

NORTH QUABBIN CATHOLIC COMMUNITY

192 School Street, Athol MA 01331-2399

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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



30TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Jesus said to him in reply, "What do you want me to do for you?"
The blind man replied to him, "Master, I want to see." Jesus told
him, "Go your way; your faith has saved you." Immediately he
received his sight and followed him on the way. - Mk 10:51-52

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

Dear brothers and sisters,

Hello everybody! We made it to the end of October! Very briefly I would like to announce two activities that we are preparing for the men of our Parish. The Knights of Columbus are promoting on Wednesday, October 27 at 7pm a Men's Holy Hour. This Holy Hour is one simple, but powerful way to invite men into a deeper spiritual life. This Holy Hour will bear incredible fruit not only for the men who participate, but also for the entire parish. Hope to see you all there!

The second is The Men's Rosary Group. The Men's Rosary Group will gather every Tuesday at Our Lady at 7pm. It's a no longer than 30 minutes meeting where we gather to pray the rosary for our families. The mission of the Men's Rosary is to rescue, into the bosom of the Church of Christ, men of all ages, since the male presence in the Church is essential for the formation of the family and of the Christian society. Please join me on our first rosary on November 2nd at 7pm.

Today's Gospel brings the famous healing of the blind and beggar of Jericho, Bartimaeus. What does this cure mean to us? It is important to remember the following: when Jesus performs miracles, He never does them simply for the benefit, for physical charity. No, it's not just that. When Jesus performs miracles, in addition to the physical good done to the person, He is also telling us something. Why? Because Christ's actions are saving and revealing.

And what does the cure of Bartimaeus, blind and beggar mean? First of all, we have to understand that we are this blind and beggar. Why are we blind? We are blind because even though we have faith, our faith still needs to grow. And why are we beggars? We are beggars because, although we may be in a state of grace and therefore have God's charity in us, our charity also needs to increase. We are God's beggars and we depend on grace for all this to grow. Blindness means faith that needs to increase; begging, charity that needs to grow. But how are we going to see it come true in our lives?

First of all, let us understand blindness. If we don't see things with God's eyes, we don't see them as they are. Here is one of our great miseries. Due to original sin, we have a huge difficulty in seeing the facts. We live passionately disturbed, that is, our passions and emotions make us distort reality. How many times we go through situations that seem huge, monstrous, tremendous, while the people around us do not understand why we suffer so much. For them, who are not affectively involved as we are, the difficulty seems simple; for us it is a mountain that we cannot overcome.

Well then, in addition to the difficulty of seeing reality because of original sin, there is also another one: as we do not yet see God face to face, we do not fully understand how things really are in the divine plan. Yes, because God is the source of all things being, so they are as God sees them, not as we see them. For example, we believe we know ourselves; but, in fact, we ignore ourselves. It is Jesus who knows us, He knows who we are. We often have a distorted view of ourselves: there are bad things in us that we don't recognize, and good things that we exaggerate... But Jesus knows us perfectly, and not only that: he loves us and wants our good. So we need to see reality, and the way to do it is called prayer.

Jesus stands before us as a Friend who passes by the way of those blind and beggars that we are. We have to ask Him in prayer: “Jesus, let me see. Jesus, may I see with your eyes. Jesus, may I see as you see”. Only then, with eyes borrowed from Christ, will we begin to see that our personal wills and projects are not always good, but that Christ's wills and projects for us, yes, always are. Jesus loves us, He is our true friend! So let us want what Jesus wants, let us be transformed.

FOOD PANTRY

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

When we go to pray, it is important that we are willing to change. If we pray but are not willing to come out of prayer differently, we are not praying properly. Yes, there are people who spend hours lost in prayer. Not because prayer is a bad thing, but because people pray badly. There are those who go to the tabernacle to try to change Jesus, as if prayer were a kind of "arm wrestling" to convince God to follow our plans: "My will be done on earth as it is in heaven"... We need to heal ourselves from that blindness and then, seeing that God wants to change our will, to want what He wants. Only then will we stop being blind and beggars, because we will see the truth through the eyes of Christ and we will have the great wealth that is his love, his will carried out in our hearts.

God bless you, Fr. Mateus

PUBLIC SQUARE ROSARY—THANK YOU

Thank you to everyone who helped, participated in and attended the Rosary Rally. The Rosary Rally was a reminder of the message of our Blessed Mother to pray the Rosary everyday and of her promise to those who pray shall obtain what they ask for.

ANNUAL APPEALS

Our Lady: ~ Goal; \$20,000 - To Date: \$5,905

St. Francis: ~ Goal; \$8,000 - To Date: \$750

St. Peter: ~ Goal; \$7,000 - To Date: \$700

LEGACY OF HOPE

Our Lady Immaculate:

Goal: \$129,720 ~ Raised/Pledged: \$150,740

St. Francis of Assisi:

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

St. Peter Church:

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

WORD OF LIFE

"St. Joseph's 'yes' to the Lord meant that regardless of the hardship and personal sacrifice to himself, he constantly chose to put the needs of Mary and Jesus before his own. Joseph's devotion helps reveal to us our own call to show special care for the lives of those who God has entrusted to us." ~USCCB Secretariat of Pro Life Activities *Respect Life Reflection: St. Joseph, Defender of Life.*

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 Gods 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!

OUR LADY IMMACULATE COLLECTION

10-17-21 Sunday: \$1,592.50; Building: \$329.00; Fuel: \$25.00; Novena: \$10.00.

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

Free Will: \$35.00; St. Peter: \$5.00

ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI COLLECTION

10-17-21 Sunday: \$664.00; Monthly: \$50.00; Renovation: \$10.00; Fuel: \$221.00; 2nd Fuel: \$94.00; Initial: \$5.00; Propagation of Faith: \$17.00.

INSTANT 120 CLUB

St. Francis will have a 120 Raffle to help offset the costs of fuel for the upcoming winter. Tickets are \$20 each. The drawing for the winners will take place the weekend of November 6-7, 2021. Members of St. Francis will be selling tickets after mass. If you would like to purchase a ticket, please call Jackie Doherty (978-249-3638). Thank you for your support!

ST. PETER'S COLLECTION

10-17-21 Sunday: \$468.00.



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*".

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

OCTOBER 24, 2021

Hymnal Readings: 941

Readings for the week of October 24, 2021

Sunday: Jer 31:7-9/Ps 126:1-2, 2-3, 4-5, 6 [3]/Heb 5:1-6/Mk 10:46-52

Monday: Rom 8:12-17/Ps 68:2 and 4, 6-7ab, 20-21 [21a]/Lk 13:10-17

Tuesday: Rom 8:18-25/Ps 126:1b-2ab, 2cd-3, 4-5, 6 [3a]/Lk 13:18-21

Wednesday: Rom 8:26-30/Ps 13:4-5, 6 [6a]/Lk 13:22-30

Thursday: Eph 2:19-22/Ps 19:2-3, 4-5 [5a]/Lk 6:12-16

Friday: Rom 9:1-5/Ps 147:12-13, 14-15, 19-20/Lk 14:1-6

Saturday: Rom 11:1-2a, 11-12, 25-29/Ps 94:12-13a, 14-15, 17-18 [14a]/Lk 14:1, 7-11

Next Sunday: Dt 6:2-6/Ps 18:2-3, 3-4, 47, 51 [2]/Heb 7:23-28/Mk 12:28b-34



Saturday, Oct. 23rd Vigil: 30th Sunday in Ordinary Time

4:00 PM **OLI:** +Bill Lively by his Wife and Family
+Dec'd Members of the Steer Family
By the McHugh Family

Sunday, October 24th 30th Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00 AM **St. Francis:** +Maciej Baczek
by Jackie Doherty
+Robert Hunter Jr., 1st Anniversary
By his wife Shirley
9:30 AM **St. Peter:** All Parishioners
11:00 AM **OLI:** +John Newton 5th Ann. by his Wife
+Tony Gingras, 41st Ann by his Family

Monday, October 25th

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

Tuesday, October 26th

8:00 AM **OLI:** +Blanchard Family by the Family
10:30 AM **QVHC:** All Residents

Wednesday, October 27th

8:00 AM **OLI:** +Ashley Softic by her Family

Saturday, October 30th Vigil: 31st Sunday in Ordinary Time

4:00 PM **OLI:** +Alexander Kuzmeskas
by Paul & Deb Kuzmeskas

Sunday, October 31st 31st Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00 AM **St. Francis:** +Nicholas Casella
By Marie Shatos
+Frances Salkaus by her Daughter
9:30 AM **St. Peter:** All Parishioners
11:00 AM **OLI:** All Parishioners



Please remember **Lucy Shine, Arline Boudreau and Arkadiusz Surlej** who passed away recently, as well as their families. Always remember the power of prayer in helping others.

OCTOBER 24, 2021



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

SATURDAY 23rd

4:00 PM Vigil Mass at Our Lady Immaculate

SUNDAY 24th

8:00 AM Mass at St. Francis of Assisi
9:15 AM CCD Grades K-5
9:30 AM Mass at St. Peter
11:00 AM Mass at Our Lady Immaculate
6:00 PM CCD Grades 6-10

MONDAY 25th

8:00 AM Mass at Our Lady Immaculate
10:30 AM Mass at Quabbin Valley Healthcare

TUESDAY 26th

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

WEDNESDAY 27th

8:00 AM Mass at Our Lady Immaculate

SATURDAY 30th

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

SUNDAY 31st

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



THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
INVITE ALL MEN



Men's HOLY HOUR



"Joseph was a
RIGHTEOUS man"

(Matthew 1:18)

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 27 AT 7:00 PM

AT OUR LADY IMMACULATE CHAPEL
192 SCHOOL ST. ATHOL - MA

Join us for 1 hour of Eucharistic Adoration with
Rosary

Light Refreshments to follow

THIS EVENT IS SPONSORED BY THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
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