



CONTACT US

Rectory and Parish Office

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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

Phone 508-832-6683

Fax 508-407-8952

Email stjoesreledaub@gmail.com

Director of Religious Education

Maintenance

Ms. Lisa Wass

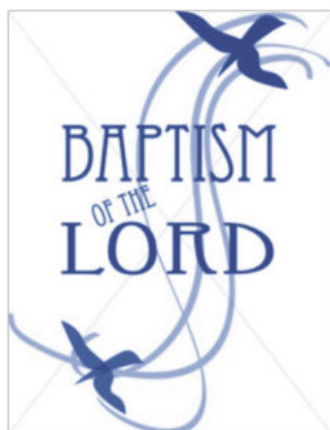
Mr. Errol Hall

Outreach Ministry

Mr. Donald Lagacy 508-287-7489

Outreach to hospitals, nursing homes, and homebound

Visits gladly made upon request



SAINT JOSEPH PARISH

January 12, 2025

The Baptism of the Lord

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.

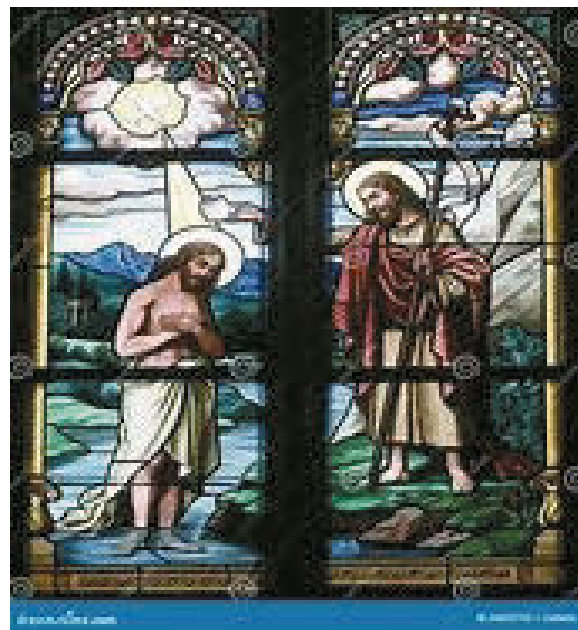
Thursday 5:00 p.m.

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, January 11, 2025

4:00PM **Helen Wojnarowicz**
2nd Anniversary Remembrance
by her sister Theresa Sarsfield

Sunday, January 12, 2025

8:30AM **Robert Cicio, Jr.**
Birthday Remembrance
by family

10:30AM **Mr. Joseph Pepper**
In Remembrance

Monday, January 13, 2025

8:00AM **Fr. Joseph Bielonko**

Tuesday, January 14, 2025

8:00AM **Theresa and Louis**

Wednesday, January 15, 2025

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

Thursday, January 16, 2025

5:00PM **Mr. & Mrs. Paul Poirier, Sr.**
In Remembrance

Friday, January 17, 2025

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

Saturday, January 18, 2025

4:00PM **Charles Modzelewski**
Birthday Remembrance
by daughter Theresa Sarsfield

Sunday, January 19, 2025

8:30AM **Edward J. Coughlin**
Anniversary Remembrance
by family

10:30AM **People of St. Joseph Parish**

Saturday, January 18, 2025

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

Sunday, January 19, 2025

8:30am
Holy Communion Len Angers/Jean Ashton
Marek Sitkowski
Lector Anna Fleming
Altar Server Patty Bickford
10:30am
Holy Communion Phil 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 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

Join the Parish

Become a member of Saint Joseph Parish. Fill out one of the Parish Enrollment Forms found in the vestibule of the church or on the back table of the parish center. Place it in the mail, deliver it personally, or drop it in the collection basket.



Auburn, Massachusetts

Dear People of Saint Joseph Parish,

Thank you to all the parishioners who prayed for my recovery and good health last weekend. Some people could see that I was not feeling very well at the New Year masses. I was not feeling well enough to celebrate the weekend masses for Epiphany. I hope that you were inspired by the visiting priests who were very generous to celebrate for you.

This week we celebrate the third great manifestation of Christ. The first was at Christmas when the angels directed the shepherds to visit the newborn child Jesus. They were amazed by what they saw and told everyone they met. The second manifestation is the Epiphany. The Magi followed the star. They met the child and opened their gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. This is a manifestation to the gentiles, people who did not have the tradition of the Law and the Prophets.

As Jesus is ready to begin his public ministry he connects to the, "voice crying out in the desert, prepare the way of the Lord." John baptizes with water. It is a simple sign of repentance. Jesus baptizes with the "Holy Spirit and fire." Jesus' baptism participates in God's grace, mercy, and forgiveness. John is stepping back, Jesus steps forward.

The Gospel gives us a wonderful image. Jesus in the Jordan with John. The Holy Spirit descends upon him. People hear the voice of the Father, "You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased."

The Gospel connects Jesus' baptism in the Jordan with the baptism that we celebrated when we came into the Church. It is a simple rite that has dynamic impact. While it only took a little time to pour water and recite the trinitarian formula, it is a life-long encounter with God.

God usually works through simple signs. Water is a simple substance. It supports life on this planet. It is plentiful. It is a solvent that promotes cleanliness. It is inexpensive. God uses the water to bring us eternal life. He takes away the sin. It brings us into the Church. The words, "I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit." are also a necessary element for completion of the rite.

Baptism is coupled with Confirmation and the Eucharist to complete the rites of initiation. Many Eastern Churches continue the ancient practice to celebrate all the sacraments of initiation together. The Western Church has spaced them out through the life cycle of the person to encourage spiritual growth and development.

May we all grow in our baptismal grace today.

Sincerely, Fr. Paul Bomba



Help Advocate for Seniors!

At Senior Connection, we are looking for dedicated individuals to become Advocates for Nursing Home Residents (we call this an Ombudsman volunteer). If you have a passion for helping senior citizens and want to make a positive impact on their lives, we invite you to join our mission. Help is needed throughout the central Massachusetts area. **Call 508-853-1373 and press 2 for the Ombudsman program, then 2 again. Or email omb@seniorconnection.org for more information. Thank you.**



Stewardship!!!

The Baptism of the Lord

"John answered them all, 'I baptize you with water; but he who is mightier than I is coming...he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit...' " (Luke 3:16)

The Catholic Catechism states that "Jesus' immersion in the water is a sign for all human beings of the need to die to themselves to do God's will." In other words, as baptized Catholics there is only one gift that we need to give to Jesus – the gift of ourselves. Surrender yourself to God, place your trust in Him and allow the Holy Spirit to work through you for the greater glory of God.

Sunday, January 12, 2025



Sunday, January 12, 2025

Grade 2 Family Mass	10:30AM	Church
AA Meeting	7:00PM	Lower Church Hall

Monday, January 13, 2025

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, January 14, 2025

Bible Group	10:00AM-Noon	Parish Center
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Wednesday, January 15, 2025

AA Meeting	7:00PM	Lower Church Hall
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Thursday, January 16, 2025

Choir Rehearsal	6:30PM	Church
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Saturday, January 18, 2025

Religious Education Classes Grades 1 & 2	10:00-11:15AM	Parish Center
CMSC Driver's Education	8:30AM-3:00PM	Parish Center
Plumbing School	8:00AM-5:00PM	Parish Center
Private Event	11:00AM-2:00PM	Lower Church Hall
K of C Installation of Officers	4:00PM	Church

Sunday, January 19, 2025

Plumbing School	8:00AM-5:00PM	Parish Center
AA Meeting	7:00PM	Lower Church Hall

The Baptism of the Lord

"This is My beloved Son in whom I am well pleased." Are you considering making known the love of our Heavenly Father as a priest, deacon, sister or brother?

Contact the Vocation Office at (508)630-4473 or email: donato.infante@gmail.com.

Novena to protect human life!

Every baby deserves a birthday. Even though *Roe v. Wade* was overturned, most states still don't protect the lives of preborn children. Join thousands of Catholics nationwide in praying the annual 9 Days for Life novena for the protection of human life from **January 16-24**.



Visit 9daysforlife.com to sign up to receive daily intentions by text or email throughout the novena.



Parish Support



	Dec. 29	Jan. 5
Weekly Goal	\$7,500	\$7,500
Last Weekend	\$2,777	\$5,135
Shortfall	(\$4,723)	(\$2,365)
Catholic University		\$661
Debt Redux	\$50	\$55
Year to Date		
Budget	\$390,000	\$7,500
Collections	\$188,940	\$5,135
Electronic Payment	\$16,170	\$370
Shortfall	(\$184,890)	(\$1,995)

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

The second collection next weekend will be for **Fuel**.
Thank you for your continued support of our parish.

DIOCESAN PRAYER FOR THE JUBILEE YEAR

Merciful Father, protector of all who hope in you: you sent your Only Son to rescue us from sin and death, and through his Cross have joined us to the wonder of your mercy. May this, our Diocesan Jubilee, move sinners to repentance, heal the broken and ashamed, and restore the lost to your embrace.



Bless us on our pilgrim way, preserve us in your love. Defend us from all evil, that freed from sin, we may rejoice in the immeasurable depth of your forgiving love. We ask this through Christ, your Son, for whom we wait in joyful hope in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever. Amen.

The Baptism of the Lord

CALENDAR RAFFLE WINNERS

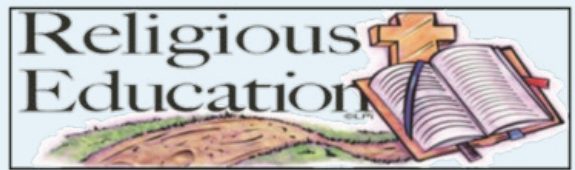


The Calendar Raffle began on January 1 and will continue until the end of the month.

The lucky winners are:

January 1	\$25	Carol Kenneway
January 2	\$25	Wendy Stevenson
January 3	\$25	Susan Czesnowski
January 4	\$25	Tracey Ouelette
January 5	\$100	Claude Carrier
January 6	\$25	Francis Kavanagh
January 7	\$25	Evelyn Carrier

NEWS FROM



Martin Luther King Jr

I Have a Dream



No Religious Ed Classes

Monday, January 20, in observance of Martin Luther King Day.



Weather Cancellation Policy

If Religious Education classes are cancelled due to inclement weather, you will be notified in the following ways:

All grade levels – Check your email. When a decision is made that classes will be cancelled, an email will be sent to all families.

Saturday/Sunday (Gr. 1, 2 & 9) – You will receive an email or phone call before 8:30am.

Afternoon and evening classes (Gr. 3 – 8) If school is cancelled, or there is an early release, religious education classes are also cancelled.

If we need to cancel classes because of a daytime, or impending late afternoon or evening storm, schools will be contacted, and they will inform the students.

If you are not sure, email stjoesreledaub@gmail.com, and a response will be sent.

Let's hope for a mild winter!!!



"After all the people had been baptized and Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, heaven was opened." What a treat to be in that crowd! Just imagine the experience of witnessing this

manifestation of divinity! To SEE the Holy Spirit "in bodily form like a dove" and to hear the voice that "came from heaven" announcing Jesus' true identity. Don't we all long for this kind of miraculous clarity? Wouldn't it do wonders for our faith if we had such unmistakable certainty about who Jesus really is?

It's easy to imagine that the first Christians had it easier than we do. They got to be with Jesus in person, and to witness the Miracles that went along with his years on earth. Because of this, we can quickly forget the benefits we enjoy that they did not. We live on the other side of the Resurrection, for example. The first followers of Christ believed in him BEFORE he rose from the dead. We, on the other hand, have the confidence of knowing that this man literally conquered death. We also have two millennia of Christian witness through the saints to pull upon. The first Christians had no idea what this new religion would produce, how many people would embrace it, or how it would change the world for the better. We know that Christianity has been fruitful beyond measure.

Today's Gospel informs us that it was only after they were baptized that the people witnessed the opening of heaven. Even Jesus himself was baptized before he heard this earthly confirmation of his heavenly origin.

We who have been baptized, following the example of Christ, also have "access" to the voice of God. In the silence of our hearts, and through God's word in the Bible (another advantage we enjoy), heaven is "opened" for us as well.

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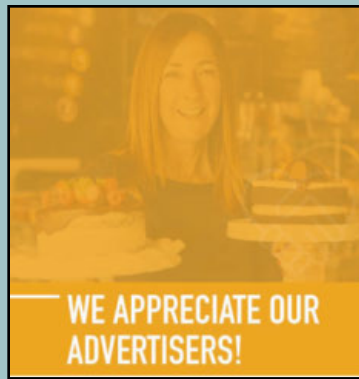
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