

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

December 4, 2022

MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday, December 3 - 4:30 pm at Holy Cross

Sunday, December 4 - 7:45 am at Holy Cross

**Sunday, December 4 - 9:15 am at St. Martin's
Pepe Provonsil by the family**

Sunday, December 4 - 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 - Immaculate Conception - 8 am & pm at Holy Cross

Thursday - Immaculate Conception - noon at St. Martin's

Saturday, December 10 - 4:30 pm at Holy Cross

Sunday, December 11 - 7:45 am at Holy Cross

**Sunday, December 11 - 9:15 am at St. Martin's
John Lempart by Pat Gale & family**

Sunday, December 11 - 10:45 am at Holy Cross

November 27 weekly collection: \$553

Second Collection next week is for Retirement Fund for Religious

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 11, 2022 - Third Sunday of Advent

ISAIAH 11:1-10 • ROMANS 15:4-9 • MATTHEW 3:1-12

WORD OF LIFE

"Jesus calls each of us to 'care for the other as a person for whom God has made us responsible' (EV 87). ... The encyclical The Gospel of Life recognizes the full range of threats against human life, from poverty and malnutrition to murder and war. Particular emphasis, however, is placed on threats to life at its beginning and end—precisely when it is most in need of protection. In modern times, children in their mothers' wombs and those approaching the end of their lives are certainly among the 'least of these' in our world's estimation." — *Excerpt from Evangelium vitae*, © 1995, Libreria Editrice Vaticana.

FEAST OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

December 8 is a Holy Day of Obligation, Feast of the Immaculate Conception of Mary. The Feast celebrates the conception of Mary without any taint of Original Sin. This year, Masses will be celebrated on Thursday, Dec. 8, 8:00 am & 7 pm at Holy Cross, and NOON at St. Martin's.

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.

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.

John wore clothing made of camel's hair and had a leather belt around his waist. His food was locusts and wild honey.

At that time Jerusalem, all Judea, and the whole region around the Jordan were going out to him and were being baptized by him in the Jordan River as they acknowledged their sins. — Mt 3: 4-6





HOLIDAY FAIR

**SAT., DEC 3, 9 AM - 3 PM AND SUN., DEC. 4, 9 AM - 1 PM
AT THE AMERICAN LEGION HALL, BALDWINVILLE**

Our Holiday Fair continues this Sunday, December 4, from 9 am to 1 pm. Stop by after Mass for coffee and pastry ... take a chance on the raffles and theme baskets, shop for handmade decorations and tasty goodies — and support St. Martin's Parish Improvement Fund at the same time!

BABY FOOD, DIAPER & CLOTHING DRIVE

Remembering that Jesus came to us as an infant, each year our parish collects baby gifts — baby food, diapers, blankets and new clothing — to help young families in need. The donations will be delivered to the Healthy Families program at the Visiting Nurses office in Gardner in mid-December. A bassinet will be set up in the vestibule for your donations.

120 CLUB

Last Week's Winner was #21, Linda Columbus. 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 cream style corn. 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.

CHRISTMAS FAIR IN ASHBURNHAM

St. Denis Parish, 85 Main St, Ashburnham, will be holding their Christmas Fair on Saturday, Dec. 10 from 9 am to 6 pm in Father Lacey Hall. Includes food booth showcasing soups, chowders, baked goods etc. There will be a scratch ticket raffle tree and other raffles and crafts. All are welcome!

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.

THE FEASTS OF CHRISTMAS TIDE

Did you know that the early church didn't place the emphasis on celebrating Christmas that we do today? Join Annunciation Parish in Gardner this Wednesday, December 7th to learn why Catholics celebrate the Christmas Season as we do. Fr. Steve will explore with us the history and significance of the Church's Christmas feasts (yes, we celebrate for a season not just a day!) and the traditions which surround them. His presentation will be held in the church hall at Holy Rosary following 6:30 Evening Prayer up in the Church.



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.