

"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. James Hoey
Fr. James Mazzone

Deacons

Paul Dacri
Van Nguyen

Coordinators of Religious Education

Donna Mastrovito
Dianne Gustowski

Director, After-School Program

Sr. Patricia Murphy, SSJ

Music Ministry

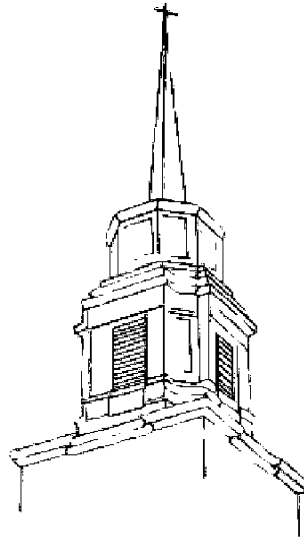
Sean Redrow, Director
Lucia Clemente Falco, Asst. Dir.

Rectory Office Hours:

Tues.-Fri. 9 am - 4 pm
Jimmy Archibald, Manager

Parish Email

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

JMk 11:1-10

Is 50:4-7

Phil 2:6-11

Mk 14:1-15:47

Worship Hymnal #1043

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 Deacon Paul 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, March 24, 2018

4:15 PM **Mary and Joseph Paskavitz, Rose and Frank Allelunas, Anthony and Adele Dailida**, req. by Family; **Leo and Helen Matys, Joseph and Ann Kirklauskas, Julia Kasparian and Family** req by family

7:15 PM **Judith Ann Daley (9th Anniv.)**, req. by Family; **Mattias Sosa**, req. by Christiana

Sunday, March 25, 2018:

8:00 AM **The McLearan Family**, req. by Family; **David Covello**, req. by Family

10:15 AM **Deceased Members of the Flynn and Fleming Family**, req. by Family; **Rose Labonte**, req. by Family

12:15 PM **William Riggieri**, req. by Family; **Shirley Paradis**, req. by Family

7:15 PM **Alexis Lenti (7th Anniv.)**, req. by Frank Lenti and Family; **Alfred and Theresa Lewis**, req. by Family

Monday, March 26, 2018

6:15 PM **Henry S. Kozlowski (25th Anniv.)**, req. by Children

Tuesday, March 27, 2018

6:15 PM **Dennis Cashman**, req. by Family

Wednesday, March 28, 2018

6:15 PM **Michael Brennan**, req. by Family; **Rudolph Gaudette**, req. by Family

Thursday, March 29, 2018– Holy Thursday

7:15 PM **THE PEOPLE OF ST. JOHN'S**

Friday, March 30, 2018– Good Friday

7:15 PM **THE PEOPLE OF ST. JOHN'S**

Saturday, March 31, 2018– Holy Saturday

7:15 PM **THE PEOPLE OF ST. JOHN'S**

Sunday, April 1, 2018– Easter Sunday

8:00 AM **THE PEOPLE OF ST. JOHN'S**

10:15 AM **THE PEOPLE OF ST. JOHN'S**

12:15 PM **THE PEOPLE OF ST. JOHN'S**

7:15 PM **THE PEOPLE OF ST. JOHN'S**

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

Dear Friends in the Lord,

Every year I refer to Holy Week as “the Annual Retreat of the Universal Church.” Recognizing that we gather with Christians all over the city, the country and the world heightens our appreciation of the importance of these days. Coming together to pray and worship is always beneficial, of course. We trust that it provides the benefit that we most need.

The Annual Dinner for the diocesan Adopt-A-Student Program was held this past Thursday. This is one of the best ministries in our Diocese. The program provides a Catholic education for around forty students each year. Students who otherwise would not have access to our Catholic schools.

It was a special pleasure for me to deliver the speech at this year’s dinner. I would offer you a copy of the speech but you can be sure that you have heard it all before – many times! Still, as we gather to celebrate Palm Sunday of the Lord’s Passion and the beginning of Holy Week there is a part of it that I think might be helpful:

I am convinced that the most important subject that we teach today is hope. Here is part of a long anonymous quote that I came across some time ago:

“Hope and despair are not opposites. They are cut from the same cloth, made from the same material, shaped from the very same circumstances. Most of all, every life finds itself forced to choose one from the other, one day at a time, one circumstance after another.”

An important part of “being up to something” is helping our students to choose hope.

It is perhaps primarily but not only our young who need to learn how to choose hope. One of the most important lessons of Holy Week is that we have reason to hope. The week begins (Jesus’ entrance into Jerusalem) and ends (the Resurrection) in triumph. During the week we re-member the depth of Jesus’ love for us. He came to serve and not be served. He suffers and dies for us even though we were his “enemy.”

This week in a special, indeed holy way we celebrate that both our imitation of Jesus’ service and our knowledge that he is present in our trials and tribulations, our suffering and death is the source of our hope. To complete the anonymous quote above: *Despair cements us in the present, hope sends us dancing around dark corners trusting in a tomorrow we cannot see. Despair says that there is no place to go but here. Hope says that God is waiting for us someplace else. So, we begin again.”*

Happy Holy Week,
Fr. John Madden

PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD

THIS WEEKEND'S HYMNS

Introit: # 1043 Hosanna to the Son of David/*Hosanna Filio David*, Mt. 21, 9
Op.: # 483 All Glory, Laud, and Honor
Ps. 22, "My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?"
Gospel Acc.: # 208 "Praise and Honor..."
Prep.: # 494 When I Survey the Wondrous Cross
Eucharistic Accs.: # 304, 305, 306, 311
Comm.: *Pater, si non potest*, Mt. 26, 42
488 Were you There
Cl.: # 489 O Sacred Head Surrounded

ONGOING EVENTS AT ST. JOHN'S

March 26— The Catholic Book Club, 7 PM in the rectory. The selection for March is "Abandonment to Divine Providence" by Fr. Jean Pierre Cassaude, S.J.

April 4— Social Activities Committee, 7 PM in the rectory.

April 20— Centering Prayer Group, 7 PM in the rectory.

HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

Tuesday, March 27—The Mass of Chrism will be celebrated at the Cathedral of St. Paul at 10:30 AM.

Holy Thursday, March 29— The Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper at 7:15 PM.

Good Friday, March 30— The Downtown Way of the Cross begins at St. John's at 12 noon and processes to the Cathedral of St. Paul. The Passion of the Lord will be commemorated at 7:15 PM.

Holy Saturday, March 31— The Easter Vigil will be celebrated at 7:15 PM.

Easter Sunday, April 1—Masses will be celebrated at 8:00 and 10:15 AM, 12:15 and 7:15 PM.

PARTNERS IN CHARITY is underway. This year's theme is "Faith in Action— Loving God by serving others." The appeal's patron is Dorothy Day, Servant of God. This year our parish goal is \$76,600. To date we have raised \$27,023.00. Thank you for your generosity in supporting this diocesan effort. Donations may be made to St. John's, or by sending directly to the Chancery and also online.

DID YOU KNOW? When you buy Hope for Housing gift cards, you keep the gift card for the full value that you paid. The stores then donate a percentage of the card value to the Hope for Housing program. It costs you nothing - a true WIN WIN! In April, cards will be sold on the weekends of 4/7-4/8 and 4/21-4/22 at the Saturday 4:15, Sunday 8:00 and 10:15 AM Masses. Turn grocery shopping into an act of love!

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASSES

Grades 1-6— Sunday, April 8 at 9 AM in the church hall.

Grades 7- 9— Sunday, April 8 11:15 AM in the church hall.

First Reconciliation/First Eucharist this Sunday, March 25 at 9 AM in the Xavier Center.

CONFIRMATION CEREMONY will be held on Sunday, April 8 at 3 PM at the Cathedral of St. Paul. All candidates and sponsors please arrive at St. Paul's by 2:15 PM. All are welcome to attend.

HAITIAN APOSTOLATE MONTHLY CALENDAR RAFFLE—to support our annual trip to Grand Goave, Haiti and the mission of the Be Like Brit orphanage and St. Francois parish will be held in April. Tickets are available after the Masses or at the rectory. They are \$10, 3 for \$25 and 7 for \$50. Thank you for your generous support of those in need!

LENTEN REGULATIONS FOR 2018

All Fridays in Lent are days of abstinence for all who have completed their 14th year. On Week Days of Lent there is no obligation to fast. However, voluntary acts of self-denial are recommended. Voluntary Self-Denial may include, in addition to fasting, participation in daily Mass, spiritual studies, Lenten Devotions, Stations of the Cross, saying the Rosary, deeds of mercy and kindness. Easter Duty Obligation must be made from the first Sunday in Lent (February 18) through Trinity Sunday (May 27).

DEEDS OF MERCY AND KINDNESS:

Brown Bag It— paper bags will be available in the church with a list of the food items most needed in our food pantry. You are invited to take a bag and when filled return it to the statue of St. Therese.

Baby Bottles and Rice Bowls will also be available. You are invited to place the money you would have spent on what you "give up" for Lent into the bottle and/or bowl. The bottles support the great pro-life work of Visitation House here in Worcester. The bowls support the great work done by Catholic Relief Services all across the globe.

ST. JOHN'S LENTEN DEVOTIONS

The Stations of the Cross are celebrated every Friday in Lent after the 6:15 PM Mass.

In Our Catholic Community...

A MASS FOR HEALING will be held this Tuesday, March 27 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.

NOTRE DAME ACADEMY'S open house for prospective students will be held this Sunday, March 25 from 2-4 PM. Students currently in 5th-8th grade are encouraged to attend. Please visit their website www.nda-worc.org to pre-register. NDA is the only Catholic private and independent college preparatory school for young girls in grades 7-12 in Central Mass.

GOOD FRIDAY FISH FRY- Back by popular demand, Fiddlers Green Pub will host its annual Good Friday Fish Fry (coffee/tea and dessert included) on Friday, March 30 from 5-8 PM. Tickets are \$12 in advance and \$15 at the door. For tickets please contact Beth at 508-847-2969 or they can be purchased at Fiddler's Green Pub, 19 Temple St., Worcester.

FISH FRY TO BENEFIT POLISH LANGUAGE

CLASSES- Our Lady of Czestochowa Parish will serve a fresh haddock fish fry on Fridays during Lent from Noon-6 pm in the lower level of the church, 34 Ward St., to benefit Saturday Polish Language School. Includes fried fish, chips and coleslaw for \$10 eat-in or take-out. Chowder, soup, drinks and pastry are available for an additional charge.

THE LITHUANIAN SCOUTS will be celebrating their annual Spring Festival (Kaziuko Muge) at Maironis Park 52 South Quinsigamond Ave in Shrewsbury this Sunday, Palm Sunday, starting at Noon. The Scouts are celebrating 100 years of scouting. A Lithuanian dinner and a chicken dinner will be served from 12:30 p.m. There will be vendors present plus the author, Ursula Song, who wrote about the Lithuanian resistance. The youngster from the Lithuanian School will also provide entertainment. Everyone is invited for an afternoon of fun.

Financial Report

Last weekend we received \$8724.16. We have also received:

Monthly- \$1725.00	Restoration- \$114.00
Candles- \$885.00	Parking- \$145.00
Stipends- \$950.00	CRS- \$442.00
Partners in Charity- \$3730.00	Novena- \$240.00
Easter Flowers- \$1244.00	Raffle- \$705.00

Total- \$18,904.16 **Unrestricted-** \$16,618.16; **Restricted-** \$4286.00

FOOD FOR THE POOR: \$200 IMO Mary McConville; \$25 IMO Peg Fitzgerald; \$75 IMO Kathleen Cushing; \$80 IMO Christopher Bosowski; \$50 IMO Felix and Anne Cataldo; \$15 from a friend; \$75 from a friend; \$25 IMO Pat Gaudette; \$75 IMO Chester Iaconi; \$100 IMO Graciano and Luzenia

Expenses- \$14,999.95

Schola (982.880) Donation (300.00) Admin (3028.46) Altar (1329.00) Rectory Cable/Phones/Internet (590.35) Fire Permit (300.00) House (765.58) Funerals (482.00) Lithuanian Donation (530.00) Church Electric (1318.00) Rectory Electric (969.72) Partners in Charity (3780.00) CRS (442.00) Confirmation (75.00) Office (111.96)

Food for the Poor
Income- \$3503.75
Expenses- \$4860.04

The Good Friday Collection is For the Churches in the Holy Land.

Our Parish Community...

...Offers prayers and condolences to the families of Barbara Williams, Matthew Metzmaker and Jeanette Allen who have been born into eternal life.

Word of Life

"... we share by faith in the passion of our Lord precisely by realizing that our life is a participation in his destiny. We find this difficult, because so often we fail to understand that the bitterness and burdens of our own life do—or should—give us a mysterious share in the destiny of all human beings... If we were aware of this... we would understand that his passion is the unique acceptance of the passion of humankind, in which it is accepted, suffered, redeemed, and freed into the mystery of God."

—Karl Rahner