

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

December 10, 2017

MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday, December 9 - 4:30 pm, Holy Cross

Sunday, December 10 - 7:45 am, Holy Cross

**Sunday, December 10 - 9:15 am, St. Martin's
Amanda Putney by the Provonsil family**

Sunday, December 10 - 10:45 am, Holy Cross

Monday - 8 am at Holy Cross, 9 am at St. Vincent de Paul

Tuesday - 8 am at Holy Cross, 9 am at St. Vincent de Paul

Wednesday - 8 am at Holy Cross, 9 am at St. Vincent de Paul

Thursday - 9 am at St. Vincent de Paul

Saturday, December 16 - 4:30 pm, Holy Cross

Sunday, December 17 - 7:45 am, Holy Cross

**Sunday, December 17 - 9:15 am, St. Martin's
Roger Belliveau by the family**

Sunday, December 17 - 10:45 am, Holy Cross

Weekly, Dec 3: \$682 Fuel: \$42 Christmas Flowers: \$127

The Second Collection this week: Retirement Fund for Religious

The Second Collection next week is for Fuel

PRAY FOR THE SICK AND SHUT INS

Please pray for Raymond Emond, Jennie House, Dianne Murray, Gianna Howlett, Janet Clark, Marie Quader, Marie Jacques, Trey Niles, Margaret Murdock, Connie Hamel, Sandy Kulvete, Alice Ostrowski, Deb Nichols, Mary Amistadi, Dylan Murray, Anne Marie Beliveau, Alicia Wieszorek, Claudette Yackowski, Emma Blais, Angela Martin, George Yackowski, Donald Leblanc.

POLICY FOR DAILY MASS IN WINTER

If school is cancelled or delayed on a day that daily Mass is scheduled, that Mass will be cancelled for the safety of all.

PRAY THE ROSARY

Come early, and join in praying the Rosary 30 minutes before Mass each Sunday.



NEXT WEEK'S SCRIPTURE READINGS

Get more out of Sunday Mass, by reading ahead...

December 17, 2017 — Third Sunday of Advent

ISAIAH 61:1-2A, 10-11 • 1 THESSALONIANS 5:16-24 • JOHN 1:6-8, 19-28

HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

Christmas

December 24: 4 pm at Holy Cross

December 24: Midnight @ St. Martin's

December 25: 10:00 am at Holy Cross

New Year's Day

January 1: 8:00 am at Holy Cross

January 1: 10:00 am @ St. Martin's



(This year Christmas Eve is on a Sunday. There will be the usual Sunday Morning Masses and the Christmas Eve ones listed above. New Year's Eve also falls on a Sunday, however, there will be NO New Year's Vigil Masses that day. Instead we will have two Masses on New Year's day.)

ADVENT/CHRISTMAS CONCERT

St. Edward's Music Ministry Adult Choir, 10 Church St., Westminster invites all to an Advent/Christmas Concert this afternoon, Sunday, Dec. 10 at 4 pm. We ask that you bring a canned good for the Westminster Food Pantry.

CHRISTMAS FLOWERS



Those of you who desire to do so, may make an offering for our Christmas Altar Flowers and decorations. An envelope for this purpose is available in the vestibule. They may be given in memory of loved ones, whose names will appear in our bulletin and who will have a special remembrance at Masses here during the Christmas Season.

2018 COLLECTION ENVELOPES

Boxed sets of collection envelopes for 2018 are available in the vestibule. If you have used envelopes in the past two years, a set with your name has been prepared. If you would like to begin using envelopes, blank sets are available.

2018 CALENDARS

Calendars for 2018 are available in the vestibule. Thank you to Normand and Andrew Boucher of Boucher Funeral Home, 110 Nichols St., Gardner, who make these calendars available to our parishioners each year.

MASS INTENTIONS

The Mass intention book for 2018 is now available. Mass Intentions can be scheduled by calling the rectory at 978-939-5588, by emailing saintmartin-church@mail.com, or by speaking to Pat Gale after Mass.

ST. MARTIN'S HOLIDAY FAIR

"Thanks!" to all who supported our Holiday Fair last weekend — by donating gifts, by helping with set up and clean up, by working at a booth or by attending and inviting family and friends. We had great weather, great attendance, and a financially successful event. Results of the fair will be available next weekend, after all expenses are paid.

If you won a prize and have not yet picked it up, stop by the rectory after Mass today.

BABY FOOD & CLOTHING DRIVE

Thank you to all who contributed to our baby food and clothing drive. The collected items will be delivered to the Gardner VNA's Healthy Families program this week.

120 CLUB

Recent winners were #60, Laura Lajoie, and #52, Margaret Villani. All tickets must be paid in full to be in the final "big" drawing.

OPŁATEK — A POLISH TRADITION TO BE SHARED

Oplatek is a Polish Christmas Wafer. It is typically rectangular, and the size of a hand, embossed with a Christmas scene, such as the Nativity. It is made of flour & water pressed between two engraved pieces of metal and is similar to the bread wafer used in Holy Communion.

Before sitting down to Christmas Eve dinner, many families with roots in Poland and other Central European countries will take part in a tradition dating back hundreds of years. At the start of dinner, just after grace, people take turns and break off a piece of the Oplatek, eat it and share well wishes to each other. St. Martin's has Oplatek available in the vestibule for a free will donation for those who would like to keep or begin this tradition.

MARCH FOR LIFE REGISTRATION

The 45th Annual March for Life in Washington, DC on Friday, Jan. 19, 2018.

Buses will leave from Cathedral of St. Paul on Thurs., Jan. 18, following 7:30 p.m. Mass, and will travel to the Basilica of National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, DC in time for Friday morning Mass followed by the March for Life at noon. Buses will return to Worcester immediately following the March, arriving back at St. Paul's at approximately 1:00 a.m. on Sat., Jan. 20. For information, visit www.worcesterdiocese.org/respect-life or call 508-929-4311.



St. Martin's Catholic Church

248 State Road, Otter River, MA 01436

Rev. Patrick Ssekoyole, Pastor

Richard J. Tatrow, Deacon

Telephone 978-939-5588 • www.saintmartinchurch.org

Office email: info@saintmartinchurch.org

Rosary

30 minutes before Sunday Mass

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Confessions are heard from 3:30 to 4:15 pm on Saturdays at Holy Cross Church or by appt.

Sacrament of Christian Marriage

Plans may be made by contacting the Pastor at least one year prior to the intended wedding date.

Ministry to the Sick and Elderly

Please notify us when a parishioner is homebound or hospitalized so that we may visit the confined person and offer the sacraments of the Church.

Parish Registration

If you are new to the area, we welcome you to join our parish family. Please introduce yourself after Mass and register in the parish. We want to know and serve you.