

THIRTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

July 2, 2023

MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday, July 1 - 4:30 pm at Holy Cross

Sunday, July 2 - 7:45 am at Holy Cross

**Sunday, July 2 - 9:15 am at St. Martin's
Philip Lefebvre by Pat and Bob Gale**

Sunday, July 2 - 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, July 8 - 4:30 pm at Holy Cross

Sunday, July 9 - 7:45 am at Holy Cross

**Sunday, July 9 - 9:15 am at St. Martin's
Marie Rose Leblanc by Steve and Barbara White**

Sunday, July 9 - 10:45 am at Holy Cross

June 25 weekly collection: \$505 Peter's Pence: \$146

Second Collection Next Week is for Fuel

PRAY FOR SICK AND SHUT INS

Please pray for Jason Hamel, Diane Lupaczyk, Thomas Lupaczyk, Marguerite Pouliot, Raymond Emond, Janet Clark, Marie Quader, 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

Come to church early on Sundays, and join in praying the Rosary, 20 minutes before Mass.



DEVOTION TO THE HOLY FACE

Please join St Denis Parish and Annunciation Parish in praying the most powerful devotion. 1st and 3rd Sundays at Holy Rosary Church in Gardner at 3pm after the Latin Mass; and 2nd and 4th Sundays at St. Denis Church in Ashburnham right after the 11am Mass. If you have any questions, please email Maryann Lindgren and Franca Martin at thepowerofourlady@aol.com

NEXT WEEK'S SCRIPTURE READINGS

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

JULY 9, 2023-FOURTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
ZECHARIAH 9: 9-10 • ROMANS 8: 9, 11-13 • MATTHEW 11: 25-30

INDEPENDENCE DAY

Today throughout the United States, we celebrate our freedom. Our rights are protected and opportunities abound. We recognize that freedom has a cost, one we celebrate and honor on days such as this. It's good to honor those who fight for our country, who may well pay the ultimate price for the liberties we're afforded.



As faithful Catholics, we recognize that there is more to freedom than simply being at liberty to make our lives what we want them to be. St. John Paul II reminds us: "Freedom is not just doing what we can, it is doing what we ought." We become freer within ourselves and within our relationships when we choose what is right and good. When we choose sin, we become trapped in egoism—less free, not more. This Independence Day, let's continue to pursue virtue and good character and encourage others to do this same.

"O God our Creator... through the power and working of your Holy Spirit, you call us to live out our faith in the midst of the world, bringing the light and the saving truth of the Gospel to every corner of society." — *United States Conference of Catholic Bishops "Prayer for Religious Liberty"*

GET BACK TO BASICS THIS SUMMER!

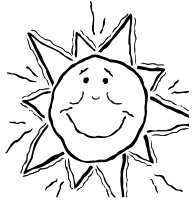
Has it been a while since you reflected on the core beliefs that shape us as Catholics? Join Annunciation Parish, 135 Nichols Street, Gardner this summer and take time to revisit the core teachings of our Catholic Faith (Divine Revelation, The Persons of the Trinity, Church, Sacraments, Catholic Spirituality & the Moral Life.) through the Ascension Press' series: **What We Believe: The Beauty of the Catholic Faith** on Wednesdays throughout the summer. Sessions begin at 6:30 PM, in the Parish Center (Old Convent, Holy Rosary Campus) and consist of a 30 minute video and discussion. All are welcome to attend any session. Participants may choose to purchase the accompanying book, workbook, and online access through AscensionPress.com.

MIDDLE SCHOOL YOUTH HANGOUT

All middle school youth (6-8th graders) are invited to a summer series of hangout nights! These gatherings will take place 4 times over the summer on consecutive Wednesday evenings from 5-7pm. These gatherings simply entail some games, food, and a chance to hang out with other middle schoolers! There is NO COST to attend! July 26th @ St. Edward the Confessor, 10 Church Street, Westminster. For more details: neworchester.org/middle-school-hangouts

"Whoever gives only a cup of cold water to one of these little ones to drink because the little one is a disciple—amen, I say to you, he will surely not lose his reward."
— Mt 10:42





BBQ TICKETS NOW AVAILABLE!

Dinner tickets for our annual Chicken BBQ & Festival, to be held **July 15** at the Otter River Sportsman's Club, are now available in the vestibule after Mass, or can be reserved by calling the rectory, 978-939-5588. Tickets are still only \$12. Please buy or reserve your tickets early to ensure that we order enough dinners to meet the need.

How Can You Help?

Many hands are needed to help make this annual event a success! Here are some ways you might be able to help out:

- Plan to **bake some goodies** for our popular baked goods table!
- With the start of cookout season, **Kingsford Original Charcoal** is often on sale. Please consider donating a bag to help keep our meal costs down.
- **Help will be needed** to transport things to the Sportsman's Club, to set up tents and tables, to man tables, serve dinners and clean up at the end. Especially helpful would be anyone with a van or truck to transport larger items.

If you can help in any way, please speak to Linda Columbus or Pat Gale. *Thank you!*

CRAFT GROUP IS ON VACATION

Our parish Craft Group will resume meeting on July 26. The group meets at 2 pm on Wednesday afternoons at the rectory. All women are invited to join us for an afternoon of crafting and fellowship as we create items for our Holiday Fair. Got ideas, patterns, or samples? Bring them and let's see what we can create!

120 CLUB

Last week's winner was #30, Max & AJ Lajoie. The 120 Club benefits our Parish Improvement Fund; if interested, contact Linda Columbus.

SUMMER BIBLE STUDY FOR HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH

Interested in learning more about Scripture? Do you like s'mores? Check out "S'mores and Scripture" a summer Bible Study series! This series is open to all high school youth (incoming freshman through graduating seniors). The series will take place over 4 sessions. However, if you cannot make all of the sessions, it's ok! Feel free to come to all or even just one session. There is NO COST to attend! Sessions will be held July 13, 20, 27 and August TBD on Thursdays from 6:30-8pm at Holy Family of Nazareth, 750 Union Street, Leominster.

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 Kids cereal, Applesauce, Italian dressing, Taco meal kits, toothpaste, canned pastas, mayonnaise. Gift cards and cash donations are always appreciated.**



St. Martin's Catholic Church

248 State Road, Otter River, MA 01436

Rev. Patrick Ssekyole, 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.