

*"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)

**PARISH STAFF**

**Pastor**

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

**Associate Pastor**

Fr. Jean Robert Simbert Brice

**Deacon**

Eduardas Meilus

**Coordinators of  
Religious Education**

Donna Mastrovito  
Dianne Gustowski

**Music Ministry**

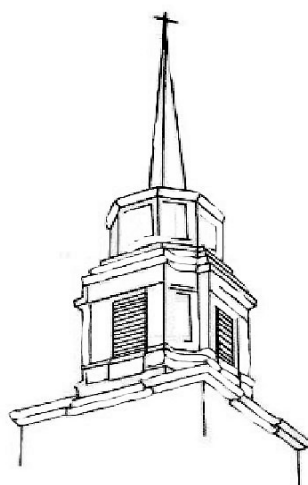
Edward Lally, Director  
Lucia Clemente Falco, Asst.

**Sacristan**

Dolores Vito

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

Raphael Mesadieu



**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**

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, July 19, 2025

4:15 PM **Paul Jackson**, req. by Family; **Kurtis Clark**, req. by Peter Wood

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

### Sunday, July 20, 2025

8 AM **Joe Hickey** req. by Friends

10:15 AM **Terri Meilus (12th Anniv.)**, req. by Husband Deacon Ed; **George Gallant (42nd Anniv.)**, req. by Family; **Ellen H. Shea and Lore Halpin**, req. by Family

12:15 PM **Albert Scola (9th Anniv.)**, req. by Family; **Iveta Ice**, req. by Friends

7:15 PM **Paul Letsky**, req. by Friends

### Monday, July 21, 2025

6:15 PM **Francisco Austriaco**, req. by Family

### Tuesday, July 22, 2025

6:15 PM **Jack Carney, Richie McMahon, Ray and Bob Hopkins**, req. by a Friend

### Wednesday, July 23, 2025

6:15 PM **Val Halamandaris**, req. by Family; **Lolita Catalan**, req. by Family

### Thursday, July 24, 2025

6:15 PM **Jack Carney, Richie McMahon, Ray and Bob Hopkins**, req. by a Friend

### Friday, July 25, 2025

6:15 PM **Jack Carney, Richie McMahon, Ray and Bob Hopkins**, req. by a Friend

### Saturday, July 26, 2025

4:15 PM **Wolf Wolfensberger**, req. by Family; **Living and Deceased Members of the McNamara and Kelley Families**, req. by Family  
7:15 PM **Blanca Ortega**, req. by Friends

### Sunday, July 27, 2025

8 AM **Bill Palmer (17th Anniv.)**, req. by Family  
10:15 AM **Melissa Stania and Cristina Olivo**, req. by Family; **Mary Hayes**, req. by Joe Fitzgerald; **Francis and Madeline Leazes (Anniv. Mass)**, req. by Chip  
12:15 PM **Sam Richard Olen (1st Anniv.)**, req. by Family  
7:15 PM **Michael Gonsalves**, req. by Friends

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

Dear Friends in the Lord,

Many thanks for your generosity to Fr. Joseph Do Trinh in last week's second collection on behalf of the Diocese of Long Xuyen in Vietnam. He is a wonderful and dedicated young priest. It was a pleasure to have him with us. As you heard, he was moved and grateful for our parish's history of generosity in welcoming Vietnamese refugees to the United States, to Worcester and to St. John's. I found his thoughts and words particularly striking given the present climate regarding immigration. Most of us realize that we need to regulate the number of people that we can welcome and none of us would think it wise to welcome criminals. Still, I hope that most people, particularly Christians, would follow the example of our ancestors here on Temple Street. I pray, as I am sure you do, that the meanness that is being displayed ends now.

This week, we were blessed by the several parishioners who answered the call to serve as liturgical ministers. There is one more orientation and training session scheduled for this Monday, July 21 at 7:00 p.m. in the main church. Everyone is welcome. Even if you are considering but are unsure of becoming a Lector or Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion, please attend. If Monday is not a good time, contact me and we can find a time which would work for us. My hope is to return to offering the opportunity to receive the Eucharist under both species. More ministers would make this more feasible. Thank you.

Today's Gospel passage recounting Jesus' visit to the home of Martha, Mary and Lazarus for dinner is an interesting follow up to last week's passage which presented the Parable of the Good Samaritan. Actually, it is, I think, the perfect follow up. As Fr. Joseph reflected, the Parable puts flesh not only on the Great Commandment, but also on our patron, John's clear statement that anyone who says that they love God but hates their neighbor is a liar. In effect, it is both or neither.

And yet...Jesus tells Martha that *Mary has chosen the better part*. Essentially, he says the same thing in responding to the scholar of the law who was testing him. *You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul and with all your mind. This the greatest and first commandment. The second is like it.* We call it the Great Commandment – singular, not plural. We do not truly follow one without the other. Fr. Joseph said, clearly and correctly, they cannot be separated.

And yet...the chaos of the world today is directly attributable to tragic truth that, unlike Mary, too many of us have not chosen the better part. Too often we care about winning an argument than following God's will, we want to be right far more than we want to be good. For those who love God, though, there is always hope. Remember Jesus full statement is: *Mary has chosen the better part and it will not be taken from her.*

In Christ's Peace, Fr John Madden

## ***THE SIXTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME***

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

We Praise You, O God #634

Psalms 15: Those Who Walk the Way of Justice

Resp: "Those who walk the way of justice will live in the presence of God."

Offertory— Lord, Grant Us Grace to Know the Time #750

Communion: "Receive the Living God" #923

Resp: "I receive the living God and my heart is full of joy"

Sending Forth— Christ, the Way We're Called to Follow #762

### **TODAY'S READINGS ARE AT #1156 IN THE HYMNAL**

Gn 18:1-10a

Col 1:24-28

Lk 10:38-42

### **VOCATION REFLECTION – SIXTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

- "Mary has chosen the better part." Does a life of prayer and service as a priest, deacon or in the consecrated life attract you? Contact the Vocation Office at 508-630-4473 or send an email to [donato.infante@gmail.com](mailto:donato.infante@gmail.com).

**PARTNERS IN CHARITY** – Thanks to all our parishioners who have made their gift to the 2025 Partners in Charity Appeal. We have received gifts and pledges in the amount of \$69,130.00 towards our goal of \$76,600. If you have not yet made a gift or pledge, please fill out a commitment pledge envelope located in the church or visit [www.partners-charity.net](http://www.partners-charity.net) to do it online. Thank you!

**THE SHOWER TRAILER**— continues to welcome all donations of clothing and toiletries, however, we are specifically in need of men's small and medium underwear as well as single use razors. Thank you to the St. John's community for all your support.

**OUR COFFEE SHOPPE** is open this weekend after the 10:15 AM Mass. All are welcome to join us for a gathering in the church hall. If you are able to volunteer, please speak to RoxAnn Gusar (508-769-0187) or Dan and Deb Donovan (508-735-9345).

**ST. JOHN'S FOOD FOR THE POOR** is in the process of putting together an electronic mailing list for our database. We would like to be able to email news, events, fundraisers and any other Xavier Center news that we would like you to know about. If you are interested in receiving these emails please email Krystal at [krystal@stjohnsfoodforthe poor.org](mailto:krystal@stjohnsfoodforthe poor.org) and she will add you to the list. Thank you for your support.

**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASSES** begin Sunday, September 21. The tentative schedule is available in the back of the church, and posted on the parish website. Registration opens Monday, July 14. We are in need of a 9th grade teacher and classroom aides. Please contact Dianne at [dhgustowski@gmail.com](mailto:dhgustowski@gmail.com) if interested.

**CONFIRMATION CLASSES** begin Tuesday, October 7. The tentative schedule is available in the back of the church and on the parish website. High Schoolers aged 15+ are eligible. Registration opens Monday, July 14. A 10-hour service commitment is required. If your child wishes to get a head start on this over the summer please contact Dianne at [dhgustowski@gmail.com](mailto:dhgustowski@gmail.com), or call 774-670-3674.

**SAVE THE DATE DINNER SHOW**- St. John's Social Committee is Sponsoring a Dinner and a show on Saturday, September 13th, after the 4:15 PM Mass. The Dinner includes a Buffet of Fresh Garden Salad, Rolls & Butter, Pot Roast, Seasonal Vegetables, Roasted Potatoes, Stuffed Chicken Breast, & Vegetable Lasagna. Coffee and Tea with Ice Cream for Dessert. The Show a Neil Diamond Tribute featuring Charlie Lask. Charlie doesn't consider himself a impersonator, but a tribute artist who adds a twist of Charlie Lask to every song. Great Dinner and Show all for \$35.00 per Person. Also, there will be Raffle Baskets and a 50/50 Raffle. All proceeds will benefit St John's Food for the Poor. Tickets will be sold at some Masses or by calling Judy Burke (508) 478-9813. Get your tickets early, limited seating.

**IGNATIAN VOLUNTEER CORPS (IVC)** New England is interviewing applicants now for fall openings. IVC Service Corps Members combine direct service opportunities at local non-profits serving those in need in our communities with monthly spiritual reflection in the Jesuit tradition. Volunteers, 50 years of age and better, serve one or two full days/week from September through June. For more information and an application, contact IVC New England Director Dave Hinchin at [dhinchin@ivcusa.org](mailto:dhinchin@ivcusa.org) or check out our website [ivcusa.org/newengland](http://ivcusa.org/newengland).

### **In Our Catholic Community...**

**OUR MONTHLY MASS FOR HEALING** – will be celebrated on Monday, July 28. After the 6:15 PM Mass, the Sacrament of the Sick will be administered to those seeking God’s healing and merciful grace.

**OUTDOOR MASS AT NEW MARIAN GROTTO IN WORCESTER** - On the Solemnity of the Assumption of Mary, Friday, Aug 15 at 6 pm, outdoor Mass will be celebrated at the Marian Grotto at St. Joan of Arc Church, Worcester. We shall pray the rosary at 5: 30 pm. There will be a special offertory to help with our two major projects (air-conditioning in the Church and pavers). There will be ice cream immediately after the Mass. Please come with your portable lawn chairs if you can. A few chairs will be available for those who don't have one.

**THE RETREAT IN DAILY LIFE**- A 30-week prayer experience in the tradition of St. Ignatius of Loyola will be held at St. Peter’s Church in Worcester beginning September 30, 2025. Offered by a team of Jesuit trained people experienced in Ignatian prayer and the Spiritual Exercises. There is an information night explaining the Retreat in Daily Life, held on Tuesday, July 29th, 6:30pm at St. Peter’s Church, 929 Main St., Worcester. You can read about this retreat at [IgnatianSpiritualExercisesWorcester.com](http://IgnatianSpiritualExercisesWorcester.com). We also have a recorded version from past years available on the website above.

**PARISH FESTIVAL IN OXFORD**- The Annual St. Roch Festival will take place Saturday, July 26 at St. Roch, 334 Main St., Oxford. The fun begins under the Big Tent at 10:00 am. Raffles, Fried Dough, Strawberry Shortcake, Desserts, Music, Adult Games: Bocci, Cornhole plus more! Burgers, Dogs, Sausage & Peppers, Pulled Pork will be served 10:00-3:00. All children’s activities are free including cold drinks, prizes and more! All are welcome!

### **Financial Report**

Last weekend we received \$6588.90. We also received:

Mission Co-Op- \$4794.00      Stipends- \$160.00

Total- \$11,542.90 Unrestricted- \$6748.90 Restricted- \$4794.00

Expenses- \$13,434.77

House (715.15) Rectory Office Repair (3387.00) Administration (3883.62) Schola (818.76) Altar (735.00) Church Hall (341.80) Clergy Benefits (1132.00) Funerals (600.00) Federal Payroll Taxes (1401.44) Peter’s Pence (420.00)

**Food for the Poor Donations** - \$100 IMO Robert Henry, Martha Santom, Henry and Angela Gorak; \$3352 from a friend; \$50 from a friend; \$50 from a friend; \$150 from a friend; \$300 IMO Albert Scola; \$170 IMO Joe Cote; \$115 IMO Joan Brenner; \$1,000 from the Estate of Alice C. Gannon; \$75 IMO Donna Domiziano; \$100 IHO Charles Oroszko’s Birthday

#### **FOOD FOR THE POOR:**

Income– \$34,307.56

Golf Tournament- \$800.00

Expenses- \$14,130.00

There is one collection this weekend

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

...Offers prayers and condolences for the families of Fr. Thomas Hultquist, Fr. Thomas Egan, Joyce Matlock, Adam Brouillette and Christopher Conlon who have been born into eternal life.

## **WORD OF LIFE**

**“I am certain that at the end truth will triumph over lies,  
and love will overcome hatred.”**

**Blessed Paul Peter Gojdic**