

February 4, 2018

"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

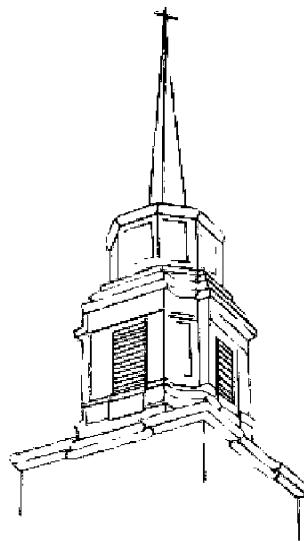
Sean Redrow, Director
Lucia Clemente Falco, Asst. Dir.

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

Jb 7:1-4, 6-7

1 Cor 9:16-19, 22-23

Mk 1:29-39

Worship Hymnal #1122

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, February 3, 2018

4:15 PM **All Souls in Purgatory and Deceased Members of F.O.S.S.**; **Alejandro "AJ" Lorente**, req. by Family

7:15 PM **Satyrh Munzert**, req. by Family; **Pat Casey, James Hearn, Jr. and Paul Hearn**, req. by Family

Sunday, February 4, 2018:

8:00 AM **Christopher Johnson**, req. by family; **Health and Intentions of Gail Webster**, req. by Green Island Residents Group

10:15 AM **Joe Comeau**, req. by family

12:15 PM **Jean Patricia Cosmo**, req. by Family

7:15 p.m. **Scott Lindberg**, req. by Family

Monday, February 5, 2018

6:15 PM **Jose Almedia and Delia Rueda**, req. by Family; **Mark F. Driscoll**, req. by Family

Tuesday, February 6, 2018

6:15 PM **Paul Gingras**, req. by Family; **Benedicta Myefsky**, req. by Family

Wednesday, February 7, 2018

6:15 PM **Joe Hickey**, req. by Friends

Thursday, February 8, 2018

6:15 PM **Dan Best**, req. by Friends

Friday, February 9, 2018

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

Saturday, February 10, 2018

4:15 PM **Francis D. McShea (Birthday Remembrance)**, req. by James Lizotte; **The Covello Family**, req. by Gary and Barbara Morris

7:15 PM **William Bresnahan**, req. by Family

Sunday, February 11, 2018:

8:00 AM **Patrick Johnson**, req. by family; **Joseph Modzelewski**, req. by Friends at VAAH

10:15 AM **Frank Riccardi**, req. by family

12:15 PM **Paul and Winifred Gingras**, req. by Family

7:15 PM **Frank V. Wright**, req. by Family

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

Dear Friends in the Lord,

In today's Gospel passage Mark, still recounting the first days of Jesus' public ministry, tells us: *Rising very early before dawn, he left and went off to a deserted place, where he prayed.* This is one of only three times that Mark records Jesus at prayer. After the feeding of the multitudes and in the Garden of Gethsemane being the other two times. The Gospels make clear that Jesus of Nazareth was very devout Jew. He himself tells us that he came "to fulfill the Law and Prophets." This mission of fulfillment finds its source in his fidelity to the Law and the Prophets. Jesus was recognized as a prayerful person. Clearly. The Evangelists recount him at prayer as a sign that something significant is about to arrive.

In today's passage Jesus is not left alone for long. Mark tells us that Simon and the others pursued and then found him because they wanted to inform him that: *Everyone is looking for you.* What Jesus informs them is that he has not come to seek the approval or adulation of the crowds. He does not indulge this moment of popularity. Instead, Jesus leads them away from there *to the nearby villages that I may preach there also. For this purpose have I come.*

In a world where too often people experience the *drudgery, misery, troubled nights and restlessness* of Job, the mission of Jesus focuses not on himself but on the Good News that the Kingdom of God is at hand. Paul accepted and remained faithful to this mission in his own life. The Great Missionary proclaims in this week's passage from First Corinthians: *All this I do for the sake of the gospel, so that I too may have a share in it.*

A week from this Wednesday, February 14, is Ash Wednesday and the start of the Lenten Season. (We will have Mass and the Distribution of Ashes at 12:15 and 6:15 p.m.). It is, of course, during these forty days above all that we are invited to rise early before dawn, find a deserted place and pray. Our 95th Annual Novena of Grace in Honor of St. Francis Xavier from Sunday, March 4 to Monday, March 12 offers a particularly powerful time for this prayer.

Like Jesus, we can learn again and anew that only prayer can lead us into God's presence and recognize the significant action of God in our lives. Like Paul, we can learn again and anew that our missionary activities on behalf of others, especially those most in need, provide us with a share of the Good News that we proclaim.

In Christ's Peace,
Fr. John Madden

THE FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

THIS WEEKEND'S HYMNS

Introit: *Venite, adoremus*, Ps. 95 (94):6, 7

Op.: # 714 How Sweet the Name of Jesus Sounds

Ps.: Ps. 138 "In the sight of the angels I will sing your praises, Lord"

Gospel Acc.: # 208, 'Alleluia'

Prep.: # 559 O Christ, Your Heart Compassionate

Eucharistic Accs.: 353, 355, 356, 311

Comm.: *Introibo*, Ps. 43 (42):4

Cl.: # 606 New Songs of Celebration

ONGOING EVENTS AT ST. JOHN'S

February 5—RCIA in the 7 PM rectory.

February 6—Bible Study, 7 PM in the rectory.

February 16—Centering Prayer Group, 7 PM in the rectory.

February 26—The Catholic Book Club, 7 PM in the rectory. The selection is "Fr. Solanus Casey" by Catherine Odell

SOUPER BOWL OF CARING— More than 25 years ago, the Souper Bowl of Caring began with a simple prayer from a single youth group:

*"Lord, even as we enjoy
the Super Bowl football game,
help us to be mindful of those
without a bowl of soup to eat."*

Our parish youth and parents will once again be collecting donations as parishioners exits from Mass this Souper Bowl of Caring Weekend. 100% of the donations will stay at St. John's for the Food for the Poor. Thank you for your support of this important effort.

HOTEL GRACE is looking for volunteers for the night shifts. The night shifts run from 11 PM to 3 AM and 3 AM to 7 AM. If anyone is interested in volunteering for these shifts, please contact Fr. Madden at the rectory. Thank you.

HOPE FOR HOUSING GIFT CARDS- Gift cards to local stores (Shaws, Stop & Shop, Dunkin Donuts and more) are sold every month on the 1st and 3rd weekends at the Saturday 4:15, Sunday 8:00 & 10:15 AM Masses. In February, cards will be sold on the weekends of 2/3-2/4 and 2/17-2/18. For a complete calendar of card sales dates see our page on the church website. Every card purchase provides support to at-risk families in our community. Thank you!

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASSES

Grades 1-6— This Sunday, February 4 at 9 AM in the church hall.

Grades 7-9— This Sunday February 4, 11:15 AM in the church hall.

Confirmation— This Sunday, February 4, 11:30 AM – 12:45 PM in the Xavier Center.

First Reconciliation/First Eucharist will continue this Sunday, February 4 at 9 AM in the Xavier Center.

CONFIRMATION PRAYER CARDS are available in the back of the church. Please pray for one (or more!) of our Confirmation candidates as they prepare to receive this Sacrament in April. You will have a chance to meet them at the Sending Mass in March. Thank you!

THE ST. RAFOA PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY will be meeting on Wednesday February 14th, 9:30-11:00 AM in the lower chapel. All knitters and crocheters are welcome to come. If anyone needs a prayer shawl for someone, please call Connie at 508-755-5172.

NOTRE DAME HOSPICE is looking for kind, compassionate people. Our volunteers give the precious gift of their time to our hospice patients. They provide companionship in so many ways: sharing stories and experiences, reading, praying or just sitting quietly holding their hand. We also find that pet therapy brings a lot of joy to our patients, if you happen to have a dog. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact, Debbie Karalus, Hospice Volunteer Coordinator at ND Hospice 508-852-5505 or email at dkaralus@notredamehealthcare.org What a great way to be Christ to others!

NOTRE DAME ACADEMY invited all current 6th and 7th grade and transfer students to spend an academic day at NDA through May 1. If you are interested please contact the office of admissions at 508-757-6200 Ext 229 or email admissions@nda-worc.org.

ST. JOHN'S HIGH SCHOOL will host an Open House for Transfer Students on Tuesday, February 6 from 6:00 - 8:00 PM. Please email admissions@stjohnshigh.org or call (508) 842-8934 ext. 266 to register.

In Our Catholic Community...

A MASS FOR HEALING will be held Tuesday, February 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.

18TH ANNUAL DIOCESAN CATHOLIC MEN'S CONFERENCE AT ASSUMPTION COLLEGE-

Men (of all ages, including teens and college students) are invited to this important annual Conference, scheduled for Assumption College on Saturday, March 17. Visit the conference website at www.firstmensconf.org for information and to purchase tickets online and elsewhere. Come and hear dynamic talks from outstanding Catholic leaders: Marcellino D'Ambrosio, Father David Cavanagh, Robert Rogers, Ryan Tremblay, and Elvis Grbac. Bishops and priests will hear confessions. Bishop McManus will offer the Conference Mass. For a Conference brochure, further information or registration, call Sara Smillie at 508-929-4345. Adult tickets are \$45 until February 28, afterwards \$60. Student tickets are \$30.

PROCEDURES FOR REPORTING SEXUAL MISCONDUCT-

If you are aware of an incident of sexual misconduct and the suspected offender is a priest, deacon, candidate, seminarian, religious, lay minister, employee or volunteer, you are encouraged to report the matter to the Diocese of Worcester. The report can be made by phone, contact Judy Audette, Victims Assistance Coordinator, (508) 929-4363 or in writing, and sent to 49 Elm Street, Worcester, MA 01609.

BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP IN WEST BOYLSTON-

Our Lady of Good Counsel Parish will hold a six-session bereavement support group beginning, Monday, February 19, 1 – 2:30 PM in the Parish hall, 111 Worcester St., West Boylston. For more information or to register (required prior to the start of the sessions) call Renate Isbell (508) 835-3286.

Financial Report

Last weekend we received \$10,475.38. We have also received:

Monthly- \$1500.00	Candles- \$151.00
Parking- \$35.00	Stipends- \$100.00
Home Missions- \$421.00	Free Press- \$39.00
School Rent- \$4659.75	

Total- \$17,381.13 **Unrestricted-** \$16,960.13; **Restricted-** \$421.00

FOOD FOR THE POOR: \$50 IMO Pat Gaudette; \$200 from a friend; \$435 from a friend; 60 IMO Bernice Adams; \$125 IMO Jim McDonald; \$500 IMO Elaine Karis; \$400 for new van; \$250 IMO Dolores Gallo

Expenses- \$10,723.88

Schola (785.20) Altar (213.68) Church Hall (753.50) Stipends (1350.00) Federal Payroll Taxes (3707.02) Administration (2620.41) House (170.95) Preserve the Flame (556.00) Home Missions (421.00) Ascension Alarm (111.39) Rectory Alarm (34.73)

Food for the Poor

Income- \$26,138.90 Expenses- \$3685.63

This weekend's second collection is the Monthly Special Needs Offering.

YEAR TO DATE- In January we had a cash loss of \$4,071.16. Our cash gain for FY 17/18 is now \$3,217.55. Thank you for your generous support of St. John's.

Our Parish Community...

...Offers prayers and condolences to the families of Timothy Plouffe, Edward Lemanski, Peter Liddy and Gerald Goggins who have been born into eternal life.

...Welcomes Bryce Duprius who has entered the Catholic Community through the waters of Baptism.

Word of Life

**“If you're too busy to pray... you're too busy.”
—Saint Teresa of Calcutta**