

# NORTH QUABBIN CATHOLIC COMMUNITY

192 School Street, Athol MA 01331-2399

978.249.2738 (Office) 978.830.4046 (FAX) 978.249.7690 (CCD) [www.nqcatholic.com](http://www.nqcatholic.com)  
Church Office: [ourladyrectory@hotmail.com](mailto:ourladyrectory@hotmail.com) • Religious Education: [ourlady.ccd@mail.com](mailto:ourlady.ccd@mail.com)



## OUR LADY IMMACULATE

192 School Street, Athol MA 01331

Church Office Hours:  
M, T, W 8:30am-3:30pm

Masses:

Lord's Day ~ 4pm (Vigil) & 11am  
Holy Days of Obligation ~ 12:10pm  
Weekday ~ 8am M, T, W  
First Saturday ~ 8:00am

Confessions:

Saturday ~ 3 to 3:30pm in the OLI Chapel

Holy Hour of Adoration:

Tuesday ~ 2:00pm -3:00pm

## SAINT FRANCIS OF ASSISI

101 Main Street, Athol MA 01331

Masses:

Lord's Day ~ 8:00am  
Holy Days of Obligation ~ 7:00pm

Confessions:

Saturday ~ 3 to 3:30pm in the OLI  
Chapel

Divine Mercy Chaplet:

Sunday ~ 7:40am

## SAINT PETER

18 North Street  
Petersham MA 01366

Mass:

Lord's Day ~ 9:30am

Confessions:

Saturday ~ 3 to 3:30pm in the OLI  
Chapel

Rev. Mateus Souza, Administrator  
[fr.mateussouza@gmail.com](mailto:fr.mateussouza@gmail.com)

Bryan Lagimoniere, Deacon

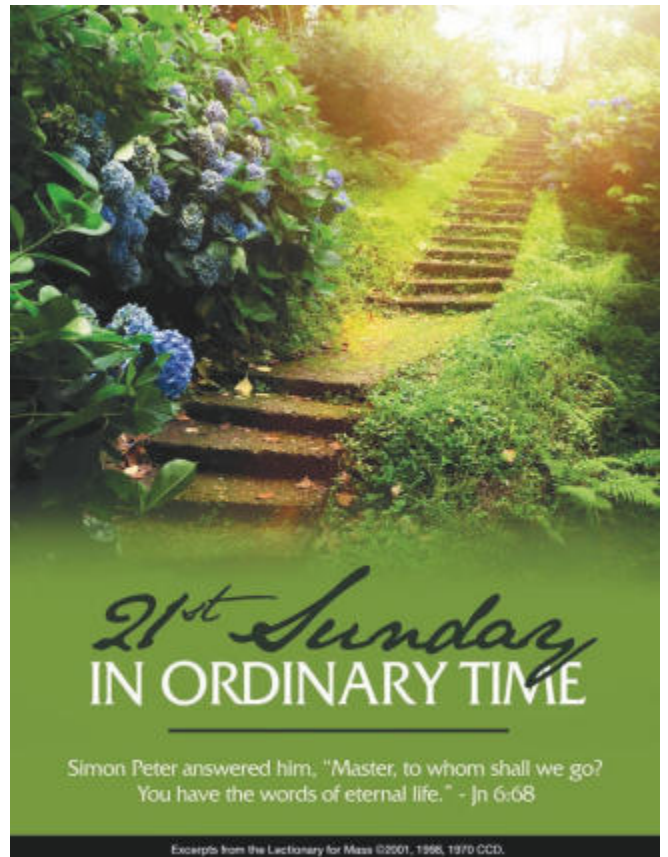
Gayle Bassett, Administrative Assistant

Irene Inniss, Cluster CCD Administrator  
& Safe Environment Coordinator

Patrick Kennelly, Business Manager

Terry Parker, Music Director

Christian Cormier, Maintenance



## Visitors and New Parishioners

Please introduce yourself. We want to meet you.  
Registration forms are available in the sacristy.

## Baptism

Baptisms are celebrated on Saturdays and Sundays. Please contact the Church Office for the preparation session, which includes parents and godparents.

## Marriage

Contact the Church Office one year in advance.

## Visitation of the Ill and Homebound

Please contact the Church Office if you know of anyone who is in need, so a Priest, Deacon or Eucharistic Minister may visit.

## Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults

Adults seeking information about the Catholic Faith or seeking full admission into the Church through Baptism, Confirmation & Eucharist ~ Please call the Church Office.

## Lending Library

Temporarily Suspended—thank you.

## NQCC Facebook Page

For those of you with a Facebook page, please “LIKE” the North Quabbin Catholic Community Facebook page. Stay up to date with all the happenings in the Cluster

## Sharing Our Fathers Bread

Meals are served Wednesdays, Sept.-May, at St. Francis Hall at 5pm for those in need. Donation baskets are located at each church for your convenience to support this important program. For questions please call 978-249-7304.

## Healing and Prevention

If you or someone you know has been sexually abused by a priest, religious or lay person working for the Church, and you need a place to talk about your feelings, please call the Office for Healing and Prevention, (508) 929-4363. A 24 hour-a-day confidential voicemail is available.

## Other Information

Prayer Line: Please notify the Rectory  
Bulletin Deadline: Prior Monday by 12N

### FOOD PANTRY

Thank you for your support! This week we will collect:  
**Jams / Jelly / Canned Chicken~Meat~Spam**

## A MESSAGE FROM FATHER MATEUS

Hello everyone! It seems St. Peter is listening to my prayers and sunshine finally came to stay!

If you came to Mass at Our Lady this past weekend, you probably noticed that for the occasion of the Assumption, I moved the statue of the Blessed Mother back to the Sanctuary. Many were the compliments about it and some people even asked me to leave Mary in the Sanctuary all the time. It happens that, by divine providence, I just came across an opportunity to acquire a statue of the Immaculate Conception. The one we have is indeed gorgeous, but I believe a Statue of our Patroness would be more appropriate to ornate the Sanctuary permanently. As you know, everything has a cost: So, if you are interested in helping me with this project please email me and I will give you all the details. And now with the Gospel:

The Eucharistic sermon that Our Lord has been developing over the past few days leads his disciples to a crossroad: it is now necessary to decide for Jesus, that is, to accept or not in faith his word, which is sometimes so hard to hear. Let us remember that, at the beginning of this entire sermon, many of those who followed the Lord looked to him for a quick and effective solution to their own worldly problems. It was hunger—the craving for bread in particular—that motivated so many to accompany him through the deserts of Israel. Jesus then asks them for a distinct work: “This is the work of God, that you believe in the one he sent.” This faith, in turn, becomes food, bread of life, the fruit of a redeeming sacrifice and of love: “Whoever comes to me will never hunger, and whoever believes in me will never thirst.” The people's reaction, however, is one of rejection, disbelief, and indisposition: “This saying is hard; who can accept it?” It's hard for those who do not want to believe, but true, most certain and life-giving for those who open themselves to it. The words of Christ, if accepted with faith and not with the naive and malicious suspicions of our times, make a superior principle act in us, the Holy Spirit, who infuses us with new life — his own divine life — and profoundly transforms our being. May He help us, therefore, to take this step of faith, so that we may tread the path taken by the saints and the ones humble of heart, and not the life of infidelity and lack of faith, far from the only one who has the words of eternal life.

God bless you!

Fr. Mateus.

## ST. PETER'S OPEN GOLF TOURNAMENT

Dear Friends of Our Lady, St. Francis and St. Peter's Parish, This is the last chance for you to participate in our *17th Annual St. Peter's Church Golf Open*, scheduled for **Sunday, September 26th, 2021** at Ellinwood Country Club in Athol.

Four Players per team - singles are welcome and will be placed on a team. For questions regarding the event, please email Mike Schlosser at [mikes102155@gmail.com](mailto:mikes102155@gmail.com) or call 978-249-6175.

**For those who don't play but want to participate, tickets for the Luncheon are available for \$20.**

We look forward to seeing you in September!

### **INSTANT 120 CLUB RAFFLE**

In lieu of having a fair, Our Lady Immaculate will be offering an Instant 120 Raffle. Tickets are \$20 each and will be available at the church office M,T,W from 8:30am—3:00pm. Tickets will also be sold at OLI after Masses the weekends of Aug 21/22 & Aug 28/29. Prizes will be drawn once all tickets are sold. Thank you!

### **RELIGIOUS EDUCATION REGISTRATION**

Registration for Religious Education will be held on Tuesday, August 17th & August 31st from 6-7pm at the CCD Center. All classes will be held on Sunday mornings and evenings every other week. Classes will begin on September 12th with grades K-5th meeting from 9-10:45am and grades 6-10th meeting from 6-7:30 pm. If you have any questions, please call Irene at 978-502-3575.

### **MASS INTENTIONS and MASS CARDS**

To accommodate the demand on intentions, we will begin allowing the addition of a 2nd intention to all masses in the cluster. This gives the chance for all parishioners to have masses said for loved ones, as well as promoting prayer by all for those who have passed away. As always, you can reach Gayle at 978-249-2738 to schedule an intention. **MASS CARDS ARE ALSO AVAILABLE** in the office as a way of notifying the family of your mass intention.

### **FLOWER ARRANGEMENTS DONATION**

Now you can honor a deceased relative by donating a flower arrangement to the Parish you belong. The arrangement will be placed in the sanctuary for the weekend and their names will be mentioned in the bulletin. Please contact Jane at Our Lady, Marie at St. Francis, and Islay at St. Peter's for more information. *"The use of living flowers at Mass serves as a reminder of the gift of life God has given to the human community"*.

### **KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS**

The Knights of Columbus are slowly moving to get things back to normal after surviving a very difficult year with Covid-19. In the next few weeks we will be restoring our chambers after having substantial damage occur after last year's fire. During the next month we will begin planning our calendar for 2021-22 and we will be planning a recruitment drive for the Knights. Please keep an eye on our bulletin for more information.

If you are interested in learning more about the Knights of Columbus and you are a practicing Catholic man, you can go online with no pressure at KofC.org to learn more or you may contact me personally, Paul McNiff at 978 249 2108, and I will be happy to talk to you about the Athol K of C and our mission here in the Cluster.

### **WORD OF LIFE**

"We thank you heroic mothers, for your invincible love! We thank you for your intrepid trust in God and in his love. We thank you for the sacrifice of your life "(EV 86). ~Pope Saint John Paul II, *Evangelium vitae* 1995.

## **OUR LADY IMMACULATE**

### **COLLECTION**

**8-15-21** Sunday: \$1,621.50; Building: \$240.00; Holy Day: \$226.00; Initial: \$135.00; Window: \$300.00; Europe: \$71.00.

### **CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT**

Repairing the exterior trim around the stained glass windows in the church. To date \$49,282.78 has been collected.

## **ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI**

### **COLLECTION**

**8-15-21** Sunday: \$624.00; Monthly: \$60.00; Renovation: \$10.00; Fuel: \$70.00; Holy Day: \$75.00; Europe: \$44.00.

## **ST. PETER'S**

### **COLLECTION**

**8-15-21** Sunday: \$624.00; Building: \$20.00; Holy Day: \$30.00.

### **APPEALS**

Please, don't get confused with the different appeals/campaigns. Know what they are for:

**PARTNERS IN CHARITY** (Bishop's Fund): This is the Annual Diocesan appeal that helps all the Diocesan agencies and ministries. This campaign usually runs from March to the end of the August and 100% of your donation will go to the Diocese.

**Our Lady Immaculate:** ~ Goal: \$23,800 To Date: \$15,870

**St. Francis of Assisi:** ~ Goal: \$5,300 To Date: \$2,830

**St. Peter Church:** ~ Goal: \$6,000 To Date: \$2,950

**LEGACY OF HOPE** (Capital Campaign): The Diocese is conducting the 32 million Diocesan-wide campaign to support Parishes in the Diocese, Priests' Retirement, Catholic Education, Parish based Charities and Evangelization, and the Cathedral of St. Paul. 60% will go to the Diocese and 40% to your Parish.

#### **Our Lady Immaculate:**

Goal: \$129,720 ~ Raised/Pledged: \$150,050

#### **St. Francis of Assisi:**

Goal: \$50,953 ~ Raised/Pledged: \$46,210

#### **St. Peter Church:**

Goal: \$32,844 ~ Raised/Pledged: \$42,040

**PARISH APPEAL:** This is your Parish's own appeal. It helps your parish pay their many operating expenses. Parish appeals usually go from September through the end of December and 100% of your donation will go to your Parish only.

### **FOOTSTEPS FOR FRED**

Our Team will be participating in the annual ALS Cliffwalk again this year on Sunday, September 12<sup>th</sup>. As many of you remember, Fred Richard was a member and custodian of OLI before he was diagnosed with ALS in November 2004 and died 4 months later in March 2005. Fred carried the familial gene of this disease being the 4<sup>th</sup> of 5 members of his family to die from ALS. Because he carried the familial gene his children and grandchildren have a higher risk of having ALS. This is a very devastating disease with no cure. Fred was a wonderful son, husband and father and is greatly missed. Anyone wishing to make a donation can mail a check payable to Edna Richards with a notation in the memo section - Fred Richards ALS walk. This year all donations must be made online prior to the day of the walk. Checks can be mailed to 296 Crescent Street, Athol, MA, or contact Edna at 978-249-3964. Thank you!

**AUGUST 22, 2021**

## Hymnal Readings: 914

### Readings for the week of August 22, 2021

Sunday: Jos 24:1-2a, 15-17, 18b/Ps 34:2-3, 16-17, 18-19, 20-21, 22-23 [9a]/Eph 5:21-32 or 5:2a, 25-32/Jn 6:60-69

Monday: 1 Thes 1:1-5, 8b-10/Ps 149:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6a and 9b [cf. 4a]/Mt 23:13-22

Tuesday: Rv 21:9b-14/Ps 145:10-11, 12-13, 17-18 [12]/Jn 1:45-51

Wednesday: 1 Thes 2:9-13/Ps 139:7-8, 9-10, 11-12ab [1]/Mt 23:27-32

Thursday: 1 Thes 3:7-13/Ps 90:3-5a, 12-13, 14 and 17 [14]/Mt 24:42-51

Friday: 1 Thes 4:1-8/Ps 97:1 and 2b, 5-6, 10, 11-12 [12a]/Mt 25:1-13

Saturday: 1 Thes 4:9-11/Ps 98:1, 7-8, 9 [9]/Mt 25:14-30

Next Sunday: Dt 4:1-2, 6-8/Ps 15:2-3, 3-4, 4-5 [1a]/Jas 1:17-18, 21b-22, 27/Mk 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23



### Saturday, August 21st Vigil: 21st Sunday in Ordinary Time

4:00 PM OLI: +Simone Blanchard by her Husband

### Sunday, August 22nd 21st Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00 AM St. Francis: +Roland W. Michaud

By the McGuirk Family

9:30 AM St. Peter: +Laurel Babineau, 14th Ann.

by Stephen Babineau

11:00 AM OLI: +Jimmy Winters

by Mark & Cindy Winters

### Monday, August 23rd

8:00 AM OLI: +Angeline Zuidema by Stella Murphy  
Health and Healing for Carlos Maramag

By his Family

10:30 AM QVHC: All Residents

### Tuesday, August 24th St. Bartholomew, Apostle

8:00 AM OLI: +Blanchard Family by the Family

### Wednesday, August 25th

8:00 AM OLI: +Marcial, Emerenciana & Joseph  
Yandoc by the Family

### Saturday, August 28th Vigil: 22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

4:00 PM OLI: +Mary Marquis by Gloria Durkee

### Sunday, August 29th 22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00 AM St. Francis: +Kay Kaczmarczyk

By Dr. Bryan & Nancy Lagimoniere

9:30 AM St. Peter: All Parishioners

11:00 AM OLI: +Richard Gagnon

By his sister Chris & Greg Mastaler

## PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR SICK

Do you know anyone who is sick and in need of prayers? Please call the office and their names will be listed in the bulletin every week so our parishioners can include them in their personal prayers. God bless you!

## PRAYER LIST

William Wood ~ Vernon Goupil ~ Arline Duguay

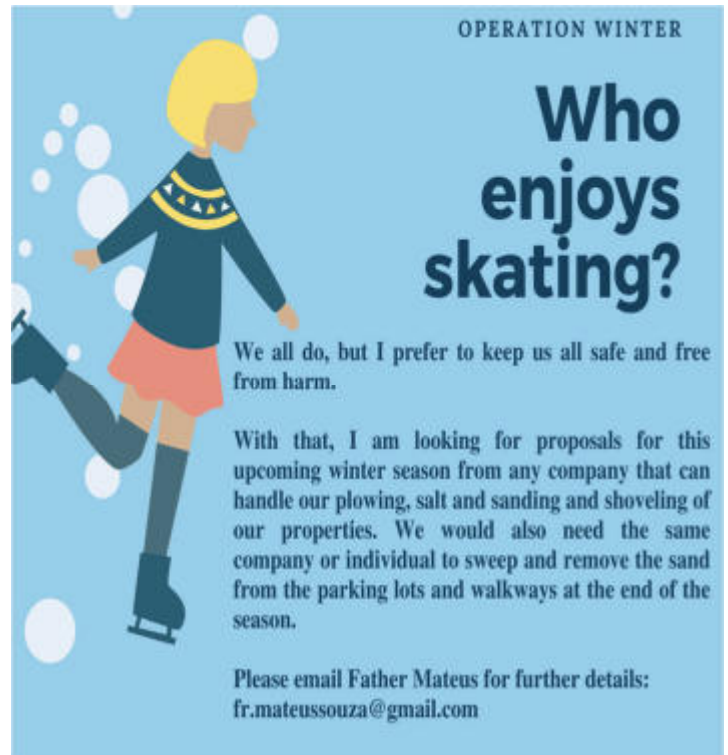
*AUGUST 22, 2021*

**WHAT DO YOU THINK  
ABOUT THE DAILY MASS SCHEDULE?**

**May we ask your help as we consider the scheduling of  
weekday Masses? Please complete this survey and leave it  
in the collection box this weekend or next.**

Thank you! Father Mateus

1. How often do you go to daily Mass?  
 every day  most days  once a week  occasionally
2. Where and when do you usually go to daily Mass?  
 8:00am Our Lady Immaculate  
 8:00am Holy Cross - Templeton  
 9:00am Holy Rosary - Gardner  
 7:30am Holy Spirit - Gardner  
 5:00pm St. Mary's - Orange  
 \_\_\_\_\_
3. Why do you go to that Mass?  
 Best time for me  size of the Church  It's my parish  
Other (please explain)
3. If you were picking the time for Weekday Mass, what time would you pick?  
 8:00am  9:00am  \_\_\_\_\_
4. If Mass were at the time you picked, how often would you go?  every day  most days  once a week  
 occasionally
5. Would you ever attend a Mass on Saturday morning?  
 yes  no



**OPERATION WINTER**

# Who enjoys skating?

We all do, but I prefer to keep us all safe and free from harm.

With that, I am looking for proposals for this upcoming winter season from any company that can handle our plowing, salt and sanding and shoveling of our properties. We would also need the same company or individual to sweep and remove the sand from the parking lots and walkways at the end of the season.

Please email Father Mateus for further details:  
[fr.mateussouza@gmail.com](mailto:fr.mateussouza@gmail.com)

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