



PRINCE of PEACE

CATHOLIC PARISH

5 Worcester Road (P.O. Box 305) Princeton, MA 01541 | Office hours Mon.-Wed. 9:00 am-2:00 pm | (978) 464-2871

MEETINGS

Baptism

Instruction is required for all parents seeking baptism of their child. Please contact the Rectory.

Care of the Sick

Please advise us of parishioners who are sick that we may keep them in prayer. We would also like to bring the Eucharist to those who cannot celebrate Mass with us in church.

Confidential Prayer Line

To add intentions call Ellen Calamari at 978-660-3818 or the Rectory at 978-464-2871.

Marriage

Interviews, instruction and Pre-Cana are required. Please contact the Rectory at least one year in advance.

Programs

- Adult Bible Study
Please contact the Rectory for class schedule.
- Alcoholics Anonymous Meeting
Wednesdays at 8:00 pm in the Parish Hall.
- Reconciliation/Confession
Saturday 3:45 pm at the church, or by appointment.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Development Committee
978-464-2871

Finance Council
Chairperson: Gerald Gates (978) 464-5636

Education Committee
(978) 464-2871

Liturgical Committee
(978) 464-2871

Evangelization & Outreach Committee
(978) 464-2871

SCHEDULE/MASSES

Monday—Friday 8:30 am

Saturday 4:30 pm

Sunday 8:30 & 10:30 am

Holy Days/Feast Day 8:30 am & 7:00 pm

Rev. H. Edward Chalmers, Pastor

STAFF

Parish Secretary, Paula Greeley

Religious Education Coordinator, Sharon Bushway



THE BAPTISM *of the Lord*

"I am baptizing you with water, but one mightier than I is coming. I am not worthy to loosen the thongs of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire." - Lk 3:16bc

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

Your talents are welcome. We encourage you to call a ministry chairperson to find out more about our on-going programs.

Mass Intentions for the Week



Saturday, January 8th
 3:45 PM Confessions
 4:30 PM Unrequested

Sunday, January 9th
 8:30 AM Unrequested
 10:30 AM Special Intention

Monday, January 10th
 8:30 AM Souls in Purgatory

Tuesday, January 11th
 8:30 AM Unrequested

Wednesday, January 12th
 8:30 AM Unrequested

Thursday, January 13th
 8:30 AM For the Intentions on our Prayer Line
 and in our Prayer Intention Book

Friday, January 14th
 8:30 AM Cecelia Laconte

Saturday, January 15th
 3:45 PM Confessions
 4:30 PM Unrequested

Sunday, January 16th
 8:30 AM Unrequested
 10:30 AM Unrequested

Pro-Life Morning of Reflection

Please join us for A Morning for Life with Msgr. James P. Moroney on **Saturday, January 15th, from 10 am to noon** at the Cathedral of St. Paul, Worcester. The mini-retreat will include a talk on "How Precious Life Is," quiet prayer time, and Mass for Giving Thanks to God for the Gift of Human Life. Pre-registration is preferred (though not required.) Email intent to attend to aledoux@worcesterdiocese.org.

TOWN MASK MANDATE

At their December 28, 2021, regular meeting, the Princeton Selectboard voted unanimously to require **all** individuals over the age of 5 years old, regardless of vaccination status, to wear a mask or face covering in indoor public spaces beginning **January 18, 2022**.

Please contact the Princeton Board of Health at 978-464-2104 or the Princeton Selectboard at 978-464-2102 with questions regarding the Town of Princeton Face Covering Requirement.

The Baptism of the Lord
January 9, 2022

Dear Friends,

This weekend we conclude the liturgical season of Christmas with the celebration of the Baptism of the Lord by John the Baptist at the Jordan River. Let us reflect upon the last two sentences of the gospel reading from Luke for this Sunday. It says, "After all the people had been baptized and Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, heaven was opened and the Holy Spirit descended upon Him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven 'You are my beloved Son with whom I am well pleased.'"

I am sure that the descent of the Holy Spirit upon Jesus and the voice of the Eternal Father from heaven must have been inspiring to John the Baptist and those present there.

May we be inspired to constantly embrace the Holy Trinity within our lives while being faithful to the love of God. In a complete way, may we believe that Jesus, the Messiah, the Word made Flesh, the Son of God, offered Himself for the salvation of humanity and we have life in His name.

As we contemplate the essence of God revealing Himself as Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, may we fervently share God's love in a compassionate way. With much hope, let us constantly pray to the Holy Spirit asking for His sanctifying grace to help us understand that Jesus "thirsts" for our love, while also "thirsting" for the salvation of our souls. Through our own free will, may we passionately make the choice for Jesus and His merciful, unconditional love. Be well and be safe!

*God's love and prayers always,
 Fr. Ed*

Christmas Flowers



Thank you to all who gave so generously for the Christmas flowers in memory of your loved ones, or to honor someone, or just to help make the Church more beautiful for the Christmas season. A list of the donations can be found on our parish website, princeofpeacema.org.

PRO-LIFE MASS WITH BISHOP McMANUS

All are invited to attend the annual Mass for Life celebrated by Bishop McManus on **Thursday, January 20th, at 7:00 pm** at the Cathedral of St. Paul, Worcester. Please join us on the eve of the March for Life as we remember the 49th tragic anniversary of *Roe v. Wade* and pray for an end to abortion and the conversion of our nation. All are welcome!

Good News!

January 9, 2022

The Baptism of the Lord (C)

Is 42:1-4, 6-7 or Is 40:1-5, 9-11; Acts 10:34-38
or Ti 2:11-14; 3:4-7; Lk 3:15-16, 21-22

Before the Second Vatican Council, ministry was considered by many to be a Protestant word, and the religious leader who did it was called a *minister*. Catholics had priests and bishops who received and administered sacraments. Religious women did the Church's work in schools and hospitals. The council turned our understanding of Church membership inside out. We've come to realize that with baptism—not ordination or religious profession—comes the responsibility of ministry. Catholics and Protestants alike understand their commitment to justice and peace is a genuine ministry that seeks to establish God's reign in our world.

Many interpreters believe that the account of Jesus' baptism points to the inauguration of his own ministry. The theology expressed is certainly Trinitarian (the voice, Jesus identified as Son, and the dove). However, the revelation of his true identity occurs as he begins preaching and healing. Some say his baptism was meant to strengthen him as he began his public life. Others believe it was meant to strengthen his disciples.

Today we maintain that by baptism we are all children of God. Vatican II has enlightened us as to what this really means. Pope Francis has reminded us that by virtue of our baptism we are missionary disciples (see *Evangelii Gaudium*, 120). In other words, as disciples we follow Jesus, learning from him. As missionaries we go out to spread his Good News to others. It is now for us to take up the ministry where he left off, to be faithful servants with whom God is well pleased.

Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA

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The collection for the weekend of December 25-26 2021, was as follows:

Make-up envelopes	\$ 200.00
Maintenance	\$ 150.00
Energy costs	\$ 50.00
Religious Retirement Fund	\$ 50.00
Christmas	\$1,600.00
Catholic University	\$ 50.00
Funeral stipend	\$ 300.00
Regular collection	<u>\$1,500.00</u>
Total Collection:	\$3,900.00

The collection for the weekend of January 1-2, 2022, was as follows:

Monthly	\$ 850.00
Make-up envelopes	\$ 60.00
Maintenance	\$ 200.00
Christmas	\$ 335.00
Catholic University	\$ 80.00
Solemnity of Mary	\$ 195.00
Regular collection	<u>\$1,034.00</u>
Total Collection:	\$2,754.00

“John answered them all, ‘I baptize you with water; but he who is mightier than I is coming...he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit...’” (Luke 3:16) The Catholic Catechism states that “Jesus’ immersion in the water is a sign for all human beings of the need to die to themselves to do God’s will.” In other words, as baptized Catholics there is only one gift that we need to give to Jesus—the gift of ourselves. Surrender yourself to God, place your trust in Him and allow the Holy Spirit to work through you for the greater glory of God.

“Behold, I stand at the door and knock...” It’s time. Time to learn more about your faith. It’s time to experience what our religion can do for you. Jesus is waiting for you, personally. Cursillo weekends are a wonderful, fun way to give you a start on this journey. Two weekends are coming up for early 2022. **A Women’s Weekend February 3-6** and **a Men’s Weekend March 17-20**. Visit www.fourthday.org and download an application today or call Pam Hamilton at 774-239-8909 for more information. You will be so very glad you did!!