

"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

Food for the Poor Website www.stjohnsfoodforthe poor.org

PARISH STAFF

Pastor

Fr. John Madden
frjohnmadden@gmail.com

Associate Pastor

Fr. Jean Robert Simbert
Brice

Deacon

Eduardas Meilus

**Coordinators of
Religious Education**

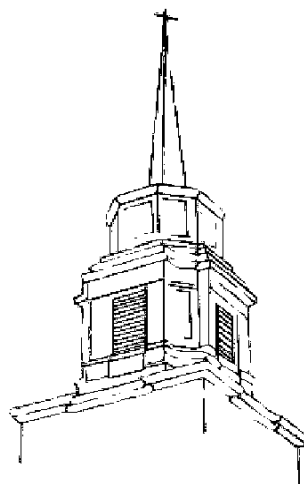
Donna Mastrovito
Dianne Gustowski

Music Ministry

Edward Lally, Director
Lucia Clemente Falco, Asst.

Sacristan

Dolores Vito



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

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday- 3 pm
Monday – Wednesday
After the 6:15 p.m. Mass

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
Fourth Monday of the Month

Mass Intentions

Saturday, December 24, 2022– Christmas Eve
4:15 PM **FOR THE PEOPLE OF ST. JOHN'S**
10:15 PM **FOR THE PEOPLE OF ST. JOHN'S**

Sunday, December 25, 2022– Christmas Day
8 AM **FOR THE PEOPLE OF ST. JOHN'S**
10:15 AM **FOR THE PEOPLE OF ST. JOHN'S**
12:15 PM **FOR THE PEOPLE OF ST. JOHN'S**

There is no 7:15 PM Mass on Christmas.

Monday, December 26, 2022
6:15 PM **Al Johnson, Sr.**, req. by Family; **Paul Barry**, req. by Family

Tuesday, December 27, 2022
6:15 PM **Adele Zemaitis**, req. by Granddaughter Danute; **Toni Marie Casarano (2nd Anniv.)** and **Stanley Baronowski**, req. by Sarah

Wednesday, December 28, 2022
6:15 PM **Judith Patnod**, req. by Family

Thursday, December 29, 2022
6:15 PM **Graciano M. Nunag and Adelina Gilardez**, req. by Family

Friday, December 30, 2022
6:15 PM **Robert Daw**, req. by Steve Greiger

Saturday, December 31, 2022– New Year's Eve
4:15 PM **Brian O'Connell**, req. by James Cosgrove; **John F. Madden, Jr. (29th Anniv.)**, req. by Family
10:15 PM **John Long**, req. by Family

Sunday, January 1, 2022– New Year's Day
8 AM **Sirkka Duggan**, req. by Friends
10:15 AM **Jose Almeida and Delia Rueda and Thanksgiving for Favors Received for Carla and James**, req. by Family
12:15 PM **Msgr. Edmond Tinsley**, req. by Friends
7:15 PM **Msgr. Rocco Piccolomini**

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

Christmas 2022

My dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

What did Mary and Joseph have that first Christmas? By some measures, not much. Far from home, they were without a place to stay. Distant from relatives, they had no one to welcome them. Alone against Herod's soldiers, they fled to Egypt.

What Mary and Joseph had plenty of was hardship, uncertainty, and humility. They faced a ninety mile journey from Nazareth, no room at the inn and a cold cave with ox and ass. Yes, by some measures Mary and Joseph did not have much. However, by another, truer measure, Mary and Joseph had everything. They had everything they needed to fill their hearts with love, their spirits with courage and their minds with peace. They had Jesus. That was the essence of Christmas for Mary and Joseph. That is the essence of Christmas for us - Emmanuel, God with us.

Mary carried Jesus in her womb on the way to Bethlehem. She carried Him in her arms to Egypt. Always and everywhere, in every circumstance, she reflected on Him in her mind and did His will in her life.

Christ came to us at Christmas. When He ascended to Heaven He promised to remain with us always. May the commemoration of His birth bring you great joy. If you are struggling, experiencing grief and disappointment, or feeling overwhelmed by the challenges of life, may His continued presence give you courage, hope and peace. Mary and Joseph were not alone. You are not alone. God's Son remains with us. God doesn't insulate us from life's ups, downs and disappointments but He gave us his Son who will get us through them all. Nothing else and no one else can give us such consolation and hope. May we stay faithful to Him, give thanks for His life and love and draw upon that hope, confidence and peace throughout the new year.

With every prayerful best wish for a Merry Christmas, I remain

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Most Reverend Robert J. McManus
Bishop of Worcester

THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD

MERRY CHRISTMAS TO YOU AND YOUR LOVED ONES FROM ALL OF US AT ST. JOHN'S

CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

Christmas Eve- 4:15 PM (Filipino Community) and
10:15 PM (Schola)

Christmas Day- 8AM, 10:15 AM, 12:15 PM

Confessions will be heard at 10 AM on Saturday,
December 24 in the main church.

CHRISTMAS MASS READINGS CAN BE FOUND AT

4:15 PM Vigil Mass #1013

10:15 PM Mass at night #1014

8 AM Mass at Dawn #1015

10:15AM and 12:15 PM Mass during the day #1016

LIVE STREAMING MASSES can now be ac-
cessed through our parish website, stjohnsworces-
ter.org, according to the following schedule:

Weeknights at 6:15 p.m.

Saturday Vigil Mass at 4:15 p.m.

Sunday Mass at 10:15 AM and 7:15 PM

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.

RCIA – any adult wishing to be fully initiated into
the Catholic Church is invited to participate in the
Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults. If you would
like to receive any or all of the Initiation Sacraments
– Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist – please con-
tact the rectory by email or phone. Thank you.

OUR MONTHLY MASS FOR HEALING – will
be celebrated on Monday, December 26. After the
6:15 PM Mass, the Sacrament of the Sick will be
administered to those seeking God's healing and
merciful grace.

ST. JOHN'S CYC BASKETBALL- Our CYC Bas-
ketball team is open to all boys ages 14-18 that are
members of the parish and are not on a varsity bas-
ketball team at their High School. Please contact
coach Ray at 508-612-6007 or email ray-
m577@gmail.com if interested in playing. There is
no cost to anyone who wants to play.

HAVE YOU SIGNED UP FOR FORMED.ORG. AND DAILY ADVENT REFLECTIONS ?

Now is the
time to join fellow parishioners of St John's in signing up
to have free, unlimited, no cost to you access to a wealth
of information about our Catholic Faith. Using your
browser from any device , go to Formed.org/signup, En-
ter 01604 select St John's parish, then enter your name
and email address and you're in. No other passwords
needed. To receive Daily Advent Reflections in your
email, once you have access to the Formed.org platform,
using your browser, type in daily.formed.org. The sign up
page will pop up and prompt you to fill in your email ad-
dress. Then it will acknowledge receipt of your sign up.
If you haven't as of yet, please take advantage of our
parish's gift to you.

VOCATION REFLECTION: SOLEMNITY OF THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD

“He gave power to be-
come children of God.” If you think you may be called to
share the Father's love as a priest, deacon or in the conse-
crated life, contact the Vocation Office at (508)-630-4473
or by sending an email to dinfante@saintpaulknights.org.

LITHUANIAN CHRISTMAS WAFERS are available
in the sacristy before and after Mass and at the rectory
anytime. A donation of your choosing is greatly appreci-
ated. Thank you.

ATTENTION HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS – if any
member of the parish is applying for admission to the
College of the Holy Cross, please contact Fr. Madden.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Grades 1-6– Sunday, January 8 9-10 AM in the
Church Hall

Grades 7-9– Sunday, January 8 11:15 AM - 12:15 PM
in the Church Hall.

CONFIRMATION– Next class will be held January 3
from 6:15-8 PM. Class is held in the chapel and church
hall and includes Mass.

CLASSES FOR FIRST RECONCILIATION AND FIRST EUCHARIST

will begin on January 23rd at 9:00
in the Xavier Center. Children in second grade or older
are invited to participate. Please register before Decem-
ber 31, 2022 on the St. John's website. If your child is
currently attending weekly CCD, note that there is a sep-
arate registration for sacrament classes. The schedule of
classes can also be found on the parish website. If you
have any questions, please contact Donna Mastrovito via
email at mastrovito21@gmail.com or 508 450 8639.

In Our Catholic Community...

VIANNEY DINNER - The next Vianney dinner is Thursday, Jan. 19 at the Holy Name of Jesus House of Studies at 51 Illinois St., Worcester. *Please note the change of date.* These are nights for men, high school aged and up, interested in learning more about a priestly vocation. Don't want to come alone? Bring a friend! You are welcome to come to all or part of the evening as your schedule allows. 6:05 pm Mass, 6:30 pm dinner, and 7:00 pm social. An RSVP is not needed but it is helpful in getting an accurate count for food. Please email us directly at director@worcestervocations.com.

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 at (413) 552-7231 or email Mary at DivineMercyMinistryToSeniors@gmail.com to receive an digital flyer about the program.

CAR DONATION PROGRAM- Did you know you can donate your car, truck, motorcycle or boat to Catholic Charities and help us help your Worcester County neighbors? It's quick and easy to do. Just visit our website to donate your vehicle online at www.ccworc.org or call 1-888-CAR-7308 1-888-CAR-7308 to arrange a convenient pickup time and confirmation of your donation from Catholic Charities Donation Angel Program. The car in your driveway can help us to continue to offer many services to children, families and elders in our community so that they may regain home for a brighter future. Thank you!

Financial Report

This weekend we received \$8356.46. We also received:

Candles- \$990.00
Christmas- \$450.00

Stipends- \$930.00

Total- \$10,726.46 Unrestricted- \$10,726.46 Restricted- \$0.00

Expenses-\$7125.20

Schola (778.64) Administration (3029.41) House (586.44) Funerals (482.00) Church Electric (748.80) Rectory Electric (1030.41) Altar (69.00) Advertising (400.00)

FOOD FOR THE POOR DONATIONS: \$58,645.00 for the Annual Appeal; \$50 IMO Brian McGrath; \$185 IMO James McDonald; \$50 IMO Thomas and Elizabeth Salmon; \$50 IMO Ralph and Eileen Woodward; \$1042 Annual Thanksgiving Charity Run; \$400 from International Ceramic Engineering; \$5000 from Country Bank; \$2000 from UniBank; \$1150 IMO Steve Gagne; \$100 from a friend; \$100 from a friend; \$10 from a friend; \$500 from a friend; \$50 from a friend; \$100 from a friend; \$25 from a friend; \$100 from a friend; \$200 from a friend; \$150 from a friend; \$50 from a friend; \$100 from a friend; \$100 from a friend; \$500 from a friend; \$100 from a friend; \$150 from a friend; \$100 from a friend; \$5000 from a friend; \$1000 from a friend; \$2500 from a friend; \$1000 from a friend; \$150 IMO Nicole and Ronald Boucher; \$150 Imo Earl A. Menard; \$50 IHO Matteo Garofoli; \$100 IMO Jean Sullivan; \$500 from the Francis A. Ford and Shirley A. Doyle Fund of GWCF; \$200 IMO Patrick and Christopher Johnson; \$100 IMO Robert Henry; \$500 IMO Joe Sullivan; \$500 IMO Bill, Peg and Jack McKenna; \$100 from UC Church, Worcester; \$75 IMO Kathy Sullivan, Robert (Grampy) Sullivan and Paul MaGuire

Food for the Poor:

Income- \$17,662.00

Expenses- \$8154.29

This weekend's Second Collection is the Christmas Collection.

Our Parish Community...

...Offers prayers and condolences to the families of Celia Polucha, Sophie Kozaczka, Franco Harris, Claire Webber, Thomas Browning, Robert Doyle and Ronnie Hillman, Jr. who have been born into eternal life.

...Welcomes Matteo Goroni Garofoli who has entered the Catholic Community through the waters of Baptism.

WORD OF LIFE:

“Do not be afraid; for behold, I proclaim to you good news of great joy that will be for all the people.”

Luke 2:10