



THE HOLY FAMILY



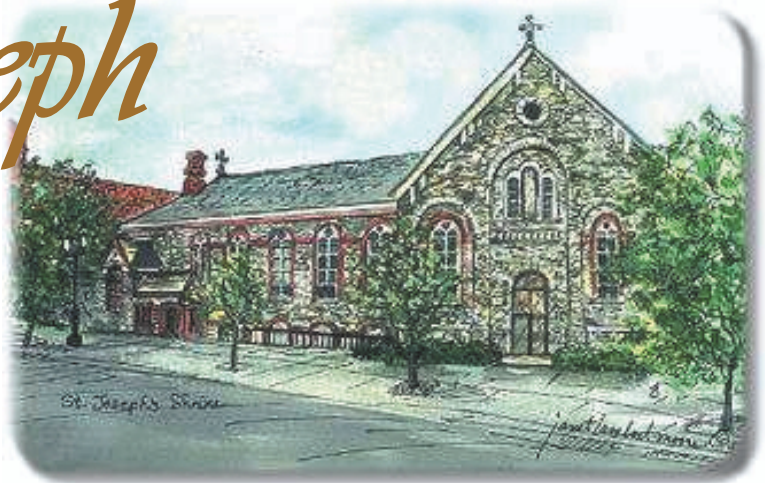
He went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was obedient to them; and his mother kept all these things in her heart. And Jesus advanced in wisdom and age and favor before God and man. - Lk 2:51-52

St. Joseph

The Worker Shrine

37 Lee Street
Lowell, Massachusetts 01852

Office: 978-458-6346
Fax: 978-441-0963



Saint Joseph the Worker Shrine is a place of prayer, reflection, and social action undertaken in the spirit of Jesus Christ and Saint Eugene de Mazenod, founder of the Missionary Oblates of Mary Immaculate. Our mission is based on Matthew 11:28,

“Come to me, all you who labor and are overburdened, and I will give you rest.”

St. Joseph the Worker Shrine is a ministry of the Missionary Oblates of Mary Immaculate, United States Province.

Shrine Resources

Shrine Staff

Fr. Michael Amesse, OMI - Shrine Director
Fr. Stephen Conserva, OMI
Fr. Eugene Tremblay, OMI
Fr. Ron Meyer, OMI

Bro. Craig Bonham, OMI, Business Manager
David Orlando, Staff Accountant
Aurea Torres, Gift Shop Manager
Ed Wilk, Office Manager/Bulletin Editor

Masses

Weekdays: 8 AM, 12 Noon & 5:30 PM
Saturday: 8 AM, 12 Noon, & 4 PM
Sunday at 8 AM, 10 AM, & 12 Noon

Confessions:

Weekdays: 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM & 4:30 - 5:15 PM
Saturday: 10 AM - 1 PM

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

Saturdays and each First Friday after the noon Mass (approx. 12:45 PM) and ending with Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament before the evening Mass. **Anointing** after all Masses on First Saturdays.

Holy Days, Holidays & Special Masses are announced.

Shrine Business Office

(978) 458-6346 X 215

Oblate Historical Museum

The Museum's hours are Saturday, 10 AM - 2 PM; Sunday 8:30 - 11:30 AM, and by appointment. Please call the office for details.

Gift Shop & Bookstore

Monday - Saturday:
9 AM - 5 PM

(978) 459-9522 or Toll Free (800) 287-9522

Fax: (978) 323-0763

Offering a variety of quality religious giftware, cards & books to support the practice of the Catholic faith at home and at work.

Visit us on the Web:

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Email us at:

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Prayerline@stjosephshrine.org

Giftshop@stjosephshrine.org

[Facebook/saintjosephtheworkershrinelowell](https://www.facebook.com/saintjosephtheworkershrinelowell)



Mass Intentions

Dec. 25, 2021 - Jan. 2, 2022

- Saturday December 25, 2021**
 8:00 All Shrine Benefactors
 10:00 Living and
 12:00 Deceased
- Sunday December 26, 2021**
 8:00 Edward & Ann Wilk - deceased
 10:00 Claire T. Ouimette & Claire C. Lannon
 12:00 Thomas & Evelyn LaBelle
- Monday December 27, 2021**
 8:00 Shirley P. Dalphond
 12:00 George Moore
 5:30 George Moore
- Tuesday December 28, 2021**
 8:00 Fr. Jim Fee, OMI - living
 12:00 Rene J. Bedard - deceased
 5:30 Fr. Terry O'Connell OMI - deceased
- Wednesday December 29, 2021**
 8:00 Winnifred Ryan - deceased
 12:00 Shrine Benefactors
 5:30 Patrick Kelleher
- Thursday December 30, 2021**
 8:00 Lydia Amparo - deceased
 12:00 Linda Fitzpatrick - living
 5:30 Joyce C. Corey - deceased
- Friday December 31, 2021**
 8:00 Holy Souls in Purgatory
 12:00 St. Joseph the Worker Shrine Staff
 5:30 Missionary Oblates of Mary Immaculate
- Saturday January 1, 2022**
 8:00 The Holy Souls in Purgatory
 10:00 Ramos Family
- Sunday January 2, 2022**
 8:00 Alba Rojas - deceased
 10:00 Christy Nuñez - living
 12:00 Alba Rojas - deceased



Note - The Business Office and the Gift Shop/Bookstore will be closed Monday, January 3rd, to observe the New Year's Day holiday.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Thank you for your contributions!

We thank you for your generous support of St. Joseph the Worker Shrine and of the Missionary Oblates of Mary Immaculate.

Week Ending:	December 12, 2021
Weekend Total:	\$3,117.00
Weekday Total:	\$2,289.39
Total Offertory:	\$5,406.39
WeShare Total:	\$849.00

Music For Sunday, Dec. 26, 2021

CHOIR 8AM.

Entrance #91 Hark! The Herald Angels Sing
 Offertory #71 Bread of Life
 Communion #94 What Child is This
 Sending Forth #102 Go Tell it on the Mountain

4PM/10AM/12PM

Entrance #91 Hark! The Herald Angels Sing
 Offertory #94 What Child is This
 Communion #93 Child of the Poor
 #484 Love Has Come
 Sending Forth #82 Angels We Have Heard on High

Readings for the week of December 26, 2021

Sunday: Sir 3:2-6, 12-14/Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5 [cf. 1]/Col 3:12-21 or 3:12-17/Lk 2:41-52 or 1 Sm 1:20-22, 24-28/Ps 84:2-3, 5-6, 9-10 [cf. 5a]/1 Jn 3:1-2, 21-24/Lk 2:41-52

Monday: 1 Jn 1:1-4/Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12 [12]/Jn 20:1a, 2-8

Tuesday: 1 Jn 1:5—2:2/Ps 124:2-3, 4-5, 7b-8 [7]/Mt 2:13-18

Wednesday: 1 Jn 2:3-11/Ps 96:1-2a, 2b-3, 5b-6 [11a]/Lk 2:22-35

Thursday: 1 Jn 2:12-17/Ps 96:7-8a, 8b-9, 10 [11a]/Lk 2:36-40

Friday: 1 Jn 2:18-21/Ps 96:1-2, 11-12, 13 [11a]/Jn 1:1-18

Saturday: m 6:22-27/Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8 [2a]/Gal 4:4-7/Lk 2:16-21

Next Sunday: Is 60:1-6/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13 [cf. 11]/Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6/Mt 2:1-12

**Solemnity of Mary
The Holy Mother of God
January 1st**

"He was named Jesus, the name given him by the angel before he was conceived in the womb." (Luke 2:16-21)



The Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God is a liturgical feast of the Blessed Virgin Mary honoring her divine motherhood of Jesus Christ. It is celebrated by the Catholic Church on 1 January, the Octave (8th) day of the

Christmas season. For Roman Catholics, this day is designated as a Holy Day of Obligation, when not observed on Saturday or Monday. This feast is a celebration of Mary's motherhood of Jesus. The title "Mother of God" is a western derivation from the Greek: Theotokos, the God-bearer. The term was adopted at the First Council of Ephesus as a way to assert the Divinity of Christ, from which it follows that what is predicated of Christ is predicated of God.

So, if Mary is the mother of Jesus, she is the Mother of God. Therefore, the title "Mother of God" and the "Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God", which celebrates her under this title, are at once both Mariological and Christological.

From: catholic.org

God does not love us because we're valuable.
We're valuable because God loves us.

**Joseph most chaste,
Pray for us!**

~ Litany of St. Joseph



**Pope Francis' prayer intention
for December is for catechists.**



Let us pray for the catechists, summoned to announce the Word of God: may they be its witnesses, with courage and creativity and in the Power of the Holy Spirit.



The anti-religious activities of the French government caused them to attack you and inflict much suffering on you. You never wavered in the cause of justice and were strengthened in your defense of the Church by the constant grace of the Saviour.

- St. Eugene, guide us to the Savior in our time of need!

~ Litany of St. Eugene de Mazenod

Feast of the Holy Family

December 26th

The day gives Christian parents an opportunity to pray that their family life may be blessed by the Holy Spirit. Family life becomes sanctified when parents carry out St. John Chrysostom's plea to make each home a family church.

Christ could have come to earth in any number of ways, yet God chose to send His Son as a Child born into a family. In so doing, He set the Holy Family as an example for us all, and made the Christian family more than a natural institution. In this prayer, we ask God to keep the example of the Holy Family always before us, so that we will imitate them in our family life.



Prayer In Honor of the Holy Family

O God, Heavenly Father, it was part of Your eternal decree that Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, the Savior of the human race, should form a holy family with Mary, His blessed mother, and His foster father, Saint Joseph. In Nazareth, home life was sanctified, and a perfect example was given to every Christian family. Grant that we may fully comprehend and faithfully imitate the virtues of the Holy Family so that we may be united with them one day in their heavenly glory. Through the same Christ our Lord. Amen.

Shrine New Year's Mass Schedule

**Solemnity of Mary
The Holy
Mother of God**

New Year's Eve: Friday, December 31st
Vigil Mass at 5:30pm

New Year's Day: Saturday, January 1, 2022
Masses at 8:00 and 10:00am only



From the Director's Desk

December 26, 2021



"The Body of Christ!" "Amen!"

Yesterday, thousands of people uttered "Amen." Father, the deacon, the archbishop, or an extraordinary minister of the Eucharist offered a host to a billion or so Catholics. The Host (Jesus Christ) offered himself to God the Father at Mass. The Father then offered the Lord to us, at the time of communion.

For he is the true and eternal Priest, who instituted the pattern of an everlasting sacrifice and was the first to offer himself as the saving Victim, commanding us to make this offering as his memorial.

As we eat his flesh that was sacrificed for us, we are made strong, and, as we drink his Blood that was poured out for us, we are washed clean.

Our Savior gave us his flesh to make us strong; his Blood to cleanse our body and soul. Oh, what a gift! The Mass is where Christ offers himself as he did on Holy Thursday. The Last Supper, however different, was the same sacrifice of Calvary. One sacrifice - 2 ways of offering.

In order to understand this, we must realize that which we say before coming to communion...*Lord I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof.* Why are we not worthy? We are unable to offer ourselves to God and others, perfectly.

Jesus offered himself at Calvary and in the Upper room, for the forgiveness of sins. His gift, his very self, is the nourishment we need to do likewise.

As St. John wrote, *if we say, "we are without sin," we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.* Sin is an offense against God. Yesterday, and for the next 12 days, we will strengthen that idea of how God came to save us by taking on our flesh. Then, as the days get longer, as we slowly but surely head towards spring, we will understand the reason Jesus was born. *By his wounds we have been healed.*

I remember you at Mass.

Come to the Stable

Thank You!

During the Advent/Christmas Season, some 60 or more Shrine patrons, including 2 groups of Daughters of St. Paul from Jamaica Plain, CAME TO visit THE STABLE (S) on display in the Oblate Historical Museum. Br. Richard Côté, OMI, Curator, says this was an exemplary time compared to last year when Covid kept people at bay. Thank you to all who left free-will donations that will enable Br. Richard to continue the display. He wishes to acknowledge the following who donated Nativity sets over the past several years:

Joan Hynek, Imelda Gosselin, Rachel Geoffroy, Randy Blodgett, Nancy Nugenet-Harley, Lillian Michaud, Br. Charles Gilbert, OMI, Fr. Norman Parent, OMI, Immaculata Retreat House, Willimantic CT, Our Lady of Grace Shrine, Colebrook, NH, Oblate Foreign Missions, Lowell, MA, St. Joseph the Worker Shrine patrons and 13 donors who wish to remain anonymous. The Nativities will remain on display until January 9th.



Please take this opportunity to see a truly unique collection of nativity sets obtained by Oblate missionaries throughout the world!

Calendar Blessing

God of endless ages, You are the blessing of our history, the grace of our present and the hope of our future. The blessings of our past establish us in the present and give us confidence to entrust to your Divine Providence what is yet to be in the coming days of our lives. Give us wisdom of heart to always number our days in all of their limitations such that we may serve You generously throughout the moments of each day. We give to You our unfinished tasks, our unsolved problems and our unfulfilled hopes - knowing that only that which You bless can ever prosper. The unformed days of the year 2022 are now hidden from us, but they belong to You. May our days and seasons to come glorify You, so that from the days of our mortal lives, we may come to that eternal day that has no end in You. Bless the New Year before us in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.



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