

"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

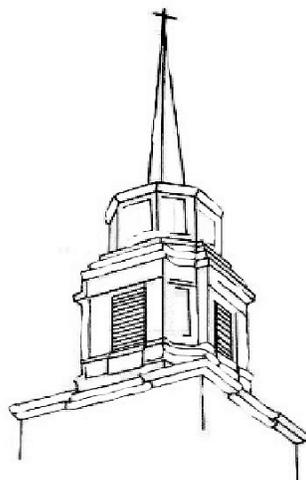
Dolores Vito

Director of St. FX Center

Raphael Mesadiou

Parish Secretary

Angie Perez



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
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, January 31, 2026

4:15 PM **William Kennedy**, req. by Family;
Josephine Kozlowski req. by Friend; **Patrick Halvorsen**, req. by Family
7:15 PM **Angel Perez, Carmen Beltran, Sila Vazquez**, req. by Angie

Sunday, February 1, 2026

8 AM **Jean Gannon Taylor (month's Mind)**, req. by Gannon Family
10:15 AM **Jacqueline Angers (15th Anniv.) & Roger Angers (6th Anniv.)**, req. by Family
12:15 PM **Carol Groccia (5th Anniv.)**, req. by Gary & Barbara Morris
7:15 PM **Ogla Kersis**, req. by Family

Monday, February 2, 2026

6:15PM **Danielle Kielinen** req. by Family; **Fr. John Nicholson**, req. by Family

Tuesday, February 3, 2026

6:15 PM **Alejandro "AJ" Lorente** req. by Family

Wednesday, February 4, 2026

6:15 PM **Jeffrey Louis Carrazzone**, req. by Wife & Family

Thursday, February 5, 2026

6:15 PM **Edou Bellevue**, req. by Friend

Friday, February 6, 2026

6:15 PM **Paul Gingras (14th Anniv.)** req. by Family

Saturday, February 7, 2026

4:15 PM **Health and Intentions of Brennan Patrick Cherry**, req. by Thomas M Vancelette
7:15 PM **Nora Healy**, req. by Friend

Sunday, February 8, 2026

8 AM **David Covello**, req. by Family; **Frank Riccardi**, req. by Family
10:15 AM **Joseph Cahill**, req. by friends; **Health & Intention of Isabella R. Vancelette**, req. by Family
12:15 PM **Paul & Wini Gingras** req. by Family
7:15 PM **Blanca Ortega**, req. by Friend

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

Dear Friends in the Lord,

Though it is not one of the recommended readings in the Lectionary, the familiar passage, "There is an appointed time for everything" is often used at Funeral Masses. It comes from the 3rd chapter of the Book of Ecclesiastes. You may have noticed that I am the funniest person I know, so I often point out that those of us of a certain generation identify it with Pete Seeger before the Old Testament. The poem includes fourteen pairs of opposites which assure us that God has determined the appropriate "time" for each of them. We must acknowledge that we cannot know them, nor can we know the wider courses of events and purposes fixed by God. Still, it is a helpful lesson at a funeral and at other times, as well. Whether at the loss of a loved one or the other life's tragedies, believing that God remains in control the world is a consolation.

That being said, the Gospel of Matthew makes clear that Jesus did not come to abolish the law and the prophets but to fulfill them. He did not come to merely console us, but to save us. The Beatitudes offer the way to the fulfillment of Ecclesiastes' wisdom. Jesus teaches that not only is God present in our poverty, grief, meekness and suffering, but by God's grace these can all be transformed into a new life. Believing in and being motivated by this eternal truth is as important today as it has ever been. Things are tough today. The concern is that when life is so challenging, we can become impotent. Wondering what can I possibly do to make any difference? Plenty. The more that our hunger and thirst for righteousness brings more of us together, the more we will be satisfied. The more we cleanse our hearts, the more we will see God in each other and all others.

For example, in response to the harshness of this winter, we are hoping to offer the St. Francis Xavier Center more regularly as an Overflow Winter Shelter. We could use help. If you have an extra hour or a favorite recipe to bring, any and all help is welcomed and needed. Please contact danielle.cutillo@stjohnsfoorforthepeople.org from more information and to volunteer.

Monday's Mass for Healing was badly affected by the snow-storm. Therefore, we will be offering the Sacrament of the Sick after the 6:15 pm Mass this Monday.

Tuesday is the Feast of St Blaise. In his honor and through his intercession, we will be blessing throats after all the Masses this weekend.

Finally, Heath Mulcahy is heading back to Mount Saint Mary's Seminary in Emmitsburg, MD. We are most grateful for his ministry and presence here these last two weeks. I have assured him of our prayers. He assures us of his prayers.

In Christ's Peace, Fr John Madden

FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

THIS WEEKEND'S HYMNS

Entrance: Making Their Way #826

Ps 146: The Lord Keeps Faith

Resp: "Blessed are the poor in spirit; the kingdom of heaven is theirs."

Offertory— O Blest Are You #742

Communion— Blest Are They #721

Resp: Rejoice and be glad! Blessed are you, holy are you!

Rejoice and be glad! Yours is the kingdom of God!

Sending Forth— To Be Presence #794

TODAY'S READINGS CAN BE FOUND AT #1118 IN THE HYMNAL

Zep 2:3; 3:12-13

1 Cor 1:26-31

Mt 5:1-12a(70)

FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME -

"Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven." (Matthew 5:3) The Beatitudes guide us in living holy and generous lives no matter the vocation He has placed on our heart. We are all called to embody these virtues, serving God and His people with humble hearts. Pray for discernment and openness to where God might be inviting you to follow Him. Talk to your priest or reach out to the Vocation Office at (508) 630-4473 or you can send an email dona-to.infante@worcesterdiocese.org

THE CATHOLIC BOOK CLUB will meet on Monday, March 16, 2026 at 7:00 pm in the rectory. We will discuss *Experiencing God in the Ordinary* by Worcester's own Fr. William A. Barry, SJ. All are welcome.

OUR COFFEE SHOPPE will reopen this Sunday after the 10:15 AM Mass. All are welcome to join!

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

PASTA DINNER TO BENEFIT SEMINARIANS-SERRA SOUTH will hold a Pasta dinner to benefit the seminarians of the Diocese of Worcester on Tuesday, February 17 from 5:00-7:00 pm at Point Breeze Restaurant Webster. All sales in advance with check in at the event. Please mail a check to SERRA SOUTH for \$10.00 to Roland Malboeuf, 36 Hillside Avenue, Webster, MA 01570

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

FIRST RECONCILIATION/FIRST EUCHARIST

continues this Sunday, February 1st at the Xavier Center from 9:00-10:00 AM. Please email Donna with any questions at mastrovito21@charter.net.

GRADES 1-9 Classes will continue Sunday, February 1st, at 9:00 am in the church hall. Registration is still open, sign up online.

CONFIRMATION CLASS will meet on Tuesday, February 3, at 6:15 pm in the chapel for Mass.

SAVE THE DATE - Join us for a casual night out of Bunco for a Cause to Support Be Like Brit! Bunco is a dice game of luck not skill. It takes 5 minutes to learn and 2 hours of fun and laughter. Invite a friend, all are welcome! Both men and women play. Raffle items are welcome! Friday February 6th at the Knights of Columbus at 44 Circuit Ave, Worcester. Doors open at 5:00 p.m. Learn to Play at 6:45. Game begins at 7. Cost is \$25.00. *Price includes an Italian grinder to all who pre-register by February 1st. To register or for more information contact Meghan McGuirk 508 769 6738.

DINNER SHOW - The Social Committee is sponsoring a Dinner Show on Sunday, March 22, 2026, after the 12:15 Mass. Dinner at 1:30, Show at 2:30. The dinner is a catered family style dinner, i.e., Chicken Soup, Garden Salad, Rolls & Butter, Roasted Chicken, Roasted Potatoes, Ziti with Meat Sauce, Coffee, Tea and dessert. The Show is a Tribute to Neil Diamond and a Tribute to Patsy Cline. Tickets are \$35.00 per person and will be on sale after 4:15 Mass or by calling Judy Burke 508 478-9813. Get your tickets early as there is limited seating. There also will be basket raffles and a 50/50 raffle all to benefit the Food for The

OUR PRO-LIFE AWARDS NOMINEES

SOUGHT -The Respect Life Office of the Diocese of Worcester seeks nominations for two annual pro-life awards to be presented by Bishop McManus at the 28th annual Mass for Life on March 25, the Solemnity of the Annunciation of the Lord. Further information and nomination forms are available at www.worcesterdiocese.org/mass-for-life-annunciation. Completed nomination forms may be emailed to aledoux@worcesterdiocese.org and must be received no later than February 13.

In Our Catholic Community...

OUR MONTHLY MASS FOR HEALING will be held on Monday, February 23, at 6:15 PM. Anyone in need of the Sacrament of the Sick is welcome.

SAVE THE DATE: 2026 WORCESTER DIOCESAN CATHOLIC MEN'S CONFERENCE "BE NOT AFRAID" - The 25th Annual Catholic Men's Conference will be held on Saturday, March 21 at the DCU Convention Center in Worcester. Adult Tickets are just \$60 (through March 11) and Student Tickets are always \$30. All tickets include lunch. For ticket sales or for more information regarding this years conference & speakers, please visit our website catholic-menworc.com.

SPECIAL RELIGIOUS DEVELOPMENT FOR ADULTS - Adult SPRED (SPecial RELigious Development) is now meeting the first Sunday of the month (except April 2nd) at 12:30 PM during the school year. This is for intellectually challenged adults 22 years of age and older. Location is Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish Hall, 11 Day Street, Webster. Please contact Linda at Lbrink2019@gmail.com for further details

ZOOM STUDY PROGRAM ON GOSPEL OF LIFE- The Respect Life Office of the Diocese of Worcester invites you to join "Live the Gospel of Life" a 6-week on-line study of St. John Paul II's landmark encyclical *Evangelium Vitae*. The sessions will be held via Zoom on Thursdays, Feb. 19 through March 26 from 12:30 – 1:30 p.m. In the study, participants will have the opportunity to study and prayerfully reflect more deeply on The Gospel of Life and its central themes and teachings. The study series is open to anyone interested. You must pre-register. To register, email aledoux@worcesterdiocese.org with your name, parish, and email address; include the words "EV Study Registration" in the subject line. All are welcome!

Financial Report

This weekend we received \$5237.00. We also received:
Free Press- \$39.00 Stipends- \$645.00
Donation- \$50.00 Payroll Xfers- \$10,972.72

Total- \$16,045.87 Unrestricted- \$5971.00 Restricted- \$10,972.72

Expenses- \$11,152.10
Administration (8359.01) Postage Refill (2024.75) Preserve the Flame (619.00) Office (149.34)

Food for the Poor Donations – \$175 IMO Robert Aulizio; \$50.00 from a friend; \$100 from a friend; \$50 IMO Edward Mulhearn; \$50.00 IMO Jean Taylor

Food for the Poor

Income- \$650.00
Annual Appeal- \$576.00
Expenses– 16,045.87

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

YEAR TO DATE – in the month of January, the parish had an operating cash loss of \$9746.22. This puts our cash gain for FY25/26 at \$126.16. The Food for the Poor program continues to operate with a solid surplus. Thank you for all your generosity is support of St. John's.

Our Parish Community...

...Offers prayers and condolences to the families of Elizabeth O'Keefe and Catherine O'Hara who have been born into eternal life.

WORD OF LIFE:

"What does love look like? It has the hands to help others. It has the feet to hasten to the poor and needy. It has eyes to see misery and want. It has the ears to hear the sighs and sorrows of men. That is what love looks like."

St. Augustine