

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.



4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

When Joseph awoke, he did as the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took his wife into his home.
- Mt 1:24

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 21, 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 20

4:30 pm Allan Turmelle by Wife, Sandra

Sunday, December 21

8:00 am Tom Nichols by Family

10:00 am Robert Bourgeois, (birthday) by Family

5:00 pm Fr. George Ridick (4th Anniv) by Mark & Lynn Lorusso & Family

Monday, December 22

8:30 am Residents & Staff of Charlton Manor by Michael Turpin

Tuesday, December 23

8:30 am Stephen Dale St. Clair by Family

Wednesday, December 24

8:30 am Chester & Nellie Galonek by Family

4:00 pm Upstairs Dennis & Stuart Tully by Family

4:00 pm Downstairs Jack Kingston, Sr. by John & Cheryl Kingston & Family

Thursday, December 25

8:00 am William Sorenson by Family

10:00 am Deceased Members of Dabrowski & Carpentier Family by Diane Dabrowski

Friday, December 26

8:30 am Gerry Bellerose by Wife, Diane

Saturday, December 27

4:30 pm Armand Carpentier by his Sister, Jeanne

Sunday, December 28

8:00 am Rena Bond by Family

10:00 am Jeanne Vincent by Family

5:00 pm Sue & Peter Maynard by Chris Piehl

The Sanctuary Lamps burn this week for Allan Turmelle by his Wife, Sandra



Welcome to St. Joseph Church, we are glad you are here this fourth Sunday of Advent. New members are asked to register via our website or contact the parish office. Please prepare for Mass by silencing your cell phone. Thank you.

St Joseph Church, Charlton

Bambinelli Blessing

Today, December 21 at 10:00 am Mass



Bring Baby Jesus from your Nativity to Mass for a special blessing. Families can even make their own "bambinelli".

When you bring your blessed "bambinelli" home, consider gift wrapping it. Let it be the first gift your family opens for Christmas, then together place Baby Jesus in the crib, and have a home blessing of the Nativity for the whole family.

Blessed Oplatek Christmas Wafers and straw for your Christmas creche are available in the Narthex for you to enjoy.

NEW ALTAR SERVER TRAINING

Saturday, December 27 at 10:30 am. Inviting boys and girls, who have received First Communion, to join this ministry. Meeting takes place in the Sanctuary.

Pro Mother, Pro Father, Pro Child.....Pro Life. A flag promoting life is now flying along with our American flag in front of the church. Remember that we pray, "Through Him all things are created".



PRAYER BEFORE MASS

Pour forth, we beseech you, O Lord, your grace into our hearts, that we, to whom the Incarnation of Christ your Son was made known by the message of an Angel, may by his Passion and Cross be brought to the glory of his Resurrection. 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 Cecelia Lisa Carpenter child of Matthew & Margaret who will be baptized in water and Spirit this weekend.

WHAT'S HAPPENING

CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

<p><u>CHRISTMAS EVE</u></p> <p>4:00 pm Main Church & Hall 10:00 pm Christmas Chorale 10:30 pm Holy Family Tableau</p> <p><u>CHRISTMAS DAY</u></p> <p>8:00 am Main Church 10:00 am Main Church</p>	<p><u>NEW YEAR'S EVE</u></p> <p>4:00 pm Main Church</p> <p><u>NEW YEAR'S DAY</u></p> <p>10:00 am Main Church</p>
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Many messages during this festive season are about coming home and being with family and friends. We encourage you to invite someone "home" to church this Christmas. It could be the greatest gift you'll give!

CHRISTMAS EVE-CHRISTMAS CHORALE

We will feature the combined choirs of St. Joseph Church, 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.

12 TREES OF CHRISTMAS



The 12 evergreens in front of the church are decorated to depict the 12 days of Christmas, from the famous carol, and the tenets of our faith represented by each number.

The trees are ready for viewing Christmas through Epiphany. Each tree was decorated by members of our parish family.

ADULT FAITH FORMATION

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

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

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.

Week of Prayer For Christian Unity

January 18 - 25

"THERE IS ONE BODY AND ONE SPIRIT, JUST AS YOU WERE CALLED TO THE ONE HOPE OF YOUR CALLING".

(Ephesians 4:4)

A pulpit exchange will take place on Sunday, January 18 when Rev. John Lucy, pastor of the United Methodist Church preaches here at the 10:00 am Mass.



Have YOU Thought About BECOMING CATHOLIC?

RCIA-the process by which adults become full members of the Catholic Church.

We also have a process for children over the age of 7 who haven't received the sacrament of Baptism, Eucharist or Confirmation.

Contact Ted or Patty Covill at tcovill@charter.net



WHAT'S HAPPENING

FR. BOB'S CHRISTMAS MESSAGE

Dear Parishioners and Friends:

It was into an unwelcoming world that Jesus came to us...a stable in Bethlehem, not with doctors or nurses surrounding Him, but with shepherds, wise men and animals. It was out of this unwelcoming world that He departed....on a cross at Calvary.

In the meantime, we are here on earth as His followers to live the life He came to give us, by making our world welcoming, by being loving, compassionate and forgiving and bringing peace and mercy to the hardened hearts wherever they may be. This is the message of Christmas; to give glory to God and to bring peace and love to one another. St. John tells us in his Gospel, "God so loved the world that He gave his only begotten Son". God did not send His son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through Him.

Our special prayers are said for the sick, the dying, for the lonely, and forgotten, for the victims of war and hatred, for everyone. May the Love and Joy of Jesus, made present to us this Christmas, be with us every day, and may we share it with all we meet. Be a "well-wisher".

Merry Christmas from all of us, your clergy, religious & staff, to all of you, our family of faith.

In His Joy,
Fr. Bob Grattaroti



Merry
Christmas

COMING EVENTS



St. Joseph Church, Charlton

CHRISTMAS

Vacation Bible School

December 29 & 30
9:00 am - 3:00 pm

Pre-K through 6th graders are welcome to join in this 2 day program focusing on the King of Kings and discovering how to have a personal relationship with Him!

Free registration on the parish website or St. Joseph's table in the Narthex!

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

LIFE TEEN CORNER

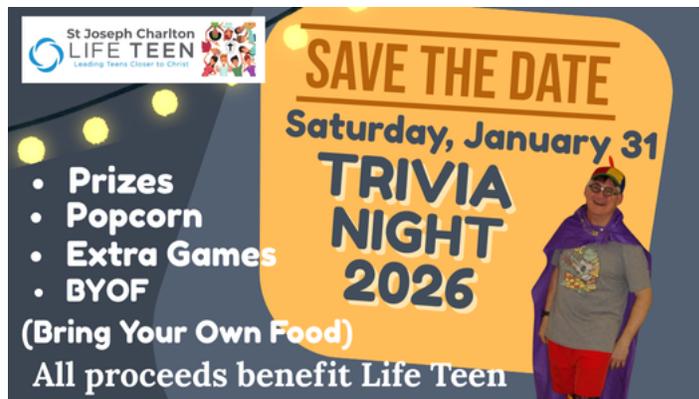


St Joseph Charlton
LIFE TEEN
Leading Teens Closer to Christ

Pizza
Popcorn
Hot Chocolate bar

LIFE TEEN CHRISTMAS PARTY

December 21 - Mass @ 5:00 pm
Party starts at 6:00 pm



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

STEWARDSHIP

PARISH OFFERINGS

Weekend of December 14, 2025

Offerings for last weekend will be reported next weekend due to early bulletin submission requirements for Christmas.

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



THANK YOU

Our parish Food Pantry has received so many donations this holiday season, and our thanks go out to all parishioners who have donated weekly or to our Thanksgiving food baskets, your generosity is very appreciated.

MINISTRY MINUTE

Coffee Shop-Our Coffee Shop is held on Sundays directly following the 8:00 am and 10:00 am Masses. Its purpose is to create and encourage an opportunity for our parishioners to meet after Mass, socialize in an informal setting with old friends, as well as to enjoy fellowship with new friends. Contact Linda Leonard at 508.450.4945 for more information.

FOOD PANTRY CHRISTMAS HOURS

St. Joseph Church, Charlton Food Pantry will not be open the week of Christmas, December 23 or 24. The regular schedule will resume on December 30. Thank you.

A GIFT FROM US



A gift from the Parish, *The Forgotten Way* by Matthew Kelly is a quick, impactful read that is easily applied to everyday life.

Be sure to grab YOUR copy at Christmas Mass!



URBAN MISSIONARIES OF OUR LADY OF HOPE



Thank you to all who participated in our Giving Tree program. However, given the challenge to meet the demand for gifts from all giving trees this year, Urban Missionaries of Our Lady of Hope, is accepting financial donations which they will use to procure needed gifts. You can use the QR code or go to gofund.me/e036a4dcd.



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

Assistive
Listening
System
Available
-Please Ask-



Gluten free hosts
available upon request.
Please ask an usher.

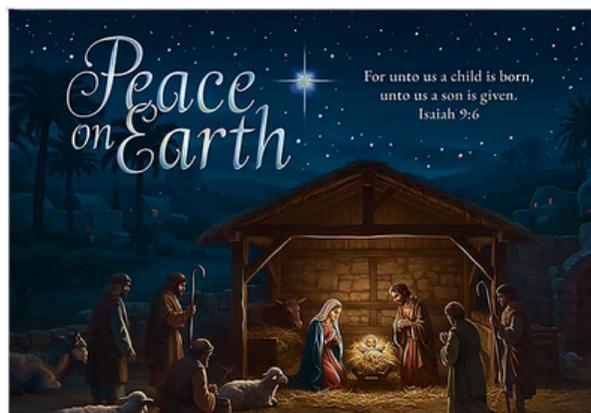
24 Hour Prayer Line

prayer@missionariesofmercy.net

DIOCESAN VOCATIONS OFFICE

*They shall name him Emmanuel, which means
'God is with us'.*

Mary's trust in God's plan is a model for all vocations. Could God be inviting you to priesthood, consecrated life, or holy matrimony, living fully for Him to bring His presence to others? Embrace His call with courage. Contact the Vocation Office at 508-630-4473 or donato.infante@worcesterdiocese.org.



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Storage Space, LLC Charlton (P) 508-248-6461

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