

# St. Joseph Roman Catholic Church

58 Elm Street

Claremont, NH 03743



November 5, 2023

## 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, Nov. 8 6:30 to 7:30 pm 603-542-5732

### Thirty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time:

*Twenty-third Sunday after Pentecost*

**Sunday, November 5, 9:15 am**

For the soul (†) of Emil J. LaFont

requested by John Hamel and Shirley McNutt

### Wednesday November 8, 5:00 pm

for Cody Comstock requested by Roy and Deborah Stone  
and for Samuel Januszewski requested by his mother

### Thirty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time:

*Twenty-fourth Sunday after Pentecost*

**Sunday, November 12, 9:15 am**

For the souls (†) of Leo and Madeleine Lefebvre  
requested by their family

There is no 2nd collection today.

### Offertory October 29, 2023

Offertory	\$773.00
Church Maintenance	\$532.00
Donation for Safety & Security, and Roof maintenance	\$10,000.00
Donation for Chest Freezer	\$750.00
Candles	\$41.00
All Souls Day intentions	\$200.00
Mass Intentions	\$20.00
Total	\$12,316.00
<b>Upcoming Collections</b>	
Fuel	Nov. 12
<b>Ongoing Collections</b>	
NH Catholic Appeal (24 donors)	\$2,366.00
Grand Annual Collection	\$290.00

**Thank you  
to all who worked on our  
Lasagna Dinner last night and  
all those who supported this  
fundraiser.**

Thank You  
to all who supported our  
**Marian Candelabrum**  
with your intentions  
during October,  
which is dedicated to  
Our Lady of the Rosary.  
We realized \$50.00  
which was placed in our  
Candle Fund.

### Prayer List

Rev Msgr Donald Gilbert  
Fr. John Loughnane  
Chris Currier  
Frederick Gallant  
Carol Girard  
Isabella Gowell  
Deborah Hemingway  
Halford Jones  
Tim Roberts  
Brenda Ruest  
Janet Ruest  
Roger Sheehan  
Barbara Trask  
Chee Chee Tyrrell

To add a name to our Prayer List, please ask the person's permission first, and then notify Sherri Smith in the Church Hall after Mass or leave a message on the Rectory's answering machine (603-542-5732)



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 William Matthews requested by Sharon and Steve Wood.

### Grand Annual Collection

In October we began 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!

### Masses and Sanctuary Lamp

Intentions may be scheduled with Sherri Smith in the Church Hall after each Mass or at the Rectory during Wednesday office hours by phone (603-542-5732) or in person. Suggested donations are \$10.00.

### 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.

### Dziękuję Bardzo! Thank you so much!

We are pleased to have presented another memorable Polish American Heritage Month celebration. We extend our sincere thanks to Fr. Adrian for celebrating Mass with us and to all who contributed to the success of our events. Our net proceeds were about \$1,000.

### 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](mailto:sebaafri@comcast.net)

# 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. I heard people talking the other day about how we are saved. I always thought we could only be saved by Jesus, but some of them said we could be saved by good works. What's the right answer?**

A. Interestingly, the two answers are not opposed to each other!

So how are we saved? By Jesus or by being good? In practice, many people believe, whether they realize it or not, that they will make it to Heaven if they try to be good. Though there is some truth to this, it's important to explain how this works. Otherwise we might fall into the trap of thinking that we can save ourselves by doing good. And that's just not possible.

First of all, there is only one way to Heaven: Jesus! Jesus did not come to die on the cross just so that some people could get to Heaven through Him and others could find their own way. No, Jesus is the one and only way we are saved. In fact, if someone who knows nothing about Jesus, because they have never been taught, dies and goes to Heaven, they made it to Heaven because of Jesus. For example, if a baby dies and goes to Heaven, that child has not been able to consciously acknowledge Jesus as his or her savior while in life. This is not their fault, given their age. Jesus is their savior and the savior of everyone in Heaven.

With that said, what about good works? Can good works save us? There is some truth to good works having the power to save us, but we must understand what is really happening. If we are living in God's grace, then we are in what's called "a state of grace." This means that the gift of Jesus' death and resurrection is active and alive in our lives. It also means that if we die in this state of grace, we will go to Heaven once we are purified of all remnants of sin. But, regarding our good works, we need to see a certain essential connection to the saving grace of the cross and how we live. The fact of the matter is that if we have Jesus' grace alive in our lives, we will do good works. And on the flip side, if we are not doing any good works, it is a clear sign that we are not in His grace and thus will not be saved. So the grace of Jesus as our savior will be seen in our actions too.

One other key factor is that truly "good works" are actions in us that come from God. We don't choose to do a good work by our own will: rather, we do a good work only when we respond to a special inspiration of grace and let God work through us.

In the Bible, the letter of St. James explains this very well. He says, "So also faith of itself, if it does not have works, is dead. Indeed someone might say, 'You have faith and I have works.' Demonstrate your faith to me without works, and I will demonstrate my faith to you from my works" ([James 2:17-18](#)). In other words, faith, salvation and good works are all essentially

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Thank you for your generosity!

**31st Sunday' in Ordinary Time**

**Entrance Hymn:**

No. 323 "For the Beauty of the Earth"

**Offertory Hymn:**

No. 311 "Let All Mortal Flesh  
Keep Silence"

**Communion: (Choir)**

**Recessional Hymn:**

No. 331 "A Living Faith"

**Choir Rehearsal**

**Wed.. Nov. 8 6:30 pm**  
**New members welcome!**



Today's Mass Readings  
are found on  
page #668.

**Confessions  
at St. Mary Church**

Fridays  
9:30 am

Saturdays  
3:00 - 3:45pm

**2024 Calendars** are now available!

This year we have selected bilingual calendars, in English and Polish.

**THANK YOU!** to our sponsors:

**Catholic Daughters Court #892 and Knights of Columbus Council #1820**



**After Mass next  
Sunday, Nov. 12**

All are welcome!  
No charge, but  
Free Will Offerings  
Accepted

**VETERANS DAY  
PANCAKE BREAKFAST.**

**Saturday, Nov. 11**  
**7:00 am to 10:00 am**

St. Joseph Church Parish Hall

. All Veterans and Active Duty  
Personnel eat for FREE

All others \$5.00 at the Door.

**THANK YOU  
FOR YOUR SERVICE.**

**Raffle Tickets  
for sale in Church Hall after Mass  
or rectory during Wed. office hours.**

**\$5 Raffle Tickets**  
Complete Turkey Dinner  
Black Op Arms \$100.00 gift certificate  
Drawing at Turkey Party, Nov. 17

**1-20 Raffle to benefit the Fuel Fund  
(\$20 ticket)**

Drawing at Dec.10 Coffee Hour

Do not need to be present to win.

Upcoming Events  
St Joseph Church Hall  
Dec. 2 Christmas Craft Fair  
Dec. 10 Coffee Hour and  
1-20 Raffle drawing

More details in  
future bulletins!

**Turkey Party**

**Nov. 16, 7pm**  
(doors open at 6pm.)

Raffles! Door Prizes!  
Refreshments available!

**K of C 3rd Degree**

Monday Nov.13th  
Council Chambers  
St.Mary's Gym

**Safety and Security**

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

**Pecans are here!  
May be purchased  
in the church hall  
after Mass!**

**BULLETIN DEADLINE**

Send information to be included  
each week to  
[stjosephsclaremont@gmail.com](mailto:stjosephsclaremont@gmail.com)  
by 3pm on Tuesday.

Our current bulletin may be viewed  
online at

[https://www.jppc.net/onlinebulletins/  
9021template.pdf](https://www.jppc.net/onlinebulletins/9021template.pdf)

**St Mary Parish  
International Food Festivals**

All You Can Eat Buffet  
November - May  
See St Mary Church bulletin  
for details  
Free Will Offering  
Proceeds will go towards  
Church Maintenance Fund  
Information and Reservations;

St. Mary Rectory  
603.542.9518 or  
[stmarysclaremont@comcast.net](mailto:stmarysclaremont@comcast.net)

**PLEASE REMEMBER**

when visiting St Mary Church,  
to park on the street,  
in the parish lots across the  
street,  
or in the parking garage..  
The lot next to St Mary Church  
belongs to Grace River Church.  
We have been asked not to use it.

## Feast Days and Memorials

### Nov 9: Dedication of St John Lateran Basilica

The original magnificent Lateran Basilica was established as the Papal cathedral by Emperor Constantine. It had been the palace of the Laterani family and was named the Church of Christ Our Savior. Destroyed repeatedly by fire, earthquakes and war, rebuilt and rededicated under different names, the term "The Lateran" was used in the context that we refer to "The Vatican" today. The feast day celebrates, not the building or its history, but the union the universal church has in communion with our Holy Father.

### Nov 10: St Leo the Great, 400-461

Leo, a prominent deacon of the Church during the pontificate of Pope Celestine I, was widely respected for his love for the Lord, his intelligence and his persuasive nature. He used his gifts to bring about reconciliation between disputing groups of Christians. Pope Leo I fought to preserve the unity of the Church and its faith and to ensure the safety of his people against invasions from armies seeking to destroy the Church. He was the first pope to be given the title "the Great."

### Nov 11: St Martin of Tours, Bishop, 4th Century

Patron of mixed-race people, barbers, innkeepers, public health workers,  
and all those seeking racial harmony

A child of mixed race born in Peru, Martin served as a lay helper among the Dominicans and later was admitted to the order. He helped to found an orphanage, cared for slaves brought from Africa, and was spiritual director to many of his fellow religious, yet continued to call himself a "poor slave."

More information about saints and their feast days is available at:

<https://www.catholic.org/> <https://www.franciscanmedia.org/> [mycatholic.life/saints](http://mycatholic.life/saints)

## Readings for the Week - November 5, 2023

Today! Mal 1:14b — 2:2b, 8-10; Ps 131:1-3; 1 Thes 2:7b-9, 13; Mt 23:1-12  
Mon. Nov. 6: Rom 11:29-36; Ps 69:30-31, 33-34, 36; Lk 14:12-14  
Tues. Nov. 7: Rom 12:5-16b; Ps 131:1bcde-3; Lk 14:15-24  
Wed. Nov. 8: Rom 13:8-10; Ps 112:1b-2, 4-5, 9; Lk 14:25-33  
Thurs. Nov. 9: Ez 47:1-2, 8-9, 12; Ps 46:2-3, 5-6, 8-9; 1 Cor 3:9c-11, 16-17; Jn 2:13-22  
Fri. Nov 10: Rom 15:14-21; Ps 98:1-4; Lk 16:1-8  
Sat. Nov 11: Rom 16:3-9, 16, 22-27; Ps 145:2-5, 10-11; Lk 16:9-15

### November is dedicated to All Souls.

Envelopes to be placed on the altar during the month of November are at the back of the church. Please write the names of your memorial intentions and put it in the collection basket with your



## 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](http://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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