

# NORTH QUABBIN CATHOLIC COMMUNITY

192 School Street, Athol MA 01331-2399

978.249.2738 (Office) 978.830.4046 (FAX) 978.249.7690 (CCD) [www.nqatholic.com](http://www.nqatholic.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

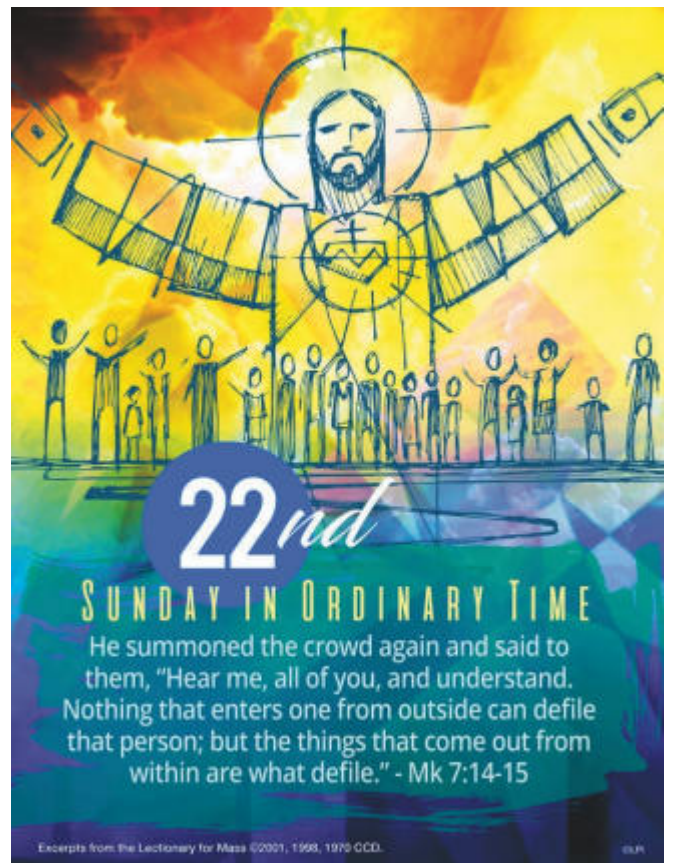
Gayle Bassett, Administrative Assistant

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

In today's Gospel, we see Jesus again getting into controversy with the Pharisees. The reason is the usual: the religious authorities of Israel, under the weight of their human traditions, had transformed the Law of Moses, instituted by God to educate the chosen people in love, into a crude form of moralism and, what is worse, in a theater of “good manners”. That is why the Lord calls them hypocrites, which in Greek (υποκριτής) means “character”: “This people honor me with their lips”, keeping a series of precepts externally, “but their hearts are far from me”.

This what Jesus reproaches in the Pharisees may very well happen, and it does not happen infrequently, with any of us. How many, even after a sincere conversion and animated by the desire to obey God, end up reducing the Christian life to the fulfillment of some devotional practices? This does not mean, in any way, that it is bad or inadvisable to have a coherent and constant life plan, which allows you to discipline time and perform, at established times of the day, certain devotions such as, the Angelus, the Holy Rosary, a spiritual reading, a visit to the Blessed Sacrament etc.

The problem is to get carried away with the routine and do all this, no longer out of love and gratitude to God, according to what St. Paul says: “The love of Christ impels us” (2 Cor 5:14), but out of an obligatory and meaningless habit. The result of such an attitude is often that vain self-contemplation which the Lord constantly reproves in the Pharisees: instead of seeking to please God with all one's heart, what one seeks is to please men and himself, seeing himself reflected in the mirror of vanity as a “faithful follower” of the norms of the Christian life.

May the Lord give us the grace to return to that first love with which we were impelled to follow Him with a simple and open heart, and the strength to keep our lives of humble devotion and ablaze with love.

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 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 be sold at OLI after Masses the weekend of 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 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.

### **FOOTSTEPS FOR FRED**

Our Team will be participating in the annual ALS Cliffwalk 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 dying just 4 months later. 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!

### **WORD OF LIFE**

“Although we may feel unsure how best to comfort those who mourn, we must stand with them in their time of suffering. Miscarriage touches the lives of many people, yet all too often this tragedy remains unaddressed. This lack of response not only often leads to unresolved grief, but also fails to clearly manifest our belief that each person, from conception onward, is precious and unique. ~ USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities “Solace and Strength in the Sorrow of Miscarriage.

### **KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS**

Knights of Columbus membership offers countless opportunities for Catholic men, and their families, to live and grow in faith. Through our support of critical societal needs, we Knights have the opportunity to leave a positive and lasting impact in our communities and around the world. Respected and proud to call ourselves Knights, the nearly 2 million members donated over 75 million hours of their time to charitable service and nearly \$200 million to important causes around the globe just last year. If you would like to learn more about the Athol Knights, you may contact me personally, (Paul McNiff at 978-249-2108), and I will be happy to talk to you about the Athol Knights of Columbus and our mission here in the Cluster.

The Athol Council of the Knights of Columbus would like to welcome Fr. Mateus Souza to our Cluster. Fr. Mateus has graciously accepted our invitation to serve as our Chaplain for the upcoming year.

### **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.

## **OUR LADY IMMACULATE COLLECTION**

8-22-21 Sunday: \$1,236.50; Building: \$233.00; Memorial: \$125.00; Holy Day: \$30.00; Initial: \$30.00; Europe: \$75.00.

### **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**

8-22-21 Sunday: \$552.00.

## **ST. PETER'S COLLECTION**

8-22-21 Sunday: \$426.00

### **APPEALS**

#### **PARTNERS IN CHARITY**

**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**

**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

### **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”.*

### **FIRST SATURDAY DEVOTION**

The First Saturday Devotion for September will be held on September 4th at 8:00am at Our Lady Immaculate. Every 13th of the month, everyone, especially the Living Rosary members, are encouraged to pray the rosary. The rosary is a powerful prayer to fight all evils. Let us ask our Blessed Mother's intercession to her Divine Son Jesus Christ by praying the Rosary.



**REMEMBER**  
*in your prayers*

Please remember **Lillian Bachelder** who passed away recently, as well as her family. Always remember the power of prayer in helping others.

*AUGUST 29, 2021*

## Hymnal Readings: 917

### Readings for the week of August 29, 2021

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

Monday: 1 Thes 4:13-18/Ps 96:1 and 3, 4-5, 11-12, 13 [13b]/Lk 4:16-30

Tuesday: 1 Thes 5:1-6, 9-11/Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14 [13]/Lk 4:31-37

Wednesday: Col 1:1-8/Ps 52:10, 11 [10]/Lk 4:38-44

Thursday: Col 1:9-14/Ps 98:2-3ab, 3cd-4, 5-6 [2]/Lk 5:1-11

Friday: Col 1:15-20/Ps 100:1b-2, 3, 4, 5 [2b]/Lk 5:33-39

Saturday: Col 1:21-23/Ps 54:3-4, 6 and 8 [6]/Lk 6:1-5

Next Sunday: Is 35:4-7a/Ps 146:7, 8-9, 9-10 [1b]/Jas 2:1-5/Mk 7:31-37



### 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 Dc. Bryan & Nancy Lagimoniere

9:30 AM St. Peter: All Parishioners

11:00 AM OLI: +Richard Gagnon  
By his sister Chris & Greg Mastaler

### Monday, August 30th

8:00 AM OLI: All Parishioners

### Tuesday, August 31st

8:00 AM OLI: +Fanelli Family by Stella Murphy

### Wednesday, September 1st

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

### Saturday, September 4th

8:00 AM OLI: All Parishioners

Vigil: 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

4:00 PM OLI: +Andy Bosco by the Family  
+ Lillian Reps by the McHugh Family

### Sunday, September 5th 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00 AM St. Francis: +Antena Shatos by Marie Shatos

9:30 AM St. Peter: +Cero Ermini by Charles Crowley

11:00 AM OLI: +Francis Joly by Rosetta and Family

## 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  
Carlos Maramag

*AUGUST 29, 2021*

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**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 TODAY!**

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



We are 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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