

St. Joseph Church

CHARLTON, MA

We are a Community of Faith, called by Jesus Christ to reach out in love to each other, our families, our neighbors, our nation and the world.



2ND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

John the Baptist appeared...saying, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand!" - Mt 3:1a, 2

10 H. PUTNAM EXT.

P.O. BOX 338, CHARLTON CITY, MA 01508

Phone: 508-248-7862

E-mail: stjoecharlton@aol.com

Website: www.stjosephscharlton.com

 St. Joseph's Parish Charlton

 @stjosephscharlton



DECEMBER 7, 2025

MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday Vigil | 4:30 pm

Sunday | 8:00 am, 10:00 am & 5:00 pm

Daily Monday-Friday | 8:30 am

SACRAMENTS

RECONCILIATION

Saturday | 3:45 pm or by appointment

BAPTISM

To register a child for Baptism, call the parish office or scan parish QR code below.

MARRIAGE

Arrangements begin a year prior to wedding date.

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Monday & Friday | Noon-5:00 pm

2nd Wednesday of Month | 2:30-4:30 pm

CLERGY

Pastor: Fr. Bob Grattaroti

Senior Priest: Fr. Charles Monroe

Permanent Deacons:

Steve Miller & Bill Shea

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, December 6

4:30 pm Laurette Sleeper by Gilbert & Gloria Anderson

Sunday, December 7

8:00 am Emily Gardner by Grand Daughter, Cheryl

10:00 am Barbara Heider (1st Anniv) by Family

5:00 pm Brian McGrath by Wife & Family

Monday, December 8

8:30 am Deceased members of the LeClair and Roberts Family by Joseph & Christina Roberts

7:00 pm Mary Cierpich by Family

Tuesday, December 9

8:30 am Sue & Peter Maynard by Chris Piehl

Wednesday, December 10

8:30 am Susan Healy & Matteo Cuiffredo by the Bardier Family

Thursday, December 11

8:30 am In Memory of Maria Clem by Delores Elliot

Friday, December 12

8:30 am Don Boulay, Jr. by his Sister

Saturday, December 13

4:30 pm Steve Ide (birthday remembrance) by Family

Sunday, December 14

8:00 am Francis & Elizabeth Nowak by Daughter

10:00 am Jeremiah & Bridie Lucey and Jerry Lucey (and five other firefighters) by Family

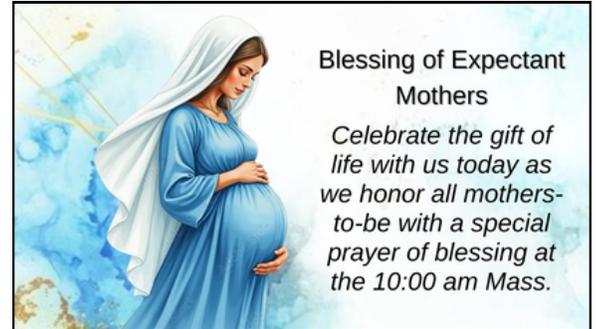
5:00 pm Paula Fisher by Family

The Sanctuary Lamps burn this week for Joseph Paquin by his Wife

LITURGICAL



Welcome to St. Joseph Church Charlton, we are glad you are here. New members are encouraged to register via our website or call the parish office. We ask that you prepare for Mass by silencing your cell phone.



FEAST OF IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

Monday, December 8 with Masses at 8:30 am and 7:00 pm

PRAYER BEFORE MASS

Almighty and merciful God, may no earthly undertaking hinder those who set out in haste to meet your Son, but may our learning of heaven's wisdom gain us admittance to his company. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever. Amen

BAPTISM

With great joy we welcome Dylan Eric Osepowicz child of Nicholas & Mari who will be Baptized in water and Spirit this weekend.

REST IN PEACE

Beverly Beaudette, Marilyn Grzyb and Anne Marie Cetin, sister of Dan. May they rest in the arms of the Lord and rejoice in the glory of heaven, and may their families find comfort in their faith.

St Joseph Church Charlton

Parish Penance Service

Scripture & Homily
Examination of
Conscience Confession
& Mercy Penance

**Tuesday
December 9
7:00 pm**
Everyone Welcome



SPECIAL VISITOR

On Sunday, December 14 at the 10:00 am Mass, we will receive a visit from St. Nicholas.

WHAT'S HAPPENING

ADVENT

This Second Sunday of Advent, we are invited to reflect upon the role of John the Baptist, who prepared the way for Jesus and the salvation that He would bring to us all. Please consider the following as part of your Advent journey.

The Jesse Tree traces the lineage of Christ all the way back to Adam and Eve. It connects the dots between the Old Testament and the New. It shows us that God has been planning since the fall of Adam and Eve to bring us back to Him through the Incarnation of His Son, Jesus.

Ornaments will be made available or you can make your own. As you come into Mass, place them on the tree in the Sanctuary.



ADULT FAITH FORMATION

Coffee and Discussion
December 7 after the 10:00 AM Mass in the St. Amelia Room
Pilgrimage Update
Please join us!

Thursday night movie in the Cornerstone

All or Nothing!!
Sr. Clare

December 18th at 6:30 pm

Advent Exaltation
St. Joseph Church Charlton

Wednesday
December 17
7:00 pm

Everyone welcome!

hope IS BORN

An evening of Hope & Preparation led by Fr. Jonathan Slavinkas

Scripture | Reflection | Adoration | Benediction

12 Trees of Christmas

Thank you to all who have offered to decorate a tree, all 12 have been adopted!

AFF will host a tree decorating event on Saturday, December 20 from 11:00 am to 3:00 pm.

Decorators; lights are on the trees, and the trees are numbered. Trees can be decorated any time after December 13, if you cannot join us on the 20th. All trees must be decorated by 3:00 pm Sunday, December 21.

- Three French Hens
- Four Calling Birds
- Five Gold Rings
- Six Geese A Laying
- Seven Swans A Swimming
- Eight Maids A Milking
- Nine Ladies Dancing
- Ten Lords A Leaping
- Eleven Pipers Piping
- TWELVE COLLETTES

Prepare & Pray with our Parish
Be Still
On Hallow

Cherished Belonging Register Now!

The Healing Power of Love in Divided Times

In a time of division, Fr. Gregory Boyle urges us to embrace our shared humanity by cultivating compassion and connection to build a loving, healing community.

Join Joe Krans for this 5 week study group to explore the wisdom of Cherished Belonging

To register, contact Joe at 508.867.8881 or joseph.krans.presencework@gmail.com

Books available for \$12, contact Pat in the church office - limited supply.

Fridays 6:30 - 8:00 pm
January 16 - February 13

WHAT'S HAPPENING

NEXT WEEKEND



Christmas
Tea Party Fundraiser
Saturday
December 13
2:00 to 4:00 pm

Adult \$30
Children <10 \$20
Table of 6 - \$150

EDGE Sponsored

Christmas Caroling at the Charlton Manor on Sunday, December 14 at 1:00 pm with the Knights of Columbus. We provide the song sheets. All are invited.

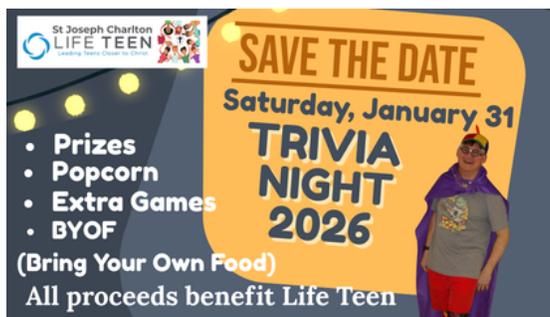


COMING SOON



Save the Date for St. Joseph Church
CHRISTMAS
Vacation Bible School
December 29 & 30
9 am - 3 pm

All Pre-K through 6th graders are welcome to join us for a 2 day program focusing on the King of kings and having a personal relationship with Him! Free Registration on the parish website!



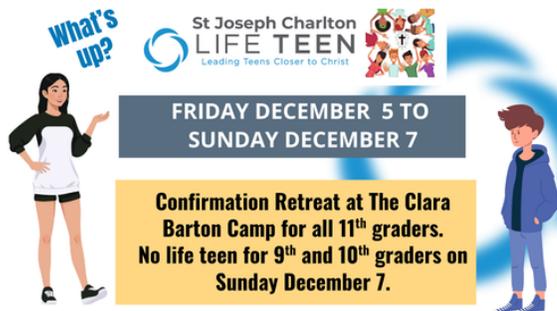
St Joseph Charlton
LIFE TEEN
Leading Teens Closer to Christ

SAVE THE DATE
Saturday, January 31
TRIVIA NIGHT 2026

- Prizes
- Popcorn
- Extra Games
- BYOF

(Bring Your Own Food)
All proceeds benefit Life Teen

LIFE TEEN CORNER



What's up?
St Joseph Charlton
LIFE TEEN
Leading Teens Closer to Christ

FRIDAY DECEMBER 5 TO
SUNDAY DECEMBER 7

Confirmation Retreat at The Clara Barton Camp for all 11th graders. No life teen for 9th and 10th graders on Sunday December 7.

TRAINING WORKSHOP

Allison LeDoux, Director of the Respect Life Office will offer a workshop "Respect Life Ministry in the Parish: The Church's Vision" on Saturday, January 24 from 10:00-11:30 am in the Cornerstone. To register, contact Mark Kackley at 508-463-7834 or markjayne05@gmail.com.

CHRISTMAS FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS



The National Shrine of
OUR LADY OF LA SALETTE
2025-2026 CHRISTMAS FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS

REJOICE IN HOPE
"The Night Is Far Gone, the Day Is At Hand"

November 22, 2025 - January 4, 2026
FEATURING MORE THAN ONE MILLION LIGHTS!

lasaletteattleboroshrine.org

CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

CHRISTMAS EVE

4:00 pm Main Church & Hall
10:00 pm Christmas Chorale
10:30 pm Holy Family Tableau

NEW YEAR'S EVE

4:00 pm Main Church

CHRISTMAS DAY

8:00 am Main Church
10:00 am Main Church

NEW YEAR'S DAY

10:00 am Main Church

CHRISTMAS EVE-CHRISTMAS CHORALE

We will feature the combined choirs of St. Joseph Church, the Federated Church of Charlton and the Charlton City United Methodist Church, as well as the St. Joseph Church Handbell Choir at 10:00 pm Christmas Eve.

STEWARDSHIP

PARISH OFFERINGS

Weekend of November 30, 2025

Weekly Offerings: \$11,105.41

Building Fund: \$877.00

We thank you for your continued support, helping to ensure the sustainability of our parish. Please remember, we do not "pass the basket", but rather invite you to leave your parish support in the collection basket at the entry or with an usher.

YOU make a difference!

ONLINE giving

You can schedule your weekly offerings through our fast, easy and convenient online program. Please contact Lynn Lorusso at lynn@stjosephscharlton.com or go to stjosephscharlton.com/e-giving to do so. It is of great help to us!

FOOD PANTRY

Hours of Operation

Tuesday: 6:30-7:30 pm

Wednesday: 9:00-11:00 am



MINISTRY MINUTE

Ecumenism Ministry is a ministry of faith sharing whereby we promote understanding and fellowship among all churches. Members of our parish can share and experience Christ with others of all denominations, with a focus on what we have in common with other faith communities. Some of our events include the Pulpit Exchange, a Coat Drive (going on now in the Narthex), Christian Unity Sunday, National Day of Prayer and the Thanksgiving Ecumenical Service. Please contact Christine McTigue 508.248.4726 for more information.



DEADLINE APPROACHES

Our Giving Tree with tags is in the Narthex. Brighten this holiday season for someone in need by selecting a tag, purchasing the gift, and returning it, unwrapped or bagged (no bows) by December 14.

Batteries must be inserted into the toy (do not tape to the gift). Please do not include any food.

Given the challenge to meet the demand for gifts from giving trees this year, Urban Missionaries of Our Lady of Hope, is accepting financial donations which they will use to procure the needed gifts. You can use the QR code or go to gofund.me/e036a4dcd.



THANK YOU

We are immensely grateful to Derek Henricksen and the culinary team of Bay Path Regional High School for their help at our parish Thanksgiving dinner. Derek and the team cooked and sliced all the turkeys and also made the gravy.

FREE WINTER COATS

The Winter Coat Closet at Holy Trinity Episcopal Church, 446 Hamilton Street, in Southbridge, is open Saturdays thru December 20 from 9:30 – 11:30 am offering free gently used winter coats for men, women and children.

MINISTRY CONTACTS

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

FIRST LIGHTS

Grades K-5

Sr. Agnes Patricia sisteragnespatricia@yahoo.com

EDGE

Grades 6-8

Sandra Buron mrsbedge2018@gmail.com

LIFE TEEN

Grades 9-12

Deacon Bill Shea deaconbill@stjosephscharlton.com

YOUTH MINISTRY

Kathy Wandmacher kathryn@stjosephscharlton.com

ADULT FAITH FORMATION

Ellen Thibodeau

ethibo6000@gmail.com

Chris Mullen

cmullen@charter.net

ORDER OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS

Ted and Patty Covill

tcovill@charter.net

PRO LIFE MINISTRY

Mark Kackley

markjayne05@gmail.com

PARISH RESOURCES



Gluten free hosts

available upon request.

Please ask an usher.

24 Hour Prayer Line

prayer@missionariesofmercy.net

DIOCESAN VOCATIONS OFFICE

The kingdom of heaven is at hand!

John's call to prepare for Christ echoes in every family. In holy matrimony, love and faith creates the foundation where God's kingdom flourishes. Is God calling you to build a holy family? Ask Him to show you His way by praying for your (future) spouse and children.

OPEN 12-STEP AA MEETING

Fridays from 7:00-8:00 pm in the Knights of Columbus Room at St. Joseph Church, Charlton. If you think you, or someone you know may have a problem with alcohol, feel free to attend.

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Ann Marie Sorenson, CBR, Realtor (P) 508-612-8647
Aucoin Ryan Realty Southbridge 508-765-9155
Bair Insurance Agency 508-248-4204
Boomba's 24 Towing & Recovery 508-248-4422
Camosse Masonry Supply (P) 508-248-4044
Carmelite Sisters of the Eucharist (P) 508-248-2936
CatholicMatch.com/MA 888-605-3977
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Charlton Optical, Peter Maly 508-248-1188
Coonan Insurance Agency (P) 508-987-7122
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David Barbale Home Improvement 508-248-6709

DiPietro Masonry, Allen DiPietro (P) 508-248-4704
Edible Land Design, Michael & Rachel Bertrand (P)
Elliot Burlingame & Sons, Inc. (P) 508-248-5076
George's Pizza & Subs 508-248-2079
Hometown Insurance Group 508-347-9394
House & Home RE Joshua Somers 508-612-4852
JCR Welding & Fabricate-Joe Roberts (P) 774-329-3919
Jeff Helgerson Excavating & Septic 508-248-7242
Joseph Szela & Associates, PC www.szelacpa.com
LGM Studio, Joseph Leaming, Architect 413-668-5528
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Storage Space, LLC Charlton (P) 508-248-6461

(P) Denotes St. Joseph Church Parishioner