

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

December 6, 2015



MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday, December 5 - 4:30 pm, Holy Cross

Sunday, December 6 - 7:45 am, Holy Cross

**Sunday, December 6 - 9:15 am, St. Martin's
Amanda Putney by the Provonsil family**

Sunday, December 29 - 10:45 am, Holy Cross

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

Tuesday, December 8 - Immaculate Conception - Holy Day

Mass at 8 am and 7 pm at Holy Cross

Mass at noon at St. Martin's

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

Thursday - 9 am at St. Vincent de Paul

Saturday, December 12 - 4:30 pm, Holy Cross

Sunday, December 13 - 7:45 am, Holy Cross

**Sunday, December 13 - 9:15 am, St. Martin's
Jaylin Rose Johnson by Steve & Barbara White**

Sunday, December 13 - 10:45 am, Holy Cross

Weekly Offering: \$525

Second Collection this week is for Fuel

Second Collection next week: Retirement Fund for Religious

Thank you to all who make up their envelopes for weekends missed due to vacation, illness or inclement weather.

PRAY FOR THE SICK AND SHUT INS

Please pray for Paula Blanchette, Skip Brown, Trey Niles, Margaret Murdock, Connie Hamel, Sandy Kulvete, Alice Ostrowski, Deb Nichols, Mary Amistadi, Dylan Murray, Marion Gay, Anna Henrie, Anita Poirier, Bernice Leger, Anne Marie Beliveau, Rachel Catlow, Alicia Wieszorek, Bob Brown, Claudette Yackowski, Emma Blais, Angela Martin, Michelle Smith, Mason Jandris, Michael Theriault, Doug Young, Tim Wilson, Joe Barrett, George Yackowski, Donald Leblanc.

PRAY THE ROSARY

Come early, and join in praying the Rosary 20 minutes before Mass each Sunday.



IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

Tuesday, December 8 is a Holy Day, Feast of the Immaculate Conception of Mary. The Feast celebrates the conception of Mary without any taint of Original Sin. **Masses will be celebrated Tuesday, December 8, 8 am at Holy Cross, at Noon at St. Martin's, and 7 pm at Holy Cross. Eucharistic Adoration will follow the 7 pm Mass.**

THE HOUR OF GRACE — EVERY DECEMBER 8TH AT NOON

In 1947, the Blessed Virgin Mary appeared to Sister Pierina in apparitions at the Basilica of Montichiari, Italy. In a particular one, she told Sister Pierina how to prepare for the hour of grace. Mary said, "With prayers and penance pray the 51st Psalm with outstretched arms three times. During the Hour of Grace for the world, many spiritual graces would be granted. The most hard-hearted sinners will be touched by the grace of God." The Blessed Virgin promised that whatever a person asked for during this hour of Grace (even in impossible cases) would be granted to them, if it was in accordance with the will of the Eternal Father.

BABY FOOD AND CLOTHING DRIVE

During the month of December, our CCD students sponsor a Baby Food and Clothing collection. Remembering that Jesus came to the world as a baby, we offer gifts of food, clothing, blankets and other baby items for local infants. Donations may be left in the bassinet in the vestibule of the church. Donations made by December 14 will be delivered in time for Christmas.

CHRISTMAS FLOWERS

If you would like to make an offering for our Christmas Altar Flowers and decorations, envelopes for this purpose are 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. We ask this be done by Dec. 13, to allow print time for the Dec 20 bulletin. Thank you!

HOLIDAY MASS SCHEDULE

Christmas

Dec. 24 - 4 pm at Holy Cross

Dec. 24 - 6 pm at Holy Cross

Dec. 24 - Midnight at St. Martin's

Dec. 25 - 10:00 am at Holy Cross

New Year's Day

Dec. 31 - 5:30 pm at Holy Cross

Jan. 1 - 10:00 am at St. Martin's



RETIREMENT FUND FOR RELIGIOUS

Please give to those who have given a lifetime. Senior Catholic sisters, brothers, and religious order priests worked for many years for little, if any, pay. Please be generous. Thanks!

OUR HOLIDAY FAIR IS THIS WEEKEND!

St. Martin's Holiday Fair continues this Sunday at the American Legion Hall in Baldwinville.

The fair will be open from 9 am - 1 pm on Sunday — so plan to stop in, grab a cup of coffee and a snack, or stay for lunch. Pick up for prizes will be from 2 to 6 pm on Wednesday, Dec. 9, and from 10:30 am to 1 pm on Sunday, December 13, at the rectory.

POSADA - DECEMBER 12

“POSADA” is a tradition observed by many in the Hispanic culture. Within this celebration, Mary and Joseph seek shelter for the Christ-Child to be born. A format for celebration POSADA has been suggested by the National Knights of Columbus. We shall observe the POSADA ceremony at the 4:30 pm Mass on December 12 at Holy Cross Church. Confirmation students will portray the main characters in this re-enactment and all are invited to attend. This is a real opportunity to celebrate Christ in Christmas.

120 CLUB

Last week's winner was: #16, Malvina McCusker.

ADVENT WREATHS

Thank you, to all who supported the Giorgio youth group by purchasing Advent wreaths. All profits will go to Catholic Relief Services to assist refugees in the Middle East.

OPLATEK – 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.

Oplatek will be available in the vestibule for a free will donation for those who would like to keep this tradition.

JACK FROST FESTIVAL THIS SUNDAY

The Jack Frost Festival — complete with parade and the annual Christmas Tree lighting — will take place this Sunday, Dec. 6, on Templeton Common. The event runs from 1-5 pm with parade at 4 and tree lighting at 4:30, pictures with Santa, bake sale

SUNDAY MASS ON WGAW RADIO

Holy Mass is celebrated live on WGAW 1340 AM Radio from Holy Rosary Church in Gardner at 10:30 am every Sunday.



St. Martin's Catholic Church

248 State Road, Otter River, MA 01436

Rev. Marcin W. Nowicki, Pastor

Richard J. Tatro, Deacon

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

Father Marcin's email: frmmarcinn@gmail.com

Rosary

20 minutes before weekend Masses

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Confessions are heard at 4:45 pm on Saturdays at Holy Cross Church during the fall/winter season, 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.