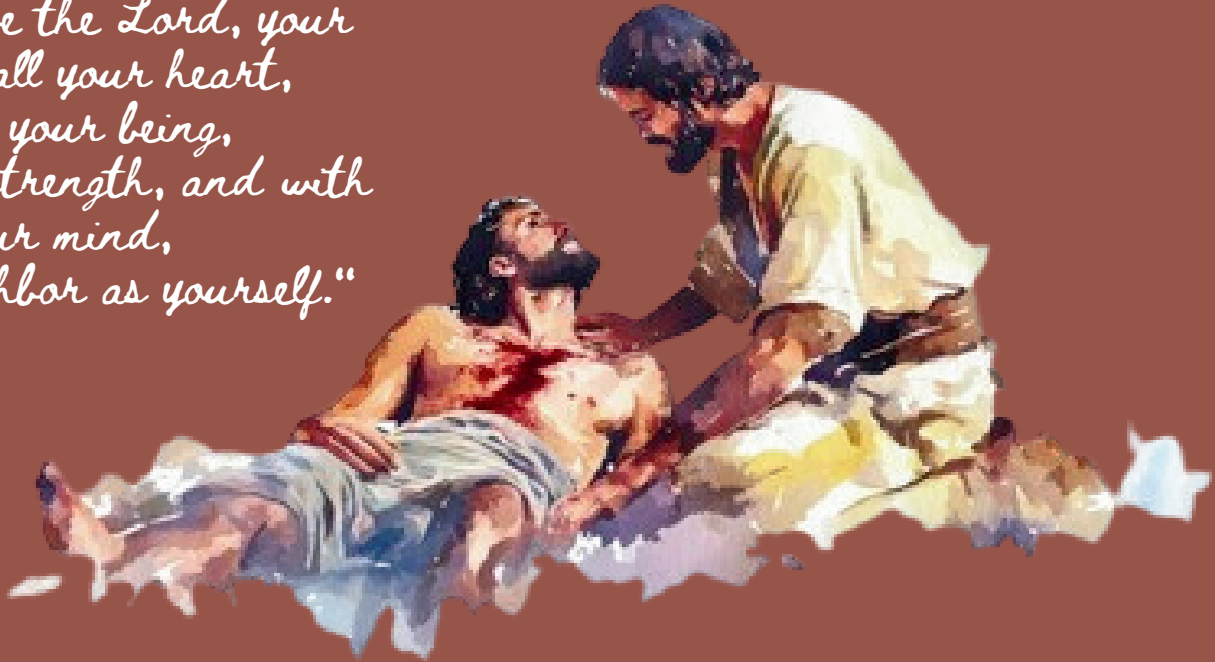


# *North American Martyrs Church*

Sunday, July 13, 2025, Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

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

*"You shall love the Lord, your  
God, with all your heart,  
with all your being,  
with all your strength, and with  
all your mind,  
and your neighbor as yourself."*



## PASTOR

Rev. Frederick D. Fraini, III

## OFFICE STAFF

Lisa Burkitt

## Mass Schedule

Monday-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

Baptisms are held on the first & third Sunday of the month following the 10:30 Mass. 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

### Mass Intentions

Saturday, July 12th, Saints John Jones and John Wall

8:00am Paul Bonnevie by Peschiera Roy family

4:30pm Robert Kerbel by family

Sunday, July 13th, Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:30am Peg & Joe Harney by family

10:30am Dennise Vega by John & Heidi Worster

Monday, July 14th, Memorial of Saint Kateri Tekakwitha, Virgin

7:00am Deceased members of North American Martyrs Parish

Tuesday, July 15th, Mem. of Saint Bonaventure, Bishop and Doctor

7:00am Ann & James Simpson by Mary Wood

Wednesday, July 16th, Our Lady of Mount Carmel

7:00am Raoul G. Roy by Peschiera Roy family

Friday, July 18th, Saint Camillus de Lellis

7:00am Albert C. Gallagher by family

Saturday, July 19th, Saint Mary MacKillop

8:00am Jeannette V. Roy by Peschiera Roy family

4:30pm Theodore Arsenault by Louise Downie

Sunday, July 20th, Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:30am Maureen Young by Jane Van Winkle

10:30am Thomas M.C. Lawler, 3<sup>rd</sup> Anniversary by family

### **The Ignatian Spiritual Exercises in Everyday Life Information Night**

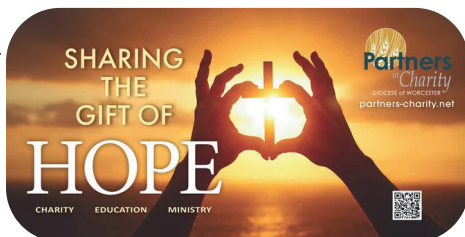
Are you interested in deepening your prayer experience or finding a clearer sense of God's presence in your life? You may want to consider "The Retreat in Daily Life". An Information Night, explaining the Spiritual Exercises in Everyday Life, will be held at St. Peter Church, 929 Main Street, Worcester on Tuesday, July 29 at 6:30 pm. A 30-week directed prayer experience, in the tradition of St. Ignatius of Loyola, is being offered by a team of Jesuit trained people experienced in Ignatian prayer and the Spiritual Exercises. It will begin on September 30 will include group sharing of weekly prayer, reflection/explanation on the upcoming week and meeting with your prayer companion. Visit [www.IgnatianSpiritualExercisesWorcester.com](http://www.IgnatianSpiritualExercisesWorcester.com) or email questions to [worcspex19@gmail.com](mailto:worcspex19@gmail.com).

### **Kateri's Kitchen**

**This week help us fill the shelves!  
Condiments, Canned Meat and Pasta Sauce**



**Partners in Charity**  
We have received \$28,370 of the \$52,300 goal from 80 donors. Please consider giving, envelopes are available at the doors or you may give online!



### Stewardship

**July 6, 2025**

Sunday Collection	\$3,760.00
Monthly Renovation	145.00
Hall Rental	1,680.00
Mass Intentions	10.00
Kateri's Kitchen	120.00
Bulletin Ad	75.00
Donation	100.00
Religious Education	105.00
Peter's Pence, Cen. & East. Europe & Partners in Charity	109.00
Funeral	800.00
Assumption, CCD and Coffee	5.00
Online Giving	989.00
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$7,898.00</b>

*Thank you for your generosity!*



### **Eucharistic Adoration**

**Tuesday July 22, 5:30-6:30pm**

**"A Holy Hour in front of the Blessed Sacrament is worth more than a thousand years of human glory."**

*~St. Padre Pio*

### **Register Now WORCESTER CATHOLIC WOMEN'S CONFERENCE**

All women are invited to this exciting Conference, "I Thirst for the Salvation of Souls", to be held at St. Joseph School in Webster, MA on Saturday, September 27th. Hear dynamic talks from outstanding Catholic leaders, Noelle Mering, Dr. Madeline Colon-Usowicz, Tim Francis, and Adam Janke. Diocesan and religious priests will hear confessions and there will be many interesting exhibitors. Bishop McManus will celebrate Mass. For more information and to register, visit our website at [www.wcwconference.com](http://www.wcwconference.com) or call Corinn Dahm at 508-277-3969. Seating is limited, register today!

### ***Let Us Pray***

Ava Blazis, Kayla Bowes, Eric Baumgarten, Paul Beckwith, Susan Bradley, Haddie Boucher, Michele Burke-Pellegrini, Betty Capuano, Louie Costagna, Frank Cole, Shirley Connor, Jonathan Corey, Christine Cote, Gail Craig, Brianna Croteau, Jacob DeCarolus, Derosas Family, Elaine Doherty, Richard Dowd, Sadie Dutton, Paul Dyke, Ruthann & Charles Flynn, Bob Fuller, Suzanne Gird, Lori Girouard, Deacon Jim Graves, Jim Groves, Mary Hannon, Elijah Johnson, Kim Johnson, Maureen Jones, Edward LaConto, Jean LaConto, Michael LeFlecer, Lafrry, Donna & Michael Langevin, Paige Lariviere, Benjamin & Jane Larsen, Michael LeFlecer, Barbara Letourneau, Michael Leung, Richard Levansavich, Sr., Audrey-Lynn Marron, Bill Martin, Mary McCafferty, Michael McGrail, Max Mullen, Gary Nickerson, Bill & Denise Norberg, Matteo Padilla, Mary Lou Paulli, Peggy Patenaude, John Power, Theresa Power, Anthony Real, Paula Ruoppo, Edward J. Rutkowski, Joseph Sbrogna, Raymond Scanlon, Dan Slavinskis, Scott Staruk, Sophie Stodolski, David Tatro, Jake Thibeault, Bonnie Turner, Evelyn Urban, Heidi Worster, Walter Wheeler & Tracy Williams.

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

Dear Parish Family,

On Monday, July 14th, the worldwide Church celebrates the Feast day of Saint Kateri Tekakwitha. As many of you are aware, this remarkable saint held a special place in the heart of our former pastor Father John Gee. Her beautiful statue adorns our parish grounds just left of the front entrance of North American Martyrs Church. There is little doubt that the blood spilt by the patrons of our beloved parish, helped to fuel the faith of this first Native American saint. As an aside, plans are underway for our fourth annual Novena in honor of the North American Martyrs. This year, the schedule will look a little different! The Novena will take place on Tuesdays and Wednesdays across four weeks:

- September 23 & 24
- September 30 & October 1
- October 7 & 8
- October 14 & 15

We will conclude with the celebration of the Feast Day on Sunday, October 19<sup>th</sup>. More details will be forthcoming as we get closer!

When Tekakwitha was four years old, smallpox ravaged her village, taking the lives of her parents and baby brother. The disease left Tekakwitha's face scarred and her vision blurred, making it difficult to see in sunlight. After her parents' death, she was adopted by her aunt and uncle.

Although Tekakwitha's Christian mother never had her baptized, she did learn about the Catholic faith and embraced it from an early age. Perhaps her mother's premature death prompted her to cherish the lessons she learned from her as a young child. Unfortunately, her aunt and uncle were not Christian, and encouraged her to abandon her beliefs. However, despite their insistence, she spent long periods of time alone in the woods where she practiced her faith, reflecting and praying the best she could, given her limited Christian formation.

When Tekakwitha was around the age of thirteen, in accordance with tribal custom, her uncle arranged for her to be married to a young man her age. When informed of her engagement, she refused it. "I have consecrated myself entirely to Jesus, the Son of Mary, and He alone I have chosen as a husband, and He alone will take me for a wife."

Around the same time, the French settlers entered into a peace treaty with the Mohawk. As a result, Jesuits were permitted to enter the settlement and begin sharing the faith. One day, Tekakwitha met Father Jacques de Lamberville and announced to him, "My name is Tekakwitha and I wish to become a Christian." Around the age of eighteen, Tekakwitha became a catechumen and diligently studied the Catholic faith. On Easter Sunday, 1676, at the age of twenty, she was baptized and took the name of Catherine, Kateri in Mohawk, after Saint Catherine of Siena.

After her baptism, Kateri was persecuted and ridiculed by others within her settlement. Because she would not work on Sundays, she was refused food on those days. Children taunted her and threw rocks at her in response to their parents' criticism. Many even threatened her with torture and death. A year after Kateri's baptism, Father de Lamberville encouraged her to secretly move two hundred miles north to their Catholic settlement near Montreal, the Mission of Saint Francis Xavier. He sent with her a letter to those at the mission in which he stated, "Guard well this treasure and you will soon discover the jewel that I have sent you." It took Kateri two months to travel through forests to reach the mission. Once she arrived, her evident devotion resulted in permission to make her First Holy Communion earlier than most converts, which took place on Christmas Day of that same year, surrounded by other faithful Catholics.

For the next two and a half years, Kateri embraced her faith with profound devotion. She attended Mass daily, often twice a day, and spent most of her free time in the chapel, praying on her knees. She entered into deep trances, and her spirit would be snatched up to Heaven for a time. When this happened, the countenance of her face would become lovely to behold. She not only prayed profoundly, she also inflicted severe penances upon herself, grew in virtue, was known for her exceptional kindness, and loved praying the rosary, which she wore around her neck. She often made crosses out of sticks and placed them in the forest so she would be reminded to pray every time she came upon one. Her personal motto was, "Who can tell me what is most pleasing to God that I may do it?" Though she could not read or write, she memorized many Bible stories and would tell others those stories with great delight and inspiration.

On March 25, 1679, with the assistance of her spiritual director, Kateri made a private vow of perpetual virginity. She had wanted to found a religious order for native girls but was prohibited from doing so because of her poor health. One year later, after her health continued to deteriorate, she died at the age of twenty four. She had spent four years as a baptized Christian and one year as a consecrated virgin. As soon as she died, the scars on her face disappeared, and God made her face as beautiful as her soul. Word of her death spread rapidly from village to village, all across Canada and even to the Royal Court. "The saint has died!" they said. After her death, many miracles took place, especially for those who prayed at her tomb, including many deep conversions.

Saint Kateri Tekakwitha has been given the affectionate name, "Lily of the Mohawks." A lily is a symbol of purity, which Kateri manifested in her life. Lilies bloom only for a short time, just as her life was short. Though her life was largely hidden, her virtues, prayer life, and deep union with God were on full display for all to see. She stood out for her wholehearted determination to please God in everything she did. Not only did she inspire other natives in her settlement, she even deeply inspired the Jesuit priests who ministered to her. It was they who wrote and told her story.

Dear friends, as we honor her memory this weekend, meditate on the calling God gives us all to become pure and holy, and to radiate that purity of heart in such a way that others take note. May we all in faith, embrace her motto this week: "Who can tell me what is most pleasing to God that I may do it?"

God Love You!  
Father Fraini





**Heidi Worster**

Vice President

Phone: 508-752-1117

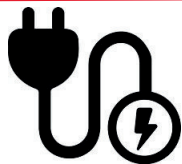
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