

"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

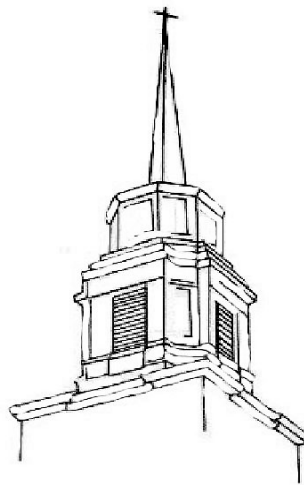
Edward Lally, Director
Lucia Clemente Falco, Asst.

Sacristan

Dolores Vito

Director of St. FX Center

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

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, August 2, 2025

4:15 PM **All Souls in Purgatory and Deceased Members of F.O.S.S.; James Kimbar (Month's Mind)**, req. by Family

7:15 PM **John Sofrin**, req. by Friends

Sunday, August 3, 2025

8 AM **Linda Brunelle**, req. by Alfred Roy and Sons Funeral Home

10:15 AM **Rita Gallant (15th Anniv.)**, req. by Family

12:15 PM **Ernest Brackett, Sr. (7th Anniv.)**, req. by Family

7:15 PM **Joe Hickey**, req. by Friends

Monday, August 4, 2025

6:15 PM **Living and Deceased Members of the McNamara and Kelley Families**, req. by Family

Tuesday, August 5, 2025

6:15 PM **Fr. Michael Beard, Fr. Mahan and Bishop Fulton Sheen**, req. by Family

Wednesday, August 6, 2025

6:15 PM **Normita Siron Cortez**, req. by Norma Nunag

Thursday, August 7, 2025

6:15 PM **Sirkka Duggan**, req. by Friends

Friday, August 8, 2025

6:15 PM **Blanca Ortega**, req. by a Friend

Saturday, August 9, 2025

4:15 PM **Louis R. Boucher (4th Anniv.)**, req. by Family; **Joseph Ginkus (2nd Anniv.)**, req. by Family

7:15 PM **Dennis Cashman**, req. by Friends

Sunday, August 10, 2025

8 AM **Mary Gladys Craig**, req. by Phil and Hyla Hunt

10:15 AM **Anne and Gilbert Franco**, req. by Family

12:15 PM **Peter Perduta**, req. by Family

7:15 PM **Marie Young**, req. by Dave Young; **David Cox (11th Aniv.)**, req. by sister Karen Shaughnessy

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

Dear Friends in the Lord,

This week I finished the first novel of the wife of the nephew of a friend of mine. It's not exactly "six degrees of Kevin Bacon," but it was enough for me to pick up the book. I am quite glad that I did. Mary Beth Keane proclaims at the top of the book cover that *Penitence* by Kristin Koval is: "*A gripping page-turner and a loving exploration of what it means to forgive.*" I agree. As disciples of Jesus Christ, a fundamental part of our call is to engage in "a loving exploration of what it means to forgive." To that end, I loved how Koval portrays each character in the novel as flawed and, still, lovable and loving. Isn't this one of our fundamental challenges? We need to accept ourselves and each other as flawed first by original sin and then, by the choices that we have made. So that we can allow this acceptance to lead us to a recognition of ourselves and others as lovable and loving which helps us all in becoming forgiving and forgiven people.

Today, in the Gospel parable, Jesus reminds us of the need to be *rich in what matters to God*. In the second reading, St. Paul tells the Colossians – and us – the only way to achieve this wealth is to *seek what is above...to think of what is above*. St. Alphonsus Ligouri, whose feast we celebrated this week, offers a necessary insight for accomplishing this goal: *To put into practice the teachings of our holy faith, it is not enough to convince ourselves that they are true; we must love them. Love united to faith makes us practice our religion*. It is critical that we come to love to pray, to serve, to forgive. This love is the blessed fruit of a daily examination of conscience. I recommend the Examen of St. Ignatius of Loyola, whose feast we celebrated this week. Through it we will find that we love to pray more than scrolling on our phones; to serve more than to indulge, to forgive more than to pass judgement.

Though I hesitate to mention anything that might hint at the end of summer, I did want to inform you that our book club will resume on Monday, September 29 at 7:00 p.m. in the rectory. Fortunately, this is still several weeks away. Many thanks to those who emailed book suggestions to me. We have plenty of good choices to keep us going. For September, our selection is *Listening Together: Meditations on Synodality* by Timothy Radcliffe, OP. This is the full collection of conference talks from Pope Francis' appointed retreat master heard first during the historic October 2023 General Assembly of the Synod on Synodality. We have access to copies of the book, if anyone is need of one. All are welcome.

In Christ's Peace,
Fr John Madden

THE EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

THIS WEEKEND'S HYMNS

Entrance Song: "We Praise You, O God #634

Ps 90: O Lord, You Turn Us Back to Dust

Resp: "If today you hear His voice, harden not your hearts."

Offertory- Lord, Teach Us How to Pray #658

Communion: Center of my Life #678

Resp: "O Lord, you are the center of my life: I will always praise you, I will always serve you, I will always keep you in my sight."

Sending Forth- For God Risk Everything! #778

TODAY'S READINGS ARE AT #1162 IN THE HYMNAL

Ecc1 1:2; 2:21-23

Col 3:1-5, 9-11

Lk 12:13-21

VOCATION REFLECTION – EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

- "One's life does not consist in the abundance of possessions." If simplicity of life and the evangelical counsels of poverty, chastity and obedience especially attract you, discover that life as a priest, deacon, sister or brother. Contact the Vocation Office at (508) 630-4473 or email: 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 exceeding our goal of \$76,600. Thank you!

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@stjohnsfoodforthepoor.org and she will add you to the list. Thank you for your support.

PERNET 70TH ANNIVERSARY - Please join us as we celebrate 70 years of strengthening Worcester area families! The Little Sisters of the Assumption and Pernet Family Health Service invite you to a Mass of Thanksgiving on Saturday, Aug. 16 at 10:00 a.m. in the Chapel of the Holy Spirit at Assumption University. A brunch reception will follow. Kindly respond with the number of brunch attendees to rharpin@pernetfamilyhealth.org or (508) 755-1228 no later than August 1.

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 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, 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 or check out our website ivcusa.org/newengland.

In Our Catholic Community...

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

ITALIAN FESTIVAL 2025 - Our Lady of Mt. Carmel and Our Lady of Loreto Parish invites you to our Italian Festival at 37 Massasoit Rd., Worcester. Hours of operation are: Thursday, Aug. 14 (5-10 pm), Friday, Aug. 15 (5-10 pm), Saturday, Aug. 16 (Noon-10 pm), and Sunday, Aug. 17 (Noon - 6 pm). Come and enjoy Fried Dough, Sausage Sandwiches, Hamburgers & Hot Dogs, Beer & Wine, and, of course, ITALIAN COOKIES!! There will also be participation by Boulevard Diner, a Cannoli Truck, an Ice Cream Truck, and other great vendors. For entertainment we will have Boom Box, XS Band, Decades by Dezyne for the adults, Bouncy Houses for the kids, and Italian Novelties, as well as a Money Raffle. We will also honor Our Lady of Mt. Carmel and Our Lady of Loreto at our shrine. Mark your calendars now. Check our website, MTCARMELFESTIVAL.ORG for more information.

ST. THOMAS MORE LAW SCHOOL SCHOLARSHIP - Each year the St. Thomas More Society of our Diocese awards a scholarship of varying amounts, usually around \$3000, to a law student attending an accredited law school in the fall. Applicants or parents must be registered and active members of a parish in the Diocese of Worcester. Applicants may be in any year of law school studies. Applications may be obtained by visiting the diocesan website, www.worcesterdiocese.org/st-thomas-more-society, by mailing requests to: St. Thomas More Society, Chancery Office, 49 Elm Street, Worcester, MA 01609 or by calling Mary Whitney at 508-929-4345. Applications are due on or before October 1, 2025. Should anyone wish to contribute to the scholarship fund, donations will be greatly appreciated; you can contact us at the above address or phone number.

Financial Report

Last weekend we received \$7732.00. We also received:

Donation- \$200.00	Stipends- \$120.00
Online- \$8796.32	Payroll X-Fer- \$12,556.87

Total- \$29,405.19 Unrestricted- \$29,405.19 Restricted- \$0.00

Expenses- \$3,634.82

Administration (3634.82)

Food for the Poor Donations - \$50 from a friend; \$75 from a friend; \$150 from a friend; \$25 from a friend; \$75 from a friend; \$945 IMO William Donovan; \$350 IMO Edward Sheridan; \$525 IMO Ruth McGinn; \$25 IMO Dot-tie Edwards; \$1000 IMO Richard and Eleanor O'Toole; \$200 Pay it Forward for the kindness of a Worcester Resident; \$500 IMO John Bouvier

FOOD FOR THE POOR:

Income– \$40,000.00

Hill-O-Ween- \$1000.00

Golf Tournament- \$2500.00

Expenses- \$0.00 (2 week expense report will be in next weeks bulletin)

This weekend's second collection is the Monthly Special Needs Offering.

YEAR TO DATE– In July we had a cash operating loss of \$17,054.32. This brings our loss heading into the final month of FY 24/25 at \$30,870.06. Thank you for your generous support of St. John's.

Our Parish Community...

...Offers prayers and condolences for the families of Robert Mele, Jonathan DeLeon and Robert Ford who have been born into eternal life.

...Welcomes Samira Joy Mujalli who has entered the Catholic Community through the waters of Baptism.

WORD OF LIFE

"The bread in your cupboard belongs to the hungry; the coat unused in your closet belongs to the one who needs it; the shoes rotting in your closet belong to the one who has no shoes; the money which you hoard up belongs to the poor."
St. Basil the Great