



CONTACT US

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Regular Office Hours

Monday -Thursday 9:00 a.m.– 3:00 p.m.

Email stjoes01501@gmail.com

Pastor

Secretary

Director of Music

Rev. Paul M. Bomba

Ms. Jean Ashton

Ms. Judy Freeland

Religious Education and Parish Center

68 Central Street, Auburn, MA 01501-2310

Phone 508-832-6683

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Email stjoesreledaub@gmail.com

Director of Religious Education

Maintenance

Ms. Lisa Wass

Mr. Errol Hall

Outreach Ministry

Mr. Donald Lagacy 508-287-7489

Outreach to hospitals, nursing homes, and homebound

Visits gladly made upon request

SAINT JOSEPH PARISH

December 31, 2023

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

AND THE CHILD
GREW AND BECAME
STRONG
HE WAS FILLED WITH
WISDOM
AND THE GRACE OF
GOD WAS UPON HIM
LUKE 2 : 4 0

MASSES

Lord's Day Weekend Masses

Saturday Vigil 4:00 p.m. in the church

Sunday 8:30 and 10:30 a.m. in the church

Weekday Masses

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday 8:00 a.m.

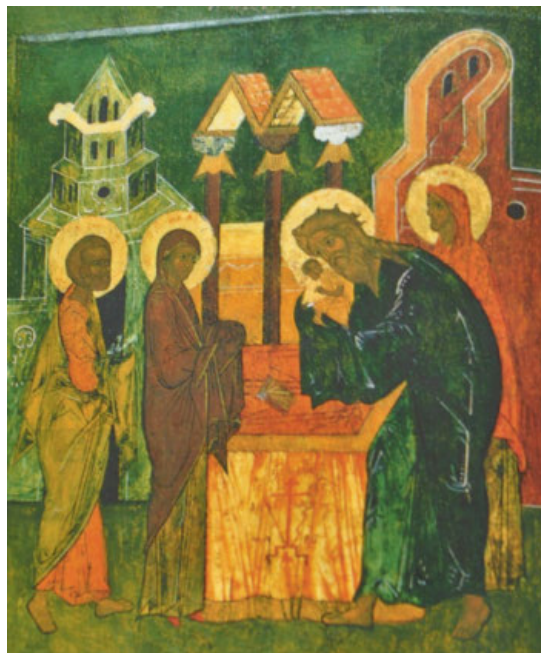
Thursday 5:00 p.m.

Friday 8:00 a.m.

Sacrament of Penance

Saturday 3:00-3:30 p.m.

or by appointment



PARISH MISSION STATEMENT

As individuals and families, our mission as the Parish Community of Saint Joseph is to live fully the call of Jesus Christ, to be the People of God by giving witness to the Gospel, passing on our Catholic tradition, strengthening the spiritual life of parishioners and serving those in need. We are committed to being an active, welcoming, and supportive community, proclaiming Christ's teaching through word and deed.

ST. JOSEPH CHURCH



Saturday, December 30, 2023

4:00PM **Judy Colaianni**
Anniversary Remembrance
by family

Sunday, December 31, 2023

8:30AM **William and Dora Lavin and
John and Caroline Messina**
by Patricia

10:30AM **Gerry Pierce**
Remembrance
by his wife

Monday, January 1, 2024

9:00AM **People of St. Joseph Parish**

Tuesday, January 2, 2024

8:00AM **All Souls Day Remembrances**

Wednesday, January 3, 2024

8:00AM **Mike Falvey**
Anniversary Remembrance

Thursday, January 4, 2024

5:00PM **Arthur Wood**
Anniversary Remembrance
by family

Friday, January 5, 2024

8:00AM **People of St. Joseph Parish**

Saturday, January 6, 2024

4:00PM **Ann R. Cote**
by daughter Judith

Sunday, January 7, 2024

8:30AM **Adrian Gonyea**
22nd Anniversary Remembrance
by family

10:30AM **Robert Cicio, Sr.**
Birthday Remembrance
by family

Saturday, January 6, 2024

Holy Communion Fred and Carol Fraini
Lector Doreen Goodrich
Altar Server Jean Ashton

Sunday, January 7, 2024

8:30am
Holy Communion Len Angers/Jean Ashton
Marek Sitkowski
Lector Patty Bickford
Altar Server Patty Bickford

10:30am
Holy Communion Brad Wass +2
Lector Lisa Wass
Altar Server Paul Molis



Deborah Halley - Carlo Whaley
John (Woody) Wood - Lois Maniero
Susan Schmidt - Judy Maillet - Elaine Lamb
Thomas McMahon - Elsie Faneuil - Julia
William Daniels - Anne Berberian
Jack Holmberg - Marianne and Robert Haroian
Cindy Fitzgerald - Joseph Cloutier, Jr.
Joyce and Bruce Seaman - Judith Daniels
Patrick and Kate Dee - Francis Kavanagh
Patty Snow - Pauline Mercier - Arthur Cote
Steven Dufault - Richard Chiras - Michelle Kist
Deborah and Victoria Mink - Francis Khoury
Sharon Grybowski - Raymond Curren
Peggy Markvenas - Timmy Canty - Iris Wood
Bryce Linton and Family - Christopher Chiras
Linda J. Harris - Giuseppe Struppa

Auburn, Massachusetts

Dear People of Saint Joseph Parish,

Happy New Year! We will take down the old calendars this week and put up the new ones. Some of us will make New Year resolutions. Most of us will enjoy a holiday.



January 1 will celebrate Mary, the Holy Mother of God. This year it is not a holyday of obligation. When it falls on a Monday or Saturday it is still a great feast, but the obligation to participate at mass does not remain. I will only celebrate one mass on Monday at 9:00 a.m. We will not anticipate the holyday with a vigil mass on Sunday. Participation at mass on the first day of the New Year is a great way to start 2024. Even without the obligation, honoring Mary on January 1 is a humble way to express our gratitude for her intercession, her example, and her contribution to our redemption by her Son.

Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners now, and at the hour of our death. Amen.

Many parishioners will want to receive a statement of their contributions for 2023 to Saint Joseph Parish so they can prepare their tax returns. We record your donations each week that come in the mail and in the collections. I will review the contributions to make sure they are as accurate as possible. I will prepare the letter that reports your donations. I will distribute the letters to you at mass on a number of weekends. People who request that the letter be sent to them will receive it in the mail. It will take a couple of weeks to complete the task. Please be patient.



We will begin the Calendar Raffle on Monday. If you have not yet returned your tickets, please do so immediately. I do not want you to miss even one of the drawings. I hope that you will have good luck in this year's drawing. Someone draws the winner each day. I like to have the drawing take place before mass with a number of people present in the church to witness the process. You can win more than once. A number of people have done so in the past. I do turn the tickets over and over each day to provide the random drawing that makes it fair to all entries.

The New Year is an opportunity to make new plans. Take this opportunity to plan spiritual activity for 2024. This might be the year to participate in a retreat. You may plan to go on a religious pilgrimage this year. You may participate in a bible study or take a college course in theology, try scripture. Try something new!

Happy New Year! May God's blessings be upon you!

Sincerely, Fr. Paul Bomba



Stewardship!!!

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

"...as the Lord has forgiven you, so you must forgive." (Colossians 3:13)

Forgiving is one of the hardest things for people to do. We can't give what we don't have. We need to receive God's mercy and forgiveness first before we can give it to others. Go to the sacrament of Reconciliation and receive God's mercy and forgiveness. Then, share the gift of forgiveness with someone – a family member, a friend or a co-worker. Pick up the phone or text someone right now.

Sunday, December 31, 2023



Sunday, December 31, 2023

AA Meeting 7:00PM-9:00PM Lower Church Hall

Tuesday, January 2, 2024

No Bible Class

Wednesday, January 3, 2024

AA Meeting 7:00PM-9:00PM Lower Church Hall

Thursday, January 4, 2024

Choir Rehearsal 6:30PM Church

Saturday, January 6, 2024

Religious Education Grades 1 & 2 10:00AM-11:15AM Parish Center

Religious Education Grades 9 & 10 10:15AM-11:30AM Parish Center

Sunday, January 7, 2024

Religious Education Grades 9 & 10 10:30AM-2:00PM Church

Plumbing School 8:00AM-5:00PM Parish Center

AA Meeting 7:00PM-9:00PM Lower Church Hall

HELP WANTED

St. Joseph Parish is seeking a part-time custodian for the church and the rectory. It will include snow removal, lawn care, cleaning and maintenance of the buildings. **Interested persons should compile a one-page resume of their skills and submit it to the pastor as soon as possible.** A complete job description can be available to anyone interested in the work.



A Message from Bishop McManus ...

My dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

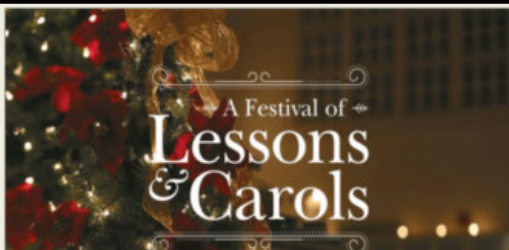
Next weekend, the parishes in our diocese will participate in the national collection for The Catholic University of America in Washington, D.C. Established in 1887, the university is the only American university with ecclesiastical faculties granting canonical degrees in canon law, philosophy and theology.

Catholic University is a community of students, faculty, and staff who are committed to upholding the highest standards of education. Through its 12 schools, 32 research facilities, and more than 250 academic programs, the University community works tirelessly on behalf of its 5,000 undergraduate and graduate students to help educate them to serve the Church and nation as the Catholic leaders of tomorrow.

Support of the National Collection not only provides critical support to students but also it helps the University serve dioceses and parishes through innovative research initiatives and training programs, such as Insight, the first Social and Emotional Learning (SEL) professional development program for K-12 Catholic school educators, a master's program in Ecclesial Administration and Management, and a credentialing program that prepares recent graduates to serve as campus ministers.

I encourage you to be generous in the special collection for The Catholic University of America to be taken up on the weekend of January 7, 2024.

With every prayerful best wish for a Blessed New Year, I remain, sincerely yours in Christ,
Most Reverend Robert J. McManus, Bishop of Worcester



Festival of Lessons and Carols in Clinton

St. John, Guardian of Our Lady's Sacred Music Series returns with a special Festival of Lessons and Carols on **Saturday, Jan. 6 at 7:00 p.m.** Based on the Office of Matins for the Feast of the Epiphany, this festive ceremony will feature Scripture readings, the singing of beloved Christmas and Epiphany carols, and sacred choral music led by the Upper School Chorus of the Immaculate Heart of Mary School, Still River, under the direction of Michael Olbash. Freewill donations will be accepted at the door for the benefit of First Concern Pregnancy Resource Center of Clinton. Please do not miss this

opportunity to celebrate the season with beautiful music in our glorious church -- all for a great cause! St. John's is located at 80 Union Street in Clinton and is ramp accessible.

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph



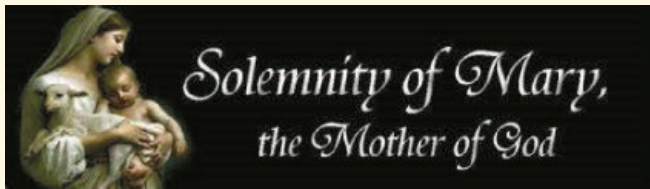
Parish Support



	Dec. 17	Dec. 24
Weekly Goal	\$7,500	\$7,500
Last Weekend	\$2,929	\$3,857
Shortfall	(\$4,571)	(\$3,643)
Fuel	\$1,661	
Debt Redux		
Year to Date		
Budget	\$382,500	\$390,000
Collections	\$193,167	\$197,024
Electronic Payment	\$11,090	\$11,645
Shortfall	(\$178,243)	(\$181,331)

**There will not be a second collection this weekend.
The second collection next weekend will be for
The Catholic University of America.**

Thank you for your continued support of our parish.



**SOLEMNITY OF MARY
THE MOTHER OF GOD
MONDAY, JANUARY 1
MASS AT 9:00AM**

The Solemnity of Mary is not a holyday of obligation this year.
There will not be an 8:00AM Mass on January 1.

**St. Peter Central Catholic
Elementary School Open House**

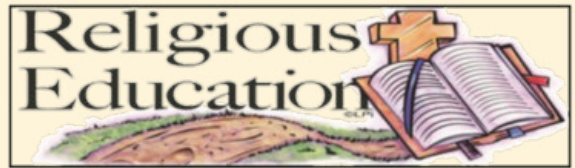
Please join us at St. Peter Central Catholic Elementary School, 865 Main Street, Worcester, for an Open House on Sunday, January 28th from 1:00pm-3:00pm. St. Peter's has openings in Grades Pre-K through 8. For more information, please contact marybeth.soucy@stpetercc.com or by phone at 508-791-6496. You can also visit our website www.stpetercentralcatholic.com.



Christmas Cantata in East Brookfield

The Christian Community Choir in East Brookfield will be performing the Christmas Cantata called "Christmas is Coming" on **Sunday Jan. 7, 2024 at 3:00 pm** at St. John the Baptist Church, 131 Blaine Ave., East Brookfield.

NEWS FROM



New Year's Prayer for Families

God, thank you for a new year. We know that you are always ready to forgive us. Help us to be willing to forgive ourselves and to forgive one another.

As we begin a new year, help us to make good choices. Help us to live in the goodness that comes from doing what you want us to do. Help us to put aside anxiety about the future and the past, so that we might live in peace with you now, one day at a time.

GRADE 9 & 10

Our first class is Sunday, January 7, 2024 beginning with 10:30AM mass **at the church**, followed by class immediately after downstairs in the lower church hall. Remember to bring a lunch. Classes end at 2:00PM.

Welcome Back!!!

Classes resume on Saturday, January 6, 2024 for grades 1 & 2 and Monday, January 8, for grades 3 – 8.



The Calendar Raffle will begin on January 1!

We will award a \$25 cash prize on each day of January, with special bonus winning days occurring on Sunday, January 7, 14, 21 & 28, when you can win a prize in the amount of \$100 to \$500!

As an additional bonus, all winners will also receive a \$5 MA State Lottery scratch ticket!

Good luck to one and all!!!

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