



THE CATHOLIC COMMUNITY OF SACRED HEART

A Stephen Ministry Parish

187 Hopedale St.

Hopedale, MA 01747

508-473-1900 parishoffice@sacredheartopedale.org

www.sacredheartopedale.org

Becoming and Making Disciples, Welcoming all to Follow Jesus Christ.

November 29, 2020

First Sunday of Advent

Mass Schedule

Saturday Vigil – 4PM

Sunday – 9:30AM

Monday – Thursday 9AM

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Pastoral Team & Staff

Fr. William Konicki, IV Dei, Pastor
508-981-4611 (cell)

Deacon Tom Tierney,
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Pam Chaplin, Ministry & Operations Mgr
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Darlene Page Administrative Assistant
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Tina Buckley Administrative Assistant
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Lee Maleno
Youth Faith Formation Coordinator
lmaleno@sacredheartopedale.org

Joe Calabrese-Maintenance

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Parish Office Hours

Monday-Thursday

9:30am – 4:30pm

NEVER MISS MASS AGAIN!



Sunday 9:30 AM

sacredheartopedale.org/mass-video

Watch Mass on Cable TV

Verizon Fios Channel 29,

Comcast Channel 8

Thursdays & Sundays—8:30am & 10:30am

ALL ARE WELCOME

All people are welcome at Sacred Heart. Regardless of your experience of Church, regardless of your marital state, regardless of your personal history, back-ground or sexual orientation. Please know that you are invited, accepted and respected at Sacred Heart.



Dear Fellow Parishioners,

How comforting it is to slow down, be still, surrender to the cold of winter and gather these next four weeks around our Advent Wreath. Allow yourself a stress-free month of December in preparation of the birth of Christ anew in your heart, your hearth, your household. Being free of parties, gatherings, shopping, hustle, bustle, harried activity and breathing in the opportunity to really enter the true meaning of the Advent Season, is one of the best gifts we can give, and receive during this pandemic.

There is something mesmerizing and hypnotizing that happens when we look at each candle of the wreath being lighted and getting brighter as Christmas draws near. The days get colder and darker, yet the wreath becomes brighter and warmer in the glow of the awakening spirit of the Word-made-flesh!

My wreath is in the center of my dining room table. I light it when I sit for my supper meal, and before I do I sing a verse of O Come O Come Immanuel, or O Radiant Light; calling on the presence of the long awaited Messiah to dine with me. As I do, I reflect on the times Jesus dined with so many: Martha, Mary and Lazarus, Zacchaeus, the Pharisees. He dined with the disciples many times - especially at the Last Supper; and of course, the many peoples assembled at the multiplication of the loaves and fishes and on the Road to Emmaus where the disciples recognized him in the breaking of the bread! Imagine, taking the time to invite Jesus to dine with you and your family! And more often than not, Jesus listened to those who were at table with him, rather than doing all the talking. What a wonderful gift, to have an opportunity as individuals or family to share what lies in your heart as a prayer to Jesus. I think of all the times Jesus says, "What can I do for you?" Lord, that I may see, that I may hear, that I may walk! Each day take the time to be in conversation with the Lord; but most important, open your heart to LISTEN to His presence.

Don't miss the opportunity this pandemic offers us to slow down, be still, surrender to the cold of winter and gather these next four weeks around our Advent Wreath. I am sure you will be glad you did!

Fr. Bill

REMEMBER
in your prayers

Rita Coffey
Mary Bacon
Nelson Clement
Charles Lee
Matthew Masnik
Rita O'Brien
Karen Walker
Alberta Lachina
Regina Espanet
Henry Ruggiero
Claudette Hughes
Philip Morin
Betty Morin
Shirley Lapointe
Michael DeLoia Jr
Joan Moss
Virginia Larkin
Dorothy Gately
Concetta Conciatori
Francine Doyle



SANCTUARY LAMP
Rose Thibault

MASS INTENTIONS

11/28: 4pm: Barbara Callery
11/29: 9:30a: Margaret Keniston
11/30: 9a: Wayne Murray

MASS ATTENDANCE

11/22/20

Due to early bulletin transmittal date the Mass Attendance for 11/22 will be included in the 12/6 bulletin.



WEEKLY COLLECTIONS

11/15/20

Weekly:
\$4,836.00

Monthly:
\$1,025.00

Fuel, Utilities, Etc
\$10.00

SH Endowment Fund
\$150.00

Due to early bulletin transmittal date the Collection report for 11/22 will be included in the 12/6 bulletin.



Did you know?



We all need to reduce water use during recurring droughts. Brushing your teeth with water running wastes up to 5 gallons.

What you can do

Turn water off while brushing and only keep the water on while rinsing a toothbrush.

Message Shaper's Corner

Advent-ually

What do you need most this Christmas? The holidays are full of many things to keep you busy — family, friends, gifts, and parties. Juggling these competing priorities can feel challenging and stressful. And add figuring out how to celebrate virtually! But God wants to sustain you with his joy as you go through the highs and lows of the holiday season. Of all the seasons of the church year, Advent most closely mirrors the daily lives of Christians and of the church.

Reflection Questions

- ◆ Adults: How do describe the image of God the Father?
- ◆ Kids: What does God the Father look like?

While in Church:

- At all times wear a mask covering your mouth and nose.
- Sit only in pews with the signs that read "sit here".
- When you are the first to enter a pew please sit in the middle of the pew. This will allow room for everyone without having to climb over anyone.

If you have any suggestions or questions on keeping everyone safe and healthy please reach out to the Parish Office.

Funerals: Funeral Masses may be celebrated with the same restrictions as for any Mass, including social distancing and liturgical adaptations.

Weddings

The Sacrament of Matrimony may be celebrated with the same restrictions as for any Mass, including the appropriate provisions for social distancing and liturgical adaptations.

Baptisms: Only individual Baptisms may be celebrated with a prudent limitation on the number of people present and the requisite considerations for social distancing. All rites should take place with the family remaining in the pew. Either the parents **or** godparents approach the font while carrying the child and then, after the explanatory rites, return to their pew. All who are present wear masks throughout, with the exception of the child to be baptized.

Our parish follows the guidelines of the national Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People approved by the US Bishops and the Diocese of Worcester in screening those who work with children in our care and in helping victims of abuse find healing. If you or someone you know has been sexually abused by a Church employee or volunteer in the past, please contact the Victim Assistance Coordinator for our diocese at 508-929-4363 (direct line & confidential voicemail). If you are concerned about a current case of abuse, please contact the local civil authorities immediately.

Parish News

Have the best Advent Ever!

- ◆ Advent candles for home use will be available in the front of the church. A prayer for the lighting of each candle is included.
- ◆ Advent devotionals are available in the vestibule for anyone to pick up...please help yourself!
- ◆ Visit DynamicCatholic.com to participate in "The Best Advent Ever".
- ◆ **The Virtual Giving Tree** is will be located on the parish website. Please return your gift under the tree in the vestibule.
- ◆ **Reverse Advent Calendar**—Add the item on our Advent Calendar into a box and then bring the contents of the box to Sacred Heart at the end of each week.
- ◆ Give yourself the gift of SILENCE—**Candlelight Eucharistic Adoration**—Join Deacon Tom each Monday for Scripture reading and Eucharistic Adoration
- ◆ 12/21—Outdoor **Communal Reconciliation Service**—prepare your hearts for Christmas.

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Our Community & the Coronavirus

When coming to church, please keep your mask on at all times. Make sure your mask is covering your mouth and nose.

- ◆ Continue to watch **Fr. Bill's Briefs**—daily on our Facebook page
- ◆ Weekly Sunday Masses will continued to be **live streamed** at 9:30a on our website under Worship and Mass Video. Miss the live stream? All videos are available after 10:00a to watch at your convenience.
- ◆ The **parish office remains closed** to the public until further notice. Please call or email the parish office for service.
- ◆ **Mass Cards** are still available by calling or emailing the parish office. We will arrange pick up or mailing. parishoffice@sacredhearthopedale.org
508-473-1900.

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As a nonprofit organization, Sacred Heart relies on the weekly collection to pay our bills, including payroll. During this crisis are donations have decreased about 25%.

We understand during this time of uncertainty you may not be able to continue your normal commitment, however any amount you contribute will help to assist us in meeting our payroll and other obligations.

Parishioners can donate online through our website, under the Connect banner, place in basket at mass or mail to the parish house.

Our Monthly financial reports can be accessed under the connect banner on our website as well. <https://sacredhearthopedale.org/monthly-financial-reports>



Stewardship Renewal

Don't Forget to Turn in Your Commitment Card! Returning your card is an important part of being an active member of The Catholic Community of Sacred Heart.

Please take this opportunity to express your support for our parish!

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Upcoming Faith Formation

K-6: November 22 & 29: Parents and children will do this weeks digital Pflaum lesson at home.

7th & 8th Grade: November 22 - Trinity Module class 1, Hall. No class **November 29**

Confirmation II: December 6 - Session 3, Hall

Confirmation I: Session 3, Sunday, **December 12**, 5-7p in the hall.

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Twice Blessed Thrift Shop During the Covid-19 Pandemic the Sacred Heart Church Thrift Shop will remain closed for the Fall until further notice. Our thoughts and prayers go out to all who are directly impacted as well as the First Responders and Essential Workers.

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Facing Fear with Jesus in a COVID-19 World

Our country faces a host of fears: sickness and death from a worldwide pandemic, job, and financial loss, loneliness, and radical changes in our society. But the storm that surrounds us is nothing that we cannot handle with Jesus' help. He is not asleep in our boat. Explore eight concrete tips from the Bible, the Saints, and our Catholic Faith. The session includes prayer, reflection, small group sharing, and presentations. Speakers: John and Therese Boucher, teachers and authors of hundreds of articles and many books. **Tuesday, December 8, 7:00-9:00 pm**

FREE REGISTRATION (limited spaces available)! Send an email with your name, email, and phone number to Esperanza Oliveras, cje21@verizon.net, by Monday, December 7, 2020, to receive the Zoom.com video session link. (Hosted by the Parish Renewal and Evangelization Committee, Diocese of Worcester.)

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For Adults during Advent

"A Time Will Come for Singing" is a four-session program for adults during Advent. Each weekly session will be online and will include a brief lesson and prayer, a short Advent-related video, and closing comments and prayer. Twenty minutes tops - from your own laptop, tablet, or mobile phone! Login whenever you want to during each of the four weeks. Take a step back from the hectic pace of the holidays to reflect on the true reason for the season. FREE, but you must register ahead of time so you can receive a link each week. Contact Romeo Marquis, Director of Faith Formation, Blessed Sacrament Church, Worcester. Rmarquis48@outlook.com for details and to register.

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