

St. John the Guardian of Our Lady Parish

at St. John the Evangelist Church - 80 Union St, Clinton, MA 01510



When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the infant leaped in her womb, and Elizabeth, filled with the Holy Spirit, cried out in a loud voice and said, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb." — Lk 1:41-42

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

Rev. Joseph M. Nally, Pastor
Rev. Henry Ramirez, Associate Pastor
Rev. Raymond M. Goodwin, In Residence
William Griffin, OFS, Deacon
George O'Connor, Deacon

Rectory Office:

149 Chestnut St, Clinton, MA 01510

Hours: Monday-Friday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Phone: 978-368-0366 Fax: 978-368-4359

Email: stjohnclintonma@gmail.com

Web Site: www.stjohnsclinton.org

"Like" us on Facebook:

St. John the Guardian of Our Lady Parish

Staff:

Marc DeMille - Music Director—978-368-0366

George DiLorenzo – Superintendent, St. John's Cemetery
/Facilities Manager 978-368-8816

Ann Dziokonski – Director of Religious Education -
978-368-0052 & Elder & Homebound Ministry -
978-368-0366

Matthew Kobus – Director of St. John's Gym –
978-365-9085

John O'Malley - Co-Director of Religious Education-
978-368-0052

Ellen Turini – Safe Environment Coordinator –
978-368-0366

Tammy Van Buren – Office Manager – 978-368-0366

St. John's Gym

149 Chestnut St, Clinton

Phone: 978-365-9085

Email: stjohnsgymorg@gmail.com

St. Vincent de Paul Society

Parish Center

80 Union St

Tuesday's: 7 p.m.

Mass Schedule:

Saturday Vigil	4 p.m.
Sunday	7:30, 9 & 10:30 a.m.
	Spanish Mass 12 p.m.

Monday	5:15 p.m.
Tuesday – Friday	7 a.m.

Holy Day Vigil	(see bulletin for details)
Holy Day Mass	(see bulletin for details)

Confessions: Each Saturday – 2:45 to 3:45 p.m.

Sacrament of Marriage: Arrangements should be made at least 1 year in advance by calling the Rectory Office.

Sacrament of Baptism: Baptismal instruction for parents takes place on the first Sunday of each month at 12 p.m. in the Parish Center.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament:
7 a.m. to 9 p.m. M-F in the Chapel.

Miraculous Medal Novena Devotion:
Mondays following the 5:15 p.m. Mass

CARE Food Pantry

St. John's Gym - 149 Chestnut St
Open Thursday's: 4-6 p.m.

St. John's Cemetery

Parker Rd, Lancaster
Phone: 978-368-8816

St. John the Guardian of Our Lady

Dear Friends,

Where have all the children gone?

Is there anyone there to drive them to church for Sunday Mass? I am often tempted to buy a used church bus, similar to a school bus, and have some parishioners pick them up for Sunday Mass and return them home.

Where have all the children gone?

You and I want to know. Sunday is the Lord's Day, a holy day, a time set aside to worship Our Lord. Are we so busy, up too late, too weighed down by doubts and faults, too overworked and drained out, or simply uncaring? Are we too fixated with television, ipads, or cell phone games?

We have to make some changes, not later, but now. After one's youth is completed, the world then takes over. Do we think the world will lead and guide them to a higher path to worship Our Lord?

Where have all the children gone?

Our question, and, I believe, the Lord's question.

Taking time for worship on Sunday morning or Saturday evening makes a clear difference. It will bring peace to our hearts, our homes and our world. Let us generously share our time for Mass. 'The Lord will not be outdone in generosity.'

Many Christmas Blessings, Father Joseph Nally

MONDAY – December 31, 2018

New Years Eve

5:30 PM Vigil Mass

TUESDAY – January 1, 2019

New Years Day

Holy Day of Obligation

7:00 AM Mass

12:10 PM Mass



Many thanks to the family and friends of Dr. David O'Toole and Francis Ward who made memorial donations to the St. John's Restoration Fund and to our Religious Education Program. May David, Francis and all our beloved rest in peace.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

NEWS • NEWS • NEWS • NEWS • NEWS • NEWS • NEWS • NEWS • NEWS • NEWS • NEWS

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Christmas Pageant Date & Rehearsals

Our Christmas Pageant will take place on Sunday, January 6 at the 9 a.m. Mass. Rehearsals will take place on the following dates: Saturday, December 8, 15 and January 5 at 10:30 a.m. in the Parish Hall. All are welcome.



Volunteers Needed

We are currently looking for a level 5 catechist on Mondays from 3:30-4:30 p.m. and a hall monitor on Monday afternoons at the same time. Please call Ann or John at 978-365-0052 or ccddirectorstjohnsclinton@gmail.com.



Our Sacred Music Series continues with a special Festival of Lessons and Carols on Saturday, January 5, 2019, at 7:30 p.m. Based on the Office of Matins for the Feast of the Epiphany, this festive ceremony will feature

Scripture readings, the singing of beloved Christmas and Epiphany carols, and sacred choral music led by the Upper School Chorus of the Immaculate Heart of Mary School, Still River, under the direction of Michael Olbash. As always, admission is free and families are welcome. Freewill donations will be accepted at the door for the benefit of the First Concern Pregnancy Resource Center of Clinton.



Readings for December 23

Sunday: Mi 5:1-4a/Ps 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-18
[4]/Heb 10:5-10/Lk 1:39-45

Hospital Visits

Fr. Nally & Fr. Ramirez are asking that you call the Rectory if you have a family member that will be spending time in the hospital. They would like to be able to visit.

Mass Intentions

SATURDAY – December 22, 2018

4:00 PM † Donald Gallagher Req. by John, Pam & Mariah Silvester

SUNDAY – December 23, 2018

7:30 AM † Robert J. Lawson Req. by daughter, Patty

9:00 AM For the People

10:30 AM † Brian Noone Req. by his Wife

12:00 PM (Spanish) † Maria Negron - 13th Anniversary
Req. by daughter, Yiyi & granddaughter, Maribel

MONDAY – December 24, 2018

Christmas Eve

1 PM - 3 PM Confessions

4:00 PM Vigil Mass

9:00 PM Vigil Mass

TUESDAY – December 25, 2018

Christmas Day

9:00 AM Christmas Day Mass

10:30 AM Christmas Day Mass

12:00 PM (Spanish) Christmas Day Mass



WEDNESDAY – December 26, 2018

7:00 AM † George J. & Annie (Golas) Muckenstrom
Req. by their Family

THURSDAY – December 27, 2018

7:00 AM † Rose Gamarsh Req. by her Daughters

FRIDAY – December 28, 2018

7:00 AM † Mary Patricia McNally Req. by Phyllis

SATURDAY – December 29, 2018

4:00 PM † Jose Daniel & Maria Delia Mejia Req. by the Cronin Family

SUNDAY – December 30, 2018

7:30 AM For the People

9:00 AM † Frederick, Regina & Thomas Niichter
Req. by their Family

10:30 AM † Bryan Levesque - 28th Anniversary Req. by his Mother

12:00 PM (Spanish) For the People

Weekly Collection

December 15 & 16, 2018

Sunday Collection \$6,587.00

Thank you for your generosity each week!



Vigil Lights

December 23 - December 29, 2018

In memory of Joe & Kathy Prendergast

Req. by their Family

In memory of James Kilcoyne

Req. by the John F. Kilcoyne Family

In memory of Helen Mortimer Req. by her Friends

In memory of Mary Fitzgerald Gardner

Req. by Mary Ellen Kilcoyne

In memory of Mary E. Boyce Req. by her Family

In memory of Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Elia

Req. by Doreen & Ken Brodmerkle

In memory of Philip Weihl Req. by his Family

In memory of Francis "Babe" Weihl

Req. by his Family

If you wish to light a vigil light candle for a loved one, please contact the Parish Office. Cost: \$10 You may also light a candle at the shrines for **Our Lady of Jasna Gora & Our Lady of the Rosary** in the upper church. Donation is \$1, however, any donation is accepted.



Eucharistic



Adoration

Christmas Eve: Adoration ends at 3 PM

Christmas Day: No Adoration

Our parish has Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament downstairs in the chapel, Monday through Friday, from 7 AM to 9 PM. Adoration is a small commitment to keep Our Lord company for one hour per week. Currently we need adorers for Mondays at 7 AM, Tuesdays at 1 PM & 8 PM and Wednesdays at 7 AM & 9 AM. For more information, please contact Sue Belfield at 508-869-0508. Please consider signing up for Adoration. It will be the most beautiful hour of your week!

Online Giving offers families a flexible way to contribute to annual appeals, weekly offertory, special collections, parish pledge campaigns & more. Visit www.stjohnsclinton.org for information.



My dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

The Church of the Nativity in Bethlehem stands as an ancient witness to the birth of Jesus Christ. Originally constructed in 327 A.D. over a cave venerated as the birthplace of Jesus, most of the original church was destroyed in a sixth century Samaritan revolt. Rebuilt in 565, the second church still stands today.

Through the centuries, the Church of the Nativity has been battered by time and weather. It has suffered fires, earthquakes, desecrations and even gun battles. The interior, too, suffers neglect as squabbles among Armenian, Greek and Catholic caretakers have delayed needed renovations to the roof, walls and paintings.

For some on the outside, the Church of the Nativity, battered, fortress-like and unattractive to the eye, is disappointing. Even to some on the inside, the neglect is disheartening.

But then, descending a staircase to the cave below, one sees on the floor a silver star and the words, "Here Jesus Christ was born to the Virgin Mary." Those words and that realization give one profound pause. Here, on this very spot, salvation came, hope was born. Here, Mary laid God's Son in a manger. To this very place, angels directed shepherds who hastened and worshiped. In this very place, like Mary and Joseph, pilgrims for centuries knelt in awe and wonder. From this spot, they have returned home, closer to God, renewed in faith, convinced anew of the great love of God who created us and draws us on. Realizing all that, pilgrims are glad that they did not let the visible defects deter them from entering the Church and staying in it to reach the sacred spot.

In some ways, the Church of the Nativity might be a metaphor for today's Church. Scandals, desecration, and the neglect of some priests and bishops in past years have caused tremendous suffering and sullied the image of the Church. Looking around from outside, some don't want to enter. Being discouraged on the inside, others have left. This, too, is tragic because it is only in the heart of the Church in the liturgy, sacraments, communion of the saints, the Scriptures and Tradition authentically handed on that one can regularly encounter the ordinary means of God's saving graces. Our world, our society and culture need those graces. We must continue to remain vigilant in order to protect our children but we must also never forget the treasures that have been entrusted to the Church and offered to us in the sacraments. The same Jesus, born at Bethlehem, and laid in the manger by Mary comes to us to nourish our souls, to bring us His love, healing and peace. Like Mary, Joseph, the Shepherds and the Magi, may that encounter give you and your loved ones joy and peace on Christmas and each week at Mass.

With every prayerful best wish for a Blessed and Merry Christmas, I remain

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Most Reverend Robert J. McManus



New RCIA classes will begin on Sunday, January 20 from 5:30-6:30 p.m. at the Rectory. It is a gathering for those who want to become

Catholic, and for those who are Catholic but have not received the Sacraments. To register or if you have any questions, please call Fr. Nally at 978-368-0366.

Liturgical Schedule



December 22 & 23	4 p.m.	7:30 a.m.	9 a.m.	10:30 a.m.
Lector:	J. Daley	J. Donahue	D. Dunn	B. McGregor
EM:	B. Farragher	S. Flaherty	B. Guerin	C. Burgoyne
	B. Keane	P. Ball	K. O'Loughlin	W. McNally
AS:	J. Rivera		A. Baya	S. Dillon
				O. Schmitt
				L. Schmitt
				P. Schmitt

Women's Group in Worcester

A new Endow group is convening in Worcester starting on January 11, 2019 at 8 pm. This is a small group for women of all ages interested in growing in faith, community, and knowledge of the Church's teachings on women. The group will meet weekly on Friday evenings at 8 pm in the home of Sarah Berry (a parishioner at St. John's, Worcester). Our first study will be Pope John Paul II's *Letter to Women*. For more information, or to sign up, visit <https://endowgroups.org/groups/worcester-group-2>. You may also contact Sarah at 214-632-3399 or sarahlizberry@gmail.com.



December 29 & 30	4 p.m.	7:30 a.m.	9 a.m.	10:30 a.m.
Lector:	C. Lent	P. Kerrigan	R. Cronin	T. Comeau
EM:	J. Moran	P. Cherubini	J. Blette	K. Burgwinkle
	C. Schlegel	K. Mello	G. Schneck	D. O'Toole
				D. Philbin
AS:		C. Lucking	V. MacGillivray	L. Iacoviello
		B. Lucking	C. Fucile	E. Stanton
			E. Fucile	

CUARTO DOMINGO DE ADVIENTO



QUERIDA COMUNIDAD.

Hemos llegada al cuatro y ultimo Domingo de Adviento y damos la bienvenida a la Navidad.

Navidad es el tiempo en el cual todas nuestras esperanzas y proyectos deben renovarse y es tambien el tiempo en creer que todos nuestros sueños y nuestros planes seran posibles porque creemos en las promesas de Dios. Les deseo de corazon a todos y cada uno de ustedes una muy FELIZ NAVIDAD, deseando que nuestro buen Dios siga bendiciendo y acompañando nuestra comunidad de fe cada vez que Celebramos juntos la Eucaristia y en cada dia de nuestras vidas.

P. Henry Ramirez



1. Reunión de RICA, Martes 6: 30 pm y Grupo de oracion Viernes a las 6:30 pm, salón 14. Coronilla de la Divina Misericordia los Jueves a las 6:30 pm.



AVISOS IMPORTANTES

- Preparacion pre-bautismal por favor contactar a Karina Mendez. 978-3330141
 - Para colocar las intenciones de la misa de 12 cada Domingo. Marita Wallace. 978-7515289
- "Sacramento de confesion" Sabados de 2:45 a 3:45 En la capilla de abajo o pedir cita durante la semana con padre Henry al 978-3680366 extension 202."

DOMINGO 23 DE DICIEMBRE.
MARTES, DICIEMBRE 25 "MISA DE
NAVIDAD"

Eucaristia 12 pm
Eucaristia 12 pm

Iglesia principal
Iglesia Principal

DOMINGO 30 DE DICIEMBRE
Eucaristia de despedida de 2018

Eucaristia 12 PM

Iglesia principal