

# 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

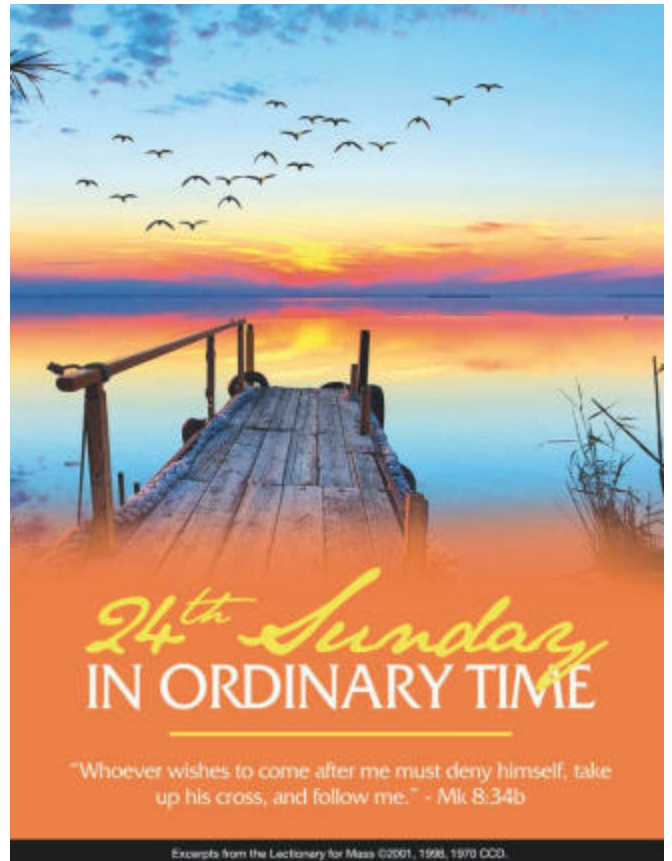
Gayle Bassett, Administrative Assistant

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

## A MESSAGE FROM FATHER MATEUS

Jesus is in Caesarea Philippi, meeting with his disciples, and he asks them what people say about him. The answers are the most varied, but none can express the nature of Christ, except that of the apostle St. Peter: "You are the Messiah". In fact, Jesus is the second person of the Holy Trinity, the Son of God, who came to save us. This is Peter's faith, the faith of the Church, which we profess every Sunday at Holy Mass.

Jesus became incarnate to redeem human nature from every stain of sin. In this Sunday's Gospel, the Lord speaks openly about the kind of this atonement: "The Son of Man must suffer much, be rejected by the elders, the chief priests and doctors of the Law, must be put to death, and rise again after three days." Christ needed to die to wash mankind with His most precious blood.

However, this information frightens Saint Peter, who tries to dissuade Christ from surrendering for our salvation. "Then Peter took Jesus to one side and began to rebuke him," says St. Mark. Peter had not yet understood the mission of Jesus, and he thought like other men. So Jesus rebukes him, saying: "Stay away from me, Satan! You don't think about the things of God, but the things of men".

Following Christ requires a renunciation of oneself. It is an exclusive attention to what is most important in our vocational call, as a mother who, faced with the possibility of her child dying, only thinks about saving her child, forgetting about everything else (mischief, headaches, disobediences etc.). Jesus rebuked Saint Peter because he still did not want to renounce himself, he wanted to keep his life to himself, and he was concerned about the things of the world.

We must observe if, in our journey, we don't have thoughts like those of Saint Peter, if we don't end up acting like Martha, who is more concerned with the pots than with the Word of God. Only one thing is needed: Jesus. Therefore, we need to increase our passion for the Lord, so that He is the real reason for our lives. And this love will make us have the courage to abandon our wills (whims, selfishness, vanities) to fulfill His will.

To renounce oneself, a person needs a virtue that the New Testament calls *hypomoné*, that is, the inner constancy of those who, despite their sorrows, remain faithful to Christ and to the life of holiness, like those who "hear the word with an upright and good heart, retain it and bear fruit through perseverance" (Lk 8, 15). Christians are not like fakirs who lie on nails and eat broken glass, nor are circus actors who swallow flaming torches. We bear all suffering by the grace of Christ: with eyes fixed on Jesus, all suffering becomes nothing.

The great saints were able to renounce the proposals of the world because they trusted in Jesus, before whom nothing else matters. They were patient in tribulations, and walked to the cross, like the Lord. On this day, let us ask for the grace of a profound renunciation of ourselves, so that we can go to the One who wants to make us saints.

God bless you!

Fr. Mateus

### FOOD PANTRY

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

## WORD OF LIFE

“God’s love—individual, real, unchanging—is the true source of our worth, identity, and dignity. It really is not a question of who we are, but rather whose we are. Because his love will never change, nothing can reduce our God-given dignity, and nothing can diminish the immeasurable worth of our lives.” ~USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities “How to Build a Culture of Life”

## KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

The Athol Knights of Columbus will be having the first meeting of our calendar year on Monday, September 13<sup>th</sup>, at 7:00pm in our council chamber. The doors will be open at 6:30pm for fellowship. 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.

## 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.

## PUBLIC SQUARE ROSARY

Save the Date!! Our Lady Immaculate Church will host the Public Square Rosary on Saturday, October 16, 2021 at 12 Noon. All are invited to attend!

## ROSARY

Every 13th of the month everyone, especially the living rosary members, are encouraged to pray the rosary. 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.

## 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”.

## APPEALS

### PARTNERS IN CHARITY

**Our Lady Immaculate:** ~ Goal: \$23,800 To Date: \$16,895  
**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: \$150,240  
**St. Francis of Assisi:**  
Goal: \$50,953 ~ Raised/Pledged: \$46,210  
**St. Peter Church:**  
Goal: \$32,844 ~ Raised/Pledged: \$42,040

## OUR LADY IMMACULATE COLLECTION

9-5-21 Sunday: \$1,564.50; Building: \$246.00; CCD: \$20.00; Window: \$312.00.

## CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT

Repairing the exterior trim around the stained glass windows in the church. To date \$49,594.78 has been collected; repairs to date: \$16,944.00.

## ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI COLLECTION

9-5-21 Sunday: \$526.00; Monthly: \$10.00; Renovation: \$50.00; Fuel: \$329.00; Initial: \$15.00.

## KNIGHTS OF LITHUANIA

The K of L will meet on Sunday September 12th at 1pm in the St. Francis church hall. Plans for the fall district meeting on Sept. 26th will be discussed. All members are invited to attend.

## RECYCLE DAY

St. Francis will once again host an Electronic and Appliance Recycle Day in the church parking lot on Saturday, September 18<sup>th</sup> from 9am-2pm. Prices for electronics range from \$5 to \$35. Bicycle Recycling-free All Towns are Welcome.



## ST. PETER’S COLLECTION

9-5-21 Sunday: \$639.00; Building: \$235.00; Initial: \$5.00

## ST. PETER’S TAG SALE

St. Peter's Church will participate in the Petersham Town-Wide Tag Sale on September 18th. 9 AM - 3 PM. as a fundraiser. All proceeds will be donated to St. Peter's church. Items can be dropped off at Kathy McCrohon's home on the Common - Tag Sale space #16 - before 9:00 on the day of the sale. We will also have a Bake Sale Table for anyone willing to contribute baked goods. Volunteers are needed to man tables. For questions or additional information, please contact Kathy McCrohon at 508-404-7552 or [KMDC@gmail.com](mailto:KMDC@gmail.com), or Carol Ambrozy at 249-7304.

**SEPTEMBER 12, 2021**

## Hymnal Readings: 923

### Readings for the week of September 12, 2021

Sunday: Is 50:5-9a/Ps 116:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9 [9]/Jas 2:14-18/Mk 8:27-35  
Monday: 1 Tm 2:1-8/Ps 40:7-8a, 8b-9, 10, 17 [1Cor 11:26b]/Lk 7:1-10  
Tuesday: Nm 21:4b-9/Ps 78:1bc-2, 34-35, 36-37, 38 [cf. 7b]/Phil 2:6-11/Jn 3:13-17  
Wednesday: 1 Tm 3:14-16/Ps 111:1-2, 3-4, 5-6 [2]/Jn 19:25-27 or Lk 2:33-35  
Thursday: 1 Tm 4:12-16/Ps 111:7-8, 9, 10 [2]/Lk 7:36-50  
Friday: 1 Tm 6:2c-12/Ps 49:6-7, 8-10, 17-18, 19-20/Lk 8:1-3  
Saturday: 1 Tm 6:13-16/Ps 100:1b-2, 3, 4, 5 [2]/Lk 8:4-15  
Next Sunday: Wis 2:12, 17-20/Ps 54:3-4, 5, 6-8 [6b]/Jas 3:16—4:3/Mk 9:30-37



### Saturday, Sept. 11th Vigil: 24th Sunday in Ordinary Time

4:00 PM **OLI:** +Mary Blake by the Family  
+Esther & Jake Mitchell  
by the Family

### Sunday, September 12th 24th Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00 AM **St. Francis:** +Deceased Members of the  
Funa & Catan Families  
by the Funa Family  
9:30 AM **St. Peter:** +M/M Daniel Donovan  
By the McHugh Family  
11:00 AM **OLI:** +Fern Fregeau  
by Mark & Cindy Winters

### Monday, September 13th St. John Chrysostom

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

### Tuesday, September 14th The Exaltation of the Holy Cross

8:00 AM **OLI:** +Rosanne Wrigley by Stela Murphy

### Wednesday, Sept. 15th

8:00 AM **OLI:** +David Gauthier by Gail O'Malley

### Saturday, Sept. 18th Vigil: 25th Sunday in Ordinary Time

4:00 PM **OLI:** +Charles (20th Ann.), & Margaret  
Young  
by the Family  
+M/M Joseph Bonenfant  
by the McHugh Family

### Sunday, September 19th 25th Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00 AM **St. Francis:** +Margaret Shatos, Maciej  
Baczek by Marie Shatos  
9:30 AM **St. Peter:** All Parishioners  
11:00 AM **OLI:** +Richard & Margaret (30th Ann.) Stone  
by the Family  
+Dominic Gingras, Sr. by his 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



*I will walk before the Lord, in the land of the living.*

**SATURDAY 11th**

4:00 PM Vigil Mass at Our Lady Immaculate

**SUNDAY 12th**

8:00 AM Mass at St. Francis of Assisi  
9:30 AM Mass at St. Peter  
9:45 AM CCD Grades K-5  
11:00 AM Mass at Our Lady Immaculate  
6:00 PM CCD Grades 6-10

**MONDAY 13th**

8:00 AM Mass at Our Lady Immaculate

**TUESDAY 14th**

8:00 AM Mass at Our Lady Immaculate  
2:00 PM Holy Hour with Adoration at OLI

**WEDNESDAY 15th**

8:00 AM Mass at Our Lady Immaculate

**SATURDAY 18th**

3:00 PM Confessions at OLI Chapel  
4:00 PM Vigil Mass at Our Lady Immaculate

**SUNDAY 19th**

8:00 AM Mass at St. Francis of Assisi  
9:30 AM Mass at St. Peter  
11:00 AM Mass at Our Lady Immaculate



**REMEMBER**  
*in your prayers*

Please remember **Nicholas Casella** who passed away recently, as well as his family. Always remember the power of prayer in helping others.

### Family Memorials

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