

*"To Preserve The Flame"*  
**SAINT JOHN'S CHURCH**

44 Temple St. Worcester, MA 01604

Phone: 508-756-7165

Fax: 508-754-5153

**Parish Website** [www.stjohnsworcester.org](http://www.stjohnsworcester.org)

**Food for the Poor Website** [www.stjohnsfoodforthe poor.org](http://www.stjohnsfoodforthe poor.org)

**PARISH STAFF**

**Pastor**

Fr. John Madden  
[frjohnmadden@gmail.com](mailto:frjohnmadden@gmail.com)

**Assisting Priests**

Fr. Jean Robert Simbert Brice  
Fr. Conrad Pecevich

**Deacon**

Eduardas Meilus

**Coordinators of  
Religious Education**

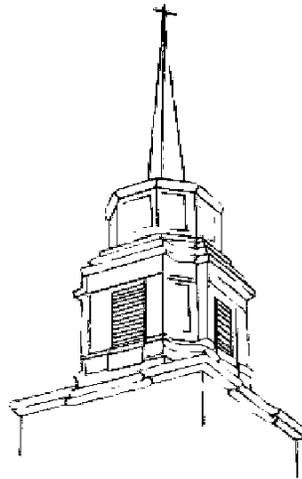
Donna Mastrovito  
Dianne Gustowski

**Ascension Clothing Center**

Sr. Patricia Murphy, SSJ

**Music Ministry**

Sean Redrow, Director  
Lucia Clemente Falco, Asst. Dir.



**MASS SCHEDULE**

**Lord's Day Masses**

Saturday Vigil: 4:15 & 7:15  
PM

Sunday: 8 AM, 10:15 AM,  
12:15 PM & 7:15 PM

**Weekdays**

Monday-Friday 6:15 PM

**Holy Days**

Vigil 6:15 p.m.  
Holy Day 12:15, 6:15 p.m.

**Rectory Office Hours:**

Tues.-Fri. 9 am - 4 pm  
Jimmy Archibald, Manager  
[stjohnsworc@gmail.com](mailto:stjohnsworc@gmail.com)

**Sacrament of Reconciliation**

Mon.-Thurs.-6:45 pm  
Saturday- 3 pm

**Sacrament of Marriage**

Please contact the parish office  
at least one year prior to  
planned date of marriage

**Sacrament of Baptism**

Please visit the parish website  
under the "Sacraments" tab

**Sacrament of the Sick**

Please contact the parish office

**Monthly Mass for Healing  
Followed by the Celebration  
Of the Sacrament of the Sick**

4th Tuesday of the month  
6:15 pm

## Mass Intentions

Saturday, January 30, 2021

4:15 PM **Paul Letsky**, req. by Friends

7:15 PM **Dennis Cashman**, req. by Friends

Sunday, January 31, 2021

8:00 AM **Fr. Jim Hoey**, req. by Family

10:15 AM **Josephine Kozlowski**, req. by Children; **Brian**

**O'Connell**, req. by Sokolowski Family

12:15 PM **Joe Hickey**, req. Friends

7:15 PM **Joshua Kozaczka**, req. by Family

Monday, February 1, 2021

6:15 PM **In Honor of Katherine Hessel**

Tuesday, February 2, 2021

6:15 PM **Birthday Blessings for Fr. John Nicholson**, req. by Family

Wednesday, February 3, 2021

6:15 PM **Alejandro Lorente**, req. by Family; **William Comptois**, req. by Family

Thursday, February 4, 2021

6:15 PM **Brian Buckley**, req. by Frank Carroll and Family

Friday, February 5, 2021

6:15 PM **John "Brad" Lange**, req. by a Friend

Saturday, February 6, 2021

4:15 PM **All Souls in Purgatory and Deceased Members of F.O.S.S.; Blair Deeney (1st Anniv.)**, req. by Family

7:15 PM **Paul Gingras (9th Anniv.)**, req. by Children;

**Patricia Brunelle (Birthday Remembrance)**, req. by Phillip Brunelle & Family

Sunday, February 7, 2021

8:00 AM **Alexander "Al" Drisco (Birthday Remembrance)**, req. by Patty, Nancy, Lorraine and Friends at VAAH; **Richard Linga**, req. by Lorraine Laurie

10:15 AM **Paul and Winifred Gingras**, req. by Children;

**Antoinette & Kenneth Sullivan, Helen Etre, Nicholas Augusto, Barbara O'Connell and Colleen O'Connell-Tremble**, req. by Family

12:15 PM **John "Brad" Lange (Month's Mind)**, req. Bob and Donna Mastrovito; **William Riggieri**, req. by Family

7:15 PM **Joshua Kozaczka**, req. by Family; **James Connley**, req. by Family

The Rosary is prayed each weekday **beginning with the Angelus at 5:50 p.m.**

Dear Friends in the Lord,

The Season of Lent is quickly approaching. Ash Wednesday is February 17<sup>th</sup> – two weeks from this Wednesday. To avoid overcrowding we will have Masses at 9:15 a.m., 12:15 and 6:15 p.m. The following was released from the Congregation for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments in Rome on January 12, 2021:

### ***NOTE ON ASH WEDNESDAY Distribution of Ashes in Time of Pandemic***

*The Priest says the prayer for blessing the ashes. He sprinkles the ashes with holy water, without saying anything. Then he addresses all those present and only once says the formula as it appears in the Roman Missal, applying it to all in general: "Repent, and believe in the Gospel", or "Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return".*

*The Priest then cleanses his hands, puts on a face mask, and distributes the ashes to those who come to him or, if appropriate, he goes to those who are standing in their places. The Priest takes the ashes and sprinkles them on the head of each one without saying anything.*

So much is different in this Time of Pandemic. The distribution of ashes included. Nonetheless, as with the communion line, this form of distribution is conducive to a deep reverence. In fact, it is good to be reminded that the ritual was not established so people could see a cross on our foreheads. This year we can begin our great penitential season with our heads bowed and humbly admitting our need for God's mercy.

This Lent will also include the 98<sup>th</sup> Annual Novena of Grace in Honor of St. Francis Xavier – also known as the Lenten Retreat of the Diocese of Worcester. As always, it will be held from March 4<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup>. Obviously, we need to ensure everyone's safety. To that end, a reservation will be needed to guarantee a seat. You can make a reservation through the parish website or by calling the rectory office. The weekend of the Novena is March 6 and 7 and, even if you are not making the Novena, you will need to reserve a seat for the weekend Mass you wish to attend. We will not announce the sign-up requirement outside of the parish for another week. This will allow St. John's members to be the first to make a reservation.

In Christ's Peace, Fr John Madden

## THE FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

### THIS WEEKEND'S HYMNS

Int.: *Laetetur cor quaerentium Dominum*, Ps 105: 3, 4  
(Let the hearts of those who seek the Lord rejoice; seek the Lord and be strengthened, seek his face forever more.)

Op.: # 567 O Christ, What Can It Mean for Us (or using the tune KINGSFOLD)

Ps 95, "If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts."

Alleluia: # 208

Prep.: 666 Silence! Frenzied, Unclean Spirit

Eucharistic Accs.: # 353, 356, 355, 311

Comm.: *Illumina faciem tuam*, Ps 31: 17, 18 (Let your face shine down upon your servant, deliver me in your mercy, Lord, let me not be confounded, for I have called upon you.)

# 585 I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light

Cl.: # 805 God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending

### THIS SUNDAY'S READINGS

Dt 18:15-20

1 Cor 7:32-35

Mk 1:21-28

### COLLECTION FOR PRIESTS' RETIREMENT -

This year on Ash Wednesday the parishes of our diocese will begin an annual collection to support the retirement needs of our diocesan priests. In 2019 a committee appointed by Bishop McManus examined the suitability and sustainability of retirement benefits for our retired diocesan priests. The annual health insurance and housing costs along with monthly stipends for our retired priests have recently been running from \$2.2 - \$2.6 million. Even with revenue from Celebrate Priesthood, Partners in Charity, the Legacy of Hope Capital Campaign, the endowments from the Forward in Faith Capital Campaign, parish assessments, and other restricted funds and donations, the costs of caring for our 50+ retired priests exceeds our revenue, in 2020 by \$266,810. After reviewing the committee's report and receiving input from the priests of our diocese, Bishop McManus is instituting an annual Ash Wednesday Collection for Priest Retirement as one part of the diocese's renewed efforts to care for our retired priests. Please consider a donation to the Ash Wednesday Collection to support those who have given their lives in service to the people of the Diocese of Worcester. Review the Retirement Report Summary found on the Diocesan Website to learn more. Thank you.

### RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

**Grades 1-9-** Out of an abundance of safety, regular Religious Ed classes will not be held in person for the foreseeable future. Thanks so much for your patience and understanding.

**Confirmation-** Next class is Tuesday, February 9, 6:15 to 9 PM in the church.

**First Communion-** First Reconciliation and Eucharist classes will begin on February 7 at 9:00 AM. For first class, Donna will be greeting parents outside behind the rectory to distribute books and to determine who will be home study or if your child will be attending class in person. You will need to provide a baptismal certificate that you can send via email or make a hard copy to turn in. Donna will also be providing an assignment for everyone to complete for the first week. Please be on the lookout for more information from Flocknote messaging. If you have any questions, please email Donna at [mastrovito21@charter.net](mailto:mastrovito21@charter.net). Thank you.

**PRAYER SHEETS AND BULLETINS** are available at the back of the church. Please remember you must take them with you when you leave. Please do not leave them in the pews. The prayer sheet contains the Gloria and the Creed, the Prayer of St. Michael the Archangel and the Prayer in Time of Pandemic.

### REMINDER:

**Holy Communion** will be distributed at 11:30 AM on Sunday morning. Please enter off of Harding Street and proceed behind the rectory and church to the communion station. Please wear a mask at all times and remain in your vehicle.

**Confessions** will now be heard on Saturday from 3:00 to 3:45 PM in the Church. Please wear a mask and practice social distancing while waiting.

**LIVE STREAMING-** Sunday Masses will be live-streamed according the following schedule on the parish Facebook Page:

*Saturday Vigil: Live-streamed @ 4:15 PM*

*Sunday Mass: Live-streamed @ 10:15 AM*

**THE CLOTHING CENTER** at the Ascension Campus has re-opened. The hours are Tuesday and Thursday from 10 AM to 12 PM. We accept clothes, linens and gently used household items that need a good home. Thank you for your generosity.

## In Our Catholic Community...

### BIBLE-IN-A-YEAR PROGRAM & LENTEN

**STUDY-** The Immaculate Conception Center, in partnership with St. John's, is offering two upcoming faith formation programs. The Bible-In-A-Year Program (starting on January 24th) will help you read and study Scripture, with a monthly Bible-reading plan, study resources and opportunities to share your experience with other participants. The Lenten Study (starting on February 17th) will take you on a guided journey through the Sunday Mass readings of Lent, with Scripture commentary, reflection questions, and an optional faith-sharing discussion each week on Zoom. To sign up, visit [stjohnsworcester.org/adult-faith-formation](http://stjohnsworcester.org/adult-faith-formation) and follow the instructions to join the "Adult Faith Formation" group on Flocknote.

### DEPT. OF CHILDREN AND FAMILIES SEEKING SPACES FOR MONITORED

**CHILD VISITS-** The MA Dept. of Children and Families (DCF) is looking for space with a separate entrance where children, who are placed out of home, can have a supervised family visit. These would be monitored by DCF staff and could include others such as interpreters. The space would need to accommodate 6 ft. social distancing for between 4 and 10 people with tables and chairs. They would like to have access on at least one day per week with 2 visits in the a.m. and 2 visits in the afternoon. They would also need dedicated restrooms and help disinfecting between the sessions. They use screening questions and provide PPE for all visits. They can provide proper signage. The visits are staggered so one group does not interact with another. If your parish has a hall available during the week and you have a part time maintenance person, and are interested in helping during this difficult time, contact Daniel Arnold [daniel.r.arnold@state.ma.us](mailto:daniel.r.arnold@state.ma.us) or at office # 508-929-2026. Fee is negotiable.

## Financial Report

Last weekend we received \$4624.16. We have also received:  
Monthly- \$100.00 Restoration- \$60.00  
Donation- \$5100.00 School Rent- \$4833.72

**Total-** \$15,317.88 **Unrestricted-** \$15,317.88 **Restricted-** \$0.00

**FOOD FOR THE POOR:** \$75 IMO David Moynahan; \$150 IMO Brad Lange; \$295 IMO Christine Anderson; \$150 IMO John Quinlivan and Kevin Brenner; \$800 IMO Theresa and Francis Bafaro; \$300 IMO Deceased Parents of Carol Kozlowski; \$200 IMO Richard Linga; \$50 from a friend; \$50 from a friend; \$100 from a friend; \$20 from a friend; \$65 IMO Vito Gadilauskas; \$75 IMO Brian Buckley; \$70 IMO Christopher and Patrick Johnson; \$25 IMO Juliann Shea

**Expenses-** \$24,143.97

Schola (1231.44) House (433.00) Administration (5660.18) Altar (257.80) Church Gas (1523.89) Rectory Gas (1893.03) Advertising (295.00) Federal Payroll Taxes (835.54) Funerals (229.20) Plowing Contract (2000.00) Ascension Plow Contract (750.00) Postage (1020.99) January Budget Bill (7569.00) Preserve the Flame (408.00) Rectory Alarm (36.90)

### **Food for the Poor**

Income- \$7285.00

Expenses- \$7800.59

This weekend's second collection is for the Home Missions Appeal.

**YEAR TO DATE** – In the month of January, we had a cash operating loss of \$2,017.65. This leaves our cash gain for FY 20/21 at \$30,399.84. This does not include the \$270,000 bequest that we received this year, as well. Thank you for your ongoing, generous support of St. John's.

## **Our Parish Community...**

...Offers prayers and condolences to the families of Robert Sullivan, Debra Simulevich and Lawrence Zeiger who have been born into eternal life.

## **Word of Life**

**"The shock of sorrow comes only to those who think this world is fixed and absolute, that there is nothing beyond. They think everything here below should be perfect. Hence, they ask questions: 'Why should I suffer? What have I done to deserve this?' Maybe you did nothing to deserve it. Certainly, Our Lord did nothing to deserve His Cross. But it came, and through it, He went to His glory."**

**—Venerable Fulton Sheen**