

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 24, 2023



SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24, 2023

4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

"Behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son,
and you shall name him Jesus." - Lk 1:31

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

©LPI

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 23:

5:00 pm Shirley Stidsen - 12th Anniversary
Requested by the Stidsen Family

Sunday, December 24: 8 am Livestreamed Mass ☩

8:00 am Diane Hagan (Heather Ferguson's Mother)
Requested by the Parish

10:30 am Mildred Ivan Conrad
Requested by her daughter Nancy Mathieu

The Nativity of Our Lord

December 24:

4:00 pm Christmas Vigil Mass with Pageant

10:00 pm Christmas Vigil Mass, at Night with Choir

December 25:

10:30 am Christmas Day Mass

Tuesday, December 26:

8:00 am Anna Marie Nelson
Requested by the Family

Wednesday, December 27:

8:00 am Edgar Gilbert
Requested by the Alarie Family

Saturday, December 30:

5:00 pm Aurore Allard
Requested by the Nichols Family

Sunday, December 31: 8 am Livestreamed Mass ☩

8:00 am Frank & Frances Josefiak
Requested by Allen & Joyce Gamache

10:30 am Carmela Rose Luca
Requested by Joe Luca



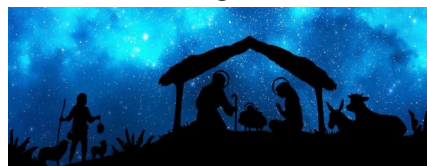
Event Calendar

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

December 18: Confessions, 6:00 pm

December 19: Divine Mercy Chaplet, After 8 am Mass

December 19: Scripture Study & Faith Sharing, 9 am,
in the Church Hall following the Divine Mercy Chaplet



Christmas Masses:

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

December 24: Mass with Choir, 10:00 pm

December 25: Mass, 10:30 am

January 1: Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God, Holy Day - Mass at 10:30 am only. Note change in time

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.

January 15: Holy Hour, 6:30 -7:30 pm

TABERNACLE LAMP

Shirley Stidsen
12th Anniversary

December 24 - December 30, 2023



Fourth Sunday of ADVENT



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, for ever and ever. Amen

Dear Friends,

Merry Christmas Everyone! As you read this for the fourth Sunday of Advent, we're only hours away from beginning with the Christmas Masses. We'll celebrate many Masses this Sunday, but if you've ever noticed in the hymnal that the readings change depending on what time you attend Mass, you're not alone. As a priest, one's Christmas Homily must encompass almost all the themes. But this goes back to a tradition in the Church that helps us to experience the fullness of Christ's Nativity.

Almost every Christian church has their ever popular Christmas Eve service. It is the service everyone flocks to before coming home to host family and friends for a Christmas Eve party.

In the Roman Catholic Church, however, that is only the beginning. The liturgy provides not only a Mass on Christmas Eve night, but also one at dawn and also during the day, each having different readings and prayers.

Why is that? Isn't one Mass enough?

Historically, this tradition of three different Masses goes back at least to the 6th century. One of the reasons for celebrating these separate Masses was to emphasize different parts of the Nativity story. (*Note: a Christmas Eve Mass, celebrated in the early evening hours, was not a widespread practice until recently.*)

Angel's Mass

Various traditions place the birth of Jesus at midnight and so **the first Mass celebrated for centuries was at midnight**. It is sometimes called the "Angel's Mass," recalling the announcement of the angels to the shepherds, proclaiming that Jesus Christ was born.

The Collect (opening prayer) for this Mass highlights the contrast between the darkness of night and the light of Christ.

O God, who have made this most sacred night radiant with the splendor of the true light, grant, we pray, that we, who have known the mysteries of his light on earth, may also delight in his gladness in heaven. Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

Shepherd's Mass

Following the Nativity narrative, after the announcement of the angels, **the shepherds travel in haste to find the newborn Messiah**. This Mass is celebrated at dawn and the readings highlight the shepherd's role in proclaiming the good news of Christ's birth.

The Collect again focuses on the light that has come to earth as the sun rises at dawn.

Grant, we pray, almighty God, that, as we are bathed in the new radiance of your incarnate Word, the light of faith, which illumines our minds, may also shine through in our deeds. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

King's Mass

Celebrated during the day, **this Christmas Mass rejoices in the coming of Jesus and invites all to worship the King of Kings**, looking forward to the coming of the Magi at Epiphany.

The Collect focuses on the profound mystery of the Incarnation.

O God, who wonderfully created the dignity of human nature and still more wonderfully restored it, grant, we pray, that we may share in the divinity of Christ, who humbled himself to share in our humanity. Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever

No matter which Mass you attend to celebrate Our Lord's Nativity, on behalf of the staff and me, from all of us here at St. Patrick's, may you, your family, and loved ones **have a Merry Christmas!**

God Bless,

Fr. Jim

December 24, 2023 | 4th Sunday of Advent

"Hail, full of grace, the Lord is with you!"
Luke 1:28



After Jesus, we look to Mary as an ideal steward. Her entire life was lived in obedience to God's call.

Mary teaches us to live with joy for all we have been given. Just as the moon reflects the light of the sun, Mary reflects the light of Christ. Like

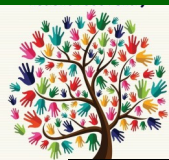
Mary, we are called to reflect Christ's light to the world through our gratitude and generosity.



**WISHING YOU A BLESSED CHRISTMAS
FILLED WITH THE PEACE
OF OUR LORD, JESUS CHRIST!**

From the Staff at St. Patrick's:

*Fr. Jim, Deacon Pierre, Deacon Brian,
Mrs. Chris Mulry, Mrs. Jean Urbanowski,
Mr. John Fitzgerald and Mrs. Denise Skrocki*



Rutland Food Pantry

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

Upcoming Distribution Dates

Date	Time
<i>January</i>	
Thursday, January 11, 2024	6:00 - 7:30 PM
Saturday, January 27, 2024	9:00 - 10:30 AM

Items needed 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

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
and Merry Christmas !**



**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...



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

Christmas 2023

"May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope."

—Romans 15:13

My dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

The Gospel accounts of Jesus' birth involve a disparate group of people—the sinless virgin, the upright Joseph, an indifferent innkeeper, Jewish shepherds, pagan magi, the ruthless Herod, incurious scribes, and murderous soldiers. Among this radically varied group, there was one thing in common. They were all—each one of them—loved by God. They were each the reason Christ was born. To each He would call. For each He died.

What was true that long ago night in Bethlehem remains true this day in our world. God loves each one of us. He loves those in the pews each week, twice a year or not at all. He loves those who have just come from the confessional and those who have not yet made it there. He loves those who acknowledge and worship Him and those who do not recognize Him and are far off.

Jesus Christ is the one savior of the world. He loves us all and He calls us all. As people whose freedom God respects, our response is critical. It determines if we find peace in this life and in the next. His peace is a gift. We do not earn it. We can only accept it. We accept it by believing in Him and what He has revealed, by striving to follow Him with our lives, and, by our repentance, accepting His freely offered, limitless mercy for our failures.

I pray that, whatever our situation and circumstance this Christmas, we may all be deeply moved by the wondrous love of God who so loved the world that He sent His Son as our Savior. May we turn anew to Jesus Christ, find a welcome place in His Church, and with it the joy, peace and hope God intends for us all.

With every prayerful best wish for a Merry Christmas, I remain,

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Most Reverend Robert J. McManus
Bishop of Worcester



Christmas Flowers In Memory of . . .

Aurore Allard
Joseph Allard
T.M. Araujo
Mary Aufiero
Michael A. Aufiero
Claire Avis
Francis Bagurskas
Elizabeth Bailey
William J. Bailey
William & Dorothy Bailey
Raymond Becker Jr.
Mr. & Mrs. Raymond Becker Sr.
Bertrand & Lucille Berube
Scotty Bies
Sylvester & Barbara Bies
Andrew T. Black
Catherine V. Black
Allen Blair
Cecil & Maude Blair
Clealand Blair, Sr.
Al Boucher, Jr.
Deborah Boucher
James Boucher
Ruth & Al Boucher
Julia Brennen
Lawrence Brennen
Yvonne Carbonneau
Beverly & Gerald Carden
Mildred Conrad
Joyce Cormier
Linda Courtney

John & Theresa Cove
John & Yvonne Cove
Agnes David
Aram David
William Dengler
Carlo DeSimone
Mary DeSimone
Kathy Diccico
Simone Dion
Theodore & Audelaid Dion
Rose & Matt Dolan
Matt Dolan Jr.
Cornelius Donoghue
Florence Donoghue
Jimmy Dunn
James & Mary Dunn
Norvil Dunwoody
Duquette & Lamarche Family
Richard & Lucille Englehart
Althea M. Enright
William L. Enright
Corina Ferreira
Leander & Roseanna Fitzback
John Galli
The Gaffney & Kennedy Families
John & Anne Giblin
Sarah Gonsalves
Linda Greene
Jane Gutowski
Margaret Inangelo
Patricia Inangelo
Robert Inangelo
Margaret Inangelo
Edward Jakshitis
Al Januszewski
Stanley & Sylvia Jatrinski

Philip Jordan
John & Rita Joyce
Stanislaw Kadziewicz
Waclaw Kadziewicz
Wladyslawa Kadziewicz
Joseph & Irene Kaminski
Fr. Bob Kelley
Inez L. Kennedy
Rev. James Kerrigan
Steve Kolofsky
Margerita & Carmine Laconte
Leon & Irene Lamarche
Gerry & Beverly Lange
William & Rowena Larkin
Phillip Leavitt
The Leger Family
Walter J. Lucier
The Maqiera & Puza Family
Florence Marchand
Roger Marchand, Sr.
Mary L. Marrino
Ron Marsh
David Martin
Donald Martin
Frances Martin
Helen Martin
Donald Mathieu, Sr.
Mauguette
Ellie Mohamed





Christmas Flowers In Memory of . . .

John V. Morello Sr.

Mary Morello

Mr. & Mrs. Charles Mosteiko

Albert Murphy

Joseph P. Murphy

Tammy Murphy

Nanny

Anna Marie Nelson

Paul & Jo-Ann Nelson

Ernie Nichols

Irene Nichols

Emil & Josephine Novak

Patricia Noyce

John Nunnari

Jackie Oliver

Aniela Panczyk

Hermano Pereira

Virginia Pereira

Pauline Piscitelli

Laura Plant

Robert Pollone

John & Helen Puza

Alfred Quail

Myles Quail

Roger & Eleanor Quigley

George & Marjory Quist

Robert & Shirley Richards

Bill Scully Sr.

Cessarina Sicbaldi

Frank D. Silvestris

Constantina Silvestris

Robert Skrocki

Walter & Mary Skrocki

Marjorie Smith

Sally Smith

Stanley Stodolski

Mr. & Mrs. Edmund St. George

Gregory Stidsen

Kenneth & Shirley Stidsen

Stanley Stodolski

Alice G. Sweeney

Alyce S. Sweeney

Mr. & Mrs. Charles Sweeney

John P. Sweeney

Kenneth J. Sweeney Sr.

Alice I. Tremba

Eddie Urbanowski

Kay Walsh

Michael Waslaske

Olga & Peter Waslaske

Helen & Charles Weagle

Norma Jean Wells

The Werme Family

Donald White

Rod Wilbur

Zoe Wolfus

Christmas Flowers In Honor of . . .

God's many Gifts to us

Rita Bies

Beverly Carbonneau

Laura Cates

Mathieu Cates

Finnegan & Eleanor Gribbons

Grace Haz

Richard & Barbara Holmberg

Marlene Horner

Aoife & Maeve Huseby

Ricardo & Regina Moreno

Rita Seligowski

Juanita Walters

Claire Wesolowski

Phyllis & Larry Yont





First Celebration: Sacrament of Reconciliation

Congratulations to
Lincoln Leahy
who received first Sacrament of Reconciliation
during this past week!



December 17 , 2023

Mass/Mailed in/Electronic Collections

Weekly Offering	\$ 3,061.00
Electronic Giving	\$ 1,366.80
Higher Utilities	\$ 310.00
Immaculate Conception	\$ 20.00
Christmas Flowers	\$ 95.00
Christmas Offering	\$ 25.00
	\$ 5,343.80

Special Collection:
Retired Religious Fund \$55

Thank you!



On the Lighter Side...



**Happy
Birthday
Jesus**

December 25th



MILES
FUNERAL DIRECTORS
"Serving the Parish Community since 1895"

Richard Mansfield, Ricky Mansfield
Funeral Directors
1138 Main Street, Holden
100 Worcester Road, Sterling

508-829-4434 978-422-0100
Advance Funeral Planning
www.milesfuneralhome.com

C.B. Blair
Builders, Inc.

CUSTOM BUILT HOMES
Cleland B. Blair President
87 Main St., Rutland
(508) 886-4832

BUSY BEE
Nursery
& LANDSCAPE
CONSTRUCTION

Trees • Shrubs • Perennials
Planting • Walks • Patios • Walls
Hydroseeding • Excavation • Grading
Pruning & Tree Work
Rte. 68, Holden
508-829-5380
www.busybeenuisery.com

Main Street Discount
Liquors, Inc.

83 Main St. Rutland, MA 01543
(508) 886-2851

SUNNYSIDE
Ford

Since 1923
HOLDEN 508-829-4333
Sales • Service • Parts
Body Shop • Quick Lane
www.sunnysideford.com

HOLDEN HEARING AID CENTER

695 Main St. • Holden
508.829.5566
DrMoreno@HoldenHearingAid.com
www.HoldenHearingAid.com

Matthew Moreno, Au.D.
Doctor of Audiology
St. Patrick's Parishioner

Sentry Oil

24 Hour Emergency Service
For Our Oil Customers

Central Mass Oil, Inc
Rutland, MA • 886-6823

Full Service Oil Company
Home Heating Oil
Complete Heating & Air Conditioning

24 Hour Service By Our Own Technicians
Quality Customer Service

PJ LOMBARDO
INSURANCE
AGENCY

789 Wachusett St.,
at Holden Storage, Holden
508-829-7100
www.pjlombardo.com

Your auto, home and business insurance
are a must, so pick an agent that you
know, like and trust

LAUREN MORENO, DVM ALLIE KULOW, DVM
ANNIE CUSTER, DVM

Hubbardston Veterinary Clinic
48 Gardner Rd.
Hubbardston, MA 01452
978.928.4343
www.HubbardstonVetClinic.com

Home Heating Oil
Service & Installations
Heating & Cooling
Mitsubishi Electric
Ductless Mini-Splits
Diamond Dealer
508.886.4337
sentryoil.com

BURNHAM
MAINTENANCE

D. BURNHAM • 829-2692 RES.
Holden • 829-3809
Lawn Maintenance • Bark Mulch
Patios • Walks • Fertilizing
Programs • Plowing • Sanding

RESIDENTIAL & COMMERCIAL
LANDSCAPING SERVICE

BURNHAM
MAINTENANCE

D. BURNHAM • 829-2692 RES.
Holden • 829-3809
Lawn Maintenance • Bark Mulch
Patios • Walks • Fertilizing
Programs • Plowing • Sanding

AA
transportation

175 E County Rd, Rutland, MA 01543
WE ARE HIRING SCHOOL BUS AND 7D DRIVERS
We offer private transportation including
buses for rent, Coach buses and limo's.
www.aatransportation.com

Scan to Learn More
About Cornerstone Plus!

Cornerstone
Bank

800-939-9103
cornerstonebank.com
Member FDIC | Member DIF

KEI
Keating
Enterprises

Landscape Design,
Construction,
Maintenance and
Snow Removal
50 years of serving the area
PARISHIONER
BRIAN JOSLYN - PRESIDENT
508-753-6415

LET'S GROW YOUR BUSINESS
Place Your Ad Here
and Support Our Parish!

CONTACT ME
Michael Reese

mreese@4LPi.com
(800) 477-4574 x6724

Lake Dean Store
No. Brookfield Rd., Oakham
"For all your needs"

MASS LOTTERY • COFFEE TO GO
FRESH DONUTS SAT & SUN
508-882-3125
MON-FRI SAT SUN
4:30-1PM 4:30-NOON 5:00-NOON

Place Your Ad Here and
Support our Parish!

Instantly create and
purchase an ad with

AD CREATOR STUDIO

4lpi.com/adcreator