



# st. patrick's

ROMAN CATHOLIC PARISH

LOVE GOD. LOVE ONE ANOTHER. GROW DISCIPLES.

**“Our humanity comes to its fullest bloom in giving. We become beautiful people when we give whatever we can give: a smile, a handshake, a kiss, an embrace, a word of love, a present, a part of our life...all of our life.”**

*~ Henri Nouwen*

**The Third Sunday In Lent  
March 23, 2025**

LOVE GOD, LOVE ONE ANOTHER, GROW DISCIPLES

Address: 7 East Street | Whitinsville, MA 01588

Office Hours: Monday through Thursday 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. & Friday 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Rectory Phone: 508-234-5656

Rectory Fax: 508-234-6845

Parish Website: [www.mystpatricks.com](http://www.mystpatricks.com)

### parish staff

**Pastor: Rev. Tomasz Borkowski**

[FrTomasz@mystpatricks.com](mailto:FrTomasz@mystpatricks.com)

**Deacon Chris Finan: Deacon**

[DeaconChris@mystpatricks.com](mailto:DeaconChris@mystpatricks.com)

**Director of Finance and Operations:**

Mrs. Elizabeth Baker: [Liz@mystpatricks.com](mailto:Liz@mystpatricks.com)

**Interim Director of Student Ministries:**

Mrs. Shelly Mombourquette: [Shelly@mystpatricks.com](mailto:Shelly@mystpatricks.com)

**Director of Music Ministries:**

Mr. Christopher Bilodeau: [Chris@mystpatricks.com](mailto:Chris@mystpatricks.com)

**Director of A/V Ministries:**

Mr. Shawn McPherson: [Shawn@mystpatricks.com](mailto:Shawn@mystpatricks.com)

**Cemetery Superintendents:**

Mr. Derek & Mr. Tom Ciccone: [Dtciccone6@gmail.com](mailto:Dtciccone6@gmail.com)

### volunteer support

**Wedding Coordinator:**

Ms. Mary Contino: [MaryC@mystpatricks.com](mailto:MaryC@mystpatricks.com)

**Bulletin, Staff Support:**

Mrs. Marylin Arrigan: [Marylin@mystpatricks.com](mailto:Marylin@mystpatricks.com)

**Home Visits Coordinator:**

Joyce Silva: [Joyce.silva44@Verizon.net](mailto:Joyce.silva44@Verizon.net)  
or call her cell at 508-341-3371

### masses & sacraments

**Masses:** Sat. 4:30 p.m.; Sun. 8:00 a.m., 10:00 a.m., 5:00 p.m.

**Confession:** Sat. 3:30 - 4:00 p.m.

*Call the Office for Information on receiving the  
Sacraments of Baptism, Reconciliation, Matrimony,  
Sacrament of the Sick, and Homebound Visits.*

follow us on social media!



**St Patricks Parish  
Whitinsville**

### live stream mass schedule

**Saturday: 4:30 p.m. Sunday: 10:00 a.m. & 5:00 p.m.**

**Cable: NCTV 191 & 192**

**Mon: 12:00 Noon Wed. 8:00 a.m. Sat: 8:00 a.m.**

### mass schedule

#### Weekend of March 22 - 23

#### **Anointing of the Sick after all Masses**

Sat. 4:30 PM + Alice Surrette (1st Anniv.)  
Mary Tymowicz (35th Anniv.)  
By their Family

Sun. 8:00 AM + Parishioners of the Parish  
10:00 AM + Fernando & Lorraine Vaz  
By their Children

5:00 PM + Patrick Mawn Jr.  
By his Family

#### Week of March 24 - 28

Mon. 8:30 AM + Gerald & Jeannette Richer  
By their Family

Tues, 8:30 AM + Parishioners of the Parish

Wed. 4:30 PM + Christopher Vendetti (Birthday)  
By his Parents

Thurs. and Fri. + No Mass

#### Weekend of March 29 - 30

Sat. 4:30 PM + John Sheridan (28th Anniv.)  
By his Family

Sun. 8:00 AM + Parishioners of the Parish  
10:00 AM + John Wright (1st Anniv.)  
By his Family and Friends

5:00PM + Parishioners of the Parish

#### **Taizé Prayer & Worship**

Wednesday, April 2 at 6:00 p.m.

The Mass book is open for the months April through June. If you would like to book a Mass in memory of or in honor of a loved one, please call the Rectory at 508-234-5656. The stipend for a Mass is \$10.00.

## Reflections:

*Repent, says the Lord;  
The kingdom of heaven is at hand.  
(Matthew 4:17)*



So... how is everybody doing? Spring is here! March is almost over, and we're about to take that final turn, all set to cruise through the next couple of months, sliding right into summer; where we'll take ourselves and our families on relaxing vacations to amazing places like Cape Cod. We'll stop for a lobster roll on the way, and it will be delicious! After several complaints about parking, countless observations about the sheer volume of tourists, and repeated vows to never return, we'll find a picturesque beach, and begin our plunge into summer with a little dip in the Atlantic Ocean — hey! are those dolphins in the distance?

Quickly, we'll remember that this is the North Atlantic, and the water is freezing. After a frightening incident, we'll learn that our nephew, who's joining us on vacation, can't swim. And, umm, those aren't dolphins...

But what about Lent? How's that been going? Maybe good. Maybe not so good? I suppose it depends upon what we'd consider to be a successful or meaningful Lent, right? If you were raised Catholic, chances are that whenever you think about Lent, you'll ask yourself, "What should I give up for Lent, this year?" Even as I write this, I can hear my sister Kim's thick Boston accent asking, "Whatcha give up fuh Lent, kid?"

But, Lent is about more than the act of giving something up for 40 days. Don't get me wrong, I think that giving something up for Lent is a great place to start; fasting, praying, giving alms, or giving of ourselves to help those in need, these are all important spiritual markers on our journey through Lent and into Easter, but can they/will they transform us, and will that be enough? This is what Jesus says in this weeks Gospel from Luke (13:1-9),

*I tell you, if you do not repent, you will all perish as they did!  
(Luke 13:3)*

I'm struck by how clear, concise and pointed Jesus is in this message. And, in case some didn't hear him the first time, Luke has Jesus repeating the same line in the very next verse... *I tell you, if you do not repent, you will all perish as they did! (Luke 13:4)*

In the first instance, Jesus is responding to some local news which others have been telling him about; grisly reports that Pontius Pilate had slaughtered an unspecified number of innocent people from Galilee. According to Luke, this sparks Jesus to recall an incident in which 18 people were killed when a tower collapsed in Jerusalem, something which, I'm guessing, might have been in the recent memory of those listening. While there are no existing historical records of either of those events, we all know, as did those present with Jesus at that time, tragic events like these happen all the time in this world; sometimes random, sometimes not. It was true then, and it's true now. It just is.

Bad things happen, and sometimes so quickly. Jesus wants us to repent, and the path to repentance begins with accepting God's unyielding love for us. Jesus makes a point to say that bad things don't happen as a result of God punishing us for our sins; a message which, sadly, some Christians today have decided to ignore. Blaming those who are victims of natural or random events well beyond their control, and telling them that it's all because of their sin? God is nowhere present in a statement like that. It is empty and lifeless, and extremely sad.

The Greek word for repent is *metanoia*, which means to turn one's thinking around, to change one's thinking about something. This is what Jesus is calling us to do; to change our thinking, our understanding of who God is, and what it means for us to be God's children. This change in thinking can enable us to more fully reflect the love of God, and to be more tuned in to the spirit and message of Jesus.

So, this is more than simply viewing Lent as apologizing to God for our sins by giving up chewing gum for 40 days. I mean, for some, maybe that's fine, but we're missing the mark if God's love for us isn't leading us through our Lenten journey. Why else would Jesus give his life for us? Love is the only thing worth dying for.



## Fridays during Lent

Dinner options are baked fish with baked potato & coleslaw or fried fish with fries & coleslaw. Dinners are \$15 each.

Clam Chowder and Vegetable Soup are available for \$6 a bowl. Mac & cheese with fries is \$5. With *eat-in dinners only*, patrons will receive a drink and a dessert with their meals.

Dinners will be available for in-house dining or pick-up, March 5 through April 11 from 4:30 to 7:00 p.m.

Payment by Venmo or Cash. To place a to-go order you may call *after 4:00 p.m.*: 508-234-5656.

*Thank you for supporting the  
Youth in Action Summer Service Trip to Billings, MT!*



## Easter Food Baskets/Gift Cards

Easter food basket tags will be available in the Chapel and at the entrance of the church this weekend if you would like to donate to a local family in need. If you would like to give electronically to the Gift Card Fund please go to our website, [www.mystpatrickss.com](http://www.mystpatrickss.com) and select Give, then choose one time, and select Fund, Gift Card, Amount, Submit. All donations are appreciated!

Please remember to deliver any food basket and/or gift card, with the tag securely attached, to the Parish Center on Saturday April 12th between 9:30 a.m. and 11:30 a.m.

Baskets will be distributed that day between 12:30 and 2:30 p.m. Volunteers are needed to assist with baskets being dropped off in the morning, and with helping bring the baskets out to the cars of those receiving baskets in the afternoon. This effort is an ideal opportunity for students who are in need of volunteering hours. Please contact the rectory at 508-234-5656 if you are able to help out.

## Our Lady of the Valley Regional School Update

Welcome to the OLV update, a biweekly entry to your parish bulletin. Here we will post news and information regarding Our Lady of the Valley Regional School, the wonderful Catholic elementary school and middle school academy located in the Blackstone Valley, sponsored and supported by St. Mary Parish, St. Patrick Parish and St. Peter Parish.

### **We are blessed to have your prayers and support!**

We began Lent at OLV with a beautiful Ash Wednesday Mass during which our students were reminded that these forty days before Easter are a time to seek the Lord through prayer, to serve one another by giving alms and to engage in sacrifice and self-control by fasting. We are blessed at OLV not only to recognize these three pillars of Lent but also to provide opportunities for our faithful students and staff to practice these three themes.

During Lent, our students will engage in prayer several times during each school day. They will attend Mass together, Pray the Rosary together and join in Eucharistic Adoration. Our school community will sponsor a Lenten Food Drive, collecting food and household items to donate to the People First Food Pantry in Uxbridge. OLV has arranged pizza days for each Friday of Lent to make it easier for all to fast from meat on those days. We are fortunate as a Catholic school community to be able to support our families in these ways during the Lenten season.

Our students, faculty, staff and families are happy to share this wonderful news with the parishes who provide support and pray for OLV. Thank you for all that you do for Our Lady of the Valley Regional School!

God bless you and yours,  
Ed Reynolds, Principal

Loved at home. Loved at school. Loved by God.

**March 23: Audio Visual Ministry**

**March 30: Partners in Charity**

**April 6: Catholic Relief Services**

### To Give a Contribution:

**Text** the word **mystpatrick**s to the number 508-475-5725 and it will bring you to the link to donate.

Scan this **QR Code** with your phone and it will bring you to our giving link.

**- OR -**

For **VENMO** accounts, search business for: @mystpatrick

**Also**, please consider St. Patrick Parish for a Charitable Bequest as part of your estate planning.



## OFFERING

Week	Weekly Envelopes & Cash	Weekly Online	Weekly Total	Goal
2/16/2025	\$2,883.00	\$3,545.46	\$6,428.46	\$8,700
2/23/2025	\$5,094.00	\$2,225.93	\$7,319.93	\$8,700
3/2/2025	\$7,091.00	\$7,355.27	\$14,446.27	\$8,700
3/9/2025	\$4,311.00	\$2,766.28	\$7,077.28	\$8,700
3/16/2025	\$4,605.00	\$3,960.45	\$8,565.45	\$8,700
Average Weekly To-Date FY 2025	\$4,709.31	\$3,838.65	\$8,547.96	\$8,700

## St. Patrick's Recycling News

Please save items for the upcoming Spring Recycling Event on Saturday, May 3rd.

There will be stations for:

- **Gently Used Clothing & Textiles**
- **Books (no encyclopedias)**
- **Media & Gently Used Magazines**
- **Bottles & Cans (no glass)**
- **Electronics *for a fee***
- **Paper Shredding *for a fee***



For further information or to request an electronics price list, please email: [officesupport@mystpatrickss.com](mailto:officesupport@mystpatrickss.com) or visit the recycling page on our website.

Recycling profits benefit the Youth In Action service ministry.  
Thank you to everyone who help to make our recycling program a success!

## Youth Summer Programs

Registration for **YIA Jr.** is open. It is our summer service and fun program for all students in 5th through 8th grades. With local service work in the morning and fun, faith-based summer activities in the afternoon, students learn teamwork, leadership, and community through the lens of Catholic social justice teachings. Weather permitting, we will spend our last day at Breezy Acres water slides. YIA Jr. will take place from July 28 through August 1, 2025, 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Registration for **Scuba Vacation Bible School (VBS)** is open. Our VBS program is for children from Preschool through the end of 4th grade. This year we will be *diving* into our relationship with God. Each day students will participate in theme-related story time, crafts, singing and dancing, outdoor activities and snack time. VBS will run from August 11th through the 15th, 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.

If you would like to volunteer for any summer program, please call the rectory and speak with Shelly.

*To register for YIA Jr. or Scuba VBS please visit  
[www.mystpatrickss.com/summer-programming](http://www.mystpatrickss.com/summer-programming)*

## **Agape Café**

St. Patrick's again has opened up our AGAPE (Love) Café where you can enjoy coffee and donuts along with baked goods and fruit. This takes place after the 10 a.m. Mass, downstairs in the Parish Center. We hope that all will attend and have a great time catching up with old friends and making new friends.

***Please come to socialize and enjoy.***



***All are welcome!***

## **WORCESTER CATHOLIC MEN'S CONFERENCE**

Saturday, April 5, 2025  
7:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

The Worcester Catholic Men's Conference will be held Saturday, April 5, at the Worcester DCU Convention Center.

Registration begins at 7:30 a.m. The first speaker begins at 9:00 a.m. Men of all ages are invited.

For tickets and more information, please visit [www.catholicmenworc.com](http://www.catholicmenworc.com)

**E-mail:** [catholicmenworc@gmail.com](mailto:catholicmenworc@gmail.com)

## **Weekly Divine Mercy and Adoration**



As a reminder of the importance of the Eucharist and the true presence of Jesus Christ we have an opportunity to sit quietly in the Divine Presence. As part of this adoration we recite the Divine Mercy Chaplet beginning this time of adoration at 3 p.m. in which we pray for the parishioners, the world, the sick, and other Intentions that are close to our hearts. Come join this gathering as a renewal of faith and an opportunity to visit our friend above all friends, **Jesus**.

## **Let Us Pray for Those in the Service**

Almighty God, we stand before you asking for your divine mercy and protection. Embrace with your invincible armor our loved ones in all branches of the service. Give them courage and strength against all enemies both spiritual and physical and hasten their safe journey back to their homes.



***Please remember the following service personnel in your prayers as they serve and protect our country:***

L. Cpl. Aaron Marshall, Okinawa, USS Dwight D. Eisenhower, U.S. Army; L. Cpl. Troy Monteville, Stateside;  
Capt. Jason Jordan, U.S. Army, So. Korea; U.S. Marine L. Cpl. Kevin James Sabin, Lejeune, NC;  
Command Master Chief U.S.C.G. Ben Richards, Charleston, South Carolina;  
Marine Corps PFC Nathan Kozlowski, Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri

## **Safe Environment**

As a reminder, our parish follows the guidelines of the national Charter for Protection of Children and Young People approved by the U.S. Bishops and the policies of the Diocese of Worcester in screening those who work with children in our care and in helping victims of abuse find healing. Call Judith Audette, Victims Service Coordinator for our Diocese at 508-929-4363 (direct line & confidential voicemail.)

## **Office of Healing and Prevention Diocese of Worcester**

Victim's Assistant Coordinator Judith Audette:  
508-929-4363 or go to [WorcesterDiocese.org](http://WorcesterDiocese.org)  
for more information.