Welcome to

Saint Joseph the Good Provider Parish

52 West Street, P.O. Box 284 • Berlin, Massachusetts 01503-0284

PARISH STAFF

Fr. Thomas Tokarz, Pastor 978-838-9922
Sondra Pendergast and Lee Reardon 978-875-2035
Administrative Assistants
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Maintenance Debra Anderson
Sharon Rainville, Organist 978-838-2276

TELEPHONES

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MASS SCHEDULE

Lord's Day Masses
Saturday 5:30PM, Sunday 8:30AM & 10:45AM
Weekday Masses: Monday through Friday, 7:30AM
Holy Day Masses: 7:30AM & 7:00PM

RECONCILIATION

Saturday 4:30–5PM (or by appointment)

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

By appointment. Please call to arrange for date and instruction.

SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE

Please call the rectory office at least one year prior to the marriage to make arrangements.

CARE OF THE SICK

Please advise us of parishioners who are sick or in the hospital, that we might keep them in prayer and, if possible, visit them. Anyone who is unable to celebrate Mass with us in Church is urged to advise us so that we might bring the Eucharist to them at home.

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Your Family Parish

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS THIS WEEK
MONDAY, WEDNESDAY, FRIDAY 9:00 AM -12:00PM

Stewardship – Time - Talent –Treasure

Sunday Collection	**$**	**1,660.00**
Parish Repairs & Cap. Improvement	**$**	**35.00**
Fuel	**$**	**50.00**
Total Collection for 3/17/19	**$**	**1,745.00**
Church in Latin America	**$**	**10.00**

Note to Parishioners: if you are moving away from the parish please let the office know so we may update our records. Thank you!

O, God of second chances, thankfully you give us this time during Lent to be filled, directed & empowered by your Spirit. As we enter fully into Lent, show us what we need to see to more fully follow your Gospel.

Second Chance Prayer
O God of second chances,
Lent is made for me.
Fill me, direct me, empower me,
bless me that I might walk
in the way of your cross.
Amen

Mass Intentions
Week End Schedule

Sat Mar. 23rd 5:30pm Mass ✝Burt Tobey
Sun Mar. 24th–8:30am Mass ✝Deceased Parishioners
Sun Mar. 24th–10:45am Mass ✝Justina Meschini, requested by her daughters, Fran and Sheila
Sat Mar. 30th 5:30pm Mass OPEN
Sun Mar. 31st–8:30am Mass OPEN
Sun Mar. 31st–10:45am Mass ✝Yvette and Frank Ulrich, requested by Cynthia and Bill Gaudere

Week Day Mass Schedule
Mon. Mar. 25th– 7:30 Mass for Parishioners
Tues. Mar. 26th – 7:30 Mass for Parishioners
Wed. Mar. 27th – 7:30 Mass ✝Fr. Henry A. Donoghue
Thurs. Mar. 28th – 7:30 Mass ✝Marie Mailhoit
Fri. Mar. 29th– 7:30 Mass for Parishioners
Stations of the Cross – will be held after morning Mass on Fridays and again on Friday evenings at 7:00pm

Holy Saints this Week
Mon. Mar. 25th – *Solemnity of the Annunciation of the Lord (9 months 'till Christmas)*

NOVENA TO ST. JOSEPH
Join Fr. Tokarz for our weekly novena to St. Joseph our patron saint on Wednesdays, after morning Mass. St. Joseph is our patron and we must pray to him for favors and blessings.

Tabernacle Light, March 24th – March 30th
In loving memory of the McGourty & Monroy Families
requested by Alexandra and Charlie

Intercessions for Life
For all Christians:
May we live out our baptismal call
to proclaim the Gospel and be messengers
of God's love for every human life;
We pray to the Lord

3RD SUNDAY OF LENT
"He said to the gardener, 'For three years now I have come in search of fruit on this fig tree but have found none.'" -Luke 13:7 We can all be like the barren fig tree at times. Do you cling to what you have or do you generously share with others? How will you respond when God asks you what you have done with all the gifts He has given you? Remember, not only are we called to be generous, we are called to develop and nurture our gifts and return with increase.

Prayers for the sick: Deacon Joe Clonan, Cathy Simmons, Skip Spinney, Joe Renzoni, Bill, Mark, Lucille Flynn, Cory, Luke LeSage, Marianne, Nick, Treasure, Karen Baum, Jason, Maureen, Don, Michael Shutt, Robert Wild, Jim, Evelyn Centeno, Ron

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Liturgical Ministers scheduled for Next Weekend

Saturday, Mar. 30th– 5:30 pm	Sunday, Mar. 31st- 8:30am	Sunday, Mar. 31st- 10:45am
Altar Servers:	**Altar Server:**	**Altar Server:**
Acolyte: Wes, George	**Acolyte:**	**Acolyte:**
Lector: Lucille Roux	**Lector:** Bob Rainville	**Lector:** Jim Worbel
Eucharistic Minister:	**Eucharistic Minister:**	**Eucharistic Minister:**

Parishioners of St. Joseph the Good Provider, Jesus warns the people twice if they do not repent. This might be a threat or a promise. If it is a threat then they will perish, if a promise, they will be saved by the mercy of God. The promise is what we look for from the Lord. We must bear fruit that will last – it's the final chance we have in life. Now into the third week of the Season of Lent, our Sunday Gospel prepares us to hear Lent's call to conversion and repentance. The parable of the barren fig tree contrasts the patience and hopefulness of the gardener with the practicality of the property owner. When told to cut down the fig tree because it is not producing fruit, the gardener counsels patience. If properly tended, the barren fig tree may yet bear fruit. Throughout his journey to Jerusalem, Jesus has been teaching about the Kingdom of God. In this parable, we find an image of God's patience and hopefulness as he prepares his Kingdom. God calls us to repent, and it is within his power to punish us for our failure to turn from our sinfulness. And yet God is merciful. He delays punishment and tends to us so that we may yet bear the fruit he desires from us. We know not what tomorrow may bring. Moses didn't expect to encounter God in the burning bush. Lent gives us an opportunity to repent of our sinful actions and renew our commitment to follow the Lord, to ready ourselves for whatever the future holds. This is our reason for hope: Not only does God refuse to abandon us; he chooses to attend to us.

NIECH BEDZIE POCHWALONY JEZUS CHRYSTUS! PRAISED BE JESUS CHRIST! - *Fr. Tom Tokarz, Pastor*

On Sunday, March 31st, we will have a luncheon for all workers/volunteers at 12:00 noon in the church hall.
We need to know who will attend. Please reply by phone, email, or return the slip in the bulletin. Thank you!

MOUNT ST. JOSEPH SNOW MELT CONTEST!

You've all noticed the huge mountain of snow in the back parking lot. Guess when the snow will be melted?
Get a prize! Enter early, vote often. Cutoff date April 15th

Religious Ed Classes : in Mar. 2019
Grade 1 – 6 will meet Sunday, Mar.24, 31, April 7, 28, May 5, 12
Beginning with 8:30 Mass until 10:30am
Grades 7-9 will meet Mar. 24 and April 7, 28
Sunday evening, 6:00 until 7:30pm
and May 12 after 8:30 Mass

Religious Ed News: Grades 1-6: Students will be reviewing our prayers & creed as we look deeper into Lent. Just imagine that this Lent is going to be different from every other Lent we've experienced. Imagine that there will be many graces offered us this year. Let's even imagine that God is going to help transform our lives, with greater freedom, greater joy, & deeper desires for love & service.
Grades 7-9: Students will continue to review their prayers and the Mass and how Lent fits into our lives; and how this year's Lent can be different. How it will take an openness to God's grace, a deep desire to receive what is being offered us. If we do these things, God's desire for our hearts and our desire for greater union with God will meet. Return to God this Lent with your whole heart, and you will find him gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and rich in kindness.

Congratulations to Confirmation Class of 2019

Hannah *Elizabeth* Baum	Jillian *Catherine* Myers
Joseph *Joseph* Cormier	Keevan *Christopher* Regan
Sophia *Anne* DiFonzo	Joshua *Joshua* Rego
Jared *Ignatius* Forbes	Rachel *Eligius* Savoie
Jordyn *Adelina* Freitas	Steven *Patrick* Savoie
Aidan *Christopher* Long	Colin *Sebastian* Small
Ryan *Christopher* Marshall	Gwen *Bernadette* Willwerth
Owen *Christopher* Medeiros	Stephanie *Theresa of Calcutta* Yildiz

"Those who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God."
Romans 8:14

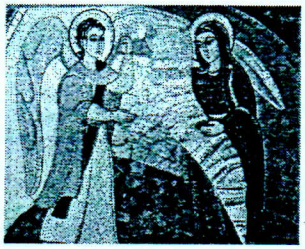
Berlin Family Food Pantry - Outreach

BFFP will be collecting items Apr.28, the 4th Sunday of the month The Food Donation Box is at the Church entrance.
Thank you for your continued support and generosity!
The **BFFP** would like to send out a reminder to all residents if they or someone they know are in need of food assistance resources are available in town. *The Pantry also provides food delivery to anyone who is temporarily or permanently unable to leave their homes. For more info visit www.berlinfamilyfoodpantry.org*

Partners in Charity

2019 Partners in Charity Appeal continues this weekend please prayerfully consider giving!

Once a year, we commit ourselves to this ongoing work by supporting this life giving appeal. We reflect on God's great generosity, and respond with generous giving of our own. Envelopes will be available in the pews. Watch the Appeal Video at www.partners-charity.net. Please be generous. Thank you!



All are invited to join Bishop Robert J. McManus and students from our Catholic Schools at the annual
Mass for Life
celebrating the Solemnity of the Annunciation of the Lord
Monday, March 25, 2019
10:00 a.m.
St. Paul Cathedral
19 Chatham St., Worcester
The diocesan pro-life awards will be presented at the Mass.

WE ARE *Thankful* FOR YOU!

All are invited to the
St. Joseph the Good Provider
VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION PARTY!
We are so grateful for everyone who supports our parish in so many ways!
Please join us for a luncheon, drinks, music & fellowship.
SUNDAY, MARCH 31, 2019
Noon to 2:30 in the Church Hall
Please let us know you'll be joining us as we prepare so we'll have enough food and beverages
RSVP by Tuesday, March 26th

Yes we can make it! ____ Number attending! ____
Drop response in Collection Basket or...
Call the office at 978-838-9922 or...
email: stjoe9922@charter.net

REMINDER Altar Servers, Lectors, Eucharistic Ministers
The March and April signup sheets are posted in the Sacristy. There are many open Masses where we need servers.
PLEASE if you have not signed up check the sheets and see if there are any open spots where you can serve.

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Address: _____

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Telephone: _____

☐ Register ☐ Change Address ☐ Envelopes