

*"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](http://www.stjohnsworcester.org)

**Food for the Poor Website** [www.stjohnsfoodforthe poor.org](http://www.stjohnsfoodforthe poor.org)

**PARISH STAFF**

**Pastor**

Fr. John Madden  
[frjohnmadden@gmail.com](mailto:frjohnmadden@gmail.com)

**Assisting Priests**

Fr. Jean Robert Simbert Brice  
Fr. Conrad Pecevich

**Deacon**

Eduardas Meilus

**Coordinators of  
Religious Education**

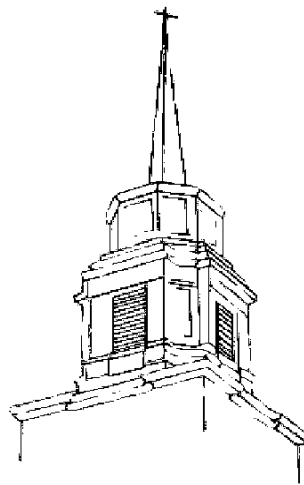
Donna Mastrovito  
Dianne Gustowski

**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](mailto: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, February 13, 2021

4:15 PM **Louis Boucher (13th Anniv.)**, req. by Family;  
**Robert Dufresne**, req. by Family  
7:15 PM **Ann Dumas**, req. by Family

Sunday, February 14, 2021

8:00 AM **Daniel O'Shea**, req. by Family  
10:15 AM **John "Brad" Lange and Juliann Shea**, req. by Family;  
**Frank Riccardi**, req. by Wife and Family  
12:15 PM **Michael Fromm**, req. T. Vancelette; **Walter and Katharina Perduta**, req. by Family  
7:15 PM **Joshua Kozaczka**, req. by Family; **Eleanor Boyle (57th Anniv.)**, req. by Family

Monday, February 15, 2021

6:15 PM **Richard Linga (Month's Mind)**, req. by Friends

Tuesday, February 16, 2021

6:15 PM **Patricia Utzschneider**, req. by Frank Carroll and Family

Wednesday, February 17, 2021– Ash Wednesday

9:15 AM **For the People of St. John's**  
12:15 PM **For the People of St. John's**  
6:15 PM **For the People of St. John's**

Thursday, February 18, 2021

6:15 PM **Edmund McGovern**, req. by Frank Carroll and Family

Friday, February 19, 2021

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

Saturday, February 20, 2021

4:15 PM **Birthday Blessings for Lorenzo Pasquale**, req. by Family;  
**Eugene and Timothy Sweeney**, req. by Family  
7:15 PM **Paul Letsky**, req. by Family

Sunday, February 21, 2021

8:00 AM **Patrick Johnson and Elsie G. Gannon**, req. by Family;  
**Joseph and Helen Gallati (Month's Mind)**, req. by Family  
10:15 AM **Donald Walczak (9th Anniv.)**, req. by Family;  
**Robert Sullivan (Month's Mind)**, req. by Joe and Mary McCluskey  
12:15 PM **Francisco Austriaco**, req. by Family; **Marie Daige**, 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 Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

One of my great joys as your Bishop is to work with so many dedicated priests who have served you and our diocese faithfully throughout their lives. One of my weighty responsibilities is to care for them in their old age.

I write to ask your support for the new Ash Wednesday Collection that will assist the retired priests of the Diocese of Worcester. Unlike the December collection for Retired Religious which supports sisters, brothers and priests of religious orders throughout the country, the Ash Wednesday collection will be dedicated to those priests ordained for the Diocese of Worcester who do not benefit from the December collection.

We currently have 50 retired priests. In the next nine years an additional 42 priests will reach the retirement age of 75. Our annual costs for health insurance, housing and monthly stipends for retired priests have recently run between \$2.2 million - \$2.6 million. While Partners in Charity, Celebrate Priesthood and the endowments from Forward in Faith and Legacy of Hope have and will continue to support priest retirement, we have had annual shortfalls in funding to meet those obligations.

We recently made changes to retirement benefits for priests who have not yet retired. Those measures are expected to save up to \$12 million through 2050. However, in the short run, deficits up to \$374,000 per year are projected through 2031. The purpose of the Ash Wednesday collection is to help eliminate those deficits and strengthen the sustainability of decent care for our retired priests.

Our retired priests have cared for us and our families throughout the decades. Please consider beginning this Lent with a sacrificial gift to the Ash Wednesday Collection on February 17 to support our retired priests.

I am very grateful for your support of all of our Diocesan efforts and for your consideration of this request. Thank you and God bless you.

With every prayerful best wish I remain,

Sincerely yours in Christ,  
Most Reverend Robert J. McManus  
Bishop of Worcester

## THE SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

### THIS WEEKEND'S HYMNS

Int.: Esto mihi in Deum, Ps 31: 3, 4 (Be unto me a protecting God and a house of refuge, to save me; for you are my support and my refuge; and for the sake of your name you will lead me and nourish me.)

Op.: # 780 Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service (vs. 1 & 3 or 4)

Ps 32, "I turn to you, O Lord, in time of trouble, and you fill me with the joy of salvation."

Alleluia: # 208

Prep.: # 748 What Does the Lord Require?

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

Comm.: Manducaverunt, Ps 78: 29, 30 (They are and were fully satisfied; the Lord gave them all that they desired; and they were not deprived of their wants.)

# 700 Where Charity and Love Prevail

Cl.: # 627 O God, Beyond All Praising

### THIS SUNDAY'S READINGS

Lv 13:1-2, 44-46

1 Cor 10:31-11:1

Mk 1:40-45

**ASH WEDNESDAY IS FEBRUARY 17<sup>TH</sup>** – 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 17.

### THE 98<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL NOVENA OF GRACE IN HONOR OF ST. FRANCIS XAVIER

– also known as the Lenten Retreat of the Diocese of Worcester, will be held from March 4<sup>th</sup> - March 12<sup>th</sup>. Obviously, we need to ensure everyone's safety. To that end, a reservation will be needed to guarantee a seat. You can make a reservation through the parish website or by calling the rectory office. The weekend of the Novena is March 6 and 7 and, even if you are not making the Novena, you will need to reserve a seat for the weekend Mass you wish to attend. Please contact the rectory with any questions. Thank you.

**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 23, 6:15 to 9 PM in the church.

**First Communion-** If your child was baptized at a church other than St. John's, Donna will need a copy of their baptismal certificate. Any questions please email Donna at [mastrovito21@charter.net](mailto:mastrovito21@charter.net)

### LENTEN REGULATIONS FOR 2021

All Fridays in Lent are days of abstinence for all who have completed their 14<sup>th</sup> year. On Week Days of Lent there is no obligation to fast. However, voluntary acts of self-denial are recommended. Voluntary Self-Denial may include, in addition to fasting, participation in daily Mass, spiritual studies, Lenten Devotions, Stations of the Cross, saying the Rosary, deeds of mercy and kindness. Easter Duty Obligation must be made from the first Sunday in Lent (February 21) through Trinity Sunday (May 30).

### DEEDS OF MERCY AND KINDNESS:

**Rice Bowls** will be available on the back tables of the Church (and have quarantined for 2 weeks). You are invited to place the money you would have spent on what you "give up" for Lent into the bowls, which support the great work done by Catholic Relief Services all across the globe.

**Virtual Baby Bottles**—Due to the pandemic the baby bottle fundraiser is virtual this year. You are invited to take the money you would have spent on what you "give up" for lent and donate to this wonderful prolife cause. Donations can be made online at [give.visitationhouse.org](http://give.visitationhouse.org) or mailed to Visitation house Inc., PO Box 60115 Worcester, MA 01606. Families are also encouraged to get your children involved by starting a family project. For more information please take a flyer from the back table for more information or visit [visitationhouse.org](http://visitationhouse.org).

### ST. JOHN'S LENTEN DEVOTIONS

**The Stations of the Cross** are celebrated every Friday in Lent after the 6:15 PM Mass, except on the Fridays of the Novena, March 5th and 12th.

## In Our Catholic Community...

**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.

### **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](http://stjohnsworcester.org/adult-faith-formation) and follow the instructions to join the "Adult Faith Formation" group on Flocknote.

**HOTEL GRACE** is a 24/7 shelter in Worcester that is helping young, middle-aged, and older adults find shelter and food throughout the wintertime. More than that, it provides dignity to people, no questions asked. Hotel Grace is in great need of volunteers. Please go to [www.netofcompassion.org](http://www.netofcompassion.org) to find out how you can help during these freezing cold days.

## Financial Report

Last weekend we received \$27,972.16. We have also received:

Monthly- \$767.00

Restoration- \$147.00

Parking- \$70.00

Stipends- \$955.00

Free Press- \$156.00

**Total- \$30,067.16 Unrestricted- \$29,920.16 Restricted- \$147.00**

**FOOD FOR THE POOR:** \$800 IMO Robert Sullivan; \$300 IMO Debra Simulevich; \$4550 IMO Theresa and Francis Bafaro; \$20 from a friend; \$50 from a friend; \$50 from a friend; \$50 from a friend; \$50 from a friend; \$50 from a friend; \$20 from a friend; \$100 Imo Juliann Shea; \$20 IMO Vito Gildauskas; \$140 IMO Ralph Brosnahan; \$225 IMO Annette Coakley; \$5000 from Country Bank; \$150 IMO Daniel Monihan; \$100 IMO Christine Anderson; \$100 IMO Ken Koury/FCTNE; \$500 from Bank Hometown; \$25 IMO Michael Novia; \$25 Imo Brian Buckley; \$1000 IMO Brian O'Connell; \$50 IMO Brian Penny; \$5000 from Unibank; \$90 IMO John O'Grady

**Expenses-** \$15,179.60

Schola (527.80) Administration (7764.52) House (1154.48) Altar (626.04) Envelopes (706.26) Ascension Boiler (2795.00) Church Plumbing (337.64) Garage Doors (47.81) Livestream (75.00) Funerals (352.80) Church Alarm (124.09) Copier (668.16)

### **Food for the Poor**

Income- \$7835.00

Expenses- \$6210.45

## Our Parish Community...

...Offers prayers and condolences to the families of Martin Schottenheimer, William Conigliaro, Richard Brault, George Shultz, Devin Dubois and Mary Wilson who have been born into eternal life.

...Welcomes Alyssa Noemi Rivera, Jadiel Alberto Rivera, Sophia Elizabeth Ayala who have entered the Catholic Community through the waters of Baptism.

## Word of Life

**"If we had the vision of faith, we would see beneath every behavior – no matter how repulsive – every bodily appearance – no matter how dirty or deformed – a priceless dignity and value that makes all material facts and scientific technologies fade into insignificance."**

**Fr. Daniel Egan (1915-2000)**