



st. patrick's

ROMAN CATHOLIC PARISH

LOVE GOD. LOVE ONE ANOTHER. GROW DISCIPLES.



The Prodigal Son Returns

The Fourth Sunday In Lent
March 30, 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.mystpatrickss.com

parish staff

Pastor: Rev. Tomasz Borkowski

FrTomasz@mystpatrickss.com

Deacon Chris Finan: Deacon

DeaconChris@mystpatrickss.com

Director of Finance and Operations:

Mrs. Elizabeth Baker: Liz@mystpatrickss.com

Interim Director of Student Ministries:

Mrs. Shelly Mombourquette: Shelly@mystpatrickss.com

Director of Music Ministries:

Mr. Christopher Bilodeau: Chris@mystpatrickss.com

Director of A/V Ministries:

Mr. Shawn McPherson: Shawn@mystpatrickss.com

Cemetery Superintendents:

Mr. Derek & Mr. Tom Ciccone: Dtciccone6@gmail.com

volunteer support

Wedding Coordinator:

Ms. Mary Contino: MaryC@mystpatrickss.com

Bulletin, Staff Support:

Mrs. Marylin Arrigan: Marylin@mystpatrickss.com

Home Visits Coordinator:

Joyce Silva: 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 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 Family and Friends
5:00 PM + Parishioners of the Parish

Week of March 31 - April 4

Mon. 8:30 AM + Wayne Friberg
By Lou and Nancy Pepin
Tues. 8:30 AM + Parishioners of the Parish
Wed. 3:00 PM + Adoration and Divine Mercy
Wed. 4:30 PM + Parishioners of the Parish
6:00 PM + Taizé Prayer & Worship
Thurs. and Fri. + No Mass

Weekend of April 5 - 6

Sat. 4:30 PM + Lennie Vassar
By Pat Vassar
Sun. 8:00 AM + Parishioners of the Parish
10:00 AM + Joseph & Annette Roy
By their Daughter
5:00PM + Parishioners of the Parish

Drop-In Reconciliation

Sunday, March 30th from 2:00 p.m. to 3:00 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:

Pope Francis Reflection on the Parable of the Prodigal Son.

Dear Brothers and Sisters, Good morning!

In the Liturgy today we read chapter 15 of the Gospel of Luke, which contains three parables of mercy: the lost sheep, the lost coin, and then the longest of them, characteristic of St Luke, the parable of the father of two sons, the “prodigal” son and the son who believes he is “righteous”, who believes he is saintly. All three of these parables speak of the joy of God. God is joyful. This is interesting: God is joyful! And what is the joy of God? The joy of God is forgiving, the joy of God is forgiving! The joy of a shepherd who finds his little lamb; the joy of a woman who finds her coin; it is the joy of a father welcoming home the son who was lost, who was as though dead and has come back to life, who has come home. Here is the entire Gospel! Here! The whole Gospel, all of Christianity, is here! But make sure that it is not sentiment, it is not being a “do-gooder”! On the contrary, mercy is the true force that can save people and the world from the “cancer” that is sin, moral evil, spiritual evil. Only love fills the void, the negative chasms that evil opens in hearts and in history. Only love can do this, and this is God’s joy!



Jesus is all mercy; Jesus is all love: he is God made man. Each of us, each one of us, is that little lost lamb, the coin that was mislaid; each one of us is that son who has squandered his freedom on false idols, illusions of happiness, and has lost everything. But God does not forget us, the Father never abandons us. He is a patient father, always waiting for us! He respects our freedom, but he remains faithful forever. And when we come back to him, he welcomes us like children into his house, for he never ceases, not for one instant, to wait for us with love. And his heart rejoices over every child who returns. He is celebrating because he is joy. God has this joy, when one of us sinners goes to him and asks his forgiveness.

What is the danger? It is that we presume we are righteous and judge others. We also judge God, because we think that he should punish sinners, condemn them to death, instead of forgiving. So ‘yes’ then we risk staying outside the Father’s house! Like the older brother in the parable, who rather than being content that his brother has returned, grows angry with the father who welcomes him and celebrates. If in our heart there is no mercy, no joy of forgiveness, we are not in communion with God, even if we observe all of his precepts, for it is love that saves, not the practice of precepts alone. It is love of God and neighbor that brings fulfilment to all the Commandments. And this is the love of God, his joy: forgiveness. He waits for us always! Maybe someone has some heaviness in his heart: “But I did this, I did that...”. He expects you! He is your father: he waits for you always!

If we live according to the law “an eye for an eye, a tooth for a tooth”, we will never escape from the spiral of evil. The evil one is clever and deludes us into thinking that with our human justice we can save ourselves and save the world! In reality, only the justice of God can save us! And the justice of God is revealed in the Cross: The Cross is the judgement of God on us all and on this world. But how does God judge us? By giving his life for us! Here is the supreme act of justice that defeated the prince of this world once and for all; and this supreme act of justice is the supreme act of mercy. Jesus calls us all to follow this path: “Be merciful, even as your Father is merciful” (Lk 6:36). I now ask of you one thing. In silence, let’s all think... everyone thinks of a person with whom we are annoyed, with whom we are angry, someone we do not like. Let us think of that person and in silence, at this moment, let us pray for this person and let us become merciful with this person.

Let us now invoke the intercession of Mary, Mother of Mercy.

Pope Francis



Dinner options are baked fish with baked potato & coleslaw or fried fish with fries & coleslaw. Dinners are \$15 each. Vegetable Soup and The Valley Café's New England Clam Chowder 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!*



Reminder: 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 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.

Jubilee of Hope and the Saints Pilgrimage with Fr. Michael Monette November 13-18, 2025

Leaving and Returning from St. Kathryn Parish in Hudson, NH

What better way to celebrate this Holy Year than by making a local pilgrimage to the Saints, Blesseds, and Servants of **God** who make up the history of our nation. This six day, five night journey will combine faith and recreation as we visit and learn about those men and women in the Northeastern United States who have already been or who are on their way to being canonized as saints in the Church. The saints are truly living witnesses to hope in the power of **God**! As the Letter to the Hebrews states, *"We are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses"* (Heb. 12:1).

Join us this November as we seek their company and intercession and as we ask the Lord to be renewed as pilgrims of hope! For more information, visit www.stkathryns.org/skpilgrimage2025.

Coming Up in April: EASTER Flowers

March 30: Partners in Charity

April 6: Catholic Relief Services

April 13: Building Fund

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
2/23/2025	\$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
3/23/2025	\$4,119.00	\$2,238.24	\$6,357.24	\$8,700
Average Weekly To-Date FY 2025	\$4,689.63	\$3,785.31	\$8,474.94	\$8,700



Knights of Columbus Mumford Council 365

www.kofc365.org

Drive Up Food Drive



Helping Families in Our Local Community

People interested in donating to help the food insecure, drive their donated goods to Mumford Hall. KofC volunteers unload the items from your car and deliver them to local Food Pantries (Northbridge Association of Churches, Douglas and Sutton) that same day.

*It's simple, easy to donate and really helps local people in the
Blackstone Valley*

Where To Be: Knights of Columbus (Mumford) Hall

77 Prescott Road

Whitinsville, MA

Date: Saturday, April 5, 2025 10-1pm

What are Food Pantries asking for?

Staple Food Items

Peanut Butter

Canned Ham

Pasta

Canned vegetables (Corn, Green beans, Yams, Peas)

Potatoes (bag or instant mashed)

Cookie Mix

Cake mix (brownies, cake, frosting)

Drink Mix (lemonade, fruit punch, iced tea)

Canned Pie Filling (pumpkin, fruit)

Tuna

Jam

Macaroni and cheese

Rice

Canned fruit

Box of Jello or Pudding mix

Cans of soup

Pie Crust Mix

Grocery gift card

Personal Care Items:

Toothbrushes

Hand soap

Children diapers (All sizes)

Disposable masks

Dishwashing liquid

Toothpaste

Hand sanitizer

Adult diapers (All sizes)

Laundry detergent

Pet Supplies:

Cat or dog food / Pet treats

Kitty litter

School Lunch Items:

Snacks for lunches

Juice boxes

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

E-mail: 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
for more information.