

"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

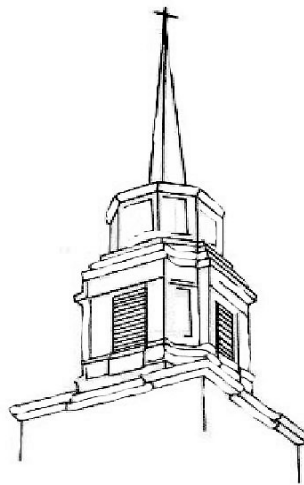
Edward Lally, Director
Lucia Clemente Falco, Asst.

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, November 1, 2025

4:15 PM **All Souls in Purgatory and Deceased Members of F.O.S.S. ; Robert And Helen**

Moylan, req. by Family

7:15 PM **Msgr. Edmond Tinsley**, req. by Friends

Sunday, November 2, 2025

8 AM **Carol Santa Maria**, req. by Family; **Laurel Henderson**, req. by Barbara Thomson

10:15 AM **Marco Almeida & Paul Hartley**, req. by Family; **Ardis Schneider**, req. by Friend;

Deceased Alumni of St. John's High

12:15 PM **Alice Vancelette Derosier (14th Anniv.)**, req. by Nephew; **Walter & Kathleen Gallivan**, req. by Family

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

Monday, November 3, 2025

6:15 PM **Stanley Grigas**, req. by Carol Grigas

Tuesday, November 4, 2025

6:15 PM **Jim and Elsie Gannon**, req. by Family

Wednesday, November 5, 2025

6:15 PM **Joe Hickey**, req. by Friends

Thursday, November 6, 2025

6:15 PM **Bob Kett**, req. by Family

Friday, November 7, 2025

6:15 PM **Scott Lindberg**, req. by a Friend

Saturday, November 8, 2025

4:15 PM **Paul F. Jackson, USAF (Ret.), James J. Jackson, USMC and Linda C. Jackson, USCG (Ret.)**, req. by Family

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

Sunday, November 9, 2025

8 AM **Evelyn Foley**, req. by Family; **Timothy Shays**, req. by Bob and Donna Mastrovito

10:15 AM **Virginia White**, req. by Lucia and Tommy

12:15 PM **Michele A. Sargent (6th Anniv.)**, req. by Family

7:15 PM **Joseph Pezzella**, req. by Family; **Gerry 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,

Stephen Cox, a three-year resident of Harrington House here at the rectory, died on this past Tuesday after a period of declining health. Steve was admitted to the intensive care unit two weeks ago Saturday. Last Saturday, he began breathing on his own again and seemed to be recovering. Sadly, he took a turn for the worse such that nothing more could be done for him. This is a familiar scenario for many, if not all of you. Steve was not perfect and the people at the banks he robbed probably do not think very highly of him. However, that is not the man that we knew. Simone Weil reflected that *Sin is not a distance. It is a turning of our gaze in the wrong direction.* Though he had admittedly gone in the wrong direction, Steve had righted himself when he joined us. He was a regular fixture at the St. Francis Xavier Center, a pleasant and cooperative housemate, a faithful friend and Rooney loved him. You might have seen him at Mass on occasion, too.

There is never a good time to lose a loved one, of course, but during the week of All Saints and All Souls does add a specific consolation. Though Ash Wednesday has supplanted it in our day, in times not so far past, All Souls was the non-obligatory holy day that attracted the largest crowds at Mass. Those of us of a certain age can remember making three visits to church to pray for the souls in Purgatory. Upholding this practice was a great truth waiting to be experienced. It had to do, first of all, with God. The Wisdom which knew that God actually wanted us to be saved, even if our gaze had sometimes turned in the wrong direction – *The souls of the just are in the hands of God, and no torment shall touch them.* The Feast of All Souls reminds us that God intended our escape from a dire fate. Perhaps, those practices are less prevalent, but the reality remains. As we sing in Psalm 27 today: *The Lord is my light and my salvation.* More to the point of the day, the Lord is the light and salvation of all our loved ones who have gone before.

The first reading from the Book of Wisdom rightly states that losing a loved one, at any age, under any circumstance, *was thought an affliction, their going forth from us, utter destruction.* As we gather today to pray for them with the renewed confidence given to us through the Resurrection of Christ, we trust *that they are at peace.*

Eternal rest grant to them, O Lord and may perpetual light shine upon them.

May they rest in peace.

May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed through the mercy of God rest in peace.

Amen

In Christ's Peace,
Fr John Madden

THE COMMEMORATION OF ALL THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED

THIS WEEKEND'S HYMNS

Entrance Song: I Know That My Redeemer Lives #527
Ps 27 The Lord Is My Light
Resp: "The Lord is my light and my salvation."
Offertory— Eye Has Not Seen #713
Holy— Sanctus #304
Mystery of Faith— #217 Save us, Savior of the world...
Amen— Danish #370
Breaking of the Bread— #Angus Dei #311
Sending Forth— Shall Tribulation or Distress #652

TODAY'S READINGS

Wis 3:1-9
Ps 27
Rom 5:5-11
Jn 6:37-40

THE FEAST OF ALL SOULS - "The Son of Man came to seek out and to save the lost." Will you share in Christ's saving mission as a priest, deacon or in the consecrated life? Contact the Vocation Office at (508)630-4473 or email don ato.infante@gmail.com.

OUR COFFEE SHOPPE is closed this Sunday, November 2nd. We will re-open next week after the 10:15 AM Mass.

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!

THE ST. RAFOA PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY will be meeting on Wednesday, November 12 in the downstairs chapel at 10-11:30 AM. ALL knitters and crocheters are welcome! Any questions call Connie at (774) 262-2512! Hope to see you then

THANKSGIVING BASKETS will once again be distributed at the St Francis Xavier Center on Tuesday, November 25 at 11 AM. There is no sign-up this year, everything will be given away on a first come, first serve basis. If you would like to donate a basket, please email the rectory. A basket should include a 15 pound turkey and all the fixings that you would like to provide. Thank you for your generosity.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

GRADES 1-9 Classes will continue Sunday, November 2, 9:00 am in the church hall. Registration is still open, sign up online. We are in need of a 9th grade teacher. Please send an email to Dianne at dhgustowski@gmail.com if you're interested.

CONFIRMATION CLASS Will meet on Tuesday, November 4, 6:15 pm in the chapel for Mass. Registration is close and will reopen again in June of 2026.

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.

SUPPLY DRIVE our annual supply drive for our guests at the St. Francis Xavier center kicks off next weekend, November 8-9. Bags will be given out at all the Masses, with a list of items being collected. Filled bags are to be returned by Sunday, November 23 near the statue of Our Lady and St. Bernadette. Thanks so much for your generosity!

VOLUNTEER TO SERVE/DELIVER MEALS THIS THANKSGIVING & CHRISTMAS This season, Catholic Charities Worcester County invites you to do more than celebrate. Help make the holidays truly meaningful by delivering meals and connection to neighbors in need! Since 1960, in partnership with the Bishop of Worcester, we've been bringing warmth to tables across our community through Thanksgiving and Christmas dinners. Whether it's serving at the sit-down dinners at the Cathedral of St. Paul or bringing a hot meal to someone's doorstep, your time can make a real difference, especially for those facing hunger or spending the holidays alone. Visit www.ccworc.org/bishops-holiday-dinner/ to register to volunteer or for more information.

LADIES CANDLELIGHT EVENT IN WORCESTER -Our Lady of Mercy Maronite Catholic Church invites ladies to a candlelight event to prepare for Christ's birth. Experience beautiful carols, inspirational talks, refreshment as you are joined by Bishop Gregory Mansour and Keynote speaker Sr. Therese Maria Toumas of the Maronite Servants of Christ. Takes place on Friday, Dec. 5 from 6:30 - 9:00 pm. Donation \$30. Call Mimi at 508-769-6307 or vis-

In Our Catholic Community...

OUR MONTHLY MASS FOR HEALING will be held on Monday, November 24th at 6:15 p.m. Anyone in need of the Sacrament of the Sick is welcome.

THE INTERFAITH CIRCLE OF SILENCE FOR MIGRANTS AND REFUGEES responds to the call from the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops and others to stand in solidarity with those suffering from the escalation of immigration enforcement across the United States. Family separations, increased detentions, and rapid deportations have shattered families and left entire communities living in fear. On Friday November 7 at 3:00pm at City Hall Plaza we are planning an Interfaith Circle of Silence as a public witness in solidarity with refugees and migrants. We would like to invite you and members of your parish to join us. We are delighted that our Bishop, the Most Reverend Robert McManus will be joining us. For more information, contact Marybeth Kearns-Barrett, Director, Office of the College Chaplains, College of the Holy Cross at mkearns@holycross.edu

MARCH FOR LIFE BUS TRIP – REGISTRATION NOW OPEN! - Plan now to attend the 52nd annual March for Life in Washington, DC on Friday, Jan. 23, 2026! Buses will leave from St. Paul Cathedral on Thurs., Jan. 22 following the Respect Life Mass at 7:30 p.m., and will travel to the Basilica of National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, DC in time for Friday morning Mass followed by the March for Life at noon. Buses will return to Worcester immediately following the March, arriving back at St. Paul's at approximately 1:00 a.m. on Saturday, Jan. 24. Cost is \$150 per seat. Registration deadline is December 12. Registrations will be accepted on a first-come-first-served basis. For more details and to download registration forms visit worcesterdiocese.org/respect-life. Can't attend this year but want to help? Consider making a donation that will help defray expenses for our students who want to attend but might otherwise find it difficult to do so. Thank you!

Financial Report

Last weekend we received \$8659.00 We also received:

Stipends- \$230.00 Donation- \$329.00
Payroll Transfers- \$10,685.00

Total- \$19,903.00 Unrestricted- \$9218.00 Restricted- \$10,685.00

Expenses- Administration (15,543.12) Computer Repairs (2506.10) Schola (1550.64) Altar (968.00) State Payroll Taxes (1994.24) Funerals (200.00) Church Electric (109.67) Rectory Electric (271.54) Federal Payroll Taxes (1331.96) House (103.33) Preserve the Flame (268.00) Copier (475.00)

Food for the Poor Donations – \$200 from a friend; \$200 from a friend; \$75 from a friend; \$100 from a friend; \$125 from a friend; \$10 from a friend; \$100 from a friend; \$100 from a friend; \$100 from a friend; \$25 IMO Patty Philbin-Lawrence; \$30 IMO Timothy Shays; \$50 IMO Laurel Henderson; \$11792.60 from the Estate of Kathleen Shea; \$25 IMO Herbert M. Varnum

FOOD FOR THE POOR:

Income– \$1585.00
Expenses– \$6,272.84
Hill-O-Ween Income- \$19,400.00
Hill-O-Ween Expenses- \$18,382.88

This weekend's second Collection is the Monthly special needs offering.

YEAR TO DATE – In October, we had an operating cash loss of \$35,747.59. This places our loss for FY 25/26 at \$58,204.42. Thank you for your generosity to St. John's.

Our Parish Community...

...Offers prayers and condolences to the families of Nicholas Mangold, June Lockhart, Carroll Paine, Mark Belinskis, George Reidy and Stephen Cox who have been born into eternal life.

WORD OF LIFE:

"He does not come down from Heaven each day to stay in the gold ciborium. He comes down to find another Heaven He cherishes infinitely more than the first, the Heaven of our souls, made in His image, living temples of the Most Blessed Trinity!"
St. Therese of Lisieux