



st. patrick's
ROMAN CATHOLIC PARISH
LOVE GOD. LOVE ONE ANOTHER. GROW DISCIPLES.



THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT
December 14, 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

Parish Staff

Pastor: Rev. Tomasz Borkowski
FrTomasz@mystpatricks.com

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DeaconChris@mystpatricks.com

Director of Finance and Operations:
Mrs. Elizabeth Baker: Liz@mystpatricks.com

Director of Ministries & Growth:
Mrs. Sadie Perkins: Sadie@mystpatricks.com

Interim Director of Student Ministries:
Mrs. Shelly Mombourquette: Shelly@mystpatricks.com

Director of Music Ministries:
Mr. Christopher Bilodeau: Chris@mystpatricks.com

Director of A/V Ministries:
Mr. Shawn McPherson: Shawn@mystpatricks.com

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

Volunteer Support

Wedding Coordinator:
Ms. Mary Contino: MaryC@mystpatricks.com

Staff Support:
Mrs. Marylin Arrigan: officesupport@mystpatricks.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 rectory for information on receiving the Sacraments of Baptism, Reconciliation, Matrimony, Sacrament of the Sick, and for home-bound 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 December 13 & 14

Anointing of the Sick after all Masses this weekend

Reconciliation on Sunday, December 14 from 2:00 - 3:00 p.m.

Sat.	4:30 PM	+	Michael Weldon (31st Anniversary) By his Family
Sun.	8:00 AM	+	Sue Flamand (Remembrance) By Moe & Breeze
	10:00 AM	+	Arsilia LaPointe (6th Anniversary) By her Family
	5:00 PM	+	Raymond Gervais (17th Anniversary) + Lillian Simmons (12th Anniversary) By Raymond's Wife

Week of December 15 - 19

Mon.	8:30 AM	+	Parishioners of St. Patrick's
Tues.	8:30 AM	+	Parishioners of St. Patrick's
Weds.	3:00 PM	+	<i>Adoration & Divine Mercy</i>
Weds.	4:30 PM	+	Kristen LeBlanc Marsh (7th Anniversary) By The Bartlett Family
Thursday + Friday		+	No Mass

Weekend of December 20 & 21

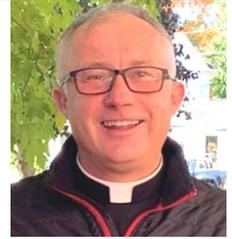
Sat.	4:30 PM	+	Sarah Kilby (7th Anniversary) By her Family
Sun.	8:00 AM	+	Mathew Thompson (1st Anniversary) By his Loving Family
	10:00 AM	+	Dick Desjardin (Remembrance) By his wife, Aline
	5:00 PM	+	John Arrigan (Remembrance) By his Family

BAPTISM

Jeremy Daniel Tucker-Freeman
Sunday, December 14

The Mass book is open for the months of December through February. 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:



Dear Friends,

Over 300 books by Matthew Kelly, “Slowing Down to the Speed of Joy,” have been given away in the first two weeks of Advent in our parish. There is power in this title. Therefore, I am not surprised that so many people took it home. We live in the world that can make us feel anxious, stressed out, overburdened, rushed, over- stretched, distracted, overwhelmed, out of balance... and so on and so on. The world has convinced us that “busy” is our best friend and the more we do, the better off we are.

Matthew Kelly argues that “busy” is our toxic friend. Interesting idea...

Ultimately, from the Christian perspective, joy, much like peace and hope, is greater than our circumstances. It is rooted in God, who no matter how dire our situation may be is there to restore and transform us, that is the point of the first reading from Isaiah (35:1-6),

“The desert and the parched land will exult;
the steppe will rejoice and bloom.
They will bloom with abundant flowers,
and rejoice with joyful song.
The glory of Lebanon will be given to them,
the splendor of Carmel and Sharon;
they will see the glory of the LORD,
the splendor of our God.
Strengthen the hands that are feeble,
make firm the knees that are weak,
say to those whose hearts are frightened:
Be strong, fear not!
Here is your God,
he comes with vindication;
with divine recompense
he comes to save you.
Then will the eyes of the blind be opened,
the ears of the deaf be cleared;
then will the lame leap like a stag,
then the tongue of the mute will sing.”

Notice that Isaiah is writing to the Jewish people who find themselves in horrific circumstances; their Temple was destroyed during the Babylonian war and many of them were exiles in the foreign and pagan land. They will rejoice because God will deliver them and bring about vindication.

(Continued...)

(...Continued)

It is not unlike Paul who in the Letter to the Philippians (4:4-7) where he says,

“Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice. Have no anxiety at all, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, make your requests known to God. Then the peace of God that surpasses all understanding will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.”

What is amazing is that Paul is writing these words from prison. His circumstances are dire. He is writing this letter and saying these words not from a beach... but from prison.

A place where you could hardly think of joy; a place where anxiety is real. These were the circumstances he was in. So too with us, there are many things that trouble us these days. It may sometimes seem when you look at your life that there is little reason for sustained joy and peace.

But Paul, is not asking us to rejoice in circumstances of life, there are many that bring sadness or even anger and many that bring us happiness and smiles. He says: Rejoice in the Lord; not in circumstances. Rejoice in the Lord, who speaks of peace, love, and hope. Rejoice in the Lord, who has lifted you up before, when you were down.

The source of Christian joy is God and his son Jesus Christ. And sometimes when you feel overwhelmed, restless, torn-apart, stretch-out to the limit, and going faster than the speed of light, it may be a call to slow down to the speed of God who is our joy, simplify, readjust, recalculate and reboot and seek a “better way.”

My friends, have a blessed Third Week of Advent,

Fr. Tomasz

Gaudete Sunday



The Third Sunday of Advent is called Gaudete Sunday, the day when we light the pink candle on the Advent wreath. Rose vestments are worn to emphasize our joy that Christmas is near.

Gaudette means “rejoice.” This day reminds us of the joy that is to come, and serves, amid this season of penance, as a kind of “break” when we recall the hope we have because of the coming of our Lord Jesus.

THANK YOU to everyone who has increased their weekly giving so far!

- So far, 50 families have made pledges
- The Average Weekly Increase per family is currently \$7.52
- Projected Annual Increase is currently \$19,548

Our parish goal is to increase our yearly weekly giving by \$28,000. Imagine if all 350 families who give increased their contribution by just \$2.00 a week, then our parish would have a yearly increase of \$36,400.

Pledge cards were mailed and are available in the church. You can either return the card or visit www.mystpatricks.com/increase-giving. It is important that you return the Invest in Growth card or submit it online so we can plan for the future accordingly. If you have questions or need help, please email Liz Baker at liz@mystpatricks.com or call 508-234-5656.

WE NEED EVERYONE'S HELP.

THE GREATER THE PARTICIPATION, THE GREATER THE SUCCESS.

INVEST IN GROWTH

"I have loved you..."

Pope Leo XIV

Upcoming Collections

December 21: Faith Formation

December 25: Christmas

December 28: Heating

January 4: Catholic University

To Give a Contribution

Text the word **mystpatricks** 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 donations, search business for @mystpatricks



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
11/2/2025	\$7,165.50	\$7,911.89	\$15,077.39	\$9,300
11/9/2025	\$4,780.00	\$5,198.31	\$9,978.31	\$9,300
11/16/2025	\$3,962.00	\$3,246.15	\$7,208.15	\$9,300
11/23/2025	\$4,662.00	\$1,067.92	\$5,729.92	\$9,300
11/30/2025	\$5,731.00	\$8,846.34	\$14,577.34	\$9,300
Average Weekly To-Date FY 2026	\$4,738.82	\$4,267.98	\$9,006.80	\$9,300

Christmas Music Concert

You are invited to a Celtic-inspired Christmas music concert by our very own Roots & Relics ensemble. Musical instruments featured are the bodhrán, bass, acoustic guitar, fiddle, and Irish whistle. We look forward to seeing you on Friday, December 19 at 7:00 p.m. in the church. The concert is open to the community so spread the word. We are excited to come together for an evening of holiday music & song.



Blackstone Valley Emergency Shelter Festival of Trees Event

Once again, St. Patrick's donated a Christmas tree to the Annual Festival of Trees, which supports and is put on by the Blackstone Valley Emergency Shelter. This year's theme was woodland creatures and the title was All His Creatures. The tree featured ornaments depicting wild animals — deer, owls, foxes, hedgehogs, cardinals, and more — red berries, iridescent glass balls, and gold ribbon. Included gifts under the tree were a bird feeder and seed (to compliment the theme) and holiday chocolates. Congratulations to everyone who won a tree this year! We are very much looking forward to next year.



Christmas Giving Tree Update

Thank you to those who selected tags from the Christmas Giving Tree and generously returned your presents and gift cards for distribution to the recipients. We expect to distribute over 200 presents and gift cards to local families in need next weekend.



Volunteers are needed to assist with setting up the Parish Center and distribution of the gifts on Saturday, December 20th, from 10:00 a.m. through 1:30 p.m. 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.

Agape Café

AGAPE (Love) Café is open after the 10:00 a.m. Mass. Come downstairs to the Parish Center to enjoy coffee, donuts, juice, and fruit.

We hope that all will attend. Have a great time catching up with old friends and making new friends.

All are welcome!

*Come socialize
and enjoy
fellowship.*



Thank you



**Thank you for remembering
St. Patrick's in you memorial
and will contributions.**

**A special thank you to the family of
Chesterline Dion**

**Who asked for donations to
St. Patrick's Church.**

**We greatly appreciate your
generosity in memory of
your loved one.**

THANK YOU

Kayla Whitney collected hats, gloves, and scarves; and Emily Billmyer dropped them off to the rectory last week. They will be distributed at John 21 Community Breakfast, to the Blackstone Valley Emergency Shelter, and to recipients who participated in our giving tree program. Thank you Kayla and Emily, and to all who donated! The winter items will surely bring some warmth to many who need it during the chilly months.



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.

CONGRATULATIONS

To Our Winter Cash Calendar Winners So Far!

**Kathy Richer, Ann Riley, Joyce Silva, Debra Ciccone,
Joe Pelgrin, Claudia Spiller, Roberta Fritz,
Helen Anderson, Jeanne Turner**



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. Amen.



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.)

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