

"To Preserve The Flame"
SAINT JOHN'S CHURCH

44 Temple St. Worcester, MA 01604

Phone: 508-756-7165

Msgr. Tinsley Center at Ascension Campus: 774-243-6351

PARISH STAFF

Pastor

Fr. John Madden
frjohnmadden@gmail.com

Assisting Priests

Fr. Charles Armev
Fr. Jean Robert Simbert Brice
Fr. James Mazzone
Fr. Conrad Pecevich

Deacon

Van Nguyen

**Coordinators of
Religious Education**

Donna Mastrovito
Dianne Gustowski

**Director, After-School Program
and Ascension Clothing Center**

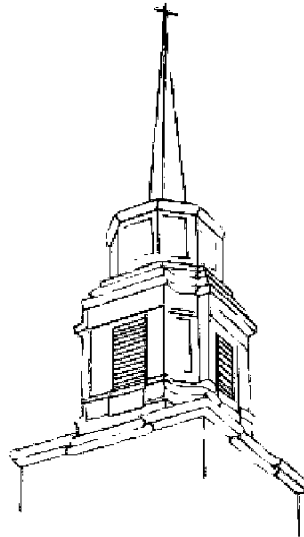
Sr. Patricia Murphy, SSJ

Music Ministry

Sean Redrow, Director
Lucia Clemente Falco, Asst. Dir.

Rectory Office Hours:

Tues.-Fri. 9 am - 4 pm
Jimmy Archibald, Manager
stjohnsworc@gmail.com



MASS SCHEDULE

Lord's Day Masses

Saturday Vigil: 4:15 & 7:15
pm

Sunday: 8 am, 10:15 am,
12:15 pm & 7:15 pm

Weekdays

Monday-Friday 6:15 pm

SUNDAY'S READINGS

Zep 3:14-18a

Phil 4:4-7

Lk 3:10-18

Worship Hymnal #1009

Parish Website

www.stjohnsworcester.org
www.stjohnsfoodforthe poor.org

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Mon.-Thurs.. 6:45 pm

Saturday- 3 pm

Holy Days

Vigil 6:15 p.m.

Holy Day 12:15, 6:15 p.m.

Sacrament of Marriage

Please contact the parish office at
least one year prior to planned date
of marriage

Sacrament of Baptism

Please contact the rectory for
an appointment

Sacrament of the Sick

Please contact the parish office for
a priest

**Monthly Mass for Healing
Followed by the Celebration**

Of the

Sacrament of the Sick

4th Tuesday of the month
6:15 pm

Mass Intentions

Saturday, December 15, 2018

4:15 PM **Carl and Victoria Steele**, req. by Family;
George Comptois, req. by Family
7:15 PM **Msgr. Ed Tinsley**, req. by Friends

Sunday, December 16, 2018

8:00 AM **Connie and Adelle Sullivan**, req. by Family
10:15 AM **Elizabeth "Betty" Capuano (10th Anniv.)**,
req. by Family
12:15 PM **George Senkavitch and Gregory Stockmal
(10th Anniv.)**, req. by Family; **Deacon Paul Dacri**, req.
by Steve Prevoski
7:15 PM **Eunice White**, req. by Family

Monday, December 17, 2018

6:15 PM **Joe Comeau**, req. by Family

Tuesday, December 18, 2018

6:15 PM **Bill Leseman and Alexander Maleskas**, req.
by Family

Wednesday, December 19, 2018

6:15 PM **Josephine Kozlowski**, req. by Children

Thursday, December 20, 2018

6:15 PM **Thomas Delphine, Roger and Peter Gauvin**,
req. by Family

Friday, December 21, 2018

6:15 PM **Deacon Paul Dacri**, req. by Friends

Saturday, December 22, 2018

4:15 PM **Eleanor Prevoski**, req. by Family; **Mary and
Joseph Paskavitz, Rose and Frank Allelunas,
Anthony and Adele Dailida**, req. by Family
7:15 PM **Mr. and Mrs. Joseph O'Coin**, req. by Family;
Victor Rivera, req. by Family

Sunday, December 23, 2018

8:00 AM **Al Johnson, Sr.**, req. by Family; **Edith
Boudas (10th Anniv.)**, req. by Family
10:15 AM **Adele Zemaitis**, req. by Granddaughter
Danute Miner; **Patricia Gaudette**, req. by a Friend
12:15 PM **Milton Joseph Pepin**, req. by Wife Helen
and Family; **Vincent Richardson (25th Anniv.)**, req. by
Family
7:15 PM **Mae O'Brien (10th Anniv.)**, req. by Family;
Rose and Joseph Pezzella, Michael Lewis, req. by
Family

The Rosary is prayed each weekday beginning with the
Angelus at 5:50 p.m.

Dear Friends in the Lord,

On Wednesday evening the Central Mass Housing Alliance held its Annual Meeting. As Co-Chair, with Kevin O'Sullivan, of their Walk for the Homeless it was my pleasure to attend. This pleasure was enhanced when I was able to acknowledge the corporations, community groups, schools and parishes that make the Walk a true communal event helping the most vulnerable among us.

This pleasure was deepened even further by acknowledging "one of our own." Our Food for the Poor team is always one of the biggest fundraisers for the Walk. Our Captains, Linda Murphy and Connie Bartelson are legendary figures at CMHA. Linda was present to accept our plaque and, as always, to serve as the event photographer. Over and above this recognition, one of our team members, Mark Rivers was honored. Mark, again this year, was the largest individual fundraiser for the Walk. What made it even more special is that Mark is more than a fundraiser. He volunteers at the soup kitchen on a nearly daily basis and is a frequent volunteer at Hotel Grace, as well. Mark is a great example of someone who gets right into the mix to help. Congratulations to our whole team, the Captains and to our Best player!

The event was a much-needed shot in the arm. As you know, this was a tough week on Temple Street. The death of Firefighter Christopher Roy has had a profound effect on the entire city and beyond. The immediate and lasting effect, of course, is on the Roy family. Chris' daughter Ava, his mother, Michelle and father Ron, his brother Jason and sister-in-law Jennifer are the ones who need our most fervent prayers. I know that the St. John's parish community is always ready to help anyone who needs it. I have assured the Roy family that we will always be ready to help in whatever way they need.

An additional loss was the passing of long-time parishioner George Coleman. After the 4:15 Mass last Saturday someone said that it was the first time he attended the Mass when George was not there. He was a faithful member and a complete character. George was a retired policeman and I know that he would have been moved by Chris' death, especially coming in the line of duty. George loved St. John's and loved calling the Jordan Levy Show to brag on us! He will be missed, of course, but I know George will be interceding for us that the parish legacy of service will continue and, indeed, will grow.

In Christ's Peace,
Fr. John Madden

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

THIS WEEKEND'S HYMNS

Introit: *Gaudete in Domino*, Phil 4: 4, 5
Op.: # 392 On Jordan's Bank
Ps: Is. 12: 2-3, 4, 5-6 "Cry out with joy and gladness: for among you is the great and Holy One of Israel."
Alleluia: # 208
Prep.: # 390 Wild and Lone the Prophet's Voice
Eucharistic Accs.: # 304, 305, 311
Comm.: *Dicite, Pusillanimes*, Is. 35: 4
405 Creator of the Stars of Night
Cl.: # 387 O Come, Divine Messiah!

ONGOING EVENTS AT ST. JOHN'S

December 18 – Bible Study, 7 PM in the rectory.
December 21- Centering Prayer Group, 7 PM in the rectory.
January 28– Catholic Book Club, 7 PM in the rectory. The selection is "Dagger John: Archbishop John Hughes and the Making of Irish America" by John Loughery.

CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

Monday, December 24- Vigil Mass
4:15 PM
10:15 PM Schola Cantorum

Christmas Day Masses
8:00 AM
10:15 AM
12:15 PM Parish Choir

There is no 7:15 PM Mass on Christmas

SUPPLY DRIVE- Thank you so much to everyone who participated in this year's annual "Fill-A-Bag" Supply Drive! It was a huge success! We were able to donate vital supplies to help the mothers at Visitation House - and the St. John's soup kitchen now has enough toiletries to distribute to guests for several months to come. Thank you!

THE CLOTHING CENTER at the Ascension Campus will be closed for Christmas Break. The center will reopen on January 3rd. Any donations may be dropped off at the St. John's rectory in the meantime. Thank you.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Grades 1-6– This Sunday, December 16, 9-10 AM in the Church Hall.

Grades 7-9– This Sunday, December 16, 11:15AM - 12:15 PM in the church hall.

Confirmation (grade 10)- This Sunday, December 16, 11:15 AM-12:15 PM in the Xavier Center.

CHRISTMAS PAGEANT AND POT LUCK– The annual CCD Christmas Pageant and Pot-Luck will be held Sunday, December 16th following the 10:15 AM Mass. All are welcome to attend. Please bring a dish to share.

LITHUANIAN CHRISTMAS WAFERS are available in the sacristy after mass for a donation. Thank you.

CHRISTMAS MAGNETS- The social committee again this year will be selling Christmas Magnets (\$3.00 each) & Ornaments (\$5.00 each). These items will be on sale after Masses beginning the weekend of 11/17 and 11/18. They make great Christmas Stocking Stuffers. The profit from the sale of these items is used to defray the cost of the committees various activities.

CAR DONATION PROGRAM- Did you know you can donate your car, truck, motorcycle or boat to Catholic Charities and help us help your Worcester County neighbors? It's quick and easy to do. Just visit our website to donate your vehicle online at www.ccworc.org or call 1-888-CAR-7308 1-888-CAR-7308 to arrange a convenient pickup time and confirmation of your donation from Catholic Charities Donation Angel Program. The car in your driveway can help us to continue to offer many services to children, families and elders in our community so that they may regain home for a brighter future. Thank you!

UNIVERSITY OF DAYTON ONLINE LEARNING (DIOCESAN PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM) - Have you ever had a desire to expand your knowledge of the faith in areas such as Scripture, Liturgy and Worship, Prayer and Spirituality, Sacraments, Creed, or Church History? Check out the on-line courses available to adults through our Diocesan Partnership Program with U Dayton and the Virtual Community for Faith Formation. You can receive a substantial discount while learning in your own space during your personal hours of availability. If you have any questions, please call Barbara Ramian at 508-929-4308.

In Our Catholic Community...

A MASS FOR HEALING will be held this Tuesday, December 18 at 6:15 PM. After the Mass the Sacrament of the Sick will be administered. Anyone seeking the healing touch of God's love and mercy is welcome.

WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER-

TER- May the peace of Christ be with you this Christmas! Savor Christ's presence in your marriage by attending a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend. The next Weekends are Jan 18-20, 2019 in South Kingstown, RI and Mar 8-10, 2019 in Duxbury, MA. For more information, call Stephen & Michelle O'Leary at 800-710-9963 or visit them at <https://wwmema.org/>.

INTERESTED IN LEARNING HOW

TO HELP IN TV MINISTRY? - Whether you like to operate a camera, or would like to learn audio controls or even how to produce, we have a place for you in TV Ministry. We will train – all you need is a desire to learn and some free time. Call Steve at 508-791-2039 or email tvmass@charter.net for more information. Great service opportunity for high school or college students and retirees alike!

DAILY MASS ON TV AND THE IN-

TERNET- Tune in on Monday through Friday on Charter TV3 on channel 193 at 9 am for the local Daily Mass on cable celebrated by various priests from around our diocese. Also airs at 4:30 pm in Shrewsbury on Ch. 28, and 5 pm in Clinton area on Ch. 8.

Financial Report

Last weekend we received \$9463.66. We have also received:
Monthly- \$192.00 Restoration- \$94.00
Candles- \$218.00 Stipends- \$365.00
Parking- \$285.00 IMO Deacon Paul- \$145.00
Rent- \$100.00 Immaculate Conception- \$2313.00
Retired Religious- \$3277.00

Total- \$16,452.66 **Unrestricted-** \$13,081.66 **Restricted-**\$3371.00

FOOD FOR THE POOR: \$50 from a friend; \$20 from a friend; \$1,000 from a friend; \$25 from a friend; \$200 from a friend; \$100 from a friend; \$30 from a friend; \$20 from a friend; \$500 from a friend; \$20 from a friend; \$100 from a friend; \$100 from a friend; \$100 from a friend; \$100 IHO Fr. Madden's birthday; \$50 IMO Sarah Lavin; \$100 from Nine Points Woodworking; \$100 IMO George Cote; \$100 IMO Bart O'Connell; \$100 from Favulli Electric; \$50 IMO Eileen and Barry Woodward; \$25 IMO William Scalzulli; \$300 from the Columbus Civic Assoc.; 100 IMO John Morrissey; \$100 IHO the Cummings, Gildersleeve, Katz and Carroll Families; \$550 from the Thanksgiving Charity Fun Run

Expenses- \$23,868.07

Schola (1126.32) Altar (937.80) Administration (7352.61) After School (131.97) Clergy Benefit Plan (1007.00) State Payroll Taxes (1016.11) Church Electrical Repair (2080.50) House (588.01) Federal Payroll Taxes (4816.50) Ascension Electric (795.24) Office (563.16) Retired Religious (3277.07) Church Alarm (111.85)

Food for the Poor:

Income- \$ 7760.00 Expenses- \$8635.24

Our Parish Community...

...Offers prayers and condolences to the families of George Coleman, Christopher Roy, Vanda Bazikas and Florence Rivard who have been born into eternal life.

...Welcomes Thomas Joseph Tripaldi and Sylvie Marie Farrell who have entered the Catholic Community through the waters of Baptism.

Word of Life

"I invite all Christians, everywhere, at this very moment, to a renewed personal encounter with Jesus Christ, or at least an openness to letting him encounter them; I ask all of you to do this unfailingly each day. No one should think that this invitation is not meant for him or her, since no one is excluded from the joy brought by the Lord."

-- Pope Francis, *The Joy of the Gospel*