



2nd Sunday of Lent

Jesus took Peter, James, and John and led them up a high mountain apart by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, and his clothes became dazzling white, such as no fuller on earth could bleach them. —Mk9:2-3

Annunciation Parish

February 25th, 2018

Our Lady of the
Holy Rosary

Holy Spirit

135 Nichols Street
Gardner, MA 01440

50 Lovewell Street
Gardner, MA 01440

Telephone: 978-632-0253

Email: office@annunciationgardner.org

Website: www.AnnunciationGardner.org

Office Hours: Monday thru Friday 8:30am—2:30pm

Mass & Times

Holy Rosary Church

Holy Spirit Church

Saturday - 4:45pm

Saturday - 4:00pm

Sunday - 7:30am
10:30am

Sunday - 8:30am
Spanish Mass - 12:00noon

Monday, Wednesday and
Friday - 9:00am

Tuesday & Thursday - 7:30am

Sacrament of Penance/Reconciliation

Holy Rosary Church

Holy Spirit Church

Saturday 3:15 - 4:00pm

Saturday 3:15 - 3:45pm

(or by appointment)



You can scan this QR code to read the website on your smartphone or tablet.

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Pastor

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Rev. Wilmar Ramos
Parochial Vicar

Ext. 130

Rev. Mr. Paul Carrier

Deacon

978-297-1062

Rev. Mr. Stanley Baczewski

Deacon

978-855-9805

Rev. Mr. Arthur Giard

Deacon Retired

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Director of Enrollment
Mrs. Nancy Tyros Ext. 250

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Director

Mrs. Jane Pineo

jane@tcpgardner.com

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Daily Readings For The Week of February 25th:

Sunday 2/25—Second Sunday of Lent

- 1st Reading: Genesis 22:1-2, 9A, 10-13, 15-18
- 2nd Reading: Romans 8:31B-34
- Gospel: Mark 9:2-10

Monday 2/26

- Daniel 9:4B-10
- Luke 6:36-38

Tuesday 2/27

- Isaiah 1:10, 16-20
- Matthew 23:1-12

Wednesday 2/28

- Jeremiah 18:18-20
- Matthew 20:17-28

Thursday 3/1

- Jeremiah 17:5-10
- Luke 16:19-31

Friday 3/2

- Genesis 37:3-4, 12-13A, 17B-28A
- Matthew 21:33-43, 45-46

Saturday 3/3

- Micah 7:14-15, 18-20
- Luke 15:1-3, 11-32

Question of the Week:

Adult: What steps are you taking this Lent to make sure that your faith bears fruit in good works?

Youth: What needs changing in your life right now? How will you invite God into that change?

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

Dorothy Lorenz, Rose Dupuis, Diane Higgins, Diane Brideau, Marie L. Chartrand, Jeaninne Cormier, Diane Gardner, Miles Gardner, Leland Lowe, Carol Smith, Ines Lull, John Kane, and Scott Richard, Leonne Tagen, Amanda Loyer, William Nacke, Alice Fortin, Donnalee Reynolds, Tricia McKinley

If you would like a person's name to be added to the prayer list, please contact Annunciation Parish, (978) 632-0253, ext. 110.

INTERCESSORY PRAYER MINISTRY

With Jesus, our Intercessor, and the Holy Spirit, the Light that guides us, we gather together twice a month for one hour to pray for the needs of our faith community and the world. We offer our petitions and give praise, honor, and thanks to our heavenly Father for His unconditional love and mercy through various prayers of the Church, song, Sacred Scripture, silent reflection and sharing.

If this prayer style interests you, consider joining us.

For further information please contact
Louise Plamondon at 978-632-8679

Mass Intentions**Our Lady of the Holy Rosary**

Mass Date	Mass Time	Mass Intention
Saturday, February 24th	4:45 p.m.	John Babineau <i>by his sister</i> Celia McKean, 15th Anniversary <i>by Dan & Karen Kelley</i> Gary E. Davis, Sr., <i>by Tammy Walters</i>
Sunday, February 25th	7:30 a.m.	Stan Sokolowski <i>by Rene & Pauline Doiron</i>
	10:30 a.m.	Kathleen & Sarah Williams <i>for strength & healing</i> Theresa Poirier <i>by Leo Paul & Antoinette LeBlanc</i> Gilles J. Arsenault <i>by Delia Jean & family</i>
Monday, February 26th	9:00 a.m.	Maria Richard <i>by Aline Roach</i>
Tuesday, February 27th	6:00 p.m.	Doris Marie Poilock <i>by Jay & Melody Phelps</i>
Wednesday, February 28th	9:00 a.m.	Charles Baril <i>by Denise Dachloney</i>
Friday, March 2nd	9:00 a.m.	Worcester Diocese Seminarians <i>by Father Stephen Lundrigan</i>
	6:30 p.m.	Souls in Purgatory
Saturday, March 3rd	4:45 p.m.	Zephirin Henri, 18th Anniversary <i>by family</i> Robert Leonard, 19th Anniversary <i>by his wife & children</i> Theresa Jean <i>by T. & B. LaFortune</i> Celia McKeen <i>by Dan & Karen Kelley</i>
Sunday, March 4th	7:30 a.m.	Flora Poirier <i>by her brother Louis</i>
	10:30 a.m.	Kathleen & Sarah Williams <i>for strength & healing</i> Jack & Doris Eliason <i>by family</i> Normand Desroach <i>by Doris Richard</i>

Holy Spirit

Mass Date	Mass Time	Mass Intention
Saturday, February 24th	4:00 p.m.	Loretta M. Pelletier <i>by her children</i>
Sunday, February 25th	8:30 a.m.	Those Who Have Lost Their Lives in School Shootings
	12:00 p.m.	To be Announced
Tuesday, February 27th	7:30 a.m.	All Parishioners of Annunciation Parish
Thursday, March 1st	7:30 a.m.	Timothy J. McCann <i>by Don & Peg Locke</i>
	7:00p.m.	Rita Frenette <i>by Claudette Bourque</i>
Saturday, March 3rd	4:00 p.m.	Robert C. Mailloux <i>by Roberta Mailloux-Lajoie</i>
Sunday, March 4th	8:30 a.m.	All Members Living & Deceased of St. Joseph's Rosary Sodality
	12:00 p.m.	To be Announced

Other Masses This Week:

- * 2:00p.m. on Friday March 2nd at the Heywood Commons for the Intentions of the residents at the Heywood Commons

Funerals in Memorandum:

- * Chester Karpeichik
- * Alma Melanson
- * Mary Ellen Chanley

Upcoming Events and News

YOUTH GROUP

- ◇ Thanks to all who attended for making our movie night this past Friday a success!
- ◇ We are looking for individuals interested in attending the upcoming Steubenville East conference.

Please contact Paul Hartin with any questions or interests at youthministry@annunciationgardner.org

Stay tuned for further updates!

CAN YOU HELP FILL OUR RAINBOW BOXES?

Our 8th grade students in Religious Education and Holy Family Academy are collecting personal care items to make "Rainbow Boxes" to be distributed to local homeless persons through the CAC in Gardner.

They are looking for items such as warm new socks, body wash, facial/hand wipes, hand sanitizer, mouth wash, deodorant, hand warmers, shampoo, soap, toothbrush, toothpaste, face cloths, and new hair brushes.

Students have placed collection boxes in the front entry way of Holy Spirit and Holy Rosary. They will be collecting items throughout the months of January/February. We hope you will consider donating to this worthy cause.

Offering of Treasury for Annunciation Parish	Feb. 11 th , 2018
Total Regular Envelopes Used	547
Candles & Altar	\$19.00
Catholic Home Mission	\$52.00
Catholic University	\$2.00
Christmas Offering	\$20.00
Church/Latin America	\$688.00
First Offering	\$12.00
Fuel & Energy	\$645.00
Gente Unida	\$106.00
Immaculate Conception	\$10.00
Maintenance	\$269.00
Needy Child	\$110.00
Religious Education	\$122.00
Religious Retirement	\$10.00
Restoration	\$74.00
Solemnity of Mary	\$5.00
Weekly Offering	\$8,440.51
Total	\$10,584.51

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK:

The warm weather this week was a reminder of the Spring that is coming. In the Gospel this weekend, Jesus is transfigured - he gives us a glimpse of what we can become in the next life if we walk with him. But this is not the only transformation, others happen in life. In small ways, and in large ways, we can get glimpses of what good things can be ours by the power of God - let us strive in this Lent to continue to see these things and to move forward towards them.

I have spoken or met with most of our ministry coordinators this week. You will notice that all the ministry webpages on our website now have at least a description of the ministry and contact information. As these ministries continue to develop, more information will be added. Moving out from ourselves and our regular daily tasks to participate in the ministerial activity of Jesus Christ is a large part of what it is to be a Christian. There are opportunities to become involved in more active ministries (e.g.: Hospital, Pastoral Care, Prison, St. Vincent DePaul, Hospitality Dinner, Youth Ministry), or those that are part of our ministering to the Lord and each other in liturgy (e.g. Altar Serving, Lector, Eucharistic Minister), or those that are powerful because of the prayer they lift up to the Lord who can accomplish what we cannot by our action (e.g. Intercessory Prayer Group, Prayer Shawl, Eucharistic Adoration). There are opportunities that will be available for all ages as we continue to build. Please pray on it and look at what is available. Remember that we are continuing to build these and that some are still in early stages. Whenever we live our lives as Catholic Christians coming together to celebrate the Eucharist, engage in our own personal life of prayer with the Lord, and then join together to minister to others we live more fully the life of Jesus. Jesus worshiped with his friends, prayed to the Father in private, and went out to minister to others. As we do likewise (in whatever way we are able given our age and abilities) we participate in that life that we entered at our Baptism and in many ways become more fully alive as members of Christ's Body.

Our deanery pilgrimage began this week. This Lenten opportunity provides a spiritual activity for Wednesday's in Lent. It rotates through different churches in our deanery (our section of the Diocese) and provides opportunities for confession, prayer, hearing different preachers, and a time to meet others. The bulletin will list the location of each week's pilgrimage. A full schedule is located on our website under the Lenten Activities Page under "News."

It was a little quieter this week than last week, it allowed me to catch up on things on my desk, to examine where we are going, and to devote a little more time to prayer. I am glad I did this final thing - it has breathed new energy into me during this long winter. The new life of Spring is coming, let's be prepared to meet it. And let us continue to be prepared to meet our Lord at Easter.

Peace to you all,

4 *Fr. Steve*

Upcoming Events

⇒ **Sunday February 25**

- 4:00-5:30p.m. Hospitality Dinner at Holy Rosary hall

⇒ **Monday February 26**

- Coffee Social after 9a.m. Mass at Holy Rosary

⇒ **Tuesday February 27**

- 1:00p.m. Words of Truth—Words of Life in Rectory
- 6:00p.m. Evening Mass at Holy Rosary
- 6:30p.m. Bible Study in Holy Rosary hall

⇒ **Wednesday February 28**

- 6:00a.m.—8:00p.m. Eucharistic Adoration at Holy Rosary
- 6:30p.m. Deanery Pilgrimage *see details below

⇒ **Thursday March 1**

- 8:30a.m. Lenten Faith Sharing Group at Holy Spirit hall
- 6:30p.m. Bingo at Holy Rosary hall
- 6:30-7:00p.m. Confessions at Holy Spirit
- 7:00p.m. Evening Mass at Holy Spirit

⇒ **Friday March 2**

- 4:00p.m. Stations of the Cross at Holy Spirit
- 5:30-7:00p.m. Fish Fry at Holy Spirit hall
- 6:30p.m. First Friday Mass at Holy Rosary**

***Please note location change for this month only*

- 7:00p.m. Stations of the Cross at Holy Rosary

⇒ **Saturday March 3**

- 9:00a.m. Sacramental Prep at Holy Spirit
- 3:15 -3:45p.m. Confessions at Holy Rosary & Holy Spirit
- 4:00-8:00p.m. Confirmation Session at Holy Spirit

⇒ **Sunday March 4**

- 9:00a.m. Sacramental Prep at Holy Rosary
- 9:00a.m. Grades 1, 3-8 Religious Ed at Holy Rosary

Mar. 21—5-7p.m. Holy Family Academy Spaghetti Supper

Deanery Pilgrimage

Join us as we visit the Catholic churches of our area on Wednesday evenings for our annual Lenten Pilgrimage. Each night will begin with confession at 6:30p.m. Preaching and devotions will begin at 7:00p.m., followed by fellowship.

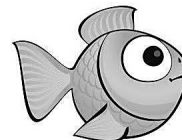
This week's Pilgrimage: * 2/28 at Holy Cross Church, Templeton

Next week's Pilgrimage: 3/7 at St. Edward the Confessor, Westminster

Next Fish Fry—3/2

There will be a fish fry held on Fridays during Lent in Holy Spirit hall from 5:30—7:00p.m. Come join us to spend time with your community and enjoy home-cooked fish. Pricing as shown below, choices include baked or fried fish, baked potato or French fries, cup of clam chowder, "the fixings", desserts, and refreshments.

Adults	\$10
Children	\$ 6



What are some recent experiences of God's love for me that I can hold onto when times get rough?

Did you enjoy this cartoon? Want to get one daily during lent? Join our Flocknote mailing group and we will be happy to email them directly to you. Just text Good-News4U to 84576, or click on the blue sheep in the upper right hand corner of our website annunciationgardner.org. Once you register you will be able to choose to join whatever groups interest you. To receive this series join the "Seasonal Reflection Group" group. For the technically challenged we also have a few print copies available at the back of each church.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION REMINDERS

- ⇒ There will be no Classes this Sunday Feb. 25th.
- ⇒ Sacramental Prep class for those who are preparing for first communion and their parents will be held on Sat. March 3rd at 9 a.m. at Holy Spirit and will be repeated on Sun. March 4th at 9 a.m. at Holy Rosary.
- ⇒ Our Next confirmation session will be held on Sat. March 3rd from 4-8 p.m. at Holy Spirit.
- ⇒ Classes for grades 1, 3-8 will meet at 9 a.m. as usual.



Worcester Men's Conference
March 17, 2018
Assumption College
Worcester, MA

A great way to start your Lenten Season is to commit to going to this year's Men's Conference.

Tickets are \$45 for adults until February 28th. Students are \$30 through March 17th. Don't wait until the cost goes up on March 1st. Register NOW!

Through February 28 ticket prices for adult men are \$45. On March 1 they increase to \$60. Ticket prices for students are \$30 prior to the conference and at the door. Tickets can be purchased online on the conference website at www.firstmensconf.org; by sending a check to

Catholic Men's Conference
 49 Elm Street, Worcester, MA
 01609

Or by calling Sara Smillie at 508-929-4345

MUSIC MINISTRY NEWS

We are looking to form a Festival Choir which will sing at special occasions at both churches. All parishioners of Annunciation parish are invited to join us as we celebrate the Triduum.

All rehearsals will be held on Tuesday evenings at Holy Spirit. The rehearsal schedule is as follows:

- **March 6th:** 6:30-8:00p.m. (Practice for Holy Thursday)
- **March 13th:** 6:30-8:00p.m. (Practice for Holy Thursday and Good Friday)
- **March 20th:** 6:30-8:00p.m. (Practice for the Easter Vigil)
- **March 27th:** 6:30-8:00p.m. (Review of Music for the Triduum)

All singing voices are greatly appreciated whether you are able to help us out for one, several, or all of the services during Holy Week.

If you have any questions please contact:

Paul Cormier	978-602-6166
Paulette Fowler	978-345-1398
Sharon Sawtell	978-632-7216

Sacrament of Baptism – celebrated on the Third Sunday of the month at 2:00 pm. Baptisms can also be celebrated at any Sunday liturgy outside the Lenten Season. **Baptismal Instruction** - held on the Third Monday of every month at Annunciation Parish on Nichols St. in the meeting room at 7:00 pm. Call Deacon Paul and his wife Lorraine at 978-297-1062.

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) – for those who are non-baptized above the age of 7 and those baptized in another Christian community beside Roman Catholic seeking a relationship with Christ Jesus and membership in the Roman Catholic faith. Please contact Mrs. Maura Sweeney for more information at 978-632-0237 Ext. 117 or via e-mail: religioused@annunciationgardner.org

First Penance/Reconciliation & First Communion – adults and children over the age of 7. Call Mrs. Maura Sweeney, Ext. 117.

Sacrament of Confirmation – call Mrs. Maura Sweeney, Ext. 117.

Sacrament of Marriage – please contact the Church a year in advance. Contact Deacon Paul and his wife Lorraine at 978-297-1062.

Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick – call Fr. Lundrigan at Ext. 116 or Fr. Ramos at Ext. 130.

Bereavement – please contact your parish office.

St. Vincent de Paul – a ministry of care providing assistance within the community. Call Holy Rosary (978) 632-0253, Ext. 143.

Prayer Line – For prayers for your special intention call 978-632-2618.

THIRSTING FOR GOD

A quote from Thirsting for God for Feb. 25th

"Until you can hear Jesus in the silence of your own heart, you will not be able to hear him saying 'I thirst' in the heart of the poor."

As you reflect on this passage you may wish to ask yourself, "Do I neglect taking time to be strengthened by God while I am busy running around trying to do His work?" and pray "Lord, help me to quiet myself to listen for your guidance so I may better serve you."

If you haven't gotten a chance to pick up your copy of this beautiful and thought provoking book we encourage you to do so today. Copies are available at the back of both churches. They make great Lenten reading.

WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER

"This is my beloved Son. Listen to him." Let us learn to listen better to each other and to God by attending a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend. The next weekends are March 9-11, 2018 in Duxbury, MA and April 21-22, 2018 in Brewster, MA.

For more information, call Stephen & Michelle O'Leary at 800-710-9963 or visit them at <https://www.mema.org/>

HOW ABOUT MAKING A CURSILLO WEEKEND?

Cursillo or "short course in Christianity" is an uplifting and educational experience. Cursillo was brought from Spain to the United States in 1962. The weekend is facilitated by a team of laypeople and clergy who deliver organized talks and discussions. What the presenters add to the talks is the witness of their own lives, their struggles and triumphs in Christ. The weekend is full of laughter, prayer, great music, wonderful meals and so much more. Our 2018 dates are: Men's - February 22-25 & June 14-17; Women's - May 3-6 & October 25-28. All weekends will be held at the Immaculate Conception Spiritual Renewal Center in Putnam, CT. For additional information, please contact Sue Leighton at [508-278-3155](tel:508-278-3155) or sleighton1958@gmail.com OR Joan Laracy at [774-239-2474](tel:774-239-2474) or joanlaracy@yahoo.com.



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