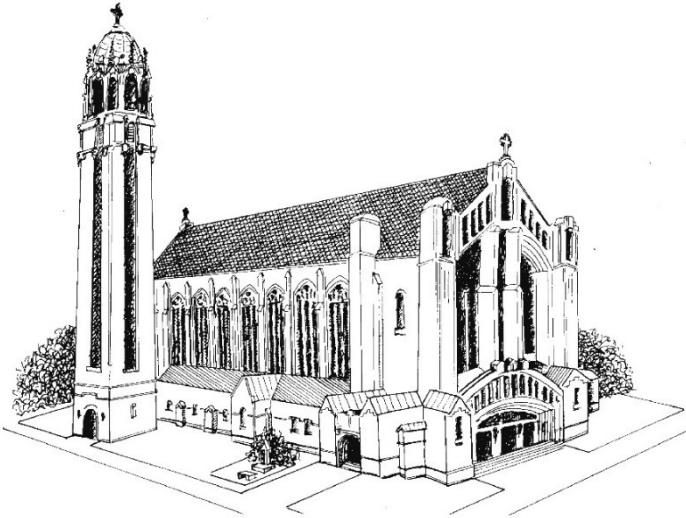


OUR LADY OF THE ANGELS PARISH

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.

Religious 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.*



In Blaise Pascal’s work, “Pensees”, he says: “What else does this craving, and this helplessness, proclaim but that there was once in man a true happiness, of which all that now remains is the empty print and trace? This he tries in vain to fill with everything around him, seeking in things that are not there the help he cannot find in those that are, though none can help, since this infinite abyss can be filled only with an infinite and immutable object; in other words by God himself.”

We have a difficult time accepting that fulfillment and happiness are not achieved by our own merits but through a relationship with God. We are hardwired for this relationship and it is in our DNA. The simple fact is that we come from God and are designed to return to God. If our beginning and our end define who we are, why would we not want to seek the One who can truly satisfy? The world does not realize that it is waiting. It is waiting for the birth of God in time, within one’s soul and in eternity. We get so confused by seeking other momentary satisfactions that we misinterpret the hunger within. We crave God.

The union of God and humanity, revealed in Jesus Christ, is precisely what sets us on a straight path, orders our relationships, establishes proper focus and goals and tells us whose kingdom we really are meant to serve. We are so lost. God is with us. The prophet Nathan told this to King David, the angel said this to Mary and the birth of Christ brings this Good News to us. We do not need to be busily looking for more things but must learn to find contentment and blessing in the One Presence. This is the beautiful simple message of Advent!

If you are feeling unsettled, anxious, angry, disgruntled, disconnected, unhappy, worried, fearful, off center, becoming overly self-indulgent, unable to spend time alone and without distraction, then there’s a good chance you are lost. Now is the time to allow God to find you! Ponder the holy simplicity of Mary’s call to be the Mother of God. “Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord. May it be done to me according to your word.” When we are helpless and at home with our emptiness, God will fill us. Our Savior has come. ©LPi

CHRISTMAS MASSES

We will NOT have the usual 4:00 pm Vigil Mass this year.

Masses will be celebrated as follows:

Christmas Eve, 12/24 -- 3:00 pm – Vigil Mass

Christmas Eve, 12/24 -- 5:00 pm – Mass During the Night

(There will be some preludes at 4:45 pm)

Christmas Day, 12/25 – 8:00 am – Mass for Dawn

Christmas Day, 12/25 – 10:30 am – Mass During the Day

Everyone must wear a mask and hands will be sanitized as you enter and again before coming to Fr. Monroe for Communion. Everyone not living in the same household must sit 6 feet away from other people. **There are signup sheets for each Mass on the table in the Family Center Atrium.** You can also call the rectory and leave your name, indicating which Mass you plan to attend and number of people who would be coming or notify Fr. Monroe online: cmonroe@ourladyofangels.org if that is easier.

MASS INTENTIONS & REMEMBRANCES

- Sat., 12/19 4:00 pm **Parishioners’ Intentions**
- Sun., 12/20 8:00 am **Mary & Arthur Cousineau**, by family
- 10:30 am **John Alexandrov**, 3rd Anniv., by family
- 6:00 pm **Clement & Judith Anish and Paul & Alice Chase**, by family
- Mon., 12/21 9:00 am **Marguerite McShera**, Birthday, by family
- Tue., 12/22 9:00 am **Parishioners’ Intentions**
- Wed., 12/23 9:00 am **Parishioners’ Intentions**
- Thu., 12/24 9:00 am **Kim Tuyen Le**, by family
- 3:00 pm **Parishioners’ Intentions**
- 5:00 pm **Parishioners’ Intentions**
- Fri., 12/25 8:00 am **Kim Tuyen Le**, by family
- 10:30 am **Harry Adamiak**, by family
- (Remembrance) **Albert, Genevieve & Robert Boza**, by family
- (Remembrance) **Norman Gallant**, by his wife, Doreen
- Sat., 12/26 9:00 am **Parishioners’ Intentions**
- 4:00 pm **Deacon Al Desautels**, by his wife
- (Remembrance) **Kim Tuyen Le**, by family
- Sun., 12/27 8:00 am **Parishioners’ Intentions**
- 10:30 am **Kim Tuyen Le**, by family
- 6:00 pm **Adolfo Ortiz, Jr.**, by family

CONTRIBUTION REPORT

Last weekend, we deposited the following donations:

- Weekly Adult Offerings: \$6,330.00
- (\$181.00 in loose offerings and \$6,140.00 in 108 envelopes)
- Holy Day: \$ 841.00
- Charitable Ministries: \$ 670.00
- December 8th Holy Day: \$ 297.00
- Funeral Offerings: \$ 300.00
- Christmas Flowers: \$ 467.00
- Liturgical Memorials: \$ 375.00
- Maintenance Fund: \$ 606.00
- Debt Reduction Donations: \$ 50.00
- Memorial Donation: \$ 300.00
- Religious Retirement Appeal: \$1,069.00
- Campaign for Human Development: \$ 23.00

We also received the following online donations:

- Weekly Adult Offerings: \$1,203.48
- Maintenance Fund: \$ 207.51
- Debt Reduction Donations: \$ 92.00
- Charitable Ministries: \$ 30.00
- Flower Donations: \$ 54.58
- Fuel Donations: \$ 54.64
- Immaculate Conception Donations: \$ 54.72
- Christmas Collection: \$ 65.00
- Religious Retirement Appeal: \$ 145.00
- Campaign for Human Development: \$ 5.00

Thank you to all who contributed.

CHRISTMAS COLLECTION

The Christmas offerings are used to defray some of the annual parish assessment for the Diocesan Priest Retirement. Our parish assessment is \$12,684. By way of clarification, the money donated to the annual Religious Retirement Fund does not benefit the priests of our diocese. It goes to a National Fund to help Vowed Religious Congregations pay for retirement needs of their members. Fr. Dougherty and Sr. Marie Therese Martin are members of vowed congregations.



CHRISTMAS 2020

My dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

As Advent gives way to Christmas, we find ourselves in a continued state of waiting, longing and expectation for a promised vaccine. How our world has changed in a year!

Last Christmas, none of us had heard of COVID-19. Since then our lives, jobs, recreation and worship have been shaped by it. COVID precautions have led to COVID-fatigue as we long for a return to normal life.

Anxious waiting and expectation for the vaccine marks and impacts our celebrations. Gatherings in church and at home will be smaller, travel truncated, carols fewer, precautions increased and parties cancelled.

But Christmas is not cancelled. Our way of celebrating has changed, but our reason for celebrating remains the same. While the world awaits the arrival of a vaccine, we celebrate the arrival of the world's Savior.

We hope for a vaccine that for a time will ward off illness and death. The Divine Savior whose birth we celebrate gives us resurrection and reunion. We pray the vaccine will restore normal life on earth. The grace Christ offers promises eternal life in Heaven.

For two millennia Christians throughout the world have celebrated Christ's birth. Many of these Christmases have been marked by famine, plagues and wars. Through those hardships and others, Christians have found in Christ the strength, hope and joy to persevere, endure and triumph over all of life's uncertainties.

As we wait for the vaccine to come, let us rejoice, give thanks and find peace in the Savior who has already come, defeated sin and death and will come again to share His definitive triumph of eternal life.

With every prayerful best wish for a Blessed and Merry Christmas, I remain

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

CONFESSIONS

Fr. Monroe will be available for individual confessions after the 9:00 am Mass Monday, December 21st and from 6:30 to 7:30 pm Monday evening. You can also call him at the rectory to make an appointment this week though Thursday noontime.

O COME
all ye faithful

LITURGICAL MEMORIALS

The bread and wine used for all Masses this week have 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 *Ed and Andrew Olson* by their family.

REST IN PEACE

Pray for the repose of the souls of all who have died as a result of COVID 19 and all our deceased relatives, friends and benefactors.

THE WEEK AT A GLANCE

Sun., December 20 – 4th 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 21 – Monday of 4th Week of Advent

9:00 am Daily Mass

6:30 pm Confessions

Tue., December 22 - Tuesday of 4th Week of Advent

9:00 am Daily Mass

Wed., December 23 - Wednesday of 4th Week of Advent

9:00 am Daily Mass

Thu., December 24 - Thursday of 4th Week of Advent

9:00 am Daily Mass

3:00 pm Christmas Vigil Mass

5:00 pm Christmas Mass for Mid Night

Fri., December 25 – Nativity of the Lord

8:00 am Christmas Mass for Dawn

10:30 am Christmas Mass During the Day

Sat., December 26 – St. Stephen

9:00 am Mass in the Octave of Christmas

4:00 pm Vigil Mass for Feast of the Holy Family

PRESIDERS FOR NEXT WEEKEND

Saturday, December 26	4:00 pm	Fr. Monroe
Sunday, December 27	8:00 am	Fr. Dougherty
	10:30 am	Fr. Monroe
	6:00 pm	Fr. Monroe

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Sunday: 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16/Ps 89:2-3, 4-5, 27, 29
 Rom 16:25-27/Lk 1:26-38

Monday: Zep 3:14-18a/Ps 33:2-3, 11-12, 20-21/Lk 1:39-45

Tuesday: 1 Sm 1:24-28/1 Sm 2:1, 4-5, 6-7, 8abcd/Lk 1:46-56

Wednesday: Mal 3:1-4, 23-24/Ps 25:4-5, 8-9, 10, 4/Lk 1:57-66

Thursday Morning: 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8-12, 14, 16

Ps 89:2-3, 4-5, 27, 29/Lk 1:67-79

Christmas Vigil Mass: Is 62:1-5/Ps 89:4-5, 16-17, 27, 29

Acts 13:16-17, 22-25/Mt 1:18-25.

Mass for Mid Night: Is 9:1-6/Ps 96:1-2, 2-3, 11-12, 13

Titus 2:11-14/Lk 2:1-14.

Christmas Mass for Dawn: Is 62:11-12/Ps 97:1, 6, 11-12

Titus 3:4-7/Lk 2:15-20.

Christmas Mass During Day: Is 52:7-10

Ps 98:1, 2-3, 3-4, 5-6/Heb 1:1-6/Jn 1:1-18

Saturday: Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59/Ps 31:3cd-4, 6, 8ab, 16bc, 17

Mt 10:17-22

Next Sunday: Sir 3:2-6, 12-14/Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5/Col 3:12-17

Lk 2:22-40