

# SAINT EDWARD THE CONFESSOR WESTMINSTER, MA

**LORD'S DAY MASSES**      **10 CHURCH STREET**  
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.

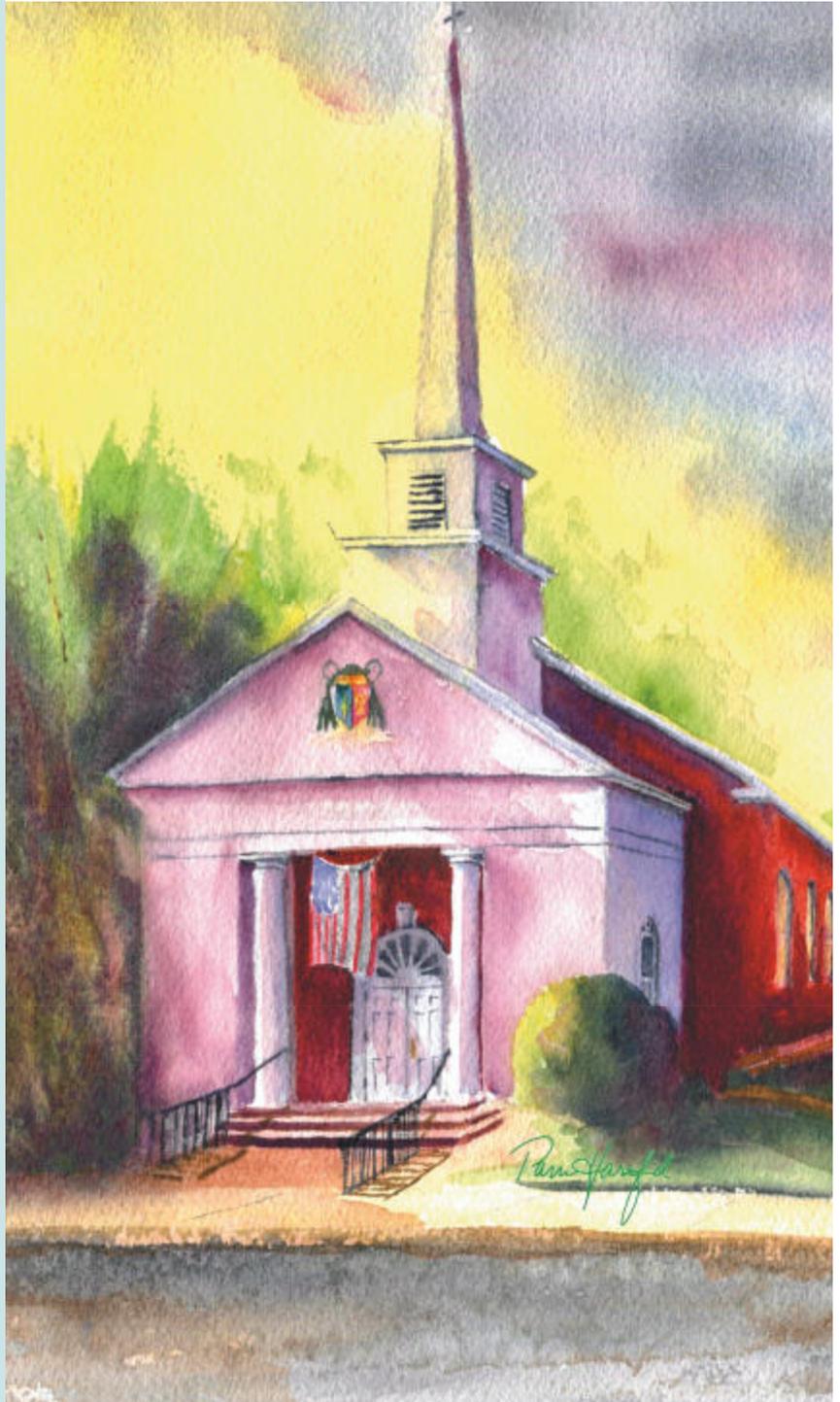
**PARISH REGISTRATION**  
If you would like to become a member, please fill out a parish registration form.

**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

SEPTEMBER 5, 2021 | TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



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**Mass Intentions For The Week**

Sunday Masses are outside, weather permitting, bring your lawn chair. Saturday 4 pm Mass inside. The Daily Masses will be celebrated in the Main Church.

**Saturday... September 4**

4:00 PM Theresa Caponi; Req by Colautti Family  
Mary T. Kimtis; Req by Maureen LaRoche

**Sunday... September 5 Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time**

9:00 AM Fr. Francis Godkin; Req by Jeanne Conte

11:00 AM Connie & Ewald Johnson; Req by Family  
Ruth Adams; Req by LaFortune Family

1:00 PM Baptism of Patrick Joseph Gaynor

**Monday ... September 6**

8:00 AM Deceased Members of Pepin & Marini Families;  
Req by Emile & Mary Pepin

**Tuesday ... September 7**

8:00 AM For the Intentions of the Parishioners

**Wednesday ... September 8**

8:00 AM Ron Robinson; Req by John & Janet Arsenault

**Saturday... September 11**

4:00 PM For the Intentions of the Parishioners

**Sunday...September 12 Twenty-Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

9:00 AM Celina Caissie; Req by Joan Cote & Sons

11:00 AM Beverly Bates; Req by Proterra Family

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



Last Sunday's Offering	\$2,464.00
Online Giving	\$3,483.00
Haiti Relief collection	\$1,477.00

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.

**Interested in becoming an Altar Server?**

If your child is interested, is in grade 3 or higher, and would like to participate in Mass as an altar server please contact the parish office at 978-874-2362. Adults needed also.

Annunciation Parish in Gardner is having **Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament on Monday evenings from 6 - 8 pm at Holy Spirit Church, 50 Lovewell St.** Everyone is welcome - including anyone who is regularly attending Adoration in another parish or looking for additional weekly opportunity to spend with the Lord.

**GOSPEL MEDITATION - ENCOURAGE DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE**

From the time we are born into this world until we die, our human radar picks up signals about how to respond to life. What we picked up on when we were very young carries an even greater power. The messages we receive and process tell us what we are "supposed" to do with our feelings, how to understand and cope with disappointment, anxiety, failure, death, illness, and what to expect out of life. As life unfolds for us, these radar messages kick in and resonate in us at very deep levels. Sometimes what we have learned is helpful and sometimes it is not. The stories we have been told, especially when we are young, about how life is best lived and how to negotiate its pain carry a heavy weight.

Life can be challenging and frightening. Sometimes, it really hurts to be a human being. It also can be quite unpredictable and, at times, unfair. We face our vulnerability and brokenness of all kinds: physical, emotional, and spiritual. It doesn't take much for life to quickly fall apart. What we knew to be familiar and true is gone and something we relied upon, physically, emotionally, or spiritually, can be taken away. It is hard to confront our limitations and sit with our incompleteness. Often, life hurts us so much that we find ourselves sitting in a pool of sadness, not sure what we are supposed to do. It is particularly hard when the signals we have inherited tell us that we need to be successful in what we do, and we have to avoid life's unfairness. We can feel like a failure, wondering what precisely we did to deserve this fate, or ruminate about what we did not do correctly. But it's really not about us. We are part of a bigger picture and a much more fascinating story!

If we cease doing battle with life's incompleteness and see ourselves, as God does, on a journey toward wholeness and completeness we can better accept our disappointments and stand firm. The prophets told us, and Jesus reassured us: Be strong! Fear not! Sometimes we have to update our stories and replace them with newer, more accurate ones. When we make God's story our own and tune our radar into His voice, what we hear is all about restoration, healing, and rejuvenation! This is true even when we think we have hit rock bottom and can go no further. There is always hope. Remember the words of Julian of Norwich: God made us, God loves us, and God keeps us. Now, listen to God when He says, "be opened!" Be healed and allow your stories to change.

©LPi

"No sin or crime is greater than God's mercy. The sacrifice of the Cross reveals that Christ's greatest desire is to forgive those with a repentant heart."

*USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities  
"Death Penalty: Catholic Q&A"*

**SACRAMENT OF CONFESSION**

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

**Location:** Confessional Room back of Church



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.

**From the Pastor's Desk**

Dear Community,

The situations in Afghanistan and Haiti, are clear examples of turmoil that give us the opportunity to reflect and proclaim love against hate, to bring the light amid the darkness. A true religion, according to Jesus, is the one where all its members should live in complete love, practicing mercy and charity and when the only rule should be justice.

I remember Jesus saying to the pharisees in the Gospel according to Matthew 9:13: "But go and learn what this means: 'I desire mercy, not sacrifice.'" When the sacrifice that Jesus refers to is an empty sacrifice away from love. This is an invitation to proclaim the true religion. The reality is this, we can make a huge difference if we start to practice and profess, with our actions, the true religion based on love and justice. Realizing that we are here in this world as brothers and sisters to show the face of God to those who profess a different religion or those who do not profess any religion.

Now, how can you practice a true religion in your daily life?

GOD IS GOOD!

*Fr. Juan*

"The Church has consistently taught that every human life is precious and worthy of protection."

*USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities  
"Another Look at Abortion"  
[respectlife.org/another-look-at-abortion](http://respectlife.org/another-look-at-abortion)*

**The Cursillo Movement of Worcester Diocese**

"Behold, I stand at the door and knock..." It's time to learn more about your Faith. It's time to experience what our religion can do for you. Jesus is waiting for you, personally. Cursillo weekends are a wonderful, fun way to give you a start on this journey. Two weekends are being offered in 2021. A women's weekend running from October 14-17; and a men's weekend running from November 11-14. Go to [www.fourthday.org](http://www.fourthday.org) and download an application today or call Pam Hamilton @ 774-239-8909 for more information or call Parish Office. You will be glad you did!

**LOOKING FOR VENDORS** - Fall Festival - If you have an at home business consider setting up a booth at the Fall Festival, Sept. 18.  
Contact Mary Varteresian for more info, 978-928-5655.

Our Lady of Mount Carmel and Our Lady of Loreto welcomes **American Heritage Girls**. Families with daughters invited to meeting September 14, 5-6:30pm. Families have discovered a faith-based character development program for girls ages 5 to 18, dedicated to the mission of building women of integrity through service to God, family, community and country called American Heritage Girls. Our Lady of Mount Carmel and Our Lady of Loreto in Worcester will be hosting an informational meeting to learn more about AHG on September 14, 2021 at 37 Massasoit Road, Worcester, MA. AHG is for families with daughters who are seeking a faith-based, scout-type experience.  
FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT: Lynn Somers [Immsomers@gmail.com](mailto:Immsomers@gmail.com)

**Readings for the week of September 5, 2021**

Sunday: Is 35:4-7a/Ps 146:7, 8-9, 9-10 [1b]/Jas 2:1-5/Mk 7:31-37  
Monday: Col 1:24—2:3/Ps 62:6-7, 9 [8]/Lk 6:6-11  
Tuesday: Col 2:6-15/Ps 145:1b-2, 8-9, 10-11 [9]/Lk 6:12-19  
Wednesday: Mi 5:1-4a or Rom 8:28-30/Ps 13:6ab, 6c [Is 61:10]/Mt 1:1-16, 18-23 or 1:18-23  
Thursday: Col 3:12-17/Ps 150:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6 [6]/Lk 6:27-38  
Friday: 1 Tm 1:1-2, 12-14/Ps 16:1b-2a and 5, 7-8, 11 [cf. 5]/Lk 6:39-42  
Saturday: 1 Tm 1:15-17/Ps 113:1b-2, 3-4, 5a and 6-7 [2]/Lk 6:43-49  
Next Sunday: Is 50:5-9a/Ps 116:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9 [9]/Jas 2:14-18/Mk 8:27-35

**FALL FESTIVAL, Sept. 18, 2021 - UPDATE: St. Edward's Fall Festival, Saturday, 10AM - 6PM. Attic Treasures - drop off items on Sunday & Monday afternoons, 1-5PM only.**

Do not leave items if no one is in the parish center. Please wash/clean all items (kitchenware, dishes, glasses, pots, kids toys, knick knacks and holiday items) to help us out. **Not allowed items:** clothes, tires, computers/electronics, stuffed/plush toys, records/CD's/DVD's, BOOKS, religious items, large furniture or exercise equipment.

**Eddie's Auction** - we are looking for new items or unused valid gift cards.

**Theme Baskets** - if you are planning to donate a basket. Please Call Shirley Nolette, 978-874-5475.

**Jewelry** - donate real or costume. Valuable items can be dropped off weekdays at the office, Mon - Thurs 9-Noon.

**Grocery Wheel** - Food donations - leave in church foyer or during office hours. Please **DO NOT DONATE EXPIRED FOOD.**

**If you have questions, would like to volunteer or need a pickup of items or special times, Call Eileen McIntyre, Festival Chair, Tel. 978-874-0472.**

Check out the website under Home - Fall Festival, for additional details, <http://stedwardconf.org>

**Women's 2021 Catholic Conference - Webster**  
Sat., September 11 at St. Joseph School, 47 Whitcomb St.  
The all day event will include talks by nationally renowned speakers, browse offerings from Catholic vendors, pray the rosary, go to confession and Mass with Bishop McManus.  
Theme: Joan Up with the Armor of God. To register and information visit [www.wcwconference.com](http://www.wcwconference.com).

**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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