

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, April 14, 9:15 am

Third Sunday of Easter

For the soul (†) of Frank Riviezzo
requested by his daughter Mary Stone and family

Wednesday, April 17, 5:00 pm

For the soul (†) of Doris Frechette
requested by the Bourque family

Sunday, April 21, 9:15 am

Fourth Sunday of Easter

For the soul (†) of Carol Braga
requested by the
Concord Carmelite OCDS Community

Today's 2nd Collection is for Fuel.



DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY APRIL 7	
Offertery	\$1,067.00
Candles	\$40.00
Funeral	\$200.00
Pecan Fundraiser	\$200.00
Tootsie Roll Fundraiser	\$70.00
Lenten Bread and Soup	\$96.00
4-7-24 TOTAL at MASS	\$1,673.00
There were 92 souls in attendance.	
PARISH GIVING ONLINE	
Offertery	\$567.86
Church Maintenance	\$19.85
PARISH GIVING TOTAL	\$587.71
4-7-24 TOTAL MASS & ONLINE	\$2,260.71

A Big Thank you to:
 Tim and Alizabeth Roberts for attending the Chrism Mass at St. Joseph Cathedral on Tuesday of Holy Week to receive the Holy Oils for St. Joseph Parish.
 On Easter Sunday Tim, Liz, and Liz's mother (Nurse Susan) presented the Holy Oils during the Mass.

Many Thanks
 We also want to thank Tim & Alizabeth Roberts for having the stage curtains cleaned. John Vertone, a local tailor and long time St. Joseph parishioner made the curtains for the Parish Hall in 1987. The curtains were taken to a dry cleaner in the Manchester area for a much needed cleaning. Tim & Alizabeth graciously donated the entire cost of this project.

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 Kenneth Tyrrell Sr. requested by Roger and Bessie Sheehan



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 for Masses and the Lamp may be scheduled with Sherri Smith in the Church Hall after each Mass or by leaving a message on the Rectory phone (603-542-5732). Suggested donation: \$10.00.

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

Weekday Mass	Weekend Masses
Monday- 9.00 am	10.30am
Wed. to Fri. 4.30 pm	

Confession: Before and after all Masse and by appointment

UPCOMING COLLECTIONS
April 28: Church Maintenance

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

Saint Faustina and Divine Mercy Coloring Book

Tells the story of this Polish saint's life.

Available for sale in the Parish Hall after Mass

\$7.00 each

Congratulations to
 Rick Logan and Richard Brown who were commissioned as Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion last Sunday at St. Joseph's Parish. Please keep them as well as Fr. Sebastian in your prayers.

Catholic Daughters of the Americas
 Tuesday April 16th 6:00
 St. Joseph's Parish Hall

3rd Sunday of Easter

Entrance Hymn: No. 263
"That Easter Day with Joy Was
Bright"

Offertory Hymn: No. 262
"Sing with All the Saints in Glory"

Communion: Choir

Recessional Hymn: No. 264
"Alleluia, Alleluia, Give Thanks"

CHOIR REHEARSAL
Wed. April 17 6:30 pm
New members
welcome!

Mass
Readings
B 554



Sunday, April 14, 2024

Acts 3:13-15, 17-19 Ps 4:2, 4,
7-8, 9 1 Jn 2:1-5a Lk 24:35-48

Monday, April 15, 2024

Acts 6:8-15; Ps 119:23-24, 26-27,
29-30; Jn 6:22-29

Tuesday April 16, 2024

Acts 7:51-8:1a; Ps 31:3cd-4, 6 and
7b and 8a, 17 and 21ab; Jn
6:30-35

Wednesday April 17, 2024

Acts 8:1b-8; Ps 66:1-3a, 4-5, 6-7a;
Jn 6:35-40

Thursday April 18, 2024

Acts 8:26-40; Ps 66:8-9, 16-17, 20;
Jn 6:44-51

Friday, April 19, 2024

Acts 9:1-20; Ps 117:1bc, 2; Jn
6:52-59

Saturday, April 20, 2024

Acts 9:31-42; Ps 116:12-13, 14-15,
16-17; Jn 6:60-69

Prayer List

Rev Msgr Donald Gilbert
Fr. John Loughnane
Brenda
Anne Cherry
Chris Currier
Jean Drena
Frederick Gallant
Isabella Gowell
Stephen Grogan
Deborah Hemingway
Karen Ouellette
Tim Roberts
Brenda Ruest
Janet 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, leave
a message on the Rectory answer-
ing machine (603-542-5732) or at
stjosephsclaremont@gmail.com.

Coffee Hour Today April 14

After Mass in our Parish Hall.
ALL ARE WELCOME
No Charge!
Free Will Offerings Accepted



Italian Dinner

Prepared by Louis Millette

Friday, April 19, 2024 4:30 to 7:00 pm
Spaghetti with Meatballs, Italian Bread, Salad,
Desserts, Coffee, Tea, Soft Drinks
Free Will Offering FBO Church Maintenance Fund
PLEASE RSVP: 603-542-9518 or
stmarysclaremont@comcast.net

Pecan Fundraiser

Only Plain Roasted Cashews Left

Tootsie Roll Fundraiser

\$2.00 for a Large Tootsie Roll
Available after Mass in the Parish
Hall.

BULLETIN DEADLINE 3pm Tuesdays

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

Did you miss getting a printed copy of
our bulletin because of travel, illness
or snow? Past copies are available in
the church hall after Mass, or email
stjosephsclaremont@gmail.com
and a copy will be located for you.

Safety and Security

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

If you or someone you know is not able to leave
their home and would like to receive a visit from
Father Sebastian on
the Second Monday of every month,

Contact the
Homebound Ministry
Steve Denis, Director,
assisted by Jackie Merrill,
Bill Pamplin and Gary Lambert
Call Steve Denis at
603-558-5209.

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)**

Questions *and* Answers

©JPPC

For Catholics

www.mycatholic.life

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. What is a Permanent Deacon?

A. Simply put, a permanent deacon is a deacon who is not transitioning into the priesthood. Deacons who will be ordained priests are referred to as transitional deacons. Just as all bishops are first ordained priests, so too are all priests first ordained deacons. Yet not all priests are consecrated bishops, and not all deacons are ordained priests. This answer alone, however, is inadequate in explaining the vocation of the deacon in the Church.

A deacon is a cleric, a man chosen by God and ordained by the Church in the order of service. Hence, a deacon participates in the Sacrament of Holy Orders. In order to put the diaconate (the order of deacon) in perspective, it would be best to look at three deacon saints through the ages of the Church: St. Stephen (the Apostolic age), St. Laurence (the first millennium), and St. Francis of Assisi (the second millennium/medieval age).

St. Stephen is one of the first deacons chosen by the Apostles, and his life is truly biblical. Stephen is found in the *Acts of the Apostles*, Chapters Six and Seven. While only two short chapters, they reveal to us not only what type of man Stephen is but what the Church expects of Her deacons. St. Peter and the other Apostles gathered and declared that the Church of God should find seven men who are “well spoken of, full of the Holy Spirit and Wisdom” to be in charge of the daily relief of the widows and the sick. The word “deacon” is Greek, meaning “minister,” and we see from Chapter Six that the Apostles wanted Stephen and the other men chosen to share in the ministry of the Apostles, while the Apostles focused on prayer and preaching the Word of God. St. Stephen was the first to give his life in witness to Christ and is known as the “Protomartyr.”

The Roman Catechism states that a deacon is “the eye of the bishop.” “His duty is to be always at the side of the bishop, guard him while he preaches, serve him and the priest during the celebration of divine mysteries, as well as during the administration of the Sacraments, and to read the Gospel in the Sacrifice of the Mass,” and, in churches that allow communion under both species, to distribute the precious blood. In addition, the Catechism states that a deacon warns “the faithful to be attentive to the holy mysteries...and to him was entrusted the distribution of the Church goods, as well as the duty of providing for all that was necessary to each one’s sustenance.” As one reads the Roman Catechism and sees what is the vocation of a deacon, there can be no doubt that the man who sets the example for what a deacon should be is St. Laurence, who was one of seven deacons to Pope St. Sixtus II. On August 6, 257, Pope Sixtus was martyred with four of his deacons. Laurence was not one of them. Laurence wept over the pending loss of his Holy Father, Sixtus. Laurence asked Sixtus where he was going without his deacon? Sixtus responded saying, “I am not leaving you my son. You shall follow me in three days.” Laurence, filled with the Holy Spirit, was determined to give all he could to the poor before he too gave his life for Christ. When the Prefect of Rome heard what Laurence was doing, he was determined to get the riches he thought the Church had and brought Laurence in for questioning. The Prefect ordered Laurence to hand over all the riches of the Church and released him to collect those riches. Laurence immediately gathered all the poor in the city under the care of the Church and presented them to the Prefect, saying “These are the treasures of the Church.” The Prefect, outraged, ordered that Laurence be burned alive on a grill. Laurence was so filled with love for Christ that he did not notice the pain of the flames and reportedly said at one point, “I’m done on this side, turn me over.” His last words were a prayer for the conversion of Rome. So moved were some Roman senators that they converted on the spot and carried Laurence’s body to his tomb. In fewer than sixty years, all Rome and the Empire were converted to Christianity. The intercession of the Deacon Laurence is so much attributed to that conversion that to this day we commemorate August 10 as a feast day, which is the second highest commemoration after a solemnity. Laurence’s living out his vocation as a deacon described so beautifully in the Roman Catechism, caused the conversion of the greatest nation on earth at the time, Rome.

What is a Permanent Deacon? (continued)

Sadly, Stephen and Laurence are not widely known in the 21st century, but St. Francis of Assisi, almost 800 years since his death, still captivates minds and hearts. What many do not know is that Francis was a deacon. They are also unaware that while Francis lived a life of utmost poverty, he also vigorously pushed that only the best vessels, vestments, and linens be used at Mass for His Lord, hidden in the Host. Fr. Thompson in his biography of St. Francis states: "The locus of Francis's 'mysticism,' his belief that he could have direct contact with God, was in the Mass, not in nature or even in service to the poor." Francis was ordained a deacon not because he wanted to preach at Mass, as some biographers claim. In fact, only bishops and priests were allowed to preach at Mass at this time. It should also be noted that for a deacon to preach today at Mass is an exception and not the norm. Francis felt called to the order of deacon because it is first and foremost an order of service, meaning that deacons are ordained to serve. He firmly believed that the faithful needed to be warned about being attentive to the holy mysteries of the Mass. Francis truly embodied what we see in St. Stephen and St. Laurence. And while Francis did not suffer physical martyrdom, he did suffer spiritual martyrdom manifested physically in the stigmata.

What does one see in these small glimpses of the lives of Sts. Stephen, Laurence, and Francis? Men who are full of wisdom who gave their lives totally in service for Christ and His Church. The Second Vatican Council called for the institution of the diaconate as a permanent vocation for men called to this sacred vocation. It also allowed for men who are already married to be ordained a deacon with the consent of their wives. Some dioceses frame the ministry of deacon as a team ministry with his wife—it is not. Some look upon deacons as nothing more than a glorified acolyte (altar server)—they are not. Some think that only part-time learning to become a deacon is needed—it is not. Let the examples of the saints above show us what a deacon is called to be: the eye of the Bishop, who warns the faithful to be attentive to the holy mysteries and looks after the distribution of the goods of the Church, men who are filled with wisdom and willing to give their lives for Christ.



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 FindingFABER?"

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!