

"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

**Coordinators of
Religious Education**

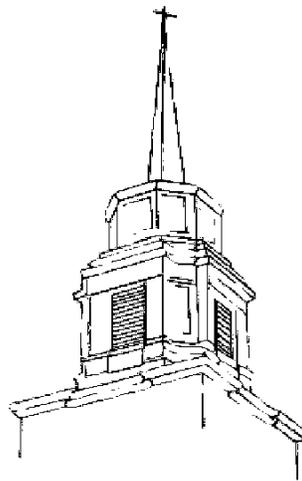
Donna Mastrovito
Dianne Gustowski

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, January 9, 2021

4:15 PM **Fr. Jim Hoey**, req. by Family

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

Sunday, January 10, 2021

8:00 AM **Robert Hegan**, req. by Family

10:15 AM **John J. (63rd Anniv.) and Claire K. (38th Anniv.) Healy**, req. by Family; **Henry S. Kozlowski**, req. by Children

12:15 PM **In Honor of Kerrie Schofield's 10 year medical milestone as a brain aneurysm survivor**

7:15 PM **Joshua Kozaczka and Boleslaw Burzynski**, req. by Family

Monday, January 11, 2020

6:15 PM **Christopher Evers**, req. by Family

Tuesday, January 12, 2020

6:15 PM **Scott and Gwen Gow**, req. by Friends

Wednesday, January 13, 2020

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

Thursday, January 14, 2020

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

Friday, January 15, 2021

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

Saturday, January 16, 2021

4:15 PM **Msgr. Ed Tinsley**, req. by Family

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

Sunday, January 17, 2021

8:00 AM **Joseph Turgeon**, req. by Friends at Village at Ascension Heights

10:15 AM **William "Mr. Bill" Stuczko**, req. by a Friend; **Paula Waters (Month's Mind)**, req. by Cousin, Judy

12:15 PM **In Honor of St. Francis Xavier**

7:15 PM **Francesca Grimaldi (11th Anniv.)**, req. by Family; **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,

You do not need and, probably are not interested in another opinion about the events which took place at the U.S. Capital on Wednesday. On the one hand, there cannot be too many people who think that the nearly unprecedented attack was an acceptable thing. On the other hand, though there is a variety of opinions on the cause of and reason for the riot, the more important point is what can we do to end the violence whatever its cause and for whatever reason it is inflicted. We, Christians should lead the way in this regard. It is good to be reminded what our Leader teaches:

You have heard that it was said, "An eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth." But I say to you, offer no resistance to one who is evil. When someone strikes you on your right cheek, turn the other one to him as well. If anyone wants to go to law with you over your tunic, hand him your cloak as well. Should anyone press you into service for one mile, go with him for two miles. Give to the one who asks of you, and do not turn your back on one who wants to borrow. Mt 5:38-42

Following Jesus is hard. A significant part of the challenge is that his teaching appears impractical in the "real world." If we are being practical, then we know that evil is real. So, we must fight against it. Fight. Yet - *If we do an eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth, we will be a blind and toothless nation* – I think Rev. Dr. King was right and I fear that this is the nation we are becoming. Deepening this fear is that I am not sure what I can possibly do to stem the tide of violence and division.

At an audience in November 2020, Pope Francis – moved by testimony from two homeless men – said, *Make peace, create peace, be the example of peace.* The Vicar of Christ – simply, practically, straightforwardly – tells us what we can do in the face of the violence and division blinding our nation and the world. I know that I easily see the ways that I can make peace, create peace and be an example of peace. Therefore, practically speaking, all that is left is for me to pray for, and rely upon, the grace that our God so freely gives to turn the other cheek, to go the extra mile, to not turn my back on any sister or brother.

In Christ's Peace,
Fr. John Madden

THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

THIS WEEKEND'S HYMNS

Int.: *Dilexisti*, Ps 45: 8 (You have loved justice and hated iniquity; therefore God, your God, has anointed you with the oil of gladness above your companions.)”

Op.: # 457 To Jordan Jesus Humbly Came

Ps 29 “The Lord will bless his people with peace.”

Alleluia: # 208

Prep.: # 456 When Jesus came to Jordan

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

Comm.: *Omnes qui in Christo baptizati estis*, Gal 3: 27

455 The Strong and Gentle Voice

Cl.: # 458 When John Baptized by Jordan's River

THIS SUNDAY'S READINGS

Is 55:1-11

1 Jn 5:1-9

Mk 1:7-11

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 have received inquiries from five adults and will be holding our first meeting on Monday, January 18 in the church hall at 7 PM. If you wish to participate, please contact the rectory this week. Thank you.

PRAAYER 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 the following schedule on the parish Facebook Page:

Saturday Vigil: Live-streamed @ 4:15 PM

Sunday Mass: Live-streamed @ 10:15 AM

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Grades 1-9- Out of an abundance of safety, regular Religious Ed classes will not be held in person for the foreseeable future. The next set of Pflaum Gospel Weeklies will be available on January 17 at the rectory. Thanks so much for your patience and understanding.

Confirmation- Next class is Tuesday, January 12, 6:15 to 9 PM in the church.

First Communion Registration for First Reconciliation and First Eucharist classes will be open until December 31st. If you have a child in second grade or older who wants to make these sacraments, please register on our website. Classes will begin January 17th and we will keep you informed if classes will be in person or remote depending on the state of the virus. If you have any questions, email Donna at mastrovito21@charter.net.

BIBLE-IN-A-YEAR PROGRAM & LENTEN

STUDY- The Immaculate Conception Center, in partnership with St. John's, is offering two upcoming faith formation programs. The Bible-In-A-Year Program (starting on January 24th) will help you read and study Scripture, with a monthly Bible-reading plan, study resources and opportunities to share your experience with other participants. The Lenten Study (starting on February 17th) will take you on a guided journey through the Sunday Mass readings of Lent, with Scripture commentary, reflection questions, and an optional faith-sharing discussion each week on Zoom. To sign up, visit stjohnsworcester.org/adult-faith-formation and follow the instructions to join the “Adult Faith Formation” group on Flocknote.

JOIN THE NATIONAL NOVENA FOR LIFE - 9

DAYS FOR LIFE is a focused period of prayer, penance, and pilgrimage set aside to mark the tragic anniversary of Roe v. Wade, the 1973 Supreme Court decision which legalized abortion during all nine months of pregnancy. The novena will take place nationwide from January 21 through 29, 2021. During this time, all are invited to participate by joining together with thousands of Catholics across the country in prayer for a new intention each of the nine days. Visit 9daysforlife.com to learn more and to download a free app for your smartphone or to sign up for daily emails or text messages with each day's prayer intention.

In Our Catholic Community...

JANUARY 22 NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER -
Did you know that in Dioceses throughout the United States, January 22 is designated as a Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Human Life? As Catholics we are called to observe this day through the penitential practices of prayer, fasting and/or giving alms, in a way similar to our Lenten practices. Learn more about how you can participate at <https://www.worcesterdiocese.org/jan-22-day-of-prayer>.

PRO-LIFE MORNING OF REFLECTION—
Please join us for a Pro-Life Morning of Reflection with Monsignor James Moroney on Saturday, January 23 from 9 – 11 AM at the Cathedral of St. Paul, 38 High St., Worcester. Additional information and registration information will be available at www.worcesterdiocese.org/respect-life.

MASS AND HOLY HOUR FOR LIFE - All are invited to join Bishop McManus for the annual Mass for Life on Thursday, Jan. 28 at 6:30 p.m. at the Cathedral of St. Paul, 19 Chatham St., Worcester. A special Holy Hour for Life will follow at 7:30 p.m. Please join us as we remember the 48th tragic anniversary of Roe v. Wade and pray for an end to abortion and the conversion of our nation. All are welcome!

Our Parish Community...

...Offers prayers and condolences to the families of Thomas Lasorda, Dawn Wells, Paul Westphal, Floyd Little, Richard Trio, Grace Kristolaitis, Edward Gouin, Sr. Mary Edward Messier, R.S.M. and J. Bradford Lange who have been born into eternal life.

Financial Report

Last weekend we received \$8276.16. We have also received:

Stipends- \$1840.00 Christmas- \$550.00
Christmas Flowers- \$25.00 Parking- \$35.00
Donations- \$1300.00

Total- \$12,026.16 **Unrestricted-** \$12,026.16 **Restricted-** \$0.00

FOOD FOR THE POOR: \$100 from a friend; \$50 from a friend; \$100 from a friend; \$30 from a friend; \$25 from a friend; \$50 from a friend; \$20 from a friend; \$100 from a friend; \$50 from a friend; \$50 from a friend; \$50 from a friend; \$100 from a friend; \$100 from a friend; \$10 from a friend; \$50 from a friend; \$100 from a friend; \$75 from a friend; \$50 from a friend; \$50 from a friend; \$160 IMO Margaret Wilson; \$255 IMO Daniel Moynihan; \$20 in grateful recognition of the Kindness of Veronica Montiverdi; \$245 IMO Therese Black; \$1290 IMO Brian Buckley; \$100 Imo Stephen and Mark Mingolla; \$100 IMO Mary Lovett; \$50 IMO James Racicot; \$200 IMO Juliann Shea; \$500 IMO Sally Rinaldi; \$2025 IMO Andrew Stencel; \$100 IMO Joanne Blondin

Expenses— \$12,734.02
Schola (1803.52) Altar (1220.00) Administration (2250.66) Clergy Benefit Plan (1057.00) Church Gas (1167.99) Haitian Wire (562.00) House (994.81) Federal Payroll Taxes (1597.64) Lithuanian Wire (532.00) Funerals (329.20) Marriage Prep (55.00) CCD Books (175.65) Ascension Alarm (122.39) Copier (668.16)

Food for the Poor
Income- \$10,755
Expenses— \$7712.85

This weekend's second collection is for the Catholic University of America.

Word of Life

“I know that we cannot please our Creator unless we love him, because he *is* love and wants nothing but love. If we do know ourselves we find this love. Why? Because we see our own nothingness, that our very existence is ours by grace and not because we have a right to it, and every grace beyond our existence as well—it is all given to us with boundless love. Then we discover so much of God's goodness poured out on us that words cannot describe it. And once we see ourselves so loved by God, we cannot help loving him.”

--St. Catherine of Siena