



**PARISH OFFICE AND RECTORY**

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**CHURCH:** 131 BLAINE AVE., E. BROOKFIELD, MA  
01515

**STAFF**

REV. WILLIAM SCHIPPER— ADMINISTRATOR

REV. DONALD C. OUELLETTE—ASSOCIATE PASTOR

DONNA STOCKMAN, SECRETARY

MARY GERSHMAN, RELIGIOUS EDUCATION FACILITATOR

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION EMAIL:

RELIGIOUSEDUCATIONST.JOHN@GMAIL.COM

**MASSES**

**WEEKENDS**

SATURDAYS: 4:00 PM SUNDAYS: 10:00 AM

DAILY: MONDAYS AND TUESDAYS AT 8:30AM

AT ST. JOSEPH'S, NORTH BROOKFIELD

DAILY: THURSDAYS AND FRIDAYS AT 8:30AM

AT ST. JOHN'S, EAST BROOKFIELD

HOLY DAY MASSES: 8:30AM ST. JOSEPH'S

7:00PM ST. JOHN'S

**FOOD PANTRY**

ST. JOSEPH'S CHURCH FOOD PANTRY

(ALSO SERVING RESIDENTS OF EAST BROOKFIELD)

ADDRESS: 296 MAIN ST., NORTH BROOKFIELD

HOURS: FIRST THURS. OF THE MONTH: 5:00-6:30 PM

THIRD THURS. OF THE MONTH: 12:00 NOON-1:15PM.

PLEASE COME TO ST. JOSEPH'S CHURCH DURING  
THESE HOURS FOR REQUESTS FOR FOOD ASSISTANCE.



***REGISTRATION OR  
CHANGE OF ADDRESS***

**Welcome to Saint John the Baptist Parish !**

If you would like to register or you have changed  
your address, please fill out the following information  
and submit it to the parish office.

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Telephone Number:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email:** \_\_\_\_\_



# St. John the Baptist Parish

**SACRAMENTS**

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION  
SATURDAYS AT 3:00 PM OR BY APPOINTMENT

**BAPTISM**

BAPTISMS ARE USUALLY HELD  
AFTER THE SUNDAY 10:00 AM MASS

**MARRIAGE**

PLEASE CONTACT EITHER PRIEST AT THE RECTORY  
AT LEAST 12 MONTHS BEFORE THE DESIRED DATE  
OF THE WEDDING SO AS TO MAKE ARRANGEMENTS.

**MINISTRIES**

SAFE ENVIRONMENT COORDINATOR  
KATHLEEN MONDOR

**MUSIC MINISTRY**

CHRISTOPHER DEPASSE

ANDY NEWTON

KRISTEN DEPASSE

RALPH PIGNATORE

AMANDA LAMBERT

KEN WOOD



## 5<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

When it was evening, after sunset, they brought to him all who were ill or possessed by demons. The whole town was gathered at the door. He cured many who were sick with various diseases, and he drove out many demons, not permitting them to speak because they knew him. - Mk 1:32-34



**Sacraments and other events**

**Sat., Feb. 6, 2021**

4:00 pm For Ann Los (3rd anniv.), req. by the family

**Sun., Feb. 7, 2021**

10:00am For Claire Michaud, req. by Ron Ryel family

**Mon., Feb. 8, 2021**

8:30 am Mass at St. Joseph's, N. Brookfield

**Tues., Feb. 9, 2021**

8:30 am Mass at St. Joseph's, N. Brookfield

**Wed. Feb. 10, 2021**

No Wed. Masses at either St. John's or St. Joseph's.

Masses in the nearby parishes:

8:00 am Mass, Mary, Queen of the Rosary in Spencer

8:00 am Mass, Our Lady of the Sacred Heart,  
W. Brookfield

**Thurs., Feb. 11, 2021**

8:30 am For Ernest Berthiaume  
req. by his wife

**Fri., Feb. 12, 2021**

8:30 am For Rev. Charles Dolan, req. by the parish

**Sat., Feb. 13, 2021**

4:00 pm For Rev. Louis J. Gould, req. by the parish

**Sun., Feb. 14, 2021**

10:00am For Jill Talevi, req. by Jean Joel

*Parish Support*

Date: 1.31.21

Weekly	\$ 2,081.00
Fuel	\$ 40.00
Catholic Home Missions	\$ 63.00

*Thank you for your continued support !*

**Readings for the week of February 7, 2021**

<b>Sunday:</b>	Jb 7:1-4, 6-7/Ps 147:1-2, 3-4, 5-6 [cf. 3a]/ 1 Cor 9:16-19, 22-23/Mk 1:29-39
<b>Monday:</b>	Gn 1:1-19/Ps 104:1-2a, 5-6, 10 and 12, 24 and 35c [31b]/Mk 6:53-56
<b>Tuesday:</b>	Gn 1:20—2:4a/Ps 8:4-5, 6-7, 8-9 [2ab]/ Mk 7:1-13
<b>Wednesday:</b>	Gn 2:4b-9, 15-17/Ps 104:1-2a, 27-28, 29bc-30 [1a]/Mk 7:14-23
<b>Thursday:</b>	Gn 2:18-25/Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5 [cf. 1a]/ Mk 7:24-30
<b>Friday:</b>	Gn 3:1-8/Ps 32:1-2, 5, 6, 7 [1a]/Mk 7:31-37
<b>Saturday:</b>	Gn 3:9-24/Ps 90:2, 3-4abc, 5-6, 12-13 [1]/ Mk 8:1-10
<b>Next Sunday:</b>	Lv 13:1-2, 44-46/Ps 32:1-2, 5, 11 [7]/ 1 Cor 10:31—11:1/Mk 1:40-45

***If I Only Knew...***

If I only knew then what I know now, how different life would be. This sentiment, expressed in myriad ways, is found on every human being's lips at one point or another. Life may have brought us to a vulnerable place where we see some of the poor choices we made and the effects they are having. Perhaps we fell into some destructive and dysfunctional relationships or behaviors and are finding how they held us captive. Our zeal and passion for life may have drifted away and we are waking up to the reasons apathy has taken hold. Life can be hard. In fact, some would describe their lives as a drudgery. They walk through each day with an anxious unsettledness, wondering when their restlessness will cease. There is a temptation to believe that what I see is all I will get. Mortality and hopelessness await the dawn. If I could only have known what would come in the future, I could have made better choices and avoided all of this misery!

Really? While we can certainly give into weakness, sin, impulsiveness, and idiosyncrasies that cause us to stumble over ourselves, life is really a journey. If we don't make the mistake of wallowing in the mire of self-pity and realize the new life God is calling us to, then there are thrills, adventures, surprises, and soul-searching graces we can surely miss. We are not tethered to our past nor are we bound to the ills life can bring upon us. We are never hopeless or helpless. The problem is that our myopic vision only allows us to see the misery and misfortune that is before us, not the potential that can come from choosing healthier and more life-giving options. Jesus came that we might have fullness of life. We need to learn how to reach for Jesus' hand and let him help us to our feet.

We need to allow God into our pain and heal our past. We have to wrestle with our histories, agonize and search and cry out for the Divine healing we need to restore our faith, hope, and love. Job could not see how his story would end or trust the guidance of the God who called him. We live in that same blindness and suffer from the same lack of confidence. Once we allow ourselves to be touched by God's healing power, we begin to see that all of the pieces of our lives are necessary parts of a greater whole. Along the way of our lives, God uses our omissions and failures to create new things and possibilities. When doors close, others open and we can be amazed by the joyful and unexpected surprises we receive. Once we know the power of God's creative, healing, life-giving, forgiving, and dynamic presence, it is no wonder we want to put ourselves at the service of others and show them what life can be. ©LPi





Ash Wednesday Schedule

Wednesday, Feb. 17<sup>th</sup> Masses  
 8:30am St. Joseph's  
 7:00pm St. John's  
 (no vigil Mass on Tuesday night)

St John's Religious Ed. Schedule as of Feb. 7 <sup>th</sup>	
Feb 7	Grade 7 @ 9am
Feb 14	no classes- school vacation
Feb 21	Grade 9/10 @ 9am and grade 2 @ 11am
Feb 28	Grade 7 @ 9am
March 7	Grade 9/10 @ 9am
March 7	1st Reconciliation Grade 2 @ 1115am

Collection for Priests' Retirement

Beginning this **Ash Wednesday, Feb. 17**, the parishes of our diocese will take up an annual collection to support the retirement costs of our diocesan priests. For many years the parishes of our diocese have generously supported a collection to assist religious communities with the retirement costs of their sisters, brothers and priests. These funds have gone to religious communities like the Venerini Sisters, the Sisters of Saint Joseph, the Assumptionists and the Trappists, to name a few. These funds have not gone to support the retirement costs of the priests of the Diocese of Worcester. We will continue to support the Retirement Fund for Religious in December. Please join us in taking care of our priests this Ash Wednesday as we work to find new revenues to support them in their retirement. Thank you for your support.

The Mass schedule for Ash Wednesday, Feb. 17<sup>th</sup> is: 8:30am St. Joseph's and 7:00pm at St. John's.

The Audacity of Holiness

Do you know a holy person? I'm not talking about piety — that's important, too, in its own way. But right now, I'm speaking of holiness.

St. Therese of Lisieux called holiness "a disposition of the heart that makes us humble and little in the arms of God, aware of our weakness, and confident — in the most audacious way — in His Fatherly goodness."

The holy person sees a storm on the horizon of life, and rather than give themselves over to fear and despair (natural and understandable reactions), regards the gathering winds as an opportunity to rely more fully on God. The holy person takes a bad situation and sanctifies it with charity and understanding that defies our fallen human nature.

Peter's mother-in-law was still in the throes of a fever when Jesus grasped her hand. It wasn't until she took his hand and allowed him to help her up that "the fever left her and she waited on them." Before the fever could leave her, she had to commit to holiness — to put her trust in him in a most audacious way. She had to find it within herself to lift her weakened hand to grasp his — and as soon as she did, she was rewarded. Her bodily health restored, she gave thanks, and attended to his needs.

God's hand is always outstretched to us. Will we take it, even if the fever of sin and pride and worldly concerns rages in our souls? Will we muster the strength? Will we be audacious enough to have confidence in His Fatherly goodness? —

Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS ©LPi

Scratch Ticket Raffle Winners



The winners of the Scratch Ticket Raffle are:

- 1st prize 50 \$30 scratch tickets  
Paula Coggeshall
- 2nd prize \$ 200.00  
John Merola
- 3rd prize \$ 100.00  
Christopher and Kristen Depasse

We want to thank everyone who participated in this fund raiser. Your support of our parish is greatly appreciated !!!

Legacy of Hope Update



Our parish has received pledges totaling \$ 69,165.00. Thank you !

If you have yet to make your pledge, please complete the donor's card that you have received and mail it directly to the Diocese: Legacy of Hope, Chancery, 49 Elm St., Worcester, MA 01609. You can visit the website: [www.legacyofhope.worcesterdiocese.org](http://www.legacyofhope.worcesterdiocese.org). You may also drop off your pledge at the rectory or place it in the collection basket. We thank those who have already made their pledge in this campaign.





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