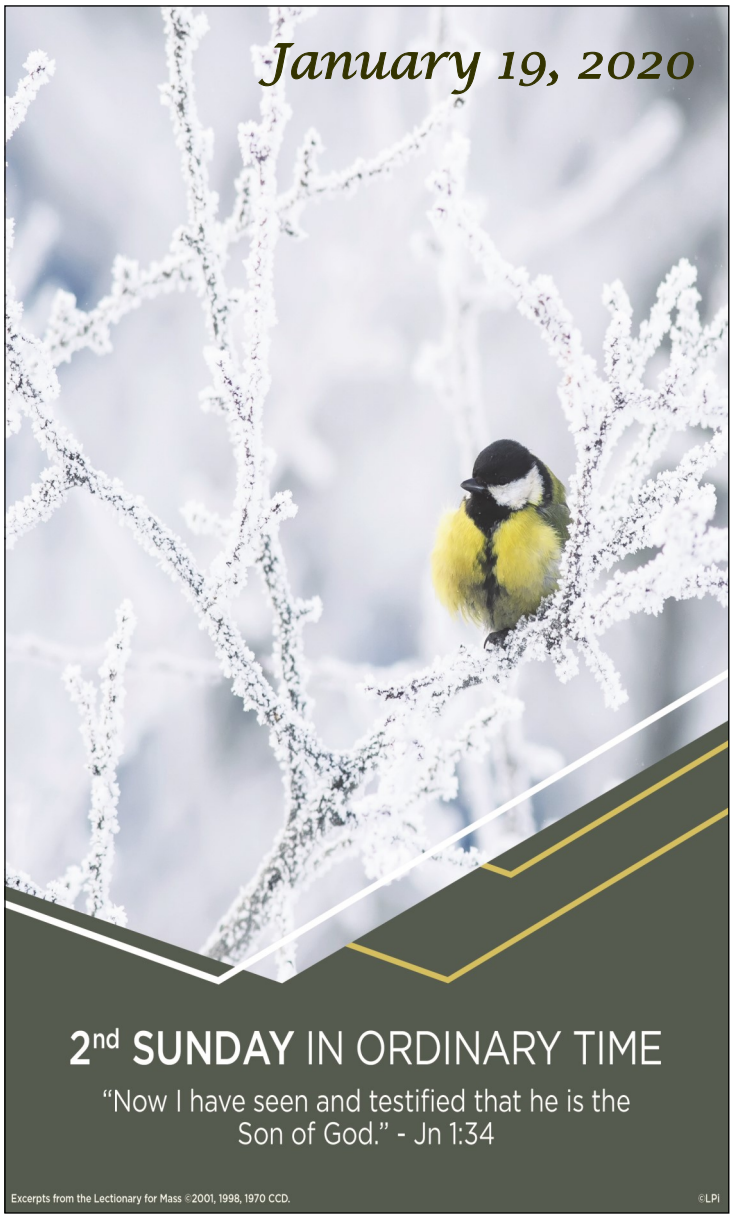

MASS SCHEDULE

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 3:00-3:30pm

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/talk to the Pastor after Mass 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@stchristopherparishworcester.org

Web Site: www.stchristopherworcester.org

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

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

Deacon John F. LeDoux

Mrs. Diane Dadah
Administrator of Religious Education
508-853-3302
religioused@stchristopherparishworcester.org

Mrs. Sheila Slik
Coordinator for the
Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA)
508-853-3302
religioused@stchristopherparishworcester.org

James Joinville – Music Director

Clesson Dupuis - Business Manager
busmgr@stchristopherparishworcester.org

Cindy Barnaby
Administrative Assistant
adminasst@stchristopherparishworcester.org

John Slik - Building & Maintenance

Leo Pedone - Bingo Chairman

We thank you for visiting us!

If you wish to become a parishioner of St. Christopher's, please see Fr. Stanley after Mass for a parish registration form.

MASS INTENTIONS

2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Saturday, January 18th
4:00pm **Frank & Blanche Ragaini,**
by Family
Sunday, January 19th
8:00am **Margaret "Anne" Kerivan,**
by Angela & Rich Halloran
10:00am **For our Parish Family**
Monday, January 20th
9:00am **Mass**
Tuesday, January 21st
No Mass
Wednesday, January 22nd
No Mass
Thursday. January 23rd
9:00am **Mass**
Friday, January 24th
9:00am **Mass**

3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Saturday, January 25th
4:00pm **Dr. Robert D. Ouellette, 3rd Anniversary,**
by Family
Sunday, January 26th
8:00am **For Health & Blessings for**
Agnes Zingarelli on her 101st Birthday
by Family
10:00am **Rev. Martin P. Donahue,**
1st Year Anniversary
by St. Christopher's Retired Club

ANNUAL MASS FOR LIFE
Cathedral of St. Paul, 19 Chatham St., Worc.
Thursday, January 23rd at 7:30 p.m.

All are invited to attend the annual Mass for Life as we remember the 47th tragic anniversary of Roe v. Wade and pray for an end to abortion and the conversion of our nation.
We will also pray in a special way for all those who will be travelling to Washington, DC for the March for Life. All are welcome!

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.

Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children
Wednesday, January 22nd

Good and gracious God, you
blew into our nostrils
the breath of life.
You are the One to whom
we owe our very existence.

Give us the courage to take that unpopular position of protecting those who have no voice, the unborn child in the womb to the person taking his or her last breath.

The life you have given us is a gift beyond measure. Embolden us to speak the truth about protecting the child, the elderly, and the one without a voice in the public square.

With thankful hearts, we ask all this of the One God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Amen *~LPi*
(Visit *www.worcesterdiocese.org/jan-22-day-of-prayer* to learn more.)

Tuesday, January 21st-Wednesday, January 29th

9 Days for Life is a novena for the protection of human life. Each day's intention is accompanied by a short reflection and suggested actions to help build a culture of life. Participants can receive the novena by downloading the free 9 Days for Life app, or by subscribing to daily emails or text messages. A printable version is also available online. Visit *www.9daysfor life.com* to sign up for the novena or for more information.

Note Regarding Mass in Winter Months

To keep heating costs down, Mass on Monday and Thursday mornings will be celebrated downstairs in the church hall. Please note that Friday morning Mass will always be held in the church. Also, daily morning Mass will be cancelled in the case of snowy or icy weather, especially when Worcester schools have a delay or cancellation.

On snowy mornings, please keep in mind that the church parking lot may not be plowed out as yet. Please be safe and do not venture out for Mass during hazardous weather conditions.

ST. CHRISTOPHER'S RETIRED CLUB

The Retired Club will not meet during the winter months of January & February.

NEXT MEETING:

Wednesday, March 18th at 1:00 p.m. in the church hall.

The Retired Club is open to all parishioners and their friends who are age 55 and older. Call Liz Knott at 508-852-2348 for more information.

WORD OF LIFE

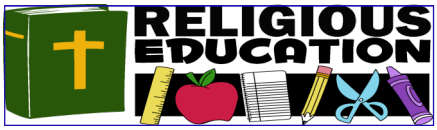
"If someone shared with you she was pregnant and hadn't ruled out having an abortion, would you know how to respond? . . . When a woman is facing a difficult pregnancy, the reaction of the first person she tells tends to set the tone for her decision-making. How do we respond to our friend in a loving way that is life-affirming for both her and her baby? Consider the four steps of the L.O.V.E. Approach™: **L**isten and Learn, **O**pen Options, **V**ision and Value, and **E**xtend and Empower."

~USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities
"What to Do When A Friend is Considering Abortion"
www.respectlife.org/l-o-v-e

Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Church

22 West Main Street, West Brookfield
Saturday, January 25th at 6:00 p.m.

The Knights of Columbus Council 11080 is sponsoring this dinner to benefit the Saint Vincent de Paul Society. Cost is $10; $8 for children 12 & under. Family rates are also available. Door prizes, raffles & more! Call 413-813-8100 for tickets.



Sunday, January 19th

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

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Sunday, January 26th

Grade 9 only will meet in the church hall from 9:00-10:00 a.m.

Grades 1-6 will meet in the church hall from 11:00 a.m.-12:15 p.m.

Confirmation Class (Grade 10) will meet in the church hall from 11:00 a.m.-12:15 p.m.

NOTE: Students & parents are expected to attend Mass each weekend.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Sacred Heart/St. Catherine of Sweden Church
596 Cambridge Street, Worcester
Wednesday, January 22nd
Begins after 9 a.m. Mass; concludes at 5 p.m.

All are invited to come to mark the sad anniversary of Roe v. Wade and pray for the protection of human life.

Rosary Rally

On the sidewalk outside Planned Parenthood
470 Pleasant Street, Worcester
Thursday, January 23rd ~ 11 a.m.-12 noon

All are invited to join the Rosary Rally in reparation for the sin of procured abortion.
For more information, contact Sandra at 508-799-7337.

This Week

Sunday, January 19th		
Coffee Shop	Following the 8:00am Mass	Church Hall
Religious Education Classes (Grades 7-9)	11:00am-12:15pm	Church Hall
Monday, January 20th		
NO Wachusett Community Band Practice		
Tuesday, January 21st		
NO Religious Education Office Hours		
NO Boy Scout Troop 9 Meeting		
Thursday, January 23rd		
Religious Education Office Hours	6:30-7:30pm	Rel. Ed. Office/Church Hall
Friday, January 24th		
Bingo (Call Leo at 508-853-9492 to volunteer to help)	7:00pm (Doors open at 6:30pm)	Church Hall
Sunday, January 26th		
Coffee Shop	Following the 8:00am Mass	Church Hall
Religious Education Class (Grade 9 only)	9:00-10:00am	Church Hall
Religious Education Classes (Grades 1-6)	11:00am-12:15pm	Church Hall
Religious Education Class (Confirmation-Grade 10)	11:00am-12:15pm	Church Hall

Offertory Collection

Weekly Goal:	$ 3,287
Last Weekend:	$ 3,072
Deficit:	($ 215)
Number of Envelopes:	100
Loose Money:	$ 497
Renovation & Maintenance:	$ 794
Air Conditioning (to date):	$ 16,582
Year-to-Date Budget:	$65,740
Year-to Date Collections:	52,886
Year-to Date Electronic Payments:	7,283
Year-to Date Deficit:	($ 5,571)

Thank you for your continued support!

20th Anniversary

Diocesan Catholic Men's Conference

Assumption College, Worcester

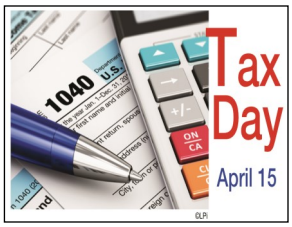
Saturday, March 28th

Men (of all ages, including teens and college students) are invited to this important 20th anniversary event. Hear dynamic talks from outstanding Catholic leaders—Dr. Scott Hahn (two presentations), Luis Soto (in English & Spanish) and Bishop Robert Reed of Boston speaking on the need for confession. Bishops and priests will hear confessions and Bishop McManus will offer the Conference Mass. Adult tickets are $45 until March 11th and $60 afterwards; student tickets are always $30.

Visit *www.firstmensconf.org* or call Joan DeMasi at 508-929-4345 for registration, brochure or more info.

Tax Contribution Statements for 2019

Tax contribution statements will soon be made available to those parishioners who wish to have a total of their 2019 parish contributions. To request a tax contribution statement, please email the parish office or call during office hours.



Also, if you do not currently receive parish offertory envelopes by mail and wish to do so, please email the parish office or call during regular office hours.

50-50 CLUB

The winner for Week 2 (January 13, 2020):

#24 - Kathy Pedone

Good luck to all our 50/50 members!

"Now the Lord has spoken who formed me as his servant from the womb . . . "

~Isaiah 49:5

God has given each of us different gift. In order for God's plan to work, you have to do what God is calling you to do, and I have to do what God is calling me to do. And guess what?

God has given each of us a different plan! So, stop comparing yourself to others. Don't let envy and jealousy enter your life. Be thankful for the gifts God has given you and generously share them with others.

Our Goal: $234,171

Amount Raised: $114,690

Families Participating: 64

Percentage of Goal: 49%

LEGACY OF HOPE
DIOCESE OF WORCESTER

If you have not already done so, please prayerfully reflect on God's gifts to you and consider making a gift or pledge to the diocesan Legacy of Hope Campaign. Forty percent of your donation will be returned to St. Christopher's for necessary repairs to our church, rectory and parking lots.

Informational flyers are available at the entrances of the church, along with pledge envelopes. Donations can also be securely made online at *www.legacyofhope.worcesterdiocese.org*.

On the cusp of fame, power, or influence, would you turn it down? Today's Gospel again features John the Baptist. Controversial but popular, John has gathered quite a group of followers. He has disciples. People come from near and far to be baptized by him. Pharisees and government leaders are drawn to his preaching. If John was another man, a lesser man, he would have claimed his own greatness. Instead, John the Baptist is a witness to humility.

"The next day he saw Jesus coming toward him and said, 'Behold the Lamb of God … he is the one of whom I said, "A man is coming after me who ranks ahead of me."… the reason why I came baptizing with water was that he might be made known.'"
Rather than point to himself, John points to Christ. John could have grasped at what he had accumulated. He could have seen Jesus as a Messianic competitor. Instead, John knows who he is. He knows his place as forerunner. Because John knows who Jesus is.
"I have seen and testified that he is the Son of God."

A life of humility, a life for others, can be challenging to live. So much of our culture is built around achievement and individualism. We can justify it, too, in pursuit of "greater goods" and higher ideals. In the process, however, we might miss our own participation in the kingdom of God. John, for all of his humility, was not an afterthought. In another Gospel passage, Jesus calls him "the greatest prophet," even the greatest of men. Why? Because he fulfills the mission given to him by God: to announce the coming of the Messiah. We too are prophets and forerunners. Our witness to the Gospel is meant to point people to Jesus.

Consider your own mission this week.
To whom are you called to announce
the good news of the Son of God?

©LPi

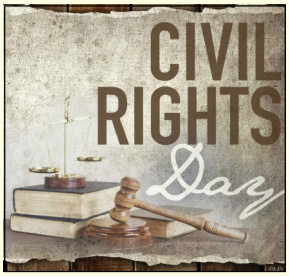
Venerini Academy, 27 Edward St., Worcester
Sunday, January 26th ~ 11 a.m.-2 p.m.

PreK-Grade 8. Call 508-753-3210 or email*katie.obrien@veneriniacademy.com* for info.

Register for the Open House at:
veneriniacademy.com/admissions/admission-process.

Assumption School
17 Grove Street, Millbury
Sunday, January 26th
10:00 a.m.-12:00 noon

PreK-Grade 8. Visit *www.assumptionschoolmillbury.org* or call 508-865-5404 for more info.



A Prayer for a Just Society

Heavenly Father, You create every human person in Your image and likeness. You call us together in one human family, united in dignity, value, and love.

Give us the strength and wisdom to protect this dignity and life at all stages.

Jesus our Savior, you proclaim the blessedness of those who work for peace and who hunger and thirst for righteousness.

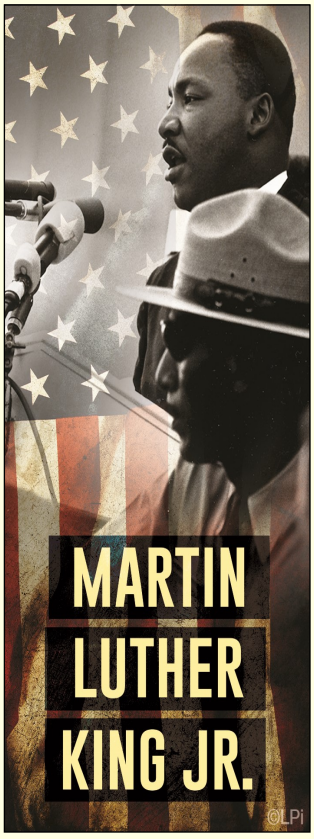
Forgive us for the times we have not responded to the call of Your Beatitudes.

Holy Spirit, the Advocate, empower us to stand in defense of the poor and vulnerable.

Good and Gracious God, make our hearts to love like Yours.

Amen.

~LPi



3rd Annual
Diocese of Worcester and Catholic Schools Night at the Worcester Railers
DCU Center, Worcester
Saturday, January 25th
Puck drop at 7:05 p.m.

Visit railershc.com/diocese for tickets.
At checkout, confirm your parish and then get your tickets electronically delivered within 48 hours of the puck drop.
Contact Matt DaSilva at *mattd@railershc.com* for more information.

St. John Cemetery in Worcester is looking to hire one or possibly two full-time Cemetery Field Maintenance Staff Workers.

Candidates must be a minimum of 18 years of age, have a valid Massachusetts driver's license and pass a CORI check. If interested, call the cemetery office at 508-757-7415 Monday through Friday (8 a.m.-4 p.m.) or Saturday (8 a.m.-12 noon) to arrange an interview.