



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



First
Sunday
in 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.

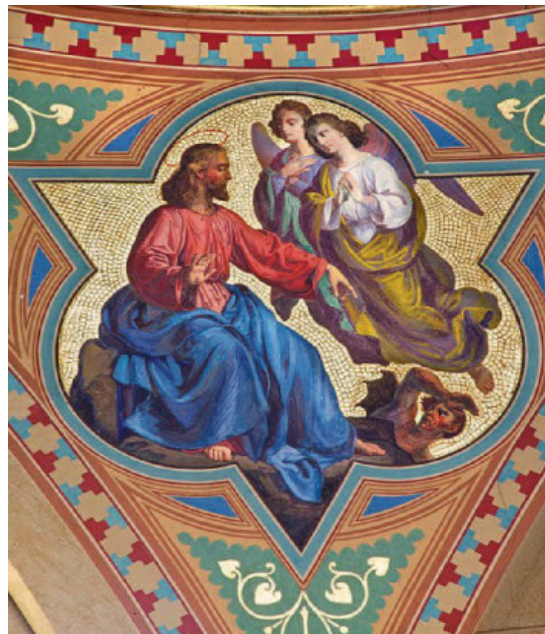
Thursday 5:00 p.m.

Friday 8:00 a.m.

Sacrament of Penance

Saturday 3:00-3:30 p.m.

or by appointment



SAINT JOSEPH PARISH

March 9, 2025

First Sunday of Lent

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 8, 2025

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

Sunday, March 9, 2025

8:30AM *Fr. Michael Roy*
10:30AM *People of St. Joseph Parish*

Monday, March 10, 2025

8:00AM *Fr. Michael Roy*

Tuesday, March 11, 2025

8:00AM *Fr. Peter Samorajski*

Wednesday, March 12, 2025

8:00AM *Fr. Michael Roy*

Thursday, March 13, 2025

5:00PM *For God's Blessings
for Christian*
by Linda J.

Friday, March 14, 2025

8:00AM *Fr. Ed Falvey*
Anniversary Remembrance

Saturday, March 15, 2025

4:00PM *James Higgins*
In Remembrance
by family

Sunday, March 16, 2025

8:30AM *People of St. Joseph Parish*
10:30AM *Mary Laing*
by family

Annual Mass for Life – March 25

The annual Mass for Life will be celebrated by Bishop Robert J. McManus on the Solemnity of the Annunciation of the Lord, **Tuesday, March 25 at 10:00 a.m. at the Cathedral of St. Paul.** All are invited to join students from our Catholic schools who will be our special guests. The Diocese of Worcester's annual Pro-Life Awards will also be presented at this Mass. All are welcome to attend!



Saturday, March 15, 2025

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

Sunday, March 16, 2025

8:30am
Holy Communion Len Angers/Jean Ashton
Marek Sitkowski
Lector Patty Bickford
Altar Server Mary Skorvanek
10:30am
Holy Communion Scott Maselek +2
Lector Sandy Pierce
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. - 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 - Barbara Powers
Kayla, Patrick and Olive O'Donnell
Linda J. Harris - Mary Hamilton Johnson
Lynne Gobbi - John Cunningham
Derek Lapointe - Christopher Chiras

Auburn, Massachusetts

Dear People of Saint Joseph Parish,

Lent is a time for fasting and abstaining from meat. The diocesan directive states: Lenten fast and abstinence regulations for the Diocese of Worcester are as follows:

- 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. Catholics should not lightly excuse themselves from these prescribed Lenten penitential practices.

This directive is the same for the Universal Catholic Church. It is the minimal observance of fasting and abstinence. Being minimal, anyone may increase their observance if they wish. For example, some people choose to observe two meatless days during the week. Others choose to fast and abstain on all Fridays of Lent. The choice is yours.

Many years ago, as Catholics observed abstinence from meat on every Friday, they became known as “mackerel snappers.” The phrase was usually used in a derogatory fashion about a person or group of Catholic people who ate fish on Friday. Fortunately, some Catholics refused to let the label upset them and even adopted it to describe themselves.



The practice of abstinence on Friday was a way that people used to align themselves with the suffering of Christ on the cross. It was a way of denying themselves a luxury and offering their penance to God. Fish was allowed because it was not considered in the same category as poultry and other meats. Even in today's large markets, fish is separated from other meats.

For centuries fish was considered to be the food of the poor. Anyone could bring a fish out of a river with a line, bait, and hook. Not everyone could hunt game or raise farm stock.

How things have changed! Fish is priced as high or higher than beef. Nutritionists praise the benefits of eating fish. Diets that are heavy in red meat are detrimental to cardiac wellness. Remember that abstinence from meat does not mean you must eat fish. It means you may eat a vegetarian meal and still abstain from meat.

Nutrition aside, fasting and abstinence are practiced for their spiritual benefits. We fast and abstain from meat to give glory to God in gratitude for the gift of Jesus, his Son.

Operation Rice Bowl adds another dimension to this practice. It publishes a number of recipes that it gathered from around the world that are meatless for us to try. One that I recently found appealing comes from Kenya, called Mukimo. It is a boiled dinner with potatoes and other vegetables that are boiled and mashed together. If you would like to try some of the Rice Bowl recipes <https://www.crsricebowl.org/recipe/> will take you to a large selection for a culinary adventure.

Sincerely, Fr. Paul Bomba

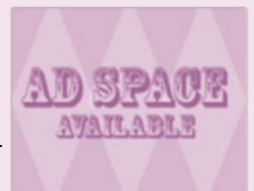
Stewardship!!!

First Sunday of Lent

“I have now brought you the first fruits of the products of the soil which you, O Lord, have given to me” (Deuteronomy 26:10)
This line from the Old Testament offers two challenges. First, do you give to God from your “first fruits” - the first and best that you have to offer? Or do you give from what you have leftover? Second, do you realize that everything you have and that everything you are has been given to you by God? We aren't owners of anything, we are merely stewards of God's gifts. Pray for a grateful and generous heart, every day, in all circumstances.

AVAILABLE NOW! PRINT AD SPACES

Clare Colamaria from LPi, our bulletin printer, will be securing new ads for our church in the coming weeks. As a valuable member of the business community, we invite you to expand your reach and grow your business with a print ad in our parish bulletin.



Clare Colamaria (216) 325-6825 (X6444)
CColamaria@4lpi.com

Sunday, March 9, 2025



Sunday, March 9, 2025

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

Monday, March 10, 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
Plumbing School	5:30PM-9:30PM	Parish Center

Tuesday, March 11, 2025

Bible Group	10:00AM-Noon	Parish Center
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Wednesday, March 12, 2025

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

Thursday, March 13, 2025

Choir Rehearsal	6:30PM	Church
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Friday, March 14, 2025

Stations of the Cross	6:30PM	Church
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Saturday, March 15, 2025

Religious Education Classes Grades 1 & 2	10:00AM-11:15AM	Parish Center
Plumbing School	8:00AM-5:00PM	Parish Center

Sunday, March 16, 2025

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

A Message from Bishop McManus ...

My dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

For more than a half century, the **Collection for the Church in Latin America** has been a sign of the solidarity of the Church in the United States with the Church in Latin America and the Caribbean. This solidarity was fully expressed in autumn 2024, when Catholics from around the world gathered for an International Eucharistic Congress in Quito, Ecuador, to celebrate the country's 150th anniversary of its consecration to the Sacred Heart of Jesus.

Using funds received from the Collection for the Church in Latin America, the Archdiocese of Quito welcomed thousands from around the world—including a delegation of Catholics from the United States led by Bishop Andrew Cozzens—to pray together, encounter the love of Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament, and share their faith. When you participate in the collection at your parish, you support special events such as the Eucharistic Congress as well as the ongoing work of forming catechists, supporting vocations to priesthood and religious life, and implementing family ministries throughout Latin America.

A significant portion of this collection is also used to assist in the ongoing efforts of our local Diocesan Hispanic and Latino Ministry, which serves the large number of Hispanic and Latino Catholics who are now in the Diocese of Worcester. It is gratifying to see the life of faith flourishing in these parish communities as their faith life enriches us all.

I encourage you to respond to the national theme to “Share your Faith” by supporting the special Collection for the Church in Latin America on the weekend of March 16. Please be assured of my appreciation for your generous response.

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



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 April 11 at 6:30 p.m. in the church.



Confession

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

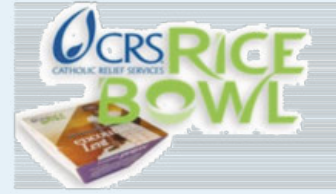
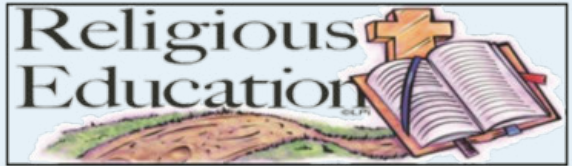
Lenten Disciplines of Fasting & Abstinence

Catholics in good health ages 18 to 59 are required to fast and to abstain from meat on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday.

Fasting consists of eating only one meal, with the possibility of two smaller snacks that do not add up to a single full meal.

Catholics age 14 and older are to abstain from meat on all Fridays in Lent.

NEWS FROM



This week students received a Rice Bowl collection box sponsored by Catholic Relief Services. Included in their Lenten lessons is to pray more, fast more and share more. Each day, we ask them to pray for those who are less fortunate as they place spare change or bills in their box. The boxes will remain at home. We will collect the filled boxes on Saturday, April 5 and Monday, April 7.

Participating in this project, benefits the families they are helping and teaches students the hardships of others.

Please pray for our students in their efforts to support these families in need.

St. Joseph Parish



Saturday, May 3, 2025
Parish Center Parking Lot
(will be held inside in case of rain)
68 Central St.
9:00AM ~ 2:00PM

We are beginning to accept donations for our May yard sale. We are happy to take small furniture (ie., end tables, small chairs, small bookcases, etc). We cannot accept large furniture, appliances, electronics, clothing, shoes, bedding and the like.

Items can be brought to the parish center on Monday, Tuesday or Friday between 10:00am and 3:00pm.
Please call or email beforehand to be sure Lisa is available at 508-832-6683 or stjoesreledaub@gmail.com.

We appreciate our volunteers and welcome anyone who would like to join our team. If you would like to help please get in touch using the contact information above.

Parish Support



Weekly Goal	\$7,500
Last Weekend	\$4,915
Shortfall	(\$2,585)
Debt Redux	\$150
Year to Date	
Budget	\$67,500
Collections	\$32,531
Electronic Payment	\$3,500
Shortfall	(\$31,469)

The second collection this weekend is for
Maintenance.

The second collection next weekend will be for
The Church in Latin America.

Thank you for your continued support of our parish.

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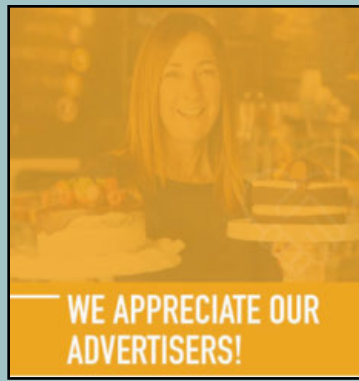
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