

Saints Patrick & Raphael Parish

Williamstown, Massachusetts

www.williamstowncatholics.org

Church: 63 Southworth Street
Parish Center: 53 Southworth Street
Parish Office & Rectory 54 Southworth Street
Mailing Address: 54 Southworth Street
Williamstown MA 01267-2414
Phone: 413-458-4946, ext. 11
Ext. 10 for mass times only
Email: saintspatrickandraphael@gmail.com
Web site: www.williamstowncatholics.org
Church and center are handicapped accessible.

Parish Staff

Pastor Rev. John P. McDonagh
Deacon Rev. Mr. Gregory LaFreniere
Catechetical Leader & Parish Secretary
..... Debbie Cameron
Parish Accountant Linda Ludwig
Maintenance Gary Jolin

Lay Leadership

Pastoral Council Chair Jeffrey Welch
Finance Council Chair Tom Gajda
Child Advocate Donna Denelli-Hess

Organists

Michael Dilthey, D. Mu & Joshua Birns-Sprague

Mass Schedule

Saturday: 4:30 p.m.
Sunday: 8:30 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.
Weekdays Monday through Thursday 8:30 a.m.
Holy Day Mass: 8:30 a.m. & 7:00p.m.
Reconciliation: Saturday 3:00-4:00 p.m.
Adoration: Saturday 3:00-4:00 p.m.

Parish Mission Statement

Affirming our common baptismal call to holiness and discipleship, we at Saints Patrick & Raphael Parish strive to deepen our communion with Christ and His Church. By worshipping God through Word and sacrament, serving our community with God's healing compassion, giving freely what we have received, nurturing our children in faith, and respecting the dignity of all human life, we hope to be a sign of – and invite all people into – God's loving presence in the world.

May 24, 2020

Seventh Sunday of Easter



Seventh Sunday of Easter— May 24, 2020



Welcome to all who are visiting this week-end! We hope you feel at home in your parish.

If you have any news you'd like posted here, births, baptisms, marriages, deaths, prayer requests, etc. please notify the parish secretary.

Low-gluten hosts are available for those who have a gluten allergy. Please notify the priest in the sacristy **before** Mass.

Pray for world peace



God Bless America

OFFERTORY REPORT

THE CHURCH WILL BE OPENING NEXT WEEKEND, MAY 31, 2020 FOR PENTECOST SUNDAY!

PARISH COLLECTIONS:	MAY 17
GENERAL:	\$2,280.00
UTILITY; FUEL; MAINTENANCE	\$250.00
TOTAL:	\$2,530.00

DIOCESAN COLLECTIONS

Thank you for your heartwarming and generous support while Masses are suspended. It is greatly appreciated.
Your friend in Christ, Fr. John.

"Let us stand fast in what is right, and prepare our souls for trial. Let us wait upon God's strengthening aid and say to him:

'O Lord, you have been our refuge in all generations.'

- Saint Boniface

OFFERTORY

Many of you have been asking how you can continue to support the parish during this difficult time with no Masses to attend. For those whose resources allow, you can do so by mailing envelopes to the Parish Office or contribute through your bank's online bill paying service. Or, there is another option within the Diocese's website www.diospringfield.org where we are able to make direct contributions to our parish (the very last parish listed) at:

<https://diospringfield.weshareonline.org/ws/opportunities/ParishSupport> **Thank you!**



Candle offerings this week are given to the Glory of God and...

Sanctuary light:

Blessed Virgin: Special intentions by Kim & Judy Chapman

St. Raphael:

To reserve candles for a particular week, please call the parish office. The suggested offering is ten dollars.



INFORMATION—Go to iobserve.org or diospringfield.org for the latest information on what's happening with our Diocese and/or the church at large.

RESPECT



LIFE

From today's 2nd Reading, 1 Peter 4:

"But let no one among you be made to suffer as a murderer, a thief, an evildoer, or as an intriguer."

The command to honor the rights of another.

EXPECTING A BABY?

Expectant parents can enroll now for a Baptism Preparation session prior to their child's birth. Let the parish office know so that we can send you information on the important role parents undertake in being the "first teachers" of their child's Catholic faith. We will also provide information and requirements for the selection of an appropriate Godparent. Contact the parish office for more information.

Baptism: Call the parish office to schedule. Baptisms normally celebrated on the last Sunday of month, 11:30am

Marriage: Call for an appointment with the priest at least 12 months prior to the wedding date for planning and preparation.

Rosary: Mon.-Thu., 8:05am / **Confessions:** Sat., 3-4pm

Eucharistic Adoration – Sat., 3-4pm

Adult Choir Rehearsal, Sunday mornings after the 8:30am Mass in choir loft (9:15am).

RCIA: See pastor if interested in becoming Catholic.

Food Pantry: distribution 1st & 3rd Wednesdays, 1-3pm

Meals Ministry prep & delivery: 2nd Sundays.

Office Hours: Mon.-Thu. 9am-noon and 1-3:00pm Closed holidays, Fridays, and as announced in bulletin.

Membership: Contact the office to join our parish.

To report child sexual abuse by any employee of the Roman Catholic Church call the confidential number at 800-842-9055 or email reportabuse@diospringfield.org.

New Direction - formerly N. Berkshire Pregnancy Center 413-346-4291 or email: info@newdirectionpc.org

Bulletin: Deadline for notices: **Mondays at noon.**

Please remember the Catholic Church in your Last Will and Testament either by a bequest to the Diocese of Springfield or to our Parish, or to both. The legal title for the Diocese of Springfield is **Roman Catholic Bishop of Springfield, a corporation sole**; the legal title for our parish is **Roman Catholic Bishop of Springfield, a corporation sole, for Saints Patrick and Raphael Parish.**

DIRECTIVES FOR REOPENING OF OUR CHURCHES

Bishop Mitchell T. Rozanski
May 18, 2020

I was pleased to learn that the opening of churches will be part of the first phase of the state's reopening measures. In recent days we have asked parishes to begin planning for their reopening, taking into account limited capacity and social distancing, as well as cleaning procedures after every public use of the church. That guidance is available on www.diospringfield.org.

The previous diocesan restrictions and state guidelines will continue including:

- *Omission of the Sign of Peace
- *No communion by the cup
- *Communion in the hand only
- *Holy Water fonts to remain empty and covered
- *Social distancing (6ft minimum) to be abided by at all times
- *Masks will be required
- *Diocesan guidelines issued May 15, 2020

Parishes may add weekend liturgies to accommodate the limited allowed capacity, but not before 4:00pm on Saturday.

Parishes should limit the number of persons involved with liturgy to the priest, a deacon, lector, organist and a cantor—no choir. Eucharistic ministers should only be used to the extent they are needed. And social distancing in the sanctuary must be maintained. For the time being no altar servers.

All members of the congregation need to wear masks and they must put them on prior to leaving their vehicle, with a few exceptions:

- *Children under the age of two should not wear masks
- *Parents should judge for children between the ages of two and five whether they should wear a mask
- *All people who claim an exemption because of health can forego wearing a mask. They do not have to provide documentation.
- *The priest and others with him do not need to wear masks in the sanctuary as long as strict social distancing is maintained. They do have to wear masks when assisting with the distribution of Holy Communion.

We ask that those coming to our churches bring their own hand sanitizer if at all possible.

Time must be allocated between Masses and any time the church is open to the public to conduct a cleaning before the next Mass or public use.

Once permission is given to resume public liturgies this will extend to daily Masses as well as funerals and baptisms. The Rite of Reconciliation may also take place with the required 6ft separation and wearing of masks by priests and penitents.

The Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick may resume under the following conditions;

- *If this is performed in a hospital or healthcare facility, the guidelines for protective measures, including garments, prevail.
- *If this is not performed in a hospital or healthcare facility: If available, latex gloves should be worn unless the patient or priest has an allergic sensitivity to latex. Additionally, if available, protective eyewear (a pair of

glasses will suffice) should be worn.

Eyeglasses or goggles or eye protectors can be re-used BUT MUST be cleaned immediately after each visit with Lysol/Clorox wipes or washed with soap and water.

- *If the priest uses his gloved hand, the glove is to be burned or buried after the visit.
- *If Holy Communion is given, it is to be distributed in the hand.
- *Maintain social distance (six feet) with everyone in the room, except the patient.

Even with the resumption of public liturgies, those who are the most vulnerable should not attend Mass in-person; rather they should continue to watch our televised Mass the "Chalice of Salvation" or their parish's streaming or cablecast Masses.

I am extending the dispensation from the obligation to attend Sunday Mass even after we reopen out of an abundance of caution and concern for the most vulnerable who are most susceptible to contract this virus.

Finally all other parish social gatherings are still not allowed as are home visits by pastoral ministers.

FR JAMES CASEY SCHOLARSHIP

Reminder: May 28, 2020 is the final day to send in your application for the Fr. James Casey scholarship. You can find the application form as well as the guidelines on the previous 2 or 3 bulletins on www.williamstowncatholics.org.



OFFICE CLOSED on **Monday, May 25** for Memorial Day. The office will open on Tuesday morning, May 26th at 9am.



7TH SUNDAY OF EASTER



POPE'S PRAYER INTENTIONS FOR MAY 2020

For Deacons:

We pray that deacons, faithful in their service to the Word and the poor, may be an invigorating symbol for the entire Church.



**THE CHURCH WILL BE OPENING NEXT WEEKEND,
MAY 31, 2020 FOR PENTECOST SUNDAY**

DONATIONS ~ THANK YOU!

Food Pantry: Malina Woodbury; American Legion Post 152; Ughetta Hirsch;

Food Pantry:

In memory of: Margaret Putman by John & Priscilla Haig; Brad & Elizabeth Whately; Jean Maynard; Shirley Nary; Carl & Marilyn Faulkner; Margaret Blake

LET'S STAY CONNECTED FOR THOSE OF YOU WHO CANNOT ATTEND MASS

As many of you know, weekly Masses are being taped here at the Parish. There are several ways for you to access this along with additional information.

Please go to our website: www.williamstowncatholics.org.

Please go to our **FaceBook** page, Sts. Patrick and Raphael Roman Catholic Parish.

The Mass from our church is televised on Willinet on Sunday mornings for Williamstown residents at 10:30am on channel 1303.

Diocesan Information—with the ever changing situation from the Corona virus, we will try to put all updates on these two sources for you. For diocesan information you can go to diospringfield.org

The televised Mass "**Chalice of Salvation**" is broadcast on WXXA, Fox 23 Albany at 6am Sunday.

The Mass from Dalton is live streamed Saturday @ 4pm and Sunday @ 10am on www.stagnesc.com

Let us pray for each other, Parish Staff: Fr. John, Deacon Greg, Debbie, Gary, Donna & Linda

THANK YOU...

Many thanks to our Altar Committee (*aka Wednesday Warriors*), Karyn O'Toole, Mary Kennedy, Betsy Wolf & Carol Kalisz for their willingness to take on the task of cleaning out the basement in the church. It was in need of being done and your efforts are very much appreciated.

Readings for the week of May 24, 2020

Sunday: 7th Sunday of Easter: Acts 1:12-14/Ps 27/1 Pt 4/Jn 17

Monday: Acts 19:1-8/Ps 68/Jn 16:29-33

Tuesday: Acts 20:17-27/Ps 68/Jn 17:1-11a

Wednesday: Acts 20:28-38/Ps 68/Jn 17:11b-19

Thursday: Acts 22:30; 23:6-11/Ps 16/Jn 17:20-26

Friday: Acts 25:13b-21/Ps 103/Jn 21:15-19

Next Sunday: Acts 2:1-11/Ps 104/1 Cor 12:3b-7, 12-13/Jn 20:19-23

Observances for the week of May 24, 2020

Sunday: 7th Sunday of Easter; World Communications Day

Monday: St. Bede the Venerable, Priest and Doctor of the Church; St. Gregory VII, Pope; St. Mary Magdalene de' Pazzi, Virgin; Memorial Day

Tuesday: St. Philip Neri, Priest

Wednesday: St. Augustine of Canterbury, Bishop

Friday: St. Paul VI

Next Sunday: Pentecost Sunday LPi



**ANNUAL
CATHOLIC APPEAL
2020**

*"FOR I KNOW THE PLANS I HAVE FOR YOU," DECLARES THE LORD,
"PLANS TO PROSPER YOU AND NOT FOR WOE, SO AS TO GIVE YOU A
FUTURE OF HOPE."*

**150th SPRINGFIELD DIOCESAN ANNIVERSARY
HISTORICAL FACTS**

Post-World War II Years—Bishop O'Leary's 28-year episcopacy ends with his death at age 74 on October 10, 1949. A few months later, in 1950, the Springfield Diocese is divided and reduced to the four western Massachusetts counties when the new Worcester Diocese is created. On March 24, 1950, Msgr. Christopher J. Weldon, from New York, is consecrated Springfield's fourth bishop in St. Patrick's Cathedral by Cardinal Richard Spellman.

MASSES

PLEASE NOTE: *Despite the churches being closed, Father John continues to celebrate Mass daily.* The intentions in our Mass book are prayed for during this unannounced Mass. When our present situation with the Coronavirus and the cancellation of Masses has subsided, we will be reaching out to those who have scheduled Masses during this difficult time to make alternative arrangements if you so choose. Please know that your loved one is in Fr. John's prayers, as well as all of you...

**CAMP HOLY CROSS IN GOSHEN ANNOUNCES
CANCELLATION OF 2020 CAMP SEASON**

Camp Holy Cross (CHC), a private summer camp operated by the Diocese of Springfield, has announced plans to cancel its 2020 camping season due to the COVID-19 outbreak. Based on the timing and uncertainty of impending Massachusetts Department of Public Health social distancing rules and regulations, CHC has decided to err on the side of caution for the health and safety of its campers and employees, according to Rev. Christopher Malatesta, pastor of St. Agnes Church and CHC co-director, and Justin Brown, co-director. "It saddens me as a 25-year director of summer camps that we had to reach this. Rev. Malatesta said the camp's top priority has always been to put the health of its campers first. "We take great pride in providing safe camping experiences for many Diocesan youth and we will return to that mission when we reopen next season stronger than ever," he said.

A VOCATION VIEW

Seventh Sunday of Easter "They received the Holy Spirit." The Blessed Virgin Mary intercedes for your faithfulness to the vocation to which the Spirit is leading you. If you think God may be offering you the grace of serving Him and His people as a priest or in the consecrated life, email vocations@diospringfield.org. Website: www.myvocation.com.

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Congratulations to parishioner, professor and friend, Thomas Murtagh, on his retirement from the Computer Science Department at Williams College. Tom is currently a Co-chair of our Meals Ministry Program here at the parish along with his wife, Fern. We wish him many blessings of health and joy as he begins this new phase in his life. May God bless you always Tom on the next step of your journey.

What is spiritual communion

Spiritual communion is the practice of desiring union with Jesus ? Christ in the holy Eucharist. It is used primarily by individuals who cannot receive holy Communion, such as the ill, the divorced and remarried and those who have not yet been received into full communion with the Church. St. Thomas Aquinas described it as “an ardent desire to receive Jesus in the most holy sacrament and lovingly embrace Him” at a time or in circumstances when we cannot receive him in sacramental Communion

Act of spiritual communion

My Jesus, I believe that you are present in the most holy sacrament. I love you above all things, and I desire to receive you into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive you sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace you as if you were already there and unite myself wholly to you. Never permit me to be separated from you. AMEN

Saints have encouraged spiritual Communion: “Communion is to the soul like blowing a fire that is beginning to go out, but that has still plenty of hot embers; we blow, and the fire burns again.” After the reception of the sacraments, when we feel ourselves slacken in the love of God, let us have recourse at once to spiritual Communion. When we cannot go to the church, let us turn towards the tabernacle; no wall cannot separate us from the good God.” St. John Vianny Spiritual Communion is “an ardent desire to receive Jesus in the Holy Sacrament and a loving embrace as though we had already received Him.” ST. THOMAS AQUINAS “What a source of grace there is in spiritual Communion! Practice it frequently and you’ll have more presence of God and closer union with Him in your life.” St. Josemaria Escriva

THIS WEEK’S EUCHARISTIC CELEBRATION

Saturday,	May 23
4:30pm	John Skovera , 1st anniversary remembrance, by his family
Sunday,	May 24
8:30am	
10:30am	Claire Putman , 3rd anniversary remembrance by her family
Monday,	May 25
8:30am	Patti Brundage & the Brundage family , by the family
Tuesday,	May 26
8:30am	
Wednesday,	May 27
8:30am	Communion Service
Thursday,	May 28
8:30am	James Gelheiser , by Donald & Irene Lestage
Saturday,	May 30
4:30pm	
Sunday,	May 31
8:30am	
10:30am	Larrie Ann Noyes , by Willis & Claire Boyer

PLEASE NOTE: Daily Masses are now taped and will be on our website.

