

*The kingdom of
God
is at hand
for you.*

Luke 10:9



St. Roch Parish

PARISH DIRECTORY

Rev. James J. Boulette, Pastor

Mr. Paul Connolly, Deacon

RECTORY OFFICE & ST. ROCH CEMETERY

Administrative Assistant ~ Mrs. Teri Rawson

Email: parishoffice@strochoxford.com

Office Hours ~ Monday-Thursday 9:00 am—4:00 pm

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION OFFICE

Coordinator of Religious Education ~ Ms. Jaclyn Green

Email: faithformation@strochoxford.com

Office Hours ~ Monday-Friday 8:30 am—3:30 pm



Mass Schedule

Saturday 4:00 PM & Sunday 8:30 & 11:00 AM

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday at 8:30 AM

Friday Mass at 6:00 pm

Adoration at 6:30 pm

Confession during Adoration

Benediction at 7:30 pm

Confessions

Tuesday 6—7 pm, Friday 6:30—7:30 pm,

and Saturday 3—3:30 pm

or by appointment



Phone: (508) 987-8987

Email: parishoffice@strochoxford.com

Website: strochoxford.com

St. Roch Prayer Line Email:

Prayerline@strochoxford.com

334 Main Street, Oxford, Massachusetts 01540

Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time



THE NATIONAL CATHOLIC BIOETHICS CENTER

Living a Catholic Life *There Is No Right to a Child*

“Living a Catholic Life” is a collaboration between dioceses, parishes, Knights of Columbus councils, grassroots organizations, and The National Catholic Bioethics Center to educate the laity on principles of the moral life and their application.

Frequently, in discussions about fertility and the use of such techniques as in vitro fertilization, the claim is made that a married couple has a moral right to a child. After all, one of the goods of marriage is the procreation and education of children. Therefore, if a married couple is not able to have a child through normal genital activity, why should they be prevented from using contemporary biological techniques?

The Church, as is well known, teaches that it is morally wrong to generate human life outside the marital act (see Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, *Donum vitae*). Many people, both Catholic and non-Catholic, can readily understand why it is morally bad for a couple to generate human life by inseminating the wife with sperm provided by a man who is not her husband or by inseminating a woman other than the wife with sperm from the husband. They recognize that the choice to generate human life in these ways does violence to marriage and to human parenthood and does a serious injustice to the child.

But many of these same people find the teaching of the Church on the immorality of in vitro fertilization a different matter. There is no use of gametic materials from third parties; the child conceived is genetically the child of husband and wife, who are and will remain its parents. There need be no deliberate creation of excess human life which will be discarded, frozen, or made the subject of medical research. Nor need there be the use of immoral means (masturbation) to obtain the husband's sperm, since it can be retrieved in morally acceptable ways. There is apparently only the intent to help a couple, despite their physical incapacity, to have a child with whom they ardently desire to share life and to whom they are willing to give a home. Why, many people reasonably ask, is it morally bad to make use of in vitro fertilization in such cases? Is not the Church's position here too rigid, too insensitive to the agonizing plight of involuntarily childless couples who are seeking, by making good use of modern technologies, to realize one of the goods of marriage? Do not married couples in this situation have a right to make use of these methods?

It is true that married men and women have rights (and responsibilities) that nonmarried men and women do not have. They have the right, first of all, to engage in the marital act, which is not simply a genital act between two persons who happen to be married but an act of interpersonal communion in which they give themselves to one another. In contrast to genital sex between unmarried people, which merely joins two individuals who are,

in principle, replaceable, the marital act unites two persons who have made one another absolutely non-substitutable by giving themselves to one another in marriage. In addition, husbands and wives, by doing this, have capacitated themselves, as St. Augustine put it, “to receive life lovingly, to nourish it humanely, and to educate it religiously” (*De Genesi ad litteram* 9.7). God, in short, wills that human life be given in the marital embrace of husbands and wives, not through the random copulation. Husbands and wives, thus, have a right to the marital act and to care for life conceived through this act, but they do not have a right to a child. A child is not a thing to which husbands and wives have a right. It is not a product that, by its nature, is necessarily inferior to its producers but rather a child like its parents. And this is the moral problem with the laboratory generation of human life.

When a child comes to be in and through the marital act, it is not a product of the spouses' act but “a gift supervening on and giving permanent embodiment to” the marital act itself (Catholic Bishops of England and Wales, *In Vitro Fertilization: Morality and Public Policy* [1983], n. 23). When human life comes to be through the marital act, we say quite properly that the spouses are receiving a life. They are begetting or procreating but not making anything. But when human life comes to be as a result of in vitro fertilization, it is the end product of a series of actions undertaken by different persons. The spouses produce the gametic cells that others use to make the end product—in this case, a child. In such a procedure, the child comes to be, not as a gift crowning the marital act (see Vatican II, *Gaudium et spes*, n. 51), “but rather in the manner of a product of a making and, typically, as the end product of a process managed and carried out by persons other than his parents” (Catholic Bishops of England and Wales, *In Vitro Fertilization*, n. 24). The life generated is made, not begotten. But as noted already, a human child is a person equal in dignity to its parents. It is not a product or a thing and, therefore, ought not to be treated as if it were.

In the Nicene Creed, we profess that God's eternal Word was “begotten, not made.” Human beings, as beings made in God's image and likeness, are, as it were, the created words, brothers and sisters of God's eternal and uncreated Word, that manifest the depths of God's personal love for every human person. Thus, human beings also ought to be “begotten, not made.” Husbands and wives have no right to make a child. They have the right to give themselves to one another in the marital act and, in and through this act, to receive the gift of life.

Mass Intentions



Saturday, July 5	4:00 pm	Stanley Sklarz by the grandchildren
Sunday, July 6	8:30 am	Anne & Steve Walinsky by the Jalbert family
	11:00 am	Alfred Dumais by son David Dumais
Monday, July 7	8:30 am	William LaRonda (14th Anniversary) by Palmina Griffin
Tuesday, July 8	8:30 am	Joel Laverdure by Paula Miner & Ken Mills
Wednesday, July 9	8:30 am	The People of St. Roch Parish
Thursday, July 10	8:30 am	No Mass
Friday, July 11	6:00 pm	All the Holy Souls in Purgatory by the Helpers of the Holy Souls
Saturday, July 12	4:00 pm	Martha Przelomski by the family
Sunday, July 13	8:30 am	Walter P. McCarthy (10th Anniversary) by the family
	11:00 am	The People of St. Roch Parish

Sacrificial Offering

JUNE 28 & 29

Offertory Envelopes	3,972.00
Online Giving	12.00
Other sources of income	1,203.00
<i>Thank you!</i>	<u>5,187.00</u>



FREE Community Dinner

For Anyone & Everyone including families!

*Sponsored by the St. Vincent De Paul Society
of St. Roch Church*

July 8th from 5:00—6:00 PM
ST. ROCH PARISH HALL

Come Join Us for a Delicious Free Meal and Friendship!

JULY 26



The ANNUAL ST. ROCH FESTIVAL

THE FESTIVAL BEGINS AT 10:00 AM UNDER THE BIG TENT

- Hot off the grill: **Burgers, Dogs, Sausage & Peppers, and Pulled Pork!**
- Come enjoy the company of fellow parishioners and neighbors! Bring your family & friends!!
- Try your luck at some **raffles**, enjoy the **music**, **strawberry shortcake** and **fried dough!**
- Play some favorite **outdoor games**—Bocci, Cornhole, and others or cheer on your friends!
- **DUNK THE PASTOR!!** Start practicing your aim now!

Fr. Jim is willing to take a few dunks in the **Dunk Tank!** Others also welcome to take the dunk challenge!

- **Cornhole Tournament!** 16 teams. Cash prizes to top 2 teams! Sign up today! - Forms at entrances to the church.
- **The Chicken Barbecue will take place after the 4:00 Mass!** - *Tickets are on sale now! Don't wait!*
Due to inflation, the barbecue tickets are now \$22. Children's Meals of a hot dog and mac & cheese are also offered for \$5.

To purchase
Chicken
Barbecue
Tickets:



SCAN ME



CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES

St. Roch lot on the corner of Main & Water Streets

Bouncy House

Organized games for young children

**Water Balloon Toss, 3 Legged Races,
Obstacle Course, Potato Sack Races,
Free Cold Drinks, Prizes & More!**



Our "Adopt-A-Basket" Raffle Table could use your help!
Donations of Themed Gift Baskets or items for a gift basket are needed and greatly appreciated.

Families or Individuals—pick a theme or make up your own! Examples: Beach, Reading Nook, Coffee, Barbecue, Chocolate, Garden, Outdoor Games, Pasta Dinner, Etc.

Other Items to be donated:

Gift Cards/Certificates, Plants, Baked Goods.
Drop off location—tba





Worcester Red Sox August 3, 2025 Sunday 1:05 Game

St. Roch Parish has a block of
50 seats along the first-base
line.

Tickets \$30 each includes \$5 credit to purchase
food, beverages or merchandise. Call the rectory
office at 508-987-8987 to **RESERVE NOW**.

Payment due by July 15. Gates open at 11:30 am.

Polar Park Section 14.

(Transportation not included.)

**15 Seats
Left!!**



THE CATHOLIC FREE PRESS



To renew your subscription, pop
an envelope in the basket or mail
to the rectory office with \$39,
your name & address. Thank you.

Yard Sale!

September 27, 2025

The Yard Sale Committee will be collecting the first 3 weekends in
September only. Please no drop offs beforehand.



GIANT PARISH RAFFLE



1st PRIZE \$30,000*

2nd PRIZE \$10,000*

3rd PRIZE \$8,000*

4th—23rd PRIZES \$1,000* each

***ALL PRIZES ARE AWARDED AS
AMERICAN EXPRESS GIFT CARDS
(not redeemable for cash)**

DONATION FOR EACH TICKET: \$25

**Raffle tickets need to be returned to the rectory office
BY JULY 7TH**

Half of all sales will be kept at the parish.

If you did not get a mailer with tickets or need more,
please call Teri at the rectory 508-987-8987.

Drawing to take place

July 19th at 7 pm

LIVE-streamed at

www.parishraffle.com

from St. Roch Church, 10 St. Roch Ave, Greenwich, CT.

**To Enter
Online
Scan this
QR code.
Please
Share!**



JUBILEE YEAR 2025 YEAR OF HOPE

A Special Year of:

**FORGIVENESS
RECONCILIATION
CONVERSION
and CELEBRATION**



<https://worcesterdiocese.org/jubilee>

334 CLUB WEEK 2 WINNERS



**# 154 Mary Ellen Hashey
318 Rose Wing
564 Paul Mathurin
567 Raymond Gero**

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL!!!

Great Resources Year Round!!

www.formed.org/signup

Something for Everyone! It's Easy and It's Free!

2025 Fundraising / Event Calendar!

Multi-Parish Raffle—Saturday, July 19th

Live-Streamed at www.parishraffle.com at 7 pm

Festival - Saturday, July 26th

Opens at 10 am

Chicken Barbecue at 5:30 pm - Pre-sale tickets only

WooSox Game—Sunday, August 3rd 1:05 pm

Yard Sale—Saturday, September 27 8-2pm

334 Club Dinner—Saturday, November 1 5:30 pm

Parade of Soups—Saturday, November 15th 5-8pm

American Heritage Girls and Trail Life USA



**THE ADVENTURE
BEGINS HERE!**

It is with excitement that I
announce the official char-
tering of Trail Life for boys
in our parish. We are now
Trail Life Troop MA1321!



Also this summer, Troop MA0716 of the American Heritage
Girls will transfer their charter to Saint Roch.

If you are looking for a Christian Catholic alternative to the
Boy and Girl Scouts, here it is! If you have children in your
life between the ages of 5 and 18 who want live a Christ Cen-
tered life, go on adventures, and have fun, check out our
webpages at <https://strochoxford.com/american-heritage-girls>
or <https://strochoxford.com/trail-life-usa>
or scan the QR codes. There are interest
forms to fill out so you can receive more
information about signing up.





CATHOLIC SUMMER CAMP

TWO SESSIONS OFFERED:
1ST-6TH GRADE: 9AM-3PM
7TH-12TH GRADE: 7PM-9PM

AUGUST 10-15 2025

Registration **\$25**

DISCOUNTS FOR FAMILIES

Sacred Heart Parish Hall
 11 Day Street
 Webster MA 01570
Registration Link
www.shojwebster.org/totus-tuus

Co-sponsored by Sacred Heart & St Louis Parish, Webster; St Roch, Oxford





CATHOLIC MOMS GROUP



Summer Schedule & Events

Adoration/Confession & Potluck -- 4:30pm on 6/11, 7/2, and 8/6
 Meet upstairs in the church for kid-friendly adoration. Confessions available 4:30-5:30pm. Potluck style dinner downstairs. Please text or email Gina (gina.hamway@gmail.com) to RSVP/ sign up for potluck.

Rosary Pray & Play -- 9:30am on 5/28, 6/25, 7/9, 7/23, 8/13, 8/27

Post-Bedtime/Late Night Moms Only -- 8:15pm on 6/18, 7/16, 8/20

***NEW* Summer Bible Study** -- 9:30am on Tuesdays
 6/3, 6/17, 7/1, 7/15, 8/5, 8/19

Please contact Gina gina.hamway@gmail.com for locations.

Also, we are planning a kid-friendly, day-trip this summer to the **Shrine of the Little Flower** in Nasonville, RI (~30 min from St. Roch). Date TBD. There is lots of space to run around for the littles, a picnic table area, and of course many places for prayer and reflection. Please reach out if you are interested.



New to moms group or the parish? Got questions?
 Please contact Gina at gina.hamway@gmail.com



THE LITTLE CROWN

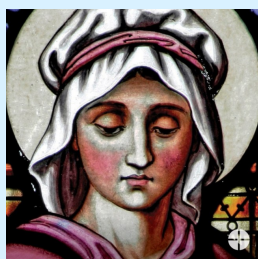
Catholic Homeschooling Community & Co-op

The Little Crown (TLC) is a parent-led Catholic homeschooling group and a ministry of St. Roch Church. Membership is open to all practicing Catholic families from any parish.

Registration is now OPEN for the Fall Semester!

Please visit the following webpage for more information:
www.strochoxford.com/the-little-crown-homeschooling-co-op

Contact Gina at gina.hamway@gmail.com with any questions.



SAINT VERONICA (JULY 12)

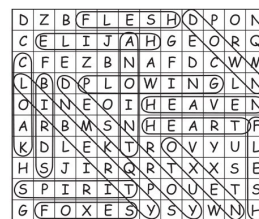
According to legend, Veronica was the woman who took pity on Jesus as he carried his cross, wiped his face with a cloth and was left with an image of the suffering Christ. Her story was included in the Stations of the Cross in the 19th century.

St. Veronica, pray for us!

CROSSWORD

(Most answers are in today's readings)

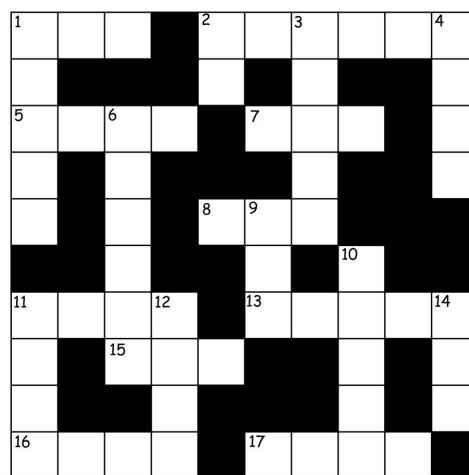
Last week's wordsearch



CLUES ACROSS

1. High above us
2. Devils
5. Smaller than a city
7. Not wet
8. Great happiness
11. Again; once more; afresh
13. Rejoice; be jubilant
15. Child; not daughter
16. Opposite of bought
17. Tiny particles

CLUES DOWN



1. A totally evil being
2. A command
3. Kindness towards a helpless enemy
4. Unwell
6. Ravening dog-like animals
9. Single; alone
10. Reigns
11. We have two
12. A spoken thing
14. The number of the Commandments

Meetings

Fundraising Meeting –Monday, July 14th at 6:00 pm in the St. Ann Center. All are invited!

GOD'S HELPING HANDS

Are you homebound or need a little extra love and assistance?

We Can Provide:

Visits and Conversation	Rides to the Doctors
Pickup a Needed Item	Groceries
Food Delivery	or Other Needed Services

Call the Parish Office at **508-987-8987** for more information. Linda Lloyd is leading this vital new Parish Ministry with a small number of ministers who are here to help. Call today!

Come spend one hour a week with JESUS!

At the **Blessed Sacrament**
Perpetual Eucharistic Adoration
Chapel, 17 E. Main St., Webster, MA.

24 Hours a day, 7 Days a week.

Door locked 9 pm-6 am. Scheduled Adorers only. All hours are available—Hours in need of dedicated adorers:

Sun	12-1am, 5-6am, 8-9pm
Mon	2-3am, 10-11pm
Tue	2-3am, 3-4am, 4-5am, 5-6am, 10-11am
Wed	11am-12pm
Thu	3-4pm, 4-5pm
Fri	2-3am, 3-4am, 9-10pm
Sat	2-3am, 3-4am, 9-10am, 11am-12pm, 3-4pm, 4-5pm

We are also in need of substitutes. Please consider being placed on our Substitute Call List.

Please contact: Adoration Chapel at 508-206-8153



Oxford Ecumenical Food Shelf

The Oxford Ecumenical Food Shelf provides backpacks filled with supplies to our families with children as they head back to school. We need your help.

We are asking for donations of these supplies: single-subject notebooks, pocket folders, dry erase markers, color markers, and glue sticks. We also need backpacks for younger children.

Please leave your donations in the Food Shelf DROP BOX located in the bins inside the front doors of the church. Thank you for your continued support.

Open Thursdays 4:30 to 6:30 pm, except holidays, the Food Shelf is located in the lower level of the Oxford Community Center, 4 Maple Road. For more information, call 508-987-1062.

To make a financial donation, please mail a check to Oxford Ecumenical Food Shelf, 4 Maple Road, Oxford MA 01540. Open Thursdays 4:30 to 6:30 pm, except holidays. The Food Shelf is located in the lower level of the Oxford Community Center, 4 Maple Road. For more information, call 508-987-1062.

To make a financial donation, please mail a check to Oxford Ecumenical Food Shelf, 4 Maple Road, Oxford MA 01540. Thank you!



- Do you wonder if there is more out there than just this broken world?
- Do you want a community to journey with you as you explore the meaning of life?
- Unbaptized? Need First Communion and/or Confirmation?
- Come and See what God has in store for you!

If you are age seven to adult, OCIA is for you! For more information and to begin your journey, visit www.strochoxford.com/ocia or scan the QR code.



SIGN UP TODAY!

Flocknote is a communication tool that the parishes in the Worcester Diocese use to stay in contact with the people of God. Sign up today to receive important notices and information.

Sign up by scanning this QR Code or go to:

<https://strochoxford.flocknote.com/everyone>



PRAY FOR ...

Kathy Perry, John & Bev Makowski,

Cynthia Clark, David Dumais, Ann

Caplette, Deacon Jim Denning, Jennifer

Cowperthwaite, Jay and Jon Moore, Rose, Jill and Desirae, Cyndy

Paradis, Fern Goldsmith, May Stanikmas, Cameron Chickering,

Evelina Piscopo, Carol Clouthier, Pauline Clouthier, Annmarie

Morrissey, Julia Krasinskas, Paula Kapurch, June Deary, Paula

C. Bouthillier, Andrea Reeves, Nancy Mott, Adam Yankauskas,

Joel Balsh, Robert & Aline Krasinskas, Mary-ann Richard, Leona

Shaw, Lorraine Dumais, Ernie LaVallee, Lisa Ackley, Lorna

Hennessey, Cheryl Ducharme, Judy Leone, James Malo, Joseph,

Matthew & Marie, Kyle Brodeur, Donald Morin, Leonard

Marcotte, Pam Jackman, Chloe Jones, Jane Desy Montigny,

Theresa Stone, Linda Vigeant, Dianne Ackley, Randy Henderson,

Charley Theodore Cutting, Barbara Lavallee, Andrea Boyle,

Melissa Dube, William Patrick Bernard, Peter Giles, Michelle,

Susan Maass, Jack Hamilton, Paul Neboski.