

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

February 18, 2024

MASS SCHEDULE

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

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

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

Sunday, February 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 de Paul

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

Thursday - 9 am at St. Vincent de Paul

Saturday, February 24 - 4:30 pm at Holy Cross

Sunday, February 25 - 7:45 am at Holy Cross

**Sunday, February 25 - 9:15 am at St. Martin's
Baby Provonsil, 5th anniversary, by Steve Provonsil**

Sunday, February 25 - 10:45 am at Holy Cross

February 11 weekly collection: \$491 Fuel: \$206

Second Collection This Week is for Repair & Maintenance

Second Collection Next Week: Church in Latin America

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.

LENTEN GUIDELINES

Abstinence from meat is to be observed by all Catholics fourteen (14) years of age and older on Ash Wednesday, Good Friday and all the Fridays of Lent.

Fasting is to be observed by all Catholics who are eighteen (18) years of age but not yet fifty-nine (59) years of age on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday.

NEXT WEEK'S SCRIPTURE READINGS

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

FEBRUARY 25, 2024 SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

GENESIS 22: 1-2, 9A, 10-13, 15-18 • ROMANS 8: 31B-34 • MARK 9: 2-10

World Wide Marriage Encounter

World Wide Marriage Encounter sponsors a variety of in-person and virtual marriage experiences, some on weekends and some on seven weekdays. Couples explore their relationship with each other, God, and the Church. Registration is limited; there is a \$100 application fee. For more information or to apply, call Joe & Ginny Vatable at 978-870-5646 or <https://www.mema.org/>.

WORD OF LIFE

"We often assume parenthood happens easily after 'I do,' but for many married couples, it does not. For some, the joy of conception never happens. Others suffer repeated miscarriages. Still others experience secondary infertility... If you experience difficulty bringing a child into your family, know that you are not alone. God is with you, and his Church desires to walk with you... God has a beautiful plan for your life as a married couple." — *USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities*
"Seven Considerations While Navigating Infertility" respectlife.org/navigating-infertility

LENT 2024-LETTER FROM BISHOP MCMANUS

"Jesus is calling us deeper." The Bishop reminds us of our three-year National Eucharistic Revival, www.eucharisticrevival.org, and the call to deepen our relationship with Christ during this season of Lent. Please read his letter posted on our website: holycrossparishet.org.

LENTEN SCHEDULE

THE WAY OF THE CROSS will be held every Friday at 7:00pm during Lent at Holy Cross Church.

DEANERY LENTEN PILGRIMAGE will be held Wednesdays during Lent. The first pilgrimage is February 21 at St. Edward the Confessor Church, 10 Church St., Westminster: **Confession** at 6:00 pm and Adoration and Divine Chaplet at 7:00 pm



STATIONS OF THE CROSS ON TOUR

Please join young adults throughout the Diocese for the Stations of the Cross every Friday during Lent, they will be coming to Templeton, at St. Vincent de Paul Church, 1 Forest St., Baldwinville on March 15 at 6:30 pm. The six-church Tour began in Worcester on February 16. For a complete list of churches and times visit: <https://www.neworchester.org/>

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.

K OF C BREAKFAST THIS SUNDAY

The Otter River Council Knights of Columbus will hold a Pancake Breakfast from 8 am to 11 am on February 18 at Holy Cross Church, East Templeton. Pancakes, eggs, sausage, juice, and coffee will be served. The cost is \$6 for adults, \$3 for children 12 and under. The maximum for a family is \$25.

2024 MEN'S CONFERENCE

Tickets are available for the 2024 Worcester Catholic Men's Conference, Saturday, March 16, at Worcester's DCU Center. Tickets are \$50-Adults & \$30-Students. Purchase online at www.catholicmenworc.com or call 978-537-3016. Speakers include Jim Wahlberg (brother of actors Mark & Donnie Wahlberg), Deacon Harold Burk-Sivers, "The Dynamic Deacon," and other Catholic Thought Leaders. Tickets include Lunch, the opportunity to participate in Reconciliation, all-day Adoration, and to visit 50+ relevant vendors, in the spacious & ultra professional surroundings of the DCU Center.

NEW 120 CLUB BEGINS THIS WEEK

A new round of the 120 Club begins this week. There are open numbers; see Linda Columbus if you would like to join. Tickets are \$20. The 120 Club benefits our Parish Improvement Fund.

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 mayonnaise, Chef Boyardee pasta, Kleenex/tissues, pasta (other than spaghetti), jam/jelly, kids cereal and paper towels. Gift cards and cash donations are especially appreciated, as the Pantry is facing difficulty in keeping the shelves stocked.**

The Pantry, at Senior Drive in Baldwinville, is open on Tuesdays from 9 am to noon; Thursdays from noon to 3 and 5 to 7 pm; and Saturdays from 10 am to noon.

FISH FRY-DAY IN GARDNER

Annunciation Parish offers a Fish Fry on Fridays during Lent from 5:00 p.m.—7:00p.m. at Holy Spirit Hall in South Gardner. Meals can be eat-in or take-out. Menu: Baked or Fried Fish, Baked Potato or French Fries, Clam Chowder, Dessert, Drink ... All this for the fantastic price of \$13 per adult and \$6 per child 12 and under! Dessert donations are always welcome!

SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL DONATION PICK-UP

The Society of St. Vincent de Paul of Worcester and Hampden Counties is now offering free curbside pick-up of clothing, shoes, books, and household items. The funds received go to help our neighbors in need with (but not limited to) food, clothing, rent, and utilities. To schedule a free home pick-up, visit our website at <https://svdpworcester.org> and click on the "How You Can Help" tab, then choose "Schedule a Home Pick-Up." Complete the form, and you're done! You may also contact our partner (CMRK) at 508-474-8966. Please Help us help our neighbors in need!



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
Saturday: 3:30-4:15pm and anytime by 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.