

"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**

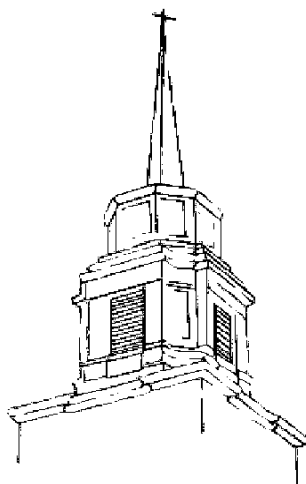
Donna Mastrovito
Dianne Gustowski

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, November 28, 2020

4:15 PM **John Harvey (1st Anniv.)**, req. by Wife Lisa and Family; **Michael McCarthy (1st Anniv.)**, req. by Wife, Mary, Kerry and Sean

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

Sunday, November 29, 2020

8:00 AM **Deborah Stitt**, req. by Family; **Johanna Freeman**, req. by Friends at VAAH

10:15 AM **George and Julia Bakanas, George Bakanas**, req. by Family; **Edward B. Swalec, II**, req. by Isabel Swalec

12:15 PM **Edward Belton and Albin Zukowski**, req. by Family; **Susan Nowalski and Donald Donovan**, req. by Family

7:15 PM **Joshua Kozaczka**, req. by Family; **Rose Pezzella**, req. by Family

Monday, November 30, 2020

6:15 PM **Joseph P. O'Coin (12th Anniv.)**, req. by Family; **Donald Patnod (1st Anniv.)**, req. by Family

Tuesday, December 1, 2020

6:15 PM **David Ramelli**, req. by Andy and Peggy Sokolowski

Wednesday, December 2, 2020

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

Thursday, December 3, 2020

8:00 AM **Dennis Cashman**, req. by Family

Friday, December 4, 2020

6:15 PM **Sirkka Duggan**, req. by Friends

Saturday, December 5, 2020

4:15 PM **All Souls in Purgatory and Deceased Members of F.O.S.S.; John Michael Cahill (Birthday Remembrance.)**, req. by Family; **Victoria Steele, Carl Steele, Sr., Carl Paul Steele**, req. by Family

7:15 PM **Scott Lindberg**, req. by Family

Sunday, December 6, 2020

8:00 AM **Joyce Murphy**, req. by Family; **Katherine Torres**, req. by Friends at VAAH

10:15 AM **Walter Pogorek (9th Anniv.)**, req. by Family; **In Honor of John Malvarose's 50th Birthday**, req. by Family

12:15 PM **Birthday Blessings for Jonelle Garolfoli**, req. by Family

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,

As we begin a new liturgical year on this First Sunday of Advent, Don Pegg's internship with us comes to an end. It has been quite a year for him and for us all. Obviously, we could not have imagined what the year would be like when Don came to Temple Street last November. Still, as I sit here this November, I am grateful that he was with us as we navigated ministry in a Time of Pandemic. Grateful for his constancy, both in terms of his presence and its serenity. Grateful for his gifts, both liturgical and technological. It has been Don, his wife Sue and daughter Samantha who are most responsible for the success of our live stream Masses. Indeed, Don has been working with Power Sound and Video of New England (who installed our new sound system) preparing for permanent live streaming capability. In keeping with his dedication to the parish, he has volunteered to return on December 14 when the new system will be installed. I hope that he will return to St. John's whenever he can. On behalf of us all, I thank Don for his ministry to us this past year. We pledge our prayers as he undertakes a final internship and his last year of formation. I know that he will be a terrific Deacon and use his gifts for building up the Kingdom of God here in the Diocese of Worcester.

Christians are often referred to as an "Easter people." Rightly so. Yet, as we await the fulfillment of what Jesus accomplished in rising from the dead, we are an "Advent people," as well. This season calls on us both to reflect on when Jesus first came among us and it invites us to look ahead to his Second Coming. In so doing, Advent inspires us to see Him present among us. Here. Now. This inspiration is needed today more than ever. What we all await these days is the end of the pandemic. Yet, we do not want to return what was "normal." The battle against the Coronavirus has shown us that we need is, well, God. The signs are true – we are in this together. Turning to God is the only way we are able to make this truth real.

In Christ's Peace,
Fr John Madden

***An important notice:** Individuals and families planning to attend Christmas Eve or Christmas Day Masses at St. John's must sign up ahead of time to reserve seats. We believe that this is the best way to avoid over-crowding. The online sign-up will be made available through a link on the parish website. Those who sign up to reserve a pew will receive a confirmation email that will serve as their "ticket" to attend the Mass. Each individual or family will be asked to show their reservation email "ticket" upon entry - either on their cell phone or as a paper print-out. This is the only way you will be guaranteed a seat. Those who wish to reserve a seat, but are not on the internet, can call the rectory Tuesday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Jimmy will assist you and have your "ticket" available for pick up. Thank you.*

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

THIS WEEKEND'S HYMNS

Int.: *Ad te levavi*, Ps. 25: 1-3

Op.: # 403 The King Shall Come When Morning Dawns
Ps 80, "Lord, make us turn to you; let us see your face and
we shall be saved."

Alleluia: # 208

Prep.: # 393 Awaken, Sleepers

Eucharistic Accs.: # 304, 305, common tone "Amen", 311

Comm.: *Dominus dabit benignitatem*, Ps. 85: 13

405 Creator of the Stars of Night

Cl.: # 409 Sleepers, Wake!

THIS SUNDAY'S READINGS

Is 63:16b-17, 19b; 64:2-7

1 Cor 1:3-9

Mk 13:33-37

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.

REMINDER:

Holy Communion will be distributed at 11:30 AM on Sunday morning. Please enter off of Harding Street and proceed behind the rectory and church to the communion station. Please wear a mask at all times and remain in your vehicle.

Confessions will now be heard on Saturday from 3:00 to 3:45 PM in the Church. Please wear a mask and practice social distancing while waiting.

LIVE STREAMING- Sunday Masses will be live-streamed according to the following schedule on the parish Facebook Page:
Saturday Vigil: Live-streamed @ 4:15 PM
Sunday Mass: Live-streamed @ 10:15 AM

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS- Anyone who is interested in receiving any of the Sacraments of Initiation (Baptism, Eucharist, Confirmation) please contact Fr. Madden either by phone or by email. If you are aware of someone who is or might be interested in the receiving the sacraments, please ask them to contact us. We will be accepting names until the middle of December. At that point, we will determine how to proceed with the program. Thank you.

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.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Grades 1-9- Registration is still open for grades 1-9 religious education. If you registered but did not pick up your packet, they are available at the rectory, Tuesday - Friday from 9 AM - 4 PM.

Please email Dianne directly at dhgustowski@gmail.com with any questions.

Confirmation registration for 2020-2021 is closed. Next class is Tuesday, December 8th, 6:15 to 9 PM in the church.

First Communion registration closes on December 10th. If you wish to have your child receive First Reconciliation/First Eucharist, you must register by December 10th. Registration is available on the parish website. Thank you

EMMANUEL CATHOLIC RADIO- Calling all Cantors, Choirs, Clergy, Classmates and Christmas Carolers!! Emmanuel Radio invites you to showcase your Christmas spirit by singing an Advent/Christmas song on Emmanuel Radio's three Catholic radio stations. Share your talent. You could receive a \$100. donation from Emmanuel Radio! For more details or to enter call Cindy at 774-222-2566 or visit www.1230radio.com today. Emmanuel Radio – God is with us!

TV MASSES WILL END ON SPECTRUM CH

193- The Daily and Sunday TV Masses, Family Rosary and other programs produced by the Diocese will no longer be available on Charter/Spectrum Channel 193 after October 23. If you watch on a non-Spectrum cable company like Clinton or Shrewsbury, there is no change. If you watch on the internet, nothing has changed. TV Ministry is working to get on more local access stations over the next few weeks. It could mean a simple change to channel 194 in towns that have Spectrum cable. Before October 23, an updated list will be available online at worcesterdiocese.org and mailed to all our Daily Mass supporters.

TRAVELING HOLY HOUR FOR VOCA-

TIONS- Join us for the traveling holy hour for vocations this Monday, November 30 at 7 PM at Saint Mary Parish in Shrewsbury. All are welcome to attend and pray for vocations to priesthood and religious life in our diocese. Facemasks required.

In Our Catholic Community...

ADMISSIONS EXAM AT ST. PAUL DIOCESAN

JR/SR HS- The Admissions Exam will be held on December 5 from 8 to 11:30 AM. Please visit www.saintpaulknights.org/admissions/entranceexam.cfm for more information.

FACING FEAR WITH JESUS IN A COVID-19

WORLD - Our country faces a host of fears: sickness and death from a worldwide pandemic, job, and financial loss, loneliness, and radical changes in our society. But the storm that surrounds us is nothing that we cannot handle with Jesus' help. He is not asleep in our boat. Explore eight concrete tips from the Bible, the Saints, and our Catholic Faith. The session includes prayer, reflection, small group sharing, and presentations. Speakers: John and Therese Boucher, teachers and authors of hundreds of articles and many books. Tuesday, December 8, 7:00-9:00 PM. FREE REGISTRATION (limited spaces available)! Send an email with your name, email, and phone number to Esperanza Oliveras cje21@verizon.net by Monday, December 7, 2020, to receive the Zoom.com video session link. (Hosted by the Parish Renewal and Evangelization Committee, Diocese of Worcester.)

A TIME WILL COME FOR SINGING is a four-session program for adults during Advent. Each weekly session will be online and will include a brief lesson and prayer, a short Advent-related video, and closing comments and prayer. Twenty minutes tops - from your own laptop, tablet, or mobile phone! Login whenever you want to during each of the four weeks. Take a step back from the hectic pace of the holidays to reflect on the true reason for the season. FREE, but you must register ahead of time so you can receive a link each week. Contact Romeo Marquis Rmarquis48@outlook.com for details and to register.

Financial Report

Last weekend we received \$5010.66. We have also received:

Candles- \$645.00	Stipends- \$410.00
Donation- \$1000.00	CCHD- \$243.00

Total- \$7308.66 Unrestricted- \$7065.66 Restricted- \$243.00

FOOD FOR THE POOR: \$100 from a friend; \$25 from a friend; \$50 from a friend; \$250 from a friend; \$1000 from a friend; \$75 from a friend; \$75 from a friend; \$111.30 from a friend; \$150 from a friend; \$50 from a friend; \$50 from a friend; \$100 from a friend; \$100 from a friend; \$100 from a friend; \$50 from a friend; \$100 from the Guild of Our Lady of Providence; \$1000 IHO Frank Carroll; \$50 IHO E. Sandra Shook; \$25 IHO Mahroo Morgan

Expenses- \$15,690.72

Schola (553.64) Administration (8551.45) Church Gas (379.00) Rectory Gas (542.79) Federal Payroll Taxes (1018.30) Rectory Plumbing (847.64) Snow Plow Contract (2000.00) Ascension Snow Plow Contract (750.00) CCHD (243.00) Preserve the Flame (84.00) Legal Expense (684.00) Rectory Alarm (36.90)

Food for the Poor

Income- \$7520.00

Expenses- \$3002.16

There is one collection this weekend. Next weekend's second collection is the Monthly Special Needs Offering.

Our Parish Community...

...Offers prayers and condolences to the families of Nancy Gallo, Virginia Dower, Roy Hippert, Jr., Diego Maradona and Marc Orsi who have been born into eternal life.

Word of Life

“The Advent we keep is not a poetic make-believe, or a nostalgic historical pageant, or even an exercise in remembering our roots, although this might have value... The season of Advent celebrates in symbolic form a reality of our own lives and of all humanity's destiny with God, because he who came in weakness at Bethlehem is he who will come again.”

--Sr. Maria Boulding, *The Coming of God*