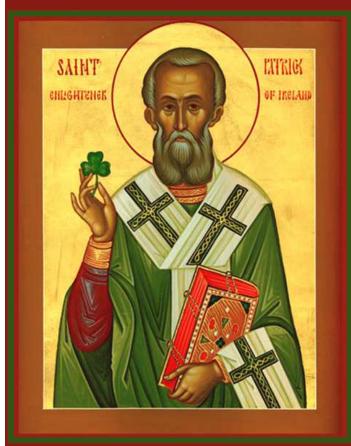
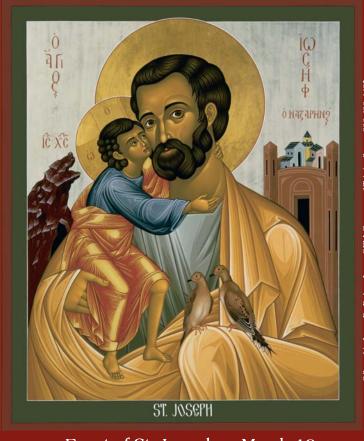
Saint Joseph Parish 173 Albion Street, Wakefield MA 01880 Fourth Sunday Of Lent





Feast of St. Patrick - March 17

Feast of St. Joseph - March 19

Sunday Mass Schedule
Saturday Vigil Mass:
4:00 PM
Sunday Mass
7:30 AM
9:00 AM (Family Liturgy)
11:00 AM, 5:30 PM

Daily Mass Schedule Monday - Friday Mass 6:45 AM, 9:00 AM Saturday Mass 9:00 AM

Parish Holy Hour Every Sunday: 7:00 PM - 8:00 PM

Confessions
Saturday 3:00 to 3:45 PM
or by appointment.

Pastoral Team
Fr. Ron Barker, Pastor
Merry Nordeen, Admin. Assistant
Rose Dittmer, Faith Formation
Anne Grant, Music Director
Maureen Miller, Parish Accountant
Mary Coles, Bulletin Editor
Richard Canto, Facilities Manager
Caleb, Parish Dog
www.stjosephwakefield.org
Phone: 781-245-5770
Fax: 781-246-2423

Chapel Hours 7:00 AM - Midnight Adoration (M-F)-10:00AM - 12 AM Weds 10:00 AM - 6:00 PM No Adoration on Holidays

March 15, 2015

Religious Education
Elizabeth Collins, Grade 1 - 2
Sharon Keith, Grades 3-8
Jesus Vazquez, Grade 9
Fr. Ron Barker, Grade 10
Julie Vazquez, Youth Ministry
Diane Murphy, Administration

Saint Joseph School
Dr. Joseph Sullivan, Principal
Alayne Flynn, Administrator
Vivian Tringale, Accountant
Phone: 781-245-2081
www.stjosephschoolwakefield.org



Dear Parishioners,

This week, we celebrate the feasts of two great saints: St. Patrick and St. Joseph.

St. Patrick, at the age of 16, was captured by a group of pirates. He was taken as a slave to Ireland and held captive for six years. While in captivity, he worked as a shepherd, strengthened his relationship with God, and converted to Christianity. He escaped his master and fled home to his family. At home in Britain, he continued to study the Christian faith and eventually became a cleric and returned to Ireland as a Christian missionary.

Legend credits St. Patrick with teaching the Irish about the doctrine of the Holy Trinity by showing people the shamrock, a three leaf plant, using it to illustrate the Christian teaching of three persons in one God. Its green color represents rebirth and new life. Patrick became a bishop and by the 7th century had already come to be revered as the patron saint of Ireland.

St. Joseph is that just and holy man who became the husband of Mary and the foster father of Jesus. We know that he was a carpenter. He was a compassionate and caring man. When he learned that Mary was pregnant, not knowing that she was carrying the Son of God, he decided to divorce her quietly to not expose her to shame or cruelty. Joseph was a man of faith, obedient to whatever God asked of him. Many believe that he died before Jesus began his public ministry. Joseph is the patron of the dying because he died with Jesus and Mary close to him. He is also the patron of the Universal Church, fathers, carpenters, travelers, house sellers and buyers (planting a statue is superstition not a devotion). Most especially St. Joseph is the patron saint of our parish community.

We offer devotional material at the statue of St. Joseph in the Church. There are novena prayers, a petition booklet and St. Joseph's oil to anoint oneself when praying for healing. We will celebrate the Feast of St. Joseph after the 9 a.m. Mass on Thursday, March 19, in the parish hall.

A reminder, *The Light Is On For You*, provides that a priest is available for confession at any Catholic parish on Wednesday evenings from 6:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. during Lent.

May Jesus continue to shepherd you in all of your needs.

God love you,

Reflection of the Week

We prepare for everything we consider important.



A time of quiet music & reflection

Sunday 7:00-8:00 p.m.

PRAYER GROUP

Hour of praise and charismatic prayer
Monday 7:30-8:30 p.m.

BIBLE STUDY

The Prophets: Messengers of God's Mercy, Tuesday 7:30 p.m.

> HEALING SOAKING PRAYER

Come meet us to pray for healing Wednesday 6:30 pm Thursday 2:00 p.m.

Scriptural Teaching An Inquisitive Walk through the Scripture, 67

We recommend keeping these reflections in a three-ring binder for the sake of pondering, challenging, questioning what is offered. Please consider that this is a series and some things may not be as clear if all individual reflections are not read.

Last week we considered God causing the death of the first-born of Egypt – albeit in a very cursory and simplistic way. There are varieties of interpretations for such accounts in the Bible. Recently, commenting on the movie about Noah, a TV host spoke of a "sadistic" god who killed people with the great flood. We cannot easily rationalize such events in the Bible nor can we spiritualize such events. We need to seek understanding and one possibility for this is to see that physical death is real but there is another life after physical death. For God, physical death is not a finality but a passage from one form of life to another. Physical death may be painful for us – especially if we are the survivors of innocent loved ones – but when we get to the other side, we will have a new perspective and realize that "the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us. For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the sons of God." (Roms. 8:18, 19)

And again, "Therefore, since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. Through Him we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand, and we rejoice in our hope of sharing the glory of God. More than that, we rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit which has been given to us. (Roms. 5:1-5)

All this brings us to the reason for the death of the first-born. God had said that Israel was His first-born (Ex. 4:22) and because of Egypt's bondage and killing of Israel's people, the first-born must die. Later God would reveal that His only begotten and "first-born" Son would become one with us and God intended this Son to be crucified, to die and be buried, only to be raised up again as the Door to Heaven and union with God the Father. God the Father intentionally willed the death of the Son of God! "Thus it is written that the Christ should suffer and on the third day rise from the dead." (Lk. 24:46) Jesus did not die due to any other cause than to fulfill the will of the Father for the sake of saving humankind. This cannot be rationalized or spiritualized. Nor can it be dismissed if we are to recognize the Messiah. It makes magnificent sense in the context of God's revelation and, though it may be hard for the human mind to comprehend, we are called to have the mind of Christ (Phils 2:5-11) and see by the power of the Spirit. (1 Cors. 2:10) Some religions say that Jesus did not die on the cross and thereafter be raised from the dead. Such religions do not have the understanding of God's plan laid out in the Judeo-Christian Scripture. If we want to understand, we must study God's Word.



ADULT FOCUS

Bereavement Community

Hear how our members have dealt with loss and learn strategies and activities that have helped others move back into the warm peace of the Lord. Meetings held on first Tuesday of the month at 7:30 pm in Our Lady's Room. Next meeting is on Tuesday, April 7, 2015.

Faith Sharing

Join us for insights and fellowship.

Mondays at 9:30 am in Our Lady's Room

Tuesdays at noon. Call for confirmation.

Wednesdays at 7:30 pm in St. Joseph's Room.

Thursdays at 7:00 pm in Our Lady's Room.

Knit, Purl, Pray

The Prayer Knitting Community meets on Tuesdays @ 9:30 am in Our Lady's Room. All are welcome.

Affirming Life Community

Heartbeat Pregnancy Center (781) 229-7887 A Women's Concern Toll Free (866) 435-7292 Rachel's Vineyard 877 HOPE 4 ME (877-467-3463)

Living With Chronic Illness Support Group

Support ministry for those experiencing chronic illness, cancer, or long term medical conditions from both visible or invisible illnesses. Next meeting will be held on Wednesday, April 8, 2015 in Our Lady's Room at 7:30 p.m.

Separated/Divorced Support Group

The next meeting for our **Program on Separation and Divorce** will be on
Wednesday, March 18, at 7:00 p.m.
in Our Lady's Room.

St. Joseph Table

Serving healthful meals to those in need. The Second Friday and Fourth Wednesday each month. Schedules may change to accommodate certain holy days and holidays. Please call Rose at 617-697-0888 or email: rmdittom@aol.com.

(Please note: if Wakefield schools are cancelled due to inclement weather - then our Adult Focus meetings will be cancelled that day. We ask that you please check local news stations.)



Religious Education

<u>Grade 1:</u> Next Meeting is on Saturday, March 21, at 10:00 a.m. in Fr. Gillis Hall.

Grade 2:

Instructional Mass has been **rescheduled for Sunday, April 12 at 9:00 a.m.** Please meet Mrs. Collins in Father Gillis Hall at 8:30 a.m.

<u>Grade 7 & 8 Grade 7 & 8 — Apologetics;</u> Defending the Faith. The students have been watching the movie, "God's Not Dead" in class during the last few weeks. The movie supports an integral theme for this year; calling students to better understand their faith so they are able to defend it, particularly as they begin high school. We encourage you to ask your student what they have learned!

Special Ed CCD Sign-up: St Joseph is holding registrations for SPED CCD. Classes will be on Thursday from 3:15 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. in the rectory. Sessions run March 5, 2015 - April 16, 2015. To register, contact Diane Murphy at the rectory.

SAVE THE DATE! Vacation Bible School 2015 will be held on August 3 - 7. *More details to follow.*



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Hosted by Saint Joseph School Sunday, March 22 Father Gillis Hall After the 7:30 a.m., 9:00 a.m. Masses

Cost: \$5.00 per person & \$15.00 per family

We hope to see you there!!!

For additional information on our school, please call 781-245-2081 or visit <u>www.stjosephschoolwakefield.org</u>

Fr. Wenzel's Mass Schedule

Fr. Jim will be celebrating the following Masses: March 22 at 7:30 a.m., March 29 at 11:00 a.m.

FEAST OF ST. JOSEPH COLLATION Thursday, March 19, 2015

Please join us after the 9:00 a.m. Mass on Thursday, March 19, for a collation celebrating the feast of St. Joseph. Beverages and the traditional St. Joseph pastry will be served.



Hunger for Justice is a 35+ hour retreat that begins with a prayer service beginning on the beach in Nahant.

continues with the carrying of the Cross to St. Thomas Parish, and concludes with the Veneration of the Cross. The retreat then continues at St. Mary's High School with a final meal (before we fast until after the Easter Vigil Mass Saturday night), group games and spiritual reflections. In addition to fasting during the retreat, the participants also build their own homes out of cardboard in the gym and cafeteria. The focus for Friday is on Jesus' Sacrifice on the Cross and His healing Grace. We conclude Friday evening with a prayer service and in joyful expectation for His rising on Easter. Please contact Julie to sign up ASAP! Jvazquez@stjosephwakefield.org

THE LIGHT IS ON FOR YOU

The Light is On For You

St. Joseph Parish (except for April 1, for our Healing Mass)

and all the parishes and chapels of the Archdiocese of Boston will be open for individual confession all the Wednesday evenings of Lent from 6:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. Please visit: www.TheLightIsOnForYou.org to help you prepare.



Students of St. Joseph School will be presenting the Stations of the Cross every Friday at 1:00 pm in the Church. All are welcome.

OFFERTORY MARCH 7-8 \$ 13,078

Please remember St. Joseph Parish in your will.

LITURGY CORNER

The first part of today's Gospel is the final sentence of Jesus' reply to Nicodemus, the Pharisee who approached Jesus at night. Nicodemus acknowledged Jesus as someone who had come from God and seemed to want to be a follower of Jesus. Jesus greeted Nicodemus with the observation that one must be born from above to see the Kingdom of God...

The second part of today's Gospel is a theological reflection on Jesus' words to Nicodemus. The Gospel of John is known for this kind of reflection offered within the narrative. The words of the Evangelist are in continuity with the words of the prologue to John's Gospel. In these reflections, John elaborates on a number of themes that are found in his Gospel: light and darkness, belief and and unbelief. good evil. salvation condemnation.

Sunday Connection

Lenten Regulations

Abstinence -- Catholics over 14 years of age are bound to the obligation of abstinence. Abstinence is to be observed on Ash Wednesday and on all Fridays of Lent. On days of abstinence, meat may not be used at all.

Fast -- Catholics over 18 and up to the beginning of their 60th year are bound to the obligation of fasting. Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are the days of fasting. On these days, only one full meal is allowed. Two other meatless meals, sufficient to maintain strength, may be taken according to each one's needs, but together they should not equal another full meal. Eating between meals is not permitted, but liquids, including milk and fruit juices are allowed.

Regarding other weekdays of Lent, participation in daily Mass and the voluntary observance of fasting is recommended. Commendable, particularly during Lent, is generosity to local, national and world programs of sharing our abundance, the traditional Lenten Devotions and all the self-denial summed up in the Christian concept of "mortification."



PrayFor Vour prayers are requested for the benefactors of our parish and the deceased of our community

especially Elinor Joan Wenzel and Philip Morrison. Also, please pray for the sick among us and all those who have asked us to pray for them this week. Their names have been inscribed in our parish Book of Intentions in the Chapel. Please contact the rectory to add a name.

mass intentions

Saturday, March 14

9:00 Margaret Lovett, 40th Anniversary

4:00 Margaret King, 15th Anniversary

Sunday, March 15

7:30 Margaret Egan, 5th Anniversary

9:00 James & Florence Roberto, **Memorial Mass**

11:00 David DeCourcy, 4th Anniversary

5:30 Edwin Hunt, 3rd Anniversary

Monday, March 16

6:45 Albert Joseph McGowan, **Memorial Mass**

9:00 Eugenia Jack, Memorial Mass

Tuesday, March 17

6:45 Adele McDonnell, Birthday Celebration

9:00 Joseph Boghos, Birthday Remembrance

Wednesday, March 18

6:45 Joseph Hoy, Jr., 1st Anniversary

9:00 Anthony Malione, 9th Anniversary

Thursday, March 19

6:45 Robert Barry, Birthday Remembrance

9:00 Dina Doody-Masone, 2nd Anniversary

Friday, March 20

6:45 James Morrison, 1st Anniversary

9:00 Rose Kane, Memorial Mass

Saturday, March 21

9:00 Thomas Foley, 25th Anniversary

4:00 Patricia Curran, 3rd Anniversary

Sunday, March 22

7:30 Ralph Petraglia, Birthday Memorial

9:00 Rocco Rinaldi, Memorial Mass

11:00 Dominic DiGiammarino.

Memorial Mass

5:30 Sean Connerty, Memorial Mass



Please pray for all those currently serving in the military, especially those deployed overseas:

Debra Martinez, Scott McDonough, & Matthew Redmond.

RCIA Program



Please keep the following candidates in your prayers: Dawn Swain and Bianca Bacigalupo, who will be receiving Adult Confirmation and RCIA Candidates: Eugene DelGaizo and Christina Indorato who will be receiving

Eucharist and Confirmation at the Easter Vigil this year.

Wakefield Interfaith Food Pantry

Just a reminder that we have drop off baskets located in the library foyer for your donations of non-perishable food items to benefit the needy of our community. This month the pantry is especially in need of brand cereals. Thank you for your continued generosity.

My Brother's Table REMINDER

This weekend, (March 14/15) we will be collecting individually wrapped snacks for My Brother's Table. Please bring donations

to the foyer library and mark them "Soup Kitchen."



St. Florence Lady's Sodality

The April Meeting will be held on Monday, April 6, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. in McCauley Hall for a Bingo Night. There will also be an Installation

of New Officers for the 2015-2016 season will also be held. New members are always welcome!

Catholic Appeal 2015

The last couple of weeks, our parish launched the 2015 Catholic Appeal. I would like to thank all of you who have given so generously to support our parish. If you would still like to make a pledge to the Catholic Appeal, please take a pledge form from the back of the church. You also can make a pledge or gift online at www.bostoncatholicappeal.org. Thank you for your support and for helping us reach our parish goal.

Scripture for the week of March 15, 2015

SUN 2 Chr 36:14-16, 19-23/Eph 2:4-10/Jn 3:14-21

Mon Is 65:17-21/Jn 4:43-54 Ez 47:1-9, 12/Jn 5:1-16 Tue Wed Is 49:8-15/Jn 5:17-3020

Thu 2 Sm 7:4-5a, 12-14a, 16/Rom 4:13, 16-18,

22/Mt 1:16, 18-21, 24a or Lk 2:41-51a Wis 2:1a, 12-22/Jn 7:1-2, 10, 25-30

Sat Jer 11:18-20/Jn 7:40-53

SUN Jer 31:31-34/Heb 5:7-9/Jn 12:20-33

Fri



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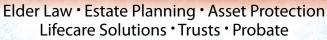


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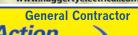
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