



March 8, 2020
 2nd Sunday
OF LENT

And he was transfigured before them; his face shone like the sun
 and his clothes became white as light. - Mt 17:2

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 10:00-11:00am &
 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@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
 Administrator of Religious Education
 508-853-3302
 religioused@stchristopherparishworchester.org

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

James Joinville – Music Director

Clesson Dupuis - Business Manager
 busmgr@stchristopherparishworchester.org

Cindy Barnaby
 Administrative Assistant
 adminasst@stchristopherparishworchester.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

Second Sunday of Lent

Saturday, March 7th

4:00pm **Edward & Margaret Sullivan,**
by Family

Sunday, March 8th

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

10:00am **Jane Conlin & Justania Albert, and
In Thanksgiving for the Well-Being of
Jimmy Conlin,**
by Family

Monday, March 9th

9:00am **Mass**

Tuesday, March 10th

No Mass

Wednesday, March 11th

No Mass

Thursday, March 12th

9:00am **Mass**

Friday, March 13th

9:00am **Mass**

Third Sunday of Lent

Saturday, March 14th

4:00pm **Lilia Butler,**
by Husband

Sunday, March 15th

8:00am **Patsy & Helen Damico,**
by Family

10:00am **Antoinetta Perno, 33rd Anniversary,**
by The Cianci Family



GUIDELINES FOR THE SEASON OF LENT

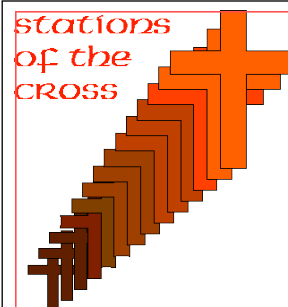
Abstinence from meat is to be observed by all Catholics fourteen years of age and older on Ash Wednesday, Good Friday and all the Fridays of Lent.

Fasting is to be observed by all Catholics who are eighteen years of age but not yet fifty-nine years of age on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. Those who are bound to fast may take only one full meal. Two smaller meals are permitted. Eating solid foods between meals is not permitted, unless necessary to maintain strength according to one's needs.

During this Lenten season, the Sacrament of Reconciliation will be made available both on Saturday mornings from 10:00-11:00 a.m. and on Saturday afternoons from 3:00-3:30 p.m.



Jesus calls each one of us to experience His mercy by participating in this beautiful sacrament of healing.
(Please enter the church from the side doors closest to the street.)



Stations of the Cross will be held in the church every Friday following the 9:00 a.m. Mass during the season of Lent. Make time for prayer and reflection while walking in Jesus Christ's footsteps during his final day on earth which led up to his crucifixion.

During Lent, we have the chance to participate in the Catholic Relief Services (CRS) Rice Bowl program. It offers daily opportunities for families to engage in the spiritual pillars of Lent: prayer, fasting & almsgiving.



The Rice Bowls offer materials inside to help us renew ourselves as we encounter stories of various families from nations throughout the world. Prayers, daily reminders and even recipes from around the world are included to remind us of the poor and the hungry. Our participation in the CRS Rice Bowl program helps us to live out the Gospel call to encounter those most in need. Our donations will be used to help some of the poorest people in the world.

Rice Bowls are available at the main entrances of the church. The Rice Bowls should be returned after Easter, on the weekend of April 18th & 19th.

LENT

Pray + Fast + Give



The sympathies of our parish are extended to the family of **Deacon John LeDoux** who recently passed away.

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.

ST. CHRISTOPHER'S RETIRED CLUB

Come One . . . Come All!
We welcome new members anytime!
Join us for a meeting & enjoy activities,
refreshments and good company!

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 info.



Rite of **Christian Initiation** **of Adults**

If you or someone you know is interested in becoming Catholic or if you are a Catholic who would like to complete your initiation through the sacraments of Confirmation and/or Eucharist, the Rite of Christian Initiation (RCIA) can help. The RCIA forms adults in the Catholic faith and prepares them for the sacraments of initiation. Call the rectory at 508-853-1492 for more information.

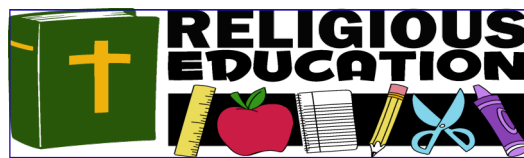
Tax Contribution Statements for 2019



Tax contribution statements are 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.



Sunday, March 8th

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.

Sunday, March 15th

Grades 7-9 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.

Spring "40 Days for Life" Campaign **to end abortion through prayer, fasting,** **peaceful public vigil and education**

Wednesday, February 26th – Sunday, April 5th

Visit 40daysforlife.com/local-campaigns/worcester/ or call 508-887-1064 to sign up for vigil or for info.



We are currently looking for one or two more volunteers to help us once a month with Sunday Morning Coffee Shop.

Volunteers serve donuts & bagels, along with coffee and tea, downstairs in the church hall for all to enjoy between the 8 & 10 a.m. Masses. If you can help or have any questions, please see Angela or Rich Halloran at Sunday Morning Coffee Shop or call the rectory at 508-853-1492.



Sunday, March 8th

Coffee Shop

Religious Education Classes (Grades 1-6)

Religious Education Class (Confirmation-Grade 10)

Monday, March 9th

Wachusett Community Band Practice

Tuesday, March 10th

NO Religious Education Office Hours

Thursday, March 12th

Religious Education Office Hours

Friday, March 13th

Stations of the Cross

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

Saturday, March 14th

Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confessions)

Sunday, March 15th

Coffee Shop

Religious Education Classes (Grades 7-9)

Following the 8:00am Mass

11:00am-12:15pm

11:00am-12:15pm

Church Hall

Church Hall

Church Hall

6:30-8:30pm

Church Hall

6:30-7:30pm

Rel. Ed. Office/Church Hall

Following 9:00am Mass

7:00pm (Doors open at 6:30pm)

Church

Church Hall

10:00-11:00am & 3:00-3:30pm

Church

Following the 8:00am Mass

11:00am-12:15pm

Church Hall

Church Hall



Weekly Goal:	\$ 3,287
Last Weekend:	\$ 2,609
Deficit:	(\$ 678)
Number of Envelopes:	80
Loose Money:	\$ 498
Church in Latin America:	\$ 132
Renovation & Maintenance:	\$ 1,057
Air Conditioning (to date):	\$ 16,905

Year-to-Date Budget: \$88,749
 Year-to Date Collections: 69,904
 Year-to Date Electronic Payments: 9,942
 Year-to Date Deficit: (\$ 8,903)

Thank you for your continued support!

Cards & Well Wishes for
Deacon John Barton may be
mailed to: 605 Browning Lane
Worcester, MA 01609



Please keep Deacon John in your prayers.



If you manage your bills online, you may enjoy the convenience of giving to St. Christopher's online. It's safe and secure, and you decide exactly when your gift is made and where it goes.

You can even view your giving history and pledge progress at any time, just by logging in. Please visit www.stchristopherworcester.org and click the "Online Giving" link to get started or to access your existing account.

50-50 CLUB

The next round of drawings is scheduled to begin on Monday, March 16th.

Please plan to either begin or renew your 50/50 membership this weekend, March 7th/8th. Visit the table in the main entrance of the church before the 4:00 p.m. Mass on Saturday, or on Sunday after the 8:00 a.m. Mass or before the 10:00 a.m. Mass for renewals or details to join.

Renewals may also be made by placing your money in an envelope, along with your name & 50/50 number, and placing the envelope into the collection basket.

The winner for Week 9
 (March 2, 2020):

#12 - Gino Mischitelli

Good luck to all our 50/50 members!



"Go forth from the land of your kinsfolk and from your father's house to a land that I will show you."

~Genesis 12:1

God calls all of us to leave behind our old ways and to follow Him, placing our complete trust in Him. Some of the old ways that we may have to struggle to leave behind might be materialism, selfishness, and greed. Yet God promises to show us a new land and a better way to live. Remember what St. Teresa of Calcutta said, "God does not call us to be successful, God calls us to be faithful."



Parish Liturgical Directives

... liturgical practices and concerns over the transmission of the cold and/or flu.

"While communion under both species has 'a more complete form as a sign when it is received under both kinds,' (GIRM no 281), it is not always necessary or advisable.

Those who are not feeling well should refrain from receiving from the chalice, and should receive Holy Communion under the form of bread alone to avoid transmitting any illness."

So, because of illness and flu among people, we have made the decision to suspend the distribution of the Precious Blood at the Sacred Liturgy with the exception of the Priest, Deacon & the Extra-ordinary Ministers of Holy Communion, if they so choose.

Also, during the cold and flu season, the Liturgical Guidelines state to offer the Sign of Peace without any physical contact, i.e. handshake. Instead, a nod of the head and a verbal greeting of peace is acceptable.

We will keep these practices in place until at least Holy Week in April.

Parishioners are reminded that if they are ill, or suspect that they are ill, with a contagious illness, they are not bound by the Sunday Mass obligation. They should remain at home and return to church when they are well. Mass is broadcast on Cable TV3 (Channel 193) at 9:00 a.m. daily and on Sunday at 6:00 p.m.

Share the Faith

Support the Collection for the Church in Latin America

Thank you for your generous support last week of the Collection for the Church in Latin America. Your donations will be used to share the faith with our brothers and sisters in Latin America and the Caribbean so they in turn can share the Good News with others. If you missed the collection, it's not too late to give! Visit www.usccb.org/nationalcollections and click "How to Give" on the left.

Your gift makes a difference!



Psychology has taught us a great deal about family dynamics and how we have come to be the person we find ourselves to be. We are comprised of such a mixed bag of blessings and

obstacles with their graced moments and sinful ones. Think back on the journey of your life and how the many different and varied choices that you made influenced the direction your life. If you didn't go on that first date with your spouse, who would be beside you today? If you chose to be in one place rather than another, what would have happened to the course your life has taken? We are on such a wonderful, exciting journey. What is most incredible and awesome is that we are not alone! God is with us. He inspires, heals, opens doors, and calls us every moment of our lives. The very life we have is due only to Him.

We can all sit down and list adjectives describing who we are. One may find him or herself more artistic than another or quicker with wit. We have unique gifts and talents and have the great gift of free will, which we treasure. Our histories come with more baggage for some and less hurdles for others, but we all have to find our way through the path we are on.

However, have you ever given much thought to who you *really* are? That question has more merit than may at first appear.

We know ourselves as we live out our earthly journey. But do we know our heavenly self? What we know here is only one small part of who God has made us to be. The disciples really thought they knew Jesus until they went up the mountain. We also may think we know our true selves, too. We know that in eternal life we shall not only see God, but become like Him.

Who will you be?

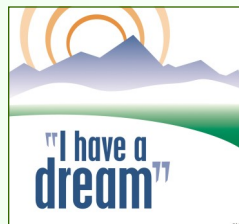
What surprise do you think God has for you?

~Liturgical Publications, Inc.

SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

The Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Scholarship is offered to any individuals pursuing post-secondary education at an accredited college or vocational trade school in the United States.

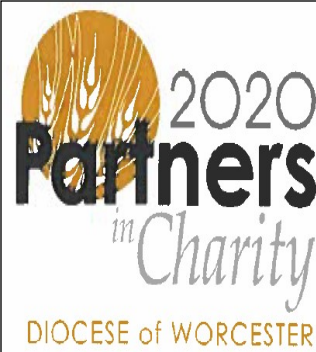
Any residents of Worcester or the contiguous communities are eligible to apply. Scholarships for the academic year beginning September, 2020 will be awarded in the amount of \$500-\$2,000.



Application deadline is April 3, 2020.

Applications are available at the church office, at area high schools, or can be downloaded at www.qcc.edu/mlk. Contact Selina Boria at 508-854-4368 or at sboria@qcc.mass.edu for info.

Envision Faith in Action!
Next weekend, March 14th & 15th, begins our annual Partners in Charity Appeal.



The 2020 patron for our Partners in Charity Appeal is Archbishop Oscar Romero, the martyr of El Salvador. Now a Saint, Oscar Romero stands as an example of a man who lived among his people and served them, fueled by the love of God and complete trust in Jesus Christ.

Everyday, throughout the diocese, faith-filled individuals go out into the community and "preach God's love." Some minister to those who are at risk of being homeless, others to those who are struggling with life's burdens. Teachers and catechists nourish the minds and nurture the faith of our youth in schools & parish faith formation classes. Young men who are pursuing vocations to the priesthood and older men in the diaconate look forward to serving God's people in our parishes.

As Partners in Charity strives to build a better society in the Diocese of Worcester, let us be inspired to support this appeal with a gift or pledge. The Partners in Charity Appeal supports the work of 25 diocesan agencies, ministries and programs throughout Central Massachusetts.

This week, please take time to read the special insert in this weekend's bulletin and to watch our 2020 Partners in Charity video at www.partners-charity.net. The website also lists the specific charities, ministries and educational programs that rely on your generosity. Partners in Charity envelopes are available in the pews for your pledge or donation. Donations can also be made directly on the Partners in Charity website—www.partners-charity.net.

Our parish goal is again \$33,800 this year. Whatever you can do to donate/pledge to Partners in Charity will be very much appreciated. Also, please pray for the success of our drive here at St. Christopher's. Thank you!

Fr. Stanley

Lenten Series on the Mass

Our Lady of Good Counsel Church
111 Worcester Street, West Boylston
Wednesdays—March 11th, 18th, 25th & April 1st
7:00 p.m.

All are invited to explore history, liturgical practice and spiritual application for each part of the Roman Catholic Mass, presented by Fr. Steven LaBaire.

All are welcome to participate in any or all of the presentations in the series.