

"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

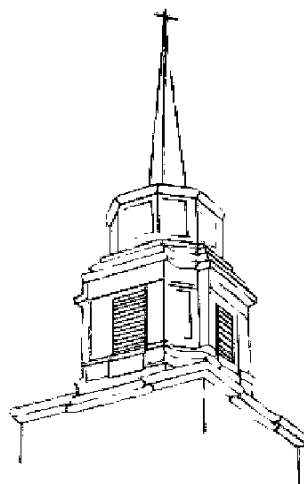
Edward Lally, Director
Lucia Clemente Falco, Asst.

Sacristan

Dolores Vito

**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

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, September 9, 2023

4:15 PM **Patricia Assad Tammi** req. by Family

7:15 PM **Deacon Michael Chase**, req. by Friends

Sunday, September 10, 2023

8 AM **Sirkka Duggan**, req. by Friends

10:15 AM **Stase Vaitkunas**, req. by Daughter;

Kathleen Loftus, req. by Family

12:15 PM **Joseph James Donovan, Sr. (8th Anniv.)**, req. by Family; **Rosalyn Gentile Walsh (Birthday Remembrance)**, req. by Grandson Thomas Vancelette

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

Monday, September 11, 2023

6:15 PM **9/11 Victims and their Families**, req. by Friends

Tuesday, September 12, 2023

6:15 PM **Health and Intentions of Katherine Johnson**, req. by Family; **Timothy Earls (Birthday Blessings)**, req. by Family

Wednesday, September 13, 2023

6:15 PM **Joe Hickey**, req. by Family

Thursday, September 14, 2023

6:15 PM **George and William Comptois**, req. by Family

Friday, September 15, 2023

6:15 PM **Health and Intentions of Frances Soria**, req. by Family

Saturday, September 16, 2023

4:15 PM **William Abbruzzese (8th Anniv.)** req. by Family; **Joseph Ginkus, Jr. (Month's Mind)**, req. by Mike and Luis

7:15 PM **Rose and Joseph Pezzella**, req. by Family

Sunday, September 17, 2023

8 AM **Peggy Palmer (14th Anniv.)**, req. by Family

10:15 AM **In Honor of Gabriella Ruth's 22nd Birthday**, req. by her Godmother

12:15 PM **Caroline Sullivan**, req. by Lucia Baldowski

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

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

Dear Friends in the Lord,

Welcome to another school year! Boy did the summer fly by. It is always way too short for me. Never enough days to sit on the beach and marvel at the beauty of the ocean. As my brother-in-law always says, "Time flies like the wind, but fruit flies like bananas."

The schedules for both Religious Education and First Reconciliation/Eucharist are on the parish website. Regular Rel Ed classes start September 17; grades 1-6 at 9 am, grades 7-9 at 11:15 am. As always, there is the option of home study for your children. Pflaum Gospel Weeklies has a digital format for their program, and it is the same as what we use in the classroom. If you want this option, register your child as usual, and email me that you want the home study. First Reconciliation starts in January, taught by Donna Mastrovito. Thank God for Donna! She's done this for over 30 years, and her students are very well prepared to receive Jesus for the first time at Mass. Confirmation class begins October 4, starting with 6:15 pm Mass and then with lessons until 8 pm. Please make sure to fill out the Confirmation registration form online, not the Religious Education form. And with First Communion, you need to fill out both forms.

We always welcome volunteers; in fact we love them! There are many ways to help out: teaching, classroom aide, hospitality, door monitor, special events, even office work. If you feel God calling you to any of these, please let me know. You may email me at dhgustowski@gmail.com or leave a message at the rectory.

I have often said, when I am physically unable to help out with something, "Well, I'll just have to pray for them" as if prayer is a last resort. Prayer is always our FIRST resort. The most important thing we can do is pray. So, if you like to pray (and who doesn't!) please join our new Rel Ed Prayer Team. The current plan is to commit to daily prayer for our students, families, teachers, and benefactors, then a monthly rosary after daily Mass where we pray for each child by name. Just drop me a message and I will give you more information.

I am beginning my 11th year of Religious Ed Coordinator here at St. John's. Unbelievable! I cannot thank Fr. Madden enough for this incredible blessing. And the words just don't exist for me to express the gratitude I have for you, the People of St. John's, for allowing me to help teach the Catholic faith to your children. It is an absolute blessing, and a privilege, to share my love of the Catholic faith with all of you. May God bless you all in abundance, today and always.

Dianne H. Gustowski,
Religious Education Coordinator

THE TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

THIS WEEKEND'S HYMNS

Int.: "Righteous are You, O Lord, and upright and just are
Your judgements; Look upon Your servant according to
Your mercy and goodness."

Op.: # 833 All Are Welcome

Ps 75 "If today you hear His voice, harden not your hearts."

Alleluia: "God was reconciling the world to Himself in
Christ, and entrusting to us the message of reconciliation."

Prep.: # 819 How Good and Pleasant, Lord, It Is

Comm.: O Lord, You know all things; You know that I love
you. You know that I love you.

Cl.: #728 Where Christ Is, Your Church Is There

TODAY'S READINGS ARE AT #1175 IN THE HYMNAL

Sir 27:30-28:7

Psalm 95

Rom 14:7-9

Mt 18:21-35

LIVE STREAMING MASSES will continue on the Parish Facebook Page 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 AND ADULT CONFIRMATION – any person over 18 who is interested in receiving the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation and the Eucharist is welcome to join our RCIA program. We will begin the Inquiry phase on Monday, October 2 at 7:00 PM in the rectory. Please call or email the rectory with any questions and to register. Thank you to those who have already registered.

PARISH CHOIR– The Music Ministry at St. John's is proud to announce that the Parish Choir is coming back this fall! Anyone who was previously a member or would like to join new, please contact Ed Lally edlallycc@gmail.com. No prior experience is necessary, just a love of music and willingness to learn. All are welcome.

THE SCHOLA CANTORUM OF SAINT JOHN'S returns from Summer break this Sunday at the 7:15 PM Mass. You can hear this group of amazing singers every Sunday evening at the 7:15 PM Mass where they will add beauty to our Catholic Liturgy.

CATHOLIC BOOK CLUB – the monthly book club will meet on Monday, September 25th at 7:00 p.m. in the rectory. We will discuss *Why They Follow: Lessons in Church Communication from that One Lost Sheep* by Matthew Warner. A vital topic for the future of the parish. If you would like to have a copy of the book, we only have one left, please notify the rectory and arrange a pick up time.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION– The 2023-2024 Religious Education schedule and registration information is up on the parish website. If you are willing to volunteer for Religious Ed, please indicate so on the registration form. Please reach out to Dianne at dhgustowski@gmail.com with any questions.

BUS TRIP TO ST. THERESA'S SHRINE AND WRIGHTS CHICKEN FARM – On Thursday, October 19, we will celebrate the 100th year of the shrine in Burrillville, RI. The cost is \$40.00 a person and includes round trip coach to the Shrine and to Wright's Chicken Farm for an all you can eat Lunch which includes Salad, Pasta, Chicken, French Fries, Rolls & Butter, Coffee and Dessert. Seats are limited, if interested send cash or check payable to St. John's Church, by October 1st. We will leave the church parking lot at 10: 30 AM and return by 5:30 PM. The Vatican stated "plenary indulgence is available to all those who visit the Shrine during the Centennial Year." If you have any questions call Judy Burke (508) 478-9813

THE ST. RAFOA PRAYER SHAWL GROUP will resume meeting on Wednesday Sept 13 at 9:30-11:00 am in the downstairs chapel. If you knit or crochet or want to learn, we would love you to come! All are welcome! If you have any questions please call Connie at 774-262-2512. Can't wait to see you!

VOCATION REFLECTION: TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – "What profit would there be for one to gain the whole world and forfeit his life?" Are you being called to be a priest or deacon, brother or sister? Contact the Vocation Office at (508)-630-4473 or email: dinfante@saintpaulknights.org.

In Our Catholic Community...

OUR MONTHLY MASS FOR HEALING – will be celebrated on Monday, September 25. After the 6:15 PM Mass, the Sacrament of the Sick will be administered to those seeking God's healing and merciful grace.

FAMILIES SEEKING FAMILIES TO JOIN THEM FOR FAM BAM (BREAKFAST AFTER MASS) - Come and share some donuts, coffee, and fellowship with other young families in our St. John's Parish after the 8AM Mass on September 24, 2023. We will have breakfast food and activities for the kids so that parents and children alike will be able to socialize! We look forward to seeing you there!

MIRACULOUS MEDAL NOVENA AT OUR LADY OF LORETO CHURCH IN WORCESTER - Our Lady's Annual Miraculous Medal Novena continues for nine consecutive Tuesday nights, ending on Oct. 31st. Mark the dates and plan to come and bring a friend. This year's speakers (in order) are: Rev. Lucas Laroche, Rev. Jonathan Slavinkas, Bishop Robert McManus, Rev. Richard Polek, Rev. Kenneth Cardinale, Deacon Donald Pegg, Deacon Paul Audette, Rev. Frederick Fraini and Rev. Paul O'Connell.

THE IGNATIAN SPIRITUAL EXERCISES IN EVERYDAY LIFE, a 30-week directed prayer experience will begin on September 26, 2023, at St. Peter's Church in Worcester, Ma. More information and an application form are available at IgnatianSpiritualExercisesworcester.com or by sending an email to worcspx19@gmail.com. Applications are due by Sept 7th. For more information please feel free to call Dick Kirk at (508) 887-0107.

"LOVE & TRANSFORMATION," a special concert by Jane Shivick, soprano & Olga Rogach, pianist at Mechanics Hall on 9/24/23 at 4PM. Tickets are \$35, \$25 with special pricing for students and young people available at www.mechanicshall.org. This concert is given in memory of Todd A. Dickie.

Financial Report

This weekend we received \$6054.00. We also received:

Monthly- \$1779.00 Restoration- \$265.00
Stipends- \$490.00

Total- \$8588.00.00 Unrestricted- \$8323.00 Restricted- \$265.00

Expenses- \$13,187.75

Administration (8285.78) Lithuanian Reception (138.38) Schola (703.64) Funerals (152.80) House (1358.32) Clergy Benefit Plan (1132.00) Haitian Apostolate (530.00) Altar (119.36) Copier (475.00)

FOOD FOR THE POOR DONATIONS: \$10 from a friend; \$25 from a friend; \$100 from a friend; \$500 from a friend; \$100 from a friend; \$100 from a friend; \$10 from a friend; \$50 from a friend; \$50 from a friend; \$100 IMO Graciano and Luzonia; \$40 Imo C. Michael Lavin; \$50 IMO William Kennedy; \$20 Birthday Gift for Mr. and Mrs. Robert Giasi; \$100 IMO John Bowler; \$50 IMO Jack O'Loughlin; \$50 IMO John and Helen Hogan; \$75 IMO Bonnie Lemoine

FFTP Income- \$1081.00

FFTP Expenses- \$7735.13

There is one collection this weekend. Next Weekend's Second Collection is the One Day's Pay Collection.

Our Parish Community...

...Offers prayers and condolences to the families of Joanne Shea and Bobby Guthro who has been born into eternal life.

WORD OF LIFE:

"Make it a practice to judge persons and things in the most favorable light at all times and under all circumstances."

St. Vincent de Paul