

January 22, 2023 | The Third Sunday in Ordinary Time



PRINCE of PEACE

CATHOLIC PARISH



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Day of Prayer

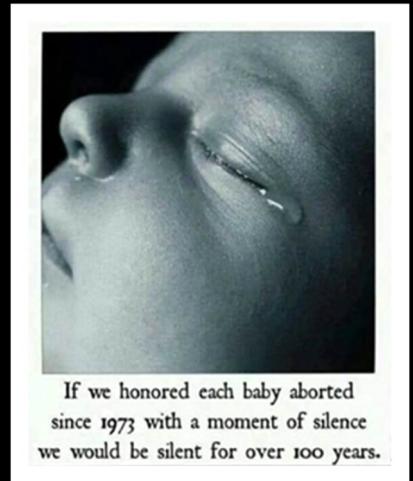
For the Legal Protection of Unborn Children

Monday, January 23rd

In Dioceses throughout the United States, January 23 (when Jan. 22 falls on a Sunday, as it does this year) is designated as a Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children. As Catholics we are called to observe this day through the penitential practices of prayer, fasting and/or giving alms, in a way similar to our Lenten practices.

Prayer for the Unborn

Heavenly Father, in Your love for us, protect against the wickedness of the devil, those helpless little ones to whom You have given the gift of life. Touch with pity the hearts of those women pregnant in our world today who are not thinking of motherhood. Help them to see that the child they carry is made in Your image - as well as theirs - made for eternal life. Dispel their fear and selfishness and give them true womanly hearts to love their babies and give them birth and all the needed care that a mother can give. We ask this through Jesus Christ, Your Son, Our Lord, Who lives and reigns with You and Holy Spirit, One God, forever and ever. Amen.



If we honored each baby aborted since 1973 with a moment of silence we would be silent for over 100 years.

MASS SCHEDULE

Lord's Day Masses

Saturday 4:30pm
Sunday 8:30 & 10:30am

Daily Masses

Monday – Friday 8:30am
Rosary prayed every weekday at 8:00am

Holy Days/Feast Days

8:30am & 7:00pm

RECONCILIATION

Saturday at 3:30pm (In the church)
or by appointment

OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Wednesday: 9am - 2pm

STAFF

Pastor

Rev. H. Edward Chalmers

Business Manager

Bill Lawton

Religious Ed Coordinator

Sharon Bushway

Secretary

Deborah Harding

Musicians

Denis and Priscilla Coughlin

Finance Council Chairperson

Joseph Forkey

SACRAMENTS / OTHER

Baptism

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

Marriage

Please contact the Rectory at least one year in advance.

Care of the Sick

Please advise us of parishioners who are sick so that we may keep them in prayer and bring the Eucharist to those who cannot attend Mass.

Confidential Prayer Line

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

Adult Bible Study

Please contact the Rectory for schedule

Alcoholics Anonymous Meetings

Wednesdays at 8:00pm in the Parish Hall

NEXT WEEK: January 29, 2023 | Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time | Zep 2:3; 3:12-13; 1 Cor 1:26-31; Mt 5:1-12a



Please pray to end
Abortion
and Infanticide

Sat	1/21	3:30pm 4:30pm	<i>Confessions</i> unrequested
Sun	1/22	8:30am	Special Intention - For the legal protection of all unborn children
		10:30am	Prince of Peace Parish and all parishioners
Mon	1/23	8:30am	Holy Souls in Purgatory
Tue	1/24	8:30am	unrequested
Wed	1/25	8:30am	Intentions of our Prayer Line and Prayer Intention Book
Thu	1/26	8:30am	Special Intention
Fri	1/27	8:30am	The Keller Family
Sat	1/28	3:30pm 4:30pm	<i>Confessions</i> unrequested
Sun	1/29	8:30am	Sean O'Reilly by the Schmitt Family
		10:30am	unrequested

The Lord is my light and my salvation.



The Conversion of Saint Paul

Wednesday, January 25, 2023

"Conversion means a willingness to see the truth of things and conform one's conduct to it."

In the voice and the light that Saul encounters on the road, he sees

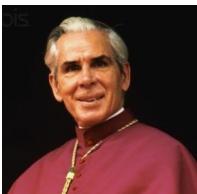
the truth of things and willingly conforms himself to Jesus Christ. "That dear preacher Paul was a wolf, but he became a lamb, a gracious vessel of love—and the fire with which Christ filled his vessel he carried through the whole world." (Saint Catherine of Siena).

The conversion of Saint Paul inspires us to overcome all fatalism and discouragement about ourselves, for the love of Jesus penetrates the hardest of hearts, giving us freedom from deadly things, and the ability to speak a new language—namely, to call upon the name of the Lord and tell the Good News.

Magnificat - January 2023, pg. 358

Love Involves Choice

By: Fulton Sheen



"All love on this earth involves choice. When for example, a young man expresses his love to a young woman and asks her to become his wife, he is not just making an affirmation of love; he is also negating his love for anyone else. In that one act by which he chooses her, he rejects all that is not her. There is no other real way in which to prove we love a thing than by choosing it in preference to something else. Words and signs of love may be, and often are, expressions of egotism or passion; but deeds are proofs of love. We can prove we love our Lord only by choosing Him in preference to anything else."

"Charity is to be measured, not by what one has given away, but by what one has left."

Third Sunday in
Ordinary Time
January 22, 2023



Dear Friends,

In the gospel reading from Matthew, for the Third Sunday in Ordinary Time this year, Jesus is walking by the Sea of Galilee when He sees two brothers casting their fishing nets into the sea. Jesus said to Simon Peter and Andrew, "Come after me and I will make you fishers of men." This passage continues, "At once they left their nets and followed him." Soon afterwards Jesus called two other brothers named James and John, the Sons of Zebedee from their boat, "Immediately they left their boat and their father and followed Him."

The presence of Jesus overwhelmed these men. They had to be with the Lord. Also, it would be in the city of Capernaum that Jesus attended a dinner in the house of a tax collector named Levi. After the dinner, this man who would be called Matthew became His follower.

Peter, Andrew, James, John and Matthew all became apostles of Jesus. Along with the other apostles, their journey would lead them over the known world. Later on, they understood that this calling to be an apostle was a gift from God. As Jesus had done, they preached and taught the Lord's message to all who would listen. Their personal love for Jesus was extraordinary as they offered their lives for the glory of God's name.

Like the apostles, may we be personally committed to Jesus. This endeavor will present many challenges to us. However, we need to understand that God's way of unconditional love is also our calling. Through our belief in God, we must accept His unconditional love while sharing it with everyone placed in our path.

This year January 22, 2023, is the fiftieth anniversary of Roe v. Wade that legalized abortion in the USA. With the recent Supreme Court decision overturning Roe v. Wade, each state can determine their own law regarding the legality of abortion. Unfortunately, many states including Massachusetts have passed laws to keep abortion legal throughout the nine months of pregnancy. Let us zealously pray for the legal protection of the unborn while offering sacrifices to Almighty God for the end of abortion in our country and throughout the world. Be well and be safe!

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

Weekend Collection - Jan. 15, 2023

Sunday Offertory:	\$1008.00
Monthly:	\$110.00
Maintenance:	\$110.00
Quarterly:	<u>\$210.00</u>
Total Collection:	\$1,438.00

Thank
you
for
your
kind
support

Correction: The total offertory collection for the weekend of January 8th was \$3,366.00

December Online Giving Total = \$2,565.00



DAILY MEDITATION: MATTHEW 4:12-23

They left their nets and followed him.
(Matthew 4:20)

Can you imagine how exciting it was for Peter and his friends as they followed Jesus from town to town? Hearing him preach so often, seeing him perform so many miracles, watching people's lives change so dramatically—no wonder they left their nets and became his disciples!

But what about those times when there were no crowds—when they were traveling between towns or on those days when Jesus took a break? What were those "in-between" days like?

They were probably even more exciting! Those were the days when the disciples had Jesus all to themselves. They could ask him questions about what he had taught the crowds. They could listen to him explain his parables, pray with him, and experience for themselves the new relationship with his heavenly Father that he had proclaimed. It's possible that these were the days that really changed their lives.

Today is Sunday of the Word of God, a day when we celebrate the power and the grace contained in God's word in Scripture. This is the word that the disciples heard day in and day out, and it can change us just as it changed them. It can comfort us, convict us, and lift our hearts to heaven. It can bring us to our knees in humble repentance, and it can lift us to our feet in joyful worship.

Do you want to experience God's word coming to life in you? Then imitate the apostles. Spend time with Jesus and immerse yourself in his word. Ask him questions about what you read there, and listen prayerfully for his answers. It takes time, patience, and perseverance, but the reward is well worth the effort. Like the apostles, you'll come to know Jesus personally as the One whose love lasts forever and whose mercy never ends!

"Come, Lord, and speak your words of life to me today!"

Diocese of Worcester

January 22, 2023 - Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

"He called them, and immediately they left their boat and their father and followed Him." (Matthew 4:22)



Just as Jesus called the first apostles, He calls each of us to follow Him, too. Not everyone is called to leave their business or family behind, but we are expected to put God first in everything. In gratitude to God, we should give our first and best of everything to Him: our time in daily prayer, our talent in participating in one of our parish ministries and our treasure to support the financial needs of our parish mission.



Why Catholics Believe in the True Presence of Christ in the Eucharist

Join Annunciation Parish on Wednesday, Feb. 1 at 6:30 pm for a presentation by Fr. Stephen Lundrigan on the biblical, historical and practical foundation of our belief in the True Presence of Christ in the Eucharist. We will be meeting in the Great Room in the Parish Center on the Holy Rosary Campus. The Parish Center is located at 142 Regan St. in Gardner. Parking is available behind Holy Rosary Church.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Winter 2023 Schedule for Grades 1-10

January

Sun 1/22 9:30 - 10:15am
Sun 1/29 9:30 - 10:15am

February

Sun 2/5 9:30 - 10:15am
Sun 2/12 9:30 - 10:15am
Sun 2/19 **No Class** (February school vacation)
Sun 2/26 9:30 - 10:15am

BUILDING A STRONG FOUNDATION

"Let the children come to me"
Matthew 19:14



March

Sun 3/5 9:30 - 10:15am
Sun 3/12 9:30 - 10:15am
Sun 3/19 **No Class**
Sun 3/27 9:30 - 10:15am



Calling all Cantors

Prince of Peace Music Ministry



If you sing play an instrument or both, we'd love to hear you. You are invited to cantor. Please come and see Denis and Priscilla after Mass to become part of the Music Ministry at Prince of Peace. All ages are welcome!



ST. JOAN OF ARC FOOD PANTRY

Thank you!

Thank you to all of those who donated food items so generously over Thanksgiving and Christmas. Your kindness benefited many people who were in need over the holidays. However, even with the holidays behind us the struggles still continue for many individuals and families.

Our Food Pantry Collection is still going on, so whatever non-perishable food items you may be able to donate, please know it will be well received.

Drivers are needed for January and February to drop off our monthly food collection to St. Joan of Arc Parish in Worcester. If you can help, please contact Sandy Lord at 978-464-2485

"If you can't feed a hundred people then feed just one"

- Saint Mother Teresa



22nd Annual Catholic Men's Conference

Come and join us on Saturday, March 25 at Assumption University, Worcester. For information check the new website: catholicmenworc.com. Looking forward to seeing you in person this year!