

September 16, 2018

24th

SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

"Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me." - Mk 8:34b

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

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MASS SCHEDULE

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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.
Parish office is closed on Friday.

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

Deacon John F. LeDoux

Mrs. Diane Dadah
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Administrative Assistant
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John Slik - Building & Maintenance

Leo Pedone - Bingo Chairman

MASS INTENTIONS

24th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Saturday, September 15th

4:00pm **For our Parish Family**

Sunday, September 16th

8:00am **Beatrice & Domenic Cerasuolo,**
by Family

10:00am **Robin Tilton, Birthday Remembrance,**
by Family

Monday, September 17th

9:00am **Mass**

Tuesday, September 18th

No Mass

Wednesday, September 19th

No Mass

Thursday, September 20th

9:00am **Mass**

Friday, September 21st

9:00am **Mass**

25th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Saturday, September 22nd

4:00pm **John Hackett,**
One Month's Remembrance,
by Carol DelleChiaie

Sunday, September 23rd

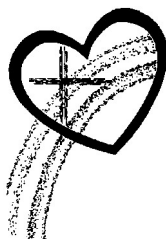
8:00am **Sylvia Payne,**
by Elizabeth & Jesse Knott

10:00am **Robert Triggs, 3rd Anniversary,**
by Wife, Donna

WORD FOR LIFE

"Sometimes our actions speak for themselves; other times, words are needed. Whatever the situation, Jesus knows how to speak to each person's heart; we simply need to follow where he leads."

*~USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities
"How to Build a Culture of Life
www.usccb.org/culture-of-life*



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.



Last Sunday was the first day of our **Religious Education Program**. It was wonderful to see many of our families at the 10 am Mass and the many youngsters for our Liturgy of the Word for the Children. Even though it was sad that not everyone could be present—(just as it is sad and discouraging when all the families are not here every week)—it was wonderful to take a few minutes for a meeting with the parents during class time, reminding everyone how very important it is to be examples and witnesses of the faith, celebrating the Mass each week, thankful that parents are so dedicated being here each week.

We may be gathered together in the Church under God's 'roof'—His Tent—His Dwelling—as separate individuals or separate families, but we worship and pray—at Mass, as His people, His Church—ONE family—a Parish Family, celebrating our life with Jesus Christ. It's the way we are fed and nourished each week, growing in the love and knowledge of God, the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

So, please pray for Diane & Sheila, all our dedicated Teachers and Religious Ed Families, and all our students, that God's Word may truly become the Living Word dwelling in their hearts and minds.

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Last weekend we welcomed

Deacon John LeDoux

to our Parish. Deacon John was previously assigned to Our Lady of the Holy Rosary Parish on Fales Street. Back in the 1990's for many years, Deacon John and his wife Allison and family were parishioners of Our Lady of Good Counsel Parish in West Boylston.

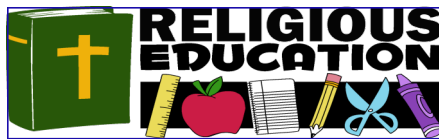
Please remember Deacon John in your prayers, that his work and ministry among us will be fruitful and filled with God's Grace and Blessings.

*All are invited to a
Welcome Reception for
Deacon John LeDoux
in the church hall on Sunday,
September 23rd following the
8:00 am & 10:00 am Masses.*

*We hope you can stop in
downstairs to personally
welcome our new deacon.*

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Sunday, September 16th

Grades 1-6 will meet from 11:00 a.m.-12:15 p.m. in the church hall.
Confirmation Candidate & Parent Meeting to be held at 11:00 a.m. in the church.

Sunday, September 23rd

Grades 7-9 will meet from 11:00 a.m.-12:15 p.m. in the church hall.
Confirmation Class will meet from 11:00 a.m.-12:15 p.m. in the church sacristy.

IMPORTANT: All students & parents are expected to attend Mass each weekend.



We are now accepting donations of new or gently-used items for the White Elephant Table at our upcoming Christmas Festival.

Donated items should be clean and should not include any food items, clothing, large furniture items, or opened or unsealed beauty products.

Please leave donations inside the church entrance doors, clearly marked "Christmas Festival."

Also, if you would like to volunteer to help with the Christmas Festival or if you have any questions, please call Diane at 508-852-5012 or Joe at 508-832-5098.

*Say **Thanks** to the advertisers who support our bulletin*

ST. CHRISTOPHER'S RETIRED CLUB **First Meeting of the 2018-2019 Season** **Wednesday, September 19th at 1:00 p.m.**



The Retired Club is open to all parishioners and their friends who are age 55 and older.
 Call Phyllis Carrigan at 508-853-2649 for more info.

2018 CURSILLO WEEKEND FOR WOMEN **Immaculate Conception Spiritual Renewal Center** **Putnam, CT**

Thursday, October 25th-Sunday, October 28th

Cursillo or "short course in Christianity" is an uplifting and educational experience.

The weekend is facilitated by a team of laypeople and clergy who deliver organized talks and discussions.

The weekend is full of laughter, prayer, great music, wonderful meals & more.
 Contact Sue Leighton at 508-278-3155 or by email at sleighton1958@gmail.com for more information.



Sunday, September 16th

Coffee Shop
 Religious Education Classes (Grades 1-6)
 Confirmation Candidate & Parent Meeting

Monday, September 17th

Wachusett Community Band Practice

Tuesday, September 18th

Religious Education Office Hours

Wednesday, September 19th

Retired Club Meeting

Thursday, September 20th

Religious Education Office Hours

Friday, September 21st

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

Sunday, September 23rd

Coffee Shop
 Religious Education Classes (Grades 7-9)
 Religious Education Class (Confirmation)

This Week

Following the 8:00am Mass
 11:00am-12:15pm
 11:00am

Church Hall
 Church Hall
 Church

6:30-8:30pm

Church Hall

10:00am-2:00pm

Rel. Ed. Office/Church Hall

1:00pm

Church Hall

6:30-7:30pm

Rel. Ed. Office/Church Hall

7:00pm

Church Hall

Following the 8:00am Mass
 11:00am-12:15pm
 11:00am-12:15pm

Church Hall
 Church Hall
 Church Sacristy

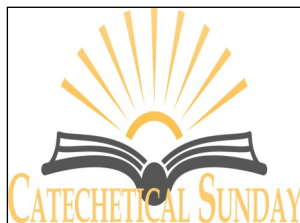
Offertory Collection

Weekly Goal:	\$3,551
Last Weekend:	<u>\$2,872</u>
Deficit:	(\$ 679)
Number of Envelopes:	99
Loose Money:	\$ 447
Collection for Religious Education:	\$ 599
Air Conditioning (to date):	\$11,807

Year-to-Date Budget:	\$ 7,102
Year-to-Date Collections:	5,653
Year-to-Date Electronic Payments:	280
Year-to-Date Deficit:	(\$ 1,169)

Thank you for your continued support of St. Christopher Church!

The word "catechesis" means "to echo." Literally, we are to echo the good news of Jesus Christ to the world. This is not a suggestion; it is a command of our Lord.



Some people are called and set apart in our communities as catechists, those formally trained and charged with passing on the Gospel to children and adults, inside and outside of our communities.

On Catechetical Sunday, we acknowledge them and remind ourselves of the need for formation and growth in all of us. To be a catechist is a privileged calling, and today be sure to say "thank you" to one in your community.

However, it would be wrong on this day to only look to those bearing the NAME of catechist for an echoing of good news. ALL of us are called to echo and share the Gospel message. Parents are the first and primary catechists in a child's life. But we also are important catechists in the lives of our coworkers, our spouses, our relatives, and our friends. Some say catechesis begins in the home, and while that is true, it carries with it a parent/child connotation. But where does catechesis really begin? It begins in the HEART.

This year on Catechetical Sunday, may your heart be moved to motivate you to share with others the good news of Jesus Christ.

50-50 CLUB

The winner for week 2
(September 10, 2018):
#31 - Rose Marie Mikitarian



Good luck to all our 50/50 members!

"Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me."

~Mark 8:34

When we truly believe that all we have is a gift from God, then we must be willing to give up some things so that we can share our blessings as God intended. Living a stewardship lifestyle means not only being responsible for our own life, but the lives of others as well.



FAMILY FESTIVAL

St. Mary Church, Summer Street, Shrewsbury
Saturday, September 15th ~ 12-7 p.m.
Sunday, September 16th ~ 12-5 p.m.

PARISH FAIR

St. Joseph Church
759 Main St., Leicester
Saturday, September 22nd
10 a.m.-4 p.m.

FALL FESTIVAL

St. Patrick Church
Cross Street, Whitinsville
Sunday, September 23rd
11 a.m.-4 p.m.



POLISH FALL FESTIVAL

Our Lady of Czestochowa's Church Hall
34 Ward Street, Worcester
Saturday, September 29th ~ 10 a.m.-6 p.m.
Sunday, September 30th ~ 8 a.m.-1 p.m.

FALL FAIR

Sacred Heart's Bell Tower Room/Parish Hall
East Main Street, Milford
Saturday, October 13th ~ 9 a.m.-3 p.m.

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ATTN: Business Owners, Professionals, Families, and Self-Employed

Richard Betro from Liturgical Publications is working on securing new ads for the advertisement section of our bulletin. We need your help! Please consider purchasing an ad. Advertisements can be purchased for a business, a family, a charity, in memory of a loved one, or to support an organization. Contact Richard Betro at 508-277-2417 or by email at rbetro@4lpi.com for more information.



We know the signs of defeat: slumped shoulders, downcast eyes, a chastened demeanor. For those of us sincerely trying to follow Jesus, defeat is inevitable. We commit to spending more time with our kids, but that one project still looms. We resolve to be a good person, but our selfishness strikes again. It can be easy to get discouraged over our moral failures. Today's Gospel is a small, intriguing look at this process in the life of St. Peter.

First, Jesus' questions get the Apostles thinking about his true identity. This results in a confession of faith from Peter: "You are the Christ." Eager faith characterizes Peter's relationship with Jesus. First to follow, first to leap out of the boat, and, we know, first to deny. It's the latter tendency that manifests itself later in the Gospel.

When Jesus predicts the Passion, "Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him." Jesus' rebuke in turn is stinging. While Peter's caution to Jesus is in private, Jesus intentionally turns back to the others as he declares, "Get behind me, Satan. You are thinking not as God does, but as human beings do."

Like Peter, we rarely get it right all the time. Peter understood that Jesus was the Messiah, but he had a false concept of what that Messiah would accomplish. Jesus wants to make sure the rest of the disciples don't follow down the wrong road. The Christian life is a difficult one, as Jesus later tells the crowds.

"Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself."

Yet the mercy of God is abundant.

If we renew our trust and our efforts after a fall, every defeat is transformed into redemptive grace.

"Whoever loses his life for my sake will save it."

ALPHA COURSE

St. Richard Church, 4 Bridge Street, Sterling
Sunday, Sept. 16th through Sunday, Dec. 16th

Alpha is a series of sessions exploring the Christian faith in a friendly, open and informal environment.

Do you have questions about life, such as, "Why am I here?" or "Is there more to life than this?"

All are invited on Sept. 16th at 6 p.m. for a free, light supper, followed by a 25-minute movie & small group discussions. Then, if you like what you see and hear, sign up! No pressure . . . no follow-up . . . no charge.

Visit website at www.sterlingalphacourse.com or email sterlingalphacourse@yahoo.com to sign up or get info.



Worcester Catholic Environmental Stewardship Conference

Hogan Center at College of the Holy Cross
Sunday, September 23rd from 1:00-4:30 p.m.

All are invited to attend this free conference which will focus on increasing awareness of Catholic social teaching on environmental protection. Speakers will include Bishop McManus, Fr. William Campbell, SJ, Dr. Katherine Kiel from Holy Cross, Secretary Matthew Beaton of Massachusetts, and a panel of parish leaders involved in environmentally-responsible programs.

Visit <http://environment.worcesterdiocese.org> to register.

Pilgrimage to the Holy Land and Jordan **March 17th - 28th, 2019**

St. Andrew Bobola Parish in Dudley is sponsoring a pilgrimage to Israel and Jordan. The all-inclusive cost with breakfasts & dinners is \$3,190 (double occupancy). Single room supplement is \$300.

Call Fr. Chris at 508-943-5633 or email rectory@standrewbobola.net for details.

Christ the King's Parish Hall
1052 Pleasant St., Worcester
Tuesday, September 18th
7:00-9:00 p.m.

All are invited to watch this new documentary movie on legalizing physician-assisted death and euthanasia.

The film will be followed by a discussion.

There is no cost. Call 508-754-5361 or visit the website at www.witnessforlife.com to register.

A three-minute YouTube "trailer" is also available for viewing on the website.



AMPLIFY

Holy Family of Nazareth Church, Leominster
Sunday, September 30th from 6:30-8:45 p.m.



All high school youth are invited to this free evening of food, games, prayer, community and worship.

To register or to get more information, visit www.neworchester.org/amplify-nights.

Deadline to register is September 21st.