

St. Joseph Roman Catholic Church

58 Elm Street, Claremont, NH 03743

Established 1920



December 22, 2024

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 22, 9:15 a.m.

Fourth Sunday of Advent

For Donna Jenkins
requested by her sister and family

Wednesday, December 25, 9:00 a.m.
Christmas Day, the Nativity of the Lord

For the soul (†) of Rev. Stanley J. Piwowar
requested by St. Joseph Parish

Sunday, December 29, 9:15 a.m.
Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph
For the soul (†) of Rev. George Majka
requested by Connie Barth

Today's Second Collection is for Church Maintenance.

There is no Collection Table to show today because this bulletin was sent to the printer on Friday, December 13, before the weekend Mass. Next Sunday's bulletin will report the collections of both December 15 and 22.



NEW HAMPSHIRE CATHOLIC APPEAL
St. Joseph Parish has met and exceeded its goal in the NHCA Appeal. \$8,050.00 has been received and credited to St Joseph's plus \$100.00 in pledges remain, for a total of **\$8,150.00**.

The excess of \$500.00 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

Wednesday December 25
Special Collection for Fuel

Sunday December 29
No Second Collection

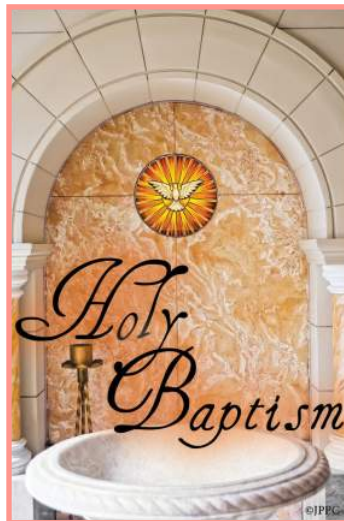
ONGOING COLLECTION
Grand Annual Fund
October 2024 - October 2025
\$2,053.00

Grand Annual Collection

Our parish's Grand Annual Collection is 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 or donate online at our website: stjosephclaremont.org We thank the donors who contributed since October 1st.

WHEN WRITING CHECKS

to St. Joseph Church, please mark the name of the collection (Offertory or Special Collection) to make sure it is put into the correct account. Thank you!



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

We Welcome
Damos la bienvenida a
Liam Gavilema Torres
who received the
Sacrament of Baptism
quien recibió el
Sacramento del Bautismo
administered by
administrado por la
Rev. Maria Sebastian Sisaoraj, HGN
at St. Joseph Church
en la iglesia San José
on December 11, 2024.
el 11 diciembre de 2024

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!

Masses and Sanctuary Lamp

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

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 today in memory of Richard and Loretta Marcotte
requested by Mary & Richard Brown.



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.

Feast Days and Memorials

December 22: Fourth Sunday of Advent (Peace)

The last purple candle of the Advent Wreath, the "Angels Candle" representing Peace, is lit on the fourth Sunday of Advent, Laetare Sunday. The white center candle, the "Christ Candle," will be lit on Christmas Eve. It represents Purity and the life of Jesus Christ that has come to light the world.

Dec 23: St. John of Kanty, Priest: 1390-1473

Born in Kęty, a small town near Oświęcim, Poland, Jan Kanty was a priest, philosopher, physicist and theologian. Also known by his Latin name, Joannes Cantius, he spent many hours copying manuscripts of the Holy Scriptures and other scholarly works. His work in physics helped to develop theories that anticipated the work of Galileo and Newton. He was well-known in Kraków for his generosity and compassion toward the poor, especially needy students at the university.

Dec 23: St. Þorlákur (St Thorlak Thorhallsson)

Patron of Iceland; of the poor and common folk, and (unofficially) of people with autism. Born to a poor farmer in 1133 in South Iceland, this future saint was recognized for his kindness and intelligence. Educated in seminaries in England and France, he returned to his homeland as a priest and founded the first Augustinian monastery in the country. He became Bishop and is considered one of the most energetic leaders of the Medieval church in Iceland. Unofficially recognized as a saint for centuries, he wasn't canonized until 1984 by Pope John Paul II.



Sunday, December 22, 2024

Mi 5: 1-4a; Ps 80: 2-3, 15-16, 18-19;
Heb 10: 5-10; Lk 1: 39-45

Monday, December 23, 2024

Mal 3: 1-4, 23-24; Ps 25: 4-5ab, 8-9,
10 and 14 Lk 1: 57-66

Tuesday, December 24, 2024

Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16; Ps 89: 2-3, 4-
5, 27 and 29; Lk 1: 67-79

Wednesday, December 25, 2024

Is 52: 7-10; Ps 98: 1, 2-3, 3-4, 5-6;
Heb 1:1-6; Jn 1: 1-18 or 1: 1-5, 9-14

Thursday, December 26, 2024

Acts 6: 8-10; 7: 54-59; Ps 31: 3cd-4, 6 and
8ab, 16bc and 17; Mt 10: 17-22

Friday, December 27, 2024

1 Jn 1: 1-4; Ps 97: 1-2, 5-6, 11-12;
Jn 20:1a, 2-8

Saturday, December 28, 2024

1 Jn 1: 5-2:2; Ps 124: 2-3, 4-5, 7cd-8;
Mt 2:13-18

The Holy Day Mass for the Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God will be held at St. Joseph Church Tuesday, December 31, (New Year's Eve) at 5:30pm



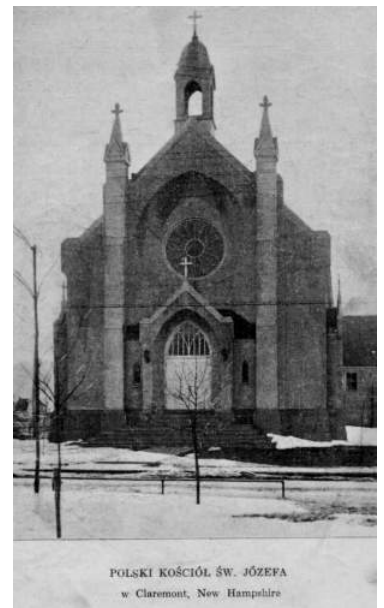
At Christmas We Celebrate the History of St Joseph Church

In 1920, land on Elm Street was purchased by the Thaddeus Kosciuszko Society, a group formed by Polish immigrants in Claremont to manifest their Roman Catholic heritage. Rev. Fr. Francis Wawer, pastor of Sacred Heart Church in Bellows Falls, Vermont, helped them to establish a Polish church in Claremont. In June of 1920 Bishop J. E. Guertin assigned Rev. Marjan Godlewski, former Polish army chaplain, as the first pastor for about forty families.

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 and the Mass on Christmas Day marked the 4th anniversary of the first Mass in the original church building. A formal dedication of the church was held in warmer weather on May 31, 1926.

Thus we have several "anniversaries" that we can celebrate! We recognize 1920 as the year when the first pastor was assigned and our Parish was founded. The first Masses on Christmas Day in our one-story church building in 1921 and in the completed building in 1925, and the formal dedication in 1926 offer us more opportunities to remember and thank God for His blessings on all who have worshiped here over so many years.



**Hymns for
the Fourth Sunday of Advent**

Entrance Hymn: No.200
"Savior of the Nations, Come"

Offertory Hymn: No. 196
"O Come, Divine Messiah"

Communion: (Choir)

Recessional Hymn: No. 190 vs. 5-7
"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"



CHOIR REHEARSAL

NEW DAY & TIME

Saturday, Dec. 28, 2024

1:00pm

All are Welcome to Join!

**MASS READINGS
C/488**

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

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

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**)

Get your favorites while supplies last!
In the Church Hall after Mass



PRAYER LIST



Rev. Msgr. Donald Gilbert
Fr. John Loughnane
Mandy Albanese
John Arsenault
Brooke
Jean Brown
John Casey
Anne Cherry
Elissa Coburn
Chris Currier
Jean Drena
Frederick Gallant
Marilyn Gilbert
Isabella Gowell
Stephen Grogan
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

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



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

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.jpcc.net/onlinebulletins/9021template.pdf>



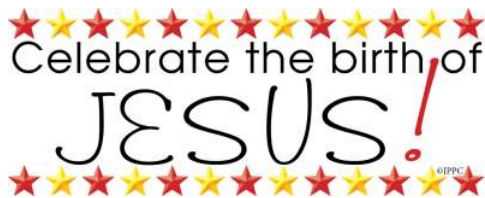
Opłatki for Christmas

\$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.

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

SAFETY & SECURITY
Please remember to lock your cars when attending Mass and events in the church hall.

Housekeeping
If you choose not to take your bulletins home with you after Mass, please return them to the tables in the back of the church as you leave. Thank you.



Christmas Mass Schedule

St. Mary Church

December 24th 4:00 p.m.

December 25th 12:00 a.m.

St. Joseph Church

December 25th 9:00 a.m.

Many of us fondly remember the tradition of our former pastor, Fr. Stanley Piwowar, who wished us all a Merry Christmas at the start of Mass in a long list of languages from around the world. We waited expectantly to hear him speak the language of our own ancestors. If he didn't, we would ask him to include it in the next year's list! We all waited expectantly for the familiar Hawaiian greeting at the end. Fr. Stan's list grew longer each year, as new parishioners with different backgrounds joined our parish family. Today we welcome families and priests to our parish who bring even more languages and accents to our ears!

Felices Natalem Christi!

Wesołych Świąt!

Joyeux Noël!

Buon Natale!

¡Feliz Navidad!

Nollaig Shona!

Hyvää Joulua!

Vrolijk Kerstfeest!

Veselé Vánoce!

Crăciun Fericit!

Frohe Weihnachten!

Merikurjumasu!

Shèngdàn jíè kuàilè!

Meli Keuliseumaseu!

Schastlivogo Rozhdestva

Glaedelig Jul

God Jul

Sretan Božić!

Nadolig Llawen

Bara Din Mubarrak Ho!

Boldog karácsony!

Natal Mubarak

Selamat Hari Natal

Maligayang Pasko

Mele Kalikimaka

Feast Days and Memorials

Dec. 26: St Stephen, the First Martyr

Stephen was one of the first seven deacons of the Church who were ordained to assist the twelve Apostles in carrying out the practical needs of the people under their care. They took on the responsibility of feeding the poor, much like modern day social workers. The Sanhedrin accused Stephen of blasphemy because of his preaching. It is said that St Paul, when he was known as Saul of Tarsus, a persecutor of the early Church, witnessed Stephen's trial and execution by stoning shortly before he himself encountered the Lord Jesus on the road to Damascus. It is a British tradition to collect money for the poor throughout the year and distribute it on Boxing Day, the feast of St. Stephen.

Dec 27: Feast of St John, Apostle, Evangelist

Patron of love, loyalty, friendships, and authors

St. John the Apostle, one of the Twelve Apostles of Jesus, was called by our Lord in the first year of His public ministry. Also referred to as John the Evangelist, John of Patmos and the Beloved Disciple, he was the younger brother of St. James the Great, another one of the Twelve. John is believed to be the longest living apostle and the only one not to die a martyr's death.

John, standing faithfully at the cross, was called to be the guardian of Mary. "When Jesus then saw His mother, and the disciple whom He loved standing nearby, He said to His mother, "Woman, behold, your son! Then He said to the disciple, "Behold, your mother!" From that hour the disciple took her into his own household" (John 19: 26-27)

According to tradition, after Mary's Assumption into Heaven, John went to Ephesus, and was later banished by the Roman authorities to the Greek Island of Patmos. It is believed that this was where he wrote the Book of Revelation. He is also given credit as the author of three Epistles and one Gospel.

Dec 28: Feast of the Holy Innocents, Martyrs

Patrons of small children

This Feast Day remembers the infants who were killed at the order of King Herod. In his attempt to find and destroy Jesus, he instead ended the lives of thousands of infant boys. By their deaths, these Innocents saved Jesus from death. Traditionally the feast is celebrated soon after Christmas, because of the connection their deaths have with the birth of Our Lord. Prayers are asked for young children who have perished by abortion, starvation, and war.

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 164 Old Springfield Rd.
 Charlestown, NH 03603
administration@thecampbellhouses.com

St. Jude,
 Patron of the Impossible.



pray for us!


IN REMEMBRANCE OF
 SAMANTHA JOSEPHSON

S A M I

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