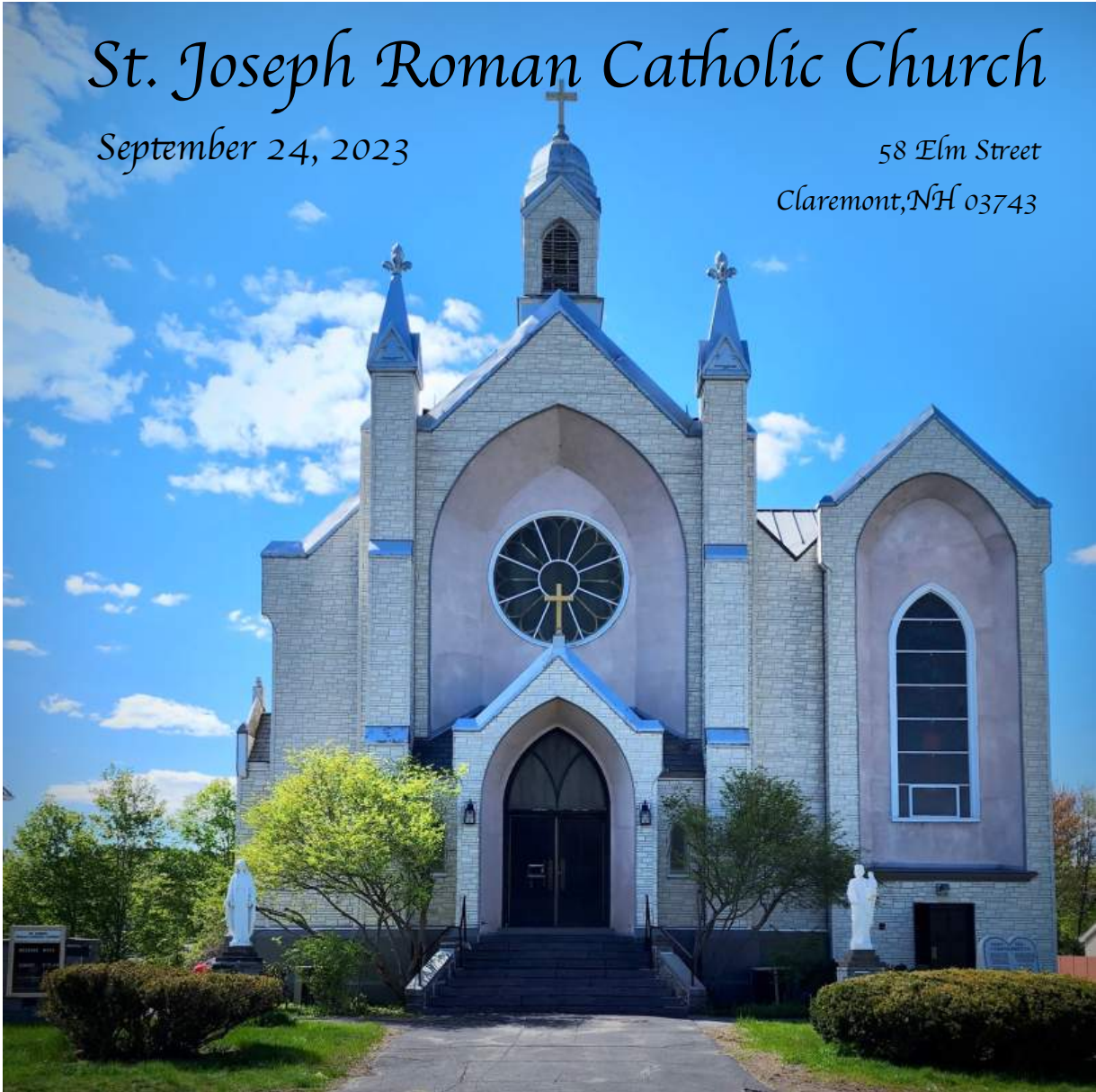


St. Joseph Roman Catholic Church

September 24, 2023

58 Elm Street
Claremont, NH 03743



St Joseph Roman Catholic Church

stjosephsclaremont@gmail.com

Pastor, Rev. Maria Sebastian Susairaj, HGN

sebaafri@comcast.net or 1-603-322-1644

Parish Finance Council

Rick Logan, Chairman
David Smith
Sharon Wood

Music Director

Richard Brown
Organists
Tristan Smith
Deborah Stone

Parish Office Hours

Wednesday, Sept. 27 603-542-5732 6:30pm to 7:30 pm

Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time:

Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost

Sunday, September 24 9:15 am

For the soul (†) of Theresa Allard
requested by her son Rock.

Wednesday September 27 5:00 pm

For the soul (†) of Paul St Martin
requested by Tom DeVoyd.

Twenty-Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time:

Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Sunday, October 1 9:15 am

For the soul (†) of Fausto Beebe
requested by his sister Gianna.

**Today's 2nd Collection is for
Church Maintenance.**

Offertory Sept. 17, 2023

Offertory	\$1,124.00
Fuel	\$40.00
Grand Annual Collection	\$30.00
Candles	\$93.00
Total	\$1,287.00
Upcoming Collections	
Fuel	Oct. 8
Ongoing Collections	
NH Catholic Appeal (23 donors)	\$2,266.00
Grand Annual Collection	\$5,760.00

Homebound?

Schedule a visit with
Fr. Sebastian on the 2nd
Monday of the month:.

Call

St Mary Parish Office
603-542-9518

or email

sebaafri@comcast.net

**Confessions
at St. Mary Church**

Fridays
9:30 am

Saturdays
3:00 - 3:45pm

Fr. Sebastian will be away on
a pilgrimage and retreat to
the House of Ephesius in
Turkey from Oct 4-20th.
Sunday Masses will be
covered, but there will be no
weekday Masses
at either church.

Safety and Security

Please remember to lock
your car doors while at-
tending any event in the
church.

WHEN WRITING CHECKS

to St. Joseph Church,
please mark the name of
the collection
(Offertory or Specific
Collection) to be sure it is
put in the right place.

**Please pray for the soul
of William Matthews
whose Funeral Mass and
burial was last Thursday**

Prayer List

Rev Msgr Donald Gilbert

Fr. John Loughnane

Chris Currier

Carol Girard

Isabella Gowell

Deborah Hemingway

Halford Jones

Brenda Ruest

Janet Ruest

Roger Sheehan

Barbara Trask

Chee Chee Tyrrell

The Sanctuary Lamp burns 24/7 near
the tabernacle in all Catholic Churches
in honor of the True Presence
of Our Lord Jesus Christ.
It burns this week in memory of
Raymond Mayo requested by
his wife Laurette and family.



Intentions for the Sanctuary
Lamp may be scheduled with
Sherri Smith in the Church Hall
after each Mass She will
continue to schedule Masses
and have Tootsie Rolls and
other fundraiser items available
then.

You can also schedule
intentions at the Rectory during
Wednesday office hours by
phone (603-542-5732) or in
person.

Donations for Masses and
Sanctuary Lamp are each
\$10.00.

Our Marian Candelabrum will
be placed Our Lady's altar and
lit on Sundays in October, the
Month of the Holy Rosary.
Please contact Mary or Richard
Brown to reserve a Sunday for
your memorial intention. A \$10
donation is requested.



Questions *and* Answers

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For Catholics

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One of the best ways to learn is to ask questions. Interestingly, the most significant summary of our Catholic faith was written by St. Thomas Aquinas (called the *Summa Theologica* – Summary of Theology) and is set up in a question-and-answer format. It's hard to believe an answer if you don't understand the question it is addressing. The Q&A below is no *Summa Theologica*, but hopefully some of these reflections will answer questions that are important to you.

Q. Why did Adam eat the apple?

A. The simple answer is that the serpent (the devil) persuaded Adam that eating the apple would be to his benefit. Adam would “become like God” if he ate it. Sadly, Adam believed this lie and chose to disobey God who had told him not to eat from the Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil. This was the first sin and resulted in humanity falling from what we call Original Innocence. But to give a more thorough explanation, let's consider the entire story in a broader way.

First of all, did Adam actually eat the apple? Perhaps, but perhaps not. It's important to understand that we should not read this story in a “literal” way. That doesn't mean the story is not true. A good explanation of this comes from Cardinal Ratzinger (who later became Pope Benedict XVI) in his book “In the Beginning: A Catholic Understanding of the Story of Creation and the Fall” (Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing). In that book, Cardinal Ratzinger stated, “It has become clear that the biblical creation narratives represent another way of speaking about reality than that with which we are familiar from physics and biology.” He went on to explain that these stories “represent truth in the way that symbols do — just as, for example, a Gothic window gives us a deep insight into reality, thanks to the effects of light that it produces and to the figures that it portrays.”

In other words, the story of Adam and Eve is true, but not necessarily in the way a science book is factual. A science book presents truth in a literal way, explaining the physical truths as they are in this world. The story of Adam and Eve presents truth in the form of a symbolic narrative. Whether or not Adam actually ate the apple in the literal way explained in that symbolic narrative is not important. What is important is the truth that the narrative presents.

So what is the truth it presents? It presents us with the fact that our first parents turned from God in disobedience. The consequence was a fall from the original state of innocence and union with God for which God made them. Therefore the answer remains that Adam “ate the fruit” for selfish motivations because he believed the lie that disobeying God was better for him than obeying God. He was selfish and failed to trust the truth of God.

Grand Annual Collection

In October we will begin our parish's Grand Annual Collection. This will not be a one-time collection taken up at a weekend Mass, but an ongoing collection to build a fund for larger repair and maintenance projects on the various parish buildings, both current and future—similar to our Renovation Fund in past years. Grand Annual Collection envelopes are available at the back of the church. If you are not able to bring your weekly offertory or other donations to Mass, you may mail them to **St Joseph Church, 58 Elm Street, Claremont, NH 03743** or bring it to the Rectory during Wednesday office hours.. Thank you for your generosity.

We apologize for reprinting last year's notice without realizing the address was the P.O. Box that we are no longer ours.

HYMNS

Twenty-fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Entrance Hymn: No. 303
"All the Earth"

Offertory Hymn: No. 323
"For the Beauty of the Earth"

Communion: (Choir)

Recessional Hymn: No. 369
"God's Blessing Sends Us Forth "

Today's Mass
Readings are found
on page #650

Choir Rehearsal

Wed. Sept. 27 at 6:30 pm
New members welcome!

Mark Your Calendars!

Oct/Nov	"Turkey Dinner Raffle" tickets on sale
Oct 8	Regular Parish Coffee Hour
Oct 15	CDA Mass and Brunch
Nov 4	Lasagna Dinner
Nov 11	Veterans Day Pancake Breakfast
Nov 16	Turkey Party
Dec. 2	Christmas Craft Fair
Dec. 10	1-20 Raffle drawing @ Coffee Hour

Dozynki Tickets
On Sale in Church Hall
after Mass
\$15 Eat In or Take Out
Sat. Oct. 21 5:00-7pm

If you or any business owner you know would like to advertise in our bulletin and website, please contact Dan Linnell (1-609-883-2700x197)

Follow JPPC on
Linked In and Facebook.

See local businesses on:
FindingFaber.com and
jppcadvertising.com

1-20 Raffle to benefit the Fuel Fund

Tickets now on sale in
the
in church hall after Mass

Drawing at
Dec.10 Coffee Hour

First Prize \$500.00
Second Prize \$200.00
20 Third Prizes \$20.00

\$20.00 per ticket

St Mary Parish Old Time Penny Sale

Sat. Oct 7
St Mary Gym

Doors Open at 5pm
Drawings begin @ 6

Grand Prize \$1,500
(\$1,200 if not present)
300+ prizes
Free Raffles for Kids
Free Door Prizes
Refreshments

POLISH AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH

Polish Cooking Class Tues. Oct 10 6:30 pm

Cooks will demonstrate the preparation of a few Polish recipes. The audience will be able to taste the results afterwards. \$6 donation to cover the cost of ingredients. Register ahead of time please!
(603-542-6454)

Polish Weekend

Oct. 21 Dozynki
(Harvest Dinner)
5:00pm-7:00pm

Stuffed cabbage, pierogi, kielbasa, potato,
rye bread, dessert: Eat in or Take out, \$15

Tickets on sale after Mass or at the Rectory on Wed. office hours or by calling or emailing the Rectory to find out if any are left. Only 100 tickets available. None sold at door.

Oct 22 Mass & Coffee Hour

Sunday Mass featuring Polish hymns; Brunch to follow; no charge, donations gratefully accepted. All are welcome to attend! More details to follow.

Volunteers are needed for the many tasks that are done for these events. Please email stjosephsclaremont@gmail.com or call Sharon at 603-542-6454 if you can help. Dziekuje! Thank you!

BULLETIN DEADLINE
Send information to be included
each week to
stjosephsclaremont@gmail.com
by 3pm on Tuesday.

Our current bulletin may be
viewed online at
<https://www.jppc.net/onlinebulletins/9021template.pdf>

PLEASE REMEMBER

when visiting St Mary Church, to park on the street, in one of the two parish lots across the street, or in the parking garage. The lot next to St Mary Church belongs to Grace River Church and we have been asked not to use it. Thank you!

Feast Days and Memorials

Sept 26: Sts. Cosmas and Damian, Martyrs, d. circa 300 A.D.

Patron of the medical profession, druggists, barbers and the blind

These Arabian-born twin brothers, both physicians, embraced Christianity and cared for the sick without payment, earning them the name "the moneyless ones." They were said to have cured blindness, fever, and paralysis and were arrested during the Diocletian persecution because of their faith and their fame as healers. They are mentioned in the Roman Canon and in the Litany of Saints.

Sept. 27: St Vincent de Paul, 1581-1660, Priest

Patron of charities, horses, hospitals, lepers, prisoners, and Madagascar

The Society of St. Vincent de Paul was founded in 1833 as a voluntary organization dedicated to serving the poor. It was named after a French Catholic priest who carried out that mission in his own life. He founded the Congregation of the Mission known as the "Vincentians." With St. Louise de Marillac he founded the Daughters of Charity of Saint Vincent de Paul.

Sept. 28: St Wenceslaus, Martyr, d. 929

Patron of the Czech Republic and Slovakia

This Duke of Bohemia was taught Christianity by his grandmother, St. Ludmila. When he tried to bring the faith to his people, he was killed by his pagan brother, called Boleslaus the Cruel, on the Feast of Sts Cosmas and Damian and on the Vigil of Saint Michael the Archangel. "Brother, may God forgive you" were this martyr's last words.

Sept. 28: St Lawrence Ruiz and Companions, Martyrs, d. 1630's

Sixteen Christians who were tortured, burned and their ashes scattered by the order of the ruler of Nagasaki, Japan are remembered on this day. They were Japanese, Spanish, French, Italian and the first Filipino martyr, Lorenzo (Lawrence) Ruiz.

Sept. 29: Feast of Sts Michael, Gabriel, and Raphael, Archangels

Each of these archangels performs a different mission in Scripture. *Michael protects*. He is the patron of grocers, soldiers, doctors, mariners, police and paratroopers. *Gabriel announces*. He is the patron of messengers, telecommunication workers and postal workers. *Raphael guides*. He is the patron of travelers, the blind, those with bodily ills, nurses, physicians and medical workers.

Sept. 30: St Jerome, Priest and Doctor of the Church

Patron of the archaeologists, Biblical scholars, librarians, students and translators

Born in what is now Croatia, Jerome was a strong, outspoken man with a violent temper who lived the early part of his life in excess and immorality. He became a Christian and well-respected scholar of Scripture. His translation of the Bible from Hebrew and Aramaic into Latin became the Church's official version.

www.catholic.org

www.mycatholic.life

www.franciscanmedia.org

Stand with Ukraine

Claremont Opera House

Sat. Sept. 30 3 to 6 pm

SHARE

Engage with people who
have been impacted

Write a note of support

LEARN

Hear the stories

Photos, videos

Discussions

Claremont-Sugar River Rotary

Free Admission

Refreshments for Purchase

HELP

Silent auction,

Stuff-a-sock

Donations

HAVE YOU HEARD OF "FORMED"?

It's a premier online platform filled with over 4,000 Catholic studies, movies, audio dramas, talks, e-books and even cartoons for children. Best of all, it's FREE. Both St Mary and St Joseph parishioners can access the site and Fr. Sebastian would like us to take advantage of this opportunity. Go to formed.org, click on "sign up," type in our church's zip code (03743) and select the St Mary Church pop-up. You'll be surprised at what you will find to watch, listen, and learn!

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pray for us!

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SAMANTHA JOSEPHSON

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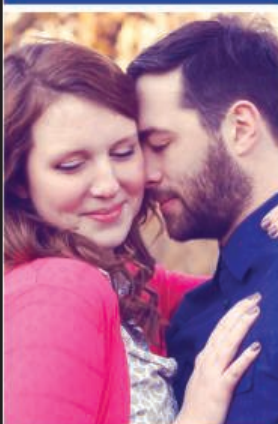
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