

# Church of the Holy Cross



**Rectory • 25 Lake Ave. • Templeton, MA 01468**

**Pastor**

Rev. Patrick A. Ssekyole

**Deacon**

Dennis J. Cormier

**Administrative Assistant**

Mary A. Beaulieu

**Rectory:** (978) 632-2121 • **Fax:** (978) 630-3890 • **Parish Email:** hcchurchet@comcast.net • **Rel. Ed. Off.:** (978) 632-2194  
• **Website:** [holycrossparishet.org](http://holycrossparishet.org) •

**Parish Office Hours:** Monday - Wednesday, 8:30 am to 3:00 pm

**Liturgical Schedule:**

**Weekends**

Saturday: ..... 4:30 pm  
Sunday: ..... 7:45 am & 10:45 am

**Weekdays**

Monday to Wednesday: ..... 8:00 am

**Holy Days**

Vigil ..... As Announced

**Eucharistic Adoration: 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of the month**

..... 7:00 pm - 8:00 pm

**Sacrament of Reconciliation**

Saturday: ..... 3:30 pm - 4:15 pm  
and Anytime by appointment

**Sacrament of Baptism**

Please call the rectory for registration, preparation and details.

**Sacrament of Matrimony**

Please call the rectory at least one year in advance of the desired date to begin the Couple to Couple Marriage Preparation Program.

**Sacrament of the Sick/Communion Calls**

Please notify the rectory if anyone is hospitalized or confined to home due to illness, handicap or age so that we may keep them in prayer, visit them and support them with the Sacraments of Reconciliation, Eucharist and the Sick.

**Coordinator of Religious Education:**

Grades K-11 Elizabeth Schroeder

**New Parishioners**

We are pleased to welcome you into our parish family and invite you to enter fully into our spiritual and social life. Please introduce yourself after mass and arrange to enroll as a member.

**Parish Bulletin**

All items must be submitted in writing at the rectory prior to 9:30 am on Monday mornings, but preferably 2 weeks before.

**Pastoral Council**

Chair: Thomas Royer (978) 939-1070  
Every parishioner is welcome to submit items for consideration, by calling the rectory or through any council member.

**AA Meetings:** Wednesdays 7:00 pm

**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 or to members of the Pastoral Council or the Religious Education Program.

# MASSES

| Plan To Attend |      |       |      |        |      |      |
|----------------|------|-------|------|--------|------|------|
| SUN.           | MON. | TUES. | WED. | THURS. | FRI. | SAT. |
| 1              | 2    | 3     | 4    | 5      | 6    | 7    |
| 8              | 9    | 10    | 11   | 12     | 13   | 14   |

**SATURDAY** **DEC 25**  
 10:00 a.m. Deceased members of Budwick, Savulis & Wisnauskas Families by Bill & Bernice

**SUNDAY** **DEC 26**  
 7:45 am +Norma Smith by Way of the Cross friends  
**9:15 am Mass at St. Martin's**  
 10:45 am +Helena M. Breton (birthday remembrance) by Priscilla Stacy

**MONDAY** **DEC 27**  
 8:00 am Souls in Purgatory by Glen Mularella

**TUESDAY** **DEC 28**  
 8:00 am +Theresa Bankowski by Frank & Joyce Moschetti

**WEDNESDAY** **DEC 29**  
 8:00 am +Rev. Andre Gariepy

**FRIDAY** **DEC 31** **NEW YEAR'S EVE**  
 4:30 pm +Anthony Manca by family

**SATURDAY** **JAN 1** **NEW YEAR'S DAY**  
 8:00 am Our Parish Family  
 10:00am **Mass @ St. Martin's, Solemnity of Mary**

**SUNDAY** **JAN 2**  
 7:45 am Souls in Purgatory by Beaulieu Family  
**9:15 am Mass at St. Martin's**  
 10:45 am +Alice Goguen (3rd Ann.) by Terri Beaudoin



**SANCTUARY CANDLES**

M/M Frank Moschetti, M/M Theodore Bernard, M/M Yvon LeBlanc, Pat Flynn, M/M Jim Killay, M/M Raymond LeBlanc, M/M Michael Beaulieu, M/M Rene Jaillet, Joyce & Shirley Koczan, Suzanne Racette, M/M Dick Kodys, Raymond Boudreau, M/M Victor Dembek, M/M Bob Oliva, M/M John Jasinski, M/M Lawrence Stanley, M/M Donald Dame, M/M Greg Gagnon, M/M Leo Thebeau, & **In Memory of** Nancy Anderson, Stanley & Nellie Koczan, Rachel Maillet, Anthony J. Manca, John & Eleanor Quarella, Fr. George O'Brien, Gloria Magnuson, Deacon Arthur & Leah Chartier, Damien Royer, Paul Tourigny, Bobbie Lesneski, Rachel & Chuck Frenier, Alphonse & Loza Chartier, Philip Robichaud, M/M Allen Garvey, M/M Chester Lepkowski, Russell Taintor, Jr., M/M L. Russell Taintor, Sr., M/M George Reid, Sr., George Reid, Jr. Jamie Smart, Andrea Crowe, Jim Braun, Marla Whittle, and Michael Fichtel.

**Altar Care:** Michelle C.



**ROSE OF LIFE**

Each week a parishioner/family places a rose in the vase at the Blessed Mother's statue to express witness to the sanctity of life. This week the rose is placed by Priscilla Stacy. Please see sign up book at the main entrance to participate.

WEDNESDAY: 7:00 pm, AA



**NO CCD THIS WEEK - CHRISTMAS BREAK**  
**NO CCD NEXT WEEK - NEW YEAR'S BREAK**

**FINANCIAL UPDATE**  
**Fiscal Year 9/1/2021-8/31/2022**

Weekly Budget: \$3,100 YTD Budget: \$49,600  
 Weekly Collect.: **12/12/21: \$2,688** YTD Weekly Collect: \$32,823  
 R & M Collect.: \$80 YTD R & M Collect: \$2,335  
 YTD Surplus (Shortfall): (\$14,442)

**Special Collections:** Immaculate Conception was \$298, Campaign for Human Development was \$10, Sanctuary Candles was \$5, Christmas Offering was \$550, Christmas Flowers was \$200, and Religious Retirement was \$254. **Thank you!**

**FINANCIAL UPDATE**

Please see future bulletin for 12/19 Financial Update, as the bulletin was submitted early.



**MY THANK-YOU & NEW YEAR WISHES**

Dear Parishioners,

I hope you all had a lovely, Merry Christmas during the liturgy and at your homes or elsewhere you gathered for the pleasantries in its celebration.

I now pass on my heart-felt thanks to you all for the prayers you offered for me as well as the Christmas cards and gifts you gave me as you wished me a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year, 2022 May God's graces and providence be with you in all you do.

I also extend the same thanks to all who played the different roles to make our Christmas liturgical celebrations very beautiful. May God's graces always be felt in your hearts and recognized in the course of your lives.

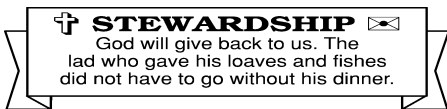
At this juncture, then, I wish you all a Happy and Prosperous New Year, 2022. I wish you and all your dear ones an abundance of God's blessings. And in you and in what you do, may God bless our Parish with continued growth in every sector in the year 2022. May you not grow weary in witnessing to God's love and care for every human being and the whole world.

I assure you of my prayers always.

*Fr. Patrick Ssekyole*



**He** went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was obedient to them; and his mother kept all these things in her heart. And Jesus advanced in wisdom and age and favor before God and man.



You are requested to remember in your prayers the following: anonymous cancer patient, Doris Bickford, Brenda & Stacy Bishop, Jared Blais, Raymond Boudreau, Alice Chicoine, Henry Connery III., Michael Crowley, Mike Dembek, Carol Desmarais, Jane Fleck, Gail Gabis, Tim Gatautis, Doris Geyster, Marley Guthrie, Kristen, Sandy Kulvete, Rudy Kut, Bob LeMieur, Simone Nash, Mark Noel, Gabe Olszak, George Racette, Judy Roberts, Jane Royer, Ambrose Russell, Maria Rose Schroeder, Marie Valeri, Priscilla Valliere, Gloria Wilder, Michael Young, & All affected by Coronavirus.

*Our Lady, Health of the Sick, we pray for the comfort of your love.*



**HOLIDAY SCHEDULE**

**NEW YEAR'S**

- 12/31: 4:30 pm at Holy Cross
- 1/1: 8:00 am at Holy Cross
- 1/1: 10:00 am @ St. Martin's

Because this year, New Year's Day falls on a Saturday. **There will be no 4:30 pm Mass that day.** But Sunday, Jan 2, will have the regular Sunday Mass Schedule.



"Like every other human family, the Holy Family had to confront real and concrete challenges. Yet, 'in every situation, Joseph declared his own 'fiat' (PC 3). His 'yes' to the Lord meant that regardless of the hardship and personal sacrifice to himself, he consistently chose to put the needs of Mary and Jesus before his own. Joseph's devotion helps reveal to us our own call to show special care for the lives of those whom God has entrusted to us."

-USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities



**A Note of Thanks for the wonderful response to our Christmas Baskets, anonymous donations and especially to those who worked diligently to prepare and distribute.** Once again your generosity shined through and brightened the hearts of many. You are truly an inspiration to all of us with your outstanding example of charity. May God Bless You Always!



**2022**

*Let there be Peace on Earth, and Let it begin with Me!*

*Wishing ALL a Happy New Year!*

**Living Faith Initiative**

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



**NEXT WEEK'S SCRIPTURE READINGS**

January 2, 2022 - The Epiphany of the Lord

**Isaiah 60:1-6**  
**Ephesians 3:2-3a, 5-6**  
**Matthew 2:1-12**

**MONTHLY FOOD DRIVE – NEXT WEEKEND**

A reminder that we will have our monthly food drive next weekend where non-perishable food can be brought in directly to food pantry, at that time or Monday thru Wednesday during the day. Our Shelves have been running low lately. All donations are gratefully appreciated. Catholic Charities have provided the following list of other suggestions: **GRAIN GROUP:** Oatmeal, Cream of Wheat, whole grain crackers, all types of pasta, low sugar / high fiber cereal – Cheerios, Raisin Bran, etc., whole grain rice; **PROTEIN GROUP:** canned tuna fish, salmon, chicken bean soup, baked beans, chili, beef stew, Chef Boyardee Ravioli's, dried & canned beans, nuts, peanut butter; **MILK GROUP:** dry milk, evaporated milk, boxed shelf-stable milk; **FRUIT & VEGETABLES:** canned vegetables, vegetable juice, diced tomatoes, tomato juice, tomato sauce, spaghetti sauce, canned fruit, 100% fruit juice, dried fruit, and fruit cups.

**VERY IMPORTANT: PLEASE look at the date of the food, as it will need to be thrown away if it is about to expire. THANK YOU.**



Please keep in your prayers the soul and family of Frances Dorothy Barry, who recently passed away. She was the mother of parishioner John Barry, Jr. May she rest in peace.

**St. Stephen | Feast Day December 26**

The Acts of the Apostles tells the story of St. Stephen, the first Christian martyr. A man filled with grace and power, he worked great wonders among the people. Some Jews debated with St. Stephen but could not match his wisdom and spirit. Eventually, a charge of blasphemy was brought up against him, and the local population demanded that he be tried and sentenced. He was seized and carried before the Sanhedrin.

Despite the danger he faced, in front of the Sanhedrin and his accusers, St. Stephen gave a long speech about the history of Israel and the blessings that God had bestowed upon His chosen people. He talked about how Israel had become disobedient despite God's abundant mercy. This enraged his accusers, and eventually the crowd dragged him out of the city and stoned him to death.

Even in his final moments, St. Stephen displayed great forgiveness and even asked God not to hold the sins of his attackers against them. Hundreds of years after his death, he is still a role model for us to follow.

-©LPI

**CATHOLIC CHARITIES WORCESTER COUNTY**

Catholic Charities Homecare Team have openings for homemakers and Home Health Assistance and Supportive Services in Royalston, Winchendon, Ashburnham, Athol, Templeton, Gardner and Westminster. They have a variety of shifts/hours, offer paid training, an on-site certification program, flexible hours, paid mileage and sick time. Call 508-579-1342, email clegg@ccworc.org or apply online at ccworc.org.

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## Colonial Hotel

### New Years Gala

Dec. 31st 6:30pm-12:30am  
Dinner & Dancing  
Overnight Packages Available

For Reservations  
978-630-2500

625 Betty Springs Road  
Gardner



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