

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

December 10, 2023

MASS SCHEDULE

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

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

**Sunday, December 10 - 9:15 am at St. Martin's
John Lempart by Pat Gale and family**

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

Monday - 8 am at St. 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 at Holy Cross

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

**Sunday, December 17 - 9:15 am at St. Martin's
Karen Brown by Steve and Barbara White**

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

December 3 weekly collection: \$581

Second Collection this week: Retirement Fund for Religious

Second Collection next week is for Fuel

PRAY FOR SICK AND SHUT INS

Please pray for Jim O'Malley, Jennifer Strong, Jason Hamel, Diane Lupaczyk, Thomas Lupaczyk, Marguerite Pouliot, Raymond Emond, Janet Clark, Trey Niles, Sandy Kulvete, Mary Amistadi, Dylan Murray, Anne Marie Beliveau, Emma Blais, George Yackowski, and Donald Leblanc.

Our Lady, Health of the Sick, we pray for the comfort of your love.

PRAY THE ROSARY

Plan to come to church early, and join in praying the Rosary, 20 minutes before Mass.

MASS INTENTIONS

If you wish to schedule a Mass for a special intention or remembrance, speak to Pat Gale after Mass or call the parish office at 978-939-5588. The 2024 Mass book is now open and dates are available.

WEEKDAY MASS IN WINTER:

When conditions warrant delays or school cancellations, there will be NO WEEK-DAY MASS. Mass intentions for that day will be transferred to the next available mass. We value the lives of our parishioners. Stay Safe!



NEXT WEEK'S SCRIPTURE READINGS

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

DECEMBER 17, 2023: THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

ISAIAH 40: 1-5, 9-11 • 2 PETER 3: 8-14 • ARK 1: 1-8

MIDDLE SCHOOL AMPLIFY NIGHT IN WESTMINSTER

Middle school youth (6th-8th grade) are invited to middle school Amplify night Friday, Dec. 15, 5:30-8:30pm at St. Edward the Confessor, Westminster. Join us for pizza, games, skits, witness talks, music, & Eucharistic Adoration. There is NO COST to attend. Sign-up using the following link so we can get a headcount for food: <https://neworchester.org/middle-school-amplify> These events are planned and run by the Diocesan high school Discipleship Team

2024 PARISH ENVELOPES

Boxed sets of weekly offertory envelopes for 2024 are now available in the vestibule. If you have been using personalized envelopes, there should be a set prepared for you. If you have not been using them, but would like to, extra boxes are available; just jot your name and address on them so we can add you to our envelope list.

WORD OF LIFE

"Perhaps one of your friends has become pregnant unexpectedly. As someone who has been there, I encourage you to support your friend in her new journey of being a mother." Learn how at respectlife.org/support-her.
— USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities "10 Ways to Support Her When She's Unexpectedly Expecting"



INVITE SOMEONE TO MASS THIS CHRISTMAS SEASON!

So many messages during the Christmas Season are about coming home, being with family and friends. Consider inviting someone with you and your family to Mass this Christmas and experience the joys of the Christmas Season. It could be the greatest gift you give this year!

2024 CALENDARS

Wall calendars for 2024 are available in the vestibule. These beautiful calendars include information for all Holy Days and, feast days. The calendars are generously provided to us each year by Boucher Funeral Home in Gardner. Please feel free to take a calendar (or two) home with you.

CHRISTMAS ALTAR FLOWERS

If you wish to make an offering for our Christmas flowers and decorations an envelope is available in the vestibule. Offerings may be given in memory of loved ones whose names will appear on our Christmas Flower listing and who will have a special remembrance at Masses during our Christmas Season. We ask these offerings be returned by December 17 to allow enough time for printing. Thank you!



ST. MARTIN'S HOLIDAY FAIR - THANK YOU!!

Thank you to all who helped in any way with our Holiday Fair — by donating gifts, baking goodies for the bake sale, moving tables and materials (including 40 theme baskets!), setting up on Friday, manning tables through the weekend, and cleaning up and moving everything again on Sunday. With bills paid, we will clear about \$10,000 to benefit the Parish Improvement Fund.

Congratulations to all winners! If you have not yet picked up your prizes, stop by the rectory after Mass today.

120 CLUB

Last week's winner of the 120 Club was #66, Linda Columbus.

TEMPLETON FOOD PANTRY

The need continues year-round in our community. Donations of non-perishable foods may be brought to church any Sunday, and will be delivered to the pantry. Current needs include Sugar, brownie mix, mayonnaise, and kids cereal. Gift cards and cash donations are especially appreciated, as the Pantry is facing difficulty in keeping the shelves stocked.

CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

An insert with the schedule for Masses at Christmas and New Year's Day is included in this bulletin. Additional copies are available in the vestibule. Please take one home, as Mass times are changed for the holiday weekends.

OPLATEK

St. Martin's has Oplatek available in the vestibule for a free will donation for those who would like to keep this beautiful Polish tradition.

MARCH FOR LIFE DEADLINE DECEMBER 15

There's still time to register for the bus trip to the 51st annual March for Life in Washington, DC, Friday, January 19, 2024! For details and to download registration forms, visit www.worcesterdiocese.org/respect-life or contact the Respect Life Office at 508-929-4311, or email aledoux@worcesterdiocese.org. Can't attend this year but want to help? Consider making a donation to help defray expenses

CAROLING ON DECEMBER 15

Join us for an evening of caroling on Friday, December 15. We will meet at Holy Cross Church parking lot and travel by bus to various homes. The bus will leave the parking lot at 5:30 pm, so be there a few minutes before the bus leaves. All are welcome to come and share their voices. The evening will end with pizza and cookies back at the church. Please RSVP to the Parish Office by noontime on Wednesday, December 13 either by phone or email, so we can get an accurate count for the food.

HOLIDAY VILLAGE PARADE & TREE LIGHTING

The Templeton holiday parade & tree lighting will be held this Sunday, December 10, starting on Wellington Road at 4 pm. Join in counting down the tree lighting, greet Santa, and more!



St. Martin's Catholic Church

248 State Road, Otter River, MA 01436

Rev. Patrick Ssekoyole, Pastor • Dennis J. Cormier, Deacon

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

Rosary

30 minutes before Sunday Mass

Sacrament of Reconciliation

During this pandemic, please contact the rectory at Holy Cross Church, 978-632-2121, for an appointment

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.