

"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

Follow us on Instagram at STJOHNSWORCESTER

PARISH STAFF

Pastor

Fr. John Madden
frjohnmadden@gmail.com

Associate Pastor

Fr. Jean Robert Simbert Brice

Assisting Priest

Fr. Conrad Pecevich

Deacon

Eduardas Meilus

**Coordinators of
Religious Education**

Donna Mastrovito
Dianne Gustowski

Music Ministry

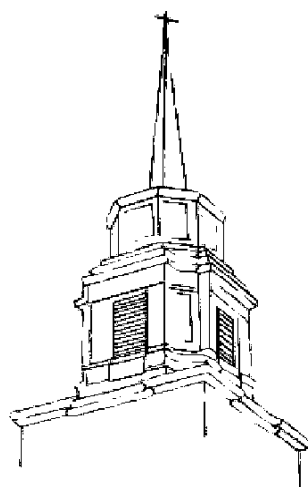
Edward Lally, Director
Lucia Clemente Falco, Asst.

Sacristan

Dolores Vito

**Director of St. FX Center
And Facilities Manager**

Tim Dunn



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 and
Sacrament of Confirmation for
adults (18+)**

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, March 25, 2023

4:15 PM **Sirkka Duggan**, req. by Family

7:15 PM **Judith Daley (14th Anniv.)**, req. by Family

Sunday, March 26, 2023

8 AM **Ginny Atkinson**, req. by Barbara Thompson; **Chad Rossi and Rudolph**

Gaudette, req. by Family

10:15 AM **Teresa Canizares and Jaime**

Meneses, req. by Family; **Henry S. Kozlowski (30th Anniv.)**, req. by Children

12:15 PM **Allen Piper, Thanksgiving for Rose Finnigmeiseu and Paul Casey**, req. by Family

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

Monday, March 27, 2023

6:15 PM **Daniel J. Lee**, req. by Frank and Carole Carroll

Tuesday, March 28, 2023

6:15 PM **Michael Brennan**, req. by Family;

Joan Greene, req. by Family

Wednesday, March 29, 2023

6:15 PM **Robert Zemaitis**, req. by Frank and

Carole Carroll; **Genevieve and Bill Pugliese, Sr., Bill Pugliese, Jr.**, req. by Family

Thursday, March 30, 2023

6:15 PM **Health and Intentions of Slawek's Family**, req. by Family

Friday, March 31, 2023

6:15 PM **Dennis Cashman**, req. by Family

Saturday, April 1, 2023

4:15 PM **All Souls in Purgatory and Deceased Members of F.O.S.S.; Marilyn Early**, req. by a Friend

7:15 PM **Msgr. Ed Tinsley**, req. by Family

Sunday, April 2, 2023

8 AM **Msgr. Rocco Piccolomini**, req. by Family

10:15 AM **Oswaldo Molina and Otilia**

Martinez, req. by Family; **Juozas and Janina Miliuskas**, req. by Family

12:15 PM **Paul Campbell (5th Anniv.)**, req. by Family

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

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

Dear Friends in the Lord,

At the 10:15 a.m. Mass on Sunday, we will be celebrating the annual Sending Mass with our high school Confirmation class. These twenty-one young women and men will receive the Sacrament of Confirmation on Sunday, April 16 at the Cathedral of St. Paul. My sincerest thanks to Dianne Gustowski for preparing them for this important moment in their faith journey. Thanks, as well, to Cynthia, Carmen, Fr Brice, Deacon Ed and all the parents for your efforts. As the date approaches, let us pray more urgently for our candidates.

This week I had the chance to do one of my favorite things – I spent two nights at my Mother's home in Montpelier, VT. In fact, I arrived the day of her annual physical. She will be 89 on next Saturday and her Doctor said that he thinks she is doing well. I agree. Thank God. However, though I do not think that her cognitive diminishment rises to this level, my mom did tell the Doctor that she has dementia. Then immediately added, that she is praying it does not get worse. The Doctor looked at her warily and pointed out that it is a degenerative disease. To which she responded: *I know, but I am praying.*

Today's Gospel, the Raising of Lazarus, is the final of the three stories from John's Gospel which we hear during the Lenten Season. It focuses on Resurrection, the greatest blessing the Father offers his children. In this way, it assists us in both concluding Lent and preparing for Holy Week and the Easter Triduum. The purpose of this penitential season is to help us "learn how to live in this passing world with our hearts set on the world that will not end." During Holy Week we are invited to celebrate the salvation which awaits us. For it is in celebrating here and now that we prepare ourselves to accept the invitation. Life here on earth, too often, seems like a degenerative disease. It is important that we gather to pray that it does not get worse.

The Holy Week and Easter schedule is:

Saturday, April 1 and Sunday, April 2 – Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion (Regular schedule)

Holy Thursday's Mass of the Lord's Supper, April 6 at 7:15 p.m.

Good Friday, April 7 - Downtown Way of the Cross, 12 noon

Commemoration of the Lord's Passion, 7:15 p.m.

Easter Vigil, Saturday April 8, 7:30 p.m.

Easter Sunday, April 9 (Regular schedule)

In Christ's Peace,
Fr John Madden

FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

THIS WEEKEND'S HYMNS

Int.: "Give me justice, O God, and plead my cause against a faithless and unholy nation. Deliver me from cunning and deceitful, impious men. For You are my God and savior; and you have been my stronghold."

Op.: #691 The Lord Is My Savior

Ps 130 "With The Lord there is mercy and fullness of redemption."

Gospel Acclamation: "I am life and in Me is resurrection; all who believe in Me, even though they die, they will live with Me always; and all who believe and are living in Me shall never die but live forever."

Prep.: #465 The Cross of Jesus

Eucharistic Accs.: # 304, 217, 370, 311

Comm.: #651 Keep in Mind

Cl.: #706 O Christ, Who Shared Our Mortal Life

SUNDAY'S READINGS #1039 IN THE HYMNAL

Ez 37:12-14

Psalm 130

Rom 8:8-11

Jn 11:1-45

LIVE STREAMING MASSES can now be accessed through our parish website, stjohnsworcester.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

PARTNERS IN CHARITY – Our parish goal is \$76,600 again this year. To date, we have received gifts and pledges totaling \$28,175.00. Thank you to those who have donated already. Envelopes are available throughout the church to make a donation or to make an online donation please visit the Partners in Charity website www.partners-charity.net.

VOCATION REFLECTION: FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

– "Did I not assure you that if you believed you would see the glory of God?" Do you believe Christ may be calling you to see the glory of the Blessed Trinity through a vocation to the priesthood or consecrated life? Contact the Vocation Office at (508)-630-4473 or email: dinfante@saintpaulknights.org.

ANNUAL MASS TO HONOR AND REMEMBER OUR CHILDREN

- You are invited to attend the Pieta annual mass to honor and remember all of our children on Monday, May 1 at 7:00 pm at St George Church in Worcester. This is a special time to come together in remembrance of our children. Refreshments will be served following the Mass. Please invite any families who have lost a child. For more information, please call Terry Gentile at 508-284-0796 or Sue Stevens at 508-852-4887, or email pieta3@gmail.com.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Grades 1-6– Sunday, March 26, 9-10 AM in the Church Hall

Grades 7-9– Sunday, March 26, 11:15 AM - 12:15 PM in the Church Hall.

CONFIRMATION– Next class will be held April 4 from 6:15-8 PM.

THE ANNUAL EASTER EGG HUNT will take place Sunday, April 2 after the 10:15 AM Mass in the rectory. All children are welcome!

CLASSES FOR FIRST RECONCILIATION AND FIRST EUCHARIST will continue this weekend at 9 AM in the Xavier Center.

LENTEN REGULATIONS FOR 2023

All Fridays in Lent are days of abstinence for all who have completed their 14th year. On Week Days of Lent there is no obligation to fast. However, voluntary acts of self-denial are recommended. Voluntary Self-Denial may include, in addition to fasting, participation in daily Mass, spiritual studies, Lenten Devotions, Stations of the Cross, saying the Rosary, deeds of mercy and kindness.

DEEDS OF MERCY AND KINDNESS:

Rice Bowls will be available on the back tables of the Church and at the rectory. You are invited to place the money you would have spent on what you "give up" for Lent into the bowls, or a separate envelope, which will support the great work done by Catholic Relief Services.

ST. JOHN'S LENTEN DEVOTIONS

The Stations of the Cross are celebrated every Friday in Lent after the 6:15 PM Mass.

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

Using your browser from any device, go to Formed.org/signup, Enter 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 address. 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.

In Our Catholic Community...

OUR MONTHLY MASS FOR HEALING – will be celebrated this Monday, March 27. After the 6:15 PM Mass, the Sacrament of the Sick will be administered to those seeking God's healing and merciful grace.

ADULT FAITH FORMATION OPPORTUNITY... SAVE THE DATES

- The Eucharist is the source and summit of our faith. Since the church is in the midst of a Eucharistic revival, St. John's will be offering an adult faith formation opportunity focused on the Eucharist and it's importance to us and our faith. The program consists of four sessions every other week meeting in the rectory according to the following schedule. Group one: Tuesdays at 4:30 PM on March 14, March 28, April 11 and April 25 or Group two: Thursdays at 7:00 PM on March 16, March 30, April 13, April 27. Each session will include a 45 minute media presentation from the Augustine Institute, the organization that offers Formed to parishes such as ours, followed by opportunity for sharing and discussion. For more information and to register for either group please contact Deacon Ed at his email : deacon.ed.02@gmail.com

THE HEARTWELL INSTITUTE OF WORCESTER is offering a free, vacation-week workshop for high schoolers and their family members. Adults and teens will spend time together and apart during the workshop, learning ways to de-stress, have easier communication, and enjoy relationships more. Join us as we learn to meditate, dance, do yoga, make art, and form deep bonds. Dinner is included! Five-session commitment, Monday through Friday, April 17th-21st from 3-7 PM. Space is limited so call today to reserve your space 774-243-6800 or email us at jenny@heartwellinstitute.org. This program is made possible through a generous grant from the Reliant Foundation.

2023 VISITATION HOUSE ANNUAL DINNER - We are excited to announce that Visitation House is hosting its Annual Fundraising Dinner on Thursday, April 27 from 5:30 - 9:00 pm at the Tsotsis Ballroom at Assumption University in Worcester. This event presents an opportunity for us to gather once again to raise funds to support homeless pregnant women in need of a safe harbor while preparing for childbirth and transitioning into motherhood. \$100 per person. Tables for 10 at \$1,000. Beer and Wine Cash Bar, Seated Dinner, Visitation House Presentation; keynote by Kailee Perrin, Silent Auction. For more information, visit our website www.visitationhouse.org/annual-dinner-2023.

Financial Report

This weekend we received \$6376.00. We also received:

Monthly- \$267.00	Restoration- \$58.00
Stipends- \$75.00	Novena- \$200.00
Flowers- \$31.00	

Total- \$7007.00 Unrestricted- \$6949.00 Restricted- \$58.00

Expenses-\$8186.96

Schola (1064.44) Altar (46.73) House (188.18) Administration (3716.21) Church Hal Repair (607.50)

FOOD FOR THE POOR DONATIONS: \$50 from a friend; \$50 from a friend; \$2000 from a friend; \$50 from a friend; \$150 from a friend; \$140 IMO Leo Tivnan; \$13 from Stop and Shop Bloomin' 4 Good Program; 70 IMO Mr. and Mrs. Joseph O'Coin; \$100 IMO Rita and Bob Withstandley, Dec. Members of the Mattimore Family, Rita and George Stone; \$50 IMO Andrew Stencel; \$100 IMO John Donahue; \$25 IMO alicia Lazar; \$100 IMO David Zglobicki

Food for the Poor:

Income- \$3473.00

Expenses- \$5813.83

This weekends second collection is for Catholic Relief Services.

Our Parish Community...

...Offers prayers and condolences to the families of Thomas LaMarche, Robert Brown, Willis Reed, Jr. and Sgt. Derek Leto who have been born into eternal life.

...Welcomes John Richard McNamara, Elaine Marie Cunningham and Sebastian John Yskollari who have entered the Catholic Community through the waters of Baptism.

WORD OF LIFE:

“God’s delays are mysterious; sorrow is sometimes prolonged for the same reason for which it is sent. God may abstain for the moment from healing, not because Love does not love, but because Love never stops loving, and a greater good is to come from the woe. Heaven’s clock is different from ours.”- Fulton J. Sheen