

*"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**

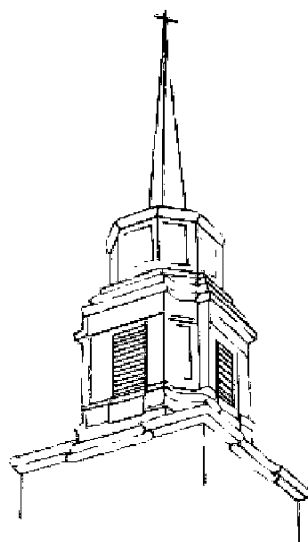
Sean Redrow, Director  
Lucia Clemente Falco, Asst. Dir.

**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**

Ex 20:1-17

1 Cor 1:22-25

Jn 2:13-25

Worship Hymnal #1034

**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 3, 2018

4:15 PM **All Souls in Purgatory and Deceased Members of F.O.S.S.**; **Dorothy Fresolo**, req. by Family  
7:15 PM **Scott Lindberg**, req. by Family

Sunday, March 4, 2018:

8:00 AM **Betty Gleason**, req. by Family; **Jim and Margaret Falvey**, req. by Family  
10:15 AM **Susan Wright (9th Anniv.)**, req. by family;  
**Deceased Members of the Madonna Family**, req. by Family  
12:15 PM **The Parath and Splaine Families**, req. by Family; **Andrew Belsito (10th Anniv.)**, req. by Family  
7:15 PM **Dennis Cashman**, req. by Family

Monday, March 5, 2018

9:15 AM **Peter Liddy**, req. by Friends  
12:15 PM **Deceased Members of the Marotta Family**, req. by Family  
6:15 PM **Teresa Canizares and Jaimie Meneses**, req. by Family

Tuesday, March 6, 2018

9:15 AM **Msgr. Ed Tinsley**, req. by Friends  
12:15 PM **Ann and Thomas Cummings**, req. by Friends;  
**Kevin and Mary Carroll**, req. by Family  
6:15 PM **Julia Senckowski (1st Anniv.)**, req. by Family

Wednesday, March 7, 2018

9:15 AM **Jack Kelley**, req. by Family  
12:15 PM **Sophie Groccia**, req. by Gary and Barbara Morris  
6:15 PM **Jeffery Smith**, req. by Friends

Thursday, March 8, 2018

9:15 AM **Patricia Gaudette**, req. by The Degons  
12:15 PM **Msgr. Rocco Piccolomini**, req. by Family  
6:15 PM **Stanley Wolosz**, req. by Dianne Gustowski

Friday, March 9, 2018

9:15 AM **Joe Comeau**, req. by Friends  
12:15 PM **Michael Lewis**, req. by Family  
6:15 PM **Mary I. and John J. Welsh**, req. by Family

Saturday, March 10, 2018

4:15 PM **Joseph and Edna Gustowski**, req. by Family;  
**Alfred Lamountain-Burke**, req. by Peggy and Andy Sokolowski  
7:15 PM **Frank V. Wright**, req. by Family

Sunday, March 11, 2018:

8:00 AM **Irene Recko (1st Anniv.)**, req. by Patty, Al, Nancy and Loraine; **Tim Plouffe**, req. by Sue and Al Johnson  
10:15 AM **Joe and Phil Fitzgerald**, req. by family; **David Covello**, req. by Family  
12:15 PM **Health and Intentions of Fr. Francis Britto, S.J.**, req. by Frank Carroll; **Mary Prunier**, req. by Family  
7:15 PM **Scott Gow**, req. by Family

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

My dear brothers and sisters in the Lord,

The holy season of Lent is a privileged time of grace and reconciliation in the Church. During this time we are invited to prepare ourselves for the celebration of the great Paschal Feast of Easter and the awesome hope to eternal salvation offered to us in the raising of Jesus Christ from the dead.

The Church invites us all to prepare ourselves by attuning our minds and hearts more closely to the Gospel of Christ which calls us to conversion and transformation. As always, by devoting more time to personal and communal prayer we can establish an ever deepening communion with God who calls us to become his children in name and in fact. Through the giving of alms, assistance to those in need, we detach ourselves from all in the world that can stand in our path, thus lessening our dependence on the things of this world and more intensely on the Reign of God. Fasting also assists us in emptying ourselves bodily allowing that space for Christ to fill not with the food that perishes, but rather with the food that endures unto eternal life.

In recent years I have asked each parish to embrace and celebrate the pastoral practice of offering the Sacrament of Penance each Tuesday evening during the season of Lent. This program entitled "Come Home to God's Mercy" has borne great fruit in allowing this great Sacrament of Healing and Mercy to be celebrated conveniently in every parish during the Season of Lent.

This year in addition to the "Come Home to God's Mercy" program, our Holy Father Pope Francis has requested that another pastoral initiative "24 Hours for the Lord" be celebrated in every diocese during the Season of Lent. This initiative will offer the Celebration of the Sacrament of Reconciliation in conjunction with Eucharistic Adoration for a 24 hour period in select parishes in our diocese.

I have chosen four parishes of our Diocese to host the celebration of this initiative all on March 9-10, 2018. Eucharistic Adoration and the Sacrament of Reconciliation will begin following the morning, daily Mass on **Friday, March 9** in each of these parishes. It will conclude either with the morning daily Mass or Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament on **Saturday, March 10**. Area priests will be available during this 24 hour period to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

You are cordially invited to avail yourself of the Sacrament of Reconciliation and/or Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament during this time.

The parishes celebrating 24 Hours for the Lord are:  
**Christ the King Church, Worcester, MA**  
**Holy Spirit Chapel - Annunciation Parish, Gardner, MA**  
**St. Joseph Church, Charlton, MA**  
**St. Roch Church, Oxford, MA**

It is my prayerful hope that these times set aside for prayerful adoration along with the opportunity for Reconciliation will be what Pope Francis has termed a "moment of grace for the entire Church community."

Sincerely yours in Christ,  
Most Rev. Robert J. McManus, STD  
Bishop of Worcester

## THE THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

### **THIS WEEKEND'S HYMNS**

Introit: *Oculi Mei*, Ps. 25 (24): 15, 16  
*Ave Maria* # 902

Op.: # 732 Christ is Made the Sure Foundation  
Sunday: Hymn # 1 in the Novena Leaflet

Ps. 19, "Lord, you have the words of everlasting life."  
Gospel Acc.: # 208 "Praise and honor..."

Prep.: # 707 I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say

Sunday: Hymn to St. Francis Xavier, Novena Leaflet  
Eucharistic Accs.: # 304, 305, 306, 311

Comm.: *Passer Invenit*, Ps. 84 (83): 4, 5  
# 473 Hear Us Almighty Lord

Cl.: # 645 There's a Wideness in God's Mercy

Sunday: Holy God, We Praise Thy Name, Novena Leaflet

### **ONGOING EVENTS AT ST. JOHN'S**

**March 6**—Bible Study, 7 PM in the rectory.

**March 15**—RCIA in the 7 PM rectory.

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

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

**PARTNERS IN CHARITY**, the annual appeal to support the spiritual, educational and charitable ministry of the Diocese 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. Please be generous in supporting this diocesan effort. Donations may also be made online by visiting [www.partners-charity.net](http://www.partners-charity.net).

**THE 95th ANNUAL NOVENA OF GRACE IN HONOR OF ST. FRANCIS XAVIER** will begin Sunday, March 4 and run through Monday, March 12. Mass and Novena prayers will be held on the weekdays at 9:15 AM, 12:15 and 6:15 PM and on the regular weekend schedule. Benediction and Novena prayers will be celebrated at 2:15 PM on March 10th. All are welcome and encouraged to participate in this great Lenten tradition.

### **RECORDINGS OF OUR MUSIC PROGRAM**

**ONLINE!** Many recordings of music you've heard here at Mass by our Music Director and Schola Cantorum are available online along with an array of other Music related material. Check us out on Facebook (St. John's Schola Cantorum), Sound Cloud ([www.soundcloud.com/sean-redrow](http://www.soundcloud.com/sean-redrow)), and YouTube (Subscribe to Sean Redrow). Share with your friends and family!

### **RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASSES**

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

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

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

**First Reconciliation/First Eucharist** this Sunday, March 4 at 9 AM in the Xavier Center.

**EASTER EGG HUNT** will be held on Sunday, March 25th immediately following the 10:15 AM Mass in the rectory. We'll have many more eggs hidden this year, plus maybe a surprise guest or two!

**ANNUAL CONFIRMATION SENDING MASS** will be on Sunday, March 18th at 10:15 AM. Please join us in praying for, and welcoming these candidates into full initiation to the Catholic Church. A reception will follow in the Xavier Center.

### **LENTEN REGULATIONS FOR 2018**

All Fridays in Lent are days of abstinence for all who have completed their 14<sup>th</sup> 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, except this Friday, March 9th, because of the Novena.

### **In Our Catholic Community...**

**A MASS FOR HEALING** will be held 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 on Sunday, March 25 from 2-4 PM. Students currently in fifth, sixth, seventh and eighth grade are encouraged to attend. Please visit their website [www.nda-worc.org](http://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 Massachusetts.

**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.

**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.

**VOLUNTEER TO HELP AN ABUSED CHILD-** Please consider helping an abused child TODAY! Become a Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) and advocate for a child in foster care. You will both play a critical role in the life of a child as well as see your own life enriched through the experience. There is a great need for more volunteers. Call 508-TRY-CASA.

### **Financial Report**

Last weekend we received \$8968.66. We have also received:

Candles- \$265.00	Parking- \$35.00
Stipends- \$335.00	Novena- \$1200.00
Free Press- \$78.00	

**Total-** \$10,881.66 **Unrestricted-** \$10,881.66; **Restricted-** \$0.00

**FOOD FOR THE POOR:** \$10,488 from the Worcester Stop and Shop Stores; \$25 IHO St. Anthony dePadua; \$100 for new van; \$1000 IHO The Hughes Family; \$300, \$50, \$100, \$100, \$50, \$100, \$10, \$30, \$500, \$100 from Friends; \$100 IMO Bernice and Stanley Rutkowski; \$370 IMO David Covello; \$695 IMO Kathleen Cushing; \$585 IMO Peter Liddy; \$55 IMO Mary McConville; \$10 IMO Gert Thompson; \$25 IMO Francis St. Amand

**Expenses-** \$10,032.71  
Schola (710.20) Funerals (505.60) Administration (3341.70) Ascension Phone (142.17) Altar (1412.80) Federal Payroll Taxes (2131.24) Preserve the Flame (589.00) Novena (1200.00)

Food for the Poor  
Income- \$2450.00  
Expenses- \$2617.25

**YEAR TO DATE-** In February we had a net cash gain of \$19,432.04. That puts our net gain at the halfway point of FY 17/18 at \$22,658.83. Thank you for your generous support of St. John's.

This weekend's Second Collection is the Monthly Special Needs Offering.

### **Our Parish Community...**

Offers prayers and condolences to the family of Mary McConville who has been born into eternal life.

### **Word of Life**

**“Something divine seems to be foolish, not because it lacks wisdom but because it transcends human wisdom. For men are wont to regard as foolish anything beyond their understanding.”**

**– St. Thomas Aquinas**