

"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

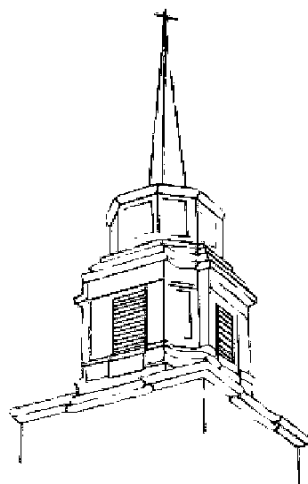
Edward Lally, Director
Lucia Clemente Falco, Asst.

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, November 11, 2023

4:15 PM **Michele A. Sargent (4th Anniv.)**, req. by Family; **George and William Comptois**, req. by Family

7:15 PM **Sirkka Duggan**, req. by Family

Sunday, November 12, 2023

8 AM **Lillian**, req. by a Friend; **Genevieve B. Powers**, req. by Family

10:15 AM **Deb Schofield (2nd Anniv.)**, req. by Daughter Kerrie; **Birthday Blessings for Louise Landen**, req. by Friends

12:15 PM **Joshua Kozaczka (4th Anniv.)**, req. by Family; **Raymond P. Turgeon, Sr.**, req. by Wife and Sons

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

Monday, November 13, 2023

6:15 PM **Patricia Heald (Month's Mind)**, req. by Family

Tuesday, November 14, 2023

6:15 PM **Edward Bazylewicz**, req. by Friends

Wednesday, November 15, 2023

6:15 PM **Marjorie Habib**, req. by Family

Thursday, November 16, 2023

6:15 PM **Gaetano Corso**, req. by Friends

Friday, November 17, 2023

6:15 PM **Liam Matthew Campbell (Birthday Blessings)**, req. by Family

Saturday, November 18, 2023

4:15 PM **Eleanor Prevoski**, req. by Family;

Theodore and Leone Gage, req. by Family

7:15 PM **Thelma Cormier**, req. by Family; **Emile Dumas, Steven and Angelina Troio**, req. by Family

Sunday, November 19, 2023

8 AM **Genevieve B. Powers (14th Anniv.)**, req. by Family

10:15 AM **Josephine and Joseph Zalieckas**, req. by Family; **Ruben and Ricardo Almeida**, req. by Family

12:15 PM **Patricia Coyne (Month's Mind)** req. by Family; **Paul Jarosevicz (2nd Anniv.)**, req. by Marshall Family

7:15 PM **Joshua & Sophie Kozaczka**, req. by Family; **Bobby Young**, req. by Dave Young

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

Dear Friends in the Lord,

You may know that our friend and former associate Pastor, Fr Sebastian is now the Pastor of St. Richard's in Sterling. You will not be surprised to know that he is doing a great job and the people love him. I know this because I recently participated in the All Souls Novena held at St. Richard's. The day that I chose to preach happened to be the one focused on Hell. Fr. Sebastian offered me the chance to choose another day. However, I felt that the passages from Matthew's Gospel over these last several weeks have instructed us on the nature and danger of Hell. This instruction continues today.

As we have learned over the years, the parables of Jesus have several levels to them. Often enough, as with today's Parable of the Ten Virgins, the superficial level is off putting. Jesus reveals to us that God is Father (Abba) who is kind and merciful, slow to anger and rich in compassion. Not a Lord, like the one in the parable, who will not opened the locked door as He claims not to know us. Jesus teaches us that whatever we do for the least among us we do for him. Yet, the so-called "wise" virgins refuse to help the others in their need, but they freely enter the wedding banquet. This does not make sense. There is a good reason for this. This is not what the parable is about. Rather, the parable is about what we do with the invitation extended to us all to take our place in the kingdom of God.

Gerhard Lohfink points out that *the role of the torchbearing friends of the bride should not be underestimated. They were of signal importance for the feast. If they all arrived with burnt out torches it would be a profound humiliation for the bride and the village gossip about it would go on for years. Then in fact "the light would have gone out." We simply cannot imagine nowadays how quickly a bride's honor would be damaged in that time and place...A bridal procession without torches – our parable simply presumes – would have been a catastrophe. The wise bridesmaids who refused to share really saved the feast.*

In Matthew, Jesus exhorts: *I tell you, unless your righteousness surpasses that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will not enter the kingdom of heaven. (Mt. 5:20)* The Lord is kind and merciful, slow to anger and rich in compassion, but we must respond to that love, share that love or it will dry up and disappear. More than that, still, we must be vigilant and ready, because there is a lot at stake – the eternal banquet in heaven

In Christ's Peace,
Fr John Madden

THE THIRTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

THIS WEEKEND'S HYMNS

Entrance Song: *Sleepers, Wake!* #409

Gloria: *from Mass in Honor of San Romero*

Psalm 63

Resp: "My soul is thirsting for You, O Lord, my God."

Offertory: *Awaken, Sleepers* #393

Communion Chant: "*For You, O Lord, my soul in stillness waits; truly my hope is in You.*"

Sending Forth: *Soon and Very Soon* #861

TODAY'S READINGS ARE AT #1202 IN THE HYMNAL

Wis 6:12-16

1 Thes 4:13-18

Mt 25:1-13

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 program. We have begun the Inquiry phase and will meet on this Monday, November 13 at 7:00 PM in the rectory. Please call or email the rectory with any questions.

VOCATION REFLECTION: THIRTY FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – "Then we who are alive, who remain, will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and so we will always be with the Lord." Consider the generous service of priesthood or consecrated life to lead others to the Lord. Contact the Vocation Office at (508)-630-4473 or email: dinfante@saintpaulknights.org.

OUR FILIPINO COMMUNITY AND CHOIR will gather with us at the 4:15 PM Mass on Saturday, November 25. After the Mass, we will gather in the St. Francis Xavier Center to celebrate Thanksgiving with a potluck supper and for some fun, some music and a raffle to benefit our Food for the Poor Program.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Grades 1-6– Next class is Sunday, November 12 at 9 AM in the church hall.

Grades 7-9– Next class is Sunday, November 12 at 11:15 AM in the church hall.

Confirmation– Next class is Tuesday, November 14 starting with Mass in the Chapel. Registration is closed.

RELIGIOUS ED ANNUAL SUPPLY DRIVE

Our annual Supply Drive for the Xavier Center guests continues this weekend. Bags are available in the back of the church with the list printed on it. Please bring the bags filled no later than November 19 (date on the bag is a typo). Thanks so much for your generosity!

MASS GREETERS NEEDED – along with our "Bring a Family or Friend to Mass" effort, we are hoping to have greeters at every Mass. It would be terrific to have every person entering St. John's receive a personal welcome. If you are interested, please contact the office with your email address and the Mass(es) you prefer. The Last Monday of the Month group will be in touch with you regarding scheduling.

THANKSGIVING BASKETS– we will be distributing baskets to the less fortunate on Tuesday, November 21 from 11-2 at the Xavier Center. We are always in need of donations of baskets (turkeys and all the fixins!) and can always use help setting up and distributing the baskets. If you are willing to donate a basket, please email the rectory. Baskets can be dropped off anytime to the rectory or Xavier Center before 11/21. If you would like to volunteer that day, please arrive by 10 AM. Thank you.

OUR FRIEND, MAYSOON KHAIR WILL BE WITH US ON NOVEMBER 18 & 19 – she is representing over a hundred Christian families who make their livelihood through the selling of their hand carved olive wood religious articles. After all the Masses there will be a display of these beautiful hand carved religious items; such as Nativity scenes, crucifix, rosaries, Last Supper and many other beautiful religious statues. Please stop by and look over the carvings that are available and help support this self-help project to keep the Children and the Christians living in the Holy Land. Thanks you and God Bless you.

In Our Catholic Community...

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

BLB TURKEY TROT-Thanksgiving Morning come Run, Walk or Wobble in the Holden Turkey Trot and help support the Be Like Brit Foundation and local food pantries like St. John's Food for the Poor Program. To sign up or sponsor visit BeLikeBrit.org/TurkeyTrot.

THE BE LIKE BRIT FOUNDATION will be in the back of the church after all Masses this weekend, November 11th & 12th. Please be sure to stop by to say hello and learn more about the work they are doing in Haiti and the relationship between the St. John's Church Community and Brit's Home. We have been blessed, as a community and as individuals, to be involved in their ongoing mission of leading young people in Haiti from heartache to hope.

EVENING VESPERS FOR THE SOLEMNITY OF CHRIST THE KING IN WORCESTER - In recognition of the recent appointment of Msgr. Richard Reidy as a Chaplain to His Holiness, Bishop McManus welcomes you to join the diocesan family in blessing this papal honor at Evening Vespers on the Solemnity of Christ the King, Sunday Nov. 26 at 5:00 pm at Cathedral of St. Paul, 19 Chatham St., Worcester, followed by a reception with light refreshments. All are welcome.

TURKEY SHOOT IN LEICESTER- Leicester Knights of Columbus on 90 Manville St. Leicester will hold their annual Turkey Shoot on Sunday, November 19. Doors open at 12 noon, first game begins at 1 pm. Game cards are 50 cents each. Prizes include turkeys and gift cards. There will also be a Thanksgiving Dinner basket, raffle table and 50/50 raffle.

Financial Report

Last weekend we received \$9467.00. We also received:
Monthly- \$2136.00 Restoration- \$309.00
Holy Days- \$1605.00 Stipends- \$425.00
Donation- \$2,000.00 Christmas- \$40.00

Total- \$15,982.00 Unrestricted- \$15,673.00 Restricted- \$309.00

Expenses- \$15,969.87
Schola (1542.84) House (1766.61) Altar (295.99) Administration (7828.70) Clergy Benefit Plan (1132.00) Snow Plow Contract (3200.00) Office (50.93) Funerals (152.80)

FOOD FOR THE POOR DONATIONS: \$1,000 from a friend; \$25 from a friend; \$50 from a friend; \$18 from a friend; \$50 from a friend; \$10 from a friend; \$200 from a friend; \$50 from a friend; \$100 from a friend; \$25 from a friend; \$500 from a friend; \$500 IMO Michael Clancy; \$500 for Thanksgiving Baskets; \$50 IMO C. Michael Lavin; \$50 IMO David Zglobicki; \$75 IMO Daniel O'Sullivan; \$50 IMO Domenic Migliacci; \$130 IMO Marcy Meehan; \$100 IMO Cirilo and Matilde F. Varias

Food for the Poor

Income- \$7851.24
Expenses- \$16,528.16

There is one collection this weekend. Next weekend's second collection is the Catholic Campaign for Human Development.

Our Parish Community...

...Offers prayers and condolences to the families of Richard Drago, Daniel O'Sullivan, Cody Dorman, Geraldine O'Donnell and Fr. Donald Senior, C.P. who have been born into eternal life.

WORD OF LIFE:

"Genuine Christianity is based on knowing Jesus. The urgency of the Christian mission since its beginning has been that people should come to know Jesus personally and, because of that relationship, to transform their lives. To know someone in this sense presumes an intimate interlocking of lives and fate. The language of a relationship like this is not curiosity or exploitation but love."

**Fr. Donald Senior, C.P.
(Passed away November 8, 2023)**