



North American Martyrs Church

October 15, 2023 Twenty-eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time

PASTOR

Rev. Frederick D. Fraini, III

OFFICE STAFF

Lisa Burkitt

Mass Schedule

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, & Friday 7 a.m. Saturday 8 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. (Vigil) Sunday 8:30 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.

Novena to the North American Martyrs
October 9-19, 2023
6:30pm



Parish Office

The parish office is located in the Church Hall and open Monday -Friday 9 am-2:30 pm

BAPTISMS

Please contact the parish office for assistance or visit <https://namartyrsauburn.org/baptism> for detailed information and to obtain the Godparent Baptismal Testimony Form

MARRIAGE

Contact the parish office at least one year in advance of the wedding date to make arrangements

ANOLTING OF THE SICK

If you have family members who are ill, anticipating surgery, or weakened because of prolonged illness or advanced age, contact the parish office for assistance

CONFESSIONS

Saturday 3 - 3:45 p.m. or by appointment

COMMUNION CALLS

Parishioners who are sick or disabled may call the parish office to arrange for the Holy Eucharist to be brought to them at home

8 Wyoma Dr. Auburn, MA 01501 | www.namartyrsauburn.org | 508 - 798- 8779

Mass Intentions

Saturday, October 14th, Blessed Carlo Acutis

8:00 a.m. Patricia Garvey by her family

4:30 p.m. John Letourneau by Eleanor Binnall

Sunday, October 15th, Twenty-eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:30 a.m. William (Rip) VanWinkle by his wife, Jane

10:30 a.m. Freeman Worster by Heidi & John Worster

Monday, October 16th, Saint Margaret Mary Alacoque

6:30p.m. Lillian McMillan

Tuesday, October 17, Memorial of Saint Ignatius of Antioch, Bishop and Martyr

6:30 p.m. The people of North American Martyrs Parish

Wednesday, October 18, Feast of Saint Luke, evangelist

6:30 p.m. Kathleen Foley, Birthday Blessings by her Mom & Dad

Thursday, October 19, Memorial of the North American Martyrs

6:30 p.m. All the deceased priests of the Diocese of Worcester

Friday, October, 20th, Saint Paul of the Cross

7:00 a.m. Robert & Josephine Borglund by Janice & Stephen Lindberg

Saturday, October 21st, Saint Hilarion

8:00 a.m. Mady Monahan by her family

4:30 p.m. Arleen Toomey by Mary Toomey

Sunday, October 22nd, Twenty-ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:30 a.m. George Bott by his son, Fred Bott

10:30 a.m. Aristide & Corrine Nadeau by Claire Fleming

Please Note: There will be no 7am Mass during the Novena.



Mark Ashton, Ava Blazis, Kayla Bowes, Michele Burke-Pellegrini, Louie Costagna, Frank Cole, Dean Michael Collins, Shirley Connor, Christine Cote, Gail Craig, Brianna Croteau, Patricia Darrah, Jacob DeCarolis, Ellie Devereaux, Kevin Dobson, Elaine Doherty, Sadie Dutton, Paul Dyke, David and Pat Faucher, Connie Flynn, Joan Fouhy, Bob Fuller, Suzanne Gird, Lori Girouard, Therese Gosselin, Deacon Jim Graves, Jim Groves, Ed Handlin, Mary Hannon, Melissa Hathaway, Robert Hehir, Elijah Johnson, Kim Johnson, Maureen Jones, Edward LaConto, Jean LaConto, Larry, Donna and Michael Langevin, Roger and Rosalie LaCroix, Alice Leduc, Peter Letourneau, Richard Levansavich, Sr., Audrey-Lynn Marron, Bill Martin, Michael McGrail, Sue Morizzo, Max Mullen, Gary Nickerson, Mary Lou Paulli, Peggy Patenaude, Kaisse Pinard, John Power, Theresa Power, Anthony Real, Edward J. Rutkowski, Joseph Sbrogna, Raymond Scanlon, Scott Staruk, David Tatro, Jake Thibeault, David Toomey, Bonnie Turner, Michael Young and Lucille Zammarelli.
For all the men and women serving in our country's military.

Trick-Or-Treat

The children of our Parish are invited to put on their Halloween Costumes and join us for Trick or Treating at Kateri Housing followed by a Halloween Party organized by our 7th grade students on Sunday, October 29th at 4pm.

Please register at:

<https://namartyrsauburn.org/trick-or-treating>

STEWARDSHIP

October 8, 2023

| | |
|---------------------|------------------|
| Sunday Collection | \$4246.00 |
| Monthly Renovation | 717.00 |
| Coffee Shop | 8.00 |
| Holy Days | 5.00 |
| Mass Intentions | 20.00 |
| Kateri's Kitchen | 15.00 |
| Religious Ed | 110.00 |
| Support Our Schools | 50.00 |
| Prop. of the Faith | 10.00 |
| Online Giving | 1229.00 |
| Total: | \$6410.00 |

Thank you for your generosity!

Religious Education News

Sunday, October 15th

Grades 1-5: 9:30-10:15 a.m.

Grades 6-8: 5-6:30 p.m.

Grades 9-11: 6:30-8 p.m.

For the complete schedule please visit our website:
<https://namartyrsauburn.org/religious-education>

Tuesdays with the Saints Meets every Tuesday at 10a.m.
in the Hall.



Join our 10th ANNUAL
Celebrate Priesthood!
SAVE THE DATE
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 26, 2023
worcesterdioocese.org/celebrate-priesthood

Taste of the Diocese Gala

5:30 p.m.

Thursday, October 26, 2023

Saint Paul Diocesan Jr./Sr. High School

144 Granite Street, Worcester

To purchase tickets, make a donation or become a sponsor
visit worcesterdioocese.org/celebrate-priesthood

KATERI'S KITCHEN



This weekend our food pantry is seeking donations of:
pasta sauce.

Donations can be left by Kateri's Kitchen
or in the basket at the front of the church.

Children are invited during the Offertory procession at Masses place their
donations in the food basket.

Donations will also be collected at Religious Education



Dear Parish Family,

Last weekend, during the course of my homily, I referred to the Catholic Church as the “New Vineyard”, which bestows grace by means of the seven Sacraments. After Mass, many people asked me to elaborate further on this notion of grace. With this reflection, I will attempt to do precisely that.

Grace is indeed a term that is mentioned quite often in the life of the Church, and yet I propose that if you were to ask a room full of practicing Catholics exactly what grace is, you would be met with silence and more than a few puzzled looks. Grace is one of those things that we only seem to have a sense of when we experience it, or when we have no other way of explaining some good in our lives.

Perhaps the most apropos, succinct definition of grace is found in the Catechism of the Catholic Church: “a participation in the life of God” (para. 1997). In other words, it is a “sharing in” or a “tapping into” God’s own Divine Life. This participation is something that we should all eagerly strive for!

At the heart of the concept of grace is the recognition that it is a purely gratuitous gift. While we can avail ourselves to this gift (for example, through prayer and the seven sacraments), it cannot be purchased or earned. I think Catholics, in particular, can fall into the trap of thinking of God as a proverbial “vending machine” of grace. We attend Mass on the weekends and holy days of obligation, we place our monetary offerings in the collection basket, we say our prayers, we do kind and charitable works for our brothers and sisters around us, and then we expect God to give us our grace. In the event that we do not receive grace (or we fail to immediately recognize the grace that has been bestowed), we kick the “machine”, grumble to ourselves and walk away feeling as if we have been ripped off.

However, my friends, Almighty God is not a vending machine and “owes” us nothing. With that being said, it is most certainly God’s nature to love us. Grace therefore, is an expression or an overflowing of that love in our lives! You see it has more to do with who God is, than anything we have done or could possibly ever do.

Now this touches on a very important aspect of Catholic theology, namely, “merit”. However, even here the Catechism states, “With regard to God, there is no strict right to any merit on the part of man . . . for we have received everything from [God], our Creator. The merit of man before God in the Christian life arises from the fact that God has freely chosen to associate mankind with the work of His grace. The fatherly action of God is first on His own initiative, and then follows man’s free acting through his collaboration, so that the merit of good works is to be attributed in the first place to the grace of God, then to the faithful” (CCC, paras. 2007-2008). In other words, even my hopefully generous response to God’s gift of grace, is itself the working of grace, a gift from God. Therefore, the only adequate response is thanksgiving, which also happens to be the meaning of the word “Eucharist”.

The Church further distinguishes between “sanctifying grace” and “actual grace.” Sanctifying grace (received at baptism) is a “stable and supernatural” disposition,” whereas actual grace refers to particular “interventions” of God (cf. CCC, para. 2000). Think of sanctifying grace as being “plugged in,” like a lamp in your living room. As long as you have power (and with God there always is), the grace is “flowing.” Actual graces are like “pulses” that enable certain things to happen when needed, like God “turning on the lamp.”

Undoubtedly, I have given you a lot to ponder about grace, and admittedly, this does not even begin to scratch the surface. However, I hope that it helps us, as we all strive to accept and open ourselves to the invitation of God’s divine grace!

God Love You!!!

Father Fred



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Vice President

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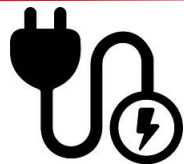


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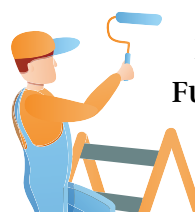
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