A vibrant field of yellow tulips in full bloom, set against a bright yellow background with radiating sunbeams. The tulips are in various stages of opening, with some fully open and others as buds. The overall scene is bright and cheerful, symbolizing new life and resurrection.

Why do you look for
the living among
the dead?

He is not here
He Has Risen!

St. Roch Church

Luke 24:5

Mass Intentions for the Week

Saturday, April 4, 2015 Easter Vigil

7:30 PM All those Baptized this past year and their families

Sunday, April 5, 2015 Easter

8:30 AM Henry Smolenski by wife Frances

11:00 AM John (5th Anniv) & Angelina 'Julie' (11th Anniv) Lapomardo by the family

Monday, April 6, 2015

8:30 AM Living & Deceased Members of the Gentile & Miner families by Paula Miner & Ken Mills

Tuesday, April 7, 2015

8:30 AM Living & Deceased Members of the Gentile & Miner families by Paula Miner & Ken Mills

Wednesday, April 8, 2015

8:30 AM Living & Deceased Members of the Gentile & Miner families by Paula Miner & Ken Mills

Thursday, April 9, 2015

8:30 AM Living & Deceased Members of the Gentile & Miner families by Paula Miner & Ken Mills

Friday, April 10, 2015

8:30 AM Dominic Ricci by wife Alma

Saturday, April 11, 2015

4:00 PM George Cloutier, Sr. by the family

Sunday, April 12, 2015

8:30 AM The Varano Family by Frances Smolencki

11:00 AM Carmen Velasquez by the family

Scripture Readings

Sunday, April 5

Acts 10:34a, 37-43

Col 3:1-4, Jn 20:1-9

Monday, April 6

Acts 2:14, 22-33, Mt 28:8-15

Tuesday, April 7

Acts 2:36-41, Jn 20:11-18

Wednesday, April 8

Acts 3:1-10, Lk 24:13-35

Thursday, April 9

Acts 3:11-26

Lk 24:35-48

Friday, April 10

Acts 4:1-12

Jn 21:1-14

Saturday, April 11

Acts 4:13-21

Mk 16:9-15

Sunday, April 12

Acts 4:32-35

1 Jn 5:1-6

Jn 20:19-31



Thanks to all our parishioners who have made their gift to the 2015 Partners in Charity Annual Appeal. St. Roch's is 65% towards our goal of \$45,000. If you have not yet made a gift or pledge, please

fill out a commitment pledge envelope located at the entrances of the church. Or visit www.partners-charity.net. Partners in Charity is the Annual Appeal for the Diocese of Worcester, serving 28 charitable, educational, and pastoral ministries. Thank you!

Your Sacrificial Offering March 28 & 29

Offertory Envelopes (154)	\$3,857.50
Loose Money	490.00
Other sources of income	966.00
Total	5,313.50
Weekly Goal	5,881.00
Result	- 567.50

Thank You!



A second collection will be taken next weekend, **April 11th & 12th**, for **Fuel**. We thank you in advance for your generosity.

PARISH DIRECTORY

334 Main St., Oxford, MA 01540

Rectory Office(508) 987-8987

Fax (508) 987-8938

Religious Education Office.....(508) 987-2382

Pastor

Rev. Michael J. Roy

In Residence

Rev. Albert Irudayasamy

Deacon

Rev. Mr. Paul Connolly

Director of Religious Education

Mrs. Terry Ann Renaud

Administrative Assistant

Mrs. Teri Rawson

Email: trawson@parishmail.com

Director of Music

Ms. Anna Pizzolato

St. Vincent de Paul Society—Arlene (508) 987-2813

Cemetery—Contact rectory at (508) 987-8987



Mass Schedule

Saturday: 4:00 PM

Sunday: 8:30 & 11:00 AM

Weekday Masses: Monday ~ Friday 8:30 am

Confessions: 3:00 PM Saturday or anytime on request.



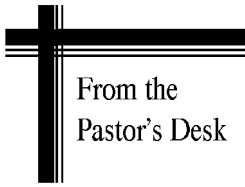
AMERICAN CHOP SUEY

may be dropped off in the church kitchen on **Monday, April 6th before 3:00 PM** or **Tuesday, April 7th before 10:00 AM**



PRAY FOR...

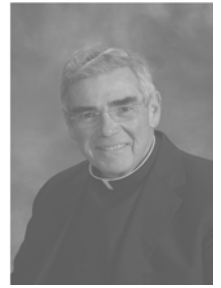
Kathy Perry, Owen Benway, Irene Richardson, Jane Lewicki, Anthony Nguyen, Judy Chiancola, Sean Cryan, Olga Brault, Barbara Swenson, Andrew Rivers, Connie Croteau, Chloe Barbara Jones, Fr. Robert Kelley, Ruth Andrzejczyk, James Butler Jr, Al Sinkis, Craig Ladd, Carol Violette, Raymond Joseph, Roseanne Ferlito, John & Bev Makowski, Rosellen Roy, Pat Shong, Maddy Desrosier, Phyllis Day, John Hickman, John Barton, Walter McCarthy, Stephen Rice, Debbie Byrne, Dale Mahota, Joel Winslow, Cindy Flores, Roger St. George, James Sumerlin, Julie Guertin, Timothy Bowes, Anita Prunier, Liz Iandolli, Ed Carpenter, Charlene White, Bob St. George, Victor Pizzolato, Ernest Lavallee.



From the
Pastor's Desk

The Readings for next Sunday, April 12, 2015

Acts of the Apostles 4:32-35
First Letter of Saint John 5:1-6
John 20:19-31



My dear parishioners,

It will be so good to once more proclaim **ALLELUIA!** In the penitential spirit of Lent we have refrained from this joyous exclamation. Honestly, I have found this to be a particularly profitable Lent. Using the book *33 Days to Morning Glory* and the daily morning sessions in preparation for the Consecration to Mary on March 25 has proven to be very worthwhile; a real blessing. Taking part in the Novena to St. Roch has also focused my prayer life and enriched my spirit. Along with the personal resolutions that I have made I am grateful for the opportunity I have kept these forty days leading up to Easter. All of that being said, I am very much aware, perhaps more than ever, of the benefit of next Sunday's observance of MERCY SUNDAY!

How continuously I am in need of the Lord's great mercy. My favorite definition of mercy is being treated better than we deserve. We grow into the likeness of Christ **slowly**. There is no such thing as permanent conversion. How persistent we need to be in battling the same old demons, but with the aid of God's grace and Mary's maternal care we continue to live with hope and do not give in to discouragement.

What cross are you asked to carry? Caring for a disabled spouse, coping with children battling addiction, your own failing health, persistent bouts of depression, struggling with alcoholism, a violent temper, same sex attraction, crippling fears, stubbornness and pride that won't let go of past hurts? You know the shape of your cross. Some are on the outside and some on the inside. Sometimes we shoulder them bravely and sometimes we stumble. Easter gives us hope. On Mercy Sunday we apply that hope to our own personal lives.

That Jesus died on Calvary and Rose on Easter Sunday is history. Realizing **He did it for me** is salvation.

The first saint that St. John Paul II canonized in the new millennium was St. Faustina who called herself Jesus' secretary as she carefully recorded the conversations she had with Jesus in her extraordinary apparitions that were granted to her because Jesus knew this age needed to hear this message of Divine Mercy. Listen to a few of His instructions.

"I desire trust from My creatures." He told Faustina, "Encourage souls to place great trust in My fathomless mercy. Let the weak, sinful soul have no fear to approach Me, for even if it had more sins than there are grains of sand in the world, all will be drowned in the immeasurable depths of My mercy.

"I have opened My Heart as a living fountain of mercy. Let all souls draw life from it. Let them approach this sea of mercy with great trust."

I hope that I will see you all there with the good people of our parish praising the Lord not only for His triumph over sin, Satan and death, but also for His deep, deep desire to share that victory in real ways with us by His mercifully shouldering our crosses side by side with us.



Let us continue to love one another,

Fr. Roy



My dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

“The joy of the Gospel fills the hearts of all who encounter Christ.” Pope Francis’ words were never more apt than on Easter when the women in the garden, the disciples on the road to Emmaus and the Apostles in the upper room encountered the Risen Christ. With that encounter, the grief, dismay and shock of Good Friday gave way to the joy of Easter. Filled with that joy, the women ran from the garden to tell the Apostles, the disciples returned to Jerusalem to spread the good news, and the Apostles, after being emboldened by the Holy Spirit, went out to the whole world to preach the Gospel.

At the beginning of Lent, Pope Francis warned us that indifference to God and to neighbor is a real danger in the modern world. The Holy Father urged us to use Lent as a time of interior renewal to reject indifference toward others and to shun a dangerous withdrawal into ourselves. Love, he wrote, conquers indifference.

The events of Holy Week and Easter commemorate history’s greatest act of love and our unflinching reason for hope. The death and Resurrection of Jesus Christ show us that good triumphs over evil, that redemption overcomes sin and that life and love outlast the shadow of earthly death. Celebrating these events in our liturgies, meditating upon them in our devotions and reflecting upon them in our prayer, we too encounter the Risen Christ and our reason for joy. God’s infinite love and mercy for us cannot leave us indifferent. Rather, the event of the Resurrection should compel us, like those who encounter the Risen Christ on Easter Sunday, to bring the joy of Easter and the good news of God’s love to those around us.

May God’s blessings be with you, your loved ones and all you encounter this Easter Season.

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

6-session Daytime & Evening Retreats in Oxford, Auburn, Charlton & Sturbridge



Want to transform your work, your marriage, your family and your life? Are you ready to learn the quickest, surest, and easiest way to holiness? Join us for another “**33 Days to Morning Glory**”, a retreat authored by Fr. Michael Gaitley, MIC of the National Shrine of the Divine Mercy.

Retreats will be held **at the St. Roch Parish Center, 334 Main St., Oxford, 508-987-2382**, for 6 consecutive **Wednesdays, beginning May 6**. Sessions are offered at **6:30 – 8:00pm**; and at the **St. Joseph Parish Center, 68 Central St. Auburn, 508-832-6683; St. Joseph Parish, 10 H Putnam Rd., Charlton, 508-248-7862; St. Anne/St. Patrick, 16 Church St., Sturbridge, 508-612-7008**, for 6 consecutive **Tuesdays, beginning May 5**, with sessions offered **at both 9:30-11:00am and 6:30-8:00 pm**.

The retreat will conclude with a Mass and Consecration on Saturday, June 13, 2015 (Feast of the Immaculate Heart of Mary). For more information or to register, contact one of the churches listed, or you may print out a registration form at www.stjosephauburnma.org. **Registration deadline is April 12.**



**The St. Vincent dePaul Society
Mother’s Day Gift Bags**

As **Mother’s Day** approaches this May, our thoughts go out to all mothers for their unconditional love. There are however homeless mothers in our midst that do not have contact with family for various reasons. We do need to remember all mothers. There will be containers at the doors of the church. If you could please buy a personal product such as nail polish, shampoo, deodorant, perfume, etc. We will take these items and create “Mother’s Day” gift bags and deliver them. **This drive is for the month of April.**

**Adult Paint Event and Fundraiser
Thursday, April 23rd 7:00-9:00 pm
St. Roch’s Church Hall, 332 Main Street, Oxford**

Cost: \$30 per person— No experience necessary! Includes 16 x 20 canvas, paints, easel, brushes, and professional art instructor. Cash bar and hors d’oeuvres available for a nominal fee.



Seating Is Limited – Register After Masses On Sunday Mornings Or Call The Rectory Office 508-987-8987. Payment required with sign-up.



You are all invited and you are needed. We meet *every second Wednesday of the month*, in the **St. Ann rectory at 6:00 PM; next meeting is April 8.** Our **Pro-Life Ministry** at St. Roch’s is for everyone younger and older members join together with St. Ann’s No. Oxford, let’s see how we can help the larger community of Oxford respect life from the moment of conception to natural death. **Won’t you please join us?**



**Starting in April
On the last Thursday of each month
at 12:00 in room 1 of the parish center.
Adults will gather to watch a variety of films.
Watch for new titles each month.
Suggested titles welcomed.**



Blessings on those who consecrated themselves to Jesus through Mary on March 25th, the Feast of the Annunciation. Anyone who wishes to follow up by meeting weekly are welcome on Monday mornings in Room 1 of the Parish Center at 9:45 AM. Those who have previously consecrated themselves are also invited.

Call 508-987-2382 for details.

SAINT ROCH CONFIRMATION 2015



Sunday Sessions 6:30-8:00 PM in the Church Hall. **Note: all sessions are required.**
Emergency call Father Roy...508-987-8987

Sponsor certificates & Name essays PAST DUE.

- (April 5 no class Easter Sunday)
- April 12 regular session
- (April 19 no class vacation)
- April 26 regular session
- May 3 Sponsors & Candidates: Practice at Sacred Heart, Webster 7:15 PM.
- May 7 Confirmation Celebration at Sacred Heart—
- June 7 Corpus Christi, Newly Confirmed process following the 11:00 AM Mass, followed by a special welcome pot-luck family luncheon, with make your own sundaes.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CALENDAR

SUNDAY CLASS SCHEDULE:

Grades K through 12, 9:40-10:50 AM
HAPPY EASTER!
No classes April 5

TUESDAY CLASS SCHEDULE:

Grades 3-6 meet 4:20-5:30 PM
Grades 7-8 meet 6:30-7:45 PM
April 7

**2ND GRADE - 1ST Eucharist Sessions
SUNDAYS 9:40-10:50 AM**



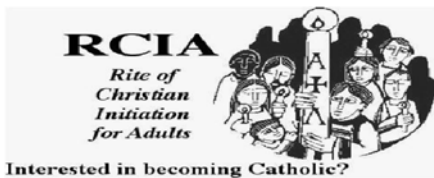
HAPPY EASTER!
(Apr. 5 no class),
Apr. 11 FAMILY MASS 5:30
Apr. 12 regular class
Apr. 12 (Parents meet to prepare & design the flowers & headpieces the children will wear.)

- Apr. 19-26 Vacation—no classes
- May 3 regular class
- May 10—Mother's Day—no classes
- May 12 First Eucharist Rehearsal 6-8 PM
- May 13 Eucharist Portraits by Sue Bray
- May 17 First Eucharist Celebration Mass 2 PM candidates arrive 1:15 in hall for group photo.
- June 7 Corpus Christi Procession 11:00 Mass, arrive 10:45 in hall. All children who have received Holy Eucharist are invited to join the procession, too. The children will process to church in outfits worn for First Holy Communion.



ADULTS why not take time for enrichment? Education never ends. Join others Tuesday mornings for the *Echoes of Faith* series on *Liturgy and Sacraments*, in the parish center, room 1, 10-11:30 weekly. Next class meets April 21, 28, May 2, 9,

2015. Please register by April 9, to order the book needed for the class. Call Terry Ann Renaud 508-987-2382.



We meet Sundays at 9:45 am in the rectory. (No session Easter Sunday. To be part of this process call 508-987-2382.

Do you know anyone who would like to find out about becoming Catholic, receiving Sacraments as an Adult, or parents of older children, who need Baptism or Holy Eucharist: Contact Terry Ann Renaud or Father Roy anytime 508-987-2382 or 508-987- 8987.

Adults interested in walking with other adults in this process are asked to join us Sunday mornings between Masses at 9:45 AM in the rectory parlor.

We are getting ready for

Bible Adventure 2015.

July 6th—10th

Without a lot of help it cannot happen. Adults & Teens are needed to volunteer for Set up & Breakdown & All leadership Roles during the camp.

Please call 508-987-2382 to help us firm up dates & times. Watch for more to come.

Registration for Fall 2015 Classes at all levels & Sacraments sessions begin now and end by April 30th. Tell your neighbors, all families are welcome.



Please register ASAP for the fall 2015-6 school year. Ordering books from publishers in May saves a good percentage on our material costs. If you have yet to pay fees for the current year 2014-5, your help is requested in helping us to close the finance records by June.

Medicine, Bioethics, and Spirituality Conference

The Healthcare Professionals for Divine Mercy will sponsor the annual Medicine, Bioethics, and Spirituality Conference on May 6 & 7, 2015 at the College of the Holy Cross, Worcester. Presenters include Archbishop Zygmunt Zimowski, President of the Pontifical Council for Health Care Workers, Bishop Robert McManus, Dr. Paul Carpentier, Dr. Mark Rollo, Fr. Mark Yavarone, OMV, and many more. Continuing education credits for health care professionals are available. For more information and to register: www.thedivinemercy.org/worcester or 800-462-74266.



Bible Study

Wednesday morning **Bible Study** in the Parish Center 9:30 AM. All are welcome.



334 CLUB WINNERS—Week 19

- # 267 Paul Sepuka
- # 161 Francis McGrath
- # 558 Rachel Laythe
- # 115 Nancy Noonan

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL!!!



Finance Committee will meet on **Tuesday, April 7th at 7:00 PM** in the rectory. ****Note date change.**

Festival Meeting will take place on **Thursday, April 16th at 7:00 PM** in the parish center.

St. Vincent de Paul Society will meet on **Monday, May 4th at 7:00 PM** in the church hall.

A local family is looking for someone to give assistance to their elderly mother a couple of times a week, basically laundry, light housekeeping and shopping. Mom is competent and in basic good health but needs some assistance. Anyone interested in this employment please call St. Roch rectory at 508-987-8987.

Join with Brothers from Taize in April at Assumption College

Please join Bros. John and Emile from the monastery at Taizé, France, for an Easter Evensong with chants and prayers on **April 10** at Assumption College, Worcester. At 7:00 pm—Introduction to Taizé: Why Thousands of Young Pilgrims Descend on a Little Town in France Each Year, at the Testa Science Building; At 7:30 pm--Evening Prayer, Chapel of the Holy Spirit.

NEW EVANGELIZATION SUMMIT

Join 5000 Catholics across Canada and the USA at this premier conference for the new evangelization. On **April 24/25, 2015** hear 8 world-class Catholic speakers on the New Evangelization—people like Dr. Scott Hahn, Fr. Michael Gaitley, Dr. Ralph Martin, Patrick Coffin, JoEllen Gregus, Fr. James Mallon, Ken Yaskinski and Michael Dopp. The NES has been designed to inspire Catholics and help them live out their personal call to evangelize. St. Joseph Church in Charlton, in partnership with St. Mary Church in Uxbridge, is incredibly excited to be a host site for NES. The conference will be webcasted from Ottawa to St. Joseph Church in Charlton. Be inspired, receive formation, and connect with other Catholics.

Register now at www.newevangelizaion.ca

April 24/25, 2015

St. Joseph Church, 10 H. Putnam Ext., Charlton
Cost: \$65.00 (includes lunch on Saturday.)

The Daughters of Isabella Proudly Present 2015 Fantastic Bus Tours

April 12 Captain Jack's & Foxwoods—A delicious Luncheon & Foxwoods! Wow! 9:00 am Southbridge; 9:30 am Webster. Foxwoods includes Dinner & \$10.00 Casino Slot Bonus! \$82

May 3-5 Atlantic City Resorts Casino—Atlantic City's Original Casino! Right on the Atlantic City Boardwalk! 7:00 am Webster; 7:30 am Southbridge. Includes \$25.00 Slot Bonus, Two Buffets, Revue Show! \$219

May 17 Newport Playhouse—Cheeters' Show, Cabaret, & Delicious Buffet! 8:30 am Southbridge; 9:00 am Webster. Great Stage Show, Buffet Luncheon & Cabaret! What a Combo! \$85 Many more trips scheduled. For information please call Jan Caouette 508-887-2215 or Bernadette Langlois 508-943-8047.

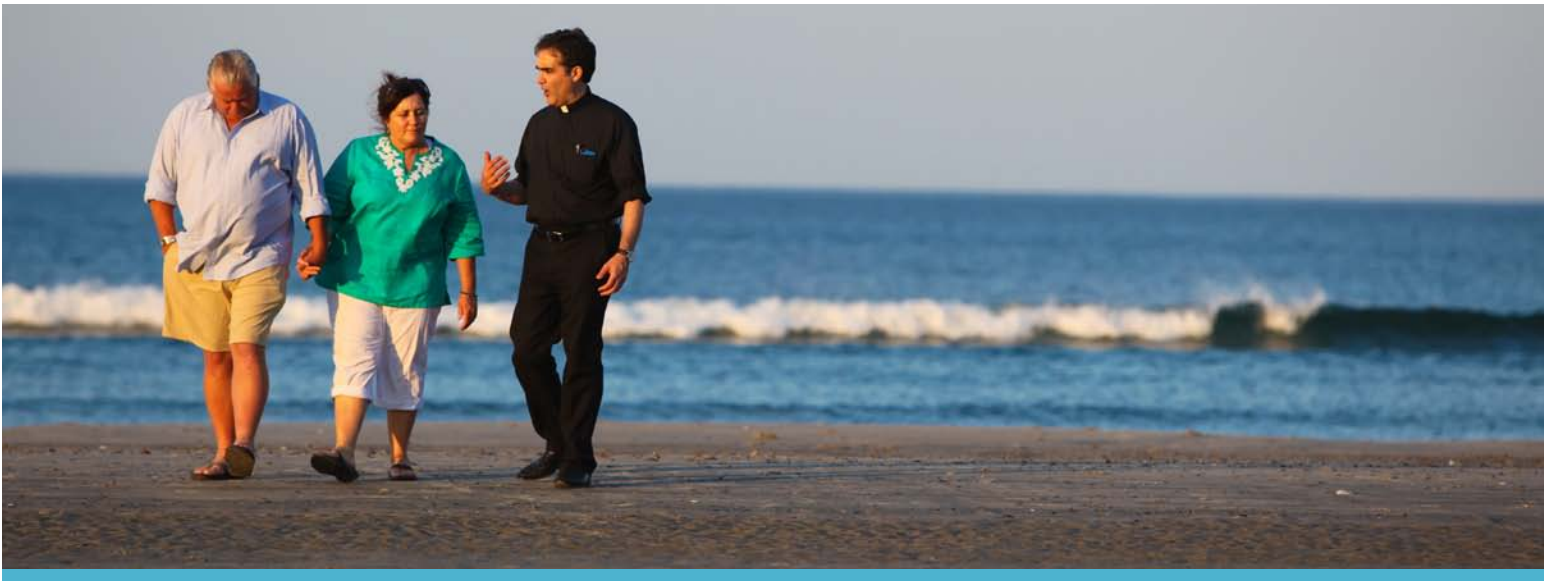


KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS COUNCIL #4241

Meeting every **first Tuesday** of the month beginning with a Mass at 6:00 pm at St. Ann's. Then we retire to the church hall to begin K of C Council Meeting at 6:45 pm. Lots of things happening! If you are in need of something, please call a brother Knight. We are always looking for new men who are interested in joining!

The Catholic Free Press

For **just \$30.00**, you will receive 52 weeks of one of the nation's most outstanding newspapers. Your envelope may be placed in any collection basket or mailed to the rectory office. Extra envelopes are available in the church. Our parish is assessed the cost of 200 subscriptions. Please consider subscribing!
Thank you for your support.



Meet Fr. Joe— *Answering the call with compassion*

For Gary and Susan Pickering, Fr. Joe Mazzone is more than a pastor—he is family.

Like so many priests in our Archdiocese, Fr. Joe has been a source of strength and support, helping others find Christ's presence in times of joy and sorrow. When Gary and Susan's daughter Marcy passed away unexpectedly during surgery, Fr. Joe was the first person they called. Marcy had been a close friend of Fr. Joe's, and her faith life had blossomed with his help through challenging times in her life. Fr. Joe was there for the Pickerings as they said goodbye to their beloved Marcy then, and he remains by their side today. Together, they continue to grow in faith and friendship, confident that they will be reunited with Marcy again, and grateful for the hope they receive through each other in Christ Jesus.

Our priests are there for us and our families without question or hesitation. Please consider showing your gratitude by supporting your parish collection this Easter.

Thank you for helping to ensure a continuum of care and quality of life for all our active and senior priests.



“Support your priests with your love and prayers, that they may always be shepherds after Christ’s heart.”

- Pope Francis

To submit your special intentions to be remembered by our senior priests during the celebration of Holy Mass at Regina Cleri each week, visit www.clergyfunds.org/intentions.

To watch a short video of Fr. Joe Mazzone, please visit www.clergyfunds.org.



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John 11:35

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