



The only way to know God is to love God. Our minds will never fully grasp the mystery of God, but our hearts and souls can learn to love the mystery. Years ago, when life had a more innocent quality to it, we believed what we were told or witnessed, unless there was direct evidence otherwise. This was especially true if the information came from someone in authority. In a sense, we were a bit more gullible on one hand but also more trusting on the other. The latter is an admirable quality that sadly can be eroded when we realize we have been duped. With education and technological advances, we find ourselves more skeptical and less likely to too quickly accept and believe what we see and hear.

For all of the good that social media can do, it can also easily distort reality and truth. Photoshop and a myriad of other technological truths can add to, fabricate, and make even the non-existent seem real. It is amazing. How far do we allow this obviously justifiable skepticism to take us? Questioning and doubting are healthy elements of any good relationship as long as we don't allow them to turn us away from a deeper experience of love and encounter. If we cannot get our minds around something or empirically justify or prove it, we tend to declare it a hoax, untrue, or unauthentic and walk away. The very same trust that can quickly be eroded is exactly what is essential for all of our relationships, especially our relationship with God. With all things and people that make a profound claim on us, we have to trust in the absence of knowledge. Full self-investment involves plunging completely into the unknown!

Simon Peter said to Jesus, "You are the Christ, the Son of the Living God." Peter came to this knowledge, which is not "head knowledge" because of the relationship he shared with Jesus and what God was able to reveal in and through that relationship. Peter simply "knew" because of love that this is who Jesus really is. The silent exchange of love between friends, and not an intellectual exercise of the mind, brought Peter to this place. When we stop and think about it, there are many things in life that we simply know but do not completely understand. When someone sacrifices their own well-being for another, it may not make intellectual sense when examined. But it makes a world of sense when it is carried out. The vastness of reality and an encounter with incomprehensible mystery all lead us to profound silence where we simply know something to be true. Have you trusted enough to allow your relationship with God to bring you to this place or are you still too skeptical? ©LPI

**MASS INTENTIONS & REMEMBRANCES**

<u>Sat., 8/22</u>	<u>4:00 pm</u>	<b>Tony &amp; Kathy Rano &amp; All Deceased of their families</b> , by family <b>Norman Gallant</b> , Birthday, by his wife, Doreen
	(Remembrance)	
<u>Sun., 8/23</u>	<u>8:00 am</u>	<b>Parishioners' Intentions</b>
	<u>10:30 am</u>	<b>Richard &amp; Margaret McGrail</b> , by family
	(Remembrance)	<b>Harry Adamiak</b> , Birthday, by family
	<u>6:00 pm</u>	<b>Parishioners' Intentions</b>
<u>Mon., 8/24</u>	<u>9:00 am</u>	<b>Carol Burke Doyle</b> , by a friend
<u>Tue., 8/25</u>	<u>9:00 am</u>	<b>Parishioners' Intentions</b>
<u>Wed., 8/26</u>	<u>9:00 am</u>	<b>Parishioners' Intentions</b>
<u>Thu., 8/27</u>	<u>9:00 am</u>	<b>Dennis Wixed</b> , 13 <sup>th</sup> Anniv. by family
<u>Fri., 8/28</u>	<u>9:00 am</u>	<b>Helen DeLollis, Victor DeLollis &amp; George Pike</b> , by Greg Pike
<u>Sat., 8/29</u>	<u>4:00 pm</u>	<b>Simone Gemma</b> , by daughters – Cheryl & Patty & family
<u>Sun., 8/30</u>	<u>8:00 am</u>	<b>Parishioners' Intentions</b>
	<u>10:30 am</u>	<b>Richard &amp; Margaret McGrail</b> , by family
	<u>6:00 pm</u>	<b>Adolfo Ortiz, Jr.</b> , by family

**CONTRIBUTION REPORT**

Last weekend, we deposited the following donations:

-- Weekly Adult Offerings:	<b>\$3,841.00</b>
(\$264.00 in loose offerings and \$3,587.00 in 100 envelopes)	
-- Funeral Offerings:	<b>\$ 600.00</b>
-- Charitable Donation Reimbursement:	<b>\$ 200.00</b>
-- Assumption:	<b>\$ 535.00</b>
-- Maintenance Fund:	<b>\$ 153.00</b>
-- Memorial Gifts:	<b>\$ 300.00</b>
-- Central/Eastern Europe:	<b>\$ 155.00</b>
-- Baptism Donations:	<b>\$ 300.00</b>
-- Church & Hall Use Donations:	<b>\$ 200.00</b>

We also received the following online donations:

-- Weekly Adult Offerings:	<b>\$ 926.07</b>
-- Maintenance Fund:	<b>\$ 239.11</b>
-- Charitable Ministries:	<b>\$ 10.00</b>
-- Debt Reduction Donation:	<b>\$ 42.00</b>
-- Memorial Donation:	<b>\$ 25.00</b>
-- Fuel Donation:	<b>\$ 34.64</b>
-- Unrestricted Gift:	<b>\$ 25.00</b>
-- Central/Eastern Europe:	<b>\$ 150.00</b>

**LITURGICAL MEMORIALS**

The bread and wine being used at all Masses this week has been donated in memory of **Harry Adamiak** by his family. The candles being used at the altar and pulpit have been donated in memory of **Dennis Wixed** by his family.

**READINGS FOR THE WEEK**

Sunday: Is 22:19-23/Ps 138:1-2, 2-3, 6, 8/Rom 11:33-36  
Mt 16:13-20  
Monday: Rv 21:9b-14/Ps 145:10-11, 12-13, 17-18/Jn 1:45-51  
Tuesday: 2 Thes 2:1-3a, 14-17/Ps 96:10, 11-12, 13/Mt 23:23-26  
Wednesday: 2 Thes 3:6-10, 16-18/Ps 128:1-2, 4-5/Mt 23:27-32  
Thursday: 1 Cor 1:1-9/Ps 145:2-3, 4-5, 6-7/Mt 24:42-51  
Friday: 1 Cor 1:17-25/Ps 33:1-2, 4-5, 10-11/Mt 25:1-13  
Saturday: 1 Cor 1:26-31/Ps 71:1-2, 3-4a, 5-6ab, 15ab, 17  
Mt 6:17-29  
Next Sunday: Jer 20:7-9/Ps 63:2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9/Rom 12:1-2  
Mt 16:21-27

***PARTNERS IN CHARITY***

The Diocese is now in the final weeks of this year’s appeal to fund 25 vital services and ministries. At present the drive is short slightly more than \$900,000 needed to level fund ministries.

Our parish has raised \$42,090 toward its \$57,500 goal which is 73% of that goal with pledges or gifts from Fr. Monroe and 173 other households.

There are still 47 households who gave last year but have not yet done so this year.

Fr. Monroe pleads with them to offer something this year and to others who have not contributed in the past to please consider doing so to help the Church continue to provide services to people during the pandemic.

**No gift will be too small to provide some assistance to help the Diocesan Church do the work of Jesus in Worcester County.**

There are envelopes on the table in the Atrium as you enter the church. You can also call the rectory and we will mail one to you or you can contribute online at

<https://www.partners-charity.net/>.

**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NOTES**

Due to the restrictions caused by COVID-19, we will not be having any on site classes for K-1 and 3-9 this Fall.

Parents who would like to work with their children at home this Fall can access Gospel weeklies for free online material:

<http://www.pflaumweeklies.com/family/>

If you would like hard copy material, we will provide our usual textbooks for all grade levels to anyone who would like a copy. Simply email Karen at [kbarrowsola@aol.com](mailto:kbarrowsola@aol.com) or call the rectory and leave a message for her. Copies will be made available for pick up at the rectory.

We were hoping to be able to do Sacramental Preparation for First Penance/First Communion (Grade 2) and Confirmation (Grade 10) during the Fall beginning in September. **HOWEVER**, due to a spike in numbers of COVID cases, Governor Baker has pushed public social gatherings in hall spaces back to 8 people per 1000 sq. feet which means we can have no more than 10 people in our hall (1290 sq. ft.) where we were planning on holding the class sessions. We will reach out when we can begin classes.

**INTERESTED IN BECOMING CATHOLIC**

The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults is a program for adults who desire to become fully initiated members of the Catholic Church. RCIA helps adults grow in their relationship with God, become familiar with Catholic teachings and practices, get acquainted with the faith community and get involved in service within the community. Many people who want to join the Catholic Church have already been baptized in another Christian Church. They do not need to be rebaptized. They participate in the process with those never baptized to familiarize themselves with the Roman Catholic Tradition.

If you know of someone who might be interested in learning more about RCIA, call the rectory to speak with Fr. Monroe or Karen Barrows or email [cmunroe@ourladyofangels.org](mailto:cmunroe@ourladyofangels.org) or Karen at [kbarrowsola@aol.com](mailto:kbarrowsola@aol.com).

**REST IN PEACE**

Pray for the repose of the souls of *Mary Elizabeth LeBlanc, Jane Desrosiers* and all our deceased relatives, friends and benefactors.

**BAPTISMS**

Last Sunday, we celebrated the Baptism of *Alice Greenhalge, Shiloh Christopherson and Lucas and Vera Cyr*. We congratulate their parents and pray that they and their godparents will help them grow to understand what was done for them and learn to practice their faith.

**THE WEEK AT A GLANCE**

Sun., August 23 – 21<sup>st</sup> Ordinal Sunday

**8:00 am Lord’s Day Mass**

**10:30 am Lord’s Day Mass**

**12:00 noon Baptism**

**6:00 pm Lord’s Day Mass**

Mon., August 24 – St. Bartholomew

**9:00 am Daily Mass**

Tue., August 25 – Sts. Louis of France & St. Joseph Calasanz

**9:00 am Daily Mass**

Wed., August 26 – Wednesday of the 21<sup>st</sup> Ordinal Sunday

**9:00 am Daily Mass**

Thu., August 27 – St. Monica

**9:00 am Daily Mass**

Fri., August 28 – St. Augustine

**9:00 am Daily Mass**

Sat., August 29 – Passion of John the Baptist

**3:00 pm Confessions**

**4:00 pm Vigil Mass**

**120 CLUB**

The winner of last week’s drawing is **Bob Cyronak - #67**.

**PRESIDERS FOR NEXT WEEKEND**

Saturday, August 29	4:00 pm	Fr. Monroe
Sunday, August 30	8:00 am	Fr. Dougherty
	10:30 am	Fr. Monroe
	6:00 pm	Fr. Monroe

**HOSPITAL VISITS**

The Worcester hospitals are now allowing parish priests to make brief visits to parishioners who are hospitalized. Fr. Monroe will begin to check for OLA members who are admitted. St. Vincent Hospital seems to be asking those admitted for religious affiliation and parish information if they would like a visit from their parish priest. The UMass/Memorial hospitals are not as consistent in this regard. It would be helpful if you call the rectory if a family member is admitted especially with any serious illness or surgery.

**HOME & NURSING HOME VISITS**

At this time, we are still refraining from coming into people’s homes for monthly visits because so many we visit are elderly and potentially at risk from what outsiders might bring into their homes.

Fr. Monroe will meet people at the door and offer Communion if that is something that would work for people. Call him if you would like a simple visit.

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CHURCH CITY: **Worcester**

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RUN NUMBER: **5**

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