

THE CATHOLIC COMMUNITY OF GRAFTON HILL PARISHES

DECEMBER 30, 2018

ALL ARE WELCOME IN THE NAME OF CHRIST



HOLY FAMILY PARISH AT SAINT JOSEPH CHURCH

20 Hamilton St Worcester, MA
508.754.6722

ndsj@holyfamilyparishworchester.org
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
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 29

8:30 am (St. Stephen) +

Vigil of Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

4:00 pm (St. Stephen) + John & Delia Crawford, Req by the Family
+ Deacon Paul Dacri, Req by the Parish

SUNDAY

December 30 - Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

7:30 am (St. Stephen) For the People of St. Stephen Parish

9:30 am (St. Joseph) + Jeannette LeClair, 16th Annv., Req by the Family

11:00 am (St. Joseph)

11:00 am (St. Stephen) + Normand & Yolanda Cote, 6th Anniv by the Family

1:00 pm (St. Joseph) Pour nos paroissens

6:00 pm (St. Stephen) Spanish

7:00 pm (St. Joseph) Brazilian

MONDAY – December 31

8:30 am (St. Stephen) + Barbara Laino, Req by Joan Noonan

4:00 pm (St. Stephen) + John W. Long, 6th Anniv Req by the Family
+ Worley, Ivanoski & Alvino Families, Req by Lucille
& Henry Worley

9:00 pm (St. Joseph) Brazilian

TUESDAY – January 1

11:00 am (St. Stephen) For the People of St. Stephen

11:00 am (St. Joseph) French

WEDNESDAY – January 2

8:30 am (St. Stephen)

THURSDAY – January 3

8:30 am (St. Joseph) + Shirley O'Brien

7:00 pm (St. Stephen) Spanish

FRIDAY – January 4

8:30 am (St. Stephen) +

SATURDAY

January 5

8:30 am (St. Stephen) + Cole Victor, by Jim & Theresa

Vigil of The Epiphany of the Lord

4:00 pm (St. Stephen) +

SUNDAY

January 6 - The Epiphany of the Lord

7:30 am (St. Stephen) + Deacon Paul Dacri, Req by the Parish

9:30 am (St. Joseph) + Raymond Lajoie, 25th Anniv Req by his daughter
Patricia Lajoie
+ Armand Bouley, Req by the Family

11:00 am (St. Joseph) Brazilian

11:00 am (St. Stephen) +

1:00 pm (St. Joseph) Pour nos paroissens

**HOLY FAMILY OF
JESUS, MARY AND
JOSEPH**

4:00 PM & 11:00 AM

Entrance Hymn:

“Angels from the Realms of Glory”

#90

Readings & Psalms

page 39

Hymn at the Preparation of the Gifts:
“Of the Father’s Love Begotten” #70

Communion Hymn:

“The First Nowell” #92

Recessional Hymn

“God rest Ye, Merry Gentlemen”

#74

9:30 AM MASS

Entrance Hymn:

“Once In Royal David’s City” #327

Readings & Psalm **#876**

Hymn at the Preparation of the
Gifts:

**“Christ Was Born on Christmas
Day” #318**

Communion Hymn:

“The Snow Lay on the Ground” #319

Recessional Hymn

“Joy to the World” #303

**2019 PARISH CALENDARS NOW
AVAILABLE**

The 2019 Parish Calendars for both St. Stephen’s and Holy Family Parishes are now available at **the entrances to both churches**. The calendars note both holydays and saint’s days in our liturgical calendar. The 2019 calendars are free. Please take what you need.

NATIVITY SCENES ARE THE SCHOOL OF LIFE

During the Christmas Season, nativity (manger) scenes or “crèches” are commonplace in our churches and in our homes. Some years ago, Pope Benedict offered the following reflection on the value of this centuries-old tradition:

“The custom of setting up manger scenes in our homes is more than mere tradition. As Christians we must seek to live what the nativity scene represents the reality of our everyday lives: that is, the love of Christ, his humility and his poverty.

The manger scene is a ‘school of life’ where we can learn the secret of true joy. This joy does not consist in possessing many things but in experiencing ourselves as loved by God, in making ourselves a gift for others, and in loving one another.

When we gaze upon the nativity scene, the Virgin Mary and Saint Joseph do not appear to be a very privileged family. Their child was born amidst great hardship. And yet, they are full of joy because they love one another, they help one another and, above all, they are certain that God is at work in the story of their lives.

True joy consists in experiencing ourselves as touched by and filled with the great mystery, the mystery of God’s great love for us. These are among the great life lessons taught by the manger scene.”

As you pass by the nativity scene in our churches, located in the sanctuary area during the Christmas Season, and gaze upon the images of the Holy Family, please pray for all the very diverse and different kinds of families that make up our parish community. May they experience the love of God in their midst.

THANK YOU!

On behalf of both Saint Stephen’s and Holy Family Parishes, I extend my gratitude and thanks to all who helped us prepare for and celebrate our Christmas liturgies: the Saint Joseph Choir, the singers at Saint Stephen’s, cantors, those who so beautifully decorated and prepared our churches, our deacons, liturgical ministers, Lucia Clemente Falco, director of music, Theresa O’Brien, have all been invaluable in coordinating the many preparations for the feast-day of Christ’s Nativity. We are blessed with so many generous hearts, hands and voices. *Thank you!* Father Steven LaBaire

NEW YEAR’S DAY 2019:**THE SOLEMNITY OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY, THE MOTHER OF GOD**

Tuesday, January 1 is the Solemnity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, the Mother of God. It is a holyday of obligation in our liturgical calendar. Our schedule of Masses is as follows:

Monday, December 31st: 4:00 pm (St. Stephen’s)

Tuesday, January 1st at 11:00 am (St. Stephen’s)

As we turn the page on another (civil) calendar year, we’re invited to be mindful of the bigger picture of our lives, the things that really matter and of our final destiny with God in eternity. So much of what we worry about and occupy our time with is fleeting. As we begin to count the days of 2018, what will ultimately “count” for us?

At the beginning of the New Year, we are presented with Mary, the mother of Christ, as a model and example of one who lives her days completely open to God. She lived her days (and her years) well. We pray that we would follow in Mary’s footsteps in our own time.

NEW YEAR’S DAY PARISH OPEN HOUSE

Everyone is most cordially invited to join us on **January 1st, 2019** for a Parish Open House at 20 Hamilton Street, at anytime, from **12 noon- 2:00 pm** to celebrate the start of the New Year. The occasion is an opportunity to share in fellowship as well as for everyone to visit the new parish offices.

The former Thrift store was renovated in 2018 so as to create a more efficient unified office area for both St. Stephen’s and Holy Family Parishes. The office areas also include space for the Hispanic, Haitian and Brazilian Catholic communities, all of which have become part of the fabric of our two parish communities. *Everyone is welcome to join us on January 1st. Refreshments will be served.*

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.

PARISH CONTACTS

Father Steven LaBaire, *Pastor*
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Joanne Mallozzi, *School Principal*
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Alex Garcia
Safe Environment Coordinator
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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 January 2018: That young people, follow the example of Mary and respond to the call of the Lord to communicate the joy of the Gospel to the world

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.**

Please Pray for the repose of the Soul: Cole Victor, Ralph Ferraro and Eileen O'Connor.

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: 12/16/18 \$3,478.21

Holy Family Parish: 12/16/18 \$5,133.49

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.

Spiritual Wisdom for the week:

“Our hope is not in the new year..but in the one who makes all things new.”

Anonymous

“Jan 1 is the first blank page of a 365 page book. Write a good one.” *Ian Paisley*

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