



CONTACT US

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Email stjoes01501@gmail.com

Pastor

Secretary

Director of Music

Maintenance

Rev. Paul M. Bomba

Ms. Jean Ashton

Ms. Judy Freelander

Mr. Paul Zaveska

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

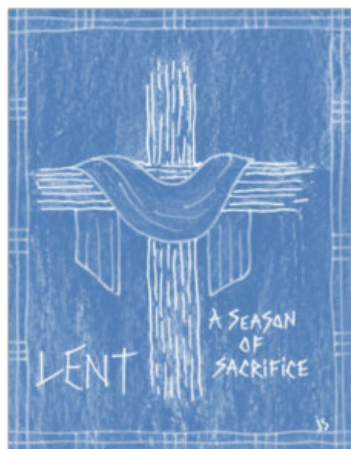
Mr. Errol Hall

Outreach Ministry

Mr. Donald Lagacy 508-287-7489

Outreach to hospitals, nursing homes, and homebound

Visits gladly made upon request



SAINT JOSEPH PARISH

March 3, 2024

Third 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.

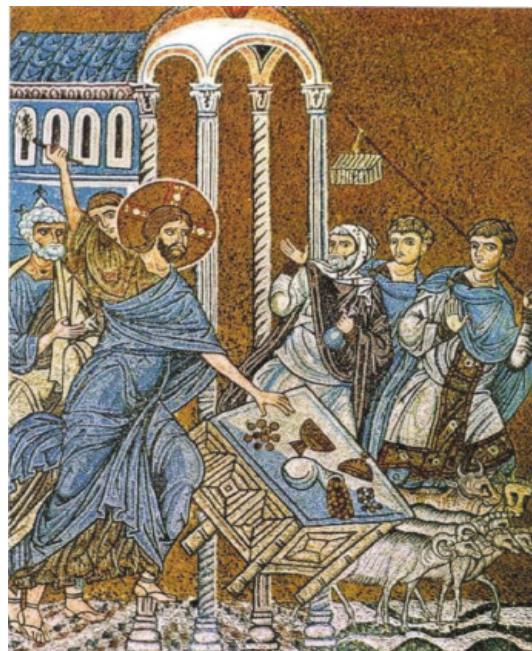
Thursday 5:00 p.m.

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, March 2, 2024

4:00PM **Marcia LaPrad Dyer**
by the Herron family

Sunday, March 3, 2024

8:30AM **Fr. Walter J. Riley**
10:30AM **All Souls Day Remembrances**

Monday, March 4, 2024

8:00AM **Helen Wojnarowicz**
by a friend

Tuesday, March 5, 2024

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

Wednesday, March 6, 2024

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

Thursday, March 7, 2024

5:00PM **Fr. Walter J. Riley**

Friday, March 8, 2024

8:00AM **Charles Lima**
Birthday Remembrance
by a friend

Saturday, March 9, 2024

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

Sunday, March 10, 2024

8:30AM **People of St. Joseph Parish**
10:30AM **John Holmberg**
by Alfred Roy and Sons
Funeral Home

Saturday, March 9, 2024

Holy Communion Fred and Carol Fraini
Lector Lucie LaJeunesse
Altar Server Jean Ashton

Sunday, March 10, 2024

8:30am
Holy Communion Len Angers/Jean Ashton
Marek Sitkowski
Lector Patty Bickford
Altar Server Patty Bickford
10:30am
Holy Communion Scott Maselek +2
Lector Mary Skorvanek
Altar Server Lisa Wass



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

Daylight Saving Time...

Begins next Sunday,
March 10.

Remember to set your clocks ahead
one hour to arrive on time for
Sunday mass.



Auburn, Massachusetts

Dear People of Saint Joseph Parish,

The Gospel on Ash Wednesday highlighted three Lenten practices: prayer, fasting, and almsgiving. The gospel related Jesus' advice that we should pray in secret, and the Father who sees in secret will repay you.

Jesus' own example of prayer guides us to that goal. Jesus pulls away from the crowds on a number of occasions to be alone with the Father in prayer. The First Sunday of Lent told us that he went into the desert for forty days. That was a very long retreat, but deemed necessary by Jesus in response to the Spirit before he began his public ministry in Galilee.

The Gospels also let us eavesdrop on the conversation between Jesus and the Father. It was an ongoing conversation that was not confined to words alone, but also communicated through actions.

Some people use Lent to enhance that communication with God. One important way to do that is to include the Scripture in our prayer. The psalms were the hymnody that the Hebrew people used in the Temple. They are set in verse and, in Hebrew, have a scheme to help the person easily remember the psalm. Unfortunately, the scheme does not translate into English. But the thoughts and prayer of the psalmist do translate well into English with the help of skilled translators.

The Psalms are attributed to King David. It is easy to sometimes think of the young David watching the sheep and goats in the field and plucking a musical instrument to add to the spirit of the verse he composes to the glory of God. The Psalms run the gamut of spiritual thoughts and emotions. There are psalms of thanksgiving as well as psalms of grief.

Many people find it difficult to open their hearts and spirits to God and it may seem that God does not respond quickly. The poor soul will then continue to flood the conversation with their own thoughts and words. A critical element of prayer is the conversation. Let God begin the dialogue with words from the scriptures and we can easily respond.

Some people like to use structured prayers to communicate their thoughts and feelings to God. The rosary is a common vehicle for such prayer. The constant repetition and the rhythm move the person to intimate communion with God. This works too.

Remember Jesus' warning in the Ash Wednesday Gospel that advises against long-winded prayer. "When you pray, do not be like the hypocrites, who love to stand and pray in the synagogues and on street corners so that others may see them." And in another place, "In praying, do not babble like the pagans, who think that they will be heard because of their many words." Engage God and get to the point.

May your prayer bring you closer to God. May God answer your prayers with grace.

Sincerely, Fr. Paul Bomba



Stewardship!!!

Third Sunday of Lent

"You shall not carve idols for yourselves in the shape of anything..."
(Exodus 20:4)

How many "gods" do you put before God? "Idols" do not always take the shape of physical things, things we can touch and feel. Those are easy to recognize. Many times they take the form of things we cannot touch and are much harder to spot like pride, power, ego, time, comfort or health. Pray for God's help to prune our vices and to grow in virtue.

Diaconate

Information Night

Want to know more about becoming a deacon? A diaconate information night will be held on **Monday, March 4 from 6 to 8 pm** at St. Anthony of Padua Parish, 24 Dudley Hill Road, Dudley.



Sunday, March 3, 2024



Sunday, March 3, 2024

Religious Education Classes Grade 9 & 10	10:30AM-2:00PM	Lower Church Hall
AA Meeting	7:00PM-9:00PM	Lower Church Hall

Monday, March 4, 2024

Religious Education Classes Grades 3-5	4:00PM-5:15PM	Parish Center
Religious Education Classes Grades 6-8	6:45PM-8:00PM	Parish Center
Plumbing School	5:30PM-10:00PM	Parish Center

Tuesday, March 5, 2024

Bible Group	10:00AM-Noon	Parish Center
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Wednesday, March 6, 2024

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

Thursday, March 7, 2024

Choir Rehearsal	6:30PM	Church
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Friday, March 8, 2024

Stations of the Cross	6:30PM	Church
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Saturday, March 9, 2024

Religious Education Classes Grades 1 & 2	10:00AM-11:15PM	Parish Center
Grade 2 Parent Meeting	10:00AM	Parish Center
CMSC Drivers Education	8:30AM-3:00PM	Parish Center

Sunday, March 10, 2024

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



Weekly Goal	\$7,500
Last Weekend	\$2,841
Shortfall	(\$4,659)
Fuel	\$1971
Latin America	\$487
Year to Date	
Budget	\$60,000
Collections	\$27,883
Electronic Payment	\$2,080
Shortfall	(\$30,037)

There will not be a second collection this weekend.
The second collection next weekend will be for
Maintenance and Easter Flowers.
Thank you for your continued support of our parish.



Next weekend, March 10th, is In-Pew Commitment Weekend for the 2024 Partners in Charity Appeal.

Once a year, we commit ourselves to this ongoing work by supporting this life-giving appeal. We reflect on God's great generosity, and respond with generous giving of our own. Your support is visible every day in the compassionate outreach of Catholic Charities to the least among us; in the prayerful witness of our retired priests and the joy of new priestly vocations; to the many diocesan ministries and programs that heal, teach and care for others.

Watch the Appeal Video at www.partners-charity.net at home this week. Please come to Mass next weekend prepared to make a commitment to the appeal. Thank you.

Third 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.

The sympathies of our parish are extended to the family of Joshua M. Dell'Aquila who recently passed away.



Divine Mercy Ministry to Seniors

Volunteers are needed to spread Jesus' message of Divine Mercy to seniors in local nursing homes and assisted living facilities. As a volunteer prayer group leader, you would lead a weekly 30-minute Divine Mercy prayer group using a simple prepared model of readings, prayers, and the Chaplet of Divine Mercy.

If you feel that the Lord is calling you to this ministry of mercy, please contact Donald Lagacy (508) 287-7489 or email Mary Higgins at: DivineMercyMinistryToSeniors@gmail.com.



Did You Know?

Recognizing Signs of Child Sexual Abuse

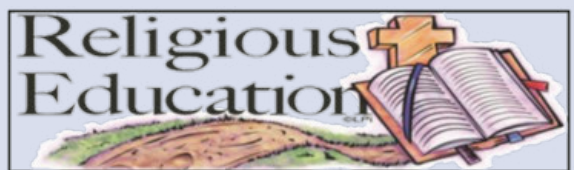
Changes in behavior, extreme mood swings, withdrawal, fearlessness, excessive crying, bed-wetting, nightmares, fear of going to bed, sleep disorders, and a fear of certain places, people, or activities can be signs that a child has been traumatized by sexual abuse.

For particular help you may call:

Judith Audette,
Director of Office for Healing and Prevention
at (508) 929-4363

Source: Philip J. Lazarus, "Trauma and Children: A Parent Handout for Helping Children Heal," VIRTUS, May 12, 2003.

NEWS FROM



A Child's Prayer for Lent

Lord, please show me what I should give up for Lent.
When I have given it up,
remind me to pray to You instead.
To thank You, to love You, to hear from You each
and everyday. Amen



Grade 2 Parent Meeting

The final parent meeting for First Communion preparation is **Saturday, March 9, at the Parish Center at 10am**. Information regarding the ceremony, banners, etc. will be addressed.

Please make every effort to attend.
The next grade 2 family mass is Sunday, March 10, 10:30am, at the church.

Catholic Men's Conference 2024

Saturday, March 16 at the DCU Center in Worcester - Only two weeks away from this great gathering! Join hundreds of men to pray, listen, reflect and share their faith with each other. Wonderful speakers, celebration of sacraments, and a variety of booths. Jesus said where two or three are gathered in His name, He will be there! Registration fee increases this week, register as soon as possible. For more information and to register, check our website: catholicmenworc.com.



Food Pantry Reminder

Next weekend is our monthly food collection. Items most needed are macaroni & cheese, canned soups, tuna, cereal, peanut butter, jelly and pasta.

Food collections will be donated to Auburn Youth and Family Services.



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