

# *"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)

Follow us on Instagram at STJOHNSWORCESTER

### **PARISH STAFF**

#### **Pastor**

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

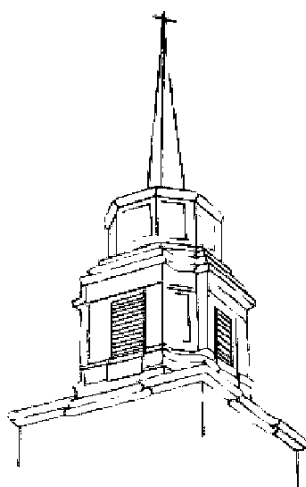
Edward Lally, Director  
Lucia Clemente Falco, Asst.

#### **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](mailto: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, April 1, 2023

4:15 PM **All Souls in Purgatory and Deceases 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 Miliauskas**, req. by Family

12:15 PM **Paul Campbell (5th Anniv.)**, req. by Family; **Robert and Barbara Hogan and Ruth O'Leary**, req. by Family

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

### Monday, April 3, 2023

6:15 PM **Judy Hunt**, req. by Frank and Carole Carroll

### Tuesday, April 4, 2023

6:15 PM **Sisters Monique, Marguerite and Gertrude**, req. by Dianne Gustowski

### Wednesday, April 5, 2023

6:15 PM **Lynn Woods Hall**, req. by Family

### Thursday, April 6, 2023– HOLY THURSDAY

7:15 PM **THE PEOPLE OF ST. JOHN'S**

### Friday, April 7, 2023– GOOD FRIDAY

7:15 PM **THE PEOPLE OF ST. JOHN'S**

### Saturday, April 8, 2023– HOLY SATURDAY

7:30 PM **THE PEOPLE OF ST. JOHN'S**

### Sunday, April 9, 2023

8 AM **THE PEOPLE OF ST. JOHN'S**

10:15 AM **THE PEOPLE OF ST. JOHN'S**

12:15 PM **THE PEOPLE OF ST. JOHN'S**

7:15 PM **THE PEOPLE OF ST. JOHN'S**

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

Dear Friends in the Lord,

Today we begin the Annual Retreat of the Universal Church that is, Holy Week. To start, we commemorate the Lord's Triumphal Entrance into Jerusalem. Next Sunday, we celebrate his triumphal return to the right hand of the Father. There is much that takes place in between. Most of it is sad. Some of it is gruesome. Still, because the only lasting importance is the fruit of what Jesus does, it is redemptive. At Christmas, we are filled with hope in celebrating *God with us*. At Easter, that hope is fulfilled as we experience that *God is for us*.

Being a slow learner, the tendency to trust in my own efforts consistently dooms my Lenten plans. So, again this year, I was mostly unsuccessful in keeping my Lenten resolutions. Thankfully, God is not only with us, but for us. It is imperative that we remember this truth as Lent concludes and we enter into Holy Week.

The Sacred Paschal Triduum, as we know, does celebrate actual historical events – the Last Supper, the Crucifixion and the Resurrection. Still, we do not gather to celebrate what once happened to Jesus, but what is now happening among us, a people called to conversion and gifted with the Spirit of holiness. Therefore, perhaps an unsuccessful Lent can be a means of emptying ourselves as needed to be open to *God's taking possession of our hearts at their deepest core, recreating us as a new human community broken like bread for the world's life - a community rich in compassion, steadfast in hope, and fearless in the search for justice and peace.* (Nathan Mitchell)

On a practical note: the Bishop has lifted the restriction on receiving Holy Communion under both species, effective on Easter Sunday. To that end, I am asking if any Extraordinary Minister of the Eucharist would like to return to the schedule or if any person interested in becoming a minister would like to be installed, please contact me or Dolores. Thank you.

In Christ's Peace,  
Fr John Madden

P.S. I wanted to squeeze in another announcement:

**THE REV. MSGR. THOMAS GRIFFIN SCHOLARSHIP** is available to a parishioner of St. John's who will be attending the College of the Holy Cross. Please contact Fr. Madden if you are interested in applying for this scholarship.

## ***PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD***

### **THIS WEEKEND'S HYMNS**

Int.: "Hosana to the Son of David! Blesses is He Who comes in the Name of the Lord, the King of Israel. Hosana in the highest."

Op.: #483 All Glory, Laud and Honor

Ps 22 "My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?"

Gospel Acclamation: "For us Christ became obedient, obedient even unto death, to His death on the Cross. Therefore God has raised Him and exalted Him and has given Him the Name which is above every name."

Prep.: #489 O Sacred Head Surrounded

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

Comm.: #759 Unless a Grain of Wheat

Cl.: #488 Were You There

### **SUNDAY'S READINGS #1042-1050 IN THE HYMNAL**

Mt 21:1-11

Psalm 22

Is 50:4-7

Phil 2:6-11

Mt 26:14-27: 66

**LIVE STREAMING MASSES** can now be accessed through our parish website, [stjohnsworcester.org](http://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*

### **HOLY WEEK AND EASTER SCHEDULE:**

- 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)

**PARTNERS IN CHARITY** – Our parish goal is \$76,600 again this year. To date, we have received gifts and pledges totaling \$36,240.00. 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](http://www.partners-charity.net).

### **VOCATION REFLECTION: PALM SUNDAY OF THE LORD'S PASSION**

– "Truly, this was the Son of God!" Are you being called to proclaim Jesus as a priest, deacon, religious brother or sister? If you think this may be so, contact the Vocation Office at (508)-630-4473 or send an email to [dinfante@saintpaulknights.org](mailto:dinfante@saintpaulknights.org).

### **RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**

**Grades 1-6**– Sunday, April 2, 9-10 AM in the Church Hall

**Grades 7-9**– Sunday, April 2, 11:15 AM - 12:15 PM in the Church Hall.

**CONFIRMATION**– Next class will be held April 11 at 7 PM in the main church.

**THE ANNUAL EASTER EGG HUNT** will take place this 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 14<sup>th</sup> 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](http://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](http://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 on Monday, April 24. 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** -

The St. John's will be offering an adult faith formation opportunity focused on the Eucharist and its 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 April 11 and April 25 or Group two: Thursdays at 7:00 PM on 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 please contact Deacon Ed at his email: [deacon.ed.02@gmail.com](mailto:deacon.ed.02@gmail.com)

**THE LITHUANIAN COMMUNITY** is happy to announce that the Kaziuko Muge -St Casimir's Fair has returned and is being held Sunday April 2, 2023 from noon to 5:00 PM at Maironis Park 52 South Quinsigamond Ave in Shrewsbury MA. There will be a traditional Lithuanian meal of Kielbasa, Sauerkraut, and Kugelis available or an alternate meal of chicken and kugelis. There are also Lithuanian crafts, baked goods and other delicacies plus a lottery. All are welcome and invited for an afternoon of fun.

**THE ST. RAFOA PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY** will be meeting on Wednesday April 12 in the downstairs chapel from 9:30 - 11:00 AM. All knitters and crocheters are welcome! Bring a friend! Any questions, please call Connie at 774-262-2512.

### **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 [visitationhouse.org/annual-dinner-2023](http://visitationhouse.org/annual-dinner-2023).

### **Financial Report**

This weekend we received \$9071.00. We also received:  
Monthly- \$805.00                      Restoration-\$30.00  
Flowers- \$567.00                      Stipends- \$440.00  
Cath. Relief- \$371.00                      Novena- \$50.00  
Online Offering- \$7483.88                      Free Press- \$39.00

**Total-** \$18,856.88 Unrestricted- \$18,455.88 Restricted- \$401.00

### **Expenses**-\$30,837.12

Schola (1092.84) Altar (752.10) CRS (371.00) Rectory Cable/Phone/Internet (675.60) State Payroll Taxes (1288.23) Federal Payroll Taxes (4755.14) Admin (6865.66) Alarm (102.90) Funerals (152.80) Church Electric (1429.71) Rectory Electric (1815.32) Stipends (680.00) Haitian Apostolate (562.00) Lithuanian Donation (530.00) CCD (1110.82) Church Fire Box (7537.00) Preserve the Flame (1116.00)

**FOOD FOR THE POOR DONATIONS:** \$25 from a friend; \$200 from a friend; \$100 from a friend; \$150 from a friend; \$300 from a friend; \$20 from a friend; \$50 from a friend; \$20 IMO Phyllis Brennan; \$25 IMO Tom La-Marche; \$25 IMO Kay Quinlivan; \$225 IMO Stanley Zytkeiwicz; \$500 IMO Jack Donahue; \$50 IMO Leo Tivnan; \$600 from National Grid; \$100 IMO Deborah Shea; \$125 IMO Herb Ingram; \$100 IMO Nathan Grenache; \$20 IMO Thomas Donoghue

### **Food for the Poor:**

Income- \$2450.00                      Online- \$7743.54  
Expenses- \$6767.35

This weekends second collection is the Monthly Special Needs Offering.

**YEAR TO DATE** – In March, we had a cash operating gain of \$14,820.64. This brings our cash gain through seven months of FY 2022/2023 to \$76,414.20. We cannot thank you enough for your generosity to St. John's.

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

...Offers prayers and condolences to the families of Margaret Menard and Pierina Ramelli who have been born into eternal life.

...Welcomes Jack John McCauley who has entered the Catholic Community through the waters of Baptism.

### **WORD OF LIFE:**

**"The school of Christ is the school of love. In the last day, when the general examination takes place ... Love will be the whole syllabus."**

**-St. Robert Bellarmine**