

St. Patrick Parish

258 Main St. Rutland, Massachusetts - WEBSITE: stpatricksrutland.org

Serving the People of Rutland, Oakham and Hubbardston

PARISH CENTER: 9 POMMOGUSSETT RD.

508-886-4984 FAX 508-886-2897

Rev. James Boland, Pastor

RESIDENCE: 508-886-4309 290 Main St. Rutland

E-MAIL: FrJim@stpatricksrutland.org

Deacon Pierre Gemme:

E-MAIL: gemm01@msn.com

Deacon Brian Stidsen:

E-MAIL: bstidsen51@gmail.com

Denise A. Skrocki, Office Manager

Office Hours 9:00 - 2:00 Monday - Thursday

E-MAIL: das@stpatricksrutland.org

Directors of Religious Education:

Christine Mulry, Grades 1-10 508-886-2010

E-MAIL: Chris@stpatricksrutland.org

Jean Urbanowski, Grade 11 508-886-2010

E-MAIL: Jean@stpatricksrutland.org

Diocese of Worcester

Office of Healing & Prevention

Victim Services Coordinator

Judith Audette, LICSW 508-726-2880

49 Elm Street Worcester, MA 01609

EUCCHARISTIC CELEBRATIONS

Mass Schedule is: **Only 8am Mass Livestreamed***

Saturday (Vigil) 5:00 pm

Sunday *8:00 am and 10:30 am

WEEKDAY: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday

***8:00 am**

BAPTISM: Parents please call the Parish Office to arrange for instructions and Baptismal date.

MARRIAGE: Couples planning marriage should contact the Pastor at least one year in advance. Participation in a Marriage Preparation Program is expected.

RECONCILIATION: Saturday 3:30-4:30 pm in the Church

HOME & HOSPITAL VISITATION: Please notify us if you know of someone who is ill or homebound.

NEW PARISHIONERS: Welcome! We hope that you will become an active part of our parish family. Please introduce yourselves at your first opportunity, or call the Parish Center to register.

PRAYER REQUEST LINE: Call with your requests.

Paula Stidsen 774-696-3008

Or email: PaulaStidsen@gmail.com

April 16, 2023



TABERNACLE LAMP

Jimmy Dunn
5th Anniversary

April 16 - April 22, 2023

PROTECTING OUR YOUTH AND CHILDREN

If you or someone you know has been sexually abused by a priest, religious or lay person working for the Church, and you want to share feelings of hurt or betrayal, call Judith Audette, Victim Services Coordinator, Office of Healing and Prevention, 508-929-4363 (confidential line).



Handicap accessibility by the elevator entrance on the left driveway side of the Church building.





Mass Intentions

FAMILIES REQUESTING A MASS ARE WELCOME TO BRING UP THE GIFTS AT THE OFFERTORY.
PLEASE LET THE SACRISTAN KNOW YOU ARE AT MASS.

TO SCHEDULE A MASS INTENTION OR
REQUEST A TABERNACLE LAMP,
PLEASE CALL THE PARISH OFFICE: 508-886-4984
(*Living Intention)

Saturday, April 15: Divine Mercy Sunday

5:00 pm Loretta Niedzewski & Nancy Bergeron
Requested by the Family

Sunday, April 16: Divine Mercy Sunday

8 am Livestreamed Mass †

8:00 am Jimmy Dunn, 5th Anniversary
Requested by Jo-Ann & Katie

10:30 am Anna Marie Nelson
Requested by the Family

Monday, April 17:

8:00 am Deacon William & Jeannette Vigliotti
Requested by Cindy Katinas

Tuesday, April 18:

8:00 am Francesco Luca
Requested by Joe Luca

Wednesday, April 19:

8:00 am Lawrence "Larry" Harris, 1st Anniversary
Requested by the Parish

Saturday, April 22:

5:00 pm Inez L. Kennedy, Would be 94th Birthday,
4 Month Anniversary
Requested by the Parish

Sunday, April 23: 8 am Livestreamed Mass †

8:00 am Pauline Piscitelli
Requested by Peter & Gail Totas

10:30 am Peter Glockner, 5th Anniversary
Requested by his Mom, Fran

April 9, 2023

Mass/Mailed in/Electronic Collections

Weekly Offering	\$ 3,597.00
Electronic Giving	\$ 1,611.80
Higher Utilities	\$ 130.00
Easter Offering	\$ 2,010.00
	\$ 7,348.80

Special Collections:

Holy Land - Good Friday \$545.00

Thank You!



Upcoming Events

April 16: Divine Mercy Sunday
Adoration & Confessions,
11:30 am - 1:30 pm

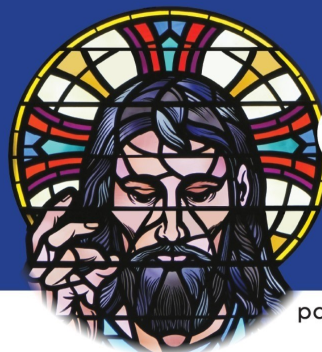
April 17: Holy Hour, 6:30 - 7:30 pm, is Canceled
Please join us Sunday April 16th, 11:30 am - 1:30 pm

April 18: Scripture Study & Faith Sharing, 9 am, in the Church Hall (Tuesdays) following the Divine Mercy Chaplet

April 18: Last Adult Class - Fulfilled: The Promise of the Christian Life (Theology of the Body), 7-8:30 pm,
May 1: Holy Hour, 6:30 - 7:30 pm

May 7: Rosary following the **10:30 am** Mass (First Sunday of every month) Please join us.

May 12: Holy Hour to Pray for Priests, 7-8 pm, Immaculate Conception Church, 353 Grove St. Worc. Every second Friday of the month.



Be the *face* of
CHRIST
and his helping hands

partners-charity.net **Partners** 2023
in Charity
DIOCESE OF WORCESTER

Our Goal for 2023: \$61,800
Received to Date: **\$21,765**
35% of our goal!

Our parish has begun conducting the 2023 Partners in Charity Appeal. As you may know, this appeal is a lifeline for more than two dozen agencies and ministries which provide charitable, pastoral and educational services that complement what we can provide at the parish. We help those in need, regardless of race, creed or circumstance, to find hope.

Please consider making a pledge or gift this year. Visit partners-charity.net and make your donation securely online and note your parish so that it is counted towards our target. You can even make your gift from a Smartphone by texting DONATE to 84576, or simply scan this QR Code! Thank you!

Thank you for your Support!

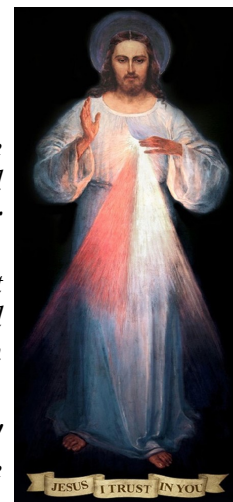


A Message from the Pastor

Dear Friends,

Today is Divine Mercy Sunday. Implemented by St. John Paul II in the year 2000, this feast is a response to Our Lord revealing to St. Faustina (the Saint of Divine Mercy) that he wished the Second Sunday of Easter to be a feast of His Mercy for the Church. On this day there are special graces available to all who seek them. This is why we'll have ***Eucharistic Adoration from after Mass until 1:30pm on this Divine Mercy Sunday and Confessions during this time.***

What is the difference between this gift and a normal plenary indulgence? I'll let Dr. Robert Stackpole, who works with the Marian Fathers at the Divine Mercy Shrine in Stockbridge, answer (**Bold is my emphasis**):



The main difference, of course, is that an "indulgence" is something offered to the faithful by the Church, as the keeper of the keys of the kingdom, with authority to "bind and loose" (see Mt 16:17-19). The special graces of Divine Mercy Sunday, on the other hand, were promised directly by our Lord, through a prophetic revelation given to St. Faustina (see Diary of Saint Maria Faustina Kowalska, 699). The Church has not officially ruled that this particular promise was an authentic supernatural revelation (and no Catholic is required to believe it as a matter of faith), but the Church has discerned, in various ways, that there is nothing that violates Catholic doctrine in this promise.

Briefly, here are the other main differences between the "special graces" promised by Jesus for Divine Mercy Sunday, and the plenary indulgence offered by the Church for special devotions to the Divine Mercy on Mercy Sunday:

- 1) To receive special graces that our Lord promised for Divine Mercy Sunday, the only condition is to receive Holy Communion worthily on Divine Mercy Sunday (or the Vigil celebration) by making a good Confession beforehand and staying in the state of grace and trusting in His Divine Mercy.*** Any plenary indulgence granted by the Church, on the other hand, involves the fulfillment of a number of conditions, including prayer for the Holy Father's intentions, Confession and Holy Eucharist, and the carrying out of the special indulgenced work (in this case: participating in public devotions to the Divine Mercy on Divine Mercy Sunday itself).
- 2) The special graces promised by our Lord for Divine Mercy Sunday can be received by a soul in a state of grace, but with imperfect love for God, and imperfect contrition for sin - as long as the soul merely trusts in the mercy of God, and clings to Him because of His promised benefits.*** A plenary indulgence, however, can only be obtained through the performance of an indulgenced work as an expression of pure love for God. If the intentions of one's indulgenced work are not pure (say, the work is done in part out of fear of hell or purgatory, and loathing for oneself - or the desire to impress one's friends and relatives! - rather than purely out of love for God) then the indulgence obtained will be only partial, not plenary.
- 3) The special graces that our Lord promised for Mercy Sunday can only be received for oneself, through the devout reception of Holy Communion on Mercy Sunday (as stated in #1 above).*** A plenary indulgence, however, can be offered for oneself, or for souls suffering in purgatory.
- 4) The most special grace promised by our Lord for Mercy Sunday is nothing less than the equivalent of a complete renewal of baptismal grace in the soul: "complete forgiveness (remission) of sins and punishment". Such a measure of grace can only be received otherwise through baptism itself, or through making a sacramental confession as an act of perfect contrition for sin, out of pure love for God.***

*As you can see, this is no easy topic. However, you can find a more in-depth treatment of this same subject in the John Paul II Institute of Divine Mercy section of this same website, in the document entitled "Understanding Divine Mercy Sunday."**

God Bless,

Fr. Jim

*-<https://www.thedivinemercy.org/articles/mercy-sundays-special-graces-plenary-indulgence-are-they-same>



Diocese of Worcester
Office of the Bishop
49 Elm Street
Worcester, Massachusetts 01609

April 13, 2023

Dear friends in Christ,

The Archdiocese of Boston has recently noted that the "Satancon" convention will be held in Boston from April 28-30 at the Boston Marriott Copley Place. The organizers of this convention are billing it as "the largest satanic gathering in history."

It is sad to witness that there are people who find satisfaction in celebrating the power of evil in the world. Perhaps they have never experienced the sense of joy and the power of redemption that we find in this Easter Season. We are a people of hope, thanks to the Resurrection of Jesus Christ, who offers all believers the path to life eternal in the loving embrace of God.

By baptism we are called to be witnesses to the Good News, in particular in light of this Satancon event. Let us remember that our power to combat evil lies in the power of prayer. To that end, I join my voice to that of Cardinal O'Malley in asking that we not organize or encourage any parishioners to go to the event to protest. It will only fuel the hate of those who support it and feed the media with images.

We should not, however, stand by idly and feel powerless. Let us storm the Heavens with prayer, in anticipation of and during the event. Pause at any time during the days ahead and petition God to enlighten those who are calling on the prince of darkness to turn toward the light of his saving power. Use formal prayers, such as the Prayer to St. Michael the Archangel or pray the Rosary, or simply use your own words. God will hear you if you simply call on him.

I ask pastors to be especially vigilant during the month of April during the distribution of Holy Communion. If necessary, remind people that they should be consuming the sacred species immediately, to assure that the Blessed Sacrament is not being carried off for nefarious use.

A petition for use during the Prayers of the Faithful for the weekend before and during the event will follow in a subsequent communication.

Join me in reciting The Prayer of Saint Michael, in particular during this month:

Saint Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle. Be our protection against the wickedness and snares of the devil; May God rebuke him, we humbly pray; And do thou, O Prince of the Heavenly Host, by the power of God, thrust into hell Satan and all evil spirits who wander through the world seeking the ruin of souls. Amen.

With every prayerful best wish, I remain

Sincerely yours in Christ.

Most Reverend Robert J. McManus
Bishop of Worcester

April 16, 2023
2nd Sunday of Easter - Divine Mercy Sunday

Jesus came and stood among them and said to them, "Peace be with you." John 20:19

Are you good at making people feel welcome? When you meet someone new, like a new neighbor, a new work colleague or a new parishioner, do you make them feel at home? When we make people feel welcome, we make them feel like they are included instead of being excluded. We are made for relationships – with God and each other. When you see yourself as a beloved son or daughter of God, you tend to see others the same way, too – just as God, Our Father, sees us.



Rutland Food Pantry

Upcoming Distribution Dates

Date	Time
April	
Saturday, April 22, 2023	9:00 - 10:30 AM
May	
Thursday, May 11, 2023	6:00 - 7:30 PM
Saturday, May 27, 2023	9:00 - 10:30 AM

Our current Wish List: *(Non-expired food only, please)*

- ☐ Ramen Noodles
- ☐ Hamburger Helper/Pasta Sides/Suddenly Salads
- ☐ Large Cans/Jars Spaghetti Sauce
- ☐ Coffee/Tea (Decaf and Regular)
- ☐ Jelly
- ☐ Bottled Juice
- ☐ Mayo/Relish/Mustard/ Ketchup
- ☐ Low Salt/Sugar Free/Gluten Free items
- ☐ Baked Beans
- ☐ Paper Products – Tissues, Paper Towels, and the ever-needed Toilet Paper

*From all of us at the Rutland Food Pantry,
 we wish you all the Blessings and Joy
 of this Easter Season.*



ROMAN CATHOLIC
 DIOCESE OF WORCESTER

St. Thomas More Law School Scholarship

Each year the St. Thomas More Society of our Diocese awards a scholarship of varying amounts, usually around \$3000, to a law student attending an accredited law school in the fall. Applicants or parents must be registered and active members of a parish in the Diocese of Worcester. Applicants may be in any year of law school studies.

Applications may be obtained by visiting the diocesan website, www.worcesterdiocese.org/st-thomas-more-society, by mailing requests to: St. Thomas More Society, Chancery Office, 49 Elm Street, Worcester, MA 01609 or by calling Joan DeMasi at 508-929-4345. Applications are due on or before June 15, 2023.

Should anyone wish to contribute to the scholarship fund, donations will be greatly appreciated; you can contact us at the above address or phone number.



OFFICE OF THE DIACONATE

Learn about becoming a Deacon

The Office of the Diaconate is accepting applications from married and single men between the ages of 31 and 60 for this fall's beginning formation process. Applications will be accepted through May 1, with classes to begin in September. Inquiry sessions will be held on request with those who are interested in learning more about the permanent diaconate.

To schedule a session:
 email your request to diaconate@worcesterdio...,
 or submit an inquiry form at worcesterdiocese.org/d...

More information is available at worcesterdiocese.org/d...

Dust off your sneakers!
"Walk and Talk" is back!



St. Patrick's walking group resumes
Saturday, May 6th, 9:00 am at
Miles Rd. parking lot near the Rail Trail.

Note: Parking is limited,
 consider car pooling
 from the Church Parking Lot

Invite a friend!

Walk for as short or long a distance as you prefer.
 For questions, **text Robin at 508-210-6761.**

God's Mercy
IS ALWAYS
AVAILABLE



Divine Mercy

Jesus told St. Faustina that Divine Mercy was mankind's last hope of salvation. So how did it come to be? The Feast, Image, Novena, Chaplet, and Hour of Mercy make up the Divine Mercy Devotion, but how has it spread around the world? What was the spark that came from Poland that Jesus said would prepare

the world for his final coming? Hear Fr. Chris Alar explain this incredible story and how you can be a part of it.

Go to: <https://www.thedivinemercy.org/videos/how-divine-mercy-came-be-explaining-faith>.

(PRACTICING)

CATHOLIC The Doors We Lock

As a child, and even for a while as a teenager, I experienced an enormous amount of anxiety whenever I went to confession. For so many years I feared it. For so many years I waited in the confession line trembling, feeling sick to my stomach.

In the upper room after Christ's Passion and death, the anxiety of the disciples was so strong that they locked themselves away. But still Christ found a way into their midst. He would not be prevented from bringing mercy and hope to a place shrouded in despair. No door barred in a moment of fear could keep him out.

This is the genius of the sacrament of Reconciliation — and of all sacraments, really. Here we are, restricted in so many ways by an existence that is woefully physical. We feel fear, and our body reacts, just as we feel anger and our body reacts.

How can God deliver mercy to us in this flesh-bound state? Through that very flesh which can feel so confining. Through confession, which requires a physical action, and the physical participation not just of the penitent but of the priest.

I don't know how or why my anxiety around the sacrament has lessened over the years. Sometimes, I still feel it come roaring back unexpectedly, and maybe one day it will come back to stay. It doesn't surprise me: after all, I am in the flesh, and I will, as Peter says today, "suffer through various trials." But in all of them Christ will find me. He will not be kept away.

Let the house of Aaron say, "His mercy endures forever." Psalm 118:3

- By Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman -



St. Bernadette Soubirous

Feast Day: April 16

(1844-1879)

At the age of 14 St. Bernadette was living in abject poverty with her family in a one-room basement which had previously been used as a jail, in the town of Lourdes in southern France. She was a sickly child, having fallen victim to Cholera in 1854 and would battle asthma and tuberculosis for the rest of her short life. Bernadette was illiterate and is characterized in many accounts as slow or ignorant. It was in her 14th year that Bernadette was granted 18 visions of a 'Lady' at a grotto in Massabielle. The Lady instructed Bernadette to come daily to the grotto to receive the visions, eventually proclaiming 'I am the Immaculate Conception'. A spring at the grotto, which appeared where Bernadette was instructed to dig, has been a site of miraculous healing. The Lady also asked that a chapel be built in the grotto for pilgrims. Today the Marian shrine at Lourdes is one of the world's most popular.

During and following the period of visions, the saint was examined rigorously by Church and local authorities. The popular excitement around the visions left her subject to persistent questioning and attention. Eventually she sought protection by retiring to a home for the poor in a nunnery. She took her vows in 1866 with the Sisters of Charity at Nevers. She worked as an infirmiry assistant, and later a sacristan, but by the end of her life she was too sick to participate in convent life. She died at the age of 35, humble and penitent until the end.


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Matthew Moreno, Au.D.
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 St. Patrick's Parishioner

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