

September 3rd, 2023 | 22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time (916)



Saint Denis Parish

85 Main Street / Ashburnham, Massachusetts 01430



“WHOEVER WISHES TO COME
AFTER ME MUST DENY HIMSELF, TAKE
UP HIS CROSS, AND FOLLOW ME.”

LORD'S DAY MASSES

Saturday 4:30 pm
Sunday 8:00 am & 10:00 am

DAILY MASSES

Monday–Wednesday
9:00 am
First Friday Mass @ 7:00pm

RECONCILIATION

Saturday 3:30 – 4:00 pm
or by appointment
Meet in church

OFFICE HOURS

Monday–Thursday 9am to 2pm
Website:

www.saintdenisashburnham.com

*Bulletin requests, Prayer requests
Mass Intentions, Event Tickets
Calendar requests, Join Parish*

ADMINISTRATOR

Rev. Thiago DaSilva
978-827-5806
frthiagodasilva@outlook.com

DEACON

Deacon Richard DesJardins
[978-343-6367](tel:978-343-6367)

SECRETARY/OFFICE

Debra Levanti
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RELIGIOUS ED. OFFICE

Administrator of Rel ED
Kimberly Brown
978-827-4892
StDenisRE@comcast.net

BAPTISMS

Deacon Richard DesJardins
978-343-6367

NOTIFY THE RECTORY

978-827-5806
Visitation of the sick & elderly
Weddings, Funerals,
Pastoral Care, etc.

ST. DENIS CEMETERY

91 Kelton Rd
Ashburnham, MA 01430
978-827-5806
Deacon Rich DesJardins Director
<https://saintdenisashburnham.org/cemetery>

SAINT VINCENT de PAUL

978-790-1923

Next Week: September 10th, 2023 | TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (919)

Readings: Ez 33:7-9, Rom 13:8-10, Mt 18:15-20

Mass Intentions FOR THE WEEK

Fri	9/1	7:00pm	First Friday Mass & Adoration
Sat	9/2	3:30pm	Confessions In the Church
Sat	9/2	4:30 pm	For the Parishioners of St. Denis
Sun	9/3	8:00 am	+For Vanessa Marcotte <i>By John & Sandy</i>
Sun	9/3	10:00am	+For John E. Bresnahan <i>By Family</i>
Mon	9/4	9:00am	Mass & Adoration
Tues	9/5	9:00am	Mass
Wed	9/6	9:00am	Mass
Sat	9/9	3:30pm	Confessions In the Church
Sat	9/9	4:30pm	For Grace, Paul, Jason, Matthew and Juliette Plante <i>By Edith & Roland LeBlanc</i>
Sun	9/10	8:00am	For the Parishioners of St. Denis
Sun	9/10	10:00am	Peace and Healing



THE DIOCESAN DISPATCH

A weekly bulletin to keep parishes informed of news and events.

22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

"What profit would there be for one to gain the whole world and forfeit his life?"-Matthew 16:26

St. Francis of Assisi said, "Remember, you are what you are in the eyes of God, and nothing else." We often forget this stewardship wisdom when we spend all of our time, talent and treasure to gain more of the world's riches. We need to set our priorities based on God's values and not the values of the material world.



Sanctuary Lamp

September 3rd to Sept. 9th, 2023
For The Healing of
Tom

RELIGIOUS
EDUCATION



Lucy Langelier
Brielle Chaves
Irene Parent
Rebecca Harris
Mark Tisdale
Steve Dame
Ellen Duffy
Bruce Parent
Jeff Shimmel
Robert Cormier
Jason DesJardins
Cheryl C.
Kevin Leary

Eileen C
Deb B.
Ryan Duffy
Jan
Rod Bourgault
Jarrette Birchman
Josephin
Jane Webber
Luigi Bellabarba
Brian Roy
Mitchell Bourque
Slawek Family
Paul Norman Jr.
Pauline Roger
Viola Cleo Bradshaw
Ray Jacobs
Michael Goss

Magdalena Lovejoy
Danielle V.
Michael G.
Kathleen F.
Gina McCullin
Carol Hamel
Clair Richard
Betty Ann
Tom C.
Aline



What is Catechesis of the Good Shepherd?

What is an Atrium? Catechesis of the Good Shepherd is a religious experience where children have the opportunity for contemplation and enjoyment of God. The experience is shared in a sacred place for children called the Atrium. God and children have a unique relationship with one another, particularly before the age of six. The Atrium is a place for them to foster growth in that relationship. For more information on this program, which will resume in the fall, please contact the religious education office at 978-827-4892 or stdenisRE@comcast.net.

Registrations are being accepted now.

Dear families, summer is quickly coming to an end and so it is time to register your child for religious education. The registration forms are on the website. Here is the link: [Registration Form - St. Denis - Ashburnham - Ashburnham, MA \(saintdenisashburnham.org\)](https://www.saintdenisashburnham.org) I will also have some available in the rectory breezeway if you prefer using paper and pen. The schedule will be the same as last year. I am working on getting the whole year's calendar on the website but for now please note the following start dates:

High school/grades 9/10, starts 9/17 from 6:00-9:00. Confirmation class (grade 10 only) starts 9/24 from 10:00-2:00 beginning with Mass.

All other grade levels begin the first week of October.

Grades 4/5, Monday 10/2 from 3:00-4:30

Grades 6-8, Monday 10/2 from 6:30-8:00

Atrium for preschoolers Tuesday 10/3, 10:00-11:30

Grades 2/3, Tuesday 10/3 from 3:00-4:30.

Grades K/1st, 10/4 from 3:00-4:30

Please reach out if you have any questions.

Blessings, Kim Brown



Pope Francis' Gospel Reflection

Today's ***Gospel passage*** (cf. Mt 16:21-27) is the **continuation of last Sunday's**, which highlighted the profession of faith of Peter, the **"rock"** upon which Jesus wishes to build his Church. Today, in stark contrast, Matthew shows us the **reaction of the same Peter** when Jesus reveals to his disciples that He will have to suffer, be killed, and rise again (cf. 21). Peter takes the Teacher aside and reproaches Him because this — he says — cannot happen to Him, to Christ. But **Jesus, in turn, rebukes Peter with harsh words: "Get behind me, Satan! You are a hindrance to me; for you are not on the side**

of God, but of men" (v. 23). A moment before, the Apostle had been blessed by the Father, because he had received that revelation from Him; he was a solid **"rock"** so that Jesus could build His community upon him; and immediately afterwards he becomes an obstacle, a rock but not for building, a stumbling block on the Messiah's path. Jesus knows well that Peter and the others still have a long way to go to become his Apostles!

At that point, the Teacher turns to all those who were following Him, clearly presenting them the path to follow: **"If any man would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me"** (v. 24). Always, today too, the temptation is that of wanting to follow a Christ without the cross, on the contrary, of teaching God which is the right path; like Peter: "No, no Lord! This shall never happen". But Jesus reminds us that **his way is the way of love, and that there is no true love without self sacrifice. We are called to not let ourselves be absorbed by the vision of this world, but to be ever more aware of the need and of the effort for we Christians to walk against the current and uphill.**

Jesus completes his proposal with words that express a great and ever valid wisdom, because they challenge the egocentric mentality and behavior. He exhorts: **"whoever would save his life will lose it, and whoever loses his life for my sake will find it"** (v. 25). This paradox contains the golden rule that God inscribed in the human nature created in Christ: **the rule that only love gives meaning and happiness to life. To spend one's own talents, one's energy and one's time only to save, protect and fulfil oneself, in reality leads to losing oneself, i.e. to a sad and barren existence.** Instead let us live for the Lord and base our life on love, as Jesus did: we will be able to savour authentic joy, and our life will not be barren; it will be fruitful.

In the Eucharistic celebration we relive the mystery of the Cross; we not only remember, but we commemorate the redeeming Sacrifice in which the Son of God completely loses Himself so as to be received anew by the Father and thus find us again, we who were lost, together with all creatures. **Each time we take part in the Holy Mass, the love of the crucified and Risen Christ is conveyed to us as food and drink, so that we may follow Him on the daily path, in concrete service to our brothers and sisters.**

May Mary Most Holy, who followed Jesus up to Calvary, **accompany us too and help us not to be afraid of the cross, but with Jesus nailed [to it], not a cross without Jesus, the Cross with Jesus, which is the cross of suffering for love of God and of our brothers and sisters, because this suffering, by the grace of Christ, bears the fruit of resurrection.**

<https://catholicstrivingforholiness.org/pope-francis-on-the-22nd-sunday-in-ordinary-time-year-a>

LECTOR SCHEDULE FOR SEPTEMBER

DAY	TIME	DATE	LECTOR	MINISTER OF THE CUP
Saturday	4:30pm	Sept 2nd	Sharisa Sterling	Wes Snow & Jack McCarthy
Sunday	8:00am	Sept. 3rd	Mike Gingras	Sandy Jaillet & Jane Gingras
	10:00am	Sept. 3rd	Sheila Donofrio	Nate Comeau & James Kelly
Saturday	4:30pm	Sept. 9th	Vita Ciccone	Jean Torrans & Ann Murphy
Sunday	8am	Sept. 10th	Bob Feen	Harry Bellabarba & Peter Tamas
	10am	Sept. 10th	Sean Kelly	Jacob Demont & Sue Barr
Saturday	4:30pm	Sept. 16th	Wes Snow	Jean Torrans & Wes Snow
Sunday	8am	Sept. 17th	Sandy Jaillet	Sandy Jaillet & Mike Dufault
	10am	Sept. 17th	Kim Brown	Steve & Kim Brown
Saturday	4:30pm	Sept. 23rd	Vita Ciccone	Wes Snow and Jack McCarthy
Sunday	8am	Sept. 24th	Jane Gingras	Kim Nolan & Harry Bellabarba
	10am	Sept. 24th	Jonah Kateau	Jacob Demont & Susan Barr

Events | Notices |

Divine Mercy Ministry to Seniors

Volunteers are needed to spread Jesus' message of Divine Mercy to seniors in local nursing homes and assisted living facilities. As a volunteer prayer group leader, you would lead a weekly 30-minute Divine Mercy prayer group using a simple prepared model of readings, prayers, and the Chaplet of Divine Mercy. If you feel that the Lord is calling you to this ministry of mercy, please contact Mary Higgins. (413) 552-7231 or email Mary at: DivineMercyMinistryToSeniors@gmail.com.



SAINT DENIS PARISH PARISH WEEKLY FINANCIAL SINCE 8/20/2023

REGULAR ENVELOPES	\$2,755.00
PARISH NEEDS	\$20.00
FUEL & MAINTENANCE	\$.00
TOTAL	\$2,775.00
ONLINE GIVING	
SUNDAY OFFERTORY	\$417.00
FORMED SUBSCRIPTION	\$45.00
RELIGIOUS EDUCATION REGISTRATION	\$200.00
PARISH TOTAL	\$3,437.00
CEMETERY	
CEMETERY ONLINE	\$25.00
CEMETERY ENVELOPE	\$25.00
TOTAL	50.00
DIOCESAN COLLECTION:	
	\$.00
	\$.00
	\$.00
TOTAL	\$.00

Thank you for your generous support of the parish.



A celebration for Father Francis Roach commemorating his 50th anniversary of Ordination. The event includes a Mass on Saturday, October 14th at Our Lady of Lourdes located at 1290 Grafton St., Worcester, Ma., at 4:30pm with a dinner to follow in the church hall downstairs. Father Frank came out of retirement for St. Denis Parish and was a welcome spiritual man here. Always a calm and endearing person.

If you would like to attend: Please contact Deb Levanti in the office here at St. Denis 978-827-5806 or Deacon Rich at 978-343-6367 as we need to keep a count of attendees. Father Roach would like the Knights of Columbus from our parish to attend as well.

This is truly an honor to congratulate and celebrate this reverent man.



We Need your Help!

Our yearly Fundraiser Fair is scheduled for September 30th and coincides with the Ashburnham Downtown Days at the same time.

We are looking for help in all facets of this endeavor, such as time, donations, crafts, attic treasures, baked goods and also dear gardeners, you are welcome to share your bounty for the Harvest Booth and donations for Raffles are needed including scratch tickets for Lottery Tree. Sign up sheets will be available after all Masses.

Donations can be dropped off on Sunday & Monday nights from 6-8pm starting Sept. 10th in Father Lacey Hall.

Please contact Melissa Gilligan #978-230-1114.