

St. Joseph Roman Catholic Church

58 Elm Street, Claremont, NH 03743

Established 1920



St Joseph Roman Catholic Church

Website: stjosephclaremont.org

Email: stjosephsclaremont@gmail.com

Pastor, Rev. Maria Sebastian Susairaj, HGN

Pastor's Mailing Address:

32 Pearl Street, Claremont, NH 03743

sebaafri@comcast.net

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, Jan. 17, 10:00am to 1:00 pm

603-542-5732

Sunday, January 14, 9:15 am

Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

For the souls (†) of

Czesława and Franciszek Długosiewicz
requested by the Wilczoch family

There will be no Mass at 5:00 pm

on Wednesday, January 17.

We apologize for the inconvenience
and will reschedule the requested intention.

Sunday, January 21, 9:15 am

Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

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

Today's 2nd Collection is for Fuel.

Dec. 31, 2023	
Offertory	\$929.00
Fuel	\$500.00
Hall Use after Funeral	\$100.00
Candles	\$77.00
12/31/23 TOTAL	\$1,606.00
Jan. 7, 2024	
Offertory	\$792.00
Fuel	\$500.00
Funeral Mass	\$200.00
Candles	\$85.00
Fundraiser: Pecans	\$376.00
Fundraiser: Polish Account: Oplatki sales	\$71.00
1/7/24 TOTAL	\$1,934.00
Parish Giving Online	
Fuel	\$145.10
Church Maintenance	\$145.10
Parish Giving TOTAL	\$290.20



UPCOMING COLLECTIONS	
Church Maintenance (4th Sunday)	January 28
ONGOING COLLECTIONS	
NH Catholic Appeal (24 donors)	\$2,816.00
Grand Annual Collection	\$2,530.00

Online Giving Now Available

Fr. Sebastian is pleased to announce the launch of the new online giving platform on our website. The link called "Parish Giving" is listed on the Menu. Fr. Sebastian extends his thank you to those who have already taken advantage of this new way of donating to St. Joseph Parish! We will have more information in bulletin inserts and in-person instruction on how to help you to use this new method of giving to our church.

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 Roger Sheehan requested by the David Smith family.



Masses and Sanctuary Lamp

Many dates are available for Sanctuary Lamp intentions. They may be requested in memory of deceased loved ones; for God's blessings on someone marking a special occasion; or for an unnamed special intention. 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 in Subject Line (Offertory or Specific Collection) to be sure it is put into the right place.

Questions *and* Answers

©JPPC

For Catholics

Copyright © 2022 My Catholic Life! Inc. All rights reserved. Used with permission.

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've heard it said that Catholics break the First Commandment because we worship saints. I know that's not true but I don't know how to explain it. Can you help me?

A. This is a good question and something that is very commonly misunderstood. I'd be happy to explain.

You're absolutely right; we don't worship saints. Worship is something due to God alone. By worshiping God, we do a few things. First, we acknowledge that God is God and He alone is God. The First Commandment states, "I am the Lord your God, you shall have no other gods besides me." Worship requires that we acknowledge that there is only one God.

Second, we acknowledge that as the one God, He is our creator and the only source of our salvation. In other words, if you want to find true happiness and fulfillment and you want to get to Heaven, there is only one way. Jesus, who is God, is the only one who saves us from sin, and worship of Him acknowledges this fact. Furthermore, worship is a way of opening our lives up to His saving power. By worshiping God, we allow Him into our lives so that He can save us.

Third, true worship also helps us to see God's goodness and helps us to love Him as we ought. So worship is a kind of love we give to God alone.

But what about the saints? What is their role and what sort of "relationship" should we have with them?

Remember, anyone who has died and has gone to Heaven is considered a saint. The saints are all those who are now before the throne of God, face-to-face, in a state of perfect happiness. Some of these men and women who are in Heaven are called canonized saints. This means that after much prayer and much study of their lives on earth, the Catholic Church declares that they are, indeed, in Heaven. So that brings us to the question of what our relationship should be with them

Since the saints are in Heaven, seeing God face-to-face, we Catholics believe that they can play two primary roles in our lives. First, the lives they lived here on earth give us a great example of how to live. The Catholic Church declares certain people to be saints, in part so that we will be able to study their lives and be inspired to live the same lives of virtue that they did. But we believe they take on a second role also. Since they are in Heaven, seeing God face-to-face, we believe that the saints can pray for us in a very special way.

Just because the saints are in Heaven doesn't mean that they stop caring about us here on earth. On the contrary, since they are in Heaven, they care about us even more. Their love for us has now become perfected. Therefore, they want to love us and pray for us even more than when they were on earth. So imagine the power of their prayers.

Here is a very holy person, seeing God face-to-face, asking God to enter our lives and fill us with His grace. It's like you asking your mom, dad, or a good friend to pray for you. Sure, we need to pray for ourselves also, but it certainly doesn't hurt to get all the prayers we can. That's why we call upon the saints to pray for us. Their prayers do help us, and God chooses to let their prayers be a reason that He pours even more grace upon us than if we were praying alone.

I hope that helps. I suggest you pick a favorite saint and, each day, ask that saint to pray for you. I'm willing to bet that you will notice a difference in your life if you do.

Copyright © 2022 My Catholic Life! Inc. All rights reserved. Used with permission.

Hymns for January 14, 2024

Entrance Hymn: No. 303

"All the Earth"

Offertory Hymn: No.373

"Here I am, Lord"

Communion: (Choir)

Recessional Hymn: No.227

"Songs of
Thankfulness and Praise"



CHOIR REHEARSAL

Wed. Jan 17

6:30 pm

**New members
welcome!**

Mass Readings

2nd Sunday in

Ordinary Time

B 582

CONFESSIONS

St Mary Church

Friday 9:30 am

Saturday 3:00 to 3:45

Please pray for the soul of
Roger Sheehan, whose funeral
was last week.



AFTER MASS TODAY

All are welcome!

Free Will Offering

Prayer List

Rev. Msgr. Donald Gilbert

Brenda

Chris Currier

Frederick Gallant

Isabella Gowell

Deborah Hemingway

Tim Roberts

Janet Ruest

Becky Trombley

Fr. John Loughnane

Ann Cherry

Jean Drena

Carol Girard

Stephen Grogan

Halford Jones

Brenda Ruest

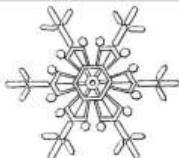
Barbara Trask

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 answering machine
(603-542-5732) or at
stjosephsclaremont@gmail.com

Safety and Security

Please remember to lock your car doors
while attending any event in the church.



**There will not be a
Catholic Daughters
meeting
in January.**



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

Winter Weather Cancellations:

If it becomes necessary to cancel
Wednesday Mass,
rectory office hours or choir rehearsal,
we will again be using the WMUR-TV
notification system. Please check the
cancellations listed on their website or
broadcast on air.

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 an email to:

stjosephsclaremont@gmail.com

You can view our bulletin, and other
valuable
information, on our new website at
stjosephclaremont.org

PLEASE NOTE: The email address uses St
Josephs (plural) but the website address is
singular (St Joseph)

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!

BULLETIN DEADLINE

3pm Tuesdays

If you have something you would like to
see put into our bulletin, please send it to
stjosephsclaremont@gmail.com

Feast Days and Memorials

As our country commemorates the birthday of Martin Luther King, Jr. let us pray for the end of racial discrimination and for the preservation of peace and justice.

Jan 17: St Anthony, Abbot, 251-356

Born in Egypt to wealthy Christian parents, Anthony gave away his large inheritance and chose an ascetic life of prayer and solitude. Also called St Anthony the Great, he worked to help those in prison and fought against the Aryan heresy that denied the divinity of Christ. Many sought his spiritual guidance. He is the patron of a long list of petitioners, including amputees, those suffering skin diseases and epileptics. He is also the patron of occupations such as gravediggers, basket makers, butchers, and cemetery workers. and the patriarch of monks. St. Anthony the Abbot lived to the age of 105.

Jan 20: St Fabian, Pope, Martyr, c.200-250

According to an early historian of the Church, after the death of Pope Anteros in 236, an unknown layman came to Rome and joined the crowd that observed the selection of a new Pope. A dove flew into the room and landed on his head. The dove, a symbol of the Holy Spirit and peace, was seen as a sign from God and the stranger, Fabian, was unanimously elected as the next Pope. He served in that capacity for fourteen years of peace, for the persecution of Christians stopped under the Emperor Philip. Fabian helped to build up the structure of the church, but when Philip died, persecution began again under Decius. Fabian died a martyr in 250, serving as a courageous example for his flock.

St Sebastian, Martyr, 255-288

Patron of soldiers, athletes, and those who desire a saintly death

Sebastian was born into a wealthy Roman family, was educated in Milan, and became an officer in the Roman army. Although a favorite of the Emperor Diocletian, he risked his own life by helping the imprisoned Christians and converting fellow soldiers and superiors. Condemned to death as a Christian himself, he survived execution and lived to publicly denounce Diocletian for his persecution. A second execution was successful.

<https://www.catholic.org>

<https://www.franciscanmedia.org>

Readings for the Week - January 14, 2024

Sunday, January 14, 2024 1 Sm 3:3b-10, 19 Ps 40:2, 4, 7-8, 8-9, 10 1 Cor 6:13c-15a, 17-20 Jn 1:35-42

Monday, January 15, 2024 1 Sm 15:16-23 Ps 50:8-9, 16bc-17, 21 and 23 Mk 2:18-22

Tuesday, January 16, 2024 1 Sm 16:1-13 Ps 89:20, 21-22, 27-28 Mk 2:23-28

Wednesday, January 17, 2024 1 Sm 17:32-33, 37, 40-51 Ps 144:1b, 2, 9-10 Mk 3:1-6

Thursday, January 18, 2024 1 Sm 18:6-9; 19:1-7 Ps 56:2-3, 9-10a, 10b-11, 12-13 Mk 3:7-12

Friday, January 19, 2024 1 Sm 24:3-21 Ps 57:2, 3-4, 6 and 11 Mk 3:13-19

Saturday, January 20, 2024 2 Sm 1:1-4, 11-12, 19, 23-27 Ps 80:2-3, 5-7 Mk 3:20-21

Grand Annual Collection

In October we began our parish's Grand Annual Collection. This is not 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

Thank you for your generosity!

Family Owned & Operated

Stringer

Funeral Homes, Inc. and Crematorium

146 Broad Street, Claremont, NH
 (603) 543-3146 www.stringerfh.com

Directors
 Michael D.Stringer Scott W. Stringer

R. E. *24/7 Emergency Service*

HINKLEY

Co., Inc. (603) 543-3571
www.rehinkley.com

Heating Oil • Kerosene • Diesel Fuel
 Propane • Air Conditioning • Plumbing
 Systems Design • Installation & Service
 ~ Fully Insured ~

8 Lane Ridge Rd. • P.O. Box 832
 Claremont, NH 03743

St. Jude,
 Patron of the Impossible.



pray for us!

Discover the Catholic Difference

Rely on the **Knights of Columbus** to help protect your family's future.

A name you know and trust. An organization you can believe in.

Contact me today to learn more about our products

Kevin Brown, FICF, LUTCF, CLTC®
 MDRT

Assistant General Agent
 603-305-0204
Kevin.Brown@kofc.org



LIFE INSURANCE • DISABILITY INCOME INSURANCE • LONG TERM CARE INSURANCE • RETIREMENT ANNUITIES

IN REMEMBRANCE OF
 SAMANTHA JOSEPHSON

S A M I
 STOP ASK MATCH INFORM

ASK
 #WHATSMYNAME
 BEFORE YOU GET
 IN A RIDE SHARE

 American Red Cross

Make a Difference in Your Community

VOLUNTEER

with the American Red Cross

Join today at redcross.org/Volunteer

 **Automotive Service Excellence**
 Master Auto Technician

FAIR AND HONEST SERVICE
 ALL MAKES AND MODELS

ROBERTS AUTO SERVICE LLC

Complete Car & Truck Service And Repair

Tim Roberts
 9 Little Ascutney Road
 Perkinsville, Vermont 05151
802-384-3708



Mallory's Army Foundation
 United Together In The Fight Against Bullying...
 Don't Just Teach Kindness... BE KINDNESS!

www.MallorysArmy.com
 (973) 440-8657 • info@mallorysarmy.org

It's easy to join our mailing list! Just send your email address by text message:
 Text MALLORYSARMY to 22828 to get started.



 Message and data rates may apply.

Thank You
 to our bulletin sponsors!

Your continued support has not gone unnoticed by your parish community and is SO appreciated!

Weekly Bulletin Sponsors:
 In addition to your weekly bulletin advertisement, you also have FREE access to your very own FindingFABER™ account! The FindingFABER™ app allows you to post realtime promotions/coupons, flash deals, information and listings at any time - 24/7, day or night! As a current sponsor, you should visit www.FindingFABER.com to get started! Your posts are available to the entire community, not only our parishioners! We encourage you to take advantage of this exciting, FREE resource! As with any new app, the more it is used the more exciting it becomes!

You may be asking yourself, "who or what is Finding FABER?"

Parishioners: If you visit your app store, and download the FindingFABER™ app, you can see and more importantly use, the deals and info posted by our bulletin sponsors! Just show your phone when you find a sponsor while using the app! The more the app is used, the better it will get!

catholicmatch®
 New Hampshire



CatholicMatch.com/dateNH

Welcome to Our Church!



Local, trusted, proven, effective, supportive, referrals, relationships, affordable, repetitious, versatile, lasting.

This describes the power of... **Church Bulletin Advertising**

Placing an ad in the parish bulletin supports the parish while building your business
 - THAT'S A WIN WIN!
 Call 1.800.333.3166 TODAY!