

## **MASS SCHEDULE** ©LPI

**Vigil Mass (Saturday): 4:00 pm**  
**Sunday Mass: 8:00 am (livestreamed) and 10:00 am**

**Weekday Masses (Mon., Thurs. & Fri.): 9:00 am**  
**Holy Day Masses: To be determined**

**RECONCILIATION:** Suspended until further notice

**BAPTISM:** By Appointment Only  
 Please see the Pastor after Mass for a form.  
 Baptisms must be scheduled at least one month in advance.

**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](mailto:parish@stchristopherparishworchester.org)**

**Web Site: [www.stchristopherworchester.org](http://www.stchristopherworchester.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@stchristopherparishworchester.org](mailto:frstanley@stchristopherparishworchester.org)

**Deacon Van Nguyen**

**Religious Education Office**  
**Kim Fitzpatrick - Coordinator**  
 508-853-3302  
[religiously@stchristopherparishworchester.org](mailto:religiously@stchristopherparishworchester.org)

**Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA)**  
 508-853-1492

**James Joinville – Music Director**

**Clesson Dupuis - Business Manager**  
[busmgr@stchristopherparishworchester.org](mailto:busmgr@stchristopherparishworchester.org)

**Cindy Barnaby**  
 Administrative Assistant  
[adminasst@stchristopherparishworchester.org](mailto: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.





## First Sunday of Lent

Saturday, March 5<sup>th</sup>

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

Sunday, March 6<sup>th</sup>

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

10:00am **Edward Bennett, Birthday Remembrance,**  
by Diane and Family

Monday, March 7<sup>th</sup>

9:00am **Mass**

Tuesday, March 8<sup>th</sup>

**No Mass**

Wednesday, March 9<sup>th</sup>

**No Mass**

Thursday, March 10<sup>th</sup>

9:00am **Mass**

Friday, March 11<sup>th</sup>

9:00am **Mass**

## Second Sunday of Lent

Saturday, March 12<sup>th</sup>

4:00pm **Domenic & Beatrice Cerasuolo,**  
by Family

Sunday, March 13<sup>th</sup>

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

10:00am **Deacon Chris Meyers and**  
**Deacon John LeDoux,**  
by Mary Anne & Bob Josephson

## **“Watch One Hour with Me” Virtual Lenten Series**

This online program for adults will be shared weekly on the Sundays of Lent (March 6<sup>th</sup> - April 10<sup>th</sup>). You will receive an email with a short prayer and some reflective music. No meetings—click on the link in your email anytime during the week on any device. Interested? Contact Romeo Marquis from Blessed Sacrament Parish at [Rmarquis48@outlook.com](mailto:Rmarquis48@outlook.com) or at 978-606-7023.

## **HELP WANTED—MANY OPENINGS! ST. CHRISTOPHER’S PRAYER LINE**

**TIME REQUIRED—NOT MUCH,  
AND VERY FLEXIBLE.  
COMPENSATION—“OUT OF THIS WORLD”**

Help enlarge our prayer line. Are you willing to take private time in prayer for others in need? Call Ken Butler at 508-852-0127 for more information.



Please consider joining. Also, do you know of someone in need of prayers? We just need the person’s first name and the nature of the problem.

**Remember, someday YOU may be the one in need!**

## **Be the face of CHRIST**

Thank you to all who made a gift to our 2022 Partners in Charity Appeal! So far, St. Christopher’s has raised \$4,530 from 29 gifts, bringing us to 13.4% of our goal of \$33,800!



Our agencies and ministries are faces of hope to so many people during this pandemic. Your pledge or one-time gift is a tangible way to be a ‘face of Christ’ to the world through your support of the agencies and ministries which rely on this appeal for the funding each year. And you, in turn, share in the joy of bringing hope into the lives of those we serve.

## **You can make a gift or pledge in various ways:**

- \*\*Place your donation in the collection basket at Mass.**  
Partners in Charity envelopes are available in the pews.
- \*\*Text the word “donate” to 84576 to access the online giving page;**
- \*\*Make online donations at [www.Partners-Charity.net](http://www.Partners-Charity.net);**
- \*\*Call in a pledge or gift to 508-929-4366; or**
- \*\*Mail a check, payable to “Partners in Charity,” to:  
Partners in Charity, 49 Elm St., Worcester, MA 01609**

Thank you for your continued support!  
We couldn’t do it without you!

*Fr. Stanley*

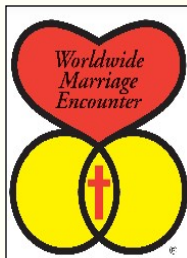
The sympathies of our parish are extended to the families of  
**George Trayah**  
and

**Margaret ‘Peggy’ Testarmata**  
who recently passed away.



## **Worldwide Marriage Encounter in Upton, MA**

**St. Gabriel The Archangel Church, 151 Mendon St.  
Friday, March 18<sup>th</sup> - Sunday, March 20<sup>th</sup>**



All couples are invited to this in-person, non-residential weekend experience. This weekend is designed to deepen and enrich the joys a couple shares together, whether married only a short time or many years. All CDC safety protocols will be followed, including social distancing.

Couples can drive from their homes or stay at one of several area hotels. Contact Joe & Ginny Vatalle at 800-710-9963 or visit [www.mema.org](http://www.mema.org) to register.



**Sunday, March 6<sup>th</sup>**

**Students in All Grades will participate in a Family Lenten Program following the 10:00 a.m. Mass. Parents must also attend.**

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**Sunday, March 13<sup>th</sup>**

**No Religious Education Classes due to Scout Retreat/Day of Recollection.**

**ST. CHRISTOPHER'S RETIRED CLUB**

**ALL AGES ARE WELCOME!**

**Join us for our next meeting on Wednesday, March 16<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 p.m. in the church hall**

(Meeting will be cancelled if Worcester schools have a delay or cancellation due to weather).

*People of any ages are invited to join this social group dedicated to fellowship, charitable causes, and parish support . . .*

Upcoming events include an Indoor Yard Sale and Collections for Visitation House or Problem Pregnancy.  
**Join us to enjoy sharing, serving & socializing!!**  
Call Liz Knott at 508-852-2348 for more information.



**The Retired Club will host an Indoor Yard Sale & Bake Sale on Saturday, April 2<sup>nd</sup> from 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.**

The parish will be conducting its own sale of items and is accepting donations for that day. Also, an individual table may be reserved for a fee of \$25 (non refundable). Call Liz Knott at 508-852-2348 to reserve or for info.

***Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,***

With ashes on our foreheads, we have begun Lent's forty days of deeper prayer, more frequent penance and greater almsgiving. We do so because we are sinners in need of repentance. Those practices are an external manifestation of contrition - a sorrow for sin, a rejection of it and a resolution not to sin again. Contrition, along with confession of our sins and the performance of the penance we receive in the sacrament of confession, brings us forgiveness and reconciliation with God. That reconciliation should give us a deep sense of peace, relief and joy.

Lent is not only about the forgiveness of our sins. It is also about our preparation for Easter. On Good Friday, all seemed lost and beyond hope. On Easter, Christ's Resurrection transformed death and defeat into life and victory. That victory is not only for God's Son who was perfectly obedient to the Father but for all the baptized who, though sinners, believe in Christ, repent of sin and live in His love.

During Lent's six-week journey to Easter we strive not only to turn from sin but to turn to Christ. We do this by growing in faith, holiness and virtue. The practices of prayer, penance and almsgiving help order our lives by detaching us from earthly things that, even if not sinful, can dull our love for Christ and diminish our awareness of His love for us. Please consider weekday Masses, praying the Rosary, attending the Stations of the Cross and reading the Scriptures. Sacrificing some legitimate temporal pleasures can sharpen our spiritual appetites.

Giving to those in need is giving to Christ.

Going to Confession is receiving God's mercy.

On Easter Sunday Saint Paul's Epistle will exhort us to "seek that which is above" (Colossians 3:1). May our Lenten preparation free us from sins of the past and attachments to the world, that with joy in our hearts, we may not only celebrate Christ's victory at Easter but live that victory in peace and joy throughout life and for all eternity.

With every prayerful best wish, I remain

Sincerely yours in Christ,

**Most Reverend Robert J. McManus**  
Bishop of Worcester



**Sunday, March 6<sup>th</sup>**

Family Lenten Program (for Students in ALL Grades & Parents)  
Religious Education Office Hours

**Monday, March 7<sup>th</sup>**

Wachusett Community Band Practice

**Tuesday, March 8<sup>th</sup>**

Religious Education Office Hours  
Catholic Scouting Award Class

**Thursday, March 10<sup>th</sup>**

Scout Troop 9 Meeting

**Friday, March 11<sup>th</sup>**

NO Bingo

**Sunday, March 13<sup>th</sup>**

NO Religious Education Classes  
NO Religious Education Office Hours

Following the 10:00am Mass  
11:00am-1:00pm

Church Hall  
Religious Ed. Office

6:30-8:30pm

Church Hall

5:30-7:30pm  
7:00-9:00pm

Religious Ed. Office  
Church Hall

7:00-9:00pm

Church Hall



Weekly Goal:	\$ 3,438
Weekend of February 19 <sup>th</sup> & 20 <sup>th</sup> :	\$ 1,923
Deficit:	(\$ 1,515)
Fuel:	\$ 467
Air Conditioning (to date):	\$20,968

Year-to-Date Budget (FY 9/1/21-8/31/22): \$85,950  
 Year-to Date Collections: 59,029  
 Year-to Date Electronic Payments: 14,637  
 Year-to Date Deficit: (\$12,284 )

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

Next weekend's special collection is for the  
*Church in Latin America.*

**Thank you for your continued support!**

*"I have now brought  
 you the first fruits of  
 the products of the soil  
 which you, O Lord, have given to me."*



**Stewardship**

*~Deuteronomy 26:10*

This line from the Old Testament offers two challenges. First, do you give to God from your "first fruits" - the first and best that you have to offer, or do you give from what you have leftover? Second, do you realize that everything you have and that everything you are has been given to you by God? Ask God for a grateful and generous heart, every day, in all circumstances.

**Next week we will take up the Collection for the Church in Latin America.** For many in Latin America and the Caribbean, a rising secular culture, difficult rural terrain, and a shortage of ministers all present obstacles to practicing the faith. Your support for the collection provides lay leadership training, catechesis, priestly and religious formation, and other programs to share our Catholic faith with those who long to hear the Good News of Christ.

To learn more about how your gifts make a difference, visit [www.usccb.org/latin-america](http://www.usccb.org/latin-america).

**Daylight Saving Time  
 begins next Sunday,  
 March 13<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 a.m.**



**Remember to set your clocks ahead one hour . . .**



**The winner for week 2 (2/28/22):**

**#20 — Carol Wolfe**

**Good luck to all our 50/50 Club members!**

One of the greatest temptations human beings face is leaving the truth of who they are, where they came from and who created them in pursuit of more personal satisfactions.



When we consider all that desires our attention in a given day, there are many lures that attract us to illusions about ourselves. We can easily find ourselves distracted or tired, preoccupied with preserving our status in life, social relationships, current trends, and corporate demands, and intrigued by pursuing what we perceive to be the "path of least resistance." The daily concerns of life can quickly take our eyes off of our truth, making the empty promises of worldly accomplishments and ideologies seem so attractive. What is at risk in giving into this temptation?

We cease giving thanks to and worshipping our Creator as we pursue our own self-sufficiency, power, and prestige. We replace the true God with a "pet" one. While many do not totally dismiss the idea of God and pretend to remain at least remotely connected, they do not invest themselves heart, mind, and soul in the relationship either. That is why we are so easily swayed. If something attractive comes along, we lunge for it. After all, having a position above and over everyone else is a good thing, isn't it? In more honest moments, many have to admit that they believe this to be true. The Evil One is very convincing. But he can only gain control if we allow him to.

About temptation, St. Basil remarks, "As the pilot of a vessel is tried in the storm, as the wrestler is tried in the ring, the soldier in the battle and the hero in adversity, so is the Christian tried in temptation." And here is found the reason for Lent. It is a wonderful opportunity to get a handle on the attractive lures of illusion that easily captivate us and bring us off track. It is also a time for some honest reflection rooted in prayer, fasting, and selfless giving that can bring us to temptation's remedy: love.

***Love of his Father gave Jesus resistance.***

***It can do the same for us.***

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## "WOMEN IN SCRIPTURE"

**Phelan Center (behind Blessed Sacrament Church)  
 Pleasant Street, Worcester**

**Saturday, March 19<sup>th</sup> from 9 a.m. to 12 noon**

The Guild of Our Lady of Providence invites all to this Morning of Reflection. An offering of \$10 is appreciated. Mail check payable to "Guild of Our Lady of Providence" to Kathryn Tamalavitch, 35 Dunbar St., Worcester, MA 01603 by Friday, March 11<sup>th</sup>.



## SUNDAY'S READINGS

### FIRST READING:

'We cried to the LORD, the God of our fathers,  
and he heard our cry.' (Dt 26:7)

### PSALM:

Be with me, Lord, when I am in trouble. (Ps 91)

### SECOND READING:

For, if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord  
and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead,  
you will be saved. (Rom 10:9)

### GOSPEL:

Filled with the Holy Spirit, Jesus returned from the Jordan  
and was led by the Spirit into the desert for forty days,  
to be tempted by the devil. (Lk 4:1-2)

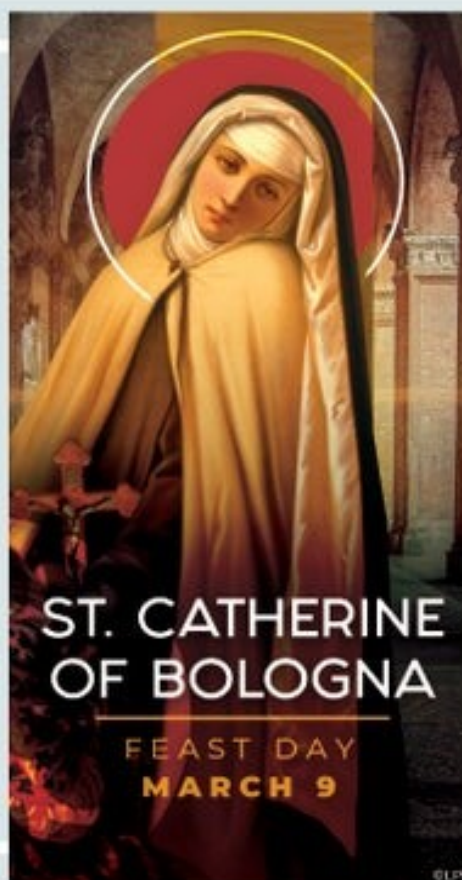
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### OBSERVANCES FOR THE WEEK OF MARCH 6, 2022

Sunday:	1st Sunday of Lent
Monday:	Sts. Perpetua and Felicity, Martyrs
Tuesday:	St. John of God, Religious
Wednesday:	St. Frances of Rome, Religious
Next Sunday:	2nd Sunday of Lent; Daylight Saving Time begins



1ST SUNDAY OF LENT



## Saint of the Week

St. Catherine of Bologna (September 8, 1413 – March 9, 1463) came from an upper-class family in Ferrara, a city in Italy, and received an education at the court, where she learned reading, writing, singing and drawing. But despite her advantages, her heart yearned for God.

She joined a group of religious women in Ferrara at the age of 18. Four years later, that same group joined the Poor Clares, an order founded by St. Francis and St. Clare of Assisi. In 1456, she and 15 other sisters were sent to establish a Poor Clare monastery in Florence.

As abbess, St. Catherine of Bologna worked to establish the new community and maintain a semblance of peace throughout. She was a model of piety and reported experiencing miracles and several visions of Christ, and the Virgin Mary.

In 1463, St. Catherine of Bologna became seriously ill, and she passed away. She was buried without a coffin and her body was exhumed 18 days later because of many cures attributed to her at her graveside and the sweet scent coming from her grave. Her body was discovered incorrupt (meaning it was not decaying) and remains so today.

CLPI