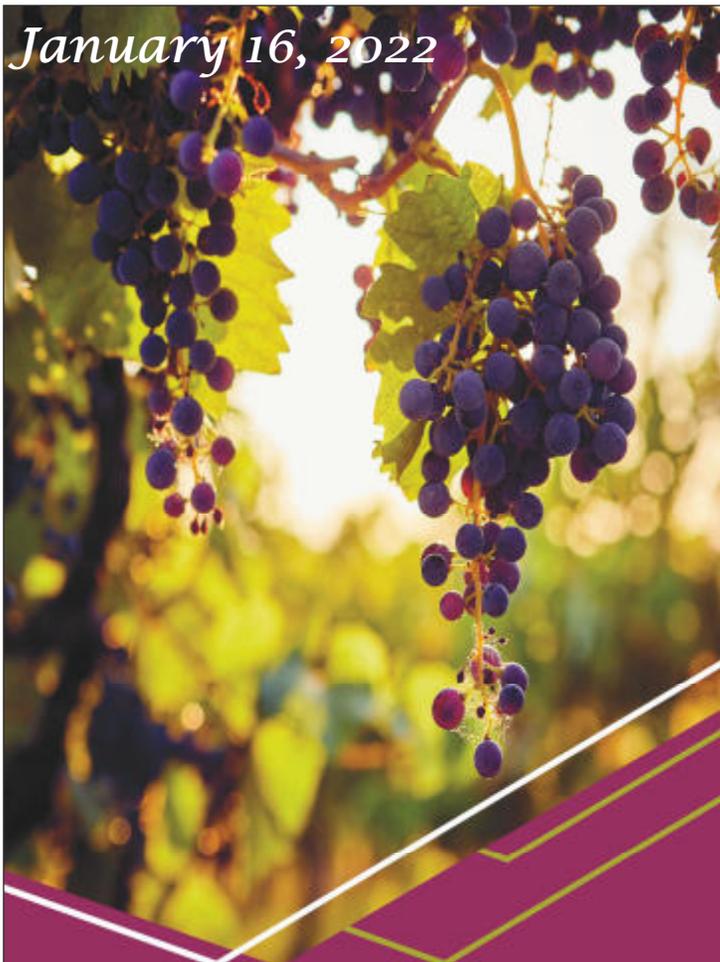


*January 16, 2022*



**2<sup>nd</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

There was a wedding at Cana in Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there. Jesus and his disciples were also invited to the wedding. When the wine ran short, the mother of Jesus said to him, "They have no wine."  
- Jn 2:1-3

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass: 12005, 1996, 1970-CCD. © L.P.

 **MASS SCHEDULE**

**Vigil Mass (Saturday): 4:00 pm**  
**Sunday Mass: 8:00 am (livestreamed) and 10:00 am**

**Weekday Masses (Mon., Thurs. & Fri.): 9:00 am**  
**Holy Day Masses: To be determined**

**RECONCILIATION:** Suspended until further notice

**BAPTISM:** By Appointment Only  
 Please see the Pastor after Mass for a form.  
 Baptisms must be scheduled at least one month in advance.

**SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE:**  
 Please contact/talk to the Pastor after Mass to make an appointment **twelve months in advance**, before making plans for reception and wedding date.

**St. Christopher Church**  
 950 West Boylston Street  
 Worcester, MA 01606



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 ... Go Thy Way  
 in Safety"

**CONTACT US**

**Rectory: Phone 508-853-1492; FAX 508-853-4338**

**Religious Ed./Church Hall/Bingo: 508-853-3302**

**Email: [parish@stchristopherparishworcester.org](mailto:parish@stchristopherparishworcester.org)**

**Web Site: [www.stchristopherworcester.org](http://www.stchristopherworcester.org)**

**Office Hours: Monday-Thursday, 8 a.m.-2 p.m.**  
**Parish office is closed on Friday.**

\*\*\*\*\*

**Rev. Stanley F. Krutcik, Pastor**  
[frstanley@stchristopherparishworcester.org](mailto:frstanley@stchristopherparishworcester.org)

**Deacon Van Nguyen**

**Religious Education Office**  
**Kim Fitzpatrick - Coordinator**  
 508-853-3302  
[religiouslyused@stchristopherparishworcester.org](mailto:religiouslyused@stchristopherparishworcester.org)

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA)  
 508-853-1492

**James Joinville – Music Director**

**Clesson Dupuis - Business Manager**  
[busmgr@stchristopherparishworcester.org](mailto:busmgr@stchristopherparishworcester.org)

**Cindy Barnaby**  
 Administrative Assistant  
[adminasst@stchristopherparishworcester.org](mailto:adminasst@stchristopherparishworcester.org)

**John Slik - Building & Maintenance**

**Leo Pedone - Bingo Chairman**

*We thank you for visiting us!*

If you wish to become a parishioner of St. Christopher's, please see Fr. Stanley after Mass for a parish registration form.





## Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

Saturday, January 15<sup>th</sup>

4:00pm Pauline Bruchmann, Birthday Remembrance,  
by Family

Sunday, January 16<sup>th</sup>

8:00am Alice Muscarella, 16<sup>th</sup> Anniversary,  
by Family

10:00am For our Parish Family

Monday, January 17<sup>th</sup>

9:00am Mass

Tuesday, January 18<sup>th</sup>

No Mass

Wednesday, January 19<sup>th</sup>

No Mass

Thursday, January 20<sup>th</sup>

9:00am Mass

Friday, January 21<sup>st</sup>

9:00am Mass

## Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

Saturday, January 22<sup>nd</sup>

4:00pm **For an end to abortion and  
an increased respect for human life**

Sunday, January 23<sup>rd</sup>

8:00am Mass

10:00am Phyllis Carrigan,  
by St. Christopher's Bingo

### **Pro-Life Mass with Bishop McManus** **Cathedral of St. Paul, 38 High St., Worcester** **Thursday, January 20<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m.**

All are invited to attend this annual Mass for Life held on the eve of the March for Life as we remember the 49th tragic anniversary of Roe v. Wade and pray for an end to abortion and the conversion of our nation.



### **HELP WANTED—MANY OPENINGS!** **ST. CHRISTOPHER'S PRAYER LINE**

**TIME REQUIRED—NOT MUCH,  
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COMPENSATION—"OUT OF THIS WORLD"**

Help enlarge our prayer line. Are you willing to take private time in prayer for others in need? Call Ken Butler at 508-852-0127 for more information.



Please consider joining. Also, do you know of someone in need of prayers? We just need the person's first name and the nature of the problem.

**Remember, someday YOU may be the one in need!**

### ***My dear brothers and sisters in the Lord,***

January 22, 2022 marks the 49th anniversary of the tragic *Roe v. Wade* Supreme Court decision which, with its companion case *Doe v. Bolton*, legalized abortion throughout all nine months of pregnancy in every state in the nation. The *General Instruction of the Roman Missal* (n. 373), designates **Saturday, January 22** as a particular day of prayer and penance, called the "Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children". All the faithful in dioceses throughout the United States of America are called to observe this day in a spirit of prayer for the full restoration of the legal guarantee of the right to life and of penance for the violations to the dignity of the human person committed through acts of abortion.

Forty-nine years of legalized abortion in this country has left an incomprehensible aftermath. With over 63 million lives lost, and countless women and men, mothers and fathers, grandparents, siblings, and friends who have been deeply wounded physically, emotionally, and spiritually by this tragedy, we need now more than ever to re-commit ourselves to defending life. I encourage our diocesan parishes and institutions, and all the faithful, to observe reverently the **Day of Prayer and Penance on January 22nd** both personally and within your communities. Fervent prayer is especially needed in light of the possible overturning of *Roe v. Wade* in the *Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health* case currently before the U.S. Supreme Court. At stake is a Mississippi law banning abortions after 15 weeks. The Supreme Court is expected to issue its ruling in June. (More information about this landmark case can be found at [prayfordobbs.com](http://prayfordobbs.com).) Let us unite our hearts and minds through special acts of prayer, fasting, and sacrifice on this day and in the months to come, to uphold the inherent dignity of all human life from conception to natural death.

As we reflect on this unspeakable tragedy, we also recall how the Church for many years has continued to reach out to those who have been so sadly affected by the culture of death, particularly through ministries providing aid to women and families in crisis pregnancies, offering the healing love and mercy of Christ to those wounded by abortion through the ministry of Project Rachel, and by continuing to teach and preach the truth and beauty about love and life that bring authentic freedom and happiness. It is through our prayers, charitable works, and loving sacrifices that the culture can be transformed.

Let us take this opportunity of the January 22nd Day of Prayer and Penance to renew our resolve to live and proclaim the Gospel of Life. May we respond generously to the challenge Saint Pope John Paul II put forth in *Evangelium vitae*: "A great prayer for life is urgently needed, a prayer which will rise up throughout the world. May an impassioned plea rise to God, the Creator and Lover of life, from the heart of every believer." Our active participation in the shared commitment to the sacredness of human life and the dignity of the human person will, with God's grace, truly work toward the building up of a Culture of Life and a Civilization of Love.

With every prayerful best wish, I remain  
Sincerely yours in Christ,  
**Most Reverend Robert J. McManus**  
Bishop of Worcester

**Sunday, January 16<sup>th</sup>**

No Religious Education classes this weekend.  
Grade 2 will make their First Penance  
at a future date to be determined.

\*\*\*\*\*

**Monday, January 17<sup>th</sup> (MLK Day)**

The Confirmation Retreat has been postponed  
to a future date to be determined.

\*\*\*\*\*

**Sunday, January 23<sup>rd</sup>**

**Grade 2 only** will meet from 9:00-10:00 a.m.

**Grades 1, 4-9 and Grade 10 Confirmation Class**  
will meet from 11:00 a.m.– 12:15 p.m.

**Reminder for Weekday Morning Masses . . .**



**Weekday morning Mass will be cancelled in the case of inclement weather whenever Worcester schools have a delay or cancellation.**

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*Day of Prayer for the*  
**LEGAL PROTECTION OF UNBORN CHILDREN**

**Online Reading Resources for the Observance of the January 22<sup>nd</sup> Day of Prayer and Penance**

- 1) Learn more about abortion and many other life issues through the articles in the U.S. Bishops' annual Respect Life Program at [www.respectlife.org](http://www.respectlife.org).
- 2) Take some time during the month of January to read and reflect on Pope John Paul II's encyclical Evangelium vitae (The Gospel of Life). A new study guide is available at [www.respectlife.org](http://www.respectlife.org).

***"Behold, I stand at the door and knock . . ."***



It's time.  
Time to learn more about your Faith.  
It's time to experience what our religious 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 coming up for early 2022:

**Women's Weekend**—Thurs., Feb. 3<sup>rd</sup> to Sun., Feb. 6<sup>th</sup>  
**Men's Weekend**—Thurs., Mar. 17<sup>th</sup> to Sun., Mar. 20<sup>th</sup>

Visit [www.fourthday.org](http://www.fourthday.org) and download an application or call Pam Hamilton at 774-239-8909 for information.

**Find Healing after an Abortion**

***Are you or someone you know hurting from a past abortion?***

Project Rachel can help. Call in strictest confidence—508-791-HOPE(4673) or visit [www.hopeafterabortion.com](http://www.hopeafterabortion.com) to learn more.



***Please pray for those who have been wounded by abortion . . . that they may experience God's mercy and healing.***

***This Week***

**Sunday, January 16<sup>th</sup>**

NO Religious Education Classes  
NO First Penance (Grade 2)  
NO Religious Education Office Hours

**Monday, January 17<sup>th</sup> (Martin Luther King Day)**

NO Confirmation Retreat  
Wachusett Community Band Practice

**Tuesday, January 18<sup>th</sup>**

Religious Education Office Hours

**Thursday, January 20<sup>th</sup>**

Diocesan Pro-Life Mass with Bishop McManus

**Friday, January 21<sup>st</sup>**

Bingo (Call Leo at 508-853-9492 to volunteer to help)

**Sunday, January 23<sup>rd</sup>**

Religious Education Class (Grade 2)  
Religious Education Classes (Grades 1, 4-9 & Confirmation)  
Religious Education Office Hours

6:30-8:30pm	Church Hall
5:30-7:30pm	Religious Ed. Office
7:00pm	St. Paul Cathedral, Worcester
7:00pm (Doors open at 4:30pm)	Church Hall
9:00-10:00am	Church Hall
11:00am-12:15pm	Church Hall
11:00am-1:00pm	Religious Ed. Office



Weekly Goal:	\$ 3,287
Weekend of January 1 <sup>st</sup> & 2 <sup>nd</sup> :	\$ 2 620
Deficit:	(\$ 667)
Holy Day—Solemnity of Mary:	\$ 171
Renovation & Maintenance:	\$ 209
Catholic University of America:	\$ 54
Air Conditioning (to date):	\$20,750

Year-to-Date Budget (FY 9/1/21-8/31/22): \$59,166  
 Year-to Date Collections: 44,721  
 Year-to Date Electronic Payments: 10,256  
 Year-to Date Deficit: (\$4,189)

**Thank you for your continued support!**



*“To each individual the manifestation of the Spirit is given for some benefit.”*  
 ~1 Corinthians 12:7

St. Paul tells us that God has blessed each of us for a reason. How has God blessed you? Are you using your gifts according to God’s plan? How are you helping to build God’s kingdom here on earth? Remember that if you don’t do the work God planned for you, no one else can do it. Live the life God has intended for you. Take time to discern your charisms (gifts from the Holy Spirit). Experience the supernatural Peace and Joy God desires for each of us.

**“NINE DAYS FOR LIFE” NOVENA**  
**Wednesday, January 19<sup>th</sup>-Thursday, January 27<sup>th</sup>**

Visit [www.9daysforlife.com](http://www.9daysforlife.com) to sign up for daily email messages during the novena, or text “9days” to 55000.



**The winner for week 5 (1/10/22):**  
**#20 — Carol Wolfe**

**Also, we have three (3) numbers available in the 50/50 Club! If you would like to join, or would like an extra number to play, please call or email the rectory. It’s fun to play and your participation is a great help to the parish! Thank you!**

God delights in you. How do you feel when you hear that? Delight usually comes with an exuberant flow of joy that seemingly arises from one’s toes with the expression of great glee.



Reflecting upon the deep measure of joy God has in us can be a source of joy for ourselves. Delight is infectious. A very young brother and sister were playing on the beach when the all too familiar ice cream truck made its daily rounds. The boy shook with excitement and delight as he took his sister’s hand and exclaimed, “The ice cream man is here, isn’t it great!” As they ran off toward the truck, one could hear the girl reply, “Yeah, I can’t wait!” The experience of a child’s delight in something so simple as ice cream, lifts our spirits from our burdens and transports us to the lighter, more innocent side of life.

Life is not meant to be a burden. Believe it or not, God actually wants us to be happy! In fact, the wedding feast at Cana shows us that God even puts His blessing on our happiness. It is okay to celebrate the wonder of ourselves and others. Life is good. It is always interesting to note that Jesus saves the good wine until last. You would think it would be the other way around. The superb quality of Jesus’ wine points to the superior quality of life we find in Christ. It is not a life of burdens but a life of wonder and delight! In Christ, we are lifted from the superficial and mundane to a life of purpose, hope, and love.

God is with us through the long haul, through the challenges and sorrows as well as the successes and accomplishments. In spite of the fact that we often wander from the path, God’s celebratory delight in us remains. As spouses are asked to remain faithful to each other through whatever life brings, God remains faithful too. This promise remains through this life and into the next. All we have to do is take the advice of Jesus’ mother to heart when she says, “Listen to him.” This wisdom saves us from foolishly giving in to the illusion that we can make better wine than Jesus.

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**Tax Contribution Statements for 2021**



Tax contribution statements will be available to those parishioners who wish to have a total of their 2021 parish contributions.

To request a tax contribution statement, please email the parish office or call during office hours. Also, if you do not currently receive parish offertory envelopes by mail and wish to do so, please email or call the parish office.

## SUNDAY'S READINGS

### FIRST READING:

As a young man marries a virgin,  
your Builder shall marry you;  
and as a bridegroom rejoices in his bride  
so shall your God rejoice in you. (Is 62:5)

### PSALM:

Proclaim his marvelous deeds to all the nations. (Ps 96)

### SECOND READING:

But one and the same Spirit produces all of these,  
distributing them individually to each person as he  
wishes. (1 Cor 12:11)

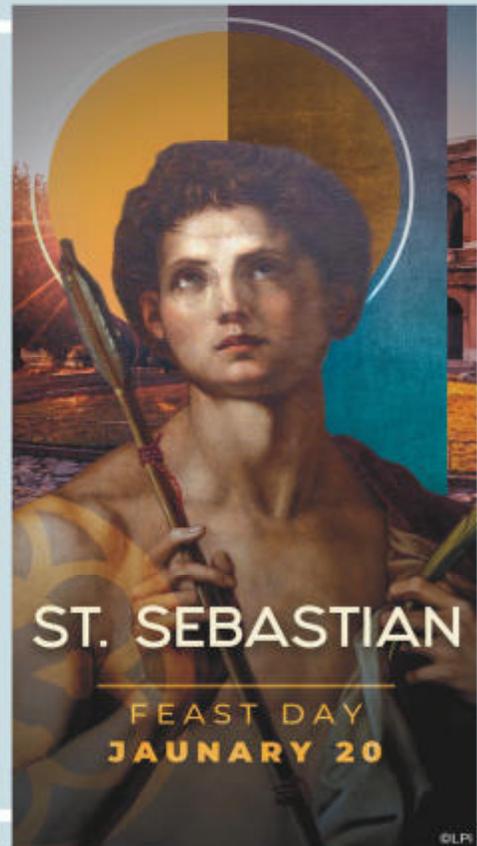
### GOSPEL:

Jesus did this as the beginning of his signs at Cana in Galilee  
and so revealed his glory,  
and his disciples began to believe in him. (Jn 2:11)

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### OBSERVANCES FOR THE WEEK OF JANUARY 16, 2022

Sunday: 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time  
Monday: Martin Luther King Day; St. Anthony, Abbot  
Tuesday: Week of Prayer for Christian Unity  
Thursday: St. Fabian, Pope and Martyr; St. Sebastian, Martyr  
Friday: St. Agnes, Virgin and Martyr  
Saturday: Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children  
Next Sunday: 3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time; St. Vincent,  
Deacon and Martyr; St. Marianne Cope, Virgin



## Saint of the Week

Not much is known about the life of St. Sebastian (256 – 287), except that he was a Roman martyr whose name has been mentioned throughout history since early 350.

We see St. Sebastian many times in art, especially from iconic paintings from Guido Reni, Andrea Mantegna and Hendrick ter Brugghen. Historical scholars now agree that a spiritual story has the beloved saint entering the Roman army because only there could he assist Christian martyrs without arousing suspicion on himself. Eventually he was found out, brought before Emperor Diocletian and delivered to Mauritanian archers to be shot to death. Pierced with arrows, he was left for dead, but managed to survive. He recovered from his wounds but still refused to leave.

One day, St. Sebastian took up a position near where the emperor was to pass. He confronted the emperor, condemning him for his cruelty to Christians. This time the sentence of death was carried out, and St. Sebastian was beaten to death with clubs. Today he is the patron saint of athletes.

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