



Saint Joseph's Parish

*Serving the People of North Brookfield,
Oakham and New Braintree*

Church: 296 North Main Street
North Brookfield, MA 01535

PARISH STAFF

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Rev. William Schipper

Associate Pastor

Rev. Donald C. Ouellette

Parish Secretary

Mary Jo Hevy

Religious Education Coordinator

Lynne Losurdo

Music Director

Eva Brown

Bulletin Editor

Phyllis Casey

Safe Environment Coordinator

Pamela Reynolds

Parish Office: 28 Mt. Pleasant St., N. Brookfield, MA 01535

Tel. (508) 867-6811 Fax (508) 867-7756

Email: saintjosephrectory@verizon.net

Religious Education Center: 27 Mt. Pleasant St., N. Brookfield

Phone: (508) 867-9302 Email: llosurdo1@gmail.com

Parish Website: www.stjosephsnbma.org

Adoration and Prayer: Thurs. afternoons 3:00 - 4:00 PM

First Fridays Mass at 8:30 AM at St. John's, adoration to follow.

Rosary:

Weekdays: Mondays, Tuesdays, 8:05 AM, before the daily Mass.

Visits to the Church:

*Our church will be open on Mondays through Fridays
from 7am to 5pm for private prayer and adoration*

Visitation of the Sick:

If you or a family member are housebound and would like to receive Communion, please call the rectory. If you know of someone from the parish who is in the hospital and would like a visit from one of the priests, please let us know.

Sacrament of the Sick:

This is administered periodically. You can also call the rectory for an appointment.

Parish Registration:

If you are new to the parish, please call the rectory to register.

Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA):

Adults who are interested in becoming members of the Catholic faith are invited to join the RCIA.

Please call the rectory for information.

Food Pantry: Open

First Thursday of the month 5:00 PM - 6:30 PM

Third Thursday of the month 12:00 PM - 1:15 PM

Bereavement Committee: Carole Ryback (508) 867-8728

St. Joseph's Cemetery: Douglas Fedler (508) 867-6811

Bulletin Deadline: Please submit bulletin entries in writing to the rectory by Monday at 9:00AM.

Parish Mission Statement

As individuals and families, our mission as the parish community of Saint Joseph is to live fully the call of Jesus Christ, to be the People of God by giving witness to the Gospel, passing on our Catholic tradition, strengthening the spiritual life of parishioners and serving those in need. We are committed to being an active, welcoming, and supportive community, proclaiming Christ's teaching through word and deed.

Lord's Day Masses— Saturdays. 4:00PM,
Sundays: 8:30AM only

Weekday Liturgies

Mondays, Tuesdays 8:30AM at St. Joseph's Parish

Thursdays, Fridays 8:30 AM, St. John's, E. Brookfield

Confessions (Reconciliation)

Saturday at @ 3:00 PM at the Church
or by appointment.

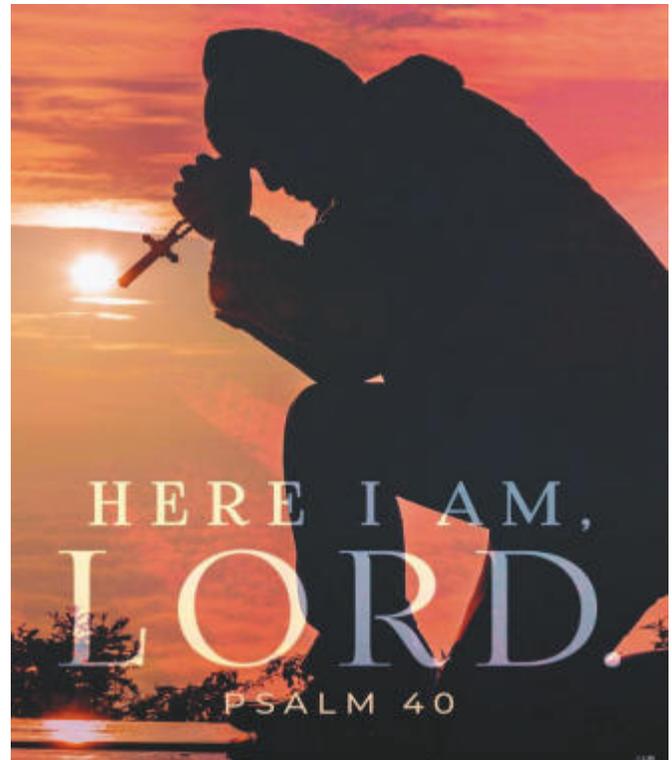
Baptisms

Sunday at 12 noon or by appointment

Baptismal Preparation: by appointment.

Marriages

Arrangements should be made 1 year in advance.





SATURDAY Jan. 16, 2021
4:00 PM **Ronald Pontbriand, 1st Anniversary**
req. by the family

SUNDAY Jan. 17, 2021
8:30 AM **Dr. Jay Batalis, 19th Anniversary**
req. by his wife and family

MONDAY Jan. 18, 2021
8:30 AM **Bernice Chevarie (Fr. Don's cousin)**
req. by her husband, Dolphe

TUESDAY Jan. 19, 2021
8:30 AM **Eleanora & Joseph Matulevicius**
req. by Rev. Richard Jakubauskas

WEDNESDAY Jan. 20, 2021

*No Mass at St. Joseph's or St. John's Churches
Masses on Wednesday at nearby parishes.*

8:00 AM—Mary Queen of the Rosary, Spencer

8:00 AM—Our Lady of the Sacred Heart, West Brookfield

THURS., FRI. Jan. 21-22, 2021

8:30 AM Masses at St. John's, East Brookfield

SATURDAY Jan. 23, 2021
4:00 PM **Earlene Lapierre, 1st Anniversary**
req. by the family

SUNDAY Jan. 24, 2021
8:30 AM **Julianne Caron,
Blanche & John Borelli**
req. by the family

Readings for the week of January 17, 2021

Sunday: 1 Sm 3:3b-10, 19/Ps 40:2, 4, 7-8, 8-9, 10
[8a, 9a]/1 Cor 6:13c-15a, 17-20/
Jn 1:35-42

Monday: Heb 5:1-10/Ps 110:1, 2, 3, 4 [4b]/Mk 2:18-22

Tuesday: Heb 6:10-20/Ps 111:1-2, 4-5, 9 and 10c [5]/
Mk 2:23-28

Wednesday: Heb 7:1-3, 15-17/Ps 110:1, 2, 3, 4 [4b]/
Mk 3:1-6

Thursday: Heb 7:25—8:6/Ps 40:7-8a, 8b-9, 10, 17 [8a
and 9a]/Mk 3:7-12

Friday: Heb 8:6-13/Ps 85:8 and 10, 11-12, 13-14 [11]/
Mk 3:13-19

Saturday: Heb 9:2-3, 11-14/Ps 47:2-3, 6-7, 8-9 [6]/
Mk 3:20-21

Sunday: Jon 3:1-5, 10/Ps 25:4-5, 6-7, 8-9 [4a]/1
Cor 7:29-31/Mk 1:14-20

Speak Lord, Your Servant Is Listening

Our faith is not just about ideas. It's really about having an encounter with God and, in particular, the Risen Christ! Once we give ourselves over to the notion of God's presence, we have to train ourselves to listen for God's voice and be attentive to God's call. Having companions on our faith journeys is so incredibly important as they can help us fine-tune our listening skills and discern God's voice from others we may be hearing. Faith is all about having these profound encounters not only with God but with our brothers and sisters, and creation itself. Anyone or anything that is alive with God's presence becomes an occasion for God to speak and call us to deeper graces and experiences. "Come, and you will see."

The example and teaching of Jesus, the lives of the saints, those living among us and those glorified in heaven, and the wonder and beauty of creation can all serve to help us listen more clearly and assist in positioning ourselves for this profound God meeting. It is an encounter that can quickly and easily lead to a friendship and intimate intertwining of our souls to their Maker, making a claim on us like no other. Then, the Word of God moves from being just a body of ideas to something we simply accept and do. The person of Jesus Christ swiftly moves from being just a good prophet in word and deed to the incarnate presence of God Himself, the Lamb of God. The voice leads us to the Person behind it.

The Gospel is hard to follow. We can intellectually debate whether what Jesus said is really what we are asked to do. The Gospel ideas do not always make sense in our practical, secular world. The person of God always does. We can debate the practicality and sense of ideas and doing so often keeps the more difficult ones at a safe distance away from us. Jesus said to love our enemy, but we really don't need to do that, our minds try to convince us. It just doesn't make sense. Yet, if we are truly in love with the God who is behind the voice of those words, they make perfect sense. Our deep and intimate love of this God would even find us laying down our lives for Him if necessary. Speak Lord, your servant is listening.

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Legacy of Hope Update

Our parish has received pledges totaling \$111,785.00. If you have yet to make your pledge, please complete the donor's card and mail it directly to the Diocese. You may also drop it off at the rectory or place it in the collection basket. We thank those who have already made their pledge in this campaign.



A Letter from Bishop McManus
Day of Prayer and Penance on Jan. 22nd



My dear brothers and sisters in the Lord, January 22, 2021 marks the 48th anniversary of the tragic Roe v. Wade Supreme Court decision which, with its companion case Doe v. Bolton, legalized abortion throughout all nine months of pregnancy in every state in the nation. The General Instruction of the Roman Missal (n. 373), designates Friday, January 22 as a particular day of prayer and penance, called the "Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children". All the faithful in dioceses throughout the United States of America are called to observe this day in a spirit of prayer for the full restoration of the legal guarantee of the right to life and of penance for the violations to the dignity of the human person committed through acts of abortion.

Forty-eight years of legalized abortion in this country has left an incomprehensible aftermath. With over 62 million lives lost, and countless women and men, mothers and fathers, grandparents, siblings, and friends who have been deeply wounded physically, emotionally, and spiritually by this tragedy, we need now more than ever to re-commit ourselves to defending life. I encourage our diocesan parishes and institutions, and all the faithful, to observe reverently the **Day of Prayer and Penance on January 22nd** both personally and within your communities. Let us unite our hearts and minds through special acts of prayer, fasting, and sacrifice on this day, to uphold the inherent dignity of all human life from conception to natural death.

As we reflect on this unspeakable tragedy, we also recall how the Church for many years has continued to reach out to those who have been so sadly affected by the culture of death, particularly through ministries providing aid to women and families in crisis pregnancies, offering the healing love and mercy of Christ to those wounded by abortion through the ministry of Project Rachel, and by continuing to teach and preach the truth and beauty about love and life that bring authentic freedom and happiness. It is through our fervent prayers accompanied by our charitable works and loving sacrifices that the culture can be transformed.

Let us take this opportunity of the January 22nd Day of Prayer and Penance to renew our resolve to live and proclaim the Gospel of Life. May we respond generously to the challenge Saint Pope John Paul II put forth in Evangelium vitae: "A great prayer for life is urgently needed, a prayer which will rise up throughout the world. May an impassioned plea rise to God, the Creator and Lover of life, from the heart of every believer." Our active participation in the shared commitment to the sacredness of human life and the dignity of the human person will with God's grace, truly work toward the building up of a Culture of Life and a Civilization of Love.

With every prayerful best wish, I remain
 Sincerely yours in Christ,
 + **Robert J. McManus**
 Bishop of Worcester

Jan. 23-24	Lectors	Altar Servers	Eucharistic Ministers
Sat. 4:00 PM	Richard Lindsay	Caden Harvey	Darlene Lavin
Sun. 8:30 AM	Richard LeBlanc	Carlo Zolla	Maureen Caramiello



Scratch Ticket Raffle

St. John's Parish is having a new fundraiser - a Scratch Ticket Raffle. The Grand Prize will be a book of 50 \$30.00 scratch tickets. The 2nd prize is \$200, and the 3rd prize is \$100. This would make a great gift. The deadline for the ticket returns is Friday, Jan. 29th. The drawing: Sunday, January 31st. Please call the rectory office for tickets. The cost is \$20 per chance.



Weekend Collections

	Jan. 2-3, 2021
Weekend	\$ 6,345.00
Renovations	\$ 315.00
Fuel	\$ 323.00
Christmas Flowers	\$ 55.00
Christmas	\$ 506.00
Retirement for Religious	\$ 30.00
Food Pantry Donations	\$ 250.00
Catholic University	\$ 123.00
Solemnity of Mary	\$ 3 93.00

Thank you for your continued support!



A Prayer to Promote Life
"Every Life is Worth Living"

Heavenly Father, thank you for the precious gift of life.

Help us to cherish and protect this gift, even in the midst of fear, pain, and suffering.

Give us love for all people, especially the most vulnerable, and help us bear witness to the truth that every life is worth living.

Grant us the humility to accept help when we are in need, and teach us to be merciful to all.

Through our words and actions, may others encounter the outstretched hands of Your mercy.

We ask this through Christ, our Lord. Amen.

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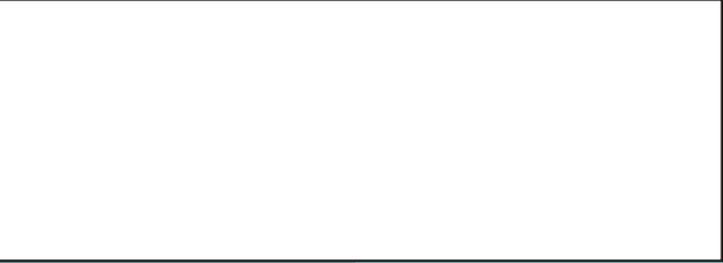
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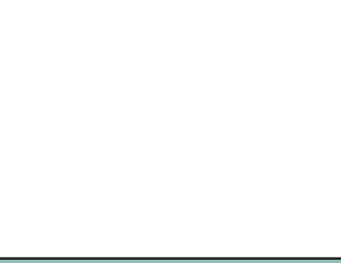



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