

# *North American Martyrs Church*

**February 11, 2024 Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**PASTOR**

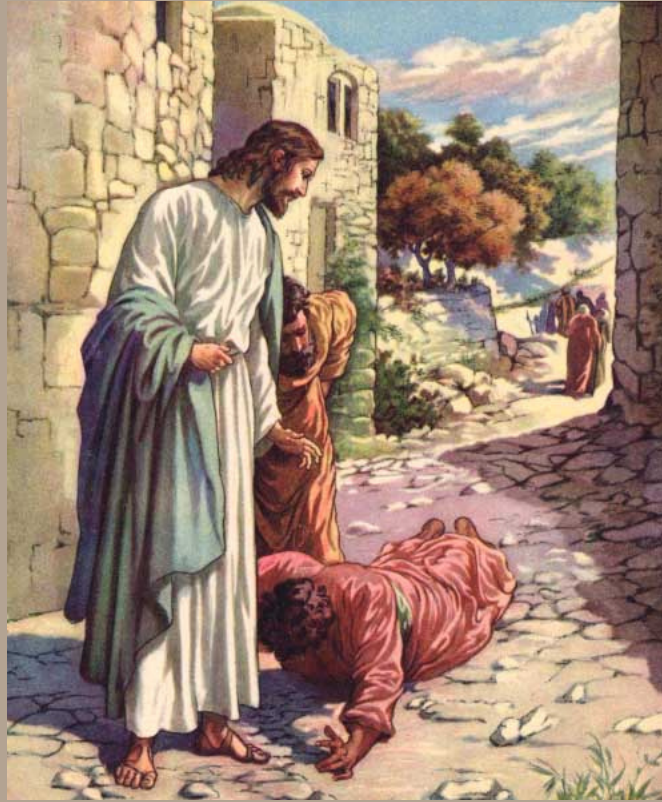
Rev. Frederick D. Fraini, III

**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.



**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

**ANOINTING 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

**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

**CONFESSIONS**

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

8 Wyoma Dr. Auburn, MA 01501 | [www.namartyrsauburn.org](http://www.namartyrsauburn.org) | 508 - 798- 8779



### Mass Intentions

#### Saturday, February 10th, Memorial of Saint Scholastica, Virgin

8:00am Father Jon Bakkelund

4:30pm Ed Binnall 9th Anniversary by his wife, Eleanor

#### Sunday, February 11th, Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:30am Barbara Vaitkunas by Peter & Maureen Morse

10:30am Kathy Stasaitis, 1st Anniversary, by her family

#### Monday, February 12th, Saint Apollonia

7:00am Thomas J. Foley by his brother, Richard

#### Tuesday, February 13th, Saint Giles Mary of Saint Joseph

7:00am Special Intention

#### Wednesday, February 14th, Ash Wednesday

7:00am Francis & Lorraine Derrick by Louise Downie

Noon Bette Dunn by Mary Toomey

6:00pm Aristide & Corrine Nadeau by Claire Fleming

#### Thursday, February 15th, Saint Claude de la Colombière

7:00am Albert Rodrique by the Fraini Family

#### Friday, February 16th, Saint Gilbert of Sempringham

7:00am Peter Letourneau

#### Saturday, February 17th, Seven Founders of the Servite Order

8:00am Gerald Fleming by Claire Fleming

4:30pm Deceased Members of the Dunn & Worster Family

by John & Heidi Worster

#### Sunday, February 18th, First Sunday of Lent

8:30am James Brennan 3rd Anniversary by the Brennan Family

10:30am Stanley & Helen Kerbel, Wedding Anniversary Remembrance,  
by their family

**NORTH AMERICAN MARTYRS  
AUBURN  
LENT 2024**

**Prayer · Fasting · Almsgiving**

Daily Mass will be celebrated Monday thru Friday at 7am & Saturdays at 8am

February 14, Ash Wednesday:  
Mass will be celebrated at 7am, Noon and 6pm

Confessions: Mondays 6pm until the last penitent & Saturdays 3-3:45

Stations of the Cross: Fridays 6pm

Bible Study: Mondays 6pm

Parish Mission: 6pm on Tuesdays February 20th & 27th, & March 12

Guest Speaker Rev. Father Paul Shaughnessy, SJ

**KATERI'S  
KITCHEN**



This weekend our food pantry is seeking donations of:  
**Ketchup and Mustard**  
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.

### **GUIDELINES FOR FAST AND ABSTINENCE**

Lenten fast and abstinence regulations for the Diocese of Worcester are as follows:

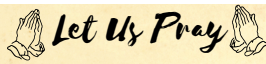
Abstinence from meat is to be observed by all Catholics fourteen (14) years of age and older on Ash Wednesday, Good Friday and all the Fridays of Lent.

Fasting is to be observed by all Catholics who are eighteen (18) years of age but not yet fifty-nine (59) years of age on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. Those who are bound to fast may take only one full meal. Two smaller meals are permitted if necessary to maintain strength according to one's needs, but eating solid foods between meals is not permitted. Catholics should not lightly excuse themselves from these prescribed Lenten penitential practices.

### **Why Fast?**

When the season of Lent draws closer, every year Catholics are faced with the same questions. What should I give up for Lent? How should I plan my one meal for the days of fasting? Will I remember to not eat any meat on the days of abstinence? Somehow, year after the year the answers do not seem to get any easier. However, as the years go by and we continue to participate in these holy and ancient practices we are also allowed to grow in an awareness of why it is that we fast at all. The Church reminds us that each Christian faithful is called to regularly embrace acts of fasting and penance in a way that is proper to each individual, and that there are also times throughout the year (such as Fridays and the season of Lent) when we are called to be united by a common observance. 1 These are not simple exercises of endurance but spiritual practices which strengthen us in the fight against spiritual evils. 2 There are at least three reasons by which fasting can help us grow in the life of holiness. 3 The first reason is to help us calm down those desires that can often overwhelm our reason. Saying no to eating our favorite cookies trains us in letting go of our desire for things that are unnecessary or even sinful. The second reason is to help our thoughts more easily focus on heavenly things. Letting go of that which is unnecessary also forces us to think of that which is important and necessary.

Our reason for saying no to those cookies has to be motivated by an awareness that our hunger will only truly be satisfied by something greater, and the discomfort we feel becomes a reminder of that. Fasting can very easily lead us into sincere prayer. The third reason is that fasting helps us make satisfaction for sins; it chips away at our pride, and nurtures humility in us. It is worth noting that the Church prescribes these times of fasting in moments that immediately precede times of feasting. The fasting of Lent is meant to prepare us for better celebrating the feasts of Easter. This is why, similarly, we always fast before the reception of Holy Communion. Fasting is not so much about suffering because we are saying no to something that we would otherwise desire but, rather, it is about preparing ourselves to properly receive something that is much better than that which we are refraining from. The greater the hunger we allow ourselves to experience during this holy season of Lent the more we will enjoy and be nourished by the Paschal Feast the Lord has prepared for us.



Ava Blazis, Kayla Bowes, Eric Baumgarten, Janett Brancy, Michele Burke-Pellegrini, Steve Cenedella, Louie Costagna, Frank Cole, Shirley Connor, Jonathan Corey, Christine Cote, Gail Craig, Brianna Croteau, Patricia Darrah, Jacob DeCarolus, Derosas Family, Ellie Devereaux, Kevin Dobson, Elaine Doherty, Sadie Dutton, Paul Dyke, David & Pat Faucher, Connie Flynn, Joan Fouhy, Bob Fuller, Suzanne Gird, Lori Girouard, Therese Gosselin, Deacon Jim Graves, Jim Groves, Mary Hannon, Robert Hehir, Elijah Johnson, Kim Johnson, Maureen Jones, Edward LaConto, Jean LaConto, Roger & Rosalie LaCroix, Larry, Donna & Michael Langevin, Paige Lariviere, Michael Leung, Peter Letourneau, Richard Levansavich, Sr., Audrey-Lynn Marron, Bill Martin, Michael McGrail, Sue Morizzo, Max Mullen, Gary Nickerson, Mary Lou Paulli, Peggy Patenaude, Kaise Pinard, John Power, Theresa Power, Anthony Real, Edward J. Rutkowski, Joseph Sbrogna, Raymond Scanlon, Dan Slavinskis, Scott Staruk, David Tatro, Jake Thibeault, David Toomey, Bonnie Turner, Michael Young & Tracy Williams.

For all the men and women serving in our country's military.

## **STEWARDSHIP** **February 4, 2024**

Sunday Collection	\$3771.50
Monthly Renovation	35.00
Mass intentions	10.00
Funeral	300.00
Catholic Home Missions & Catholic Free Press	141.00
Bulletin Ads	150.00
Candles & Immaculate Conception	
51.00	
Legacy of Hope	126.00
Kateri's Kitchen	20.00
Online Giving	369.00
<b>Total:</b>	<b><i>Thank you for your generosity!</i> \$4,973.50</b>



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

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

When a young man is ordained, you, his parishioners, become his family and he becomes your spiritual father. Through the joys of baptisms, First Holy Communions, Confirmations and weddings, the priest is at the heart of parish and family life. When sickness, strain, tragedy and death strike, your spiritual father is there to steady you, reassure you and give you hope by pointing to Jesus Christ and to the mystery of his suffering, death, and resurrection.

As family members, we grow with our priests. In time, we or they move on, but their love, support and lessons remain with us. Like every family there comes a time when those who have nourished, nurtured, and supported us grow old and need our support.

On Ash Wednesday we will hold a collection at all Masses for the support of our 49 priests who have retired in good standing. Our expenses for retired priests include a monthly stipend, medical insurance, nursing care and, for some, assisted living and nursing home costs. Last year our total cost for priest retirement was \$2,390,298.

These retired priests have served with dedication, fidelity, and love. Many continue to serve. Four remain in parishes full time as senior priests. Others have stepped in to administer parishes and say daily Mass. Still others regularly fill in on weekends, cover vacations and serve in prison ministry and on Diocesan Boards and the Tribunal.

Our 49 retired priests and senior priests have served in 77 of our 89 parishes (or their predecessors). They are Bishop Emeritus Daniel P. Reilly, Msgrs. Richard E. Collette, Anthony S. Czarnecki, John E. Doran, Michael G. Foley, and Francis D. Kelly; Frs. Ernest P. Allega, Roger R. Boucher, Paul F. Campbell, James F. Carmody, George A. Charland, William N. Cormier, Andre E. Dargis, Ralph A. DiOrto, David E. Doiron, Charles J. Dumphy, George A. Dunkley, John A. Dwyer, Thomas F. Egan, Lawrence J. Esposito, John J. Foley, David B. Galonek, Raymond M. Goodwin, Bernard J. Grochowski, J. Andre Guenette, John F. Hamm, John E. Horgan, James A. Houston, Joseph J. Jurgelonis, Theodore R. Laperle, Leo-Paul LeBlanc, Richard P. Lewandowski, Joseph A. Marcotte, Thirburs F. Millott, Chester J. Misiewicz, Charles F. Monroe, Son A. Nguyen, Paul T. O'Connell, Emerito Ortiz, James B. O'Shea, Conrad S. Pecevich, Andre N. Remillard, Francis J. Roach, Michael Roy, Edward M. Ryan, William F. Sanders, Thaddeus X. Stachura, James M. Steuterman, Paul J. Tougas, and Peter H. White.

On their behalf, I thank you for your prayers and support of them in their retirement years.

With every prayerful best wish I remain

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Most Reverend Robert J. McManus  
Bishop of Worcester





**Heidi Worster**

Vice President

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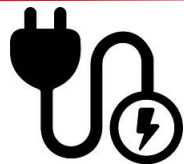


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