

# St. Joseph Roman Catholic Church

58 Elm Street, Claremont, NH 03743

Established 1920



February 2, 2025

## St Joseph Roman Catholic Church

Website: [stjosephclaremont.org](http://stjosephclaremont.org)  
Email: [stjosephsclaremont@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto: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, February 2, 9:15 a.m.

### Feast of the Presentation

### Candlemas Day

For Jennifer Gallant  
requested by her parents  
and

For the souls (†) of Pawel & Maria Wilczoch  
requested by Mirka Wilczoch and children

## Wednesday, February 5, 5:00 p.m.

For the soul (†) of Geraldine Rasco  
requested by Mary Rasco and the Browns

## Sunday, February 9, 9:15 a.m.

### Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

For the soul (†) of Valerie Harding  
requested by the Sheehan family

**Today's 2nd Collection is for Diocesan Schools.**

<b>SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 2025</b>	<b>76 Souls</b>
Offertory	\$709.35
Church Maintenance	\$426.00
Votive Candles	\$10.00
Mass Intentions	\$20.00
<b>2-2-25 TOTAL at MASS</b>	<b>\$1,165.35</b>
<b>PARISH GIVING ONLINE</b>	
Offertory	\$172.27
<b>PARISH GIVING ONLINE</b>	<b>\$172.27</b>
<b>TOTAL MASS and ONLINE</b>	<b>\$1,337.62</b>



**A BIG THANK YOU!**  
to all who responded to our calls for help on  
**Thursday, January 23,**  
when the severe cold weather caused a  
water line break in the Church boiler room.  
The sump pumps in the boiler room activated,  
protecting the boilers and keeping the  
flooding damage to a minimum.

**OUR THANKS GO OUT TO**  
**Todd Murray** from Claremont Public Works,  
who went above and beyond the call of duty,;  
**Claremont Fire Department; R. E. Hinkley Company,**  
**Mike LaFont, David and Sherri Smith,**  
and **Roy Stone.**

**WE ALSO THANK**  
**Jim Hanlon** for setting up  
a Low Temperature "Watchman" at the Rectory.  
If the room temperature drops to 50 degrees,  
it will activate. The "Watchman" has a red & blue light in  
the kitchen pantry windows that face the Church. The  
Claremont Police Department will monitor them on their  
regular patrols through the property.

**IF YOU SEE THESE LIGHTS ON**  
, please contact the Police Department.

**THANK YOU ALL!**

**UPCOMING COLLECTIONS**

**February 9: Fuel**  
**February 23: Church Maintenance**

**ONGOING COLLECTION**  
**Grand Annual Fund**  
October 2024 - October 2025  
\$2,079.00

**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 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 on-line at our website: [stjosephclaremont.org](http://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.

**ALSO!**  
Please make sure the date on your check  
(especially the year) is correct and that  
the amount of the check is written clearly  
(both the numbers and words)  
Banks will refuse to process checks that  
have these errors or are unclear.

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 Mark Rasco**  
requested by Mary Rasco and the Browns.




**VOTIVE 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 [stjosephsclaremont@gmail.com](mailto:stjosephsclaremont@gmail.com)  
Suggested donations: \$10.00.

**NOTE:**  
**Many dates are currently available for Sanctuary Lamp intentions. Please consider honoring your loved ones in this way.**

## Feast Days and Memorials

### February 3 : St Blaise, Bishop, Martyr, died 316 AD Patron of of throat illnesses, animals, wool combers, and wool trading

Blaise was a bishop and a doctor. An early medical writing recorded him as helping patients suffering from objects stuck in their throat. Beginning life as a healer, he went on to become a "physician of souls." Blaise lived during the time of Christian persecution and was arrested for his faith. Many legends arose about miracles performed as he was taken to prison, including saving people from choking and taming wild animals. That led to him being called "saint of the wild beasts." A familiar tradition is the "Blessing of Throats" on the Feast of St. Blaise

### Feb 3: St Ansgar, Bishop, 801-865 Patron of Scandinavia

Ansgar (also called Anskar, Anschar or Oscar) was a Benedictine missionary who spent his life trying to convert northern Europe. Born into a noble family, he entered a monastery and later worked as a missionary in Denmark and Sweden. Ansgar was the first archbishop of Hamburg and the first to preach the Gospel in Sweden. His success was due to his great preaching ability, the austerity and holiness of his life, and the miracles he is said to have performed. He is known as "the apostle of the North." Unfortunately, the whole area lapsed into paganism again after his death remaining so til the coming of missionaries 200 years later.

### Feb 5: Memorial of St Agatha, Virgin and Martyr, 231-251 Patron of breast cancer patients, rape victims, and victims of fires

St. Agatha of Sicily's story reminds us of last week's story of St. Agnes. Both were beautiful girls born into wealthy families, who chose not to marry, but to give themselves wholly to a life of prayer and service to Jesus and the Church. Living during the time of Christian persecution, Agatha was arrested by one of her powerful suitors, who hoped he could frighten her into marrying him. Subjected to extreme torture, St Agatha maintained great strength and resolve, continuing to proclaim Jesus as her Savior, Lord, Life and Hope until her death.

### Feb 6: St Paul Miki and Companions, Martyrs, d. 1597

St. Paul Miki, a Jesuit scholastic, and his twenty-five companions, including two other Jesuits, six Franciscans, fifteen tertiaries and two laymen, were crucified by order of the ruler Hideyoshi, at Nagasaki, Japan. Among them was the Mexican, Felipe de Jesus, the first martyr from the Americas to be beatified. Canonized in 1862 by Pope Pius IX, these were protomartyrs (the first) of the Far East.

### Feb. 8: St Jerome Emiliani, 1481-1537 Patron of orphans and abandoned children

A reckless youth born in Venice, Jerome joined the army, and only learned to pray after being taken prisoner and chained in a dungeon. After escaping, he returned home and accepted the responsibility of educating his nephews. He also determined to educate himself with the goal of becoming a priest. When plague and famine swept through Italy, Jerome began feeding the hungry at his own expense. Especially concerned about abandoned children, he helped to found several orphanages, including the Clerks Regular of Somasca. St. Jerome Emiliani was canonized in 1767 and shares a feast day with St. Josephine Bakhita.

### Feb 8: St Josephine Bakhita, Virgin, 1869-1947

This future saint was born in Darfur, Sudan. A niece of the tribal chief of the Daju people, she was kidnapped as a young child and sold into slavery. After years of abuse and suffering she was placed temporarily in the care of the Canossian Sisters in Venice. The nuns helped her secure her freedom through the Italian court. With no memory of her given name, she chose Josephine Margaret at her baptism into the Catholic faith and decided to become a Canossian nun. She dedicated her life to comforting the poor and suffering, always sharing her testament of deliverance from slavery. St. Josephine Bakhita was the first Black woman in the modern era to be given the honor of sainthood.

<https://www.catholic.org>      [franciscanmedia.org/](https://www.franciscanmedia.org/)      <https://www.catholicculture.org/>



### Sunday, February 2, 2025

Mal 3:1-4; Ps 24: 7, 8, 9, 10;  
Heb 2: 14-18; Lk 2: 22-40

### Monday, February 3, 2025

11: 32-40; Ps 31: 20, 21, 22, 23, 24;  
Mk 5: 1-20

### Tuesday, February 4, 2025

Heb 12: 1-4; Ps 22: 26b-27, 28 and 30,  
31-32; Mk 5: 21-43

### Wednesday, February 5, 2025

Heb 12: 4-7, 11-15; Ps 103: 1-2, 13-14,  
17-18a; Mk 6: 1-6

### Thursday, February 6, 2025

Heb 12: 18-19, 21-24; Ps 48: 2-3ab,  
3cd-4, 9, 10-11; Mk 6: 7-13

### Friday, February 7, 2025

Heb 13: 1-8; Ps 27: 1, 3, 5, 8b-9abc;  
Mk 6: 14-29

### Saturday, February 8, 2025

Heb 13: 15-17, 20-21; Ps 23: 1-3a, 3b-



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 email  
[stjosephsclaremont@gmail.com](mailto:stjosephsclaremont@gmail.com)

## PRAYER LIST



Rev. Msgr. Donald Gilbert

Fr. John Loughnane

Mandy Albanese

John Arsenault

Brooke

Jean Brown

John Casey

Elissa Coburn

Jean Drena

Frederick Gallant

Marilyn Gilbert

Isabella Gowell

Stephen Grogan

Deborah Hemingway

Joshua White

David Kangas

Carol Logan

The Lord family

Karen Ouellette

Karen Parker

Brenda Ruest

Janet Ruest

Bob St.Aubin

Darlene St.Aubin

Barbara Trask

Chee Chee Tyrrell

Janice Vilgats

Lawrence Woodward



**JUBILEE 2025**  
**PILGRIMS OF HOPE**  
**NEW HAMPSHIRE**  
**EUCCHARISTIC PILGRIMAGE**  
**ATTENTION YOUNG ADULTS**  
 21-35 years old

A Eucharistic Pilgrimage is coming to New Hampshire in a 33-day state-wide pilgrimage to all 89 Parishes & 26 Catholic Schools!

**MAY 18-JUNE 19, 2025**

The New Hampshire Eucharistic Pilgrimage is seeking **6 Young Adult Missionaries** who will help steward the Eucharistic Pilgrimage in the Diocese of Manchester

[www.catholicnh.org/nhjubilee](http://www.catholicnh.org/nhjubilee)

MORE INFO HERE 



**DIOCESAN VOCATION AWARENESS**  
**February 2, 2025**  
**WORLD DAY FOR CONSECRATED LIFE**

Please pray for an increase of faithful vocations to Holy Orders, Religious Life, Consecrated Life, Marriage, and Single Life and support those who are currently living out their baptismal call in their vocations.

*“Every male that opens the womb shall be consecrated to the Lord.”*

*If you think that you may be set apart by the Lord to serve Him as a priest, deacon or in the consecrated life, **contact the Vocation Office** (603) 663-0196 email: [cmartel@rcbm.org](mailto:cmartel@rcbm.org).*

**ONLINE RESOURCES IN NH**  
**Diocese of Manchester’s website:**  
<https://www.catholicnh.org/>  
**Road Trip Pilgrimage with Fr. Josh Livingston:**  
<https://www.catholicnh.org/worship-and-sacraments/faith/rtp/>



Sacred Heart Parish, Lebanon, is organizing a trip to Italy Oct 13-25, 2025 through Collette Tours

**Information Night, Feb. 4, 6:15pm**  
**Sacred Herart Church**  
**2 Hough St., Lebanon, NH**  
 603-448-1262  
 or email Fr. Charles at [pastorsheartlebanon@gmail.com](mailto:pastorsheartlebanon@gmail.com)

**SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION**

ANY ONE WHO MAY NEED ANY OF THE SACRAMENTS OF INITIATION BAPTISM, CONFIRMATION, FIRST HOLY COMMUNION


**PLEASE CONTACT THE PARISH OFFICE.**

603-542-5732 [stjosephsclaremont@gmail.com](mailto:stjosephsclaremont@gmail.com).

IF YOU MAY HAVE MISSED THESE SACRAMENTS ALONG THE WAY,

**BE ON THE LOOKOUT for EMAIL and TEXT SCAMS!**

**PLEASE DO NOT RESPOND** to suspicious emails or texts supposedly from Fr. Sebastian or our parish. Parishioners have reported receiving such messages that ultimately ask for money and gift cards. These are SCAMS and should not be answered.



**Roman Catholic Homebound Ministry**

If you or someone you know would like to receive a visit from Father Sebastian, please call Steve Denis at (603) 558-5209.

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, and Bill Pamplin.

**Hymns for the  
Feast of the Presentation**

**Entrance Hymn: (Choir)**

**The Gloria will be recited.**

**Offertory Hymn: No. 356  
"I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say"**

**Communion: (Choir)**

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



**Candles will be  
blessed today  
in honor of  
Candlemas Day,  
another name for  
this Sunday.**

**MASS READINGS  
736**

**Memorial Acclamation**

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

**CONFESSIONS**  
at St. Mary Church

**After 9am Mass  
on Fridays and  
Saturdays  
3:00 to 3:45 pm  
before 4pm Mass**

**CHOIR REHEARSAL**  
Saturday, Feb. 8 2025  
1:00pm  
All are welcome to join!

**ITALIAN FOOD**

Homemade by Louis Millette

**Date:** Friday, February 14, 2024

**Time:** 4:30 PM-7:00 PM

**Place:** St. Mary Gym, Claremont, NH

**Menu:**



Spaghetti w/Meatballs  
Italian Bread  
Salad  
Desserts  
Coffee, Tea, Soft  
Drinks

Please RSVP to:  
St. Mary Rectory at (603) 542-9518  
or [stmarysclaremont@comcast.net](mailto:stmarysclaremont@comcast.net)

There will also be sign up sheets in the back of the church  
following all Masses

Free Will Offering  
All Proceeds to Benefit the Parish

Please Join Us!

**February 9**

after Mass

No Charge, Free Will Offering

Please bring something to  
share.

All are welcome!



**K of C 4th Degree  
Valentine Social**

**Monday  
February 3, 6pm**

The Sumner House  
Charlestown, NH



**K of C  
Council Meeting  
Monday  
February 10, 7pm**

Council Chambers  
St. Mary's Gym

**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 their on  
air broadcast for our listing.



**Catholic Daughters of the Americas  
will meet**

**Tuesday, February 11, 6pm**

St. Joseph Church  
Parish Hall

**Safety and Security**  
Please remember to lock  
your car doors  
while attending any event  
in the church

**Tootsie Roll Fundraiser**

Large Tootsie Roll \$2.00

Available after Mass  
in the Parish Hall.

**PARISH REGISTRATION**

**To make sure our Parish Records are  
up to date for 2025,**

please verify with Sherri Smith in the  
Parish Hall after Mass that you are  
registered as a parishioner of  
St. Joseph Church.

If you haven't filled one out, forms  
are available at the back of the church or  
from Sherri in the Parish Hall after Mass.

**BULLETIN DEADLINE**

Please send notices for future  
Sunday bulletins by 3pm on  
Tuesdays to

[stjosephsclaremont@gmail.com](mailto:stjosephsclaremont@gmail.com) or  
call Sharon Wood at 603-542-6454

Our current bulletin may be viewed  
on our website at  
[stjosepclaremont.org](http://stjosepclaremont.org)  
or by using this direct link:

**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

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](mailto:stjosephsclaremont@gmail.com)

Copies of past bulletins are  
available on a small table as you  
enter the church hall.  
Ask Sharon Wood if you'd like  
an older issue than is left there.

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**603-826-0840**  
 164 Old Springfield Rd.  
 Charlestown, NH 03603  
[administration@thecampbellhouses.com](mailto:administration@thecampbellhouses.com)

St. Jude,  
 Patron of the Impossible.



pray for us!




**Bonnie Miles**  
 Associate Broker

C: (603) 381-9611  
 O: (603) 542-2503  
[bonnie@coldwellbankerNH.com](mailto:bonnie@coldwellbankerNH.com)

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**Cindy O'Neal**



[coneal@jppc.net](mailto:coneal@jppc.net) (931) 217-7110

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 to our bulletin sponsors!

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IN REMEMBRANCE OF SAMANTHA JOSEPHSON

**S A M I**  
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