

"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**

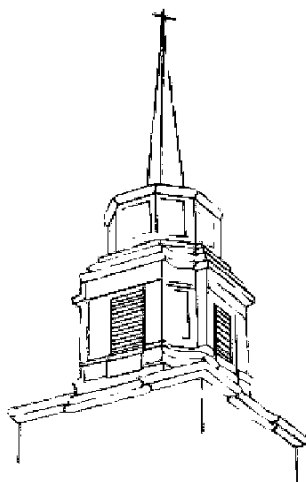
Donna Mastrovito
Dianne Gustowski

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, February 27, 2021

4:15 PM **Thomas Reynolds (9th Anniv.)**, req. by Family; **Joseph and Julia Senckowski, Christine Plouffe**, req. by Family

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

Sunday, February 28, 2021

8:00 AM **David Covello**, req. by Family

10:15 AM **Patricia Benoit and Christopher Bosowski**, req. by Family; **John Connors, Esq.**, req. by The Sokolowski Family

12:15 PM **Msgr. Ed Tinsley**, req. by Family

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

Monday, March 1, 2021

6:15 PM **Stephen Kane**, req. by Dave Young; **Jane Scola**, req. by Family

Tuesday, March 2, 2021

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

Wednesday, March 3, 2021

6:15 PM **Joann M. Brosnan**, req. by Family

Thursday, March 4, 2021

9:15 AM **Andrew Madonna**, req. by Family

12:15 PM **Anthony and Adele Dailida**, req. by Children and Grandchildren

6:15 PM **Carol Groccia**, req. by Family

Friday, March 5, 2021

9:15 AM **Robert & William Abbruzzese**, req. by Family

12:15 PM **Joseph and Edna Gustowski**, req. by Dianne Gustowski

6:15 PM **Gerald Nugent**, req. by Family

Saturday, March 6, 2021

4:15 PM **Kevin and Mary Carroll**, req. by Family; **All Souls in Purgatory and Deceased Members of F.O.S.S.; Ann Sullivan (1st Anniv.)**, req. by Family

7:15 PM **Deceased Members of the Marotta Family**, req. by Family

Sunday, March 7, 2021

8:00 AM **Cornelius and Kathleen Flynn**, req. by Family; **John Mackoul**, req. by Family

10:15 AM **John Harvey**, req. by Family; **Emilia Garofoli (13th Anniv.)**, req. by Family

12:15 PM **Jay Eager (1st Anniv.)**, req. by Family; **John J. and Mary I. Welsh**, req. by Family

7:15 PM **Paul Letsky**, req. by Family

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

Dear Friends in the Lord,

On Thursday we begin the 98th Annual Novena of Grace in Honor of St. Francis Xavier. Please check the announcement in this bulletin and/or the parish website for details regarding the schedule, including the Masses being lived streamed, and this year's speakers. Even though the Novena is held from March 4th – 12th every year, I find that it is always a unique experience. There are several factors to which this can be attributed. For instance, holding the Novena during a pandemic will have a profound effect. As will anything else that is going on in our lives, the lives of our family and friends, and in the life of the world. A significant factor, too, is where these days fall in the liturgical year. This determines the readings we hear each day and, therefore, the focus of the liturgies themselves.

As we gather for the 98th Annual, in the first part of Lent, we will begin with the story of the Rich Man and Lazarus. We will hear the Parables of the Tenants, the Prodigal Son and the Unforgiving Servant. We will hear of Jesus driving the moneychangers from the Temple (or his encounter with the Samaritan Woman). Not to mention the words of Jeremiah and Daniel; Micah and Elisha; Exodus and Deuteronomy. Their collective message is, of course, one of prayer, fasting and almsgiving; of beginning anew and of conversion.

Mark Searle reminds us: "The purpose of the first part of Lent is to bring us to compunction. *Compunction* is etymologically related to the verb *to puncture* and suggests the deflation of our inflated egos, a challenge to any self-deceit about the quality of our lives as disciples of Jesus... for its purpose is not to confirm us on our sense of virtue but to bring home to us our radical need of salvation."

I hope that many of you will be able to join with us for the Novena of Grace – whether on Temple Street or from the safety of your home. Wherever your starting point, the promise of these days of prayer is that we will continue together on our downward path to salvation.

In Christ's Peace,
Fr. John Madden

THE SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

THIS WEEKEND'S HYMNS

Int.: Tibi dixit cor meum, Ps 27: 8,9 (My heart declared to you: Your countenance have I sought; I shall ever seek your countenance, O Lord; do not turn your face from me.)"

Op.: # 881 How Good, Lord, to Be Here

Ps 116, "I will walk before the Lord, in the land of the Living."

Gospel Acc.: # 208B

Prep.: # 463 From Ashes to the Living Font (vs. 3 for Year B)

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

Comm.: Visionem, Mt 17:9

880 Transform Us

Cl.: # 467 The Glory of These Forty Days

THIS SUNDAY'S READINGS

Gn 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18

Rom 8:31b-34

Mk 9:2-10

THE 98TH 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 4th-March 12th. 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. Novena Masses will be live streamed at 12:15 and 6:15 PM during the week and 2 :15 and 4:15 PM Saturday and 10:15 AM Sunday.

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

DEACON INFORMATION SESSIONS - The Office of the Diaconate is seeking active men of faith in the Diocese of Worcester who may be discerning a vocation as a permanent deacon. Two online information sessions have been scheduled on February 23 and March 4 at 7:00 pm via Zoom. Each session should last from 1.5 to 2 hours. Men between the ages of 31 and 60, married or single, who are interested in learning more about the permanent diaconate and the process for become a deacon may pre-register for one of the Information Sessions at worcesterdiocese.org/register-for-information-session. An email with the link to the online session will be sent out prior to the scheduled date.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Grades 1-9- The next distribution of regular CCD materials will be on Sunday, March 7th from 3-4:30 pm. We'll be in the parking lot behind the rectory. See you then!

Confirmation- Next class is Tuesday, March 2, 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

LENTEN REGULATIONS FOR 2021

All Fridays in Lent are days of abstinence for all who have completed their 14th 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 at the rectory. You are invited to place the money you would have spent on what you "give up" for Lent into the bowls, or a separate envelope, which will 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 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.

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 and follow the instructions to join the "Adult Faith Formation" group on Flocknote.

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION EVERY THURS-

DAY at St. Bernard's Church (228 Lincoln St. Worcester) during Lent. Exposition begins following the 8:15 am morning mass and reposition takes place prior to the 7 pm Mass in Spanish. If you are interested in signing up for an hour please call 508-755-3820 or email parish@olpworcester.org

Financial Report

Last weekend we received \$5580.16. We have also received:

Monthly- \$12.00	Restoration- \$12.00
Stipends- \$360.00	Retired Religious- \$2240.00
Free Press- \$158.00	Latin America- \$151.00

Total- \$8513.16 Unrestricted- \$6110.16 Restricted- \$2403.00

FOOD FOR THE POOR: \$25 IMO Ralph Brosnan; \$130 IMO Robert Olson; \$100 IMO Vito Gadiluskas; \$150 from a friend; \$100 from a friend; \$60 from a friend; \$25 from a friend; \$225 IMO Jack O'Grady; \$100 IMO Theresa and Francis Bafaro; \$150 IMO Jim McDonald; \$50 IMO Robert Sullivan; \$50 IMO Patricia Allelunas; \$100 IMO Mary Donahue; \$100 IMO Peter Papagni and Annette Coakley; \$3,561.02 from Committee to Elect John B. Dolan, III; \$80 IMO Christopher and Patrick Johnson

Expenses- \$11,275.90

Schola (614.44) Altar (483.69) Administration (5864.99) Federal Payroll Taxes (975.88) Funerals (152.80) Ascension Plowing (175.00) House (323.89) Marriage Prep (27.50) Office (67.71) Latin America (151.00) Preserve the Flame (199.00) Retired Religious (2240.00)

Food for the Poor

Income- \$8804.49
Expenses- \$3568.74

YEAR TO DATE- In February we had a cash operating loss of \$3,071.15. This leaves our cash operating gain for FY 20/21 at \$38,347.69. Thank you for your ongoing and generous support of St. John's.

Our Parish Community...

...Offers prayers and condolences to the families of Edwin Paul Konicki, David Waller, Mary Paciello and Lawrence Ferlinghetti who have been born into eternal life.

Word of Life

"Hours spent in the chapel are not the only means of entertaining the Beloved Guest of the soul. We can often please Him better when we are out on the highways and byways...offering to needy souls the hospitality of our Christian love."

- Servant of God Francis Xavier Ford