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www.ololma.org

**MASSES**  
Daily: Mon - Fri : 8:00 AM  
Saturday 4:30PM LIVE,  
Sunday 10AM LIVE and ZOOM  
PENANCE Saturdays 2:30-3:30 PM



Rev. Brian O'Toole  
Pastor  
Rev. Francis J. Roach  
In Residence  
Cheryl Orrell  
Admin Asst/Bookkeeper  
Mary Jo Castrale  
Jeremiah's Inn Ministry  
John Riley  
Music Ministry  
Mr. Paul Carey  
Maintenance  
Judy Verdini  
Religious Ed

### *Mission Statement:*

"Our Lady of Lourdes Parish, disciples of Jesus Christ in Worcester, MA, reaches out with love into the neighborhoods to welcome, serve, support, and engage the community in Jesus. In creating a welcoming relationship with Eucharistic and prayerful celebrations, we gather to make a difference by coming closer to God and one another."

**December 10, 2023**  
**2nd Sunday of Advent**



*"Prepare the way of the Lord..."*  
(MARK 1:3)

We are all called to live a holy life. We are all called to invite others to live holy lives. Living a stewardship lifestyle, being grateful and generous with our gifts, puts us on the path to holiness and is an example for others to be holy, too. We are responsible not only for our own lives, but for the lives of others as well. How are you helping others get to Heaven?

**Daily Rosary**-Praying of the Rosary will continue after the 8am daily mass in the church on Monday through Friday and at 9:15am before the 10am Sunday Mass both Live and via Zoom. If you need the Zoom information, please contact the rectory.

### *Snow Day Policy Reminder*

The policy for the daily morning mass being cancelled is that if

**Worcester Public Schools is closed or delayed,**  
there will be **NO morning mass.**

### **Mass Intentions & Calendar**

**Sat, Dec 9**

4:30 pm **Yvette Brodeur** anniv. remembrance req by the family

**Sun, Dec 10 2nd Sunday of Advent**

10:00 am LIVE/Zoom **Ann Parent** remembrance req by daughter and son in law

**Mon, Dec 11**

8:00 am

**Tue, Dec 12 Our Lady of Guadalupe**

8:00 am

**Wed, Dec 13**

8:00 am

**Thu, Dec 14**

8:00 am **Mr. & Mrs. Angelo R. Giovanelli** req by John, Elaine & Robert

**Mr. & Mrs. John R. Gerardi Sr.** req by the children

**Fri, Dec 15**

8:00 am **Michelina D'Angelo** Month's Mind req by Mary Jo Castrale

**Sat, Dec 16**

4:30 pm **Dorius Brodeur & Lorraine Kosiba** req by the family

**Sun, Dec 17 3rd Sunday of Advent**

10:00 am LIVE/Zoom **Deceased Members of Pope John XXIII Council:**  
**Philip Brunelle and Anthony Coffone**

### **SCRIPTURE READINGS**

**10 SUN** Is 40:1-5, 9-11/Ps 85:9-10, 11-12, 13-14 (8)/2 Pt 3:8-14/Mk 1:1-8

**11 MON** Is 35:1-10/Ps 85:9ab and 10, 11-12, 13-14/Lk 5:17-26

**12 TUE** Zec 2:14-17 or Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab/Jdt 3:18bcde, 19/Lk 1:26-38 or Lk 1:39-47

**13 WED** Is 40:25-31/Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 8 and 10/Mt 11:28-30

**14 THU** Is 41:13-20/Ps 145:1 and 9,10-11,12-13ab/Mt 11:11-15

**15 FRI** Is 48:17-19/Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6/Mt 11:16-19

**16 SAT** Sir 48:1-4, 9-11/Ps 80:2ac and 3b, 15-16, 18-19/Mt 17:9a, 10-13

## Candles of Advent

Last weekend, we lit the 1st purple candle of Advent symbolizing HOPE. It is sometimes called the "Prophecy Candle" in remembrance of the prophets who foretold the birth of Christ. It represents the expectation felt in anticipation of the coming Messiah.

This weekend, we light the second purple candle which is the symbol of FAITH. The candle's name has its origins in the prophet Micah who prophesied Jesus would be born in Bethlehem. It is referred to as the "Bethlehem Candle".

Next weekend, we light the pink candle.

Faith is a gift. As everyday stewards we are called to share with others what God has given us. Advent is a great time to grow in our faith and love of the Lord. The more we cultivate our faith and the closer we draw to Him, the more we will want to share about Him. We might not have the impact of John the Baptist in the course of human history, but our proclamation of the Gospel to another might be the gift that changes their history.

~Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS ©LPi

## STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE

### WEEKLY OFFERING

<b>Sunday Offertory 12/2-12/3</b>	<b>\$2,818.00</b>
Online Giving	400.00
Maintenance	95.00
Catholic School Appeal	5.00
Christmas	25.00
Candles	97.29
Christmas Flowers	50.00
Fuel & Heating	50.00
All Saint's	20.00
Immaculate Conception	150.00
Mass Offerings	60.00
Memorial Donations	275.00
Mission Sunday/Prop. Of Faith	5.00
Parish Assist. Projects	8,489.00
Retirement Fund for Religious	65.00
Snow Removal	335.00
Stipends-Funeral	300.00

*Thank you for your continued, generous support.  
We appreciate your support of the church.*

## STEWARDSHIP OF TIME & TALENT

Next weekend will be our last church event of the year....we will be having our Advent breakfast on **Sunday, December 17th**. Tickets are on sale after mass for \$10 pp. We are looking for raffle basket donations to raffle off and pastry donations as well.



Let's make this a big last event of the year!!!

### Prayer Shawls

We have many blessed prayer shawls. If you need one or know someone that needs one, please call the rectory.

### Around Town...

**There are many events around the diocese that make it impossible to list all of them in the bulletin. Go to <https://worcesterdiocese.org/the-diocesan-dispatch> or see them in the Catholic Free Press**

### Invite someone to Mass this Christmas Season!

So many messages during the Christmas Season are about coming home, being with family and friends. Consider inviting someone with you and your family to Mass this Christmas and experience the joys of the Christmas Season. It could be the greatest gift you give this year!

### Advent Program in Worcester

On **Thursday, December 13 from 7-8 pm**, St. George Church, will have an evening of contemporary worship music, readings and reflection for Advent in the church, 40 Brattle Street, Worcester. There will be refreshments downstairs following the program to enjoy some social time with one another. Come join us and unwind as we prepare for the birth of Christ. We look forward to seeing you all!

### Healing Service and Mass Upton

All are welcome on **Thursday Dec. 14 at 6:00 pm** for a Healing Service and Mass at St. Gabriel the Archangel Parish with Fr. Larry Brault, Deacon Stephen Mullaney, Maureen Capistran. Located at 151 Mendon St., Upton. To learn more visit [straphaeloil.com/schedule/](http://straphaeloil.com/schedule/).

### Rorate Caeli Mass in W. Boylston

A Rorate Caeli Mass in honor of the Blessed Virgin Mary will be celebrated on **Saturday, Dec. 16 at 6:30 am** at Our Lady of Good Counsel Church, 111 Worcester St., West Boylston. The Mass is celebrated by candlelight before dawn. The interplay of light and darkness speaks to the meaning of Advent and the coming of the Light of the World. This year, the liturgy will include prayers for peace, and for the overcoming of the darkness of violence which shrouds nations and peoples. All are welcome.

# SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

## CYCLE B

### GATHERING HYMN

### *Every Valley*

Bob Dufford, S

**Refrain**

Ev-'ry val-ley shall be ex - alt-ed and ev-'ry hill made low. And  
all God's peo-ple shall see to-geth-er the glo-ry of the Lord.

**Verses 1, 3**

1. A voice cries out in the wil - der - ness, "Pre - pare the way  
3. y Stand up - on the \_\_ moun-tain - top. O lift your voice  
1. of the Lord. Make straight in the des - ert a  
3. to the world. Sing joy - ful - ly, Je -  
1. high - way, a high - way \_\_ for our God."  
3. ru - sa - lem: "Be - hold, \_\_ be - hold your God."  
to Refrain

**Verse 2**

2. Com-fort all my peo - ple. The time for war is gone. The  
2. blind shall see, the deaf shall hear, the lame shall leap for joy.  
to Refrain

## LITURGY OF THE WORD

### FIRST READING

### ISAIAH 40:1-5, 9-11

Comfort, give comfort to my people, says your God. Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and proclaim to her that her service is at an end, her guilt is expiated; indeed, she has received from the hand of the LORD double for all her sins.

A voice cries out: In the desert prepare the way of the LORD! Make straight in the wasteland a highway for our God! Every valley shall be filled in, every mountain and hill shall be made low; the rugged land shall be made a plain, the rough country, a broad valley. Then the glory of the LORD shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together; for the mouth of the LORD has spoken.

Go up on to a high mountain, Zion, herald of glad tidings; cry out at the top of your voice, Jerusalem, herald of good news! Fear not to cry out and say to the cities of Judah: Here is your God! Here comes with power the Lord GOD, who rules by his strong arm; here is his reward with him, his recompense before him. Like a shepherd he feeds his flock; in his arms he gathers the lambs, carrying them in his bosom, and leading the ewes with care.

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM

## PSALM 85

Dominic MacAller



## SECOND READING

## 2 PETER 3:8-14

Do not ignore this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is like a thousand years and a thousand years like one day. The Lord does not delay his promise, as some regard "delay," but he is patient with you, not wishing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance. But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a mighty roar and the elements will be dissolved by fire, and the earth and everything done on it will be found out.

Since everything is to be dissolved in this way, what sort of persons ought you to be, conducting yourselves in holiness and devotion, waiting for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be dissolved in flames and the elements melted by fire. But according to his promise we await new heavens and a new earth in which righteousness dwells. Therefore, beloved, since you await these things, be eager to be found without spot or blemish before him, at peace.

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



## GOSPEL

## MARK 1:1-8

The beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ the Son of God.

As it is written in Isaiah the prophet: Behold, I am sending my messenger ahead of you; he will prepare your way. A voice of one crying out in the desert: "Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths." John the Baptist appeared in the desert proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. People of the whole Judean countryside and all the inhabitants of Jerusalem were going out to him and were being baptized by him in the Jordan River as they acknowledged their sins. John was clothed in camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist. He fed on locusts and wild honey. And this is what he proclaimed: "One mightier than I is coming after me. I am not worthy to stoop and loosen the thongs of his sandals. I have baptized you with water; he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

## HOMILY

## NICENE CREED

**I** believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible.

**I** believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Only Begotten Son of God, born of the Father before all ages. God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father; through him all things were made.

For us men and for our salvation he came down from heaven, and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and became man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate, he suffered death and was buried, and rose again on the third day in

He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead and his kingdom will have no end.

**I** believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

**I** believe in one, holy, catholic, and apostolic Church. I confess one baptism for the forgiveness of sins and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen. ·

## GENERAL INTERCESSIONS

*Please respond:           “Come Lord Jesus Come.”*

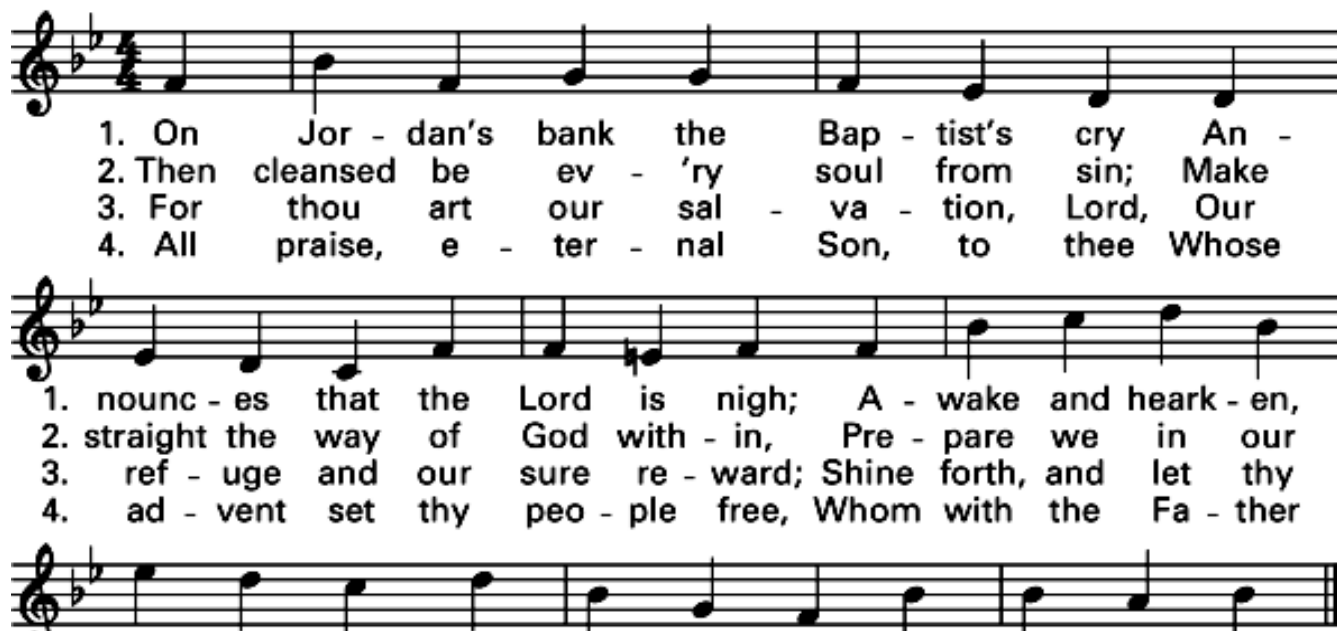
**Lord Jesus Christ, who by your gift of your Body and Blood, are really present in our lives, hear the prayers of the Church of Worcester. Give us the faith of your Church, confident in your presence in our Masses, our tabernacles and our lives. Give us the faith to offer our lives to you, joined with the perfect sacrifice, which you offered on the altar of the Cross. Good and loving Shepherd, teach us how to lead your children home, that we might long together to glorify your name at the Supper of the Lord. For you are Lord forever and ever. Amen.**

# LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

## PREPARATION OF THE GIFTS

*On Jordan's Bank*

WINCHESTER NEW



1. On Jor - dan's bank the Bap - tist's cry An -  
2. Then cleansed be ev - 'ry soul from sin; Make  
3. For thou art our sal - va - tion, Lord, Our  
4. All praise, e - ter - nal Son, to thee Whose

1. nounc - es that the Lord is nigh; A - wake and heark - en,  
2. straight the way of God with - in, Pre - pare we in our  
3. ref - uge and our sure re - ward; Shine forth, and let thy  
4. ad - vent set thy peo - ple free, Whom with the Fa - ther

1. for he brings Glad tid - ings of the King of kings.  
2. hearts a home, Where such a might - y guest may come.  
3. light re - store Our souls to heav'n - ly grace once more.  
4. we a - dore And Ho - ly Spir - it ev - er - more.

## HOLY, HOLY

## MASS OF RENEWAL

Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord, God of hosts.  
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.

## MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION

## MASS OF RENEWAL

We proclaim your Death, O Lord,  
and profess your Resurrection  
until you come again

## GREAT AMEN

## MASS OF RENEWAL

## OUR FATHER

## SIGN OF PEACE

## LAMB OF GOD

## MASS OF RENEWAL

# COMMUNION

## *Ready The Way*

Curtis Stephan

**Refrain**

Read-y the way, read-y the way, read-y the way

1 of the Lord. 2 of the Lord.

**Verse 1**

1. Make straight the road, raise the val - leys, and

1. moun-tains make low. Turn-ing from sin, let the bro-ken be whole,

1. and read-y the way of the Lord. to Refrain

**Verses 2, 3**

2. As we wait for you, give us the strength to walk

3. Let us see your face; in our hearts we pre-

2. in your truth, so we may love more like you

3. - pare a place. Come bring this world your mer - cy and grace

2. and { read-y the way for you, Lord. to Refrain

3. as we {

# RECESSIONAL

## *The Advent of Our King*

ST. THOMAS (WILLIAMS)

1. The ad-vent of our King Our thoughts must now em - ploy;

2. The co - e - ter - nal Son A maid - en's off-spring see;

3. Daugh-ter of Si - on rise To greet thine in - fant King;

4. In glo - ry from his throne A - gain will Christ de - scend,

5. Let deeds of dark-ness fly Be - fore the ap - proach-ing morn,

6. Our joy - ful prais - es sing To Christ, who set us free;

1. Then let us meet him on the road With songs of ho - ly joy.

2. A ser-vant's form Christ put - teth on, To set his peo - ple free.

3. Nor let thy stub-born heart de - spise The par-don he doth bring.

4. And sum-mon all who are his own To joys that nev - er end.

5. For un - to sin 'tis ours to die And serve the Vir - gin - born.

6. Like trib - ute to the Fa - ther bring, And Ho - ly Ghost, to thee.



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