

*"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)

**Associate Pastor**

Fr. Jean Robert Simbert Brice

**Assisting Priest**

Fr. Conrad Pecevich

**Deacon**

Eduardas Meilus

**Coordinators of  
Religious Education**

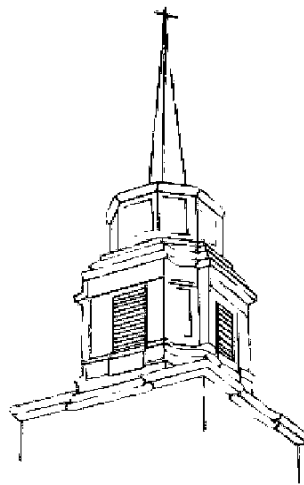
Donna Mastrovito  
Dianne Gustowski

**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  
Monday – Wednesday  
After the 6:15 p.m. Mass

**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  
Fourth Monday of the Month

## Mass Intentions

### Saturday, October 30, 2021

4:15PM **Victoria Steele**, req. by Family; **John Margaret and Gene Gingras, Bridget and William Comey**, req. by Family; **Patricia Brunelle**, req. by Family

7:15PM **Msgr. Rocco Piccolomini**, req. by Friends

### Sunday, October 31, 2021

8AM **James Lapierre**, req. by Family; **Olga Kersis**, req. by Lithuanian Choir

10:15AM **Olga Kersis**, req. by Carol Grigas and Rebecca Paldino; **The Deluca, DeleSemine and Bucciaglia Families**, req. by Family

12:15PM **Health and Intentions of Bob Joseph**, req. by Friends

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

### Monday, November 1, 2021

6:15PM **Alfred Nickolas Degemmis**, req. by Family

### Tuesday, November 2, 2021

6:15PM **Joan McGreevy Shea and Deceased Classmates, Ascension HS Class of 1966; Departed Loved ones and Departed Friends of Family** req. by Family

### Wednesday, November 3, 2021

6:15PM **Dominic J. Nempleggi, MD**, req. by Frank Carroll and Family

### Thursday, November 4, 2021

6:15PM **Nancy DeGemmis**, req. by Family

### Friday, November 5, 2021

6:15PM **Patrick, Della and David Dillon**, req. by Mary

### Saturday, November 6, 2021

4:15PM **Deb Coakley**, req. by Family and Friends; **All Souls in Purgatory and Deceased Members of F.O.S.S.**

7:15PM **Msgr. Ed Tinsley**, req. by Friends

### Sunday, November 7, 2021

8AM **Jim Gannon**, req. by Family; **Evelyn Foley**, req. by Family

10:15AM **Carol Santa Maria**, req. by Family

12:15PM **Ann Senyk**, req. by Family

7:15PM **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,

Today's Gospel passage has passed over two chapters in Mark. Last week, Jesus was leaving Jericho. This week, Jesus is teaching in the temple in Jerusalem. A "scribe" approaches him and asks which is the greatest commandment. Since there are 613, it is not a surprise that this question is a persistent concern of the scribes. In the face of so many commandments there was a need to prioritize; to follow a guiding principle. The same is true for us, of course. As Monika Hellwig reflected: *All of us feel that tension sometimes between the complexity and multiplicity of demands made on us and the need for a single guiding principle to cope with it all.*

This familiar exchange is recounted by Matthew and Luke, as well. However, the Pharisee in the former and the scholar of the law in the latter both ask in order to test Jesus. The scribe in Mark, much like the man who previously asked what must be done to inherit eternal life, is genuinely interested in what Jesus thinks. On the one hand, the answer Jesus offers is not too different from what others present. In Ponder, Mahri informs us: *Jesus was not the first teacher to connect these two great commandments. For example, the first century –CE Rabbi Hillel said "That which is hateful to you, do not do to others, this is the whole Torah, and the rest is commentary, go learn it."* On the other hand, simply by who he is, fully divine and fully human, his teaching carries a power with it like no other. Jesus himself says, *The first is this.* Then, *The second is this.* Still, coming from him, the commandment is truly one. Jesus' teaching does not allow for a nebulous call to love and serve God, without any content to it, nor a vacuous definition of a good moral person without any reference to the divine mandate.

Keeping the Great Commandment remains as challenging today as it was in first century Jerusalem, of course. Further, there are distinct challenges presented to us in this, our time. The one which stands out to me is the contemporary notion that I cannot love my neighbor until I first love myself. I no longer remember (much of anything) who said that "every problem in life has a psychological cause and a spiritual solution," but they were correct. In responding to the scribe who, like us and so many people, came to him seeking meaning and purpose in this world and eternal life in the next, Jesus' teaching is psychologically sound and spiritually profound. He alone would know that the love of God, neighbor and self is one love – the greatest love.

In Christ's Peace,  
Fr John Madden

## ***THE THIRTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME***

### **THIS WEEKEND'S HYMNS**

Int.: *Ne derelinquas me, Ps 38 (Abandon me, not, O Lord, my God, do not depart from me; come to my assistance, O Lord, mainstay of my deliverance.)*

Op.: # 642 Love Divine, All Loves Excelling  
Ps 18, "I love you, I love you, Lord, my strength.", # 1200  
Alleluia: # 208

Prep.: # 699 Love is the Law that Jesus Taught  
Eucharistic Accs.: # 353, 356, 355, 311

Comm.: *Notas mihi fecisti, Ps 16 (You have made known unto me the ways of life; you will fill me with joy at the sight of your countenance, O Lord.)*

# 700 Where Charity and Love Prevail  
Cl.: # 611 Joyful, Joyful, We Adore you

### **SUNDAY'S READINGS - #1200 IN THE HYMNAL**

Dt 6:2-6  
Psalm 18  
Heb 7:23-28  
Mk 12:28b-34

**LIVE STREAMING MASSES** will continue on the Parish Facebook Page according to the following schedule:

*Weeknights at 6:15 p.m.  
Saturday Vigil at 4:15 PM  
Sunday Mass at 10:15 AM and 7:15 PM*

**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.

### **RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS**

We will be starting the inquiry phase of our RCIA program on this Monday, November 1—the Feast of All Saints seems a providential day to begin. If you or anyone you know is interested in receiving the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation and the Eucharist, please contact the rectory.

**THANKSGIVING BASKET SIGN-UPS** will be held from Tuesday, November 2 through Friday, November 5 and Tuesday, November 9 through Friday, November 12 from 10 AM to 12 Noon. Sign-up will be done over the phone only and for those who live within the parish boundaries. If you would like to donate a basket and all the fixings, please email or call the rectory.

### **RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**

**Grades 1-6**— Sunday, November 7, 9 AM in the church hall.

**Grades 7-9** Sunday, November 7, 11:15 AM in the church hall.

**Confirmation**— Tuesday, November 9, at 6:15 PM in the chapel.

**Masks are required by all during class.**

**THE SOCIAL ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE** is sponsoring A Social Gathering with Dinner & Raffles on Sunday, November 14<sup>th</sup> following the 12:15 PM Mass. Tickets will be on sale after the 4:15, 8:00, 10:15 & 12:15 masses or by calling Judy Burke (508)478-9813. Tickets are \$15.00 per person, which includes (Full Course Dinner: Salad, Pasta, Roast Chicken, Potato, Vegetable, Rolls & Butter, Coffee/Tea, Dessert)

**ANNUAL HARVEST BAZAAR IN WORCESTER** - Our Lady of Mt. Carmel and Our Lady of Loreto Parish will hold its annual Harvest Bazaar on Saturday, November 6, from 9am-3pm at 37 Massasoit Rd. in Worcester. Come and enjoy great Italian food, Fried Dough and homemade Italian Cookies as you shop for Christmas items, a Handbag, Scarf, an Accessory or two, or Jewelry. Take a chance on the many offerings in the Basket Raffle or try to win \$\$ in the Cash Raffle: \$1000, \$500 or \$250! Join our parish community once again and have some fun!!

**VIANNEY DINNER IN NOVEMBER**- The next Vianney Dinner is Thursday, November 18 at the Holy Name of Jesus House of Studies. Please note the change of date. These are nights for men, high school aged and up, interested in learning more about a priestly vocation. They are welcome to come to all or part of the evening as their schedule allows. 6:05 PM Mass, 6:30 dinner, and 7 PM social. An RSVP is not needed but it is helpful in getting an accurate count for food. [director@worcestervocations.com](mailto:director@worcestervocations.com)

**PLASTIC BAG DONATIONS** are always welcome and very helpful. Feel free to drop them at the Xavier Center, Rectory or Church. Thank you.

## **In Our Catholic Community...**

### **THE DIOCESAN RESPECT LIFE MINIS-**

**TRY** will be conducting a signature petition drive after all the Masses on the weekend of November 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup>. The petition reads: "This proposed law will require that, notwithstanding any other law to the contrary, if a child is born alive all reasonable steps in keeping with good medical practice shall be taken to preserve the life of a child born alive." The petition drive will take place in the church vestibule.

### **TRAVELING HOLY HOUR FOR VOCA-**

**TIONS** - Join us for the traveling holy hour for vocations on Wednesday, November 3 at 7 PM at Holy Family Parish in Leominster. All are welcome to attend and pray for vocations to priesthood and religious life in our diocese.

### **RETREAT FOR WOMEN IN WORCESTER**

- Ladies, you are invited to join us for a retreat on the Virtue of Gratitude as we prepare our hearts for the season of Advent. Saturday, Nov. 13, 9 am-noon followed by lunch and fellowship at Sacred Heart-St. Catherine of Sweden Parish Hall (596 Cambridge St. Worcester). We ask you purchase tickets ahead so we have an accurate count for lunch. Tickets \$15.00. Email Lynn at [LynnHGP@gmail.com](mailto:LynnHGP@gmail.com) or call the rectory 508-752-1608.

### **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.

## **Financial Report**

This weekend we received \$8581.50. We also received:

Online- \$8955.47	Candles- \$757.00
Stipends- \$625.00	Donation- \$400.00
Prop. Of Faith- \$552.00	

Total- \$19,870.97 Unrestricted- \$19,318.97 Restricted- \$552.00

Expenses- \$22,116.63

Schola (696.00) Funerals (176.40) House (930.67) Administration (6435.10) Altar (106.00) Catholic School Assessments (1225.00) Church Gas (34.63) Rectory Gas (119.41) Ascension Gas (128.68) Haitian Wire (562.00) Federal Payroll Taxes (992.04) Lithuanian Donation (1060.00) CCD (187.26) October Budget Bill (8128.00) Preserve the Flame (450.00) Prop of Faith (552.00) Postage (265.00)

**FOOD FOR THE POOR DONATIONS**- \$25 IMO Kathleen Kowalik, \$50 from a friend; \$150 from a friend; \$100 from a friend; \$50 from a friend; \$100 from a friend; \$25 from a friend; \$400 IMO Regina Barnicle; \$495 IMO Cathy Morrissey; \$500 IHO the Carroll Wedding; \$25 IMO Stephen Greaney; \$1657 from the Worcester Red Sox

### **FFTP**

Income- \$1640.00 Expenses- \$4045.78

**YEAR TO DATE** – In October, we had an operating cash gain of \$3,710.74. This leaves an operating cash loss of \$410.07 for the first two months of FY 20/21. We are always grateful for your constant generosity to St. John's.

## **Our Parish Community...**

...Offers prayers and condolences to the families of Robert Neumeier, Marilyn Pellegrini, Sr. Ann Marshall, Fr. Vincent Lapomarda, S.J. and Mary Desy who have been born into eternal life.

...Welcomes Jacob Mark Henrickson and George Joseph Smalanskas, V who have entered the Catholic Community through the waters of Baptism.

## **WORD OF LIFE**

**"Each of you knows that the foundation of our faith is charity. Without it, our religion would crumble. We will never be truly Catholic unless we conform our entire lives to the two commandments that are the essence of the Catholic faith: to love the Lord, our God, with all our strength, and to love our neighbor as ourselves."**

**Blessed Pier Giorgio Frassati**