

"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**

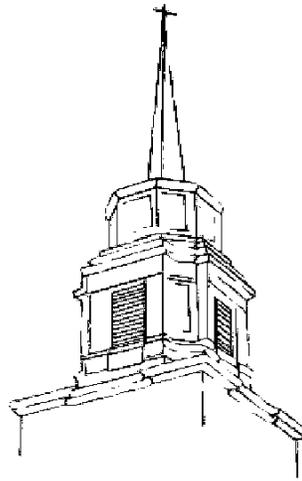
Donna Mastrovito
Dianne Gustowski

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 23, 2021

4:15 PM **Anthony Thompson (14th Anniv.)**, req. by Daughter Barbara; **Dorothy Lambert**, req. by Marje and Paul Korpinen

7:15 PM **Sirkka Duggan**, req. by Friends

Sunday, January 24, 2021

8:00 AM **Marie and Joseph Mastrovito**, req. by Family

10:15 AM **James V. Powers**, req. by Family; **Toni Marie Casarano (Month's Mind)**, req. by Sarah Taylor

12:15 PM **Richard Linga**, req. Friends

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

Monday, January 25, 2021

6:15 PM **Bill and Rita Duffy and Family**, req. by Family; **William Comptois**, req. by Family

Tuesday, January 26, 2021

6:15 PM **Our Departed Loved Ones**, req. by the Swalec Family

Wednesday, January 27, 2021

6:15 PM **Health and Intentions of Maria Bain**, req. by Frank Carroll and Family

Thursday, January 28, 2021

6:15 PM **Edward B. Swalec, II**, req. by Swalec Family; **William Comptois**, req. by Family

Friday, January 29, 2021

6:15 PM **Dorothy Palermo (1st Anniv.)**, req. by Family

Saturday, January 30, 2021

4:15 PM **Paul Letsky**, req. by Friends

7:15 PM **Dennis Cashman**, req. by Friends

Sunday, January 31, 2021

8:00 AM **Fr. Jim Hoey**, req. by Family

10:15 AM **Josephine Kozlowski**, req. by Children; **Brian O'Connell**, req. by Sokolowski Family

12:15 PM **Joe Hickey**, req. Friends

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,

While a seminary student in Italy – so many years ago – I developed a genuine love for the Italian people and the country itself. At the very same time, my love for and appreciation of the United States of America deepened substantially. Absence does make the heart grow fonder. This past Wednesday we witnessed another peaceful transfer of power. This is a unique and primary reason why we owe this nation our reverence and our loyalty. Nonetheless, the fact that two weeks ago Wednesday the Capitol came under attack and over 25,000 troops were called up for this “peaceful” transfer is evidence enough that we have miles to go to fulfill the American promise.

Providentially, it was, if not a child, a still young poet whose words captured our desire for this fulfillment. Powerfully, her biography is evidence that it is not merely a Dream. Amanda Gorman gave voice to our hearts – as she stole them! We all, I am sure, have our favorite part of “The Hill We Climb.” Mine is:

*But one thing is certain
If we merge mercy with might
And might with right
Then love becomes our legacy*

Today is the Third Sunday in Ordinary Time. Last year, Pope Francis established it as the “Sunday of the Word of God.” In the Apostolic Letter, *Aperuit illis*, establishing the celebration, the Holy Father said: *To listen to sacred Scripture and then to practice mercy; this is the great challenge before us in life. God's word has the power to open our eyes and enable us to renounce a stifling and barren individualism and instead to embark on a new path of sharing and solidarity.*

President Biden, a Catholic who started Inauguration Day by attending Mass, takes on his enormous task relying on so many Americans. I cannot help but think that we, his sisters and brothers in the faith, could be particularly helpful. Since we join him in knowing that, quoting our Supreme Pontiff, the Name of God is Mercy.

In Christ's Peace, Fr. John Madden

ASH WEDNESDAY IS FEBRUARY 17th – in this Time of Pandemic, ashes cannot be imprinted on our foreheads this year. Rather, we will adopt what is the normal practice in Rome – and the ashes will be sprinkled on our heads. We simply make a slight bow before the priest, deacon or minister and they will sprinkle the ashes. Masses will be celebrated and ashes distributed at 9:15 a.m., 12:15 and 6:15 p.m. on February 17th.

THE THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

THIS WEEKEND'S HYMNS

Int.: *Dominus secus mare Galilaeae*, Mt 4: 18, 19 (The Lord, walking by the sea of Galilee, saw two brothers, Peter and Andrew, and he called out to them: Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men.)

Op.: # 775 You Call to Us, Lord Jesus

Ps 25, "Teach me your ways, O Lord, teach me your ways."

Alleluia: # 208

Prep.: # 714 How Sweet the Name of Jesus Sounds

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

Comm.: *Venite post me*, Mt 4: 19, 20 (Follow me; I will make you fishers of men. Whereupon they, leaving their nets and their boat, followed the Lord.)

774 Two Fishermen

Cl.: # 720 The Kingdom of God

THIS SUNDAY'S READINGS

Jon 3:1-5, 10

1 Cor 7:29-31

Mk 1:14-20

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS— If you or anyone you know may be interested in receiving any of the Sacraments of Initiation (Baptism, Eucharist, Confirmation) please contact Fr. Madden either by phone or by email. Our next meeting is Monday, February 1 in the church hall at 7 PM. If you wish to participate, please contact the rectory as soon as possible. Thank you.

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

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. Thanks so much for your patience and understanding.

Confirmation— Next class is Tuesday, February 9, 6:15 to 9 PM in the church.

First Communion— First Reconciliation and First Eucharist classes have been postponed until February 7. An adjusted schedule has been posted on the parish website. If you have any questions, feel free to email Donna at mastrovito21@charter.net.

COLLECTION FOR PRIESTS' RETIREMENT

— On Ash Wednesday, February 17, the parishes of our diocese will take up a collection to support the retired priests of our diocese. We currently have 53 retired priests. An additional 42 priests will reach the retirement age of 75 within the next nine years. Over the last two fiscal years, the costs of priest retirement, including housing, health insurance and monthly stipends have ranged from \$2.2 - 2.6 million leading to significant annual shortfalls. Your support of the Ash Wednesday collection will help us meet our obligation to those priests who have faithfully served us and our families through the decades. Thank you for your support.

THE CLOTHING CENTER AT THE ASCEN-

SION CAMPUS will be closed for the next 2 weeks. Please drop off all donations at the rectory, Tuesday-Friday 9 AM to 4 PM. Thank you.

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.

In Our Catholic Community...

MASS AND HOLY HOUR FOR LIFE - All are invited to join Bishop McManus for the annual Mass for Life on Thursday, January 28 at 6:30 PM at the Cathedral of St. Paul, 19 Chatham St., Worcester. A special Holy Hour for Life will follow at 7:30 PM 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!

DEPT. OF CHILDREN AND FAMILIES SEEKING SPACES FOR MONITORED CHILD VISITS-

The MA Dept. of Children and Families (DCF) is looking for space with a separate entrance where children, who are placed out of home, can have a supervised family visit. These would be monitored by DCF staff and could include others such as interpreters. The space would need to accommodate 6 ft. social distancing for between 4 and 10 people with tables and chairs. They would like to have access on at least one day per week with 2 visits in the a.m. and 2 visits in the afternoon. They would also need dedicated restrooms and help disinfecting between the sessions. They use screening questions and provide PPE for all visits. They can provide proper signage. The visits are staggered so one group does not interact with another. If your parish has a hall available during the week and you have a part time maintenance person, and are interested in helping during this difficult time, contact Daniel Arnold daniel.r.arnold@state.ma.us or at office # 508-929-2026. Fee is negotiable.

There is one collection this weekend. Next weekend's second collection is for the Home Missions Appeal.

Financial Report

Last weekend we received \$7711.16. We have also received:

Online- \$14,446.33	Monthly- \$332.00
Restoration- \$92.00	Stipends- \$550.00
Christmas-\$100.00	Free Press- \$39.00

Total- \$23,270.49 Unrestricted- \$23,178.49 Restricted- \$92.00

FOOD FOR THE POOR: \$100 in memory of Timothy Sweeney; \$270 IMO Grace Kristolaitis; \$50 IMO Michael F. and Gerald F. Falvey; \$50 from a friend; \$151 from a friend; \$100 from a friend; \$100 from a friend; \$100 from a friend; \$300 from a friend; \$150 from a friend; \$100 from a friend; \$155 IMO Daniel Moynihan; \$250 IMO Juliann Shea; \$325 IMO Brad Lange; \$300 IMO Annette Coakley; \$50 IMO Florence Trapasso; \$625 IMO Brian Buckley; \$100 IMO Margaret Tower

Expenses- \$8914.63

Altar (147.39) First Communion (233.50) Administration (2677.86) Office (121.06) House (401.61) State Payroll Taxes (1106.32) Federal Payroll Taxes (2096.26) Lithuanian Donation (530.00) Church Electric (683.32) Rectory Electric (904.61) CCD (12.70)

Food for the Poor

Income- \$19,188.32
Expenses- \$3731.27

Our Parish Community...

...Offers prayers and condolences to the families of Henry Aaron, Richard Linga, Elizabeth Tarasiak, Michael Fromm, Helen Galati, Aldona Zitkus, Donald Sutton and Ted Thompson who have been born into eternal life.

...Welcomes Julian Daniel Marlowe who has entered the Catholic Community through the waters of Baptism

Word of Life

“Paul points out that if division in the body is to be avoided, greater attention must be given to the lesser parts, so that they will not be harmed or feel excluded. If they were badly treated they would be destroyed, and their destruction would be the ruin of the body.”

-St. John Chrysostom