

THE CATHOLIC COMMUNITY OF GRAFTON HILL PARISHES

FEBRUARY 3, 2019

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)

Sacrament of Reconciliation:
Saturdays at 3:00 PM



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MASS INTENTIONS

SATURDAY

February 2

8:30 am (St. Stephen) + Mary Love, Req by Nora Donoghue

Vigil of The Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

4:00 pm (St. Stephen) + Robert Smith, 3rd Anniv., Req by his Family

SUNDAY

February 3 - The Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

7:30 am (St. Stephen) + Theresa Larson, Req by the Family

9:30 am (St. Joseph) For the People of Holy Family Parish

11:00 am (St. Joseph)

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

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

6:00 pm (St. Stephen) Spanish

7:00 pm (St. Joseph) Brazilian

MONDAY – February 4

8:30 am (St. Stephen) + For those living with addictions

TUESDAY – February 5

8:30 am (St. Joseph) For the greater respect for Human Life

WEDNESDAY – February 6

8:30 am (St. Stephen) + For the sick of Parishes

THURSDAY – February 7

8:30 am (St. Joseph) +

7:00 pm (St. Stephen) Spanish

FRIDAY – February 8

8:30 am (St. Stephen) +

SATURDAY

February 9

8:30 am (St. Stephen)

Vigil of The Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

4:00 pm (St. Stephen) +

SUNDAY

February 10 - The Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

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

9:30 am (St. Joseph) + Armand Bouley, Req by the Family

11:00 am (St. Joseph) Brazilian

11:00 am (St. Stephen) + George Haddad, Req by the Family

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

6:00 pm (St. Stephen) Spanish

7:00 pm (St. Joseph) Brazilian

**THE FOURTH SUNDAY
IN ORDINARY TIME**

4:00 PM & 11:00 AM

Entrance Hymn:

“All the Earth” #423

Readings & Psalms

page 53

Hymn at the Preparation of the Gifts:

**“Christians, Let Us Love One
Another” #475**

Communion Hymn:

“Ubi Caritas” #327

9:30 AM MASS

Entrance Hymn:

“God Is Love” #715

Readings & Psalm #939

Hymn at the Preparation of the
Gifts:

“O God, You Search Me” #678

Communion Hymn:

“Ubi Caritas” #776

**EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY!
ST. STEPHEN'S NO LONGER HAS A
FOOD PANTRY. THERE WILL BE
NO MORE MONTHLY
COLLECTION OF FOOD.**

THE BLESSING OF SAINT BLAISE THIS WEEKEND

Saint Blaise was the Bishop of Sebaste in Armenia during the 4th century. He was martyred during the persecution of Christians by the Roman emperor Lucinius. According to various accounts, Blaise was a physician before becoming a bishop. Since the 8th century he has been invoked on behalf of the sick, especially those afflicted with diseases of the throat because he was reputed to have saved the life of a boy who was choking on a fish bone. Saint Blaise's feast day is February 3rd.

It has become a tradition in the Church to bestow a special blessing on his feast day to all who seek it. It is a prayer imploring God's help in our struggles against illness and infirmity, especially diseases of the throat. Christ and his apostles attended to the sick in their midst. The life of Saint Blaise, as both physician and bishop, is a reminder that the Christian community is called to attend to both the physical and spiritual health of its members. We all play a part in this ministry.

Since the throat is essential to our voice and our speaking, the blessing can also be seen as asking God's help to remove everything that impedes or hinders our "speaking" and giving "voice" to our Christian faith. Saint Blaise was fearless in professing his Christian faith. We too can be courageous in sharing our Christian faith with others.

While imprisoned for his faith, a compassionate woman brought tapers to light his prison cell. Hence it is a custom to use two tapers tied with a red ribbon in bestowing the blessing. The red ribbon signifies the blood that was shed by this martyr for the sake of his Christian faith. **The Blessing of Saint Blaise will be bestowed at the conclusion of all Masses this weekend.**

PARISH FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP

St. Stephen's weekly goal is \$5,064.00

St Stephen Parish: 1/20/19 \$1,599, 1/27/18 \$2,813.80

Holy Family weekly goal is \$6,900.00

Holy Family Parish: 1/20/19 \$1,482.00, 1/27/18 \$2,031.00

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.

THE PARISH COUNCIL OF SAINT STEPHEN PARISH

A Parish Council serves as an advisory body to the pastor of a parish on matters pertaining to the life and mission of the Parish.

It has been said that a parish council serves as the "eyes and ears" of a parish. Council members listen to the hopes, challenges and concerns of parishioners. Through respectful dialogue and prayerful reflection, a Parish Council seeks to assist the pastor in discerning future priorities and a vision for a direction toward which a parish should move. Those serving on Parish Councils are asked to go beyond discussing problems and to offer realistic solutions and strategies. The Parish Council is not a Finance Board and usually does not concern itself with parish finances, except in events of urgency. Rather, it focuses on the life and future direction of the community. A parish council asks: *"Where should we be focusing our energy and resources as a parish?"*

Current appointed members of the Council of Saint Stephen Parish are: **Bill and Sue Bamerick, Nora Donoghue, Barbara Foley, Kathleen Foley, Neil Isakson, Bob Lapinsky, Vivian Peluso, Jim Rice, Frank Tripodi, Lucille Worley, Deacon Israel Fernandez and Deacon Paul Reuter.** The Saint Stephen Parish Council has been working on organizational by-laws so that it may function appropriately. At a future date, to be determined, there will be an election of new members. If you are a registered, active parishioner of Saint Stephen's, and you would like to serve as a parish council member and believe that you have something to offer the Council in fulfilling its mission, please call the parish office. Thank you.

Sale of former Saint Stephen Convent on Caroline Street

As of this writing, the sale of the former convent to Catholic Charities of Worcester is imminent. This is a great development which benefits the parish and continues the Catholic mission of the property. More information will be shared as things develop.

Spiritual Wisdom for the Week

"Strength does not come from winning. Your struggles develop your strengths. When you go through hardships and decide not to surrender, that is strength."

PARISH CONTACTS

Father Steven LaBaire, *Pastor*
ststephenchurch2@verizon.net
ndsj@holyfamilyparishworchester.org

Father Adriano Lessa
alessanatalino@gmail.com

Father Hugo Cano & Father Rinaldo Damian
ststephenchurch2@verizon.net

Father Jean-Robert Brice
sbjeanrobert@yahoo.com

Israel Fernandez, *Deacon*
deacifernandez@gmail.com

Paul Reuter, *Deacon*
pjreuter@gmail.com

John "Jack" Franchi, *Deacon*
oneang@aol.com

Theresa O'Brien, *Administrative Assistant*
ndsj@holyfamilyparishworchester.org

Lucia Clemente Falco, *Music Director*
luciacfalco@msn.com

Deborah Blicharz, *Religious Education Director*
deborahblicharz01@gmail.com

Mary Sanning, *RCIA Director*
mcsanning@gmail.com

Theresa Turgeon, *Ducharme Hall Manager*
508.770.1053

Janine Gould, *Baptismal Catechesis*
ndsj@holyfamilyparishworchester.org

**Niciane Bonilla, *Secretary
Brazilian Community***
ccbrasileiro2018@gmail.com

Marie Pascale Duplan, *Haitian Ministry*
haitiancatholicministry@gmail.com

Joanne Mallozzi, *School Principal*
Joanne.mallozzi@worchesterdiocesek12.org

Alex Garcia
Safe Environment Coordinator
ndsj@holyfamilyparishworchester.org

PRAYER INTENTIONS

In the charity of your prayers, please join in praying for Pope's Francis' special intention for the month of February 2019: For the victims of human trafficking: May we extend care to the victims of trafficking, of forced prostitution and of violence.

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 Bruso, Carey Santiago, David Peloquin, Bruce Vidito, Tom Marshall, Roger Fortin, Paul & Suzanne White, John Bouckaert, Cindy Bourgault, Marie Lee, Douglas Cooper, Marion Papetti, James Reilly. Repose of the soul of : John W. Morrissey**
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.

FLU SEASON REMINDERS

Mindful that we have entered the flu season, please keep the following common-sense practices in mind:

If you are sick or think that you have the flu, it is best to stay home. If your children are sick with the flu, keep them at home. Please do not send them to religious education classes or to school.

Eucharistic Ministers are asked to thoroughly wash their hands with soap and hot water in the sacristy before and after every Mass.

If the priest or deacon does not invite the congregation to offer the sign of peace, it is not that he has forgotten this part of the Mass. It simply means that cold and flu levels are such that omitting this part of the liturgy is prudent for the time being. Remember, according to the *Roman Missal* the exchange of the Sign of Peace is an *optional* part of every Mass.

If you have a cold or the flu and do come to church, please refrain from receiving Holy Communion from the cup. At the Sign of Peace simply turn to those nearest you and say "Peace be with you." (The custom of "waving" to people during Mass as if on the street or in a parade is to be discouraged.) If someone does not extend their hand to you, they may suspect they have a cold. Simply greet them with the Christ's words of peace!

Thank you for helping to keep our parish as healthy as possible.

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