00) Administration (2033.62) Rectory Cable/Phone/Internet (663.72) Ascension Phone and Internet (152.99) Ascension Hall Permit (150.00) House (1058.80) Stipends (945.00) Haitian Apostolate (562.00) ascension Fire Alarm (119.53) Copier (668.16)

Food for the Poor
Expenses- \$4133.15

This weekends second collection is the Monthly Special Needs Offering.

Our Parish Community...

...Offers prayers and condolences to the families of Ernest Dufresne, Francis Domiano, Robert Olson, John Thompson, Jr., Clifford Robinson and George Seaver who have been born into eternal life.

Word of Life

“No one is useless in this world who lightens the burden of it for someone else. And no one makes a greater mistake than those who do nothing because they feel that they can do so little.”
- Rev. William Sloane Coffin