

*"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**

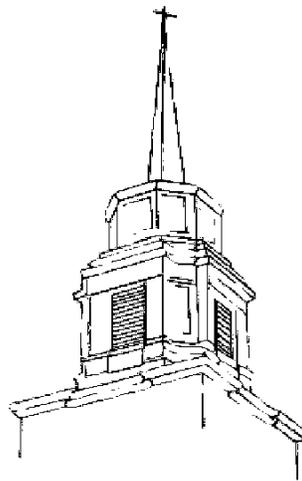
Donna Mastrovito  
Dianne Gustowski

**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**

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, March 27, 2021

4:15 PM **John and Mildred Ahern**, req. by Family;

**Gloria Platon and Frank Brown**, req. by Family

7:15 PM **Judith Daley**, req. by Family

Sunday, March 28, 2021

8:00 AM **Michael Brennan**, req. by Family; **Rudolph**

**Gaudette and Char Rossi**, req. by Family

10:15 AM **Alice Haddad**, req. by a Friend

12:15 PM **Stella Tiscione (1st Anniv.)**, req. by Family

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

Monday, March 29, 2021

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

Tuesday, March 30, 2021

6:15 PM **Paul Letsky**, req. by Friends

Wednesday, March 31, 2021

6:15 PM **Kathleen Erickson (2nd Anniv.)**, req. by Family

Thursday, April 1, 2021– Holy Thursday

6:15 PM **FOR THE PEOPLE OF ST. JOHN'S**

Friday, April 2, 2021– Good Friday

6:15 PM **FOR THE PEOPLE OF ST. JOHN'S**

Saturday, April 3, 2021– Holy Saturday

7:30 PM **FOR THE PEOPLE OF ST. JOHN'S**

Sunday, April 4, 2021– Easter Sunday

8:00 AM **FOR THE PEOPLE OF ST. JOHN'S**

10:15 AM **FOR THE PEOPLE OF ST. JOHN'S**

12:15 PM **FOR THE PEOPLE OF ST. JOHN'S**

7:15 PM **FOR THE PEOPLE OF ST. JOHN'S**

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

**Pope Francis has asked our Parish to support the Pontifical Good Friday Collection, which helps Christians in the Holy Land. The Pontifical Good Friday Collection, you stand in solidarity with the Church in the Holy Land as a witness of peace, supporting Catholics there in parishes and schools, maintaining Christian shrines and caring for refugees in the Holy Land. Thank you for your generosity.**

Dear Friends in the Lord,

A friend of mine passed away this week. In reflecting on who he was and how he lived, there was an attribute which he possessed that stuck out to me. It is invaluable for all of us. We all readily agree that “nobody is perfect.” How we understand this truth, though, and what we do with that understanding is most important. Sometimes, we use this truth as an excuse or a rationalization. Still, we know that this is not a fruitful response and try to avoid making it. A more frequent response and one that we have greater trouble avoiding is thinking that this is a temporary situation. “Sure, nobody is perfect, but this might be the day I change that reality!” This is how I tend to be. Therefore, when I lose my patience with someone, or when I speak badly about another or when I sin in any way, I am shocked. The previous thousands of times I have done it did not dissuade me from thinking that my imperfection is only temporary.

It was, I think, Bishop Barron who said that only the Saints were not surprised when they sinned. Then, my friend, George, may have been a saint. He knew that not only was he not perfect, but that he was never going to be perfect. This attribute allowed him, better than most of us, I think, to deepen his love and gratitude for those who were patient with and understanding of him; to continually deepen his own patience with and understanding of others. This humility allowed him to rely more and more completely on the generosity and love of God.

Today's celebration of Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion begins Holy Week. It is, as I always say, the “Annual Retreat of the Universal Church.” The penitential call of the Season of Lent is good and necessary – after all, nobody is perfect. Hopefully, it has helped us to realize that this is not a temporary situation. If so, then we are well-prepared to receive the grace necessary to bear with one another patiently, to see each other as gifts and not threats, to be prepared to enter, with the communion of saints, into the Kingdom of God.

In Christ's Peace,  
Fr. John Madden

**POLAR PARK-ING AND CONCESSIONS** - We are in the process of obtaining a license to use our lot for Woo Sox parking. Plus, Be Like Brit will be running a concession stand at Polar Park during the season. We both are in need of volunteers to assist in this effort. If you are able to help with the parking, please contact the rectory. If concessions is your game, please contact BLB for details. Thanks and, of course, Go Woo Sox!

## ***PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD***

Int.: *Hosanna filio David*, Mt 21:9

(# 1043 Hosanna to the Son of David)

Op.: # 483 All Glory, Laud, and Honor

Ps 22, "My God, My God, why have you abandoned me?"

Gospel: # 208 Praise and Honor, to you, O Lord Jesus Christ

Prep.: # 494 When I Survey the Wondrous Cross

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

Comm.: *Pater, si non potest*, Mt 26:42

# 490 My Song is Love Unknown

Cl.: # 489 O Sacred Head Surrounded

### **THIS SUNDAY'S READINGS**

Mk 11:1-10

Is 50:4-7

Phil 2:6-11

Mk 14:1-15:47

### **HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE**

- **Wednesday, March 31**– St. John's Day of Prayer. Sign-ups on the parish website.
- **Holy Thursday, April 1**– 6:15 PM Celebration of the Lord's Supper
- **Good Friday, April 2**– 12 Noon Stations of the Cross. 6:15 PM Good Friday of the Passion of the Lord
- **Holy Saturday, April 3**– 7:30 PM Easter Vigil
- **Easter Sunday, April 4**– Mass of the Resurrection, regular Sunday schedule

**PARTNERS IN CHARITY** – the Annual Appeal of the Diocese of Worcester is underway. This year we are invited to "Be the Face of Christ" to our brothers and sisters in need. As you know, the Partners in Charity appeal supports the works of prayer, charity, and education in the diocese. Our parish goal is \$76,600 again this year. To date, we have received gifts and pledges totaling \$30,779. Thank you to those who have donated already. There are gift/pledge envelopes available in the church and at the rectory. As always, we are grateful for the generous support of the people of St. John's.

**ST. JOHN'S DAY OF PRAYER** will be held this Wednesday, March 31, the Wednesday of Holy Week. The goal again this year is to pray for an end to the coronavirus pandemic, the healing of the sick, the salvation of the dead and the protection of healthcare workers and those on the front-line fighting Covid-19. In this hope, we continue to pray. Our hope is that one or more parishioners of St. John's can commit to pray during each hour of March 31st. Please go to the parish website to sign up. Thank you.

### **RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**

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

**EASTER EGG DISTRIBUTION** will be this Sunday, March 27 from 3-4:30 PM. Pull into the parking lot behind the rectory, and we will have gift bags for the kids. All ages, all children welcome! Bring a friend!

### **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 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](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).

**PLASTIC BAG DONATIONS** are always needed at the St. Francis Xavier center for our friends who take food "to-go" each day. Please drop donations off at the Center, in the back of the Church or at the rectory.

## In Our Catholic Community...

**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*

**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 be heard on Saturdays from 3:00 to 3:45 PM in a section of the sacristy of the main Church. Please wear a mask and practice social distancing.

**ATTENTION WORCESTER PUBLIC SCHOOL STUDENT PARENTS** - On Tuesday, March 30 at 5:30 pm the Teaching, Learning and Student Supports Standing Committee of the Worcester Public Schools is scheduled to hold a virtual meeting on several curriculum proposals that will include sex education for your children. While details on the current proposals are not fully available at this time, a curriculum proposed in 2019 included 6<sup>th</sup> grade students and was withdrawn because of inappropriateness and parent concerns. Information regarding on-line access to the meeting can be found by emailing the School Committee's Clerk's Office at [Magric@worcesterschools.net](mailto:Magric@worcesterschools.net) or by calling 508-799-3032.

## Financial Report

Last weekend we received \$5162.66. We have also received:

Monthly- \$100.00

Restoration- \$60.00

Stipends- \$670.00

Easter- \$110.00

Donation- \$250.00

Novena- \$910.00

CRS- \$362.50

**Total-** \$7625.16 **Unrestricted-** \$7202.66 **Restricted-** \$422.50

**FOOD FOR THE POOR:** \$515 IMO Alice Haddad; \$50 IMO Mary Donahue; \$25 Imo Robert Sullivan; \$75 IMO John Morrissey; \$150 from a friend; \$12.56 from a friend; \$50 from a friend; \$1400 from a friend; \$20 from a friend; \$100 from a friend; \$100 from a friend; \$150 from a friend; \$300 from a friend; \$700 from a friend; \$150 from a friend; \$100 from a friend; \$1,000 IMO Christine Bishop; \$50 IMO Andrew Stencel; \$50 IHO Bill Riley's birthday; \$193 IMO George Bailey; \$125 IMO Paul Jackson

**Expenses-** \$10,572.99

Altar (1150.07) Organ Repair (535.50) Administration (5289.31) State Taxes (1040.84) Rectory Electric (142.00) House (179.85) Federal Payroll Taxes (901.62) Church Locks (138.00) Church Alarm (66.00) Lithuanian Donation (530.00) Maintenance Supplies (362.50)

**Food for the Poor**

Income- \$24,047.75

Expenses- \$7182.12

## Our Parish Community...

...Offers prayers and condolences to the families of Sharon Charbonneau, George Bailey, Bev Carpino and Elgin Baylor who have been born into eternal life.

... Welcomes Aiden Nicholas Jones and Lena Lise Doherty who have entered the Catholic Community through the waters of Baptism.

## **Word of Life**

**"Apart from the cross, there is no other ladder by which we may get to heaven."**

**St. Rose of Lima**