

"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

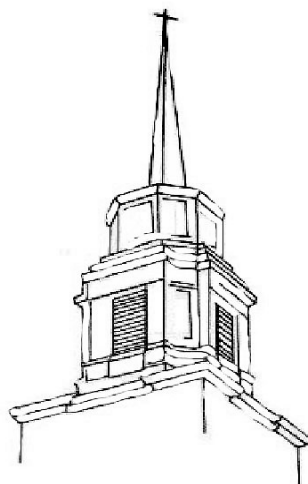
Edward Lally, Director
Lucia Clemente Falco, Asst.

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:

Mon.-Fri. 9 am - 2 pm

Angie Perez, Secretary
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 30, 2025

4:15 PM **Gaetano Corso**, req. by Friends
7:15 PM **Sophie Kozaczka**, req. by Family;
Mr. and Mrs. Joseph P. O'Coin, req. by Family

Sunday, August 31, 2025

8 AM **Kenneth Lyons**, req. by Family; **Carol Santa Maria**, req. by Family
10:15 AM **Olga Kersis**, req. by Friends
12:15 PM **Thomas M. Walsh (73rd Anniv.)**
req. by Grandson Thomas Vancelette; **Walter and Katharina Perduta**, req. by Family
7:15 PM **Joe Hickey**, req. by Friends

Monday, September 1, 2025

6:15 PM **Patricia Tammi (2nd Anniv.)**, req. by Family

Tuesday, September 2, 2025

6:15 PM **John Sofrin**, req. by Friends

Wednesday, September 3, 2025

6:15 PM **Scott Gow**, req. by Friends

Thursday, September 4, 2025

6:15 PM **Paul Letsky**, req. by Friends

Friday, September 5, 2025

6:15 PM **Joel Abelarde**, req. by Cecilia Catalan

Saturday, September 6, 2025

4:15 PM **All Souls in Purgatory and Deceased Member of F.O.S.S.; Joseph Longchamps**, req. by Family; **Juozas, Janina and Joseph Miliuskas**, req. by Family
7:15 PM **Sophie Kozaczka**, req. by Family

Sunday, September 7, 2025

8 AM **Thomas Foley**, req. by Family; **Frances and David Vautrain**, req. by Niece Barbara
10:15 AM **Ruben and Consuelo Almeida**, req. by Friends; **Denise M. Salmon**, req. by Family
12:15 PM **The DiReda, Brown, Kelley, Rogan, Rosenfield and Wilson Family**, req. by Family
7:15 PM **Dennis Cashman**, req. by Friends

Dear Friends in the Lord,

Though I would not have worded it as such, I completely understand Mayor Jacob Frey's reaction to the horrific tragedy which occurred at Minneapolis' Annunciation Catholic School on Wednesday: *Don't say this is about 'thoughts and prayers' right now – these kids were literally praying. It was the first week of school – they were in church.* The terrible frequency of these mass shootings is such that most of us struggle with becoming desensitized and completely frustrated. Mayor Frey appears to be at the latter place. Understandably. I cannot say that I know what is in the mayor's heart, nor the hearts of those who invoke *thoughts and prayers* for people who suffer unspeakable horror. Still, I think his frustration can point us toward a fruitful response.

This is critically needed in our present situation, especially as it is displayed in light of the too frequent mass shootings. Once again, this week we hear from one extreme that declares that this is a mental health problem; and from the other extreme that declares this is a gun control problem. The clear truth is that it is both and, yet nothing is done to better address either problem. What is truly needed, of course, are *thoughts and prayers* – only those that lead us to an increased care for those who battle mental illness, that create safer places for our children and respect for those with whom we disagree. I know that we have longed for, indeed, prayed for these outcomes. Perhaps, the fact that *these kids were literally praying...they were in church* will spur greater action from us all.

This week, we are happy to welcome Silangely "Angie" Perez as our parish secretary. She will be working from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. from Monday through Friday. This will allow Jimmy to focus both on the bookkeeping for the parish and the Food for the Poor, as well as assist his father with the bookkeeping at many other parishes in the diocese. His Dad and I hope that it will also allow him to get back into the coaching that he was so successful with and enjoyed so much.

Angie has been in a couple days this week so that Jimmy could show her the different parts of what is a unique job in a unique place. Fortunately, that did not scare her away. We are grateful to Angie for joining us. I have assured her that she is now a part of an extraordinary group of Christians and will be blessed as she blesses us. Please offer her your thoughts and prayers.

In Christ's Peace,
Fr John Madden

THE TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

THIS WEEKEND'S HYMNS

Entrance Song: Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service
#780

Ps 68: The Just Rejoice

Resp: "God, in Your Goodness, You have made a
home for the poor."

Offertory— The Virtue of Humility #756

Communion: Unless a Grain of Wheat #759

Resp: "Unless a grain of wheat shall fall upon the
ground and die, it remains but a single
grain with no life."

Sending Forth— Lead Me, Guide Me #657

TODAY'S READINGS ARE AT #1174 IN THE HYMNAL

Sir 3:17-18, 20, 28-29

Heb 12:18-19, 22-24a

Lk 14:1, 7-14

VOCATION REFLECTION – TWENTY SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - "An attentive ear is the desire of the wise." Is your prayer attentive to the wisdom of Christ? Is He inviting you to follow Him as a priest, deacon, sister or brother? Contact the Vocation Office at (508) 630-4473 or email: donato.infante@gmail.com.

ORDER OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS (OCIA) – we are happy to report that we have already had five inquiries into the program for this year. Our initial meeting will be on Monday, October 6 at 7 pm in the rectory. If you or anyone that you know is interested in full initiation into the Catholic Church through the reception of the Sacraments of Baptism, Eucharist and/or Confirmation, please contact the rectory by phone, email or parcel post. Thank you.

OUR COFFEE SHOPPE is open this weekend following the 10:15 AM Mass. All are welcome.

HOMEBOUND PARISHIONERS - it is time – actually, well past time - to update our list of home-bound parishioners. If you are aware of someone who is no longer able to come to Mass and would like to receive the Eucharist, please contact us by mail, email or telephone. Thank you.

THE ST. RAFQA PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY will be resuming our meetings on Wednesday September 10, from 10-11:30 am in the downstairs chapel. All knitters and crocheters are welcome to come! If you have any questions, call Connie at 774-262-2512.

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.

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 774-670-3674 or email dhgustowski@gmail.com

OUR CATHOLIC BOOK CLUB will meet on Monday, September 29 at 7 p.m. in the rectory. 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 2021 General Assembly of the Synod on Synodality. We have access to copies of the book, if anyone is in need of one. All are welcome.

CHAIR YOGA IS BACK- Chair yoga for flexibility, mobility and strength is back beginning this Tuesday, September 2 and will continue every Tuesday from 5-6 PM, at the Xavier center. Only \$5. Everyone is welcome!

THE LITHUANIAN COMMUNITY AT ST.

JOHN'S will be observing the Feast of Our Lady of Siluva on Saturday, September 6th at the 4:15 PM Mass. Community members will process with roses at the beginning of the Mass. A replica of the Our Lady of Siluva likeness from the Immaculate Conception Center in Putnam, CT will be displayed during the Mass thanks to Stephen Walinsky's efforts. Our Lithuanian Choir at St. John's will sing traditional Lithuanian Hymns during the service. Deacon Eduardas Meilus will read the gospel in both Lithuanian and English and present the Homily. Following the Mass we will be hosting a reception at the St. Francis Xavier Center to which all are welcome!

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 Show a Neil Diamond Tribute featuring Charlie Lask. Tickets are sold out!

In Our Catholic Community...

OUR MONTHLY MASS FOR HEALING – will be celebrated on Monday, September 22. After the 6:15 PM Mass, the Sacrament of the Sick will be administered to those seeking God's healing and merciful grace.

ANNUAL MIRACULOUS MEDAL NOVENA IN

WORCESTER - Our Lady's Annual Miraculous Medal Novena begins on Tuesday, Sept. 2 at 7:00 pm and continues for nine consecutive Tuesday nights, ending on Oct. 28 at Our Lady of Loreto Church, 37 Massasoit Rd., Worcester. Mark the dates and plan to come and bring a friend. This year's speakers are (in order) Rev. Michael A. DiGeronimo, Rev. Juan D. Echavarria, Rev. Stephen J. Mullaney, Rev. Peter P. Bui, Rev. Carlos F. Ardila, Rev. J. Sebastian Sanchez, Deacon Donald J. Pegg, Bishop Robert J. McManus, and Rev. Kenneth R. Cardinale. All are welcome.

CONCERT IN NORTHBORO - St. Rose of Lima Parish present International Artist Series on Thursday, Sept. 4 at 7 pm as cellist Anup Kumar Biswas is joined by Clifton Jerry Noble Jr. and Kara Noble on Piano, Guitar and Vocals. A musical feast! Classical, Jazz, Broadway - music by Bach, Vivaldi, Beethoven, Jerry Noble, Brahms, Paganini. Located at 244 W Main St. Northborough. All are welcome.

PRO-LIFE MORNING OF REFLECTION - A Pro-Life Morning of Reflection and Enrichment will be held on Saturday, Sept. 6 from 9:00 a.m.–1:00 p.m. at the Cathedral of St. Paul (lower level), 38 High St., Worcester. The day will include presentations by Msgr. James Moroney and Allison LeDoux, as well as Mass, and light lunch. There is no cost to attend but pre-registration is required. To register, send your name, parish, and email address to aledoux@worcesterdiocese.org, or contact the Respect Life Office at 508-929-4311. All are invited to attend!

HEALING SERVICE AND MASS IN UPTON - A Healing Service and mass will be held on Thursday Sept. 11 at 6:00 pm at St. Gabriel the Archangel Parish with Fr. Larry Brault, Fr. Stephen Mullaney and Maureen Capistran. Located at 151 Mendon St., Upton. Tel. 508-603-1430 <https://straphaeoil.com/schedule/>

Financial Report

Last weekend we received \$6850.55 We also received:

Payroll Xfer- \$9396.00	Stipends- \$40.00
Truck Reimb- \$25,800.00	DEF Xfer- \$30,000.00

Total- \$72,086.55 Unrestricted- \$16,286.55 Restricted- \$55,800.00

Expenses- \$14,757.79

Schola (615.64) Administration (8355.56) Stipends (1375.00) Rectory Repairs (1288.00) Sound System Repair (1188.15) Postage (1072.90) Preserve the Flame (437.00) Office (425.90)

Food for the Poor Donations - \$1300 IMO Rich Linga; \$50 IMO Virginia Scola; \$50 from a friend; \$1000 from a friend; \$25 from a friend; \$100 from a friend; \$150 from a friend; \$75 from a friend; \$100 IMO William Donovan; \$100 IHO Thea Josephine MacDonald's Baptism; \$100 Imo Edward Sheridan; \$100 IMO Paul Benoit

FOOD FOR THE POOR:

Income– \$2215.00
Showers Reimb.- \$29,739.20
Golf Tournament- \$8100.00
Expenses– \$9112.72

There is one collection this weekend.

Our Parish Community...

...Offers prayers and condolences for the families of William Lewis, Michael Hennessy and Rosemary Baker who have been born into eternal life.

...Welcomes Thea Josephine MacDonald who has entered the Catholic Community through the waters of Baptism.

WORD OF LIFE

"We know certainly that our God calls us to a holy life. We know that he gives us every grace, every abundant grace; and though we are so weak of ourselves, this grace is able to carry us through every obstacle and difficulty."

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton