



First Communion

Autumn Feely

Larrah Gagne

Hannah Long

Alyvia Roberts

Abigail Robidoux

Catherine Tucker



CONFIRMATION

Timothy Ayotte ~ Michael

Justin Lareau ~ Nicholas

Autumn Long ~ Monica

Angelina Riendeau ~ Rose

Aran Testa ~ Michael


**MASS
INTENTIONS**

- SATURDAY, May 5, 2018 First Saturday**
 8:00 AM **Emerenciana & Marcial Yandoc** by Dr. Cora & Carlos Maramag
 4:00 PM **Linda Langella & Richard Severance** by Sue Angela Healy
- SUNDAY, May 6, 2018**
 8:00 AM **Irene LeBlanc, Janice O'Toole & Shamus O'Toole** by the family
 10:15 AM **Giles & Rose Desmond** by Mary Gendron
- MONDAY, May 7, 2018**
 8:00 AM **Leopold & Eugenia Jakubauskas** by Fr. Rich
- TUESDAY, May 8, 2018**
 8:00 AM **Antoinetta Quinn** by the Catholic Association of Foresters
- WEDNESDAY, May 9, 2018**
 8:30 AM **Mass at St. John's**
 7:00 PM **Mass at St. John's ~ Ascension Vigil**
- THURSDAY, May 10, 2018**
 8:00 AM **Ascension of the Lord**
 7:00 PM **Ascension of the Lord**
- FRIDAY, May 11 2018**
 8:00 AM **Joseph C. Benoit** by the family
- SATURDAY, May 12, 2018**
 4:00 PM **Rev. William O'Brien, 2nd Anniversary,** by the family
- SUNDAY, May 13, 2018**
 8:00 AM **Roger Charpentier, Sr., 6th Anniversary,** by the family
 10:15 AM **Mary Sheridan** by Alice Trask



We welcome into the Catholic Church **Colton Joseph Blancato** who was baptized at St. Joseph's recently. We pray that Colton Joseph will be blessed with a happy, loving, Christian home and we congratulate his parents on this happy occasion.

Readings for the Week of May 6, 2018

- Sunday:** Acts 10:25-26, 34-35, 44-48/Ps 98:1, 2-3, 3-4 [cf. 2b]/1 Jn 4:7-10/Jn 15:9-17
- Monday:** Acts 16:11-15/Ps 149:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6a and 9b [cf. 4a]/Jn 15:26--16:4a
- Tuesday:** Acts 16:22-34/Ps 138:1-2ab, 2cde-3, 7c-8 [7c]/Jn 16:5-11
- Wednesday:** Acts 17:15, 22--18:1/Ps 148:1-2, 11-12, 13, 14/Jn 16:12-15
- Thursday:** Ascension: Acts 1:1-11/Ps 47:2-3, 6-7, 8-9 [6]/Eph 1:17-23 or Eph 4:1-13 or 4:1-7, 11-13/Mk 16:15-20
- Friday:** Acts 18:9-18/Ps 47:2-3, 4-5, 6-7 [8a]/Jn 16:20-23
- Saturday:** Acts 18:23-28/Ps 47:2-3, 8-9, 10 [8a]/Jn 16:23b-28
- Next Sunday:** Acts 1:15-17, 20a, 20c-26/Ps 103:1-2, 11-12, 19-20 [19a]/1 Jn 4:11-16/Jn 17:11b-19

Extraordinary Love

Jesus said to his disciples: "As the Father loves me, so I also love you. Remain in my love... I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and your joy might be complete. This is my commandment: love one another as I love you. No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends. You are my friends if you do what I command you."
 ~ Excerpts from John 15:9-17

I read a story about a Colorado family who had a devastating event happen in their lives. One member of their family, a 22 year old named Joe, had serious health concerns throughout his life. Unfortunately, he had a history of seizures. One night, while on the phone, Joe was experiencing yet another seizure. The family came rushing over, called 911, and Joe was transported to the local hospital. In the ambulance, Joe still had a heartbeat, but his mother Robin knew that he was gone.

In the next two days, Joe hung on while many of his friends and family came by to see him. Tragically, Joe had passed away. Known to some of his family and friends, when Joe was 15, he signed up to be an organ donor. Today, Joe's never-ending spirit lives on.

Because of his organ donations, seven people continue to enjoy life in ways they had thought were no longer possible. The seven recipients of the organ donations received corneas, a double lung, heart, kidney, and liver. This Colorado family had endured the loss of Joe, but there was an unspeakable loss for Joe's mother Robin.

It was a pain that all parents can't bear to imagine. But knowing that Joe was able to help others live, it helped Robin and her family soothe a wound that didn't easily heal. Since that time, Robin has worked to increase public awareness about organ donation by volunteering with the American Transplant Foundation and Donor Alliance.

Jesus said that no one has greater love than to lay down one's life for one's friends. In different ways, both Joe and Robin had shown their love for others, some of whom they never met. In less than extraordinary ways, other than organ donation, we can always witness to the tremendous love that God has shown us. We can also share in this process of love, as we also offer love among family and friends. Lives are transformed, and we can really benefit as a result.

Congratulations to our Religious Education students at both parishes, who, at this time, are experiencing God and God's Holy Spirit in a special way, through First Communion and Confirmation. Let us always pray for and support them and their families.

Have a great and blessed week ahead.

Fr. Don



Our Christian sympathy is extended to the family of **Helen Kularski** who passed away recently. May she rest in peace and may her family find comfort and peace in their time of loss from their faith, family, and friends. We thank **St. Joseph's Bereavement Committee** for providing a post-funeral luncheon for the Kularski family and their guests.



Roses for Life – May 12th and 13th

At all Masses on Mother's Day weekend St. Joseph's Knights of Columbus Cardinal Gibbons members, Council 2381, will have available real "Roses for Life". The purpose is to bring attention to the plight of the unborn. Donations (suggested \$2.00 per rose) are accepted for each rose with proceeds going to the Problem Pregnancy organization. This all volunteer agency provides women an alternative to abortion through free counseling, pregnancy tests, ultrasound scanning, including physical and emotional support. Your prayers and donation for the unborn are needed and greatly appreciated.



Please pray for our children who will be making their first Communion this Sunday at the 10:15 AM Mass:

- Autumn Feely
- Larrah Gagne
- Hannah Long
- Alyvia Roberts
- Abigail Robidoux
- Catherine Tucker

CONFIRMATION

Please pray for our students who will be receiving their Confirmation at Mary Queen of the Rosary Parish in Spencer on Monday, May 7th at 7:00 PM. We pray that they may continue to love God and family and do good works in the community:

- Timothy Ayotte ~ Michael
- Justin Lareau ~ Nicholas
- Autumn Long ~ Monica
- Angelina Riendeau ~ Rose
- Aran Testa ~ Michael

Variety Show

A good time was had by all. Entertainment included singers, dancers, magic and Jeopardy. A large selection of food was enjoyed before the entertainment. A big thanks to all our volunteers and Fr. Don.

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May 9-13

	Lector	Altar Servers	Extraordinary Ministers
Thur, 8 AM	M. Walter	J. Hearnlaye	F. Martel M. Dolan B. Balchunas
Thur, 7 PM	P. Stewart	F. Cruz O. Cruz	M. Caramiello D. Lavin C. Ryback
Sat, 4 PM	P. Cummings	C. Harvey	M. Dolan C. Foley D. Foley
Sun, 8 AM	T. Mullens	A. Losurdo	M. Caramiello P. Casey D. Enos
Sun, 10:15 AM	R. LeBlanc	S. Hearnlaye	B. Balchunas T. Bennett S. Buzzell

2018 Cursillo Weekends

Men: June 14-17

Women: October 25-28

**Immaculate Conception Spiritual Renewal Center
Putnam, CT**

Contact Sue Leighton at 508-278-3155
or sleighton1958@gmail.com



The Diocese hopes to finish this year's Partners in Charity Appeal early, as soon as it reaches its goal of \$5 million. Please do what you can to make your donation or pledge before the month of May. Pledges may also be made at www.partners-charity.net. Thank you.

Support Dismas Farm and benefit from fresh produce!

Dismas Family Farm runs a CSA to support the vocational skills program for former prisoners at their farm in Rutland. Joining a CSA for \$500 (avg. \$25/week) provides you with fresh weekly vegetables (50 varieties grown) for 20 weeks. Learn more at www.dismasfamily.org or call 508-882-0000.



As a reminder, our parish follows the guidelines of the national Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People approved by the US 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. If you or someone you know has been sexually abused by a Church employee or volunteer in the past, please contact the **Victim Services Coordinator** for our diocese at 508-929-4363 (direct line & confidential voicemail.) If you are concerned about a current case of abuse, please contact the local civil authorities immediately.