

THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



Jesus said to them,
"Come after me, and I will
make you fishers of men."

At once they left their
nets and followed Him.

Matthew 4:19-20



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,

The Mass 2025/6, Issue Sixteen

After the Priest prays the preface prayer at the beginning of the celebration of the Eucharist, where he gives thanks for the act about to happen, and recalls creation and salvation history – discussed in issue fourteen – the Priest, offering everything to the Father, through the Son, in the Holy Spirit, sings with the people the “Sanctus,” the “Holy, Holy, Holy.” This prayer unites the Eucharistic Prayer in the Church on earth with the liturgy that is happening at the same time in our heavenly homeland. We stand in this moment with all the saints and angels as we all sing in unison.

In issue eleven, we discussed the Greek word anamnesis, which as we mentioned, is our exit from our concept of space and time and we enter into the eternal. This is when heaven and earth come together, as well as past, present, and future. We stand at the Mass with all the saints and angels, worshipping together. We are present and partaking at the actual Last Supper. We are present on Mount Calvary at the crucifixion. We are not just remembering or recalling, but we make present the passion, death, and resurrection of our LORD. This fulfills His command to “do this in memory of Me.” Anamnesis is the transforming of our memory into a present reality. The Mass connects us directly with the Paschal Mystery of the LORD. With this in mind, we move to the Eucharistic Prayers. I will walk us through the Canon or the First Eucharistic Prayer, which is the standard one that can be used in any circumstance. As in all the Eucharistic Prayers, even though they may have some different prayers, and formatted slightly differently, all have the same components. As we looked at in the last issue, all Eucharistic Prayers have: the Thanksgiving, the Acclamation, the Epiclesis, the Institution Narrative and Consecration, the Anamnesis, the Oblation, the Intersession, and the Concluding Doxology.

We have already extensively covered the Preface (thanksgiving), the Acclamation (Holy, Holy, Holy), and Anamnesis, so I will not re-cover these aspects in this section. In the Canon (Eucharistic Prayer I), after praying the proper Preface, and after the Acclamation, all kneel to show profound reverence, adoration, humility, and submission to God's presence. The Priest then prays humbly to the Father, through the Son, for Him to accept and bless the offering that we make. The Priest then does the sign of the cross over the gifts that were placed on the altar to bless them. The Priest continues his prayer, praying for the whole Church, but not only the Church, the whole world, and we pray along with our Pope and Bishop. The Priest prays for all the people gathered and all who are dear to them. The prayer is for the redemption of souls, health, and wellbeing. The Priest then invokes the intersession of Mary, Joseph, the Apostles, and the Martyrs of Rome who shed their blood for Christ. It is the Communion of Saints and our communion with the Church Triumphant (the Church in heaven).

The Priest then continues praying to the Father, through the Son, that the Father accepts the oblation of our service, asking for our days to be ordered in peace, that we may be delivered from eternal damnation, and counted among the flock of His chosen. At this point the Priest transitions into the Epiclesis, where the Priest prays that the Holy Spirit comes down to bless, acknowledge, and approve our offering. The Priest prays that our offering will become spiritual and acceptable so that it may become the Body and Blood of the Father's most beloved Son, Jesus Christ. During the Epiclesis the Priest's hands move from the Orans Position, representing the Priest (being in the person of Christ), his total sacrifice, humility, and praise as he intercedes to the Father on behalf of the people – to hands hovering over the offering on the altar becoming a conduit of the Holy Spirits' descent to the altar, overshadowing the gifts making them holy. This is the first time that we hear the Sanctus Bells, calling attention to this high holy moment.

Folding his hands, the Priest, begins the Institution Narrative, recalling what was happening at the Last Supper in the Upper Room. As he begins to recount the event, he takes the host into his hands, then at the conclusion of the narrative, he bows and proclaims the words of Christ for the consecration of the bread into the body of Christ. During this time the Priest is “in persona Christi capitis,” in the person of Christ the head. After he finishes the words of consecration, the Priest elevates the body for all to worship in which the Sanctus Bells ring three times to call attention to this most holy moment. After placing the body into the paten (the holy plate that holds the offering and Eucharist), the Priest genuflects before the LORD present on the altar. The Priest then takes the chalice and continues with the narrative of the Last Supper, then after the narrative the Priest bows again and proclaims the words of Christ consecrating the wine into the blood of Christ. At the conclusion of the consecration, the Priest elevates the blood for all to worship in which the Sanctus Bells ring three times to call attention to this most holy moment. The Priest then places the chalice back on the altar with the body and genuflects before the LORD present on the altar, once again. The Priest then proclaims, “The mystery of faith,” and all proclaim in song with the choir, the death and resurrection of the LORD. We will continue with the second half of the Eucharistic Prayer next time.

With all my love and blessings from God,

Fr. Jim

Mass Intentions



Saturday, January 24	4:00 pm	Pat & Pete Carbonneau by the family
Sunday, January 25	8:30 am	John Prunier (7th Anniversary) by Jill Carter
	11:00 am	Nellie Walpole by daughter Debra
Monday, January 26	8:30 am	Alyse Walsh (4th Anniversary) by Grandmother, brothers & sisters, Mom & Dad
Tuesday, January 27	8:30 am	The Parishioners of St. Roch Church
Wednesday, January 28	8:30 am	Marie Harrington & family (living) by Paula Miner & Ken Mills
Thursday, January 29	No Mass	
Friday, January 30	6:00 pm	Glen Silliman by David Dumais
Saturday, January 31	4:00 pm	Griffin & Jones family members (living) by Pat Jones
Sunday, February 1	8:30 am	Walter P. McCarthy by the family
	11:00 am	Yvonne Reeks by daughter Yvonne Nelson & family

Sacrificial Offering

JANUARY 17 & 18

Offertory Envelopes	3,423.00
Online Giving	80.00
Fuel	1,448.00
Other sources of income	<u>108.00</u>
	4,979.00

Pancake Breakfast Fundraiser

Sunday, February 15



Please join St. Roch's *American Heritage Girls* and *Trail Life USA* for a pancake breakfast after the 8:30 AM Mass. The suggested donation is \$5 per person, with a \$20 cap for families.



SOCK DRIVE



Please consider dropping off new socks, hats and mittens for adults and children in the designated bins by the doors of the church.

Thank you for your generosity towards others.



ST. VINCENT DE PAUL CALENDAR

January: Collect socks, hats & mittens

March: Deliver Easter flowers to shut-in parishioners

April: Collect items for Mother's Day gift bags



Monthly: Donations of Chop Suey to Rachel's Table



Scouts will be available to discuss their programs and will handle all cooking, setup, cleanup, and activities in the parish hall. Come enjoy breakfast and support our scouts!



Training Workshop for Parish Respect Life Ministries

The Respect Life Office of the Diocese of Worcester will offer "Respect Life Ministry in the Parish: The Church's Vision" on **Saturday, January 24, 2026 from 10:00-11:30 a.m. at St. Joseph Parish**, 10 H Putnam Rd. Ext., Charlton. The workshop will be presented by Allison LeDoux, director of the diocesan Respect Life Office, in the Cornerstone. St. Joseph and St. Roch parishes would like to form a combined pro-life ministry. If you would like to be involved, or would simply like to learn more about it, there is something for everyone in this basic training session for parish volunteers. To register, please contact Bob Brady at rcbdvml@charter.net or call 774-452-1677 by January 22.

Online Giving
Welcome to
Online Giving

SIGN UP TODAY!

How many times do we forget our envelope at home or miss a collection? Online giving

allows us to schedule weekly, monthly, or other intervals for giving options. Online giving offers us total control to change or cancel at anytime as our situation changes, and we will never miss an opportunity to give again.

Scan this QR Code or:

<https://strochoxford.com/online-giving>





John & Bev Makowski, Cynthia Clark, David Dumais, Ann Caplette, Deacon Jim Denning, Jay and Jon Moore, Rose, Jill, Desirae, Jenn, Rayana and Julie, Fern Goldsmith, Cameron Chickering, Evelina Piscopo, Annmarie Morrissey, Julia Krasinskas, Paula Kapurch, June Deary, 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, Pam Jackman, Leonard Marcotte, Chloe Jones, Jane Desy Montigny, 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, Barbara Wessell, Barry Fanion, Laura Kida, Sr. Jeanne Rouillard, Vinnie Rivers, David Breault, Gail Dunham, Tyler Tremblay, Patrick Driscoll, Sr., Michael Orciuch.



Saint Roch extends our Sincere Appreciation to **Paradis-Givner Funeral Home** for their generous donation towards the

Religious Art Calendars for the parish.

These calendars are available on the front and back pews of the church.

Please take one home for reference during the coming year.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED



We are looking for volunteers to help our custodial staff with **snow shoveling** at both properties. It is important to get an early start before morning Masses to clear away the snow and salt the walkways and stairs before our parishioners arrive.

Any help is always welcome and appreciated!

COME, SING TO THE LORD!
Calling all singers and musicians !!!

The Choir: IS SEEKING NEW MEMBERS!!
Please join us for practice on Tuesdays at 5:00 pm in the choir loft or contact John Drahos (508) 667-4073, jdrahos@charter.net

The Contemporary / Folk Group: IS ALSO SEEKING NEW MEMBERS!!!
Please contact John Drahos (508) 667-4073, jdrahos@charter.net, to talk about how you can share the gifts God has given you!



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS COUNCIL #4241

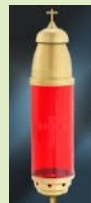
Meeting every *first Tuesday* of the month at 6:30 pm. All meetings will be held downstairs in the hall at **St. Roch's Church**.

We try to help our church and church family individually as well as a group to make the world a better place. We are always looking for new Brothers to help with our mission! You may contact us by email to: kofcoxfordmass.org

ST. ROCH CEMETERY NEWS

Winter decorations may be placed on the cemetery lots. Please be sure that all decorations are placed by the monument or on top of the flat marker.

We recommend removing small statues and lamps before winter. We will not be responsible for any broken items. For more information call the rectory office at (508) 987-8987.



334 CLUB WEEKLY \$25 WINNERS

— Week 6 —



- # 225 Jadwiga Palkon
- # 553 Irene Bastardo
- # 226 Denise Bourassa
- # 224 Richard Nolin

CONGRATULATIONS!!

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.

Sr. Jeanne Rouillard
Alliance Health at Maria Esther
720 Boston Post Rd. East—Room 179
Marlborough, MA 01752

Deacon Jim Denning
Beaumont Rehabilitation
238 West Main St.



American Heritage Girls and Trail Life USA

WE NEED YOUR HELP!



It has now been about seven months since AHG and TLUSA chartered here at Saint Roch. These groups are thriving and we have lots of kiddos running around learning skills and all about their Christian Faith. But we need your help because we don't have enough adult leaders. Because of this issue we will have to start turning children away because we will not have the correct ratio. Please give the office a call if you are able to assist us in forming children with important life skills and in their faith.



For more information please see our website at <https://strochoxford.com/american-heritage-girls> or <https://strochoxford.com/trail-life-usa> or scan the QR codes.



Religious Education & Youth Nights Schedule 2026

January Sessions:

1/25 - K-6th Grade Religious Ed
@9:30-10:45 AM at Parish Center
- 7th/8th Grade Session
@5:00-7:00 PM at St. Anthony in Dudley

February Sessions:

2/1 - K-8th Grade Religious Ed
@9:30-10:45 AM at Parish Center
- High School Session @4:00-7:30 PM
at St. Joseph Basilica in Webster

2/8 - K-8th Grade Religious Ed
@9:30-10:45 AM at Parish Center

2/22 - K-6th Grade Religious Ed
@9:30-10:45 AM at Parish Center
- 7th/8th Grade Session
@5:00-7:00 PM at St. Joseph in Webster



BIBLE DETECTIVE

See what you can discover for yourself about the background to the readings.

THE BOOK OF ISAIAH

The Church has always seen this passage from Isaiah as a reference to the coming of Jesus. (He was the "great light.")

Can you find where the "land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali" were?

The passage refers to "the day of Midian." That event had happened long before, when an enemy nation known as Midian had been oppressing the Israelites. An Israelite hero called Gideon had, with a tiny force, managed to defeat the Midianite army. The story of Gideon is in the Book of Judges in the Bible. See what you can find out about him.

ST. ROCH'S CATHOLIC MOMS GROUP
INVITES YOU TO A ***DAY EARLY***

Valentine's Day Party

FRIDAY 2/13/26 @ 9:30 - 10:30 A.M.
IN ST. ROCH'S PARISH HALL

Moms and children are invited to a morning of love-themed fun! Bring a treat to share, learn about St. Valentine, and make crafts and valentine's for your loved ones!

To help us get a headcount, please RSVP to
catholicmoms.strochoxford@gmail.com

FILL IN THE GAPS

The sentences below are missing key words. Can you find the correct ones? (They are all in today's readings.)

- The _____ who walked in _____ have seen a great _____.
- The _____ is my light and my _____; whom should I _____?
- _____ did not send me to _____ but to preach the _____.
- When Jesus heard that John had been _____, he _____ to _____.
- _____ your lives! The _____ of heaven is at _____.

ANSWERS

1. people, darkness, light 2. Lord, salvation, fear
3. Christ, baptize, gospel 4. arrested, withdrew, Galilee
5. Reform, kingdom, hand

THANKS TO OUR ADVERTISERS!

The best way to thank these generous people is to refer to your bulletin when you need goods or services. We owe them a real debt of gratitude. Tell them that you saw their ad in the parish bulletin, thus encouraging their continued support. There is a definite relationship built when our advertisers feel that their support is meaningful and worthwhile. Please help us encourage them to continue to provide a quality Parish Bulletin for you.

St. Joseph Thrift Shop

Hours: Tuesday: 10am~2pm, Friday: 10am~2pm
Saturday: 9am~1pm

68 Central St. Auburn, MA

Enjoy looking over the clothes, bric a brac, jewelry, toys and so much more. Cash and Carry only. We cannot accept checks or credit cards. No returns ~ Prices are firm
Not Handicap accessible

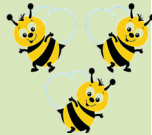
SLEEPING BAGS FOR THE HOMELESS

The Golden Bees Group at the *United Church of Christ, Federated in Webster*, has been putting together "Sleeping Bags for the Homeless" for over 30 years.

They are looking for gently used blankets, comforters, and bedspreads to help continue their ministry. Donations can be put in the marked bin downstairs inside the church hall of St. Roch Church. For pick up please call Charlene Lachapelle 508-987-3003.

PLEASE: ONLY BEDDING!

THANK YOU FOR YOUR DONATIONS!!



Oxford Ecumenical Food Shelf

The Oxford Ecumenical Council, our volunteers and the families we support are grateful for your generosity during this holiday season. We appreciate your donations for our Thanksgiving and Christmas dinner fixings bags. Thank you.

To help us restock our shelves in the coming weeks, we need non-perishable food items such as canned vegetables (peas, carrots, green beans, potatoes, 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.

Located in the lower level of the Oxford Community Center, 4 Maple Road, the Oxford Food Shelf is open on Thursdays, 4:30 to 6:30 pm, except holidays. 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.



The Franciscan University School of Spiritual Direction is offering an **Open House** for those interested in training to be certified Spiritual Directors at their satellite program in Putnam, Connecticut.

The Open House will be held at 7:00 PM on Thursday, January 29, 2026, at the Immaculate Conception Center

(600 Liberty Hwy, Putnam, CT). All are welcome to attend; no prior training is required. For more information, please visit immaculateconceptioncenter.org or call 860-928-7955.

"Shine like lights in the world as you hold on to the word of life." Are you called to belong to Christ alone as a priest, deacon or through the consecrated life?

Contact the
Vocation Office at (508) 630-4473
or email: donato.infante@gmail.com.



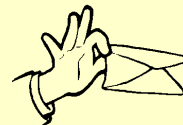
GOD'S HELPING HANDS

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!



Important Notice Regarding Offertory Envelopes

Beginning in January, those who drop checks in the collection baskets without an envelope will no longer receive envelope recordings. Please use your envelopes so we can accurately provide you with an annual contribution statement at the end of the year.

Those who remit directly with their financial institutions or use the Online Giving module will be recorded. No envelope needed.

Those that receive envelopes and have not used them for over six months will be discontinued to save the expense of printing and mailing.

If you do not receive offertory envelopes and would like to, please call the rectory office at 508-987-8987 to enroll.

We thank you for your continued generosity & understanding.