

1290 Grafton St.  
 Worcester, MA 01604  
 508-757-0789  
 ladyoflourdes1290@gmail.com  
 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

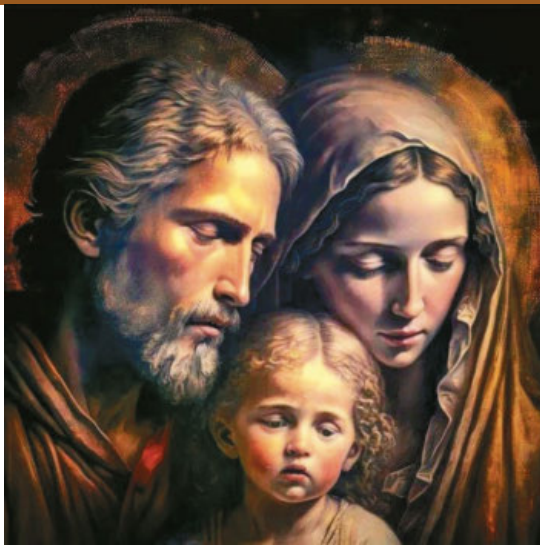


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*Mission Statement:*

"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 31, 2023  
 The Holy Family of  
 Jesus, Mary and Joseph



*"... as the Lord has forgiven you,  
 so you must forgive."  
 Colossians 3:13*

Forgiving is one of the hardest things for people to do. We can't give what we don't have. We need to receive God's mercy and forgiveness first before we can give it to others. Go to the sacrament of Reconciliation and receive God's mercy and forgiveness. Then, share the gift of forgiveness with someone - a family member, a friend or a co-worker. Pick up the phone or text someone right now.

**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.

**Mass Intentions & Calendar**

**Sat, Dec 30**

4:30 pm Ellen Cote birthday remembrance req by the family

**Sun, Dec 31 The Holy Family / New Year's Eve**

10:00 am LIVE/Zoom Sandra Packard req by Beverly Cote

**Mon, Jan 1 Mary, The Holy Mother of God, New Year's Day**

8:00 am

**Tue, Jan 2**

8:00 am

**Wed, Jan 3 The Most Holy Name of Jesus**

8:00 am

**Thu, Jan 4**

8:00 am

9:30-11:00 am Knitting Group in church hall

**Fri, Jan 5**

8:00 am

**Sat, Jan 6**

4:30 pm

**Sun, Jan 7 The Epiphany of the Lord**

10:00 am LIVE/Zoom Dario and Marcilia Suarez req by the family

**SCRIPTURE READINGS**

**31 SUN** Sir 3:2-6, 12-14 or Gn 15:1-6; 21:1-3/Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5 or Ps 105:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9/Col 3:12-21 or 3:12-17 or Heb 11:8, 11-12, 17-19/Lk 2:22-40 or 2:22, 39-40

**1 MON** Nm 6:22-27/Ps 67:2-3,5,6,8 (2a)/Gal 4:4-7/Lk 2:16-21

**2 TUE** 1 Jn 2:22-28/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4/Jn 1:19-28

**3 WED** 1 Jn 2:29—3:6/Ps 98:1, 3cd-4, 5-6/Jn 1:29-34

**4 THU** 1 Jn 3:7-10/Ps 98:1, 7-8, 9/Jn 1:35-42

**5 FRI** 1 Jn 3:11-21/Ps 100:1b-2, 3, 4, 5/Jn 1:43-51

**6 SAT** 1 Jn 5:5-13/Ps 147:12-13, 14-15, 19-20/Mk 1:7-11 or Lk 3:23-38 or 3:23, 31-34, 36, 38

*Around Town...*

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

**Christmas Cantata**

The Christian Community Choir in East Brookfield will be performing the Christmas Cantata called "Christmas is Coming" on **Sunday Jan. 7, 2024 at 3:00 pm** at St. John the Baptist Church, 131 Blaine Ave., East Brookfield. Come celebrate the Christmas story and season!

**Tickets now available for 2024 Men's Conference**

Tickets are now available for the 2024 Worcester Catholic Men's Conference which will be held on **Saturday, March 16, 2024** at Worcester's DCU Center. The early availability is for those who may wish to purchase tickets as Christmas gifts! Tickets are only \$50 for Adults and \$30 for Students and can be purchase online at [www.catholicmenworc.com](http://www.catholicmenworc.com) or by calling (978) 537-3016. Speakers include Jim Wahlberg (brother of actors Mark and Donnie Wahlberg), Deacon Harold Burke-Sivers ("The Dynamic Deacon") and other Catholic Thought Leaders. Tickets include Lunch, and the opportunity to participate in Reconciliation, all-day Adoration, and to visit 50 plus relevant vendors, all within the same area of the spacious and ultra professional surroundings of the DCU Center. Sound, lighting, seating, comfort and convenience will be a huge upgrade for 2024, in addition to our usual great slate of speakers.

**STEWARDSHIP OF TIME & TALENT**

**Prayer Shawls**

We have a couple blessed prayer shawls. If you need one or know someone that needs one, please call the rectory. You can join us the first Thursday of the month in the church hall or you can also work on at home and donate when completed.

**STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE**

<b>WEEKLY OFFERING</b>		
<b>Sunday Offertory</b>	<b>12/16-12/17</b>	<b>\$2,730.00</b>
Online Giving		525.00
Christmas		10.00
Candles		84.00
Christmas Flowers		607.00
Immaculate Conception		5.00
Maintenance		5.00
Mass Offerings		85.00
Memorial Donation		50.00
Retirement Fund for Religious		45.00
Snow Removal		45.00
Parish Events - Sr. Lunch		81.06
Advent Breakfast tickets		150.00
<i>Thank you for your continued, generous support.</i>		
<i>We appreciate your support of the church.</i>		

**GOSPEL MEDITATION - ENCOURAGE DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE**

**The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph**

I remember the first time my older sister asked me if I wanted to hold her newborn son. Terrified, I told her I didn't think it was a good idea. My résumé had nothing to suggest I would be a qualified baby holder. But she warmly told me, "I'll help you hold him." It struck me that she is baby's mother. She is the one who decides who is qualified to hold him. I took him in my arms and soon I began to feel comfortable with that tiny little warm cooing creature in my arms, and soon I no longer feared holding him. Now, twenty-seven nieces and nephews later, holding a newborn child is one of the great joys of my life.

Do we sometimes think that Jesus is given only to the highly qualified, special religious people? In the Gospel of Luke today we hear about the presentation of the Lord in the temple. The newborn son of God is passed around like a baton in a relay race, not guarded like a precious jewel or a breakable china dish. We can see him going from the arms of Mary to Joseph, then to the priest performing the ceremony, then to Simeon the old man, then to Anna the old widow. Each one receiving him and then handing him to the next. A tidal wave of joy and thanksgiving follows wherever he is placed.

Believe me, you are qualified to hold Jesus in your arms. How can I say that with such confidence? Because the mother decides who is qualified. The Blessed Virgin, embodied in the Church, holds him out to you and me. She rejoices to place him in our arms to hold, and to hand him on, .  
*~Father John Muir*

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# THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH

CYCLE B

## GATHERING HYMN

*Once In Royal David's City*

IKBY

1. Once in roy - al Da - vid's cit - y  
 2. He came down to earth from heav - en  
 3. And through all his won - drous child - hood  
 4. For he is our child - hood's pat - tern,  
 5. And our eyes at last shall see him,

1. Stood a low - ly cat - tle shed, Where a  
 2. Who is God and Lord of all, And his  
 3. He would hon - or and o - bey, Love and  
 4. Day by day like us he grew; He was  
 5. Through his own re - deem - ing love; For that

1. moth - er laid her ba - by In a man - ger  
 2. shel - ter was a sta - ble, And his cra - dle  
 3. watch the low - ly maid - en In whose gen - tle  
 4. lit - tle, weak, and help - less, Tears and smiles like  
 5. child so dear and gen - tle Is our Lord in

1. for his bed. Mar - y was that moth - er  
 2. was a stall. With the poor and mean and  
 3. arms he lay. Chris - tian chil - dren all should  
 4. us he knew: And he feels for all our  
 5. heav'n a - bove: And he leads his chil - dren

1. mild, Je - sus Christ her lit - tle Child.  
 2. low - ly Lived on earth our Sav - ior ho - ly.  
 3. be Kind, o - be - dient, good as he.  
 4. sad - ness, And he shares in all our glad - ness.  
 5. on To the place where he has gone.

## GLORIA

Glory to God in the highest,  
 and on earth peace to people of good will.

We praise you,  
 we bless you,  
 we adore you,  
 we glorify you,  
 we give you thanks for your great glory,  
 Lord, God, Heavenly King,  
 O God, almighty Father.

Lord, Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son,  
 Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,  
 You take away the sins of the world,  
 have mercy on us:

You take away the sins of the world,  
 receive our prayer,  
 You are seated at the right hand of the  
 Father, have mercy on us.

For you alone are the Holy One;  
 You alone are the Lord.  
 You alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,  
 With the Holy Spirit,  
 In the glory of God, the Father.

Amen

# LITURGY OF THE WORD

## FIRST READING

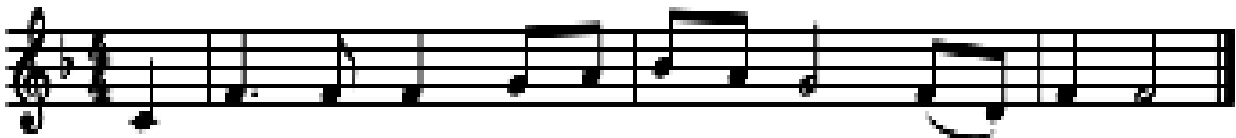
## BOOK OF GENESIS 15:1-6; 21:1-3

The word of the LORD came to Abram in a vision, saying: "Fear not, Abram! I am your shield; I will make your reward very great." But Abram said, "O Lord GOD, what good will your gifts be, if I keep on being childless and have as my heir the steward of my house, Eliezer?" Abram continued, "See, you have given me no offspring, and so one of my servants will be my heir." Then the word of the LORD came to him: "No, that one shall not be your heir; your own issue shall be your heir." The Lord took Abram outside and said, "Look up at the sky and count the stars, if you can. Just so," he added, "shall your descendants be." Abram put his faith in the LORD, who credited it to him as an act of righteousness.

The LORD took note of Sarah as he had said he would; he did for her as he had promised. Sarah became pregnant and bore Abraham a son in his old age, at the set time that God had stated. Abraham gave the name Isaac to this son of his whom Sarah bore him.

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM

## PSALM 128



R. The Lord re-mem-bers his cov-e-nant for ev-er.

## SECOND READING

## LETTER OF PAUL TO THE COLOSSIANS 3:12-17

Brothers and sisters: Put on, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, heartfelt compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience, bearing with one another and forgiving one another, if one has a grievance against another; as the Lord has forgiven you, so must you also do. And over all these put on love, that is, the bond of perfection. And let the peace of Christ control your hearts, the peace into which you were also called in one body. And be thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, as in all wisdom you teach and admonish one another, singing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs with gratitude in your hearts to God. And whatever you do, in word or in deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



R. Al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia.

## GOSPEL

## GOSPEL OF LUKE 2:22-40

When the days were completed for their purification according to the law of Moses, They took him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord, just as it is written in the law of the Lord, Every male that opens the womb shall be consecrated to the Lord, and to offer the sacrifice of a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons, in accordance with the dictate in the law of the Lord. Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon. This man was righteous and devout, awaiting the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was upon him. It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he should not see death before he had seen the Christ of the Lord. He came in the Spirit into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus to perform the custom of the law in regard to him, He took him into his arms and blessed God, saying: "Now, Master, you may let your servant go in peace, according to your word, for my eyes have seen your salvation, which you prepared in sight of all the peoples, a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and glory for your people Israel." The child's father and mother were amazed at what was said about him; and Simeon blessed them and said to Mary his mother, "Behold, this child is destined for the fall and rise of many in Israel, and to be a sign

that will be contradicted —and you yourself a sword will pierce— so that the thoughts of many hearts may be revealed.” There was also a prophetess, Anna, the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was advanced in years, having lived seven years with her husband after her marriage, and then as a widow until she was eighty-four. She never left the temple, but worshiped night and day with fasting and prayer. And coming forward at that very time, she gave thanks to God and spoke about the child to all who were awaiting the redemption of Jerusalem. When they had fulfilled all the prescriptions of the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favor of God was upon him.

## **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 accordance with the Scriptures.

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:            “Watch over our families”*

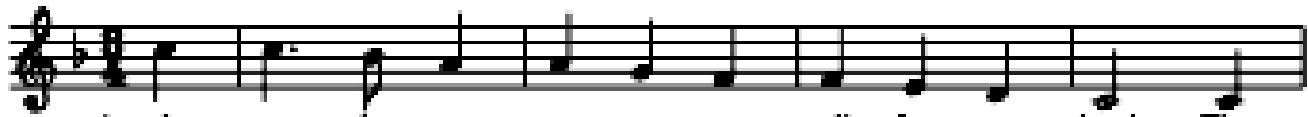
**Lord Jesus Christ, who by your gift of your Body and Blood, are really present in our lives, hear the prayers of the Church of Worcester. Give us the faith of your Church, confident in your presence in our Masses, our tabernacles and our lives. Give us the faith to offer our lives to you, joined with 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

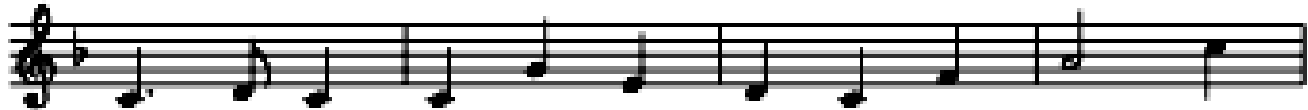
## PREPARATION OF THE GIFTS

*Away In A Manger*

MUELLER



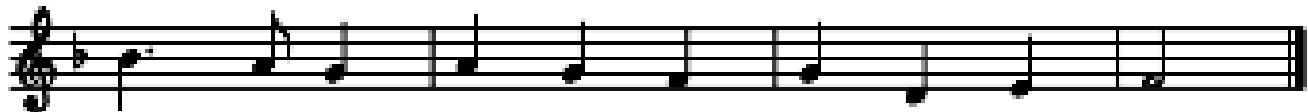
1. A - way in a man - ger, no crib for a bed, The  
2. The cat - tle are low - ing, the ba - by a - wakes, But  
3. Be near me, Lord Je - sus, I ask thee to stay Close



1. lit - tle Lord Je - sus laid down his sweet head; The  
2. lit - tle Lord Je - sus, no cry - ing he makes; I  
3. by me for - ev - er, and love me, I pray; Bless



1. stars in the sky \_\_\_\_\_ looked down where he lay, The  
2. love thee, Lord Je - sus! Look down from the sky, And  
3. all the dear chil - dren in thy ten - der care, And



1. lit - tle Lord Je - sus, a - sleep on the hay.  
2. stay by my cra - dle till morn - ing is nigh.  
3. fit us for heav - en to live with thee there.

## 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

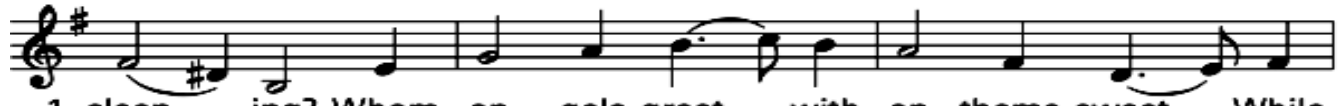
# COMMUNION

## *What Child Is This*

GREENSLEEVES



1. What child is this, who, laid to rest, On Ma-ry's lap is
2. Why lies he in such mean es - tate Where ox and ass are
3. So bring him in - cense, gold, and myrrh, Come peas-ant, king, to



1. sleep - ing? Whom an - gels greet with an - thems sweet, While
2. feed - ing? Good Chris - tian, fear: for sin - ners here The
3. own him; The King of kings sal - va - tion brings, Let



1. shep - herds watch are keep - ing? This, this is Christ the
2. si - lent Word is plead - ing.
3. lov - ing hearts en - throne him.



King, Whom shep-herds guard and an - gels sing; Haste,

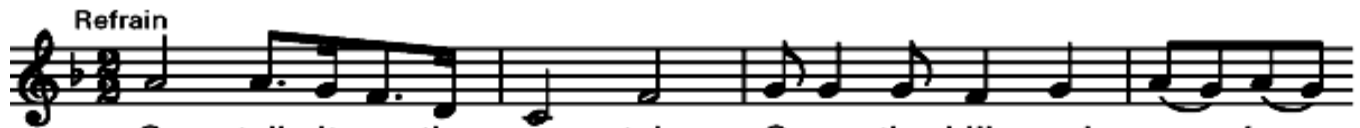


haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Ma - ry.

# RECESSIONAL

## *Go Tell It On The Mountain*

GO TELL IT



Go, tell it on the moun - tain, O-ver the hills and ev - 'ry -



where; Go, tell it on the moun - tain That Je - sus Christ is born.



1. While shep-herds kept their watch-ing O'er si - lent flocks by night,
2. The shep-herds feared and trem-bled When high a - bove the earth
3. And lo, when they had heard it, They all bowed down and prayed;
4. Down in a low - ly man - ger The hum - ble Christ was born,



1. Be - hold, through-out the heav - ens There shone a ho - ly light.
2. Rang out the an - gel cho - rus That hailed our Sav - ior's birth.
3. They trav - eled on to - geth - er To where the Babe was laid.
4. And God sent us sal - va - tion That bless - ed Christ - mas morn.



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