

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
Church Office: ourladyrectory@hotmail.com • Religious Education: 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

Bryan Lagimoniere, Deacon

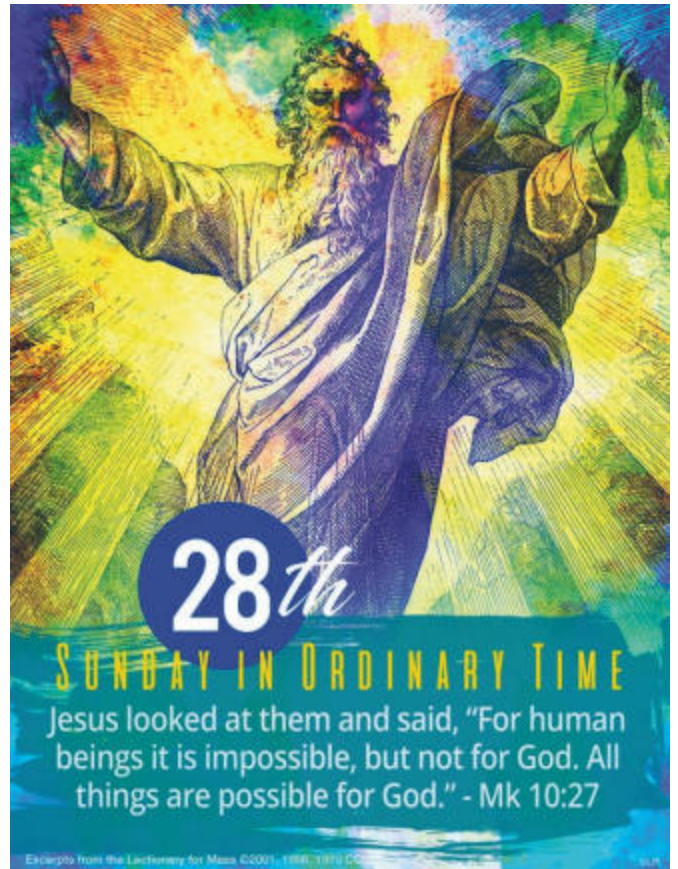
Gayle Bassett, Administrative Assistant

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

Hello everyone! You probably have just received a letter from me this week in the mail! As I announced a couple weeks ago, this weekend we start our Parish Appeals. This particular Annual Appeal is so necessary, because with weekly envelope donations only, we cannot quite cover all the expenses, as minimal as they are. I would like to reinforce that 100% of the funds raised with this Appeal will remain in the Parish. In the letter you have received, I also made a suggestion of a specific amount you may give. Again, this was simply a suggestion that would definitely help us to reach our goal if a good number of parishioners would donate this time. However, you are free to give as much as you can – more or less – any amount at this time would help. But it’s important to say that if we had the participation of every single parishioner that is registered, then we would definitely surpass our goal. I have been in this Parish for only three months and the love and support I have received from each one of you is overwhelming. Thank you so much for everything you do and I hope that together we can do even more! Please consider donating to the Appeal.

In today’s Gospel, a person comes running to Jesus and, on his knees, asks, "Good Master, what must I do to gain eternal life?" This, of course, is not just any question, but the doubt of someone full of faith, who knows the wisdom and goodness of the Lord, and desires, above all, to enter Heaven. He kneels down because he recognizes the greatness of who is in front of him, and knows that Christ only wants the good of the human being. And when the Lord commands him to keep the commandments, his response denotes the confidence of a person who does not think the Law of God is too burdensome. On the contrary, we read in the Gospel that he was already fulfilling it from his youth.

Fulfillment of the Commandments is strictly necessary for entry into Heaven. No one can enter the House of God without the aid of sanctifying grace, which a person loses after a morally grave fall. So we know that the person who came to Jesus was in a state of grace, because Christ looked at him with love and joy. Indeed, Jesus looks with love and mercy to all those who, repentant, seek again grace through the sacrament of Confession. Repentance itself is already a miraculous touch of God's love, which leads us to sacramental reconciliation.

The dialogue between the person and Jesus is not limited, however, to the observance of the Commandments. Christ wants to introduce him to the path of perfection, which goes beyond the sacred precepts. It is, above all, a generous surrender for the love of God and neighbor, so that the person has to give up any kind of earthly attachment, whether material or emotional. To enter the Kingdom of Heaven, God requires only the state of grace. But his deepest desire is to turn our hearts into a source of divine charity.

The Gospel tells that the young man responded with sadness to the call of Christ. This sadness is related to a kind of acedia, that is, a laziness to carry out the Lord's will in one's own life. The person finds himself so attached to his earthly possessions—money, family, customs—that he cannot think of “sell everything” to follow only God's call. However, it is impossible to walk the path of holiness without this detachment.

Holiness consists in love, self-denial and comfort for the good of others. It is not just an obligation. It is more than that: it consists in performing virtuous acts, in loving surrender, without the obligation of a coercive law. This freedom of heart makes life different, as it goes beyond the logic of pure obligation. The human heart starts to love truly.

Children are experts in this generous surrender. They do not intend to buy God's blessings with their possessions and pleasures. On the contrary, they just abandon themselves confidently in the Father's arms, so that He can do with them what He wants. In this sense, detachment from the things of the world needs a spiritual childhood, so that God may be the only artisan of our Christian vocation. If we give ourselves as children to the heart of Jesus, then He will make us great saints. After all, for man these things are impossible, but for God, everything is possible. God bless you!

Fr. Mateus

FOOD PANTRY

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

LEGACY OF HOPE

Our Lady Immaculate:

Goal: \$129,720 ~ Raised/Pledged: \$150,660

St. Francis of Assisi:

Goal: \$50,953 ~ Raised/Pledged: \$46,310

St. Peter Church:

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

SHARING OUR FATHERS BREAD

Because of the rise in local COVID cases, we are currently offering a hot "takeout" dinner. Meal pickup will be available to individual guests every Wednesday evening at 5:00 PM at St. Francis Church Hall on Canal Street on a first-come, first-served basis. Hopefully, we will return to serving our well known sit down dining in the near future. Each church has again provided a collection basket requesting your donation to support this very worthwhile program. We are so very grateful for your generosity.

PUBLIC SQUARE ROSARY

Please join the 2021 Public Square Rosary Crusade. As we all know, the United States is in great need of public prayer, repentance and conversion. We must ask God to save America through the Rosary of His Most Holy Mother. Our Lady Immaculate Church will host the Public Square Rosary on Saturday, October 16, 2021 at 12 Noon. All are invited to attend ~ Please bring your lawn chair. For more information, please contact Cora at 978-249-9569 or 978-618-9181.

WORD OF LIFE

"Throughout salvation history, God has welcomed repentant sinners with special joy. Jesus concludes the parable of the lost sheep with these words: there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous people who have no need of repentance' (Lk 15:7)." ~USCCB Secretariat of *Pro-Life Activities* "Life Matters: Forgiveness and Healing After Abortion"

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

The prayer shawl ministry has been part of our church community for over 12 years. We are a small group of women that share our talents and time to create beautiful shawls for anyone in need of prayer. Whether the need is for comfort, healing, or support in life's ups and down's, we feel we share God's healing touch with each shawl. We are starting our ministry, back in person, at the CCD center from 5:30-7:00pm on the second Sunday of the month. If you are interested but still uneasy about being in a group setting you can still contribute your shawls to this ministry, and we can get them to the people in need. If you, or anyone you know is in need please contact Kathy Bryce at 978-249-3771 and leave a message. If you or someone you know is interested in joining this ministry, we would love to have you – all are welcome!

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

Kevin Doherty ~ Joan Doherty ~ Irene Dearden
Ann Marie Doherty ~ Vernon Goupil ~ Arline Duguay
Fr's Mother—Terezinha Souza ~ Marcella Catalano
Judy Gancorz

OUR LADY IMMACULATE COLLECTION

10-3-21 Sunday: \$1,584.50; Building: \$331.00; Fuel: \$215.00;
Novena: \$20.00; Window: \$604.00; Catholic School: \$40.00;
CCD: \$2.00.

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT

Repairing the exterior trim around the stained glass windows in the church. To date \$50,498.78 has been collected; repairs to date: \$16,944.00.

SHARING OUR FATHERS BREAD

St. Francis: \$11.00; Individual: \$100.00.

ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI COLLECTION

10-3-21 Sunday: \$789.00; Monthly: \$10.00; Renovation:
\$80.00; Fuel: \$45.00; CCD: \$10.00.

ST. PETER'S COLLECTION

10-3-21 Sunday: \$452.00; Building: \$325.00; Fuel: \$35.00.

THANK YOU!

Thank you to all the sponsors, players and those who attended the St. Peter's Golf Tournament – \$4,838.00 was raised at this event! Congratulations also to the following:

1st Place

Andrew Laughlin, Chip, Justin, Dave

2nd Place

Lorelle and Matt Ford, Matt, Michael

3rd Place

Dave S, Mike Dodge, Brain Dodge, Zach Dodge

Closest to the pin. ~ Andrew Laughlin

Long Drive ~ Emily Schlosser and Andrew Laughlin



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".

OCTOBER 10, 2021

Hymnal Readings: 935

Readings for the week of October 10, 2021

Sunday: Wis 7:7-11/Ps 90:12-13, 14-15, 16-17 [14]/Heb 4:12-13/
Mk 10:17-30 or 10:17-27

Monday: Rom 1:1-7/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4 [2a]/Lk 11:29-32

Tuesday: Rom 1:16-25/Ps 19:2-3, 4-5 [2a]/Lk 11:37-41

Wednesday: Rom 2:1-11/Ps 62:2-3, 6-7, 9 [13]/Lk 11:42-46

Thursday: Rom 3:21-30/Ps 130:1-2, 3-4, 5-6 [7]/Lk 11:47-54

Friday: Rom 4:1-8/Ps 32:1-2, 5, 11 [cf. 7]/Lk 12:1-7

Saturday: Rom 4:13, 16-18/Ps 105:6-7, 8-9, 42-43 [8]/Lk 12:8-12

Next Sunday: Is 53:10-11/Ps 33:4-5, 18-19, 20, 22 [22]/Heb 4:14
-16/Mk 10:35-45 or 10:42-45



Saturday, October 9th Vigil: 28th Sunday in Ordinary Time

4:00 PM **OLI:** +Mary & Leo Wright by the Family
+Simone Vorce by the Family

Sunday, October 10th 28th Sunday in Ordinary Time

9:30 AM **St. Peter:** All Parishioners

11:00 AM **St. Francis:** All Parishioners

Monday, October 11th

8:00 AM **OLI:** Wilfred & Claudia Mallet
by Anna Gagliardi Beane

Tuesday, October 12th

8:00 AM **OLI:** +Richard Newton by his Family

Wednesday, October 13th

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

Saturday, October 16th Vigil: 29th Sunday in Ordinary Time

4:00 PM **OLI:** +Patrick & Patricia Killay
by the Family
+Robert Joly & Vicky Janik
by Mark Soucie

Sunday, October 17th 29th Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00 AM **St. Francis:** +Fr. Dennis O'Brien
by Marie Shatos
+Patricia Miller by the Family

9:30 AM **St. Peter:** +Barbara Chase Fortier
by Don & Carol Ambrozy

11:00 AM **OLI:** +Bonnie Loverro Wozniak
by the Ladies of the Class of 1962
+Red & Mini Winters
by Mark & Cindy Winters

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. Join us in the Chapel at OLI at 6pm. If the 13th falls on a Tuesday, we will meet @3pm.



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

SATURDAY 9th

4:00 PM Vigil Mass at Our Lady Immaculate

SUNDAY 10th

9:30 AM Mass at St. Peter
11:00 AM 100th Ann. Mass at St. Francis

MONDAY 11th

8:00 AM Mass at St. Francis of Assisi

TUESDAY 12th

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

WEDNESDAY 13th

8:00 AM Mass at Our Lady Immaculate

SATURDAY 16th

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

SUNDAY 17th

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

CATHOLIC BIBLE STUDY 2021
"THE ACTS OF THE APOSTLES"
KICK OFF: MONDAY, OCTOBER 18 AT 7PM
AT THE CCD CENTER - 925 Main Street - Athol, MA
GUEST SPEAKER: MSGR. JAMES MORONEY
FOR REGISTRATION PLEASE CALL MRS. SHARON MAHER
(978) 400-6460

A photograph showing a diverse group of people sitting around a table, engaged in a Bible study session. They are looking at an open book and appear to be in the middle of a discussion.

Family Memorials

Lasting Tributes to Those You Love

Monuments • Markers • Lettering
465 West Street • Gardner
Tel/Fax: (978) 632-1323
C.S.C. Michael K. Roberts
Owner

THIS SPACE IS AVAILABLE



MACK FAMILY FUNERAL HOMES
www.mackfamilyfh.com

LET US PLACE YOUR AD HERE.



Heywood Wakefield COMMONS

An Assisted Living Residence
A New Place to Call Home in a Community that Cares
www.hwcommons.com
(978) 632-8292
50 Pine Street • Gardner, MA

Fiske-Murphy & Mack Funeral Home
110 New Athol Road, Orange, MA 01364
978-575-0575

Higgins-O'Connor Funeral Home
146 Main Street, Athol MA 01331
978-248-4139

Kevin J. Mack, Director

FREE AD DESIGN WITH PURCHASE OF THIS SPACE.
- 800-477-4574 -



WE'RE HIRING AD SALES EXECUTIVES



- Full Time Position with Benefits
- Sales Experience Preferred
- Paid Training
- Overnight Travel Required
- Expense Reimbursement

CONTACT US AT
careers@4LPi.com
www.4LPi.com/careers

This Space is Available

JOSEPH A. MALLET & SON, INC.

Paving	Phone 978-249-4785
Excavating	Fax
Grading	978-249-8994
Sand Gravel Loam	P.O. Box
	Athol, MA 01331

Stan's Liquor Mart



Beer • Wine & Spirit
1586 S Main Street, Athol, MA
978-249-9550

AVAILABLE FOR A LIMITED TIME

ADVERTISE YOUR BUSINESS HERE

Contact **Victoria Russo** to place an ad today!
vrucco@4LPi.com or (800) 477-4574 x6283

Too Sick for Mass?

SUPPORT OUR PARISH NO MATTER WHERE YOU ARE!

Sign-up to get your bulletin delivered right to your inbox!

www.parishesonline.com



Please support our advertisers and mention you saw their ad here.

UPGRADE TO A **VIBRANT ad**

Contact us for details • 800-477-4574

