

# THE CATHOLIC COMMUNITY OF GRAFTON HILL PARISHES

DECEMBER 2, 2018

**ALL ARE WELCOME IN THE NAME OF CHRIST**



## **HOLY FAMILY PARISH AT SAINT JOSEPH CHURCH**

20 Hamilton St Worcester, MA  
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[ndsj@holyfamilyparishworchester.org](mailto:ndsj@holyfamilyparishworchester.org)  
[www.holyfamilyparishworchester.org](http://www.holyfamilyparishworchester.org)

### **SUNDAY MASSES**

9:30 am (English)  
11:00 am (Brazilian Portuguese)  
1:00pm (French)  
7:00 pm (Brazilian Portuguese)



## **SAINT STEPHEN PARISH**

20 Hamilton St Worcester, MA  
508.755.3165

[ststephenchurch2@verizon.net](mailto:ststephenchurch2@verizon.net)  
[www.ststephenworchester.org](http://www.ststephenworchester.org)

### **SUNDAY MASSES**

7:30 & 11:00 am (English)  
6:00 PM (Spanish)  
Saturday Vigil Mass:  
4:00 PM (English)



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**MASS INTENTIONS**

**SATURDAY**

**December 1**

8:30 am (St. Stephen) + For the People of St. Stephen Parish

Vigil of The First Sunday of Advent

4:00 pm (St. Stephen) + The Tripodi Family, Req by Lou Tripodi  
+ John Lewandowski, Req by the Family

**SUNDAY**

**December 2 - First Sunday of Advent**

7:30 am (St. Stephen) + For our long term parishioners who are  
struggling with significant illness  
+ Joan P. Lepinski, 24th Anniv & Son Req by her  
husband

9:30 am (St. Joseph) + Odette & Alesandre Beauzile, Req by Margarete

11:00 am (St. Joseph)

11:00 am (St. Stephen) + June M Quitadano, 1st Anniv Req by the Family  
+ Mary Moran, 1st Anniv Req by her husband & family

1:00 pm (St. Joseph) + Louise Maurice & Obrien Lafontant, by Margarete

6:00 pm (St. Stephen) Spanish

7:00 pm (St. Joseph) Brazilian

**MONDAY – December 3**

8:30 am (St. Stephen) + June Quitadamo, Req by the Parish

**TUESDAY – December 4**

8:30 am ( St. Joseph) Ed Hack for good health

**WEDNESDAY – December 5**

8:30 am (St. Stephen) + John Moore, Req by Nora Donoghue

**THURSDAY – December 6**

8:30 am (St. Joseph) For the People of Holy Family Parish

7:00 pm (St. Stephen) Spanish

**FRIDAY – December 7**

8:30 am (St. Stephen) For greater respect for the dignity of human life

4:00 pm (St. Stephen) For the People of St. Stephen Parish

**SATURDAY**

**December 8**

8:30 am (St. Stephen) + Venincasa/Standring Family, Req by the Family

Vigil of The Second Sunday of Advent

4:00 pm (St. Stephen) + John & Delia Crawford, Req by the Family  
+ Shirley Goulet, 2nd Anniv Req by her husband & children

**SUNDAY**

**December 9 - The Second Sunday of Advent**

7:30 am (St. Stephen) + Helen E. Sullivan, Month Mind Mass, Req by Nora  
Donoghue

9:30 am (St. Joseph) + Mary Lajoie, 47th Anniv Req by her daughter Patricia

11:00 am (St. Joseph) Brazilian

11:00 am (St. Stephen) + Deacon Paul Dacri, Req by the Parish  
+ Janice & Arthur Orsi, Req by Friends

1:00 pm (St. Joseph) + Marie Claire Normil for her Anniversary

**FRIST SUNDAY OF  
ADVENT**

**4:00 PM & 11:00 AM**

Entrance Hymn:

**“Come, Now, Almighty King” #711**

Readings & Psalms  
**page 16**

Hymn at the Preparation of the Gifts:  
**“The King Shall Come When  
Morning Dawns” #27**

Communion Hymn:

**“In Memory of You” #349**

Recessional Hymn

**“The Advent of Our King”  
#39**

**9:30 AM MASS**

Entrance Hymn:

**“Wake, O Wake and Sleep No  
Longer” #298**

Readings & Psalm **#860**

Hymn at the Preparation of the  
Gifts:

**“Maranatha” #283**

Communion Hymn:

**“Christ Circle Around Us” #284**

Recessional Hymn

**“Lift Up Your Heads” #286**

**THE SEASON OF ADVENT BEGINS!**

**A new liturgical year begins today.** Today also marks the beginning of a new cycle of scripture readings proclaimed at Mass. For the next fifty two weeks, the gospel readings will be taken primarily from the Gospel of Saint Luke (Cycle C).

**The word “Advent” is derived from a Latin word meaning “coming” or “arrival.”** This brief season of four weeks prior to Christmas invites us to ponder the “coming” of Christ from three perspectives: 1) Christ’s historical coming among us as man through the mystery of the Incarnation; 2) Christ’s final coming at the end of time to bring to completion the work of salvation; 3) Christ’s coming to us through the daily, often ordinary events of our lives. Advent is an invitation to reflect upon God’s workings of grace: past, present and future.

Advent invites us to consider how Christ has come to us and touched us through the people and events of our lives. It is an invitation to respond the ways we have been “graced,” both in the past and presently. Together as a community, we pray for hearts that will be open to the blessings, the graces, yet unknown, that await us ahead.

**OUR LITURGICAL SCHEDULE FOR THE CELEBRATION OF CHRISTMAS**

United with Christians throughout the world, we will gather to celebrate the Solemnity of the Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ on December 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup>. Our schedule is as follows:

**December 24, Christmas Eve:**

**4:00 pm\*** at Saint Stephen’s and

**6:00 pm** at Saint Joseph’s

**11:00 pm** at Saint Joseph’s (choral prelude begins at 10:30)

**December 25, Christmas Day:**

**9:30 am** at Saint Stephen’s

\*The 4:00pm Christmas Eve Mass at Saint Stephen’s will be preceded by a brief Nativity Pageant at **3:30 pm** which will include the participation of the children of the parish. All are welcome!

**PARISH OFFICES FOR SAINT STEPHEN & HOLY FAMILY PARISHES**

**The parish offices for both Saint Stephen and Holy Family Parishes are located at 20 Hamilton Street in the building that formerly housed the Thrift Store.** Theresa O’Brien is the office administrator for both St. Stephen’s and Holy Family Parishes. She may be reached using the parish phone numbers: **508.755.3165 for Saint Stephen’s and 508.754.6722 for Holy Family Parish.** Parish emails and websites all remain the same. **The office hours are generally 10:00 am- 4:00 pm, Monday-Thursday.** The offices are closed on civic holidays.

**THE SOLEMNITY OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY**

**Saturday, December 8<sup>th</sup> is the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary—a holyday of obligation in our liturgical calendar.** This feast celebrates the creativity of God’s Grace that touched Mary’s life from the first moments of her existence, preparing her in a unique way to be the mother of our Lord Jesus Christ. We honor Mary’s singular role in the unfolding of our salvation as the mother of our Savior. The liturgy also invites us to reflect upon the different and unique ways through which God has graced our lives so that we too may bring Christ to others. **Our schedule of Masses is as follows: Friday, December 7<sup>th</sup>, Vigil Mass at 4:00 pm at Saint Stephen’s and Saturday, December 8<sup>th</sup> at 8:30 am at Saint Stephen’s.**

**COLLECTION FOR ELDERLY RELIGIOUS**

On the weekend of December 8-9, our parishes will be conducting the annual appeal for the Retirement Fund for Religious. This national collection benefits nearly 31,000 elderly sisters, brothers and religious order priests throughout the country. There are many worthy causes this time of year. Nonetheless, whatever gift, large or small, you can offer is deeply appreciated.

## PARISH CONTACTS

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## **PRAYER INTENTIONS**

**In the charity of your prayers, please join in praying for Pope's Francis' special intention for the month of December 2018: That those entrusted with passing on the faith as teachers and catechists may do so in a way that speaks to our time and to contemporary cultures.**

In the charity of your prayers, you are kindly asked to remember the sick, especially: **Annette Chauvin, Christine Caron, Lisa Vancelette, Jules Andre Alcide, Cyrus Hiatt, Doris Kennedy, Denise Thibeault, Rev. George J Ridick, Rev. Robert Brusio, Carey Santiago, David Peloquin, Bruce Vidito, Tom Marshall, Roger Fortin, Paul & Suzanne White, John Bouckaert, James Reilly.**

### **Weekly Meetings/Gatherings**

#### **Rosary: Before weekday Masses**

**AA Meetings:** Monday @ 7:00 PM; Thursday @ 7:00 PM and Saturday @ 9:00 & 10:00 AM all at St. Stephen's Church Hall.

Wednesday @ 7:00 PM (Woman Only 12 Step Meeting) @ St. Stephen's Church Hall. For more info call 774-253-3995 Sharon.

**Charismatic Prayer Meeting** (French) Wednesday @ 7:00 PM Msgr. Ducharme Center. **Baptismal** Preparation for parents and Godparents: Please call the rectory.

## **PARISH FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP**

The offertory collection for the weekend of

**St Stephen Parish: 11/25/18 \$4,430.17**

**Holy Family Parish: 11/25/18 \$3,334.67**

Thank you for your generosity to our parishes. It is through your goodness that we are able to accomplish all that we do. May God bless you for all that you do to support our work and ministries at Saint Stephen and Holy Family Parishes.

### **Giving Tree**

All purchased items should be placed in bags and returned to St. Stephen's Church on or before Dec. 16th. Please attach the Giving Tree tag to the bag. All gifts will be donated to St. Joan of Arc Parish Outreach and to Pernet Family Health Center. Volunteers will be needed on Sunday Dec 16, from 12:15 to 2:00 pm for sorting & bagging.

### **Spiritual Wisdom for the Week:**

“Hope is being able to see that there is light despite all the darkness.”

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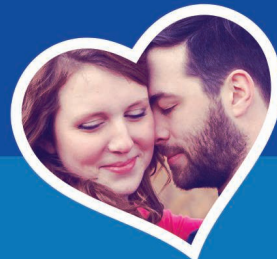
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