

20TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



Jesus said to his disciples:
"I have come to set the earth on fire,
and how I wish it were already blazing!"

Luke 12:49



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

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION OFFICE

Coordinator of Religious Education ~ Ms. Jaclyn Green

Email: faithformation@strochoxford.com

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



Greetings to my brothers and sisters in Christ,

In a couple weeks we will have a missionary priest visiting us from the mission in the Archdiocese of Kumasi, Ghana in West Africa. We will have a special collection for this mission, and we will have more information about the mission. Here is a short write up about this mission.

ABOUT THE MISSION IN THE ARCHDIOCESE OF KUMASI, GHANA

The Archdiocese of Kumasi, in Ghana (West Africa), was established in 1950 by missionaries. During the past 45 years the growth of the Church in Ghana has been blessed and currently there are 16 dioceses and 4 archdioceses.

The City of Kumasi, the seat of Archdiocese of Kumasi has a population of about 2,437,000 people; many living in rural settings. The Catholic population is around 365,000. The work of evangelization takes many forms and continues through the generous support of Catholics worldwide.

The Church's healing ministry and efforts in primary evangelization becomes evident through projects aimed at improving the health and well-being of people such as the building and upgrading of health clinics, the care for street children and providing accessible, clean drinking water by building new wells, especially on school grounds. It is surprising that there are still many areas where people walk a great distance for clean drinking water.

Your support, also, assists in the building of new schools for the education of youth and for spiritual growth. Teachers are in short supply and a new Teachers' College, Christ the Teacher College of Education, has recently opened for the formation of Catholic Teachers. In addition to the academic disciplines, the student-teachers to be trained here will be exposed to Catholic Theology and the social teachings of the Church in order to become agents of evangelization in their interaction with students at primary, junior high and senior high levels.

Contributions received, also, benefit St. Gregory the Great Major Seminary. The generous contributions we have received have helped give rise to an increase of vocations in the archdiocese.

Archbishop Gabriel J. Anokye expresses his gratitude to the Church in America and acknowledges that the generosity of American Catholics has immensely improved the condition of many people of Kumasi and has aided the growth of the Church in Africa as a whole.

We thank you in anticipation for your welcome and hospitality offered to our missionary representative visiting your parish community on August 30th and 31st, and for the support you offer. We, truly, appreciate the prayers and contributions we receive and strive to be good stewards of what we receive so that it may have the greatest possible positive impact. Your parish family will be remembered in Masses and prayers offered by the priests, deacons, religious, and missionaries serving in the Archdiocese of Kumasi, Ghana. God's Blessings!

Rev. Anthony Appiah Archdiocesan U.S. Representative, St. Anthony of Padua Parish, Arlington diocese, Virginia.

With all my love and blessings from God,

Fr. Jim

Mass Intentions



Saturday, August 16	4:00 pm	Christopher Laverdure (living) by Paula Miner & Ken Mills
Sunday, August 17	8:30 am	Wanda & Donald Jalbert by the Jalbert family
	11:00 am	Ūna Sawicki (living) by Don & Cherly Letson
Monday, August 18	8:30 am	The People of St. Roch Parish
Tuesday, August 19	8:30 am	Marie Harrington & Family (living) by Paula Miner & Ken Mills
Wednesday, August 20	8:30 am	All the Holy Souls in Purgatory by the Helpers of the Holy Souls
Thursday, August 21	8:30 am	No Mass
Friday, August 22	6:00 pm	Nick (living) by Mom & Dad
Saturday, August 23	4:00 pm	Pat Carbonneau (30th Anniversary) by the family
Sunday, August 24	8:30 am	The People of St. Roch Parish
	11:00 am	Jeffrey Gentile (living) by Paula Miner & Ken Mills

Sacrificial Offering

AUGUST 9 & 10

Offertory Envelopes	5,144.00
Online Giving	410.00
Other sources of income	370.00
Thank you!	5,924.00
<i>Church in Central & Eastern Europe</i>	<i>871.00</i>

Meetings

Fundraising/Yard Sale Meeting will be on **Monday, August 18th at 6:00 PM.** All are invited.

If you would like to volunteer some time in sorting and pricing the items or working the day of the yard sale, please call Don Letson, Chairperson—413-835-1915 or the rectory office—508-987-8987. Thank you!

PARISH APPRECIATION COOK-OUT

Sunday, September 14 - Noon

All in the parish are invited
for a fun day of games and
fellowship!

Hot dogs, burgers, beans
and salads.

FREE!

Come join us!



Yard Sale!

September 27

The Yard Sale Committee will be collecting the First 3 Saturdays in September 9-11 am ONLY. Please no drop offs beforehand.

**HELP
IS
NEEDED**



**Contact:
Don Letson
413-835-1915**

Vendor Fair

St. Roch Church Hall



OCTOBER 18

8 am—3 pm

Vendors Wanted!!

Call or email the rectory office for more information.
508-987-8987 / parishoffice@strochoxford.com
Applications may be found by the doors of the church.



Thank you again to all who worked at the
Summer Festival!
And all who came to enjoy the day!
Together we raised \$2,120.00 for our Parish!



Many thanks to all who donated snacks and treats for the
Totus Tuus—Catholic Summer Camp!

HELP US WITH HOSPITALITY!

- Be a greeter at Mass to welcome people with a smile and a kind word.
- Help people find a seat and get settled in.
- Hand-out bulletins.
- Assist with the collections.
- Thank people for coming and invite them back.



Contact the Parish Office for more information

The Little Franciscans of Mary are grateful to St. Roch parishioners and others who continue to donate unsolicited items that almost all of us receive in the mail, but do not need. Such items include: religious items, prayer cards, meditation booklets, new greeting cards, pads of paper, calendars, pretty stickers and cancelled stamps. Some of these are shipped overseas to Canada and Madagascar where they are so appreciated! Items may be left in, or behind the "Stamp Box" at the front door of St. Roch.



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.



Religious Education is almost back for the 2025-2026 school year! Is the Lord calling YOU to serve?

Seeking catechists and assistants for grades K through High School. We are also looking to increase our OCIA team.

All are CORI checked per Diocesan policy and have a mature, well-formed Catholic faith.

"Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace..."
1 Peter 4:10

How will YOU serve? Contact Jackie at faithformation@strochoxford.com

JUBILEE YEAR 2025 YEAR OF HOPE

A Special Year of:

**FORGIVENESS
RECONCILIATION
CONVERSION
and CELEBRATION**



<https://worcesterdiocese.org/jubilee>



334 CLUB WEEK 8 WINNERS



#127 Cheryl Lambert
#199 Bud Richardson
#558 Rachel Laythe
#452 Claudia Seale

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL!!!

Great Resources Year Round!!

www.formed.org/signup

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

2025 St. Roch Parish Event Calendar!

Parish Appreciation Cookout—Sat, Sept 14 Noon

Yard Sale—Saturday, September 27 8-2pm

Vendor Fair—Saturday, October 18

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 chartering 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 Centered 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.



September Sessions:

- 9/7** - High School Session
@4:00 -7:30 PM at St. Anthony in Dudley
- 9/14** - K-8th Grade Religious Ed
@9:30- 10:45 AM at Parish Center
- 9/21** - K-8th Grade Religious Ed
@9:30-10:45 AM at Parish Center
- 9/28** - K-8th Grade Religious Ed
@9:30-10:45 AM at Parish Center

**CATHOLIC MOMS GROUP****Summer Schedule & Events**

Adoration/Confession & Potluck -- 4:30pm on 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.hamwey@gmail.com) to RSVP/ sign up for potluck.

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

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

***NEW* Summer Bible Study** -- 9:30am on Tuesdays

7/15, 8/5, 8/19

Please contact Gina at gina.hamwey@gmail.com for meeting locations, or reach out if you are new to moms group or the parish!

**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.hamwey@gmail.com with any questions.

CODE --**BREAKER!**

The sentence below is to be found in one of today's readings. Can you break the code and write in the sentence? Here are two clues:
D = I, and Z = E.

Crossword solution from last week

F	O	E	S		S	T	A	R	S
A			E			E			O
I	S	A	A	C		N			O
T		L			R	E	T	U	R
H	O	L	Y			S			
P					L	T		K	
S	E	A	T		A	P	R	O	N
O	N		H		M		U		E
N		H	E	L	P		S		W
		M		S		T			

D CVQZ XJHZ OJ NZO

OCZ ZVMOC JI ADMZ,

VIY CJR D RDNC DO

RZMZ VGMZVYT WGVUDIB.

ANSWER

I have come to set the earth on fire, and how I wish it were already blazing.

Hey Parents!

Religious Education and High School Ministry begin in September.
Are YOUR kids registered??

Register easily online at
strochoxford.com/religious-education-registration

Full class schedule for all grades is on the parish website.

strochoxford.com

Help is needed with grounds maintenance.

Any help will be much appreciated. Please contact the rectory office at 508-987-8987 if you are able to give a hand. Thank you!



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!

WOULD YOU LIKE TO HELP FEED THE HUNGRY?



Can You Cook A Batch of American Chop Suey?

The St. Vincent de Paul Society is looking for people to help by making a pot of American Chop Suey for *Rachel's Table* (an organization in Worcester that feeds those less fortunate) once a month. Dates will be announced in the bulletin.

This cooking involves a very simple recipe. **Brown 1 pound of hamburger. Drain. Add 1 jar of spaghetti sauce. Cook 1 box of elbow macaroni. Mix all together and place in a gallon zip lock bag.**

The next collection day is Monday, September 1st.

Oxford Ecumenical Food Shelf

The Oxford Ecumenical Food Shelf thanks you for your continued support!

We need non-perishable food items such as canned vegetables (peas, carrots, green beans, etc.), and packaged cereals and pasta. Also needed: canned pasta, jams and jellies, and soups.

Please leave your donations in the Food Shelf DROP BOX located in the bins inside the front doors of the church.

If you need help providing food for yourself or your family, please come to see us.

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.



SEEKING MEANING, TRUTH & COMMUNITY?

You're not alone! Join others to explore Catholicism through OCIA



- 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 Lavalley, Andrea Boyle, Melissa Dube, William Patrick Bernard, Peter Giles, Michelle, Susan Maass, Jack Hamilton, Paul Neboski.