

Saints Patrick & Raphael Parish

Williamstown, Massachusetts

www.williamstowncatholics.org

Church: 63 Southworth Street
Parish Center: 53 Southworth Street
Parish Office & Rectory 54 Southworth Street
Mailing Address: 54 Southworth Street
Williamstown MA 01267-2414
Phone: 413.458.4946, ext. 11
Ext. 10 for mass times only
Email: saintspatrickandraphael@gmail.com
Web site: www.williamstowncatholics.org
Church and center are handicapped accessible.

Parish Staff

Pastor Rev. John P. McDonagh
Deacon Rev. Mr. Gregory LaFreniere
Catechetical Leader & Parish Secretary
..... Debbie Cameron
Parish Accountant Linda Ludwig
Maintenance Gary Jolin

Lay Leadership

Pastoral Council Chair Jeffrey Welch
Finance Council Chair Tom Gajda
Child Advocate Donna Denelli-Hess
ddenelli-hess@gmail.com

Organists

Michael Dilthey, D. Mus & Christopher Caproni

Mass Schedule

Saturday: 4.30pm
Sunday: 8.30am; 10.30am & 8:30pm
Weekdays Monday through Thursday 8.30am
Holy Day Mass: 8.30am & 7.00pm
Reconciliation: Saturday 3.00-4.00pm
Adoration: Saturday 3.00-4.00pm

BLUE CHRISTMAS WEEK MASS

Recognizes some people find this week difficult, the Willinet December 27th Mass, broadcast at 10.30am on channel 1303, highlights the challenges of the First Christmas as well as those who find Christmas challenging.

December 25, 2020

The Nativity of the Lord





Christmas Flowers 2020

MANY THANKS TO ALL WHO GAVE DONATIONS TOWARD MAKING OUR CHURCH LOOK SO BEAUTIFUL THIS YEAR. THE FOLLOWING DONATIONS ARE GIVEN IN MEMORY OF LOVED ONES, UNLESS SPECIFIED OTHERWISE.

In Memory of:

Robert Saulnier, Linda Scialabba & the deceased members of the Saulnier & Scialabba families
Owen & Ruth Morrissey
The Swift family; the Hunt family; Fr. John Wasyl & Waclawa Juraszewicz; Lawrence & Alda Wood
Our deceased grandparents & great grandparents
Ervin & Marian Bradley; Thaddeus & Stephanie Leja
Ed Blake; Anthony Gooch; Evelyn Gooch;
Janice Kopanon; Anthony Rapps
Ben Polak family; Tytus Wlodyka family; Phyllis Chapman
Deceased members of the Lestage, Adamczyk & Michalenko families; Frederick & Jeannie Dooling
The Judge & Taft families
John & Joyce Maynard; Virginia Farinon
Renzie Lamb
Paul St. Pierre; William St. Pierre
Paul & Vivian Kuta; Steven Kuta; Frank & Susan Agostini
Isla Pearl George; Bonnie & Jean Kennedy
John Skovera; the Malloy family
Robert H. Delisle
Dickie Nichols; "Pete" & Marion Archambeau
Paradis, Gagnon, Lanoue & Jolin families
Rougeau & St. Pierre families
Gail Ann Richardson; H. & R. LaForest;
Susan LaForest
Henry Kalisz & family; Maddy & Donald Boyer & family; Doris, Albert, John Mazza & family;
Bernard & Gertrude McGowan; Kathleen Raymond;
Denise Sheahan; Stevie Jacob; Larrie Ann Noyes;
Lee Teicher.
IHO Karyn O'Toole and her flower angels;
Carol DeMayo & her angels helping those in need

Requested by:

Mrs. Lorraine Saulnier
Mrs. Judith Bombardier
Mr. & Mrs. Charles Hunt
Mr. & Mrs. Lawrence Wood
Mr. & Mrs. Jeffrey Welch
Mr. & Mrs. David Leja

Mrs. Lynne Blake

Mrs. Judy Chapman

Mr. & Mrs. Donald Lestage
Ms. Therese Taft
Ms. Jean Maynard
Ms. Teresa Lamb
Mr. & Mrs. Robert St. Pierre

Mrs. Nancy Agostini
Ms. Mary Kennedy
Mrs. Roberta Skovera
Mrs. Norma Delisle
Mrs. Linda Nichols
Mr. & Mrs. Gary Jolin
Mr. Glenn Rougeau

Mrs. Ruth Richardson

Carole Kalisz

In Memory of:

Chalfonte, Atwood, Vallieres & Delisle families
Maino & Taylor families
Flynn & Nagle families
The Moynahan, Clark, Collins & Sullivan families
Elizabeth Conroy; Patrick Conroy; Esther Noone;
Mary Johnson; Michael Johnson
Wilda Barber; Constance Briolz
Joseph & Mary Cozzaglia; Jack & Doris Scrivens
Victor & Carol Abate; deceased members of the
Abate, Alix, Anthony & Nailor families; Denise
Sheahan; Stefania Jacob
Foucher, Allard & Courtemanche families
Park & Notsley families
Theresa Gerry; **IHO** Jessica Gerry; Amanda Gerry;
Katarina Andrews; Mia Dinnie; Evelyn Scully
Victor Y Theresa Monette; Bro. Victor Monette CSC;
Irene Nephew; Bob & Hazel Nephew Neveu;
Marlene Dube
Poli & Watkins families
Mr. & Mrs. Lionel Bachand; Mr. & Mrs.
William Flaherty
McDonagh & O'Connor families; Msgr. Tom Leonard

Requested by:

Mr. & Mrs. Fred Chalfonte
Mr. & Mrs. Alan Taylor
Miss Victoria Flynn

Mr. & Mrs. Steve Moynahan

Mr. & Mrs. Ed Conroy
Mr. & Mrs. John Lanoue
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Scrivens

Mrs. Debbie Cameron
Ms. Pauline McNicol
Mrs. Barbara Park

Mr. Robert Gerry, Jr.

Miss Kathleen Monette
Dr. Corrado & Mrs. Antoinette Poli

Mr. & Mrs. John Flaherty
Rev. John P. McDonagh
Mrs. Joan Taylor
Mrs. Sara Holden
Mr. & Mrs. David Moresi
Mrs. Claire Boyer
Mrs. Judith McConnell
Ms. Theresa Brooks
Mr. & Mrs. Piotr Porazinski
Mr. Paul Dube
Mr. & Mrs. James Nolan
Ms. Judith Hall
Ms. Donna Denelli-Hess

Saints Patrick & Raphael Food Pantry

Many thanks to everyone who donated to our Christmas Mission through gift cards this year as well as to the our Food Pantry here at the parish. This has been a very challenging year for many but through your help, hopefully it has eased some of the burden on those who are mostly affected by this COVID pandemic. *May God bless all of you...*

Let us stay connected:

Thanks to Willinet, the Sunday Mass is broadcast on Cable Channel 1303 at 10.30 am Sundays and posted on williamtowncatholics.org (the parish website) and the Parish FaceBook page.

If you share your email, the Parish will send a weekly Constant Contact message to you. Please send your email address to stspatrickandrphaelparish.org

If you are not comfortable participating at in-person worship and not on-line, please inform call the Parish office and the bulletin, and the Parish will snail mail the weekly bulletin to you.

Thank you!

Thanks to all who assisted in our Christmas liturgies and services including: Chris Caproni, organist, for organizing a Christmas Digital Program among our young people as well as the young people who participated in the Christmas Program.

Deacon Greg LaFreniere, Debbie Dane and Jack Criddle of Willinet, Michael Dilthey, D Mus, Music Director, Carin DeMayo Wall, Cantor, John Wall, Video Photographer for assisting in the Parish's taped Masses and Broadcasted Mass on Christmas Eve.

Reopening Committee members for greeting worshippers and cleaning the nave and sanctuary after use; Acolytes for helpful and focused ministry among us; Lectors; Eucharistic Ministers; Ushers; Altar Guild who decorated the Parish church beautifully and erected the Parish interior manger scene. Thanks to Gary Jolin for erecting the exterior Creche announcing the Good News "God is with us".

Contributors who supported the Parish during the Pandemic. Your support helps the Parish deal with the many fixed costs of the Parish. Thank you.

A possible modern day Mary and Joseph preparing to board the bus for Bethlehem (PA) at the Port Authority Bus Terminal



Fr. Peter Meehan, Photographer

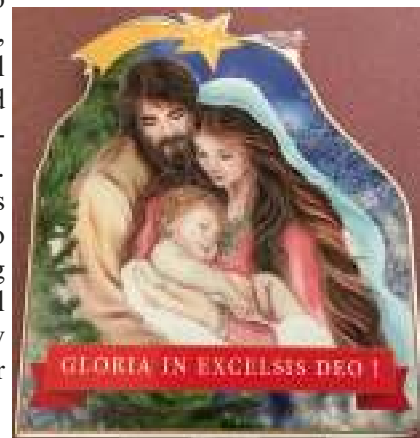
Oplatek available at Masses this Sunday

Available in the Church vestibule (finally) after shipping delays

Oplatek (pronounced <Op-wah-tek) can be a wonderful pre-Christmas Eve (or Christmas Day) dinner experience. As we gather with those of our household instead of extended family this year, consider sharing Oplated (a Polish tradition since the 10th century) before dinner.

Thanks to Al Chrosny for sharing the background on this wonderful tradition: "A sheet of oplatek is broken in medium size pieces, as many as there are people partaking in the meal. Each person takes a piece. The head of household makes a general prayer of thanksgiving and wishes for Blessed Christmas and New Year. Then each person exchanges individual wishes with everyone else. The two people face each other and offer their blessings to each other. After they have exchanged the wishes, the two people offer their oplatek to each other. The person receiving the oplatek, breaks off a small piece of the offered oplatek and consumes it. The offering, breaking off a piece and consuming can be done simultaneously by the pair or it can be done in turn. Often the older person offers the oplatek to a younger person first and waits until the younger person consumes it and then breaks off a piece of the oplatek from the younger person.

Over the years, I have witnessed Catholic Campus Ministry students embrace this Polish tradition, as they offer a pre-Christmas blessing to classmates, teammates, friends at the end of Fall Semester and at the end of Advent prior to returning home for Christmas. This year, oplatek offers us all an opportunity to wish a specific blessing only upon individual family members. How wonderful to express our hopes for each other.



2021 CALENDARS HAVE ARRIVED!

The Catholic calendars offer an easy way to keep track of the feast days of our heroines and heroes (saints). Please pick one up when leaving Masses in the Church Vestibule. Thank you to Haskins Construction for sponsoring our calendars this year!

Bishop William Byrne

Our new Bishop looks forward to visiting the Parish soon. Keep an eye for the date.

Parish Council Meeting

Next meeting on ZOOM, Thursday January 28, 2021 @ 6 pm.