

"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

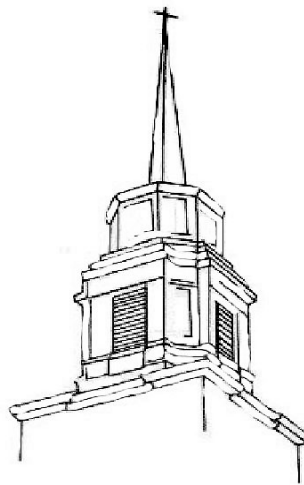
Dolores Vito

Parish Secretary

Angie Perez

Business Office

Jimmy Archibald



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, April 11, 2026

4:15 PM **Jim Lyons**, req. by Wife

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

Sunday, April 12, 2026

8 AM **Anna, William & George Leseman**, req. by Friend; **Jean Gannon Taylor**, req. by Family

10:15 PM **Clara Barton**, req. by Family;

Robert & Frank Ciambone, req. by Family

12:15 PM **Jeannette & Ernest Brackett**, req. by Children; **Indi Gregory**, req. by Friend

7:15 PM **Julia Marrero**, req. by Family;

Roger Nowicki, req. by Dave Young

Monday, April 13, 2026

6:15 PM **Joseph & Rose Pezzella**, req. by Family

Tuesday, April 14, 2026

6:15 PM **John Lynch**, req. by Children

Wednesday, April 15, 2026

6:15 PM **Ellen Cavanagh**, req. by Family

Thursday, April 16, 2026

6:15 PM **Dan Best**, req. by Friends

Friday, April 17, 2026

6:15 PM **Joe Comeau**, req. by Friend

Saturday, April 18, 2026

4:15 PM **Gaetano Corso**, req. by Friend

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

Sunday, April 19, 2026

8 AM **Jack Cooney**, req. by Family; **Lorraine Laurie (2nd Anniv.)**, req. by Patty, Matt and Dottie

10:15 PM **Ricardo Almeida & Fabian Molina**, req. by Family; **Anthony Guinto, Freddy & Alfred Pasquerella**, req. by Family

12:15 PM **Rosalynn Gentile Walsh (29th Anniv.)**, req. by Thomas Vancelette; **Kathleen Donahue Jones (8th Anniv.)**, req. by Family; **William Scannell, Martha and Elizabeth Brennan**, req. by Family

7:15 PM **Walter Grzesik** req. by Dave Young

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

Dear Friends in the Lord,

During last Holy Week and this Easter Week, it has been encouraging to see and read various stories, both locally and nationally, related to the increased number of people, especially the young, joining the Catholic Church and/or attending Mass. On the one hand, this is not surprising, as Hafiz understood:

*Something missing in my heart tonight
Has made my eyes soft,
My voice so tender,
My need for God
Absolutely
Clear*

Like many of you, I am sure, my prayers have included the hope that the horrific state of affairs in the world today will turn us back to God, and, especially, his Son and our Lord, Jesus Christ. This does not happen automatically. Indeed, it only happens miraculously. I suspect that this is why on the Second Sunday of Easter the Church's liturgy presents us with the deeply moving encounter between the Risen Christ and Thomas, his doubting disciple. However, naming him "doubting" is not accurate since Thomas did not merely doubt, but refused to believe. Still, it would be a mistake to dismiss Thomas as a man of little faith. Honestly, who could blame him for not accepting the others' story about the Risen Christ? They did not present even a single shred of evidence. Like the others, Thomas had seen the Lord, whom he loved deeply, die the death of a criminal, crucified between two thieves. He had to be disheartened, disillusioned and angry. Which made him, understandably, hardhearted in his questioning and unwilling to accept the testimony of the others.

Who among us would cast the first stone at Thomas? His is a journey that we have had to make ourselves and, most likely, more than once. Having doubts in our search for truth is nothing to be ashamed of, questioning the presence of a loving God in the face of division, destruction and death is unavoidable. What we hope and pray for is, like Thomas, that these moments turn out to be a growing point in our life of faith. For all of us, faith is an on-going struggle and there are moments of crisis when our minds are darkened, and our vision of God is blurred by doubt. The challenge is to recognize that the Risen Christ is present in our midst, just as he was for Thomas and the other disciples.

Faith is our meeting with God. There will come moments into our life when all else fails and we have nothing to fall back on, except the true, sincere and powerful prayer:

Lord, I believe, help my unbelief.

In Christ's Peace,
Fr John Madden

SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER (OR SUNDAY OF DIVINE MERCY)

THIS WEEKEND'S HYMNS

Entrance– The Easter Day with Joy Was Bright
#514

PS 118 “Give Thanks to the Lord”

Offertory– Show Me Your Hands, Your Feet,
Your Side #679

Communion Song– O Sons And Daughters #507
Vs 5-9

Resp.– Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Sending Forth– We Walk by Faith #674

TODAY'S READINGS CAN BE FOUND AT #1081 IN THE HYMNAL

Acts 2:42-47

1 Pt 1:3-9

Jn 20:19- 31 (43)

SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER – DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY - "Peace be with you."

(John 20:19) As we begin the annual Uplift Your Priest, we pray for those who bring Christ's peace through the priesthood, honoring and supporting them in their vocation. If you sense a call to this ministry of mercy, take time to explore God's plan for you. Talk to your priest or reach out to the Vocation Office at (508) 630-4473 or via email: donato.infante@worcesterdiocese.org.

CATHOLIC BOOK CLUB – We will meet next on Monday, May 11 at 7:00 p.m. in the rectory. We will discuss *My Son, the Priest: A Mother's Crisis of Faith* by Kristin Grady Gilger. All are welcome.

CONGRATULATIONS – to the 31 high school students who will be Confirmed by Bishop McManus this Sunday, April 12 at 3:00 p.m. in the Cathedral of St. Paul and to the 34 young people who will receive their First Holy Communion at the 10:15 am Mass on Sunday, April 26.

THE FILIPINO CHOIR will sing at the 4:15 PM Mass on Saturday, April 25, 2026. After the Mass, we will have a potluck supper at the St. Francis Xavier Center to celebrate the Easter season. Everyone is welcome.

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT will take place from 1:00 – 5:00 p.m. in the Chapel on every Tuesday. It will be live streamed, as well. All are welcome.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

FIRST EUCHARIST continues Sunday, April 12, at the St Francis Xavier Center from 9:00-10:00 AM.

GRADES 1-9 Classes will continue Sunday, April 12, at 9:00 am in the church hall.

OUR COFFEE SHOPPE will be open after the 10:15 AM Mass this Sunday, April 12. All are welcome to attend.

PARTNERS IN CHARITY 2026 – Thanks to all our parishioners who have made their gift to the 2026 Partners in Charity Appeal. We have received gifts and pledges totaling \$41,280 or 46% towards our goal of \$89,000. If you have not yet made a gift or pledge, please fill out a commitment pledge envelope located in the church. Or visit www.partners-charity.net to do it online. Partners in Charity, formerly known as the Bishop's Fund, is the Annual Appeal for the Diocese of Worcester, serving 25 charitable, educational, and pastoral ministries. Through your generous support we can serve thousands of families and individuals in Worcester County through outreach, formation, evangelization, and worship. Thank you!

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY CLINTON, BERLIN AND LANCASTER - On Sunday, April 12, St. Joseph, the Good Provider, Immaculate Conception, and St. John, Guardian of Our Lady Parishes invite you to celebrate Divine Mercy Sunday at St. John's Church, 80 Union St., Clinton. A Prayer Service will be held at 3:00 pm which includes: a brief talk on the Divine Mercy Devotion, Procession of the Divine Mercy Image, Eucharistic Adoration, Diary Readings, Chaplet of Divine Mercy, Benediction, and Veneration of the Relics of St. Faustina. Confessions will be available at 2:00 pm, but to receive the great graces of this glorious Feast Day, it is important to go to confession before Divine Mercy Sunday. Please come join us in honoring the magnificent Mercy of God!

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY NOTICES - St. Joseph Parish, 10 H. Putnam Ext. Charlton, invites you on Sunday, April 12 from 11:00-4:00 pm. Following the 10:00 am Mass, the day will include the Divine Mercy Chaplet, St. Faustina's Way of the Cross, Adoration, and observance of the Hour of Mercy at 3:00 pm. Please note that Confession will not be available.

Saint Aloysius-Saint Jude Church, 489 Pleasant St., Leicester invites you Sunday, April 12 from 2:00-3:00 pm: Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Homily, Chaplet of the Divine Mercy, Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick & Healthy, and Final Blessing.

In Our Catholic Community...

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

ANNUAL VISITATION HOUSE DINNER-

On Saturday, April 18 from 5:30 - 9:00 pm. The Visitation House 2026 Annual Dinner will be held at the College of the Holy Cross Hogan Campus Center, Tickets are \$120 per person (cash bar). The theme is "The House that Ruth Built" and will feature speakers Atty. Dwight Duncan, postulator for the Cause of Ruth Pakaluk and Meghan Tallarita, Exec. Director of the Ruth Pakaluk Foundation. Tickets can be purchase online at visitation-house.org or call Rebecca at 508-798-8002.

MASS FOR BEREAVED PARENTS IN

WORCESTER - Annual Mass to Honor and Remember our Children will take place on Monday, May 4 at 7:00 pm at St George Church, 40 Brattle St., Worcester. You are invited to attend the Pieta annual mass to honor and remember all of our children. Refreshments will be served following the Mass. Please invite any families who have lost a child. For more information, please call Terry Gentile at 508-284-0796 or send and email to pieta3@gmail.com. Sponsored by Pieta Support Group for Bereaved Parents.

MEN'S PRAYER GROUP IN SHREWSBURY

- Calling All Men: Feeling isolated? Lacking connection? Looking for brotherhood? *Cor is the answer!* On 2nd Mondays of each month, experience Christ-centered brotherhood at the Shrewsbury Cor Men's Prayer Group. Strengthen your faith and virtue, building bonds of friendship to become better men and disciples through prayer, formation, and fraternity. The next session, a conversion story, will be on Monday, April 13, 7:00-8:30 pm in St. Anne Parish - Father Smith Center, large classroom. Can't join us? Contact Eric via email at kofc@ewanco.com ,or visit our website at www.shrewsburykofc.com/Cor for more information.

Financial Report

This weekend we received \$7139.00. We also received:

Good Friday- \$828.00	Stipends- \$70.00
Easter- \$5386.00	Donation- \$1190.00
Novena- \$50.00	Rice Bowl- \$95.00

Total- \$14,568.00 Unrestricted- \$13,835.00 Restricted- \$923.00

Expenses- \$19,885.81

Elevator Inspection (675.00) Altar (2055.00) Administration (7173.67) Schola (3821.58) House (1679.95) Catholic Relief Services (208.00) Envelope Service (823.87) Federal Payroll Taxes (1488.74) Priest Benefit Plan (1132.00) Good Friday (828.00)

Food for the Poor Donations- \$165 IMO David Stone; \$150 IMO Patrick and Christopher Johnson; \$300 in loving memory of Denis J. Fitzgerald, M.D.; \$100 from a friend; \$80 from a friend; \$50 from a friend; \$25 from a friend; \$150 from a friend; \$50 from a friend; \$25 from a friend; \$20 from a friend; \$2,000 from a friend; \$100 from a friend; \$25 from a friend; \$50 from a friend; \$50 IMO C. Michael Lavin; \$20 for Health and Intention of Isabella

FFTP

Income- \$2825.00
Expenses- \$3220.68

This weekend's Second Collection is the Monthly Special Needs Offering.

YEAR TO DATE – in March, we had an operating cash loss of \$10,743.23, leaving us with a cash operating gain of \$750.81 for FY 2025/2026. The Food for the Poor continues to carry a healthy surplus. Thank you for your continued generosity to the mission of St. John's.

Our Parish Community...

...Offers prayers and condolences to the families of MaryAnn Dowd and David Lopes who have been born into eternal life.

WORD OF LIFE

"If you suffer with Him, you will reign with Him. If you cry with Him, you will have joy with Him. If you die with Him on the cross of tribulation, you will possess the eternal dwelling place in the splendor of the saints. And your name, written in the book of life, will be glorious among men."

St. Clare of Assisi