



May 6, 2018

6th Sunday OF EASTER

"It was not you who chose me, but I who chose you and appointed you to go and bear fruit that will remain." - Jn 15:16A

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

MASS SCHEDULE

Vigil Mass (Saturday): 4:00 pm
Sunday Masses: 8:00 & 10:00 am
Weekday Masses
(Mon., Thurs. & Fri.): 9:00 am
Holy Day Masses: 9:00 am & 5:30 pm

RECONCILIATION: Saturdays 3:00-3:30 pm

BAPTISM: By Appointment

Please see the Pastor after Mass for a form.

Baptisms must be scheduled at least one month in advance.

Baptism Preparation: **Mrs. Sheila Slik**
 by appointment only.

SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE:

Please contact the Pastor to make an appointment
twelve months in advance before making
 plans for reception and wedding date.

St. Christopher Church

950 West Boylston Street
 Worcester, MA 01606



"Behold Saint Christopher...
 ...Go Thy Way
 in Safety"

CONTACT US

Rectory: Phone 508-853-1492; FAX 508-853-4338

Religious Ed./Church Hall/Bingo: 508-853-3302

Email: parish@stchristopherparishworchester.org

Web Site: www.stchristopherworchester.org

Office Hours: Monday-Thursday, 8 a.m.-2 p.m.
 Office is closed on Friday.

Rev. Stanley F. Krutcik, Pastor
frstanley@stchristopherparishworchester.org

Deacon John N. Barton
 Safe Environment Coordinator

Mrs. Diane Dadah
 Administrator of Religious Education
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James Joinville – Music Director


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 Administrative Assistant
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John Slik - Building & Maintenance

Leo Pedone - Bingo Chairman

MASS INTENTIONS



Sixth Sunday of Easter

Saturday, May 5th

4:00pm **Mass**

Sunday, May 6th

8:00am **For our Parish Family**

10:00am **For our First Communion Candidates**

Monday, May 7th

9:00am **Mass**

Tuesday, May 8th

No Mass

Wednesday, May 9th

No Mass

Thursday, May 10th (The Ascension of the Lord)

9:00am **Mass**

5:30pm **Francis Kivior, 1-Month's Remembrance,**
by Vicky & Tom and The Kivior Family

Friday, May 11th

9:00am **Christine Cierpich,**
by her Sister

Seventh Sunday of Easter

Saturday, May 12th

4:00pm **For All Mothers**

Sunday, May 13th (Mother's Day)

8:00am **For All Mothers**

10:00am **For All Mothers**

Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord Thursday, May 10th



Masses for the Holy Day
will be celebrated at both
9:00 a.m. and 5:30 p.m.

Join us as we commemorate the
bodily ascension of Jesus into heaven.

ST. CHRISTOPHER'S PRAYER LINE

If you have a request for prayers, or know of someone who might, please call and leave a message for me. All we need is the person's first name and the nature of the request (example: Annie - for successful operation).



I will contact those on the Prayer Line
to add the intention to their list.

Also, if you want to join us in prayer,
please call Janet Stank at 508-852-8117.



FAITH IN ACTION
*Loving God by
serving others*

THANK YOU to all our parishioners who have made their annual gift to the 2018 Partners in Charity Appeal, and a special thank you to those who gave for the first time. However, we need the support of all members of our parish if we are to be successful in reaching our parish goal.

St. Christopher's Parish has now raised \$15,195 from 81 gifts received thus far, putting us at 44.9% toward our goal of \$33,800!

If you have not yet made a gift or pledge, please consider all of your blessings and fill out a commitment pledge envelope located in the pews. Checks should be made payable to "Partners in Charity."

You can also make your gift online at www.partners-charity.net. Whatever you can do to donate or pledge to Partners in Charity will be very much appreciated. Please watch the Appeal Video at <https://vimeo.com/255598536> to see how others rely so greatly on your generosity.



Partners in Charity serves twenty-eight charitable, educational and pastoral ministries. Please pray for the success of our drive at St. Christopher's as we all try to support the wonderful works of charity made possible by our generosity. Thank You.

Fr. Stanley

HANDICAP PARKING & ACCESSIBILITY

Although our church building is not technically handicap accessible, we are trying to do whatever we can to facilitate access for those who have difficulty walking and/or climbing stairs. Please help us by leaving the handicap spaces, as well as all parking spaces abutting the grass areas near the church building, open for those who might need them.

Also, a reminder that the entrance into the church from the large parking lot has the fewest steps into the building. If you or a loved one has difficulty with stairs, that side entrance near the large parking lot offers your best choice for access.



THE 33RD ANNUAL
WALK FOR THE HOMELESS



Elm Park, Worcester
Sunday, May 20th at 2:00 p.m.

This annual event benefits programs of Central Massachusetts Housing Alliance, Friendly House, the Interfaith Hospitality Network and St. John's Food for the Poor.

A Walk for the Homeless Special will air on WCTR TV3 (Channel 193) on Saturday, May 12th at 6:00 p.m. A rebroadcast of the program will air on Sunday, May 13th at 6:00 a.m. and on Wednesday, May 16th at 9:30 a.m. Visit www.cmhaonline.org for more information. Go to www.walkforthehomeless.org to sign up.



St. Mary's School Auditorium
50 Richland Street, Worcester
Saturday, May 5th at 7:30 p.m.
Sunday, May 6th at 2:30 p.m.

General seating tickets are \$10.
Reserved seating tickets are \$12.

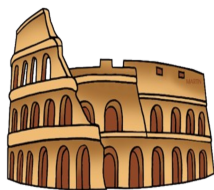
All proceeds support St. Mary's Drama Program.
Call 508-753-1170 for more information.

Pilgrimage to Fatima and Rome

There is still space to register for the September pilgrimage with Fr. Donato Infante and Deacon Steve Kohut to Fatima & Rome, where Worcester seminarian, Alfredo Porras is scheduled to be ordained.

Deadline is May 25th.

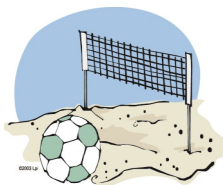
For more information, visit
<http://www.johnpaultours.com/sjcc>.



Please remember in your prayers the following who will receive the Sacrament of First Communion this Sunday, May 6th at the 10:00 a.m. Mass:

Andrew Cassella
Brennan Hewes
Isabella Krow
Jack Walton

DIOCESAN VOLLEYBALL LEAGUE



The Diocesan Youth Office will once again be starting its Summer Volleyball League and will be using our volleyball courts. There will be both tournament & recreational teams.

Unfortunately, St. Christopher's does not currently have a coach/coaches to host a team. **If anyone is interested in coaching a team, please see Fr. Stanley or Deacon John, or call the rectory.** Any parish youth currently in grades 7-12 are eligible to play. Volleyball games are played on Monday nights & the season runs from June 18th—August 13th. A coaches volleyball meeting is scheduled for May 9th.

ST. CHRISTOPHER'S RETIRED CLUB

St. Christopher's Church Hall

Next Meeting: Wednesday, May 16th at 1 p.m.

This year's spring luncheon will be held on Wednesday, June 6th at 12:00 noon at Val's Restaurant in Holden. For more details about the Retired Club or the luncheon, call Phyllis Carrigan at 508-853-2649.



This Week

Sunday, May 6th

Coffee Shop
First Communion

Monday, May 7th

Wachusett Community Band Practice

Tuesday, May 8th

Religious Education Office Hours

Thursday, May 10th

Holy Day Masses

Religious Education Office Hours

Friday, May 11th

Bingo (Call Leo at 508-853-9492 to help.)

Sunday, May 13th (Mother's Day)

Coffee Shop

Following the 8:00am Mass
10:00am Mass

Church Hall
Church

6:30-8:30pm

Church Hall

10:00am-2:00pm

Rel. Ed. Office/Church Hall

9:00am & 5:30pm

Church

6:30-7:30pm

Rel. Ed. Office/Church Hall

7:00pm

Church Hall

Following 8:00am Mass

Church Hall

Offertory Collection

Weekly Goal:	\$3,551
Last weekend:	\$3,049
Deficit:	(\$ 502)
Number of Envelopes:	102
Loose Money:	\$ 448
Air Conditioning (to date):	\$9,539
Year-to-Date Budget:	\$124,285
Year-to-Date Collections:	105,200
Year-to-Date Electronic Payments:	13,182
Year-to-Date Deficit:	(\$ 5,903)

This weekend's second collection is for
Parish Renovation & Maintenance.

Thank you for your continued support!

Just to keep you Informed... It may take well into the summer months, but our Snow Plowing costs in the area of \$16,000 will gradually get paid. And--- now we begin grass and outdoor maintenance costs!

And we can't forget the repairs of \$4100 to the leaks in the heating pipes in the hall.

The four Sanctuary Lights that definitely **need to be replaced** with LED fixtures/bulbs won't happen anytime soon, because the company re-searching and working on the proposal, just cannot seem to understand what we need and what they want to do.

So, once again, we have to start from the beginning. (I guess we just have to remember the book of Genesis: "*In the beginning, there was Light...*"! —which is what we don't have right now!)

We are also still awaiting news on replacing the Fire Alarm Master Box at a cost of \$3000. —it is an upgrade that is not an option because of the Fire Dep't upgrade of replacing the "phone line" system to wireless monitoring.

And....we will soon have news about replacing "special occasion padded" hall chairs that keep breaking and some of the 60 year old metal hall chairs. Anyone interested in making a donation toward the purchase of some new chairs can talk to Fr. Stanley or Deacon John.



And as always---
Thank You---for your
generosity and support of
St. Christopher's!

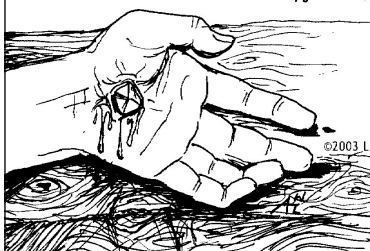


"This is my commandment: love one another as I love you. No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends"

~John 15:12-13

Greater love hath no man
than this, that a man lay down
his life for his friends.

/John 15:13/



Do you love Jesus?
Do you consider Him
your friend?
Jesus says that if we
love Him we would be
willing to offer
whatever we have to
Him, not because we
want praise and glory,
but simply because
we love Him.

Does your giving seem mechanical out of obligation or do you share freely out of love?

All are urged to watch a
short 8 1/2 minute video at
<https://vimeo.com/255598536>
to learn how others rely so
greatly on your donations.

To donate online, visit www.partners-charity.net.



Upcoming Events from BLESSED SACRAMENT PARISH

Bereavement Support Group

Thursday, May 10th from 6:30-8:00 p.m.
Epiphany House, 551 Pleasant St., Worcester

Prayer Shawl Ministry & Operation Ranger Rosary

Saturday, May 12th from 1:00-3:00 p.m.
Phelan Center, 551 Pleasant St., Worcester

Praying the Rosary on Feast of Our Lady of Fatima

Saturday, May 12th from 3:00-4:00 p.m.
Blessed Sacrament Church, 551 Pleasant St., Worc.

Call the rectory at 508-755-9152 for more information.



SATURDAY, MAY 12th

Food will be collected in Worcester
and most surrounding areas.

Leave non-perishable and
non-expired food items in bags
wherever you receive your mail.
Food will be distributed to food
pantries in Worcester and towns
which hold the collection.

50-50 CLUB

The winner for week 3
(April 30, 2018)

#57 - Carolyn Payson

Good luck to all our 50/50 members!





Blessed Sacrament Parish Phelan Center
551 Pleasant Street, Worcester
Saturday, May 12th from 9:00 a.m.-2:30 p.m.

Centering Prayer is a simple method of Christ-centered silent prayer. It can lead to a deeper prayer life, personal healing, spiritual transformation, and a closer union with God. This workshop will be led by Fr. Joseph Manship who is certified by Contemplative Outreach, Ltd. as a Centering Prayer Presenter.

Fee is \$25. Refreshments & lunch will be provided.

Register by downloading a registration form at <https://blessedsacrament.us/>. Mail completed form and fee by May 8th to Centering Prayer Workshop, Blessed Sacrament Parish, 551 Pleasant Street, Worcester, MA 01602.



"I have called you friends."

Authentic friendship can seem hard to come by these days, especially in our transient society. We move away from family, change jobs, switch parishes, and end up in entirely new places with entirely new people. When we look for new friends, we all have different qualities we're looking for. While we may think of certain standards of behavior necessary to be a "good" friend, we would hardly refer to them as rules or "commandments."

In fact, if a friendship or romantic relationship—new or old—becomes characterized by imposed obligations, we would rightly be suspicious.

Friendships, we understand, ought to be characterized by freedom. We love the person, even sacrifice for them at times because, within ourselves, we want to maintain the friendship. So why does Jesus use the language of command as he calls the Apostles his friends? "You are my friends if you do what I command you."

Jesus is radically transforming the concept of commandment. In the Jewish heritage of the Apostles, they would hear the word "command" and immediately think of the strict Levitical law and distance from God. In introducing the language of friendship, Jesus ties "commandment" to inner freedom of heart. The disciples have this freedom precisely because they know "what [the] Master is doing." Jesus has invited his followers into intimate friendship all along. He shares openly with them. He has patience with their flaws. He isn't scandalized by their failures. He celebrates their successes. We, too, have been called by love and invited into a relationship with Jesus. It is you and I that Jesus chooses and appoints. He does so personally, not from a distant mountain shrouded in clouds. This "new commandment" to "love one another" is received around the shared table in the breaking of the bread.



**"Annunciations -
 Mary's 'Yes' and Ours"
 St. Anne's Convent,
 720 Boston Post Rd. East
 Marlborough, MA
 Saturday, May 19th
 9:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m.**

What is true for Mary is true for all of us when we open our hearts to receive God's invitation for the deep mystery of incarnation to unfold in our lives.

Joanne Fantini, CSJA, a full-time retreat staff member at Eastern Point Retreat House in Gloucester, will be the presenter for this morning of prayer. Registration fee is \$10, paid at the door. The day begins with "coffee and," followed by a brief presentation, prayer, personal reflection & discussion. Pre-registration is required by May 11th by emailing womenoffaithssa@gmail.com, by calling Ann Williams at 508-481-8176 or by visiting their website at WomenOfFaithSSA.org.

**"MISGIVINGS"
 The Gym at
 St. Bernard Church
 228 Lincoln Street
 Worcester
 Saturday, May 12th**

Our Lady of Providence Parish will host this event.

The one-man show is a "divine" comedy of belly laughs, blessings, blarney and bingo!

The evening begins with a Social Hour at 5:00 p.m., Dinner at 6:00 p.m. and Showtime at 7:00 p.m. Tickets are \$25 & there will be a 50/50 raffle.

Call Renee Jalbert at the Parish Office at 508-755-3820 for reservations or information.