

## FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

December 18, 2022

### MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday, December 17 - 4:30 pm at Holy Cross

Sunday, December 18 - 7:45 am at Holy Cross

**Sunday, December 18 - 9:15 am at St. Martin's  
Mary White by Steve & Barbara White**

Sunday, December 18 - 10:45 am at 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

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

Thursday - 9 am at St. Vincent de Paul

Saturday, December 24 - Christmas Eve - 4:00 pm at Holy Cross

**Saturday, December 24 - MIDNIGHT - at St. Martin's  
Elsie Smith by Linda and Bob Columbus**

Sunday, December 25 - 10 am at Holy Cross

**December 11 weekly collection: \$557 Religious Retirement: \$268**

**Immaculate Conception: \$77**

**Second Collection this week is for Fuel**

### PRAY FOR SICK AND SHUT INS

Please pray for Philip Lefebvre, Thomas Lupaczyk, Mark Hanks, Kate Nicholson, Maryann Robinson, Marguerite Pouliot, Raymond Emond, Janet Clark, Marie Quader, Trey Niles, Sandy Kulvete, Mary Amistadi, Dylan Murray, Anne Marie Beliveau, Alicia Wieszorek, Emma Blais, George Yackowski, Donald Leblanc... and all those affected by the Corona virus.

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

### PRAY THE ROSARY

Come to church 30 minutes before Mass to join in praying the Rosary each Sunday.



### MASS INTENTIONS

To schedule a Mass in memory of a loved one, an anniversary or special intention, see Pat Gale after Mass or call the Rectory at 978-939-5588 and leave a message.

### NEXT WEEK'S SCRIPTURE READINGS

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

December 25, 2022 - The Nativity of the Lord

**ISAIAH 52:7-10 • HEBREWS 1:1-6 • JOHN 1:1-18**

### CHRISTMAS FLOWERS

Those of you who desire to do so, may 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.

### MIDNIGHT MASS AT ST. MARTIN'S

Begin Christmas at Midnight Mass at St. Martin's! A music prelude begins at 11:30 pm; come early, relax, and prepare your heart for the coming of Our Savior.

### HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

#### Christmas

Dec. 24: 4:00 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: 4:30 pm at Holy Cross

Jan. 1: 8:00 am at Holy Cross

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



This year, Christmas and New Year's Day fall on a Sunday. The weekend Masses will be altered, with the exception of Saturday, Dec. 31, which will be the regular 4:30 pm Mass.

### MARCH FOR LIFE REGISTRATION INFORMATION NOW AVAILABLE!

Plan now to attend the 50th annual March for Life in Washington, DC on Friday, Jan. 20, 2023! Buses will leave from St. Paul's Cathedral on Thurs., Jan. 19 following the Respect Life Mass at 7:30 p.m., 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 Saturday, Jan. 21. For more details and to download registration forms, visit [www.worcesterdiocese.org/respect-life](http://www.worcesterdiocese.org/respect-life) or contact the Respect Life Office at 508-929-4311 or [aledoux@worcesterdiocese.org](mailto:aledoux@worcesterdiocese.org).

*Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel, which means "God is with us."*

*When Joseph awoke, he did as the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took his wife into his home. — Mt 1: 22-24*



## WORD OF LIFE

“O St. Bakhita, assist all those who are trapped in a state of slavery; Intercede with God on their behalf so that they will be released from their chains of captivity. Those whom man enslaves, let God set free.” — USCCB, “Prayer to St. Josephine Bakhita

## 2023 CALENDARS AVAILABLE

Religious Art Calendars for 2023 are available in the vestibule. Please feel free to take one or more home with you. These calendars are graciously provided each year by Boucher Funeral Home.

## OPLATEK

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

## 120 CLUB

Last Week’s Winner was #90, Josh Johnson. There are open numbers available. If you would like to join this parish fund-raiser, please speak to 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, juice boxes, jelly, and diapers. Grocery store gift cards and cash donations are always appreciated.** Thank you to all who continue to contribute to the Pantry to help our neighbors in need.

The Templeton Food Pantry is located at the rear of the Templeton Senior Community Center, off Bridge Street in Baldwinville. It’s open from 9 am - noon on Tuesdays; noon - 3 pm and 5 - 7 pm on Thursdays; and from noon - 3 pm on Saturdays. Anyone in need of food is welcome to visit this community resource.

## MEDICAL EQUIPMENT

The Templeton Senior Community Center, off Bridge Street in Baldwinville, has durable medical equipment such as walkers and wheelchairs available for loan.

## THANK YOU

Thank you to all who donated to our parish Winter Coat Drive last month. We delivered more than two dozen coats and warm vests for adults and children, as well as sweaters, scarves, hats, and gloves to the Community Action Committee to help our neighbors in need.

Our Baby Diaper and Clothing Drive concludes this weekend. The items collected will be delivered to the Healthy Family Program at the VNA in Gardner.

## WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER

Worldwide Marriage Encounter is sponsoring a variety of in-person and virtual marriage experiences, some on weekends and some on seven weekdays. Couples will explore their relationship with each other, God, and the Church. Registration is limited and a \$100 application fee is required. For more information or to apply, call Joe & Ginny Vatelle at 978-870-5646 or visit <https://wwmema.org/>.

What better gift can you give your spouse for Christmas than to tell them you want to attend a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Experience together: Mar 10-12, 2023 in Upton, MA.



## 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](http://www.saintmartinchurch.org)

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### 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.