

SAINT EDWARD THE CONFESSOR WESTMINSTER, MA

MAY 2, 2021 | FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

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.

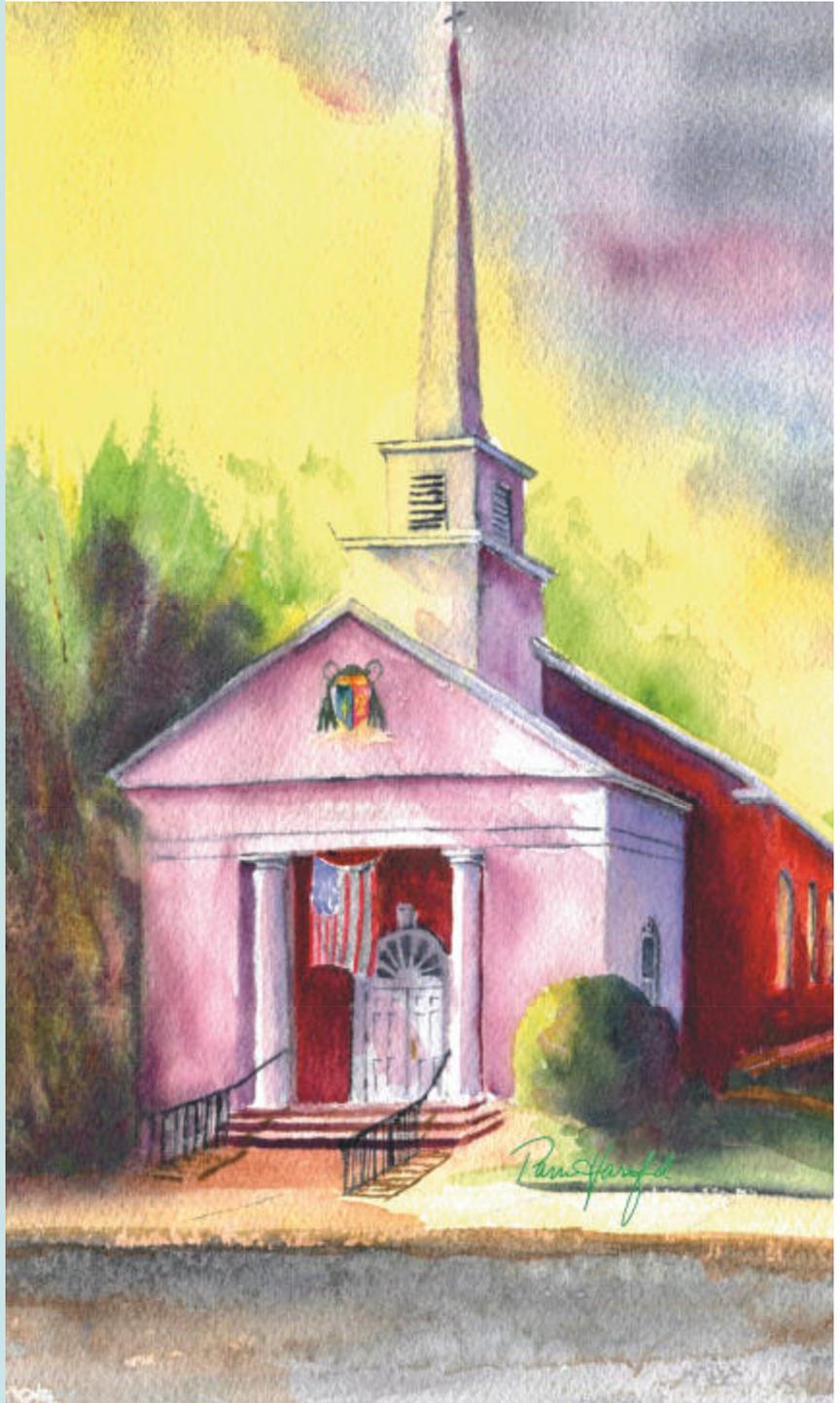
VISITATION OF THE SICK

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... May 1

4:00 PM Bertha & Ernie Bedard; Req by Family

Sunday... May 2 5th Sunday of Easter

9:00 AM Roland Martineau, 1st Anniv; Req by Family
First Eucharist

11:00 AM Mr. and Mrs. Kelly Barrows, on 35th Wedding Anniversary

First Eucharist

Monday ... May 3

8:00 AM Gene & Phyllis and E.J. Buckley; Req by Curtin Family

Tuesday ... May 4

8:00 AM For the Intentions of the Parishioners

Wednesday ... May 5

8:00 AM John Lambert; Req by Deborah Lambert & Family

Friday May 7 First Friday

8:00 AM For all the Holy Souls in Purgatory

Saturday... May 8

4:00 PM For the Intentions of the Parishioners

Sunday... May 9 6th Sunday of Easter

9:00 AM Anita Jacques; Req by Family
 Vilma Colautti; Req by Family

11:00 AM Barbara Carpenter; Req by Family
 Mary Borg; Req by Carpenter Family

Remember that we are celebrating the first Friday Mass of each month at 8:00 AM in our church and it is also live streamed on Facebook and YouTube, click on the links below.
 Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/St-Edward-the-Confessor-Westminster-101806814809060/>
 YouTube: https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCngNLorOMLbheXoCbJqj7Fw/videos?view_as=subscriber

GOSPEL MEDITATION - ENCOURAGE DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE

“Spiraling out of control,” is a phrase that can easily describe the current display of human existence. In addition to the violence, unrest, uneasiness and turmoil that are common elements of our daily news, other essential pieces are misplaced or missing. Many lack an objective center around which to order and structure their lives or a clear set of definable goals or mores to act as guideposts and life directives. It appears that “feelings” have become a “new god” and traditional structures and ideals set aside. It is almost as if history only shows that we got this whole thing wrong and many are determined to finally set things right. The real truth, however, is that while wrongs and errors are certainly a part of our often-checkered past, it is hardly the case that all was wrong. It is not our task to rewrite the history of our lives, but to learn from mistakes that were made, and preserve the perennial wisdom at the root of our successes. Learning is an essential part of being human.

The question becomes, however, from whom do we learn? Some have such a hard time placing God in that position, but that is precisely where God needs to be. God is the Master Teacher from whom all of humanity learns and gets its cues. It is in and through this relationship with the Gardener of Life that we are fashioned and pruned into the people we are intended to be and can be. It is only in God that we are able to find our best selves. Sadly, many think that religion too, as well as history in general, has also gotten all this wrong. Yet, our resurrection faith tells us differently. We are reminded, today especially, that we are meant to remain in Christ as Christ remains in us. We are also reminded that Jesus, the Incarnate God, is the vine upon which we grow, the branches that flow from the source of God’s life.

Giving up our will to God’s can be a painful endeavor. It is not easy to set our own desires and wants aside and allow God to step in and direct and guide our growth. But this is the only way to prevent deadly weeds from overtaking us and bringing us to a place of self-destruction. God’s commandments are the very guideposts and benchmarks we need, yet many seek to remove them from all public view because they appear to limit self-expression and suppress what is considered by many to be “human freedom.” They are the only way we can find freedom, however. And, until we learn this fundamental lesson, we will continue to spiral out of control, never really knowing who we are, what our potential can be or how life really can be lived. We will not know peace.

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Mass Intentions

To book a Mass in memory of a loved one, an anniversary or any special intention, call the Parish Office, 978-874-2362, booking through 2021.
 The requested offering for a Mass is \$10.00 in our Diocese.

WE NEED YOUR HELP

Many thanks to those who have responded to the Lord’s call for stewardship and have been sending in donations. The financial contribution is only secondary about keeping all the bills paid. It is an act of faith and a positive spiritual practice that helps us remain grateful for all the things God has given us. Stewardship is about remembering that God gives us not only the things we need for ourselves, but entrusts us with extra resources to be given out to maintain His Church and help others in need. GOD IS GOOD! **Fr. Juan**

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



Last Sunday’s Offering	\$2,877.00
Online Giving	\$ 664.00
April 18th Offering	\$1,851.00

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

The Legacy of Hope Campaign is a major campaign that looks to promote the generosity in the Worcester Diocese as well as the generosity in our parish. During the centuries, the Catholic Church has been present supporting communities with financial and spiritual help. We can find many references and testimonies in the Bible about it: Exodus 35:22, Acts 20:35, 1 Peter 4:10, Rom 15, 25-31, 2Cor 8-9.

From the beginning, the financial support of the church came from the generous support of its people. We have heard many stories about the church and her misuse of finances and bad administration. This may be true, but something that we need to appreciate is the effort that the Catholic Church is making to provide for the needs of many people across the world. The Church is supporting many organizations, charitable programs, orphanages, hospitals, and schools in countries where the only spiritual presence is The Catholic Church.

The Legacy of Hope is not just a campaign to collect money for the church. It is The Campaign that is giving us hope for future generations, not only here in our parish, but also in our diocese. I call upon your generosity to consider contributing to this campaign that will benefit our parish. We will receive 40% of every dollar that we raise. This money will be used for the needs in our parish such as improving our CCD program and repairs in our church buildings.

Legacy of Hope is the campaign that we are all called to support with our prayers and generosity.

God is Good!

Fr. Juan

Congratulations to our youngsters who received the Lord in Holy Communion for the first time today.

<u>9am Mass</u>	<u>11 am Mass</u>
Ethan Comeau	Chelsea Breau
Alaina Flinkstrom	Theresa Doucet
Christian, Elliot and Jayden	Meya Duval
Jalbert	Justin Gelinis, Jr.
Jett and Max King	Sean McCaffrey
Jason Layton	Ally Novak
Rebecca Maki-Morales	Liam Walsh
Caitlin Prymak	

**Diocese of Worcester's
Environmental Stewardship Ministry**

When considering following Jesus with our whole body – we need to ensure that our bodies are not polluted with plastics which pose a threat to human health as well as adversely affecting our world.

Ordering take-out? Say “no” to the utensils, straws, and napkins. Attempt to ban the “plastics trifecta” – plastic bags, plastic straws, and polystyrene - from your local town/city, or state. Stop buying water! Carry a reusable bottle – some have filters! Buy in bulk versus single-serving yogurts, travel size toiletries or tiny packaged snacks. Consider the product-to-packaging ratio.

Promise to Protect, Pledge to Heal

If you have been abused or victimized by someone representing the Catholic Church... Please believe in the possibility for hope, help, and healing. We encourage you to come forward and speak out. Every arch/diocese/eparchy in the US now has a victim assistance coordinator who is available to obtain support for your needs, to help you make a formal complaint of abuse to the arch/diocese/eparchy, and to arrange a personal meeting with the bishop or his representative if you desire. The victim assistance coordinator for the Diocese of Worcester is Judith Audette, Office for Healing and Prevention at 508-929-4363.

Readings for the week of May 2, 2021

Sunday: Acts 9:26-31/Ps 22:26-27, 28, 30, 31-32 [26a]/1 Jn 3:18-24/Jn 15:1-8
 Monday: 1 Cor 15:1-8/Ps 19:2-3, 4-5 [5]/Jn 14:6-14
 Tuesday: Acts 14:19-28/Ps 145:10-11, 12-13ab, 21 [cf. 12]/Jn 14:27-31a
 Wednesday: Acts 15:1-6/Ps 122:1-2, 3-4ab, 4cd-5 [cf. 1]/Jn 15:1-8
 Thursday: Acts 15:7-21/Ps 96:1-2a, 2b-3, 10 [3]/Jn 15:9-11
 Friday: Acts 15:22-31/Ps 57:8-9, 10 and 12 [10a]/Jn 15:12-17
 Saturday: Acts 16:1-10/Ps 100:1b-2, 3, 5/Jn 15:18-21
 Next Sunday: Acts 10:25-26, 34-35, 44-48/Ps 98:1, 2-3, 3-4 [cf. 2b]/1 Jn 4:7-10/Jn 15:9-17

Once again, **The RESPECT LIFE COMMITTEE** is doing its annual “**Baby Bottle Drive**” for Care-Net in Fitchburg. The pregnancy resource center offers compassionate and confidential support to women and men facing pregnancy, parenting education, and abortion recovery groups.

Due to the Pandemic, we cannot use the baby bottles for collection. We ask that you please, donate in the form of a check only to: “Care Net Pregnancy Resource Center”. Please put the check in the collection basket or mail to:

St. Edward the Confessor, 10 Church St, Westminster, Ma 01473. We are accepting donations from Mother’s Day May 9th to Father’s Day June 20th. Let us make a difference and save our most precious gifts, our children.

“Before I formed you in the womb, I knew you; before you were born I sanctified you” – St. Jeremiah 1:5

Virtual Walk for the Homeless. In a blink of an eye, anything and everything can change. Participate in the 36th Annual *Virtual Walk* for the Homeless, May 16-May 23. The WALK will benefit Catholic Charities Family Shelter, Homeless Prevention programs of Central Mass. Housing Alliance, Interfaith Hospitality Network, a program of Friendly House, & St. John's Food for the Poor. More Information www.walkforthehomeless.org or call Ann Gibbons Smith at 774-243-3809.

Child Abuse Awareness Month

Did You Know? Listen to Your Children

This summer, when your children are out of school and on different schedules, meeting new people and going to new places, make sure that you talk to them often about their experiences and the people they’ve met. Listen carefully to your children. If possible, observe and get to know the other children and adults who are part of your children’s summertime fun. Above all, communicate your safety concerns to your children. Make sure they know that they can come to you with any concerns they may have about the people they interact with. And if you hear of or observe behaviors that may be inappropriate, make sure to communicate your feelings to people who are in a position to intervene. Communication is key to creating and maintaining a safe environment all year round. For particular help you may call: Judith Audette, Director of Office for Healing and Prevention at (508) 929-4363.

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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