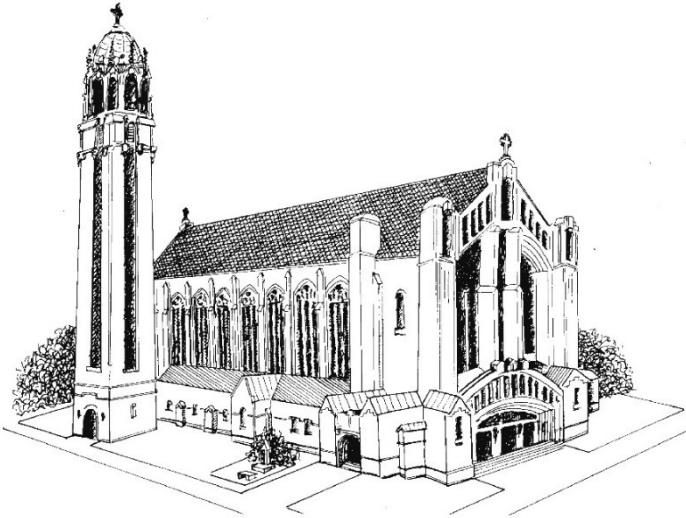


OUR LADY OF THE ANGELS PARISH

1222 MAIN STREET • WORCESTER, MASSACHUSETTS 01603

We, the parish community of Our Lady of the Angels, as part of the universal Catholic Church, are answering the call to love and serve one another in this ever-changing world. Part of our call is to be a welcoming community of faith that is nourished and sustained through the mystery of the Holy Eucharist and guided by the Holy Spirit. Together, we are called and committed to be active witnesses of God's presence among us by serving others in our parish as well as in the community at large, especially the poor. By continual proclamation of the Gospel and celebration of the Sacraments, we are dedicated to growth in knowledge and faith which will enable us to build a strong foundation for all peoples to experience life to the fullest as Jesus intends.



Pastor

Rev. Charles F. Monroe.....(ext. 10)

Priest in Residence

Rev. Terrence Dougherty, O.C.D.

Pastoral Assistant for Education

(Contact Fr. Monroe)

Pastoral Assistant for the Elderly

Sr. Marie Therese Martin, C.S.J.(ext. 19)

Organist

Mr. Kurt Blomstrom

Office Director

Ms. Susan Allard(ext. 12)

School Principal

Mrs. Doreen Albert

doreen.albert@worcesterdiocesek12.org

School Secretary

Ms. Susan Montiverdi

Rectory:508-791-0951

Rectory Fax:508-753-9531

School Office:508-752-5609

After School Program:.....508-831-9574

School Fax:508-798-9634

Parish Website:..... www.ourladyofangels.org

School Website:.....www.ourladyoftheangels.us

Pastor: cmonroe@ourladyofangels.org

Office Director:.....sallard@ourladyofangels.org

Organist:..... kablomstrom@gmail.com

Weekly Mass Schedule

Saturday Vigil: 4:00 pm

Sunday: 8:00 am, 10:30 am, 6:00 pm

Monday – Friday: 9:00 am

Holy Days: 4:00 pm Vigil, 9:00 am, 6:00 pm

Sacrament of Reconciliation:

Saturdays, by appointment at present

Sacrament of Baptism

Contact the rectory to arrange for Baptism Preparation and schedule the Baptism. We also have a process for adults. Contact the rectory.

Sacrament of Matrimony

Contact the rectory as soon as you decide on a date to begin the preparation process.

Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick

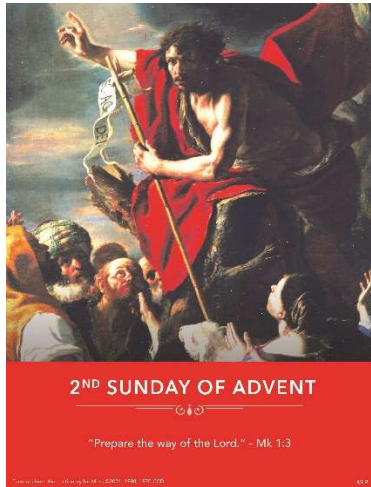
The pastor should be called whenever someone can benefit for the Sacrament of Healing.

Office for Healing and Prevention of Abuse

Judith Audette, 508-929-4364 or Confidential Line:

508-726-2880 – jaudette@worcesterdiocese.org

*All are welcome to join the parish community.
Please call or come to the rectory to register.*



People knew over a year in advance that the Pope was coming for a visit to America and the preparations began. Security, space limitations and requirements, protocols, crowd management, itineraries, invitations, regulations, and so much more was necessary to pull this event off effectively. It's not every day that we get a visit from such a prominent dignitary. Thought, effort, meticulous attention to detail and vision all are necessary to make this thing work. After all, he can't just show up in the ordinary and normal daily routines of life and catch people unprepared! Tickets have to be purchased, buses rented, hotel rooms reserved, and travel arrangements made early because it will be impossible to see him if we wait too long!

We do this kind of preparing not only for prominent religious figures but for political dignitaries, notable sports figures, people of fame, and even actors. If an individual intrigues us, we are going to want to do all we have to do to get a "good seat" in the house. Does Jesus Christ captivate this much of our attention? We are asked to prepare the way of the Lord and to do so not with frantic frenzy but patient enthusiasm. We do not have to stand on a street corner making profound announcements about God's coming or become overly zealous in our embrace of the Good News. Our task is quieter, more interior, captivating, and consuming. We are asked to change. We have to conduct our lives with holy devotion.

Is the cost of that ticket too much for you? Don't you want the "best seat" in the house? You don't want to miss Our Lord's arrival when he comes, do you? After all, if he comes while you are going about your daily routines without you even knowing, he may catch you off guard. Or, he may come in disguise looking like a beggar, a prisoner, migrant, refugee, or someone who is lost. Would you be ready to recognize him then? Preparing for the coming of Christ requires a change of mind, heart, and behavior. It is not adequate to simply do the things we always do. We want our lives to speak of the exciting news of Christ's coming and the joy that the Gospel brings. It has to do with our demeanor, values, priorities, choices, and how we structure daily routines. Of course, it involves sacrifice. All anticipations do! Are you excited, captivated, enthusiastic, and sitting on the edge of your seat eager to celebrate his coming among us at Christmas, and waiting for him to come again? If not, why not? ©LPi

REST IN PEACE

Pray for the repose of the souls of *Carolyn Fenton Hankel* and all our deceased relatives, friends and benefactors.

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION – HOLY DAY

We will have three Masses to observe the holy day: **4:00 pm Vigil Mass on Monday, 9:00 am Mass on Tuesday and 6:00 pm Mass on Tuesday.** Grades 3 – 8 of OLA School will participate in a Mass at 8:15 am on Tuesday morning. The usual morning Mass attendees are asked not to come to church before 8:45 am on that day because of COVID restrictions.

MASS INTENTIONS & REMEMBRANCES

- Sat., 12/5 4:00 pm **Nellie** (10th Anniv.) & **Albert** (36th Anniv.)
Rabidou, by family
(Remembrance) **Tommy Desautels**, by his mother
(Remembrance) **Mary Margaret Mahoney**, by Peggy O'Malley
- Sun., 12/6 8:00 am **Parishioners' Intentions**
10:30 am **William Hoey**, 8th Anniv., by family
6:00 pm **Tom Pompeia Cozza**, by Jim & Mary Cozza
- Mon., 12/7 9:00 am **Patricia Marie Blanchet Roix**, Month's Mind, by the Ford family
- Tue., 12/8 9:00 am **Parishioners' Intentions**
- Wed., 12/9 9:00 am **Parishioners' Intentions**
- Thu., 12/10 9:00 am **Parishioners' Intentions**
- Fri., 12/11 9:00 am **Joseph Ritchey, Jr.**, 78th Anniv., by daughter
- Sat., 12/12 4:00 pm **Mary Ellen Barry**, 32nd Anniv., by Mary Desautels
(Remembrance) **Paul LaHair**, 11th Anniv., Birthday, by family
- Sun., 12/13 8:00 am **Irene O'Keefe**, by family
10:30 am **Parishioners' Intentions**
6:00 pm **Lillian Mae Ballotte**, by Peggy O'Malley
(Remembrance) **Elise Gagne**, 8th Anniv., by family

CONTRIBUTION REPORT

- Last weekend, we deposited the following donations:
- Weekly Adult Offerings: \$5,432.00
 - (\$338.00 in loose offerings and \$5,094.00 in 96 envelopes)
 - Charitable Ministries: \$ 105.00
 - Maintenance Fund: \$ 73.00
 - Holy Day: \$ 38.00
 - All Souls: \$ 13.00
 - Liturgical Memorials: \$ 50.00
 - Campaign for Human Development: \$ 40.00

- We also received the following online donations:
- Weekly Adult Offerings: \$ 945.13
 - Maintenance Fund: \$ 71.49
 - Debt Reduction Donations: \$ 48.39
 - Charitable Ministries: \$ 110.00
 - Fuel Donation: \$ 20.00

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

- Sunday: Is 40:1-5, 9-11/Ps 85:9-10, 11-12, 13-14/2 Pt 3:8-14
Mk 1:1-8
- Monday: Is 35:1-10/Ps 85:9ab, 10, 11-12, 13-14/Lk 5:17-26
- Tuesday: Gn 3:9-15, 20/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4
Eph 1:3-6, 11-12/Lk 1:26-38
- Wednesday: Is 40:25-31/Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 8, 10/Mt 11:28-30
- Thursday: Is 41:13-20/Ps 145:1, 9, 10-11, 12-13ab/Mt 11:11-15
- Friday: Is 48:17-19/Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4, 6/Mt 11:16-19
- Saturday: Zec 2:14-17 or Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab
Jdt 13:18bcde, 19/Lk 1:26-38 or Lk 1:39-47
- Next Sunday: Is 61:1-2a, 10-11/Lk 1:46-48, 49-50, 51-54
1 Thes 5:16-24/Jn 1:6-8, 19-28

RELIGIOUS RETIREMENT COLLECTION

My dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

On the weekend of December 13th, our parishes will be conducting the appeal for the Retirement Fund for Religious. Over the past year, this national collection assisted nearly 30,000 elderly sisters, brothers, and religious order priests. It is staggering to realize that only 29 of the 531 religious communities throughout the country are adequately funded for retirement.

As you may know, religious women and men were instrumental in establishing Catholic schools, hospitals, and charitable agencies. Often this progress came at great sacrifice, and many older sisters, brothers, and religious order priests served for little to no pay

Today, hundreds of religious communities do not have enough retirement savings and struggle to provide for a growing number of elder members. Covid-19 has only increased the challenge to provide adequate care.

Just as our annual Celebrate Priesthood event helps our diocese to care for its retired diocesan priests, this national collection assists many religious communities which struggle to provide for aging members. Rising health-care costs and decreased income compound the struggle to provide adequate care. Your gift to the Retirement Fund for Religious provides vital funding for medications, nursing care, and more. It also helps religious congregations implement long-range retirement strategies, even as they continue to serve the People of God. In his letter to the Galatians, St. Paul urges us to remain steadfast in helping others: “Let us not grow tired of doing good, for in due time we shall reap our harvest, if we do not give up” (Gal 6:9). During these unprecedented times, many are hurting and need our assistance, including elderly religious.

I recognize this is but one of numerous worthy causes in need of assistance; I ask simply that you consider giving to those who have given a lifetime. If you are unable to give during Mass, please mail your offertory envelope to your parish or donate through your parish’s online giving platform, if available. In thanksgiving for their faithful service, please join me in supporting the Retirement Fund for Religious and in praying for God’s blessing on our nation’s elderly and infirm religious women and men.

With prayerful best wishes, I remain

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

GIFT CARD RAFFLE

The Charitable Ministry Gift Card raffle drawings will be held next Sunday morning. Forms are still available on a stand at the church doors inside the Rieger Hall Atrium. All proceeds will fund the charitable outreach of the parish. Chances are sold for \$1 each or 6 for \$5. Checks should be made out to OLA Charitable Ministries.

CHRISTMAS MASSES

Due to COVID restrictions and curfew, we will be unable to have a Mass for Midnight at 11:00 pm this year. In an attempt to help parishes provide sufficient Mass opportunities for people, Bishop McManus has moved back the earliest time for Vigil Masses to 3:00 pm.

Therefore, we will NOT have the usual 4:00 pm Vigil Mass. Instead, we will celebrate the **Vigil Mass at 3:00 pm.** We will then offer the **“Mass During the Night” at 5:00 pm** with some preludes and instrumental music to enhance the Mass. The organist and cantors will be in the choir loft socially distanced from each other and away from the congregation.

We will then have the usual **8:00 am and 10:30 am Masses on Christmas morning.**

We have a limit of 140 individual spots available for 6 feet distancing. However, spouses and others who live in the same house can sit in the same row without the separation.

We need everyone to sign up for Christmas Masses. **Call the rectory and leave your name, indicating which Mass you plan to attend and number of people who would be coming.** Go online to cmonroe@ourladyofangels.org if that is easier. There are also signup sheets on the table in the Rieger Hall Atrium starting this weekend. By scheduling two early Masses for Christmas Eve, Fr. Monroe would be able to add an additional Mass if the numbers require it.

THE WEEK AT A GLANCE

Sun., December 6 – 2nd Sunday of Advent

8:00 am Lord’s Day Mass
10:30 am Lord’s Day Mass
6:00 pm Lord’s Day Mass

Mon., December 7 – St. Ambrose

9:00 am Daily Mass
4:00 pm Holy Day Vigil Mass

Tue., December 8 – Immaculate Conception of Mary

8:15 am School Holy Day Mass
9:00 am Holy Day Mass
6:00 pm Holy Day Mass

Wed., December 9 – Saint Juan Diego

9:00 am Daily Mass

Thu., December 10 – Thursday of 2nd Week of Advent

9:00 am Daily Mass

Fri., December 11 – St. Damasus I

9:00 am Daily Mass

Sat., December 12 – Our Lady of Guadalupe

4:00 pm Vigil Mass

PRESIDERS FOR NEXT WEEKEND

Saturday, December 12	4:00 pm	Fr. Monroe
Sunday, December 13	8:00 am	Fr. Dougherty
	10:30 am	Fr. Monroe
	6:00 pm	Fr. Monroe

LITURGICAL MEMORIALS

The candles being used at all Masses this week have been donated in memory of **Bill Sullivan** by his family.