



st. patrick's

ROMAN CATHOLIC PARISH

LOVE GOD. LOVE ONE ANOTHER. GROW DISCIPLES.



Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time
February 1, 2026

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.mystpatrick.com

Parish Staff

Pastor: Rev. Tomasz Borkowski

FrTomasz@mystpatrick.com

Deacon: Deacon Chris Finan

DeaconChris@mystpatrick.com

Deacon in Training: David Smaltz

David@mystpatrick.com

Director of Finance and Operations:

Mrs. Elizabeth Baker: Liz@mystpatrick.com

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Mrs. Shelly Mombourquette: Shelly@mystpatrick.com

Director of Music Ministries:

Mr. Christopher Bilodeau: Chris@mystpatrick.com

Director of A/V Ministries:

Mr. Shawn McPherson: Shawn@mystpatrick.com

Cemetery Superintendents:

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

Volunteer Support

Wedding Coordinator:

Ms. Mary Contino: MaryC@mystpatrick.com

Staff Support:

Mrs. Marylin Arrigan: officesupport@mystpatrick.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 January 31 & February 1

Sat. 4:30 PM + Sandra Couto (Remembrance)
By Charlene Potvin and
Debbie Christenson

Sun. 8:00 AM + Parishioners of St. Patrick's
10:00 AM + Terry Nydam (Remembrance)
By Carolyn Lavallee

5:00 PM + Parishioners of St. Patrick's

Week of February 2 - 6

Mon. 8:30 AM + Remi Roy (Remembrance)
By his Family

Tues. 8:30 AM + John Arrigan (Remembrance)
By his Family

Weds. 3:00 PM + Adoration and Divine Mercy

Weds. 4:30 PM + Jean Spinelli (Remembrance)
By Nancy & Paul Venditti

Thursday & Friday + No Mass

Weekend of February 7 & 8

Sat. 4:30 PM + James Woeller (2nd Anniversary)
By his Family

Sun. 8:00 AM + Parishioners of St. Patrick's
10:00 AM + William Lavallee (Remembrance)
By Carolyn Lavallee

5:00 PM + Parishioners of St. Patrick's

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

Our Gospel this week is from the Gospel of Matthew chapter 5, and it is the opening of Jesus' Sermon on the Mount, which graces chapter 5, 6, and 7 in Matthew's gospel. The Gospel of Luke contains a similar lesson, but it is called the Sermon on the Plain and is much shorter, covering just about 41 verses in Luke chapter 6.



This week, Jesus presents the Beatitudes to the crowd, and in them we hear about the rewards that come alive when we align ourselves with Jesus. But, as we know, these rewards are not so easily gotten sometimes. Showing mercy, being clean of heart, being peacemakers... these things are not always so easy, especially in a world that, at times, seems to hold a very different set of values.

I've heard it said that the Beatitudes could be viewed as Jesus' self-reflection. In a way, I think the same could be said about us. In the Beatitudes, Jesus is calling us to live by certain values, and he teaches us that there will be real benefits which will reward those who live according to those values. But we know that through Jesus' sacrifice, our relationship with God isn't performance based. The amazing power of God's love, mercy and forgiveness isn't withheld from us until we've made the appropriate sacrifices or other "burnt offerings". That may have been the idea in Moses' time, but we don't live in that time. We live in this time, 2,000 years after Jesus gave it all on the cross and paid it all for all of us. The wages of sin is death, and Jesus paid that bill in advance, in full, for all of us for all time. So then, what do the Beatitudes mean to us today? For me, the Beatitudes is kind of like Jesus holding a mirror up to himself, but with me behind it. Jesus looking into my heart, and me searching for his heart in my life today.

God made us in his image, and that means that God is in our DNA. I can't speak for everyone, but I know that for me, I need regular reminders of what God sees in me; the good that God sees in me. The world around us is constantly tugging at us. There are lots of people who are given lots of money to get you and me to buy certain things or to think or even behave in certain ways. There's a whole science behind it! For us to know who we are as God's children, and for us to live humbly and with gratitude, lives rich in compassionate love; lives aligned with the Beatitudes — I'm sure this can be a thorn in the sides of some corporations, advertisers and politicians who are angling to widen any cracks in our relationship with God so they can then tell us what we really need. But the answers to what we need are already within us. God didn't bring Jesus to earth to die. God sent Jesus to show us how to live!

The rewards associated with the Beatitudes aren't necessarily only heavenly rewards. In fact, only in verse 12 does Jesus say, "*Rejoice and be glad, for your reward will be great in heaven.*" Many of the 'rewards' of the Beatitudes are things which are simply byproducts of living a life aligned with them. In the last few weeks, our pastor, Fr. Tomasz, has talked in his homilies about walking with Jesus as a way of life; a mindset. The Beatitudes is a great place to start because they can remind us of our potential in the eyes of God; our potential to love, and the impact that love can have on the world around us.

"Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God." (Matthew 5:9)



Fish & Chips

Ash Wednesday and Fridays during Lent

Dinner options are baked fish with baked potato & coleslaw **OR** fried fish with fries & coleslaw, as well as Clam Chowder. A vegetarian option will also be on the menu. Dinners will be available for in-house dining or pick-up on Ash Wednesday & Fridays during Lent — February 18 through March 27 — from 4:30 to 7:00 p.m. Payment by Venmo or Cash. To place a to-go order you may call 508-234-5656 **after 4:00 p.m.**

*Thank you for supporting the
Youth in Action Summer Service Trip to Bowling Green, Kentucky!*

Serve with JOY, Share God's LOVE!

Join Our Praise & Worship Team — If you are a musician and are looking to join our Music Ministry Team, under the direction of Chris Bilodeau, Director of Music Ministries, then we want to hear from you. Currently, the team is looking for talented individuals who play the guitar, bass, and drums. Musicians would play at Masses on Sundays at 5:00 p.m. If you are interested and would like more information, please contact Chris at 508-234-5656 or chris@mystpatricks.com. We look forward to having you join us!

Join Our Hospitality/Agape Team — Are you passionate about welcoming others and making them feel loved and valued? We're looking for ministers to join our Hospitality or Agape Team. As a member of our hospitality team, you'll have the opportunity to serve our parishioners and guests by providing a warm and inviting atmosphere before and after services. Your role will be crucial in helping us create a sense of community and belonging.

Responsibilities:

- Welcome and greet guests and members
- Provide information and answer questions
- Help with refreshments and snacks (at the 10am mass only)
- Ensure the entrance areas are tidy and welcoming

We'd love to have you join us! **Let's Serve Together!** If you feel called to serve in this meaningful ministry, please contact Sadie at 508-234-5656 or sadie@mystpatricks.com for more information. Thank you in advance!



21st Annual Wine & Chocolate Tasting

Event to Support the BV Emergency Shelter and the BV Rotary Club

To Be Held on Saturday, March 7th from 7:00 - 10:00 p.m.

Blissful Meadows Golf Club, Uxbridge



For further information and tickets can be obtained at <https://square.link/u/POU6pFPi>, www.BVemergencyshelter.org, or on Facebook at *BVwinetasting*. Tickets are \$40 per person. Don't miss out on this opportunity to join in the festivities and make a positive impact in the community.

Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

“Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.” (MATTHEW 5:3)

The phrase “poor in spirit” can be confusing. Think of it in this sense – poor in spirit means depending on God’s providence and not depending on our own self-reliance. Being detached from earthy things (power, money, and comfort) and being attached to heavenly things (charity, sacrifice, and mercy). Denying ourselves from satisfying our desires and helping others obtain their basic needs.



Give Hope to the Homeless



Gift Card Program

For the past eight years, Blackstone Valley Emergency Shelter has been a lifeline on the coldest winter nights. Along with emergency shelter, we provide gift cards that allow those experiencing homelessness to be customers at local restaurants, allowing them to sit down, eat, and power their phones.

2 WAYS YOU CAN HELP!

Donate \$5 Gift Cards to McDonald’s, Burger King, or Dunkin Donuts, \$10 Gift Cards to Subway or \$20 Gas Gift Cards.

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. We pray for our 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.



Upcoming Collections

February 1: Catholic Home Missions

February 8: John 21

February 15: Heating

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 -



venmo

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
12/21/2025	\$4,118.00	\$2,075.49	\$6,193.49	\$9,300
12/28/2025	\$3,590.00	\$1,917.87	\$5,507.87	\$9,300
1/4/2026	\$6,582.00	\$8,847.47	\$14,330.47	\$9,300
1/11/2026	\$4,881.00	\$1,182.93	\$6,063.93	\$9,300
11/18/2026	\$2,919.00	\$3,344.35	\$6,263.35	\$9,300
Average Weekly To-Date FY 2026	\$4,745.36	\$4,112.22	\$8,706.46	\$9,300

A Letter from Village Congregational Church (VCC)

I'm writing to highlight a unique volunteer opportunity and need here in our local community. **The Blackstone Valley Emergency Shelter (BVES)** is in desperate need of volunteers. Located at the Parish Center of St. Patrick's Church in Whitinsville on East Street, the shelter is a community supported non-profit open on the harshest nights to provide a safe space for those in need. And this year, the shelter is experiencing an unprecedented growth in men, women, and children seeking shelter & assistance in these cold winter months. To quote a message I received from VCC Member and shelter volunteer, Betty Smith:

"...the shelter at Saint Pat's is doubling in size with guests these days because of the need and the weather and we are desperate for overnight help... We have been getting people from Worcester and Milford because their shelters are full and we have been getting whole families too. I had a 2 month old on my shift the other day and tonight I'm supposed to have a one year old... We don't have a lot of volunteers for staying, to begin with, so now we are really feeling it. There are laws , if we don't have enough volunteers that we would have to close and turn all these people away. Once a person does a shift , they really see how easy it is , and how great the need is."

The shelter is open from **9:00 PM to 7:00 AM** on nights when it is below freezing. They are seeking volunteers to staff two shifts: **9:00 PM–2:00 AM** and **2:00 AM–7:00 AM**. If you feel an immediate call to volunteer, please e-mail **bv.emergency.shelter@gmail.com**, or contact John Lapointe at **508-254-3974**. And if you would like to learn more about the shelter and what volunteering there is like, Betty would like to encourage you to reach out to her by either e-mail (**jejoc1@gmail.com**) or phone **508-641-0224**. Another great resource is VCC Mission's Chair and BVES Board Member, Charlie Hill.

Your assistance can make all the difference. I hope you will consider joining other members of our church and wider faith community here in Northbridge and the Blackstone Valley as we together work to meet the need for warmth and shelter of our most vulnerable neighbors.

www.bvemercencyshelter.org/volunteer

May God bless and keep you all.

Prayerfully,

Rev. Ethan



NEW MEMBERS

WELCOME TO ST. PATRICK'S

*To register in the parish, please visit
www.mystpatricks.com*

Scroll down and click *I AM NEW!*

You may scan our website QR code for quick access.

St. Patrick's Website



Prayer Group will start meeting on
Wednesday, February 4 at 9 a.m.
in the Chapel. Come join us.
We hope to see you there!

Thank You

One of our parishioners, Steve, has been shoveling, snow blowing, and salting walkways at St. Patrick's for the last couple of winters now. He does this all on top of his day job, and in addition to several other ways he volunteers for the parish. *Thank you, Steve, for giving your time and energy to keep things safe for the parishioners & visitors of our church.*

Let Us Pray

"Dear Lord, thank you for keeping us safe through the snowstorm. We pray for those impacted, that you'd provide comfort and support. Help us show your love and care to all in need, especially the work of the Blackstone Valley Emergency Shelter, where hope and hospitality are shared. We pray for the volunteers who give selflessly, and those who serve with compassion. May the shelter be a haven of dignity and peace for all. As we gather this weekend and read the Gospel, we ask for your blessings on our community, our church, and our ministries. Guide us, strengthen us, and help us to reflect your love. We pray all this In Jesus' name, Amen."

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!*



*Thank you to our Hospitality Team members who give their time to serve at the café.
They help make it a welcoming place to be each Sunday.*

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.

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; Captain Robie Sabourin, Army, Middle East

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.

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