

# *North American Martyrs Church*

Sunday, July 20, 2025, Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

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



## 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 19th, Saint Mary MacKillop

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

4:30pm Theadore 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

Monday, July 21st, Saint Lawrence of Brindisi

7:00am Rev. John Selwin Ledford

Tuesday, July 22nd, Feast of Saint Mary Magdalene

7:00am Clarie Fleming

Wednesday, July 23rd, Saint Bridget of Sweden

7:00am Rita Ouellette

Friday, July 25th, Feast of Saint James, Apostle

7:00am Chip Hanlon, 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, by family

Saturday, July 26th, Memorial of Saints Joachim and Anne

8:00am Jeannette Budzinski

4:30pm Arthur & Rita Lindberg by the Lindberg Family

Sunday, July 27th, Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:30am Stanley Kerbel Sr. by family

10:30am John & Cathrine Petty by the Hoey Family

### Stewardship

July 13, 2025

Sunday Collection	\$2,737.00
Monthly Renovation	541.00
Hall Rental	60.00
Mass Intentions	10.00
Kateri's Kitchen	520.00
Donation	5,135.00
Religious Education	80.00
Funeral	800.00
Easter	12.00
Online Giving	339.00
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$10,234.00</b>

*Thank you for your generosity!*

### Outdoor Mass at new Marian Grotto in Worcester

On the Solemnity of the Assumption of Mary, Friday, Aug 15 at 6 pm, outdoor Mass will be celebrated at the Marian Grotto at St. Joan of Arc Church, Worcester. We shall pray the rosary at 5:30 pm. There will be a special offertory to help with our two major projects (air-conditioning in the Church and pavers). There will be ice cream immediately after the Mass. Please come with your portable lawn chairs if you can. A few chairs will be available for those who don't have one.

### 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!

### **Religious Ed Registration for 2025-2026 Registration**

Registration is now open for all children in grades 1-11 for 2025-2026! Please note if your child is in grade 2 or 11 at a Catholic School they must attend classes at their parish to receive their Sacraments.

Your registration form and payment must be received in order to secure your child's/children's spot. Please visit our website to register:

<https://namartyrsauburn.org/annual-religious-education-registration>

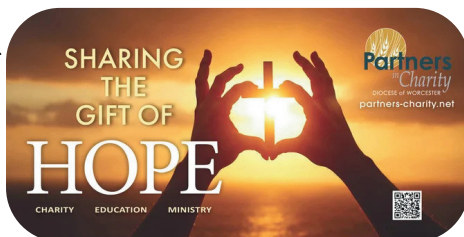
### **Kateri's Kitchen**

**This week help us fill the shelves!  
Condiments & Canned Meat**



### Partners in Charity

We have received \$29,420 of the \$52,300 goal from 82 donors. Please consider giving, envelopes are available at the doors or you may give online!



### *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 Tuesday of this week, the worldwide Church will celebrate the Feast day of Saint Mary Magdalene. There are a lot of Marys in the Bible, the New Testament mentions six! The Mary we know as Mary Magdalene draws her title from Magdala, her city of origin. Saint Luke tells us that Jesus cast seven demons out of her (Luke 8:2). Afterward, she became His follower.

Saint John's Gospel tells us that she was one of the Marys present at the crucifixion:

"Near the cross of Jesus stood His mother, His mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene" (John 19:25).

And she was the first witness to the resurrection: "Now Mary stood outside the tomb crying. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb and saw two angels in white, seated where Jesus' body had been, one at the head and the other at the foot.

They asked her, 'Woman, why are you crying?' 'They have taken my Lord away,' she said, 'and I don't know where they have put him.' At this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not realize that it was Jesus.

He asked her, 'Woman, why are you crying? Who is it you are looking for?' Thinking He was the gardener, she said, 'Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have put him, and I will get him.' Jesus said to her, 'Mary.' She turned toward him and cried out in Aramaic, 'Rabboni!' (John 20:11-16).

Mary's devotion to Jesus put her in the spotlight of several stories in the Gospels. Her life and her faith both have a lot to teach us about following Jesus. Here are three primary lessons we can learn from Saint Mary Magdalene.

First, you don't have to be defined by your past. There's a lot of speculation about Mary's background. People have tied Mary to the sinful woman in Luke 7:36-50. Many assume she was a prostitute or woman of ill repute. But there really isn't any biblical basis for portraying her that way. As Luke tells us, Mary had seven demons cast out of her. Whatever her background was, she suffered before meeting her Savior. But Mary isn't defined by who she was before Jesus. All that matters is who she became after discovering Him.

Like Mary, we don't have to let our past dictate how we see ourselves. Paul explains it this way, "Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here" (2 Corinthians 5:17)!

Secondly, Jesus should be the center of our lives. After Mary's first encounter with Jesus, He becomes the sun that her life revolves around. Luke tells us: "After this, Jesus traveled about from one town and village to another, proclaiming the good news of the kingdom of God. The Twelve were with him, And also some women who had been cured of evil spirits and diseases: Mary (called Magdalene) from whom seven demons had come out; Joanna the wife of Chuza, the manager of Herod's household; Susanna; and many others. These women were helping to support them out of their own means" (Luke 8:1-3).

Not only did Mary follow Jesus and the disciples from town to town, but she and some other women helped to support Christ and the disciples financially. This role continued throughout His ministry. Matthew tells us that they were present at the crucifixion, and followed Jesus all the way to Galilee to take care of Him: "Many women were there, watching from a distance. They had followed Jesus from Galilee to care for his needs. Among them were Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James and Joseph, and the mother of Zebedee's sons" (Matthew 27:55-56).

It's no surprise that she would find herself center stage at the resurrection, too.

We should follow Mary's example. When we encounter Jesus, we shouldn't simply return to the life we left. He changes everything. Our whole life becomes about following and serving Him until like Mary, our story becomes intertwined and indistinguishable from His.

Third and finally, our Lord uses the weak things of the world to shame the strong. In his first letter to the Corinthians, Paul talks about the gospel as being foolishness. The world doesn't understand it, so they discount and dismiss it.

According to Paul, God did that on purpose:

"But God chose the foolish things of the world to shame the wise; God chose the weak things of the world to shame the strong. God chose the lowly things of this world and the despised things and the things that are not to nullify the things that are, so that no one may boast before him" (1 Corinthians 1:27-29).

We see a perfect example of this principle in Jesus' relationship with Mary Magdalene. In a time when women were seen as secondary citizens with no real autonomy, Jesus demonstrated a special tenderness and care for women. We see this in His choice to reveal Himself to Mary first after the resurrection. After all, fallen humanity desperately needs to encounter the Risen Christ!

This is the most critical event in history, and Jesus made a woman the first witness. He even encourages her to tell the disciples (John 20:17). The irony is that they don't believe Mary and the other women (Luke 24:11). We need to be careful not to dismiss things that don't follow our expectations, because Jesus doesn't always do what we expect. He delights in working out His plan in the most unlikely of ways. He did that through Mary, and if we'll let Him, He'll do it through us, too!

Saint Mary Magdalene, pray for us!!!

God Love You, Have a great week!

Father Fraini





**Heidi Worster**

Vice President

Phone: 508-752-1117

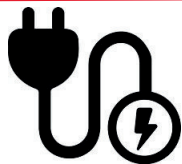
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