

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
603-542-5732

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

Sunday, March 17, 9:15 am

Fifth Sunday of Lent

For the People

Wednesday, March 20, 5:15 am

For the soul (†) of Rev. Stanley J. Piwowar
requested by Ron and Marilyn Gilbert

Sunday, March 24, 9:15 am

Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord

For the soul (†) of Joseph Januszewski
requested by his wife and family

There is no 2nd Collection Today

Sunday, Mar. 10, 2024	
Offertory	\$397.00
Catholic Relief & Home Missions	\$118.00
Easter Flowers	\$90.00
Zurek-Couto Fund	\$3,791.29
TOTAL at Mass	\$4,396.29
Parish Giving Online	
Offertory	\$685.83
Church Maintenance	\$19.43
Fuel	\$124.65
Easter Flowers	\$23.65
Parish Giving Total	\$853.56
TOTAL at Mass and Online	\$5,249.85

We are very grateful for the annual donation from the Zurek-Couto Fund that was established for St. Joseph Church through the New Hampshire Charitable Foundation. Please remember our benefactor, Florence Couto, in your prayers. Her generosity in directing this large bequest to our parish is greatly appreciated.



PARISH GIVING is Growing!
 You can sign up too by going to the Parish website at <https://stjosephclaremont.org/> and clicking on the Parish Giving button. Pick up a brochure at the back of the Church or go to www.parishgiving.org
 If you make arrangements for online giving, you can place one of the laminated Online Giving Cards (available at the back of the church) in the Collection Basket in place of cash or check.

Special Collection on March 31

Upon recommendation of the Finance Council and the support of Fr. Sebastian, there will be a Special Collection on Easter Sunday to help defray the cost of infrastructure repairs and upgrades to the church and rectory that were not budgeted for in this fiscal year.
 Please use the Grand Annual Appeal envelopes as all proceeds will be placed into that account, which has been earmarked for this specific purpose. All money raised will stay here at St. Joseph's.
 Thank you for your generosity.

UPCOMING COLLECTIONS
 March 24: Church Maintenance
 March 31: Special Collection
 (see explanation on this page)

ONGOING COLLECTIONS
 2023 NH Catholic Appeal **\$2,916** (24 donors)
 Grand Annual Collection **\$2,560.00**



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 Carol and Robert Madden requested by their family.



Easter Flower Donations

Envelopes are available at the back of the church. Intentions and donor names will be published in the Easter Sunday Bulletin.

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 by leaving a message

Pecan Fundraiser

Our inventory is getting low!
 Still available: **Cinnamon Glazed Pecans, and plain Roasted Cashews**
 Buy now before Easter!
 Available after Mass in the Parish Hall.

Our Lady of Ephesus House of Prayer
 35 Fawn Ledge Lane
 Jamaica, VT 05343

Weekday Mass
 Monday- 9:00 am
 Wed. to Fri. 4:30 pm

Weekend Masses
 10:30am

Stations of the Cross
 Fridays after 4:30 pm Mass and
 Sundays 3.00 pm; Refreshments

Confession: Before and after all Masses and at any time by appointment
 Land- 802-896-6000m
 Cell- 802-839-0635
<https://www.ourladyofephesus.houseofprayer.org/>

March 23,2024

Confirmation Pilgrimage
 by the Diocese of Burlington, VT

10:00 am Arrival
 Opening Address
 Stations of the Cross
 One-on-one with Jesus
 (personal prayer)
 LUNCH
 3:00 pm Adoration
 and Confession
 4:00 pm Holy Mass

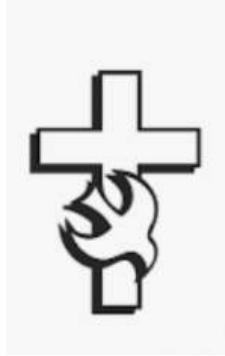
March 24,2024

Palm Sunday- Passion of the Lord
 10.30 am Procession and Mass

See next week's bulletin for Holy Week and Easter Sunday Schedule

EASTER SCHEDULE

St Joseph Church
Palm Sunday, March 24
9:15 am Mass
Wednesday of Holy Week, March 27
5:00 pm Mass
5:30 pm Confessions
Good Friday, March 29
5:30 pm Stations of the Cross
Holy Saturday, March 30
11:00 am Blessing of the Food
Easter Sunday, March 31
9:15 am Easter Mass



EASTER SCHEDULE

St Mary Church
Palm Sunday, March 24
4:00 pm Mass (Saturday)
7:45 am & 10:30 am Mass (Sunday)
Holy Thursday, March 28
6:00 pm Confessions
7:00 pm Mass of the Lord's Supper/
followed by Adoration
Good Friday, March 29
2:30 pm Passion/Veneration of the Cross
Holy Saturday/Easter Sunday
7:30 pm Easter Vigil
8:00 am & 10:30 am Easter Mass

Polish Lenten and Easter Traditions

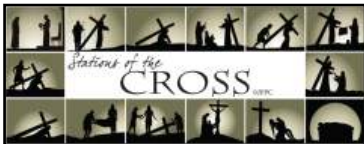
The Lenten tradition of covering statues, crucifixes, and sacred images—except for the Stations of the Cross—in purple cloth, begins on the Fifth Sunday of Lent, which was called Passion Sunday in the old Church calendar and was followed by Passion Week. Covering the beautiful images around us in the church was meant to redirect our attention to Christ's Passion and Death as illustrated by the Stations of the Cross. Veiling the crucifixes, statues, and images in our own homes so that we see those veils daily can help us enter more deeply into the spirit of the Lenten season.

Palm Sunday (Niedziela Palmowa)

The Easter "palm" is a symbolic twig prepared before Easter in memory of Jesus' entry into Jerusalem. The palms are blessed in churches during the celebration of Palm Sunday. Polish palms are long bunches of young tree twigs, herbs, and flowers. Traditionally, they include willow twigs, the first green signs of spring in Poland, symbolizing life and resurrection. Palms decorated with dried or artificial flowers and tied with ribbons are sold in open-air markets so that families can purchase them to bring to church on Palm Sunday.



Over many centuries, eggs have been part of Easter traditions in many cultures. As the image of a chick breaking through the shell symbolizes life beginning, the egg reminds us of Christ's resurrection from the dead and coming forth from the tomb. Traditional egg decorating is done by marking designs with hot wax and using dyes of natural food items like onion skins and vinegar in boiling water. Designs such as a lily, a dove or a lamb, and words like "Alleluia" or "He is Risen" express the Easter message of hope and love that is so badly needed today.



Stations of the Cross for the Souls in Purgatory will be prayed after each daily Mass during Lent at St. Mary Church and after the Friday "Bread and Soup" meal. at St. Joseph Church.

Lenten Rules of Fasting and Abstinence:

All Fridays in Lent are days of Abstinence from meat.

Good Friday is a day of Fasting as well as Abstinence.



Catholic Daughters Meeting
Tuesday March 19
6:00pm
St Joseph Church Hall
Bring a "Green" Gift!

TODAY AFTER MASS
St Patrick's Day/St Joseph's Day Brunch

Corned Beef and Cabbage

NO CHARGE
FREE WILL OFFERINGS ACCEPTED
ALL ARE WELCOME

Home Visitation of the Pilgrim Image of Our Lady of Guadalupe

This is an authentic reproduction made by NASA of the upper portion of the miraculous Image of the Mother of God which appeared on the tilma (cloak) of Juan Diego, a humble Indian and devout Catholic in Mexico City on December 12th, 1531. If you would like this very special Image to visit your home for a week, please contact Juanita Sweet at: juanitajoy2@gmail.com or 603-477-1348.



Hymns for March 17, 2024

Entrance Hymn: No. 384
"Take Up Your Cross" 229

Offertory Hymn: No. 3
"Hear Us, Almighty Lord / Attende
Domine "

Communion: Choir

Recessional Hymn: No. 238
" From Ashes to the Living Font"

CHOIR REHEARSAL

Wed. March 20 6:30 pm

New members
welcome!

Mass Readings

Fifth Sunday
of Lent
B 512



Sunday March 17, 2024

Jer 31:31-34; Ps 51:3-4, 12-13,
14-15; Heb 5:7-9; Jn 12:20-33

Monday March 18, 2024

Dn 13:1-9, 15-17, 19-30, 33-62
or 13:41c-62, Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4,
5, 6; Jn 8:1-11

Tuesday March 19, 2024

2 Sm 7:4-5a, 12-14a, 16 Ps
89: 2-3, 4-5, 27 and 29 Rom
4:13, 16-18, 22 Mt 1:16, 18-21,
24a or Lk 2:41-51a

Wednesday March 20, 2024

Dn 3:14-20, 91-92, 95; Dn
3:52, 53, 54, 55, 56 Jn 8:31-42

Thursday March 21, 2024

Gn 17:3-9; Ps 105:4-5, 6-7, 8-
9, Jn 8:51-59

Friday March 22, 2024

Jer 20:10-13; Ps 18:2-3a, 3bc-
4, 5-6, 7; Jn 10:31-42

Saturday March 23, 2024

Ez 37:21-28 Jer 31:10,
11-12abcd, 13 Jn 11:45-56

Prayer List

Rev Msgr Donald Gilbert	Fr. John Loughnane
Brenda	Deborah Hemingway
Anne Cherry	Karen Ouellette
Chris Currier	Tim Roberts
Jean Drena	Brenda Ruest
Frederick Gallant	Janet Ruest
Isabella Gowell	Barbara Trask
Stephen Grogan	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

CONFESSIONS St Mary Church
Saturday 3:00 to 3:45 pm

BULLETIN DEADLINE

3pm Tuesdays

3pm Thurs. March 21 for Easter
bulletin

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

Safety and Security

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

Homebound?

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

Contact him at
sebaafri@comcast.net

Did you miss getting a printed copy of
our bulletin because of travel, illness or
snow? Past copies are available.

Email stjosephsclaremont@gmail.com
or tell Sharon Wood at Mass and
a copy will be located for you.

If you use email and would like to be
placed on the Parish email list to re-
ceive 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)

St Joseph Church Hall Bread & Soup Penitential Meal

11:00 am to 12:00 noon
No Charge, Free Will Offerings accepted
12:10 pm: Stations of the Cross

**This will be the last of the series of
meals for this Lenten Season.**

**Stations of the Cross at 5:30pm
on Good Friday**

St Mary's Gym

Knights of Columbus Benefit Fish Fry

4:30 to 6:00 pm

\$15.00 a plate; dine in or take-out
Beer-battered fish and onion rings,
hand-cut fries, hush puppies, cole slaw, tartar sauce, soda

Proceeds to benefit K of C activities and
St Mary Church Maintenance Fund

Information: Kevin Kraviec 603-801-6130

Feast Days and Memorials

March 17: St Patrick, 387-461, Bishop

Patron of Ireland

Born into a high-ranking Roman family in Scotland, Patrick was kidnapped by Irish pirates and sold as a slave to a pagan master. He wrote in his memoir that he prayed constantly each day while working as a shepherd. "In a single day, I have said as many as a hundred prayers and in the night, nearly the same. I prayed in the woods and on the mountain, even before dawn. I felt no hurt from the snow or ice or rain." After years of captivity, Patrick dreamt that he should escape by sea. He boarded a ship bound for Britain and was able to return to his family. Eventually he joined the priesthood and worked as a missionary under the guidance of St. Germain. Patrick was sent back to Ireland by Pope St. Celestine I, with the mission of gathering the Irish race into the one fold of Christ.

March 18: St Cyril of Jerusalem, 315-386, Bishop & Doctor of the Church

St. Cyril was a theologian of the early Church who left important writings documenting the instruction of catechumens and the order of the Liturgy in his day. Those writings about church doctrine have special authority, for which he was named as a "Doctor of the Church." His emphasis on God's love and forgiveness was not common during his time. He also fostered the development of Jerusalem as a pilgrimage centre for all Christians.

March 19: Feast of St Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Patron of the Universal Church, of fathers, workers, carpenters, travelers, immigrants, unborn children, and of a happy death

What we know about St. Joseph from Scripture is that he was descended from the royal lineage of the great King David, but was only a poor carpenter. He could not afford to offer a lamb for sacrifice in the temple, but only a pair of birds. Yet Joseph was compassionate in caring for Mary and her Son, leaving his home and larger family to take them to safety in Egypt and then to Nazareth. We assume that he died with Mary and Jesus by his side, sometime before Jesus began his public ministry.



The beautiful painting above our main altar depicts that scene and is a reminder of his patronage of our Church.

A St. Joseph's Day custom, said to have begun in Sicily in the 1800s, is to assemble an elaborate three-tiered home altar. On it are placed a statue of St. Joseph, votive candles, flowers, wine, meatless dishes and sweet treats. Foods with bread crumbs represent the saw dust of St Joseph, the carpenter. Also included are fava beans, recalling the crop that was saved when St. Joseph's intercession brought an end to drought and famine in Sicily in the Middle Ages. The food is traditionally donated to the poor.

<https://www.catholic.org>

<https://www.mycatholic.life.com>

Did You Ever Wonder...About Palm Sunday?

Next Sunday is the Sunday before Easter. It is called Palm Sunday. It is also the first day of Holy Week. The gospel tells us Jesus and His friends went to Jerusalem to celebrate Passover, like many Jewish people. When He arrived, the crowds cheered and threw down their cloaks for Jesus to walk on. They also waved palm leaves, which is why it's called Palm Sunday. Many hoped Jesus was the Earthly king the Jewish people had been waiting for.

When you get palm leaves, think about how much God loves you. Welcome Jesus into your heart and thank Him for all His blessings. Palms help remind us Jesus is the way to heaven.

Donna Therrien , c2024

Blessed is He Who Comes in the Name of the Lord



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St. Jude,
Patron of the Impossible.



pray for us!

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