

FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

February 4, 2024

MASS SCHEDULE

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

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

**Sunday, February 4 - 9:15 am at St. Martin's
Norman Provonsil, 7th anniversary, by the family**

Sunday, February 4 - 10:45 am at Holy Cross

Monday - No Mass at Holy Cross, 9 am at St. Vincent de Paul

Tuesday - No Mass at Holy Cross, 9 am at St. Vincent de Paul

Wednesday - No Mass at Holy Cross, 9 am at St. Vincent

Thursday - No Mass at Holy Cross, 9 am at St. Vincent

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

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

**Sunday, February 11 - 9:15 am at St. Martin's
Michael C. Scheurer by Lauren Chartier**

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

January 28 weekly collection: \$417 Home Missions: \$63

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.

EUCHARIST ADORATION

Adoration at Holy Cross Church will resume on Tuesday, February 27.

NEXT WEEK'S SCRIPTURE READINGS

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

FEBRUARY 11, 2024 - SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Lv 13: 1-2, 44-46 • 1CORINTHIANS 10: 31-11: 1 • MARK 1: 40-45

World Wide Marriage Encounter

Mark 1:33-35: "The whole city was gathered at the door. He cured many who were sick with many diseases, and he drove out many demons." Later "he went off to a deserted place to pray." Jesus preached and also went about healing those who were ill. Jesus also can heal our marriages and make them whole again. Learn the five tools for a better marriage by signing up and attending a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Experience. You will be glad you did! You can find one by looking up WWME.org. Upcoming Dates: February 8-March 21, 2024, Virtual (evenings twice a week), February 9-11, 2024 in Huntington, NY; and March 15-17 in Upton, MA.

WORD OF LIFE

"A society is all the more human to the degree that it cares effectively for its most frail and suffering members, in a spirit of fraternal love. Let us strive to achieve this goal, so that no one will feel alone, excluded or abandoned." — *Pope Francis, Message for the 29th World Day of the Sick 2021*

HOLY HOUR TO PRAY FOR PRIESTS

On Friday, Feb. 9 from 7 - 8 pm, a Holy Hour to pray for priests will take place at Immaculate Conception Church on 353 Grove St., Worcester. The holy hour consists of time for silent Adoration, a short reflection, the Rosary, and Benediction. Please join us to pray for our priests. Repeats every second Friday of the month.

LENTEN GUIDELINES

Lent begins on February 14, with Ash Wednesday. Lenten fast and abstinence regulations for the Diocese of Worcester are as follows:

- 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.
- Those who are bound to fast may take only one full meal. Two smaller meals are permitted if necessary to maintain strength according to one's needs, but eating solid foods between meals is not permitted.

Catholics should not lightly excuse themselves from these prescribed Lenten penitential practices.

PASTORAL MINISTRIES

There are many opportunities for ministry to our fellow parishioners. You are invited to volunteer your time and talent by expressing your interest to the Pastor.



COFFEE AFTER MASS NEXT SUNDAY

You are invited to stay after Mass next Sunday, February 11, to enjoy a coffee hour at the Rectory. Please join your fellow parishioners, friends and neighbors for coffee, juice, donuts and fellowship.

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.

PRO-LIFE AWARDS NOMINEES SOUGHT

The Respect Life Office, Diocese of Worcester seeks nominations for two annual pro-life awards to be presented by Bishop McManus at the Mass for Life on April 8, 2024, the Solemnity of the Annunciation of the Lord. Information and nomination forms are available at www.worcesterdiocese.org/mass-for-life-annunciation. Completed nomination forms must be received no later than February 15.

120 CLUB BIG DRAWING WINNERS

The Final "Big Drawing" for the last round of the 120 Club winners are: First Prize \$500, #68 Lisa Morrison; Second \$200 Janice Caisse; Third \$100, #33 Sally Frisch; Fourth and Fifth, \$50, #53 Priscilla Valliere and #19, Brian Winchester; and Sixth through Ninth, #90 Josh Johnson, #113 Sue Girard, #27 Caela Provost, and #37 Shirley Murray.

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

K OF C BREAKFAST

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.

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, salad dressing, Kleenex/tissues, elbow macaroni, and kids cereal. 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.



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.