

"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**

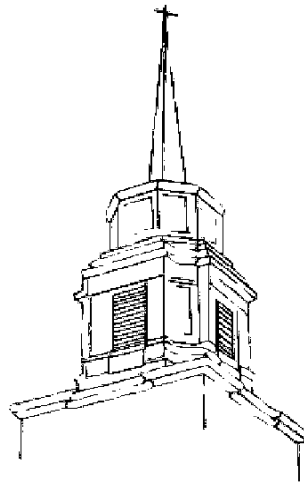
Donna Mastrovito
Dianne Gustowski

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

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, 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**

Monday, April 5, 2021
6:15 PM **Scott Lindberg**, req. by Friends

Tuesday, April 6, 2021
6:15 PM **Dennis Cashman**, req. by Friends

Wednesday, April 7, 2021
6:15 PM **Michael Lewis**, req. by Family

Thursday, April 8, 2021
6:15 PM **Joe Comeau**

Friday, April 9, 2021
6:15 PM **Joe Hickey and Dan Best**

Saturday, April 10, 2021
4:15 PM **All Souls in Purgatory and Deceased Members of F.O.S.S.; Anna, Bill and George Leseman**, req. by Barbara Thompson
7:15 PM **Msgr. Ed Tinsley**, req. by Friends

Sunday, April 11, 2021
8:00 AM **Jimmy Gannon**, req. by Family;
Gervais Larochelle, req. by Family
10:15 AM **Jim Lyons (11th Anniv.)**, req. by Wife; **Edward B. Swalec, II (2nd Anniv.)**, req. by Family
12:15 PM **Mary Lizotte (10th Anniv.)**, req. by Family; **Rosalynd Walsh**, req. by Family
7:15 PM **Joshua Kozaczka and Bloeslaw Burzynski**, req. by Family

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

My dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

Imagine the joy of Christ's grieving followers gathered in the Upper Room when on Easter the Risen Lord suddenly appeared and said, "Peace be with you." Their joy and peace at Christ's Victory must have been unbounded as they recognized Him in their presence.

But not all of Christ's followers shared that joy. Saint Thomas, who was absent, experienced not joy but doubt. Two other disciples after hearing of Christ's Resurrection, instead of immediately joining the others, departed Jerusalem and were downcast. Even when Jesus drew near and spoke to them of the Scriptures, they did not recognize Him. Only in the breaking of the bread (the Eucharist) did they recognize Him. Only then did they return to Jerusalem to join the disciples assembled in the Upper Room and share in the joy of Easter.

On this Easter Sunday, after a year of COVID isolation, when we seek peace and joy amidst doubts and losses we can profitably reflect on the importance of gathering at the Eucharist. As Jesus came to the disciples gathered together in Jerusalem so, too, He is most present to us, not in our individual reflections upon the Scriptures, but when the Scriptures and Eucharist are celebrated at Mass.

It has been a long year with necessary and prudent precautions keeping many of us from Sunday Mass. Given the extraordinary circumstances of the COVID pandemic, personal prayer, reading the Scriptures and watching the Mass live-streamed have been prudent choices for many. However, such choices are all inferior to being present at Sunday Mass and receiving the Holy Eucharist, which the Second Vatican Council proclaimed as the source and summit of the Church. Like St. Thomas and the disciples on the road to Emmaus, it is harder to recognize Jesus, ward off doubts and avoid being downcast by the trials and tragedies of life when we are not nourished by the Eucharist at Sunday Mass.

As signs of progress in the COVID pandemic begin to give way to hope for a return to a more normal life, and as vaccines become more widely available, it may be time to begin to consider prayerfully a return to Sunday Mass. Certainly, everyone needs to consult family and doctors and use prudence taking into account one's own circumstances and health. Our parishes will continue to require masks and social distancing and employ sanitary precautions. As society moves towards reopening, may the Holy Spirit guide you, along with prudent medical advice, in your consideration about coming back to Sunday Mass in the weeks and months ahead.

With every prayerful best wish for a joyous Easter, I remain

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

EASTER SUNDAY OF THE RESSURECTION OF THE LORD

THIS WEEKEND'S HYMNS

Introit: *Resurrexi et adhuc*, Ps 139: 18, 5, 6 (I am risen, and I am always with you, alleluia; you have placed your hand upon me, alleluia; your wisdom has been shown to be most wonderful, alleluia, alleluia.)

Op.: # 516 Jesus Christ is Risen Today

Gloria: # 323 Mass of Creation

Ps 118, "This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice, let us rejoice, let us rejoice and be glad."

Sequence: # 1080

Alleluia: # 208

Prep.: # 510 Christ is Alive!

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

Comm.: *Pascha nostrum immolatus*, 1 Cor 5: 7, 8 (Christ, our Paschal Lamb, has been sacrificed, alleluia; therefore, let us keep the feast by sharing the unleavened bread of uprightness and truth, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.)

Cl.: # 496 Christ the Lord is Risen Today

THIS SUNDAY'S READINGS

Mk 11:1-10

Is 50:4-7

Phil 2:6-11

Mk 14:1-15:47

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 \$35,364. 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.

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!

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.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

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

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.

HOLY HOUR TO PRAY FOR PRIESTS-

On Friday, April 9, from 7 - 8 PM a holy hour to pray for priests will take place at Immaculate Conception Church on 353 Grove St., Worcester. This holy hour will consist of time for silent adoration, as well as a short reflection, the rosary, and benediction. Please join us to pray for our priests. Repeats every second Friday of the month.

CAR DONATION PROGRAM- Did you know you can donate your car, truck, motorcycle or boat to Catholic Charities and help us help your Worcester County neighbors? It's quick and easy to do. Just visit our website to donate your vehicle online at www.ccworc.org or call 1-888-CAR-7308 1-888-CAR-7308 to arrange a convenient pickup time and confirmation of your donation from Catholic Charities Donation Angel Program.

In Our Catholic Community...

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY - Ignatian Volunteer Corps (IVC) New England is recruiting non-profit placement sites for the coming (September to June) year. Ignatian Volunteers commit to two days/week of service with nonprofit agencies working with people experiencing poverty, injustice, or marginalization. They are men and women, 50 years of age and older, in a 26-year-old program combining service and spirituality, supported by Jesuits of the USA East Province. There is a modest partnership fee. IVC volunteers are generally retired or semi-retired professionals, and have been actively serving in the New England since 2009. IVC New England volunteers work in Worcester, Boston, Providence and surrounding communities. For more information, please contact IVC New England Regional Director Dave Hinchey via email at newengland@ivcusa.org.

PROCEDURES FOR REPORTING SEXUAL MISCONDUCT- If you are aware of an incident of sexual misconduct and the suspected offender is a priest, deacon, candidate, seminarian, religious, lay minister, employee or volunteer, you are encouraged to report the matter to the Diocese of Worcester. The report can be made by phone, contact Judy Audette, Victims Assistance Coordinator, (508) 929-4363 or in writing, and sent to 49 Elm Street, Worcester, MA 01609.

Our Parish Community...

...Offers prayers and condolences to the families of Thomas Holden and Karen Hippert who have been born into eternal life.

...Welcomes Lucas John Vazquez who has entered the Catholic Community through the waters of Baptism.

Financial Report

Last weekend we received \$10,113.32. We have also received:

Online- \$11,531.57 Stipends- \$600.00
Easter Flowers- \$80.00 Novena- \$520.00

Total- \$22,844.89 **Unrestricted-** \$22,844.89 **Restricted-** \$0.00

FOOD FOR THE POOR: \$50 IMO Helena Hackett; \$50 IMO William Gates; \$4350 from Sisters of Notre Dame; \$100 IHO St. Bernadette; \$50 from a friend; \$25 from a friend; \$250 from a friend; \$100 from a friend; \$50 from a friend; \$50 from a friend; \$20 from a friend; \$100 IMO Christine Anderson; \$250 IMO Alice Haddad; \$320 IMO George Bailey; \$690 IMO Sharon Charbonneau; \$150 Imo Theresa Bafaro; \$100 IMO Christopher and Patrick Johnson; \$5000 from the Spillane Charitable Foundation; \$100 IMO Richard Buyinski; \$25 IMO Robert Sullivan; \$500 IMO Michael Clancy; \$1400 fro Souls in Purgatory; \$125 IMO Thomas Holden

Expenses- \$19,767.30

Schola (982.88) Altar (92.50) Fire Extinguisher Repairs (546.00) Administration (3203.85) Rectory Cable/Phone/Internet (622.28) State Payroll Taxes (1039.96) Church Gas (1255.20) Rectory Gas (1437.76) Advertising (220.00) Ascension Boiler Repair (4935.00) Church Boiler Repair (355.00) Federal Payroll Taxes (1072.92) Funerals (229.20) Church Landscaping (600.00) Ascension Landscape (377.77) Lithuanian Donation (530.00) CCD (150.01) Catholic Relief (362.50) Preserve the Flame (389.00) House (1205.80) Church Alarm (159.67)

Food for the Poor

Income- \$13,016.44 Expenses- \$5930.11

This weekend's second collection is the Easter Collection.

YEAR TO DATE: In March, we had a cash operating gain of \$16,562.94. This leaves our cash gain at \$87,950. through the first seven months of FY 2020/2021. Thank you for your ongoing support of St. John's.

Word of Life

“HE IS RISEN!”