



CONTACT US

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Regular Office Hours

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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 Zeveska

Religious Education and Parish Center

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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

SAINT JOSEPH PARISH

December 1, 2024

First Sunday of Advent

*And then they
will see the
Son of Man
coming in a
cloud with
power and
great glory.*

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, November 30, 2024

4:00PM **Ann R. Cote**
Happy Birthday, Mom!
by daughter Judith

Sunday, December 1, 2024

8:30AM **Michelle Marrier**
15th Anniversary Remembrance
by family

10:30AM **Roland and Josephine Brigham**
Anniversary Remembrance
by family

Monday, December 2, 2024

8:00AM **Henry**

Tuesday, December 3, 2024

8:00AM **Paul Stefanski**
Month's Mind Mass
by Joan Going

Wednesday, December 4, 2024

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

Thursday, December 5, 2024

5:00PM **Rose Belles**
Month's Mind Mass
by family

Friday, December 6, 2024

8:00AM **Margaret**

Saturday, December 7, 2024

4:00PM **Ann R. Cote**
17th Anniversary Remembrance
by daughter Judith

Sunday, December 8, 2024

8:30AM **Mary Ann Shea**
19th Anniversary Remembrance
by sister Anna

10:30AM **John F. Cunningham,**
Anniversary Remembrance
by his son

Saturday, December 7, 2024

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

Sunday, December 8, 2024

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

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



Deborah Halley - Carlo Whaley- Donna Perron
John (Woody) Wood - Lois Maniero
Susan Schmidt - Judy Maillet - Elaine Lamb
Thomas McMahan - Elsie Faneuil - Julia
William Daniels - Anne Berberian
Marianne and Robert Haroian - Lana Khoury
Joseph Cloutier, Jr. - Joseph Cloutier, Sr.
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
Iris Wood - Derek Degon
Kayla, Patrick and Olive O'Donnell
Linda J. Harris
Lynne Gobbi - John Cunningham
Derek Lapointe - Christopher Chiras

Auburn, Massachusetts

Dear People of Saint Joseph Parish,

This year the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception is moved from December 8 to December 9. The Second Sunday of Advent ranks higher in the calendar than the observance of the Immaculate Conception, so the observance is moved to Monday. Bishop McManus sent pastors a letter that states that the obligation to attend mass on the holyday is also transferred.

So we will celebrate mass three times on Monday, December 9, and celebrate the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception on that day. We will not have an anticipated mass on Sunday.

The Immaculate Conception of Mary celebrates the exception granted to her that she was conceived without original sin. It is the beginning of the mystery of redemption and salvation that comes through Jesus, her son, in preparation for his eventual birth.

The Immaculate Conception is also the patron of the United States of America. It is very appropriate that we should pray for her intercession on her feast day for our country. May she intercede for our nation before her son.



Saturday, December 7, is the day for Saint Joseph Christmas Bazaar. It is an annual event that raises money in support of our parish. You will have the opportunity to purchase items that might be gifts for family or friends. Parishioners have donated items for the baked goods booth. They are always delicious. Candy makers are busy creating confections for purchase. Christmas items will be on sale. If you do not want to purchase any items, the raffles will be very active during the Bazaar.

Thank you to all the people who prepared items for the Bazaar. Thank you to all the people who donated items for sale or raffle.

If you haven't already purchased a raffle ticket for the Pastor's Prize, you may do so this weekend after mass near the entrance doors of the church. Tickets for the Pastor's Prize will also be available at the Bazaar.

The *Little Blue Books* with readings for Advent and Christmas have arrived and are available in the back of the church. There are two versions: a regular size print that is easy to place in a purse or pocket and a large print version for people who have trouble with the smaller print. Because the large print books are more expensive, we have fewer copies. Please take that version only if you have need for the larger print. *The Word Among Us* books are there as well.

Sincerely, Fr. Paul Bomba

A Message from Bishop McManus ...

My dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

On the weekend of December 8 our parishes will be conducting the appeal for the Retirement Fund for Religious.

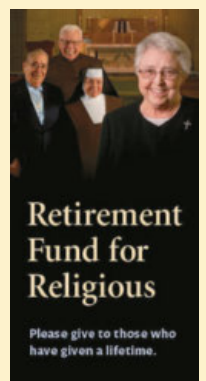
Religious communities of women and men were devoted to establishing Catholic schools, hospitals, and charitable agencies. Often this progress came at great sacrifice, and many older sisters, brothers, and religious order priests served for little to no pay.

While this annual collection assists those who have retired from their careers, they never retire from their vows and keep the needs of the people they served for a lifetime in their daily prayers. Currently, 71% of the religious communities have a median age of 70 or older, the highest it has been since this national collection began.

Your gift to the Retirement Fund for Religious provides vital funding for medications, nursing care, and more.

I recognize this is but one of numerous worthy causes in need of assistance; I ask simply that you consider giving to those who have given a lifetime.

Sincerely yours in Christ, Most Reverend Robert J. McManus, Bishop of Worcester



Sunday, December 1, 2024



Sunday, December 1, 2024

AA Meeting 7:00PM Lower Church Hall

Monday, December 2, 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

Tuesday, December 3, 2024

Bible Group 10:00AM-Noon Parish Center

Wednesday, December 4, 2024

AA Meeting 7:00PM Lower Church Hall

Thursday, December 5, 2024

Choir Rehearsal 6:30PM Church

Saturday, December 7, 2024

No Religious Education Class Grade 1 10:00AM Church

St. Joseph Christmas Bazaar 9:00AM-2:00PM Parish Center

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

Sunday, December 8, 2024

AA Meeting 7:00PM Lower Church Hall

ST. JOSEPH CHRISTMAS BAZAAR PASTOR'S PRIZE RAFFLE

Tickets on sale after masses
this weekend.

1st Prize: Mass Lottery Scratch Tickets
Purchase Price \$100.00

2nd Prize: Mass Lottery Scratch Tickets
Purchase Price \$50.00
\$1.00 per chance.

Drawing: Saturday, December 7 at the Christmas Bazaar.



St. Joseph



Saturday, December 7, 2024

**Our 18th annual Christmas Bazaar is
next Saturday, December 7, 2024 at the
Parish Center from 9:00AM-2:00PM**

Don't miss out on the attic treasures, collectibles, jewelry, baked goods, candy, toys and so much more!!!! Be sure to take a chance on the over 30 raffle items and Fr. Bomba's donation of a \$100 and a \$50 Lottery Scratch ticket board.

If you would like to donate baked items for our baked goods table, please label it. (example: brownies, with nuts, sugar free cookies, apple pie, pumpkin bread, etc.) Whole items as well as single serving items are greatly appreciated. Please wrap up your single serving items individually. Bring them to the parish center on Thursday, December 5 or Friday, December 6, between 9:30am-3:00pm.

We will be setting up the hall beginning Tuesday, December 3, through Friday, December 6, from 9:30am-3:00pm. We can use the help. Come anytime that is convenient for you. Thank you!!

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
St. Joan of Arc Food Pantry.



HOLY DAY
OF
OBLIGATION



**Masses for the Holy
Day will be
celebrated on
Mon., December 9 at
8:00 AM
Noon
and 6:30 PM**

First Sunday of Advent



Parish Support



DUE TO THE THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY AND EARLY BULLETIN SUBMISSION DEADLINES, TOTALS FOR LAST WEEK'S COLLECTION WILL BE REPORTED IN NEXT WEEK'S BULLETIN.

The second collection this weekend is for **Maintenance.**

The second collection next weekend will be for **The Retirement Fund for Religious.**

Thank you for your continued support of our parish.



St. Joseph Parish will be participating in the **Giving Tree**

sponsored by Urban Missionaries of Worcester, which provides over 3,000, Christmas gifts to those children in need. This year there are two options available for you and your family to participate in the program.

1. Gift tags are available in the church and parish center from November 23-December 11.
2. You may also make a donation through their "Go Fund Me" page. Find the tab on their website, www.urbanmissionaries.com for cash donations and they will purchase the gifts.

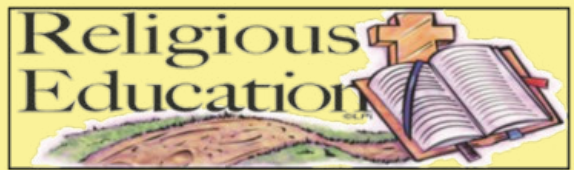
Please do not wrap gifts or place gifts in a decorated gift bag. Also, do not enclose any ribbons, bows or external decorations. Simply attach your chosen tag on the gift.

If a tag requests multiple gifts, select only one gift. If a tag is taken, please return a gift. Also, do not include anything edible and do not include batteries, even if required for the gift.

All gifts must be returned to the church no later than Sunday, December 15, by 10:30am, for delivery to Urban Missionaries.

If you would like to help pack the gifts for delivery, call Brad Wass, 508-868-1421. If you would like to volunteer at Urban Missionaries, call 508-831-7455 or email: mailbox@urbanmissionaries.com. They will let you know what their needs are. Thank you for your continued support and generosity to this important cause.

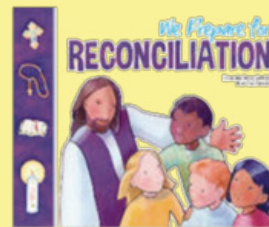
NEWS FROM



Children's Prayer for First Week of Advent



*Jesus, you are the light of the world.
Help us not to hurt each other by our words and actions.
Make us thoughtful and generous
so we can be ready to greet you when you come.*



Grade 2 - First Penance Preparation Schedule

December 7 & 14 – 10am, at the church

December 14 – First Penance Retreat

10:45am - noon in the lower church hall

Please bring a lunch

**December 21 – 10am First Confession
at the church**

The Christmas Bazaar is Saturday, Dec. 7, at the parish center. Therefore, Grade 1 class will not be held on this day.

Stewardship!!!

First Sunday of Advent

"But when these signs begin to happen, stand erect and raise your heads because your redemption is at hand." (LUKE 21:28)

We celebrate Advent each year in preparation for the birth of Jesus, His first coming, as we await His second coming. What will you do differently this Advent season to grow in friendship and love with Jesus? How will you inspire others to do the same? Start by sharing your God story with others, especially those that are closest to you. Invite and accompany them on their faith journey this Advent.

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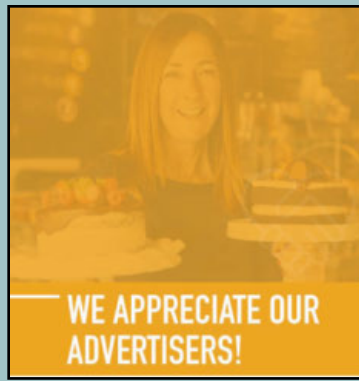
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St. Joseph, Auburn, MA

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