

SAINT EDWARD THE CONFESSOR WESTMINSTER, MA

MARCH 14, 2021 | 4TH SUNDAY OF LENT

LORD'S DAY MASSES

Saturday..... 4:00 PM
Sunday 9:00 AM & 11:00 AM

WEEKDAY MASSES

Monday - Wednesday..... 8:00 AM (Church)

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Thursday 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM
(978) 874-2362

PARISH STAFF

Pastor..... Rev. Juan Herrera
Deacon..... Malcolm S. Colgate
Parish Secretary
& Bookkeeper..... Linda Barrows
Director of Music..... Anna Richard
Building Manager..... David Provencal
Religious Ed. Coordinator..... Diane Pitney

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Programs for education in our Faith are held weekly. Call/Email Religious Education
(978) 874- 1559 Reled@stedwardconf.org

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturday 3-3:30 PM in Chapel, or by appointment.

SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE

Must be made at least one year in advance.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Please call the Rectory to schedule a Baptismal instruction.

SACRAMENT OF THE SICK

Please let us know of anyone who would like to receive the Sacrament.

PARISH REGISTRATION

If you would like to become a member, please fill out a parish registration form.

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.

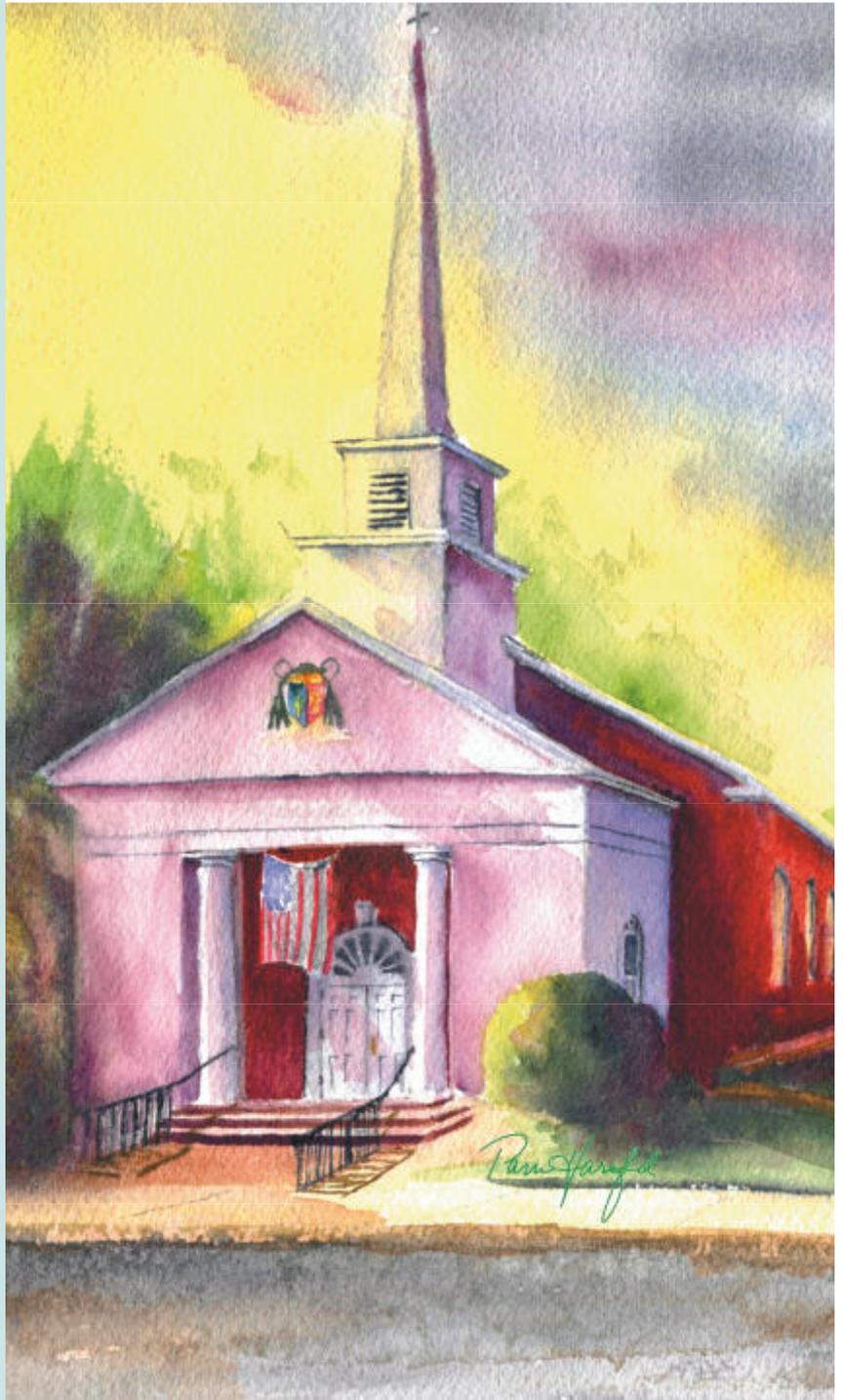
VISITATION OF THE SICK

Our Eucharistic Ministers are pleased to bring the Eucharist to parishioners who are unable to join us for weekly worship. If you or a family member 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 the Pastor, please let us know.

ADULT AND CHILDREN'S CHOIR

Contact Anna Richard at 978-874-0012



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Mass Intentions For The Week

Mass Intentions will be celebrated
Live Stream on Facebook page and YouTube.
 The Daily Masses will be celebrated in the Main Church.

Saturday... March 13

4:00 PM Henry Jaillot; Req by Camille & Rita Daigle

Sunday... March 14 Fourth Sunday of Lent

9:00 AM Deceased members of the Pepin & Marini Families
 Req by Emile & Mary Pepin
11:00 AM Loretta LaCasse; Req by Barrows Family

Monday ... March 15

8:00 AM Mass for the Intentions of the Parishioners

Tuesday ... March 16

8:00 AM For an increase in Vocations to the Priesthood and Consecrated Life

Wednesday ... March 17

8:00 AM For all the Holy Souls in Purgatory

6:00 - 7:00 PM Reflection on St. Joseph

Thursday ... March 18

6:00 - 7:00 PM Reflection on St. Joseph

Friday March 19 Feast of St. Joseph, Spouse of Mary

8:00 AM Patricia Reale; Req by LeeAnn & Randy Merta

6:00 - 7:00 PM Reflection on St. Joseph

Saturday... March 20

4:00 PM Margarite Trainque, 23rd Ann; Req by Family

Sunday... March 21 Fifth Sunday of Lent

9:00 AM Mass for the Intentions of the Parishioners

11:00 AM Mass for the Intentions of the Parishioners

2021 Partners in Charity Appeal

We only need \$582. to make our Partner's in Charity appeal goal. It is important for all of us to participate in order to support our mission as a diocese. If you have already made a gift to the 2021 appeal we thank you. We have \$31,918.00 in pledges, 98% so far. You can also make your gift online at www.partners-charity.net. Thank you!

Catholic Relief Services - March 21

Support the Catholic Relief Services collection
 Help Jesus in disguise for the vulnerable and needy around the world and right here at home.

Please use an envelope, there are some in the back foyer.

SACRAMENT OF CONFESSION

The Sacrament of Confession can be received on Saturdays from 3 PM to 3:30 PM or by appointment.

Location: In the Chapel.



GOSPEL MEDITATION -

ENCOURAGE DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE

Is there something to Lent that goes beyond our own spiritual house cleaning and spiritual refinement? Yes, there is! It has to do with listening and learning so that we can take up the task of the Gospel with greater clarity and fortitude. While the spiritual refocusing of Lent is necessary, the fruit of this Lenten conversion has much more to do with learning how we can be a better Church than it does about our eternal salvation. Salvation is a gift that flows out of God's unconditional Mercy and cannot be merited. The spiritual maturity we can experience as a result of our Lenten disciplines serves to reduce the anxiety and apprehension we may experience as messengers of good, but very challenging, and unsettling, news.

St. Oscar Romero said that, "a church that doesn't provoke any crises, a gospel that doesn't unsettle, a word of God that doesn't get under anyone's skin, a word of God that doesn't touch the real sin of the society in which it is being proclaimed, what gospel is that?" When we listen to those descriptive and provocative words, do they resonate with anything in our experience? As messengers of the Gospel, we are called to bring an unsettling message to the world. If our main concern is protecting our self-interests, then we are missing something huge! Many really struggle with being rejected, dismissed, or perceived as someone who is speaking out of turn. There is a counter cultural message that must be preached that clearly sides with the poor, marginalized, victimized, oppressed, neglected, disregarded, and lost souls throughout the world. There is a widespread misery among the peoples that is all too often allowed to fester with no one coming forward to offer a change or resolution.

The Church can speak to the needed structural changes that will allow people to earn just wages, feed their families and share abundantly and equally in the gifts of God's good earth. Such a vision is not some optimistic fairy tale, but the vision of the Creator himself. Lent reminds us, as St. Oscar Romero also states, that, "we are workers, not master builder, ministers, not messiahs. We are prophets of a future not our own." We are not called to labor simply for the benefit of the here and now but of the "what is to come." Our myopic vision can be replaced by a more far reaching Lenten vision that is much greater and deeper in scope. As long as we are carrying the right blueprints with us and our thoughts extend beyond ourselves, then even the little things we do and the simplest prayer we utter go a long way. They give witness to our preference for the light of Christ and not the darkness of error and sin.

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Let us give what we cannot keep to gain what we cannot lose.

Last Sunday's Offering	\$3,862.00
Online Giving	\$1,537.00
Building Fund	\$161.00

Thank you for your generous support of the Parish.
 Your weekly financial support enables Saint Edward's to provide for the needs of our Parish.

From the Pastor's Desk

Last weekend we reflected on the practice of almsgiving. Another practice of Lent is to pray. Praying is to create a dialogue with God, knowing that he always listens. But how to pray? It's easy to get caught up in wondering if there is a correct way to pray, but all you have to do is speak. Simply tell God what is in your heart by talking to Him. God cares for you and He wants to speak to you as well.

We should pray at all times, knowing with our hearts that God is listening like a good and merciful father. We don't need to use a lot of words, but sincere words, because nobody knows our hearts better than him. Sometimes we use too many words and don't spend enough time listening to what God has to say to us. If prayer is a conversation, we should listen more than we speak.

In the Gospel, Jesus reminds us that we need to be humble when we are praying, and God will answer our petitions. Humility is the attitude that we need to imitate. Many times, in the gospel, tax collectors and sinners gave us a good lesson in humility when they did not even raise their eyes when they prayed. For God said, "One who humbles himself will be exalted." (Lk 18:14).

God is Good!
Fr. Juan

Volunteer Opportunity

Ignatian Volunteer Corps (IVC) New England is recruiting non-profit placement sites for the coming (September to June) year. Ignatian Volunteers commit to two days/week of service with nonprofit agencies working with people experiencing poverty, injustice, or marginalization. They are men and women, 50 years of age and older, in a 26-year-old program combining service and spirituality, supported by Jesuits of the USA East Province. There is a modest partnership fee. IVC volunteers are generally retired or semi-retired professionals and have been actively serving in the New England since 2009. IVC New England volunteers work in Worcester and surrounding communities. For more information, contact IVC New England Regional Director Dave Hinchen at newengland@ivcusa.org.

Catholic Men's Conference Schedule - Saturday, March 20

If you purchased a ticket for last year's (cancelled) conference we already know who you are. On Thursday, March 18 you will receive an email with a link to the 2021 conference. You do not have to pay anything. If you did not purchase a ticket last year and would like to participate in this year's 'remote and interactive' conference please call Joan DeMasi at 508-929-4345 for a ticket (\$20). You can view this year's entire conference from home or with friends. The schedule is: 12:00 noon to 12:45 pm ~ Welcome by Bishop McManus followed by: Dr. Scott Hahn: "The Road to Emmaus: The Path to Lifelong Conversion" ~ then 'Live' Questions & Answers with Scott Hahn *** 12:45 pm to 1:30 pm ~ Bishop Robert Reed: "O God, Just Give Me One More Chance" ~ then 'Live' Questions & Answers with Bishop Reed *** 1:45 pm to 2:45 pm ~ Luis Soto: "Our Lady of Guadalupe, Queen of the Americas" ~ then 'Live' Questions & Answers with Luis Soto *** 2:45 pm to 4:00 pm ~ Dr. Scott Hahn: "The Power of the Sacraments" ~ then 'Live' Questions & Answers with Scott Hahn *** 4:00-5:00 pm ~ Mass with Bishop McManus and concluding comments.

Readings for the week of March 14, 2021

Sunday: 2 Chr 36:14-16, 19-23/Ps 137:1-2, 3, 4-5, 6 [6ab]/Eph 2:4-10/Jn 3:14-21 or 1 Sm 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a/Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4m 5, 6 [1]/Eph 5:8-14/Jn 9:1-41 or 9:1, 6-9, 13-17, 34-38
Monday: Is 65:17-21/Ps 30:2 and 4, 5-6, 11-12a and 13b [2a]/Jn 4:43-54
Tuesday: Ez 47:1-9, 12/Ps 46:2-3, 5-6, 8-9 [8]/Jn 5:1-16
Wednesday: Is 49:8-15/Ps 145:8-9, 13cd-14, 17-18 [8a]/Jn 5:17-30
Thursday: Ex 32:7-14/Ps 106:19-20, 21-22, 23 [4a]/Jn 5:31-47
Friday: 2 Sm 7:4-5a, 12-14a, 16/Ps 89:2-3, 4-5, 27, 29 [37]/Rom 4:13, 16-18, 22/Mt 1:16, 18-21, 24a or Lk 2:41-51a
Saturday: Jer 11:18-20/Ps 7:2-3, 9bc-10, 11-12 [2a]/Jn 7:40-53
Next Sunday: Jer 31:31-34/Ps 51:3-4, 12-13, 14-15 [12a]/Heb 5:7-9/Jn 12:20-33 or Ez 37:12-14/Rom 8:8-11/Ps 130:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8 [7]/Jn 11:1-45 or 11:3-7, 17, 20-27, 33b-45

Eddy's Chowder House - Fridays of Lent, March 19 and 26, from 4:00pm to 7:00pm.
St. Edward's Church Hall.
Menu: Clam Chowder, Corn Chowder, and Fish Chowder, by the Bowl, Pint or Quart. Made from scratch in house.
Take Out Only.



Triduum to Saint Joseph
3 nights of reflection and prayer

March 17: **Saint Joseph Man of Compassion**
March 18: **Saint Joseph Man of Obedience**
March 19: **Saint Joseph Man of Silence and Prayer**
at Saint Edward the Confessor Parish
All nights, in person & online on our Facebook Page
<https://www.facebook.com/edward.westminster.73>

Annual Priestly Discernment Retreat

The Office for Vocations announces that the annual priestly discernment retreat for men high school aged or older will take place on Saturday, March 27 from 9-5 at North American Martyrs in Auburn. Join us for a day of prayer, witness talks from priests and seminarians, and a presentation from Bishop McManus on discerning a priestly vocation. Social distance guidelines will be followed.

Act of Spiritual Communion

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love You above all things and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to you; Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.

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