



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 Frelander

Religious Education and Parish Center

68 Central Street, Auburn, MA 01501-2310

Phone 508-832-6683

Fax 508-407-8952

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



February 18, 2024

SAINT JOSEPH PARISH

First Sunday of Lent

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.

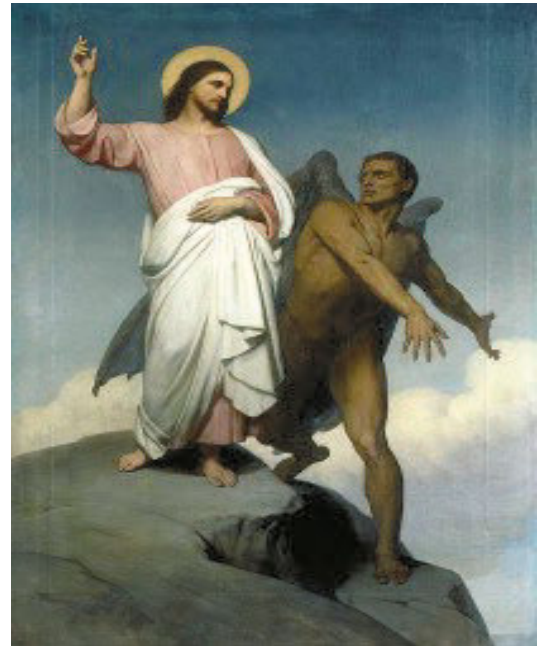
Thursday 5:00 p.m.

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, February 17, 2024

4:00PM *Albert Rodrique*

Sunday, February 18, 2024

8:30AM *Stacie Jude Angers*

In Remembrance
by family

10:30AM *John F. Cunningham*

Birthday Remembrance
by his son

Monday, February 19, 2024

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

Tuesday, February 20, 2024

8:00AM *Margaret*

Wednesday, February 21, 2024

8:00AM *Fr. James J. Caldarella*

Thursday, February 22, 2024

5:00PM *All Souls Day Remembrances*

Friday, February 23, 2024

8:00AM *George Roberts*

Birthday Remembrance
by his daughter

Saturday, February 24, 2024

4:00PM *Paul Pietrowicz*

13th Anniversary Remembrance
by family

Sunday, February 25, 2024

8:30AM *Richard Fleming, Sr.*

1st Anniversary Remembrance
by family

10:30AM *Fr. Michael Sheridan*

Saturday, February 24, 2024

Holy Communion Fred and Carol Fraini

Lector Doreen Goodrich

Altar Server Jean Ashton

Sunday, February 25, 2024

8:30am

Holy Communion Len Angers/Jean Ashton

Marek Sitkowski

Lector Patty Bickford

Altar Server Patty Bickford

10:30am

Holy Communion Chris Benvenuti +2

Lector Don Lagacy

Altar Server Paul Molis



Deborah Halley - Carlo Whaley- Donna Perron

John (Woody) Wood - Lois Maniero

Susan Schmidt - Judy Maillet - Elaine Lamb

Thomas McMahon - Elsie Faneuil - Julia

William Daniels - Anne Berberian

Marianne and Robert Haroian

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

Peggy Markvenas - Timmy Canty - Iris Wood

Bryce Linton and Family - Christopher Chiras

Linda J. Harris - Giuseppe Struppa

Eleanor Markham

The sympathies of our parish
are extended to the family of
John (Jack) Holmberg
who recently passed away.



Auburn, Massachusetts

Dear People of Saint Joseph Parish,

Lent began on Wednesday. People came to mass on Wednesday and received ashes reminding us that we are dust and to dust we will return. It is a meditation on our mortality and our ultimate destiny to be with God.

Many people respond to the Gospel that instructs us to repent from sin. The Church celebrates the sacraments of Baptism and Penance to bring people to reconciliation with God. We receive Baptism with water and the Holy Spirit but once and then celebrate our Baptism throughout our lives. We remember and long for that state of

grace that we experienced after our Baptism. Temptation, ignorance, and weakness can lead us to sin. Jesus came to bring grace and reconciliation to sinners.

The Church celebrates the Sacrament of Penance to restore us to that state of grace that we experienced at Baptism. It heals our spirit and reconciles our relationship with God and our community. Lent is that season that invites the faithful to examine our conscience and reach out for forgiveness in the Sacrament of Penance.

There was a recent revision to the Order of Penance. All the revisions apply to the priest who is hearing the confession. Nothing changed for the penitent.

Some people say that they forgot how to go to confession. If that is so for you, there are small cards in the confessional that quickly instruct you how to go to confession, including an act of contrition for the penitent. They are in a stack on the table near the crucifix and the candles. You may pick one up for yourself.

Some people are puzzled by the penance they receive during confession. They ask, "How can a few prayers even come close to taking away some of the evil I have done?" The early Church gave severe penance to penitents. The severe penances were not productive in reconciling the sinner. The Church also remembered that Jesus suffered and died and rose from the dead to bring about the forgiveness of sin. The penance we do after confession is but a token of our repentance and our resolve not to sin again.

Some people do not want to have their pastor for a confessor. There are many priests in the Diocese of Worcester who will hear your confession. Our deanery plans to have a Lenten penance celebration so penitents could have access to confessors who are not their pastors. Our deanery will celebrate the Sacrament of Penance for the faithful on Monday, March 4, at 7:00 p.m. at Saint Brigid Church in Millbury. I will be there to hear confessions and so will all the other priests of our deanery. You may choose to whom you wish to confess your sin.

You now have a couple of weeks to prepare. If you miss the deanery's event, you may still come to confession on Saturday at 3:00 p.m. or make an appointment with a priest.

"Repent, and believe in the Gospel."

Sincerely, Fr. Paul Bomba



Catholic Men's Conference 2024

We are a month away, come and be inspired by our great speakers: Deacon Harold Burke-Sivers, Michael Nicholson, Msgr. Thomas Sullivan and Jim Wahlberg. Also, the opportunity to experience a variety of vendors and information booths, plus the celebration of the Eucharist with Bishop Robert McManus and the sacrament of reconciliation.

All of this on Saturday, March 16 at the DCU Center in Worcester. Details at catholicmenworc.com.



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.

Sunday, February 18, 2024

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Plumbing School	5:30PM-10:00PM	Parish Center
AA Meeting	7:00PM-9:00PM	Lower Church Hall

Monday, February 19, 2024

No Religious Education Classes Grades 3-8

CMSC Driver's Education	7:30AM-2:00PM	Parish Center
Boy Scout Meeting	6:00PM-9:00PM	Parish Center

Tuesday, February 20, 2024

No Bible Group

CMSC Driver's Education	7:30AM-2:00PM	Parish Center
Knights of Columbus Meeting	7:00PM	Lower Church Hall

Wednesday, February 21, 2024

CMSC Driver's Education	7:30AM-2:00PM	Parish Center
AA Meeting	7:00PM-9:00PM	Lower Church Hall

Thursday, February 22, 2024

CMSC Driver's Education	7:30AM-2:00PM	Parish Center
Choir Rehearsal	6:30PM	Church

Friday, February 23, 2024

CMSC Driver's Education	7:30AM-2:00PM	Parish Center
Stations of the Cross	6:30PM	Church

Saturday, February 24, 2024

No Religious Education Classes Grades 1 & 2

CMSC Drivers Education	8:30AM-3:00PM	Parish Center
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Sunday, February 25, 2024

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



Weekly Goal	\$7,500
Last Weekend	\$4,130
Shortfall	(\$3,370)

Year to Date	
Budget	\$45,000
Collections	\$21,572
Electronic Payment	\$1,505
Shortfall	(\$21,923)

The second collection this weekend is for Maintenance.
 The second collection next weekend will be for Fuel and for the Church in Latin America.
 Thank you for your continued support of our parish.

LENTEN GUIDELINES FOR FAST AND ABSTINENCE

Abstinence from meat is to be observed by all Catholics fourteen (14) years of age and older on Ash Wednesday, Good Friday and all the Fridays of Lent. Fasting is to be observed by all Catholics who are eighteen (18) years of age but not yet fifty-nine (59) years of age on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. Those who are bound to fast may take only one full meal. Two smaller meals are permitted if necessary to maintain strength according to one's needs, but eating solid foods between meals is not permitted.

REMINDER ...

The Msgr. Thomas F. Neary Council #13637 Knights of Columbus of St. Joseph Parish will hold its monthly meeting on Tuesday, February 20 at 7:00PM in the lower church hall.



First Sunday of Lent

Stations of the Cross

Come to pick up your cross and follow Jesus in prayer at the Stations of the Cross on each Friday of Lent through March 22 at 6:30 p.m. in the church.



Confession

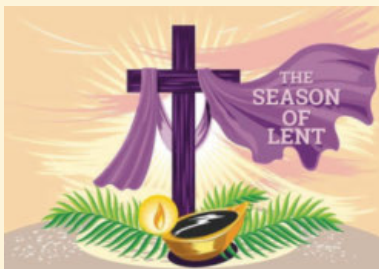
On Saturday at 3:00 - 3:30 p.m. in the church or by appointment.

A Lenten Message from Bishop McManus ...

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

“Jesus is calling us deeper.” That reminder of our three-year National Eucharistic Revival is intended to “renew the Church by enkindling a living relationship with the Lord Jesus in the Holy Eucharist” (www.eucharisticrevival.org). That call of renewal through a deepened relationship with Christ is particularly apt in this season of Lent.

We have begun our forty-day journey of deepened prayer, more frequent penance, and greater charity. We embark on the journey because we are sinners in need of and called to repentance by Jesus Christ. Lent’s annual



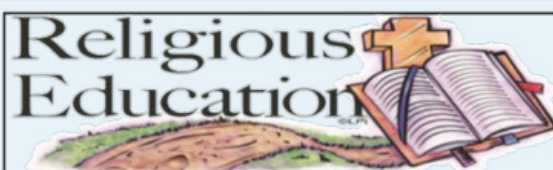
journey also prepares us for the fruitful celebration of the Paschal Mystery—from the Last Supper on Holy Thursday and His Passion and Death on Good Friday to his Resurrection on Easter Sunday.

The forty penitential days of Lent derive from Jesus’ forty days of prayer and fasting in the desert. They also call to mind Moses’ forty days on Mount Sinai during the forty-year journey of the Israelites through the desert to the Promised Land.

In addition to Lenten penances and almsgiving, please consider going to weekday Masses and making visits to the Church outside of Mass to adore the Lord whether reserved in the tabernacle or exposed in the monstrance. Through a greater Eucharistic devotion, we will appreciate, even more, Christ’s presence to us, the graces He offers at every Mass, and the peace and comfort of a prayerful visit to Church. Thus, nourished and strengthened, we will be better equipped to meet life’s challenges, reflect God’s love, and make progress on our journey to Him.

With every prayerful best wish, I remain
Sincerely yours in Christ,
Most Reverend Robert J. McManus, Bishop of Worcester

NEWS FROM



There are no classes on Monday, February 19, for grades 3-8, and Saturday, February 24, for grades 1 & 2, in observance of President’s Day and Winter Break.



Dear Lord,
Please bless this time as our children enjoy their winter break. Help my family to get along, and to enjoy one another.

May we be able to see the wonder of You within the chaos of our days – whether we vacation away or enjoy our time at home. Help me to embrace my family, and the ordinary and extraordinary gifts You’ve given.

Open my eyes to see that this vacation will end, but the memories of it will remain. Bring me through to the end of vacation with a thankful heart. Amen

FEBRUARY

“CATHOLIC FREE PRESS” MONTH!

We hope that many of you will either begin or renew a subscription to our diocesan newspaper.

A 52-week annual subscription is still only \$39!

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