

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



December 10, 2023



SUNDAY, DECEMBER 10, 2023

2ND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

"Prepare the way of the Lord." - Mk 1:3

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCC

GLP

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 or by the Ramp located on the right 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, December 9:

5:00 pm Patricia Inangelo

Requested by her Husband, John

Sunday, December 10: 8 am Livestreamed Mass ☩

8:00 am Simon Katonis Family

Requested by Cindy Katinas

10:30 am Stanislaw Kadziewicz

Requested by the Silvestris Family

Monday, December 11:

8:00 am Sara Marie Crutcher LaMadeleine

Requested by her mother, Margaret Wilkins

Tuesday, December 12:

8:00 am (*Living Intention) In Thanksgiving for
Joseph Sebastian's 3rd birthday

Requested by the Gil Family

Wednesday, December 13:

8:00 am Anna Marie Nelson

Requested by the Family

Saturday, December 16:

5:00 pm Kenneth J. Sweeney, Sr. - 7th Anniversary
Requested by the Sweeney Family

Sunday, December 17: 8 am Livestreamed Mass ☩

8:00 am (*Living Intention) Vivian Guzman's 9th birthday
Requested by the Family

10:30 am Wladyslawa Kadziewicz

Requested by the Silvestris Family



LORD God, Your Church joyfully awaits the coming of its Savior, who enlightens our hearts and dispels the darkness of ignorance and sin.

Pour forth your blessings upon us as we light the candles of this wreath; may their light reflect the splendor of Christ, who is LORD,



Event Calendar

December 11: Confessions 6:00 - 7:00 pm

December 12: Divine Mercy Chaplet, After 8 am Mass

December 12: Scripture Study & Faith Sharing, 9 am, in the Church Hall following the Divine Mercy Chaplet

December 11: Confessions, 6:00 pm

December 18: Holy Hour, 5:55 - 7:30 pm, Confessions also available

Christmas Masses:

December 24: Mass with Christmas Pageant, 4:00 pm

December 24: Mass, 10:00 pm

December 25: Mass, 10:30 am

January 1: Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God, Holy Day of Obligation - Masses at 8 am and 7 pm.

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

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



TABERNACLE LAMP

Leon & Irene Lamarche

December 10 - December 16, 2023



December 3, 2023 Mass/Mailed in/Electronic Collections

Weekly Offering	\$ 2,743.00
Electronic Giving	\$ 1,701.60
Higher Utilities	\$ 45.00
Immaculate Conception	\$ 130.00
Mary Mother of God	\$ 39.00
Christmas Flowers	\$ 715.00
Christmas Offering	\$ 30.00
	\$ 5,403.60

Special Collection:

Retired Religious Fund \$40

Thank you!



A Message from our Pastor

Dear Friends,

Not as appreciated in our time is the understanding that fasting is a part of the Advent Season. I briefly mentioned this last week, but it's worth expanding upon as many associate fasting only with Lent, when in fact it is meant to be lived out throughout the liturgical calendar. This enables us to appreciate all the more the seasons where we feast like Christmas and the 8 days following known as the octave of Christmas, and likewise with the Easter Season. Read more below:

In secular society, the Christmas season begins around Thanksgiving time and ends after Christmas Day. This often entails weeks of feasting on delicious treats at every meal.

For most of Christian history, however, the period of time before Christmas was seen as a period of fasting.

Eastern tradition of fasting

Beginning in the 8th century, Eastern Christians doubled-down on their preparations for Christmas. They firmly believed in the ancient maxim, "fast before you feast," and followed Christ's example of fasting for 40 days in the desert before he began his public ministry. To properly prepare for the glorious celebration of Christmas on December 25, they fasted for 40 days, beginning November 15 and ending on Christmas Eve. Unlike the current observation of Lent in the West (in which Sundays are exempted from fasting) the Eastern fast includes Sundays. It is also called "Philip's Fast" as it begins after the feast of St. Philip the Apostle in the Byzantine calendar.

The fast is quite rigorous and consists of two primary periods. According to one of the Orthodox churches, "The first period is November 15 through December 19, when the traditional fasting discipline (no meat, dairy, fish, wine, and oil) is observed. There is dispensation given for wine and oil on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Similarly, fish, wine, and oil are permitted on Saturdays and Sundays.

The second period is December 20 through 24, when the traditional fasting discipline (no meat, dairy, fish, wine, and oil) is observed. There is dispensation given for wine and oil only on Saturday and Sunday during this period." As a note, the rules of fasting tend to differ according to each particular church.

Latin tradition of fasting

In the Western (Latin) Catholic Church, there was a separate fasting tradition during a time called "Advent Ember tide," which corresponds to the tradition of "Ember Days." This was a liturgical custom that revolved around the changing of the four seasons and consisted of 3 days set apart for fasting and prayer.

There were also specific regulations for fasting on these three days and special Masses were said. For these reasons it was known as a "mini-Lent," highlighting the importance of prayer and fasting.

According to the 1917 Code of Canon Law, this included the following.

The law of abstinence forbids the eating of flesh meat and of broth made of meat, but does not exclude the use of eggs, milk and the products of milk (namely cheese and butter), and any seasonings of food, even those made from the fat of animals. The law of fasting ordains that only one full meal a day be taken, but does not forbid a small amount of food in the morning and in the evening. As regards the kind of food, and the amount, that may be taken, the approved customs of one's locality are to be observed. One may partake of both fish and flesh meat at the same meal. The full meal may be taken in the evening and the collation at noon.

While Catholics are generally no longer under any obligation to fast during Advent, it is a tradition that many are reviving to help them spiritually prepare for the great feast of Christmas.

*If you are considering a fast during Advent, consult a spiritual advisor to determine what you and your body can handle that will lead to a fruitful time of preparation.**

God Bless, Fr. Jim



Rutland Food Pantry

Thank you all for your wonderful support of our Thanksgiving Distribution.

Upcoming Distribution Dates

Date	Time
<i>December</i>	
<i>Note: Only 1 Distribution in December</i>	
Saturday, December 16, 2023	9:00 - 11:00 AM
<i>January</i>	
Thursday, January 11, 2024	6:00 - 7:30 PM
Saturday, January 27, 2024	9:00 - 10:30 AM

Our Christmas distribution is Saturday, December 16, 2023 at 9:00 to 11:00 am

Items needed for Christmas are:

- ☐ **Cereal (our shelves are empty !)**
- ☐ Spaghetti Sauce (Plastic Jars preferred)
- ☐ Cooking Oil
- ☐ Pie Filling (Any Flavor)
- ☐ Boxed Rice/Pasta Sides
- ☐ Boxed Potato Side dishes
- ☐ Coffee/Tea/Cocoa

Members of the Food Pantry staff will be at the pantry on Wednesday Dec 13, 2023 5:00 PM to 7:00 PM if you would like to drop off your donations at that time.

Non-perishable, non-expired, unopened food donations may be dropped off downstairs on the stage at St Patrick's.

How truly blessed we are by all our wonderful supporters. **Thank You !**



*Please Pray For the
Repose of the Soul of*

✠ Kenneth W. Stidsen

Deacon Brian's Father

**"Prepare
the way
of the
Lord..."**

Mark 1:3

December 10, 2023 Second Sunday of Advent

We are all called to live a holy life. We are all called to invite others to live holy lives. Living a stewardship lifestyle, being grateful and generous with our gifts, puts us on the path to holiness and is an example for others to be holy, too. We are responsible not only for our own lives, but for the lives of others as well. How are you helping others get to Heaven?

Preparing Our Hearts For the Celebration of The Birth of Our LORD, Jesus Christ

The **Sacrament of Reconciliation** (Confession)
will be available

on the following Mondays, 6:00 - 7:00* pm

December 11:

December 18: During Adoration

* Confessions will continue
after 7:00 pm until everyone
has been seen.

Confessions continue
to be available on
Saturdays, 3:30 - 4:30 pm.



**Thank you for supporting
St. Patrick's
Christmas Giving Tree**

**Return your Gift
to the Church
by December 13th**

Thank you!



Healing Mass Today

Cathedral of Saint Paul,

19 Chatham St., Worcester

will hold a Healing Mass in
English on Sunday, Dec. 10
at 3:00 pm.

All are welcome.



Congratulations
to our Students
who received the
Sacrament of Confirmation
on December 2nd

Bryn Dillon
William Ehrenworth
Famy Greevy, Jr
Collin Gunnard
Evan Gunnard
Molly Isaacs
Giana Johanson
Anabelle Joslyn
Addyson Kachadoorian
Jack Kelly
Justin Kelly
Benjamin Leroy
Liam Mall
Brody Martin
Riley McKeon
Matthew Moreno
Kameron Morris
Matthew Naples
Brenna Patenaude
Jonathan Santimore
Addison Servant
Alyssa Thomas
Sean Wamback

Let us continue to pray for them.

Prayer to Our Lady Of Guadalupe

Feast Day: December 12

“Dearest Lady of Guadalupe, fruitful Mother of Holiness, teach me your ways of gentleness and strength. Hear my prayer offered with deepfelt confidence to beg this favor.... O Mary, conceived without sin, I come to your throne of grace to share the fervent devotion of your faithful Mexican children who call to you under the glorious Aztec title of “Guadalupe” the virgin who crushed the serpent. Queen of Martyrs, whose Immaculate heart was pierced by seven wounds of grief, help me to walk valiantly amid the sharp thorns thrown across my pathway. Queen of Apostles aid me to win souls for the Sacred Heart of my Savior. I plead this through the merits of your merciful Son, Our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.”



Come,
spend some time with Me

December 18th

5:55 pm - 7:30 pm



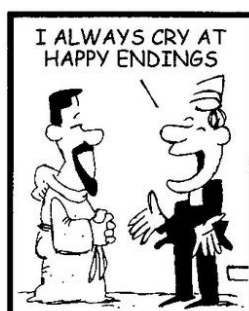
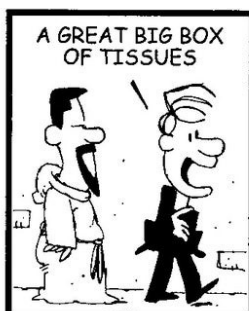
MARCH FOR LIFE

**March for Life
Registration Deadline
December 15th**

There's still time to register for the bus trip to the 51st annual March for Life in Washington, DC on Friday, Jan. 19, 2024! Buses will leave from St. Paul's Cathedral on Thursday, Jan. 18 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 at approximately 1:00 am on Saturday, Jan. 20.

For more details, visit worcesterdiocese.org/r... or contact the Respect Life Office at 508-929-4311 or email aledoux@worcesterdiocese...

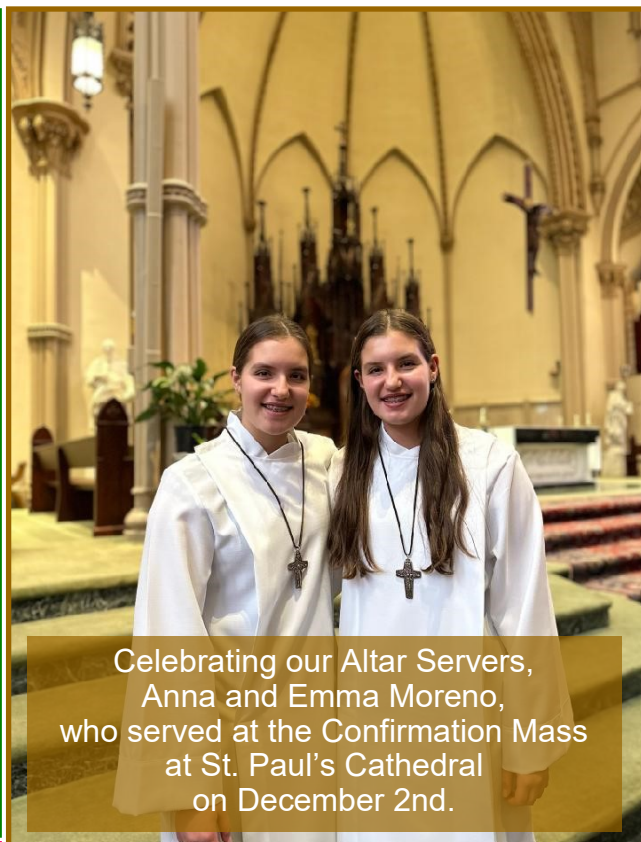


INVITE SOMEONE TO MASS THIS CHRISTMAS SEASON!



So many messages during the Christmas Season are about coming home, being with family and friends. Consider inviting someone with you and your family to Mass this Christmas and experience the joys of the Christmas Season. It could be the greatest gift you give this year!

Photo by Diane Twiss

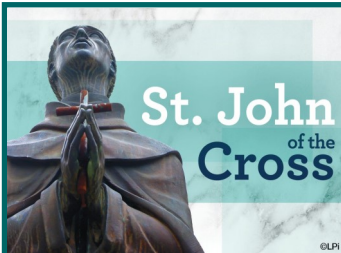


Celebrating our Altar Servers, Anna and Emma Moreno, who served at the Confirmation Mass at St. Paul's Cathedral on December 2nd.



Discernment Retreat for Women Spring 2024

The Diocese of Massachusetts have invited Fiat Ministries to host a discernment retreat for women April 5-7, 2024. Single women, age 18-30 who are seeking to do God's will, are invited to attend an upcoming Fiat Ministries Discernment Retreat at Betania II Spiritual Retreat Center. Fiat Ministries cultivates an authentic culture of discernment for young women by inspiring them to say yes to God's call. Religious sisters from various communities assist at the retreat by giving talks, leading small groups, giving their testimonies, and providing a joyful witness of what it means to be a consecrated religious sister. Cost is \$150. fiatministries.org/ret...



"Let us rejoice, O my Beloved!"

December 14th is the feast of mystic, poet, and reformer, St. John of the Cross. St. Teresa of Avila enlisted his assistance in reforming the Carmelite order. The proposed reforms didn't go over well, and John was imprisoned. Rather than

become discouraged or defiant, John turned to prayer. His time in prison resulted in some of the greatest mystical poetry the Church has seen. After his escape, his efforts were recognized and honored by the Carmelites. While he was appointed to the highest office in his order, dissension forced him into solitude again. Following Christ isn't always easy, nor will it always be received well by everyone around us. John of the Cross teaches us that these challenges can be opportunities to unite ourselves closer to Jesus.

Emmanuel "God With Us"



The name Emmanuel means, "God is with us." This is a title we use for Jesus frequently during the Advent and Christmas season, but its impact should stay with us throughout the year. The Incarnation, God becoming human in the person of Jesus Christ, broke into our world in a profound manner that means that God is not only with us, God is us. The relationship offered to you and I by God is now more intimate and meaningful because of the birth of Jesus Christ.

God is truly with us and our goal is to be truly present to him at all times. To be *prayerful* is an important characteristic of an Everyday Steward. It means more than reciting prayers and setting aside ten minutes a day. Our goal is to experience the presence of God throughout the day in the ordinary and extraordinary moments of living. Offering all the actions and moments of the day to God as we awake, and then examining our day before we go to sleep at night, help lead us closer toward that goal.

When we begin to sense God's presence at all times, and we realize that being with God does not mean one of us has to be talking all the time, then we can truly attest to our reality in a quiet voice at any time, "Emmanuel, God is with us."

LPI

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