

MASS SCHEDULE

MON-THUR

9:00AM

SATURDAY

(VIGIL) | 4:30PM

SUNDAY

8:30AM &

10:30AM

HOLY DAYS

9:00AM &

7:00PM

RECONCILIATION

SATURDAY

3:30-4:15PM

ADORATION

WEDNESDAY

3:00-6:00PM

OUR LADY OF GOOD COUNSEL

DECEMBER 26, 2021

THE HOLY FAMILY



He went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was obedient to them; and his mother kept all these things in her heart. And Jesus advanced in wisdom and age and favor before God and man. - Lk 2:51-52

STAFF

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In Residence

Rev. Adriano Lessa

Deacons

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Office Administrator

Rachel Crouse
r.crouse@goodcounselma.com

Director of Music

John Leslie
j.leslie@goodcounselma.com

OFFICE HOURS

Monday-Friday

11:00am-2:00pm

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MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday 12/25 | The Nativity of the Lord (Christmas)

10:30am: Anniv 12: Lucy Castonguay

Requested by Sheila Supernor

Sunday 12/26 | The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

8:30am: Mass for the people

10:30am: Anniv 19: Withold Prankunas

Anniv 12: John Prankunas | Requested by Family

Monday 12/27 | Saint John

9:00am: Mass for the people

Tuesday 12/28 | The Holy Innocents

9:00am: Mem: Duncan Urquhart | Requested by Family

Saturday 1/1 | The Octave of the Nativity of the Lord | Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God

9:00am: Mass for the people

Sunday 1/2 | Epiphany of the Lord

8:30am: Mass for the people



SACRAMENTS

SACRAMENT OF HOLY BAPTISM FOR CHILDREN: Parents wishing to have their child baptized should contact the parish office. Prior to the actual celebration of the sacrament there is a catechesis for parents on the meaning of baptism and Christian parenting.

SACRAMENTS OF INITIATION FOR ADULTS: Adults seeking to be baptized as well as those already baptized (in both Catholic & non-Catholic communities) who seek to be confirmed and to receive Holy Communion, are invited to join with others in exploring our Catholic faith. Please contact the parish office.

SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE: Couples intending to marry should contact the parish priest at least six months prior to the intended wedding date.

HOLY COMMUNION FOR THE SICK & HOMEBOUND: We are eager to bring Holy Communion to those unable to come to church. The priest, deacon and extraordinary ministers of Holy Communion will assure that the Eucharist is brought to homes of those wishing to receive it.

ANOINTING OF THE SICK: Those experiencing serious illness should contact the parish office or speak with the parish priest as soon as possible.

HEAVENLY FATHER, WE PRAY FOR...

- + We join our hearts in prayer for a greater respect for human life and for the dignity of every human being,
- + We pray for respectful dialogue and reconciliation between diverse communities.
- + We pray for cooperation between nations in caring for our fragile earth.
- + We pray for communities and schools beset by violence.
- + We pray for Christians who are persecuted or experience hostility because of their faith.
- + We pray for all those who are impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.
- + We pray for those for whom the holiday season is difficult or painful.
- + We pray for those whose lives have been overwhelmed by storms and disasters.
- + We pray that our celebration of Christmas will be a time for the renewal of minds and hearts.
- + We pray for those awaiting the birth or the adoption of a child.
- + **Pope Francis' personal prayer intention for the month of December: For catechists and all who teach our faith to the young: May they share the Word of God with courage and creativity.**
- + We pray for all who are sick or recovering from injury, illness or surgery, especially, Father Thirbuse Millott.

SUNDAY 'S

READINGS

First Reading

"I prayed for this child, and the LORD granted my request. Now I, in turn, give him to the LORD; as long as he lives, he shall be dedicated to the LORD."
(1 Sm 1:27-28)

Psalm

Blessed are they who dwell in your house, O Lord.
(Ps 84)

Second Reading

See what love the Father has bestowed on us that we may be called the children of God. And so we are. (1 Jn 3:1)

Gospel

After three days they found him in the temple, sitting in the midst of the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions.
(Lk 2:46)

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ORDER OF WORSHIP FOR
CHRISTMAS EVE & DAY

Entrance Hymn "O Come, All Ye Faithful" #92

Readings & Responsorial Psalm:

→ at 4:00 pm on Christmas Eve: page 43

→ at 6:00 pm and Midnight: Page 47

→ at 10:30 am on Christmas Day: page 51

Hymn at the Preparation of the Gifts "Hark, The Herald Angels Sing" #91

Communion Hymn "What Child Is This" # 94

Meditation:

→ at 4:00, 6:00, 11:00 pm "Silent Night" # 77

→ at 10:30am "O Little Town of Bethlehem" # 87

Recessional: "Joy To The World" # 80

ORDER OF WORSHIP FOR THE HOLY FAMILY
OF JESUS, MARY and JOSEPH

ON DECEMBER 26 AT 8:30 and 10:30 AM

Entrance Hymn "God Rest You Merry Gentlemen" # 88

Readings and Responsorial Psalm: on page 53

Hymn at the Preparation of the Gifts: "Angels We Have Heard On High" #82

Communion Hymn "A Child Is Born in Bethlehem" # 74

Meditation: "Of The Father's Love Begotten" #84

Recessional: "Good Christian Friends, Rejoice" #81

NATIVITY SCENES ARE THE SCHOOL OF LIFE

During the Christmas season, nativity (manger) scenes are commonplace in our churches and in many of our homes. Both Popes Benedict and Francis have invited us to ponder the spiritual message which these nativity scenes convey.

"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. Yet they are full of joy because they love one another, they help one another and, above all, they trust that God is at work in the story of their lives..." Pope Benedict XVI

"The shepherds become the first to see the most essential thing of all is the gift of salvation."

"The Kings (Magi) teach us that people can come to Christ by a very long route..."

"The manger (feeding trough) in which Jesus was laid, proclaims in a meek yet powerful way, the need for sharing with the poor as the path to a more humane world in which no one is excluded or marginalized."

"The nativity scene is a living gospel rising up from the pages of sacred Scripture proclaiming the humility of God who became man in order to encounter every man and woman." Pope Francis
During these trying times, the Nativity scene reminds us that God is with us amidst our challenges.

As you pass by the nativity scene in our church during this Christmas season and gaze upon the Holy Family, please pray for all the diverse families that make up our parish community. May they experience the love of God amidst all the joys and sorrows of life's journey.



PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

WINTER WEATHER POLICY

As we enter into the winter months, we offer this reminder regarding winter weather and weekday Masses: **In the event of severe winter weather, if the West Boylston public school classes are canceled or delayed, the 9:00 am is canceled. The cancelation of daily Mass and of Eucharistic Adoration will also be communicated by means of Facebook and Flocknote emails.** When the weather is bad, it is important to remain safe at home and allow the snow removal crews to do their work. Please share this information with others. *Thank you.*

PARISH PROPERTY UPDATE

40 Church Street property - December 12th update: The surveying of the property has been completed. The Diocese is in dialogue with the town regarding the required variances that will be needed for the sale of the property. Still waiting.

Parking lot church entrance—December 15th update: The parking lot church entrance door frame has warped due to moisture. Work has begun. Should be completed soon.

Exterior Front church steps and walkway—October 18th Update: The project has been approved by the Diocesan Building Commission. The contract with D.S. Landscaping was signed this past week. However, due to work delays connected to the very rainy summer we've had along with a shortage of workers, the replacement of the front steps may have to be put off until early spring. We need to be mindful that once the work is undertaken, we will not be able to use the front entrance for about two weeks, depending on the weather. We'll continue to keep everyone updated as things progress.

IHN THANK YOU!

Thank you to all who contributed to another successful week at the IHN Family Shelter! Dedicated veteran volunteers, new volunteers, those who donated supplies and money for Christmas gifts, one volunteer who brought gingerbread cookies to decorate, and all of you who offered your prayers, helped the families to feel supported and cared for! Special thanks to Evening and Overnight hosts: **Jim Bruce, Tina Buono, Janet Such, Mike and Tina Muir, Lee Maleno, David and Karen Hennessy, & Vinny Vignaly.** Additionally **Terri and Dave King,** along with **Sue, Alicia and Liani Stone** not only served as hosts, but also helped make the annual visit from Santa an evening to remember! A very special thank you to **Cathy and Bob Richardson and Carol Wolfe** for all their hard work shopping for and wrapping the gifts for the children at the IHN family shelter. Their love and dedication to this annual Christmas party over the years is nothing less than amazing. Thank you! We are scheduled to host again the week of June 12, 2022. The shelter is also looking for anyone willing to sign up during weeks that do not have enough volunteers. For more information, please contact Janet Vignaly at janet.vignaly@gmail.com. Again, thank you to all for being part of a memorable week of service!

GET INVOLVED



OLGC PRAYER LINE

Those who wish to have their intentions remembered in prayer or want to join our prayer line can contact Renate Isbell at 508.835.3286 or submit a request directly through the parish website.

ADORATION

Join us on Wednesdays 3:00-6:00pm for Eucharistic Adoration! Experience the grace and peace that comes from Adoration. Commit to an hour, or stop by as your schedule permits!

LECTOR & SERVER

Prayerfully consider joining our Lector or Altar Server ministries. Contact Deacon Mick or Deacon Scott for more details!

HOPE FOR HOUSING

Become a part of our Hope for Housing food card selling team! Volunteers sell food cards 1-2 times monthly after weekend masses to benefit families in need!



WELCOME TO OUR LADY
OF GOOD COUNSEL
PARISH

Our parish community joins with Christians throughout the world to celebrate the love of God revealed to us in the birth of Jesus Christ. In the joy of having been called to live the in the light of Christ's radiant love, ***we welcome you.*** We open our church doors to all. ***May our hearts and minds be open to God's Word.***



We welcome our parishioners as well as those who have traveled to be with family and friends. ***May we see Christ in one another as fellow travelers on the journey of life.*** We welcome those who have no church. ***May you find an oasis of life-giving faith in our midst.*** We welcome all who struggle with their faith or find it difficult to pray. ***May our celebration of the liturgy inspire minds and hearts.*** We welcome all who feel unloved or unwelcome by the church, by their family or any other group. ***The arms of Christ embrace you. And they always will.*** We welcome all who carry the burden of sin or regret for the past. ***Please know that you can leave your burden here.*** We welcome anyone who is hurting or grieving in any way, finding it difficult to celebrate Christmas. ***It is our prayer that you find healing and strength.*** We welcome all whose hearts are brimming with joy. ***Your presence lifts our hearts.*** We welcome the young and the old, the strong and the weak, the wise and the foolish, the humble and the proud. ***With you we share a common humanity. Everyone is welcome in the name of Christ.*** May our hearts be like a manger where Christ is born, transforming us by a Love Divine.

Attorney Wayne P. Tupper



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