

St. Joseph Roman Catholic Church

58 Elm Street, Claremont, NH 03743

Established 1920



November 30, 2025

St Joseph Roman Catholic Church

Website: stjosephclaremont.org
Email: stjosephclaremont@gmail.com
603-542-5732

Pastor, Rev. Maria Sebastian Susairaj, HGN

Pastor's Mailing Address:
32 Pearl Street, Claremont, NH 03743
sebaafri@comcast.net
1-603-504-5430

Parish Finance Council

Rick Logan, Chairman
David Smith, Sharon Wood

Music Director

Richard Brown

Sunday, November 30, 9:15 a.m.

First Sunday of Advent

For the soul (†) of Wendell Stone
requested by his daughter-in-law Mary Stone & family

Wednesday, December 3, 5:00 pm

For the souls (†) on the All Souls Day List

Sunday, December 7, 9:15 a.m.

Second Sunday of Advent

For the souls (†) of Roger Sheehan and Bill Matthews
requested by the Sheehan family

Monday, December 8, 5:30 p.m.

Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception

For the soul (†) of Tomasz Wilczoch
requested by his mother

There is no 2nd Collection today.

There is no Collection Table today because this bulletin was sent to the printer on Friday, November 21, before the weekend Mass.

Next Sunday's bulletin will report the collections of both November 23 and 30.



UPCOMING 2nd COLLECTIONS

- Dec. 7:** Fuel
- Dec. 14:** Retirement Fund for Religious
- Dec. 21:** No 2nd Collection
- Dec. 25:** Special Collection for Fuel
- Dec. 28:** Church Maintenance

**ONGOING COLLECTION
Grand Annual Fund**

October 2025 - October 2026
\$2,520.00

Monday December 8

**Solemnity of the
Immaculate Conception,
a Holy day of Obligation.**

Masses will be at

St. Mary Church: 9:00 am

St. Joseph Church: 5:30 pm

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 Wendell Stone,

requested by

his daughter-in-law Mary Stone & family.



**PLEASE MAKE
SURE**

**all checks are
correctly written.**

Check the date, the amount of the check (both words and numerals) and that it is signed.

Thank you!

New Hampshire Catholic Appeal:

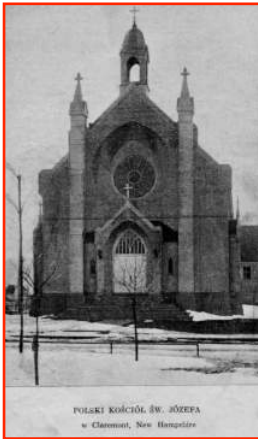
of Our Faith II,

Jesus, I trust in You



Our parish continues to work toward raising our parish goal of **\$9,116.00** for the NHCA. Thanks to the generosity of 24 parish families and the refund of the \$1,000 raised over our 2024 goal, we now have raised \$5,746.00 with a pledge of an additional \$80 for a total of **\$5,826.00**. This represents **64%** of our goal. If you have not donated yet to the appeal, please consider doing so now. We need the support of all our parish families in order to reach our goal without having to pay the balance from our parish savings. Gift envelopes are available at the back of the church. Please make checks payable to NHCA and that they are correctly written. You may also make your gift by using the QR code above or by going online to www.catholicnh.org/nhca. Thank you for your support of these important needs and ministries of the Church. 90% of the funds raised above this goal will be returned to our parish this year.

**STO LAT! CELEBRATING 100 YEARS
since the first Mass in our new upper church,
December 25, 1925 - 2025**



In July of 1921, the parish's second pastor, Rev. Adam Oraczewski, oversaw the construction of the church. The first Mass was celebrated in the one-story, flat roofed building on Christmas Day of 1921.

Christmas Day again marked an anniversary in the history of our church. The church building was completed in December of 1925. The Mass on Christmas Day marked the 4th anniversary of the first Mass in the original church building. It was decided to postpone the formal dedication until warmer weather. That was held on May 31, 1926.

Christmas Mass Schedule

St. Mary Church

Christmas Eve, Dec. 24: 4:00 p.m.
Dec. 25th: Midnight Mass: 12:00 a.m.

St. Joseph Church

Christmas Day 9:00 am Mass
(Please note the earlier time from our regular Sunday Mass)

**Mass and Sanctuary Lamp Intentions
may be scheduled in the Church Hall
after Sunday Mass.**

Mass stipend for Priest: \$10

**Suggested donation for Candle
Intentions:
\$10.00.**

Christmas Flower Fund



Envelopes are at the back of the church for donations for Christmas altar flowers. Please write your memorial intentions clearly on the envelopes so the names can be listed in our bulletin during the Christmas season.

**Our Marian Candelabrum
will be lit on Dec. 8,
the Solemnity of the
Immaculate Conception,
in memory of Stuart Stone,
requested by his wife Mary.**



Feast Days and Memorials

November 30: First Sunday of Advent (Hope)



The First Sunday of Advent can range from November 27th to December 3rd because it falls each year on the Sunday that is closest to November 30, St. Andrew's Day. The lighting of an Advent Wreath has been a European tradition for many years. Derived from the Latin word for 'coming,' Advent is the name given to the four weeks before Christmas when we prepare for the coming of Jesus into the world.

Four candles of liturgical colors are lit gradually, one on each Sunday of the Advent season, symbolizing our expectation and hope in Our Savior's first coming into the world and in his Second Coming as Judge at the end of the world. The candle lit today is also called the "Prophecy Candle," in reference to the prophecy of Jesus' birth. The wreath itself, a circle of evergreen, is also symbolic of everlasting life. Seedpods, nuts and cones used to decorate the wreath symbolize resurrection, and fruits represent the nourishing fruitfulness of the Christian life.

December 3: St. Francis Xavier, Priest, 1506-1552 Patron of missionaries

This saint was one of the founders of the Society of Jesus, known as the Jesuits. At the age of thirty-five, he was appointed Papal Nuncio, a diplomat representing the Church in the East. His missionary work took him to India, Sri Lanka, Malaysia & Japan. Francis Xavier is said to have been responsible for the first Japanese convert to Christianity. But the people held fast to their Buddhist and Shinto beliefs. Christians were forced to worship in secret. St. Francis Xavier continued his diplomatic mission and died of illness at the age of forty-six, while on an island off the coast of China.

December 4: Feast of St. John Damascene, Priest, Doctor of the Church, c675-749 Patron of pharmacists, icon painters, theology students

John Mansur was born into a wealthy Arab-Christian family in Damascus, Syria, and held a high position in the court of the caliph. He chose to resign and enter a monastery in Jerusalem. At this time veneration of images was outlawed by Emperor Leo III, who ordered all statues, icons, and mosaics to be destroyed. John of Damascus became known for his writings in defense of the practice, explaining the objects were venerated, not worshiped.

December 6: St. Nicholas, Bishop, 270-343 Patron of children, brides, perfumers, poets, bankers, pawnbrokers, travelers, sailors, fishermen, dock workers, brewers, prisoners



St. Nicholas, the 4th C. bishop of Myra in Asia Minor, is called Sw. Mikolaj in Poland, and celebrated as a saintly and dignified figure known for his charity. Traditional commemorations of St. Nicholas Day recreate the story of the good bishop coming down from Heaven with an angel helper and traveling on foot or in a sleigh pulled by a white horse. Wearing a bishop's robe and carrying a crozier, he visits homes in the countryside. When children spot him, they cry out, "He has come! He has come!" Gifts of holy pictures, red apples or oranges, and pierniki (gingerbread or spice cookies) are given along with comments on their behavior over the last year. If such an event isn't held, St. Nicholas comes as children are sleeping and leaves treats under their pillows or in cleaned and polished shoes left out the night before and leaves treats under their pillows or in cleaned and polished shoes left out the night before

www.catholic.org/ <https://mycatholic.life/> <https://www.stnicholascenter.org/>

Readings for the Week November 30 - December 6, 2025

Sunday Is 2: 1-5; Ps 122: 1-2, 3-4, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9; Rom 13: 11-14; Mt 24: 37-44

Monday Is 2: 1-5; Ps 122: 1-2, 3-4b, 4cd-5, 6-7, 8-9; Mt 8: 5-11

Tuesday Is 11: 1-10; Ps 72: 1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17; Lk 10: 21-24

Wednesday Is 25: 6-10a; Ps 23: 1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6; Mt 15: 29-37

Thursday Is 26: 1-6; Ps 118: 1 and 8-9, 19-21, 25-27a; Mt 7: 21, 24-27

Friday Is 29: 17-24; Ps 27: 1, 4, 13-14; Mt 9: 27-31

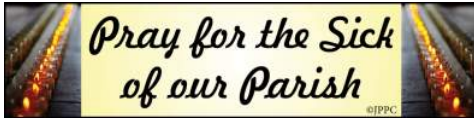
Saturday Is 30: 19-21, 23-26; Ps 147: 1-2, 3-4, 5-6; Mt 9: 35-10:1, 5a, 6-8

The Traveling Statue of Mary Program

is a program of the New Hampshire State Council of the Knights of Columbus.

Parishioners of St. Joseph and St Mary Churches are encouraged to welcome the statue into their home for a week or two and gather family, friends or neighbors to pray the rosary together.

Pamphlets and blessed rosaries are provided.
Call Steve Denis at 603-558-5209



Fr. John Loughnane
 Mandy Albanese
 John Arsenault
 Mark Baril
 Ashley Booher
 Brooke
 Jean Brown
 John Casey
 Elissa Coburn
 April Colle
 Chris Currier
 Eva Jane Demers
 Jean Drena
 Emma
 Frank Fahey
 Carol Girard
 Isabella Gowell
 Gianna Gregorutti
 Stephen Grogan
 Betty Hayward
 Deborah Hemingway
 Christine Hunter

Annette Lambert Huntington
 Samuel Januszewski
 Kallie Knight
 Tina Lange
 Carol Logan
 The Lord family
 Matt
 Michael
 Karen Ouellette
 Linda Patch
 Brenda Ruest
 Janet Ruest
 Nancy Ruest
 Paul Ruest
 Sonya Sheehan
 Joan Silver
 Bob St. Aubin
 Darlene St. Aubin
 Barbara Trask
 Becky Trombley
 Janice Vilgats
 Daniel Walsh
 Joshua White
 Lawrence Woodward

To add a name to our Prayer List, please ask the person's permission first, then call Sharon Wood at 603-542-6454 or email stjosephsclaremont@gmail.-

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Joan Baillargeon, who passed away on November 17. Her funeral Mass will be held at St. Joseph Church on Saturday, December 6 at 11am.



Catholic Daughters Court #892
Christmas Luncheon
Sunday December 14
Time to be announced
St. Joseph Church Hall

Knights of Columbus
Combined Assembly & Council
Christmas Social
Monday December 1, 6:00 pm
Sunmer House,
122 Main St. Charlestown



K of C Council 1820
Meets Monday
Dec. 8 at 7pm
Council Chambers
St Mary's Gym



TURKEY PARTY 2025
Lots of turkeys! Lots of winners!
THANK YOU to all who helped
make this a success!



Thank you to everyone who helped with and attended our Christmas Craft Fair on Saturday. Look for photos in next week's bulletin.



**Hymns for the
First Sunday of Advent**

Entrance Antiphon: (Choir)

Offertory Hymn: No.195
"Creator of the Stars of Night"

Communion: (Choir)

Recessional Hymn: No. 198
"Come, O Long Expected
Jesus"



CHOIR REHEARSAL

Sat. Dec. 6 at 1:00 pm

**All are welcome
to join.**

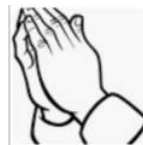
**Today is the
First Sunday of Advent,
which begins a new
Liturgical Year.
Our Sunday readings
will now use Cycle A.**

CONFESSIONS

St. Mary Church

Friday 9:30 am

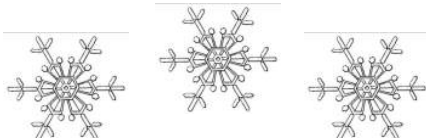
Saturday 3:00 to 3:45



MASS READINGS

A/477

Memorial Acclamation
"We proclaim
your death, O Lord, and
profess your
resurrection until you
come again."



Diocesan Vocation Awareness

"Jesus, remember me when you come
into Your kingdom."

Will you make Christ the King and His
merciful love remembered as a priest,
deacon or in the consecrated life?

Contact the Vocation Office:

(603) 663-0196

cmartel@rcbm.org

Winter Weather Cancellations

If it becomes necessary to cancel
the Wednesday afternoon Mass,
choir rehearsal, or other church
event because of the weather,
we will again post the cancellation
on the WMUR-TV notification
system. Please check their website
or broadcast on air for our listing.

EARLY BULLETIN DEADLINES

5pm today for Dec. 7th

5pm Sun. Dec. 7 for Dec. 14

5pm Thurs. Dec. 11 for Dec. 21
(Christmas bulletin)

5pm Wed. Dec. 17 for Dec. 28

stjosephsclaremont@gmail.com

or call Sharon Wood at

603-542-6454.

Roman Catholic Homebound Ministry

**Homebound visits:
2nd Monday of every month**

If you or someone you know would like
to receive a visit from Father Sebastian,
call Steve Denis at 603-558-5209. Father
is assisted by one of the Lay Ministers of
the Holy Eucharist.

ST MARY CEMETERY

**Please see St. Mary Church's
bulletin for updates on
Diocesan rules.**

stmaryparishnh.org

**Also see our earlier
November bulletins, available
in the church hall or online at**
stjosephclaremont.org

If you use email and would like to be
placed on the Parish email list to
receive timely updates to our church
schedule, please send us an email.
stjosephsclaremont@gmail.com



2026 Calendars

Our English/Polish
calendars are available at
the back of the church.

Dziękuję Bardzo!
(Thank You Very Much!)
to our

**Calendar Sponsor,
Knights of Columbus
Council #1820**

Opłátky for Christmas

Packages of embossed white Polish
wafers traditionally used at
the Christmas Eve dinner (Wigilia)

Two package sizes: \$3 & \$5

Available in the church hall
after Mass

email stjosephsclaremont@gmail.com

or

call Sharon Wood at 603-542- 5732.

The Area Choir Christmas Concerts

South Congregational Church, 20 Church St., Newport

Saturday December 6 7:00 pm

Sunday, December 7 3:00 pm and 7:00

Susan Cancio-Bello, Director of Music
Alexander Stewart, Pianist & Bell Choir Director
Nicholas Kleinschmidt, Organist
Katie Parker Ames, Flutist
The Earl Pollard Memorial Bell Choir

Please come early to secure parking and seating.
Sunday afternoon concert usually reaches maximum capacity.
No admission charge; free will offering

The Area Choir concerts have been performed on the first
weekend in December since 1953. This ecumenical group
is comprised of singers and musicians from many churches
and communities.

St. Joseph and St Mary Churches, Claremont,
are represented this year by
Karen Parker, Larry Schissel, and Mark Lafontaine.

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Ann Campbell
Administrator
603-826-0840
164 Old Springfield Rd.
Charlestown, NH 03603
administration@thecampbellhouses.com

St. Jude,
Patron of the Impossible.



pray for us!



Bonnie Miles
Associate Broker

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Welcome to Our Church!



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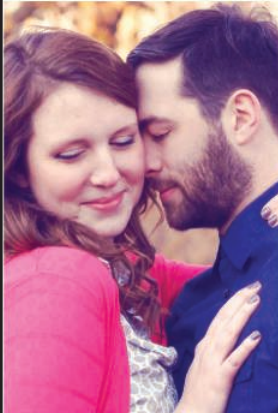
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SAMANTHA JOSEPHSON

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