

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
1-603-504-5430

Parish Finance Council

Rick Logan, Chairman
David Smith
Sharon Wood

Music Director

Richard Brown
Organists
Tristan Smith
Deborah Stone

Sunday, December 1, 9:15 am

First Sunday of Advent

For Bradley Anderson
requested by his godparents

Wednesday, December 4, 5:00 pm

For the soul (†) of Paul St. Martin
requested by Tom DeVoyd

Sunday, December 8, 9:15 am

Second Sunday of Advent

For the soul (†) of Paul St. Martin
requested by Tom DeVoyd

Monday, December 9, 5:30 pm

Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception

For the soul (†) of Roger Sheehan
requested by Roy and Deborah Stone

Today's 2nd Collection is for Fuel.

There is no Collection Table to show today because this bulletin was sent to the printer on Friday, November 22, before the weekend Mass.

Next Sunday's bulletin will report the collections of both November 24 and today, December 1.



December 9 is the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception, a Holyday of Obligation.

Masses will be at
9:00 am at St. Mary Church
5:30 pm at St. Joseph Church

As announced by Fr. Sebastian, St. Joseph Parish has met and exceeded its goal in the NHCA Appeal.

\$7,750.00 has been received and credited to St. Joseph's plus \$300.00 in pledges remain, for a total of \$8,050.00. The excess of \$400.00 above our goal as well as any future NHCA donations credited to St. Joseph Church will be returned to our parish.

We sincerely thank all of those who donated to help us achieve our goal!



UPCOMING COLLECTIONS

Sunday December 8
Retirement Fund for Religious

Sunday December 15
No Second Collection

Sunday December 22
Church Maintenance

Sunday December 29
No Second Collection

ONGOING COLLECTION
Grand Annual Fund
October 2024 - October 2025
\$2,053.00

CANDLE DONATIONS

Please deposit the requested amount in the slot on the candle stand to offset the cost of replacing the candle you lit.
Thank you!

WHEN WRITING CHECKS to

St. Joseph Church, please note the name of the collection (Offertory or Specific Collection) to be sure it is put in the right place.

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 today in memory of
Roger Sheehan
requested by his wife.



Masses and Sanctuary Lamp Intentions

may be scheduled with
Sherri Smith in the Church Hall
after each Mass or by email to
stjosephsclaremont@gmail.com
Suggested donations: \$10.00.

Our Marian Candelabrum will be lit on Dec. 9, the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception in memory of, the deceased members of Court Virgil H. Barber, Catholic Daughters of the Americas, requested by the current members.



Feast Days and Memorials

Dec 1: First Sunday of Advent (Hope)

Advent, derived from the Latin word for 'coming,' is the name given to the four weeks before Christmas when we prepare for the coming of Jesus into the world. 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 St. Andrew's Day, November 30. The lighting of an Advent Wreath has been a European tradition for many years.

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 wreath itself, a circle of evergreen, is also symbolic of everlasting life. The seedpods, nuts and cones used to decorate the wreath symbolize resurrection, and fruits represent the nourishing fruitfulness of the Christian life.

Dec. 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 while on an island off the coast of China at the age of forty-six.

Dec 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.



Dec 6: St. Nicholas, Bishop, 270-343 AD 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.

Dec 7: St Ambrose, Bishop and Doctor of the Church, 347-397 Patron of Beekeepers, beggars, learners, and of Milan

Saint Ambrose is one of the four original doctors of the Church. He felt that giving to the poor was merely a repayment of God's resources, which were intended for everyone equally. He believed that the liturgy was a tool to serve people in worshiping God, and ought not to become a rigid and invariable from place to place. He is said to have advised Augustine of Hippo to follow local liturgical customs. "When I am at Rome, I fast on a Saturday; when I am at Milan, I do not. Follow the custom of the church where you are," he stated. This advice remains today, and is translated in English as the saying, "When in Rome, do as the Romans do."

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



Sunday, December 1, 2024

Jer 33: 14-16; Ps 25: 4-5, 8-9, 10, 14;
1 Thes 3:12 - 4: 2; Lk 21: 25-28, 34-36

Monday, December 2, 2024

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

Tuesday, December 3, 2024

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

Wednesday, December 4, 2024

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

Thursday, December 5, 2024

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

Friday, December 6, 2024

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

Saturday, December 7, 2024

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

To add a name to our Prayer List, please ask the person's permission first, then notify Sherri Smith in the Church Hall after Mass or send an email to stjosephsclaremont@gmail.com

Prayer List

Rev. Msgr. Donald Gilbert

Fr. John Loughnane

John Arsenault

Mandy Albanese

John Arsenault

Brooke

Jean Brown

John Casey

Anne Cherry

Chris Currier

Jean Drena

Frederick Gallant

Marilyn Gilbert

Isabella Gowell

Stephen Grogan

Deborah Hemingway

David Kangas

Karen Ouellette

Karen Parker

Tim Roberts

Brenda Ruest

Janet Ruest.

Roger Sheehan Jr.

Bob St.Aubin

Darlene St.Aubin

Barbara Trask

Chee Chee Tyrrell

Janice Vilgats

Joshua White

Lawrence Woodward



Grand Annual Collection

In October we begin 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 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 donate online at our website: stjosephclaremont.org

You may have noticed that donations have been made to this fund since the beginning of October. We thank the donors for getting this year's collection started and hope to see the fund grow over the next 12 months!

Dziękuję Bardzo (Thank you very much!)

Christmas Flower Fund

Envelopes are available 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.



FORMED

is a premiere platform with over 4,000 Catholic studies, movies, ebooks, audio dramas, and cartoons for children. It's FREE! Parishioners of St. Joseph and St. Mary Churches can take advantage of this opportunity at formed.org. Click on "Formed for Parishes," then "Find your Parish Subscription" type in our church's Zip Code, St. Mary Church will pop-up. Click "Next" & you're in!



COFFEE HOUR

Next Sunday, Dec. 8

All are welcome!

Free will offerings accepted.
Please bring something to share.

Catholic Daughters Court #892

will have a table with breads & cookies for sale at the Christmas Craft Fair on December 7th. Members are asked to bring something to help fill the table. Proceeds will benefit the veterans at the VA Hospital.



Roman Catholic Homebound Ministry

Homebound visits are made on the second Monday of every month. Father is assisted by one of the Lay Ministers of the Holy Eucharist: Steve Denis, Jackie Merrill, Bill Pamplin, Gary Lambert. If you or someone you know would like to receive a visit from Father Sebastian, please call Steve Denis at (603) 558-5209



Kof C Council 1820

Meeting

Dec. 9 at 7pm

St Mary's Gym

Knights Room

Catholic Daughters Court #892

Advent Gathering/ Luncheon

Sunday, December 15, 1:00 pm
St. Joseph Church Hall

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



Oplatki for Christmas

\$3 for a packages of four traditional Polish wafers inside an illustrated envelope with the story of the tradition printed on the back. Available in the church hall after Mass, email stjosephsclaremont@gmail.com or call Sharon Wood at 603-542- 5732.

CHANGE IN BULLETIN DEADLINE

Because of upcoming holiday schedules at JCCP, our bulletin printers, there are much earlier deadlines coming up for sending our completed bulletins for printing. If you have something you would like to see put into our bulletin over the next two months, please send it well in advance of the printing date to stjosephsclaremont@gmail.com.

Our current bulletin may be viewed online at <https://www.jppc.net/onlinebulletins/9021template.pdf>

Did you miss getting a printed copy of our bulletin because of travel, illness or weather? Recent copies are available in the church hall after Mass. Let us know if you'd like older ones. You can view our bulletin, and other valuable information, on our website stjosephclaremont.org or email stjosephsclaremont@gmail.com and a copy will be located.

PLEASE NOTE:

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

**Hymns for
the First Sunday of Advent**

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

Offerory Hymn: No.193
"The King Shall Come
When Morning Dawns"

Communion: (Choir)

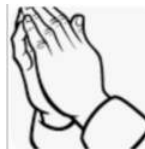
Recessional Hymn: No. 297
"I Want to Walk as a
Child of the Light"



CHOIR REHEARSAL
Wed. Dec. 4, 6:30 pm
All are welcome
to join.

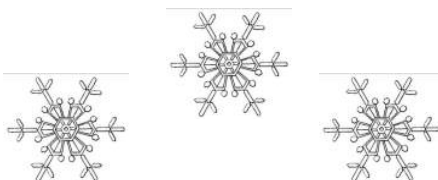
**Sunday, December 1 is the
First Sunday of Advent,
which begins a new
Liturgical Year.
Our Sunday readings
will use Cycle C.**

CONFESSIONS
St. Mary Church
Friday 9:30 am
Saturday 3:00 to 3:45



**MASS READINGS
C/479**

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



Christmas Craft Fair
Saturday December 7th

9am – 1 pm

St Joseph's Church Hall

58 Elm St

Claremont, NH

Refreshments Available

2025 Calendars

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

Dziękuję Bardzo! (Thank You!)
to our Calendar Sponsors:
Catholic Daughters Court #892
and
Knights of Columbus Council
#1820

Winter Weather Cancellations

If it becomes necessary to cancel
the Wednesday afternoon Mass,
choir rehearsal, or other church
events 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.

**1-20 RAFFLE TICKETS
to benefit our Fuel Fund**

will be sold in the
Parish Hall after Mass.

**Drawing to take place
NEXT SUNDAY at our
December 8 Coffee Hour**

1st PRIZE. \$500.00
2nd PRIZE \$200.00
3rd PRIZE. \$20.00
(20 prizes)

Tootsie Roll Fundraiser

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

HOLIDAY FUNDRAISER

PECANS
(Cinnamon covered, Chocolate covered
and plain)
plus

CARAMEL CLUSTERS
(Also known as **Turtles**)
and **CASHEWS**)

Available in church hall after Mass



The Area Choir is composed of singers from many churches in NH
and VT. Steve Wood and Karen Parker from St. Joseph Church and
Mark Lafontaine from St. Mary's are members of this year's choir.
Karen and David Parker's daughter Katie is a featured musician in the
program. Concerts are Saturday, Dec. 7; 7:00 pm and Sunday, Dec. 8;
3:00 pm and 7:00 pm at the South Congregational Church, 20 Church
Street, Newport, NH. There is no charge to attend, but space is
limited, so early arrival is advised. All are welcome!

Carols & Cookies Christmas Concert

St. Michael's Catholic School
(Pre-K to High School students
from MA, VT & NH)

Latchis Theatre, 50 Main St.
Brattleboro, VT

Tuesday, Dec. 10, 2024, 6pm
Free Admission

Cookie Sale Fundraiser (cash only)

www.SaintMichaelSchoolVT.org

All are invited to attend a
Eucharistic Healing Service
with Father Lance Harlow,
Pastor, Corpus Christi Parish,
St. Johnsbury, Vermont
Sunday, December 8, 3:00PM

St. Mary's Church
10 Pleasant Street
Springfield, Vt.

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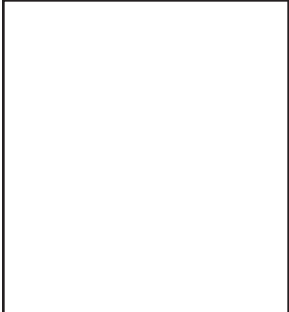
Directors
 Michael D.Stringer Scott W. Stringer

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St. Jude,
 Patron of the Impossible.



pray for us!



IN REMEMBRANCE OF
 SAMANTHA JOSEPHSON

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Cindy O'Neal

coneal@jppc.net (931) 217-7110

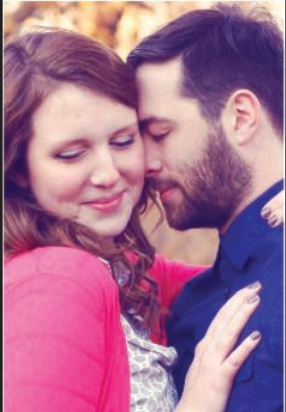




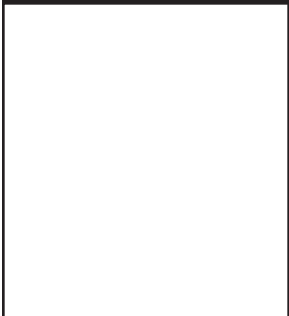
**Welcome to
 Our Church!**



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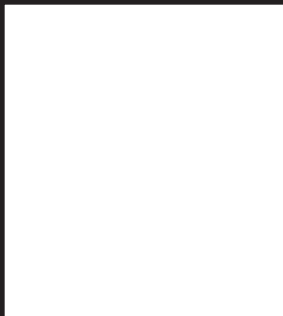


[CatholicMatch.com/
 dateNH](http://CatholicMatch.com/dateNH)



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 by your parish community and is SO appreciated!



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