



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

Maintenance

Rev. Paul M. Bomba

Ms. Jean Ashton

Ms. Judy Frelander

Mr. Paul Zeveska

Religious Education and Parish Center

68 Central Street, Auburn, MA 01501-2310

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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

They were filled with great awe and said to one another, "Who then is this whom even the wind and sea obey?"

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.

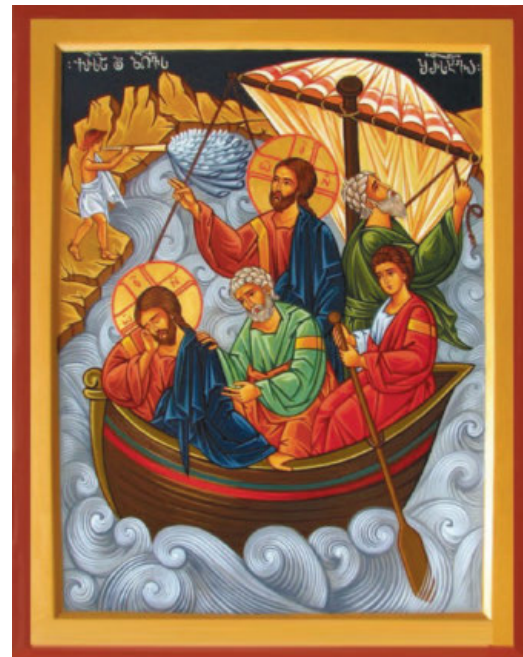
Thursday 5:00 p.m.

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.

SAINT JOSEPH PARISH

June 23, 2024

Twelfth Sunday in Ordinary Time

ST. JOSEPH CHURCH



Saturday, June 22, 2024

4:00PM **Mary "Pat" Spaulding**
1st Anniversary Remembrance
by Mary Hirbour

Sunday, June 23, 2024

8:30AM **Ann Degon**
Birthday Remembrance
by family

10:30AM **Kathleen Lagacy**
63rd Wedding Anniversary
Remembrance
by her husband

**Father Bomba is on vacation this week.
Mass will not be celebrated at St. Joseph
Church Monday through Friday.**

Saturday, June 29, 2024

4:00PM **Arthur H. Cote**
15th Anniversary Remembrance
by daughter Judith

Sunday, June 30, 2024

8:30AM **Rita Coughlin**
Anniversary Remembrance
by family

10:30AM **Mary and Ked Marcotte**
Jim and Marlene Marcotte
and Duff and John Kittredge
by family

Memorial for the Unborn Dedication at St. Anne Shrine

All are welcome to attend the Mass and Dedication of a Memorial for the Unborn with Bishop McManus at St. Anne-St. Patrick Parish (St. Anne Shrine) in Fiskdale on **Wednesday, June 26 at 7:00 p.m.** Mass will be held in the outdoor pavilion followed by the unveiling of the statue and blessing of the monument. This memorial is a place where unborn children can be remembered and will serve as a place of hope and healing for anyone who has experienced the loss of a child. Information on the memorial's permanent personalized tile wall is available from the parish office at 508-347-7338.



Saturday, June 29, 2024

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

Sunday, June 30, 2024

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

10:30am
Holy Communion Don Lagacy +2
Lector Mary Skorvanek
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 - Lana Khoury
Joseph Cloutier, Jr. - Derek Degon
Joyce and Bruce Seaman - Judith Daniels
Patrick and Kate Dee - Francis Kavanagh
Patty Snow - Arthur Cote - Victoria Crowe
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
Lynne Gobbi - John Cunningham
Derek Lapointe

Auburn, Massachusetts

Dear People of Saint Joseph Parish,

Fundamentalist Christian churches popularized the saying “*What Would Jesus Do?*” about twenty-five years ago. The slogan could be seen on billboards, bumper stickers, church signs, and even tattoos. Eventually the slogan was reduced to the first letter of each word and showed up as “*WWJD.*” The letters were on rings, bracelets, necklaces, tattoos, bumper stickers, and even on graffiti on bridges, buildings, subway cars, and stop signs.

I bring this up because I am reading that fundamentalist Christians are about to popularize the saying again. What comes around will come around again. When it goes out of style, it will be back. Some Church leaders think that it was a good reflection at the turn of the century, and twenty-five years later is a good time for a new generation to meditate on what Jesus would do in our world today.

What Would Jesus Do? is a good question to ask in a religious education setting. Children in a religious education class or adults in a bible study can contemplate what Jesus would do. Of course, circumstances have changed since Jesus walked the earth with Mary and Joseph. Given the change in circumstances, would Jesus react in the same way today as he did centuries ago?

I loved to ask children if Jesus would always listen to Mary and Joseph and do whatever they asked. Overwhelmingly they would answer that Jesus always did what Mary and Joseph wanted him to do. He was a good boy, always. So I would bring up the episode of Jesus remaining in the Temple in Jerusalem when Mary and Joseph were on their way back to Nazareth when Jesus was twelve years old. Many children would then adopt their puzzled expression. They recognized a conflict. Jesus is good, yet he did not always behave as Mary and Joseph wanted him to do.

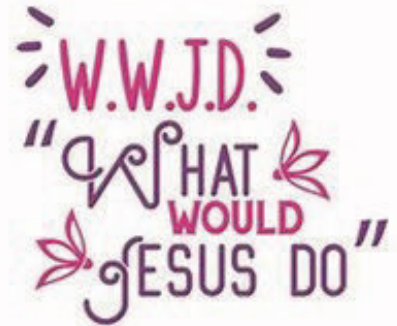
Adults could also find themselves in the same conflict. Give a group of people a hypothetical situation and apply the “What would Jesus do?” question to the situation. Write your answer and we will compare notes. Most people in the group would not agree with each other when they answered the question. Give the challenge to a group of seminarians and you would have quite a diverse result.

People then ask, Is the question a valid one or is it always subject to interpretation? Can we know what Jesus would do?

The valid answer lies in the Gospels. Jesus taught with parables, sayings, dialogues, discussions, and challenges. Jesus’ own actions often illustrated his teachings. Jesus often challenged the status quo.

When “*What Would Jesus Do?*” reemerges into the popular spotlight, it is usually a good meditation. When you see it on the bumper sticker of a vehicle moving at 100 miles per hour on the highway, we can wonder if the driver has read his or her own bumper. When WWJD inspires faith, hope, charity, justice, generosity, compassion we know that the Holy Spirit is active in that exercise. Use the Gospel as the source for an answer.

Sincerely, Fr. Paul Bomba



Stewardship!!!

Twelfth Sunday in Ordinary Time

“Then he asked them, ‘Why are you terrified? Do you not yet have faith?’” (Mark 4:40)

Do you really trust God? Is God your first choice or last resort? Is your faith something you just do on Sunday or do you live the Gospel message every day of the week? Many of us know about God. How many of us have a personal relationship with Him? Start now, open your heart to receive our Lord. Talk and listen to Him every day. Move your discipleship from head knowledge to heart knowledge.

Sunday, June 23, 2024



Sunday, June 23, 2024

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

Wednesday, June 26, 2024

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

Sunday, June 30, 2024

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

A Message from Bishop McManus ...

My dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

On the weekend of June 30 our diocese will participate in the global Peter's Pence Collection. This annual collection provides essential support for the Holy See's activities and helps Pope Francis assist the victims of wars, oppression, and natural disaster around the world.

The collection has ancient roots that reach back to apostolic times. The early Christians provided material support so that the apostles—those preaching the Gospel—could distribute to those in need (see Acts 4:34-35, 11:29). Today, the Peter's Pence Collection is an opportunity for the Church around the world to stand in solidarity with those in need.

Your contribution to Peter's Pence helps fund not only all the activities of the dicasteries of the Roman Curia that assist the pope in his ministry, but also several solidarity projects that aid those most in need. To learn more about the ways in which Peter's Pence supports the Holy Father's ministry of mercy, visit www.obolodisani Pietro.va/en/cos-e-l-obolo.html.

I invite you to join with our brothers and sisters in faith from around the globe to help our Holy Father in his charitable outreach. Thank you for considering how you can respond to the call to "be a sign of mercy" by your prayers, by your spreading the word about this good work, and by your financial support.

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



Parish Support



Weekly Goal	\$7,500
Last Weekend	\$3,398
Shortfall	(\$4,102)
Fuel	\$1608
Debt Redux	
Year to Date	
Budget	\$180,000
Collections	\$91,246
Electronic Payment	\$6,005
Shortfall	(\$82,749)

The second collection this weekend is for

The Mission Co-operative

The second collection next weekend will be for the
Peter's Pence Offering.

Thank you for your continued support of our parish.

2024 PARTNERS IN CHARITY APPEAL

Thanks to all our parishioners who have made their gift to the 2024 Partners in Charity Appeal. Partners in Charity is the annual appeal for the Diocese of Worcester, serving 28 charitable, educational



and pastoral ministries. Through your generous support we are able to serve thousands of families and individuals in Worcester County through outreach, formation, evangelization and worship.

Saint Joseph Parish has reached 74% of our goal of \$60,700.

That is \$44,757 from 119 donors.

If you have not yet made a gift or pledge, please prayerfully do so by filling out a commitment pledge envelope in the back of the church near the last pews and returning it in the collection basket, to the church office or by mailing it directly to the Diocesan office on Elm Street in Worcester. Gifts can also be made online at

www.partners-charity.net. Thank you!

Twelfth Sunday in Ordinary Time

The Nativity of St. John the Baptist

June 24

Jesus called John the greatest of all those who had preceded him: "I tell you, among those born of women, no one is greater than John..." But John would have agreed completely with what Jesus added: "[Y]et the least in the kingdom of God is greater than he" (Luke 7:28).

John spent his time in the desert, an ascetic. He began to announce the coming of the Kingdom, and to call everyone to a fundamental reformation of life. His purpose was to prepare the way for Jesus. His baptism, he said, was for repentance. But one would come who would baptize with the Holy Spirit and fire. John was not worthy even to untie his sandals. His attitude toward Jesus was: "He must increase; I must decrease" (John 3:30).

John was humbled to find among the crowd of sinners who came to be baptized the one whom he already knew to be the Messiah. "I need to be baptized by you" (Matthew 3:14b). But Jesus insisted, "Allow it now, for thus it is fitting for us to fulfill all righteousness" (Matthew 3:15b). Jesus, true and humble human as well as eternal God, was eager to do what was required of any good Jew. Jesus thus publicly entered the community of those awaiting the Messiah. But making himself part of that community, he made it truly messianic.

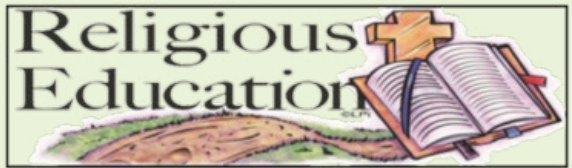
The greatness of John, his pivotal place in the history of salvation, is seen in the great emphasis Luke gives to the announcement of his birth and the event itself—both made prominently parallel to the same occurrences in the life of Jesus.

Source: *Franciscan Media*



**NEWS
FROM**

**Religious
Education**



A Summer Blessing

May you walk with God this summer in whatever you do and wherever you go. May you talk to God this summer and every day and in every situation. May you talk with God every day!!



RELIGIOUS FREEDOM WEEK

Religious Freedom Week will be celebrated in dioceses nationwide from **June 22 to June 29**. Throughout the week we will focus on the importance of preserving the essential right of religious freedom, both now and in the future, for Catholics and all people of faith. This year's theme is "Called to the Fullness of Dignity." The significant feast days during the week (Saints Thomas More and John Fisher – June 22, Saint John the Baptist – June 24, and Saints Peter and Paul – June 29) inspire us to follow the example of these great saints who loved God above all and remained faithful in the face of adversity. Please visit www.usccb.org/ReligiousFreedomWeek to download the "PrayReflect-Act" pages for each day on various religious liberty topics. These excellent resources are intended to inspire us to learn more about religious liberty from a Catholic perspective, help us to pray about particular issues, and provide us with tools to act on what we learn.



Additional information and resources for personal use can be found at www.worcesterdiocese.org/religiousfreedomweek.



Listen to Your Children

This summer, when your children are out of school and on different schedules, meeting new people and going to new places, make sure that you talk to them often about their experiences and the people they've met. Listen carefully to your children. If possible, observe and get to know the other children and adults who are part of your children's summertime fun. Above all, communicate your safety concerns to your children. Make sure they know that they can come to you with any concerns they may have about the people they interact with. And if you hear of or observe behaviors that may be inappropriate, make sure to communicate your feelings to people who are in a position to intervene. Communication is key to creating and maintaining a safe environment all year round.

For particular help you may call: Judith Audette, Director of Office for Healing and Prevention at (508) 929-4363.

Source: www.kidsafe.com.

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