

"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

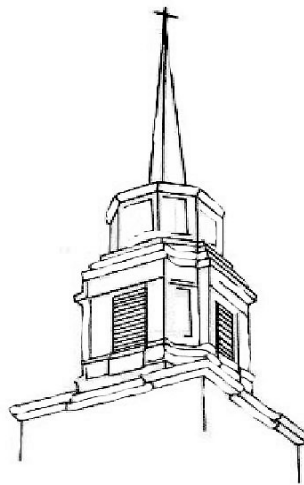
Edward Lally, Director
Lucia Clemente Falco, Asst.

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, October 4, 2025

4:15 PM **All Souls in Purgatory and Deceased Members of F.O.S.S.; Catherine McGurl**, req.by Family; **Stasia, Anthony & Vincent Savage**, req. by Family

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

Sunday, October 5, 2025

8 AM **Elsie Gannon**, req. by Family; **Carol Santa Maria**, req. by Family

10:15 AM **Jose Almeida & Delia Rueda**, req. by Family; **Graciela Quiquandon (B-day Remembrance)**, req. by Family

12:15 PM **Rev. Joseph A. Coonan (14th Anniv.)**, req. by Denise Boucher Garofoli and Family; **Nicole Bergeron & Joe McCarty**, req. by Family

7:15 PM **Walter J. Baldowski (9th Anniv.)**, req. by wife Lucia

Monday, October 6, 2025

6:15 PM **Cecilio de Medeiros (Father)** req. by Family; **Angel Perez** req. by Family

Tuesday, October 7, 2025

6:15 PM **Cecilio de Medeiros (Son)** req. by Family

Wednesday, October 8, 2025

6:15 PM **Francis McKeon**, req. by Friends

Thursday, October 9, 2025

6:15 PM **Annielle de Medeiros (Daughter)**, req. by Family; **Jocelyn de Medeiros** req. by Family

Friday, October 10, 2025

6:15 PM **Candice De Medeiros** req. by Family

Saturday, October 11, 2025

4:15 PM **Dennis Cashman**, req.by Friends

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

Sunday, October 12, 2025

8 AM **Brian G. Campbell**, req. by Friends

10:15 AM **Mary Deleonardis**, req. by Friends

12:15 PM **Marc Holloway**, req. by Lucia Baldowski; **Marcy Meehan**, req. by Friends

7:15 PM **Dwight 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,

On Thursday, we marked the 20th anniversary of the rededication of our church. For those of you who were not with us back then, on the Saturday of Labor Day weekend in 2004, the interior ceiling in the church collapsed. The damage was extensive. It was a disaster. Plus, not that there is ever a good time for something like that to occur, but it was a particularly difficult and uncertain time in the life of our parish. In my warped sense of humor, when friends called to find out what had happened, I asked them if they had been in the church recently, since that would help explain the ceiling collapsing. I was stopped, though, when one pointed out that it was me who had only recently arrived on Temple Street.

For the next few weeks, we were welcomed into Ascension Church until our lower church was deemed safe to enter. So, we took a wall down, set up folding chairs, moved the then small soup kitchen into the rectory and began rebuilding and renovating. No matter how long, how slow, how difficult those days felt, the overriding reality for me was that I never heard a single complaint. I clearly remember thinking what an extraordinary group the people of St. John's were and are. People were certainly asking about how the work was progressing and we would open upstairs on occasion so all could see. Then, after thirteen months, we rededicated the building – and our community.

This experience remains instructive even to and especially in these days. This is a particularly difficult and uncertain time in the life of our nation and the world. The progress towards a better way of living has been elusive, making the temptation to complain understandable. The problem is that indulging that temptation is not productive. Something deeper is necessary if we are going to repair, renovate and rebuild our communal life.

St. Vincent de Paul offers a way towards this rededication: *"Let us beware of complaints, resentments, and evil-speaking against those who are ill-disposed to us, discontented with us, or hostile to our plans and arrangements, or who even persecute us with injuries, insults, and calumnies. Rather let us go on treating them as cordially as at first, or more so, as far as possible showing them esteem, always speaking well of them, doing them good, serving them on occasion, even to the point of taking shame and disgrace upon ourselves, if necessary to save their honor. All this ought to be done, first, to overcome evil with good, according to the teaching of the Apostles; and secondly, because they are our allies rather than our adversaries, as they aid us to destroy self-love, which is our greatest foe; and since it is they who give us an opportunity to gain merit, they ought to be considered our dearest friends."*

In Christ's Peace, Fr John Madden

THE TWENTY-SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

THIS WEEKEND'S HYMNS

Entrance Song: O God Beyond All Praising #627

Ps 95: Come, Let Us Sing

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

Offertory— Faith Begins by Letting Go #673

Communion: If You Have Faith #719

Resp: "If you have faith but the size of a mustard seed, you will see the wondrous deeds that God has done for us!"

Sending Forth— Where Christ Is, His Church Is There #728

TODAY'S READINGS ARE AT #1189 IN THE HYMNAL

Hb 1:2-3; 2:2-4

2 Tm 1:6-8, 13-14

Lk 17:5-10(141)

VOCATION REFLECTION – TWENTY-SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – "God did not give us a spirit of cowardice." Will you let the Holy Spirit lead you beyond your fearful hesitation to follow Christ as a priest, deacon or in the consecrated life? Contact the Vocation Office at (508) 630-4473 or send an email to dona-to.infante@gmail.com.

ORDER OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS (OCIA)

– Our initial meeting will be on this Monday, October 6 at 7 pm in the rectory. We have had eight people come forward. 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.

DISCIPLESHIP SERIES IN WORCESTER - You are invited to join us on Wednesday, Oct. 22 from 6:30 to 8:00 pm, in the St. George Parish Church Hall for the first of a three-part series on discipleship and what it means to you and the parish community you belong to. The night will include music, scripture, and discussions, ending with some light refreshments. The following two sessions will take place around the Christmas and Easter seasons, with the desired outcome of raising our awareness of what it means to be a disciple. We look forward to seeing you there! If you have any questions, please contact Kevin Cusack at: saintgeorgespiritualgrowth@gmail.com. Located at 40 Brattle St., Worcester.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

GRADES 1-9 Classes will continue this Sunday, October 5, 9 am in the church hall. Registration is still open, sign up online. We are in need of a 9th grade teacher. Please email Dianne at dhgustowski@gmail.com if you're interested.

CONFIRMATION CLASS starts this Tuesday, October 7, 6:15 pm in the chapel for Mass. A parent is required to attend this first class. Enrollment deadline has passed.

FIRST RECONCILIATION/FIRST EUCHARIST CLASSES BEGIN IN JANUARY – any person who has reached the age of 7 is eligible to receive these sacraments. Registration is ongoing and available on the parish website.

THE ST. RAFOA PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY will be meeting on Wednesday, October 8 at 10:00-11:30 am in the downstairs chapel. All knitters and crocheters are welcome to come! Any questions, please call Connie at 774-262-2512. Hope to see you then.

OUR CATHOLIC BOOK CLUB will meet again on Monday, November 24th at 7 p.m. in the rectory. We have decided to begin one of the great spiritual classics, *Abandonment to Divine Providence* by the 18th century Jesuit, Fr. Jean Pierre de Caussade. Starting with Book I (two chapters) and Book II (four chapters). All are welcome.

CHAIR YOGA for flexibility, mobility and strength continues every Tuesday from 5-6 PM, at the Xavier center. Only \$5. All are welcome!

OUR FRIEND, MAYSOON KHAIR WILL BE AT THE MASSES ON THE WEEKEND OF OCTOBER 11/12. She represents over a hundred Christian families who make their livelihood through the selling of their hand carved olive wood religious articles. After all 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.

In Our Catholic Community...

OUR MONTHLY MASS FOR HEALING will be held on Monday, October 27th at 6:15 p.m. Anyone in need of the Sacrament of the Sick is welcome.

ANNUAL MIRACULOUS MEDAL NOVENA IN WORCESTER - Our Lady's Annual Miraculous Medal Novena continues every Tuesday night, 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. The remaining speakers are Rev. J. Sebastian Sanchez, Deacon Donald J. Pegg, Bishop Robert J. McManus, and Rev. Kenneth R. Cardinale. All are welcome.

ANNUAL LIFE CHAIN IN WORCESTER AND SHREWSBURY - All are invited to join the annual Life Chain on Sunday, Oct. 5 from 2:00 - 3:30 p.m. This event of peaceful, prayerful witness to the sacredness of human life is held annually on Respect Life Sunday across the nation. Life Chain stations will be located at Elm Park/Highland St. and at Denny's Restaurant on Lincoln St. in Worcester and at White City Plaza in Shrewsbury. You may bring a chair if you'd like to sit and can stay for whatever portion of time you'd like. Signs will be available at the local Life Chain stations. The event will be held rain or shine. For more information, contact Joe Godek at 508-614-5971. All are welcome to join in this prayerful effort to help build a Culture of Life!

Our Parish Community...

...Offers prayers and condolences for the families of Stephen Ciccone, Robert Nordstrom, Gail David and Dame Valerie Jane Morris-Goodall who have been born into eternal life.

...Welcomes Raegan Rosemarie Coakley & Nolan Dave Christiansen who have entered the Catholic Community through the waters of Baptism.

Financial Report

Last weekend we received \$6,333.00. We also received:
Payroll x-fers- \$12,318.00 Catholic Education- 822.00
Stipends- \$50.00 Donation- \$5,251.00

Total- \$24,774.00 Unrestricted- \$11,634.00 Restricted- \$13,140.00

Expenses- \$26,474.46

Administration (13,083.51) Schola (3,165.62) Altar (379.60) Hose (343.11) Cable/Phone/Internet (636.63) Church Gas (21.00) Rectory Gas (86.40) Stipends (990.00) Federal Payroll Taxes (2,333.74) Rectory Plumbing repair (710.84) Live Stream Repair (3,285.00) Preserve the Flame (377.00) Office (55.99) Copier (475.00) Haitian Apostolate (530.00)

Food for the Poor Donations - \$50 IMO Jean Nuzzetti, \$50 IMO Ruth McGinn, \$25 IMO Charles Nelson, \$25 IMO Kevin Power, \$50 IMO Raegan Rosemarie Coakley's Baptism \$1,000 IMO Joseph Cote, \$100 From a friend, \$10 From a Friend, \$50 From a Friend, \$50 From a Friend, \$10 From a friend, \$100 From a Friend, \$200 IMO Elizabeth Capuano, \$60 IMO Robert Nordstrom, \$150 IMO Patrick and Christopher Johnson

FOOD FOR THE POOR:

Income- \$11,395.00
Golf Tournament- \$7,000.00
Expenses- \$45,404.45

This weekend's second Collection is the Monthly Special Needs offering.

YEAR TO DATE - We have begun Fiscal Year 2025/2026 in the manner that we typically do, given the beginning of the year expenses, with a cash operating loss of \$32,651.26. Our fiscal years always end better than they begin. We will be publishing the Annual Report for FY 24/25 shortly. The Food for the Poor Program had a cash operating loss of \$12,873.41. Many thanks for your generosity to St. John's.

WORD OF LIFE:

"O my God, fill my soul with holy joy, courage and strength to serve You. Enkindle Your love in me and then walk with me along the next stretch of road before me."

St. Benedicta of the Cross (Edith Stein)