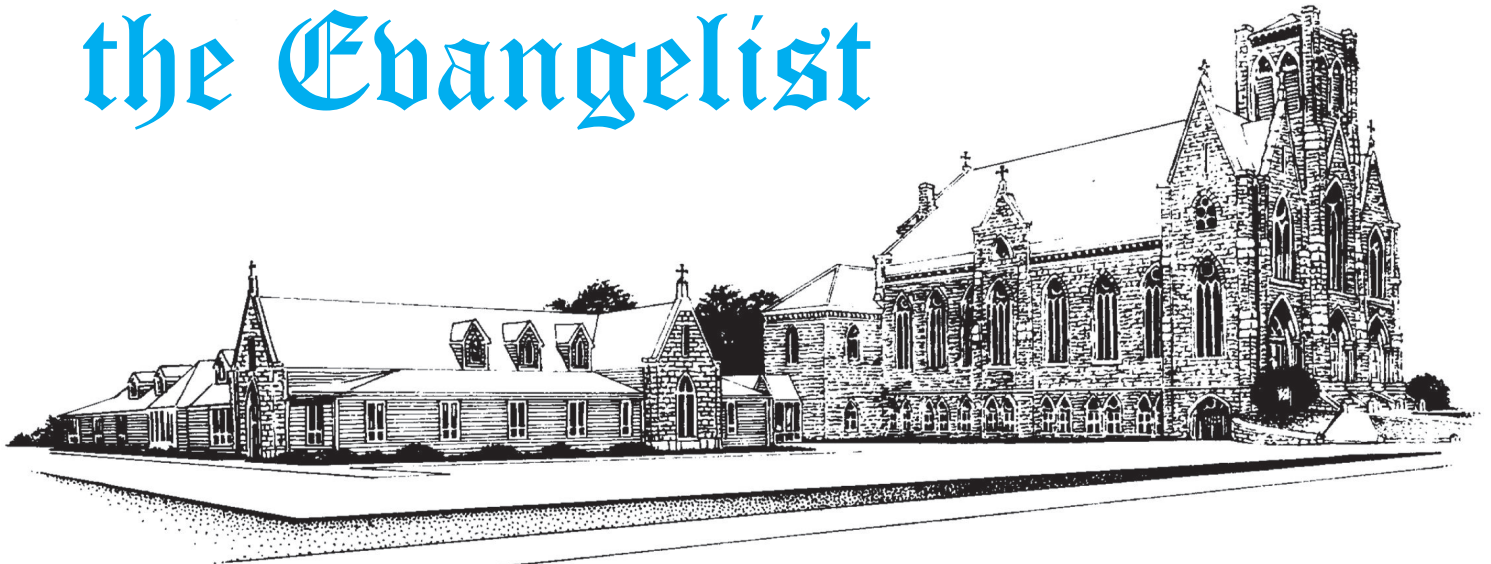


St. John the Evangelist



Established 1866

**20 Church Street
Hopkinton, MA 01748**

**Telephone: 508-435-3313
for all parish offices**

Fax: 508-435-5651

E-Mail: stjohnshopkinton@verizon.net

Web Page:

www.stjohnhopkinton.com

WELCOME TO NEW PARISHIONERS

Please introduce yourselves. We hope to know and serve you. We hope you become an active part of our Parish Community.

PASTOR

Rev. Richard E. Cannon
508-435-3313x201
rec55xp@outlook.com

DEACON

Deacon Anthony C. Sicuso
508-435-3313x206

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

**Carol Zani, 1-6
Debbie Lysik, 7-10
Ken Lysik, 9 & 10**

PARISH CENTER

Maureen Belger, Manager
508-435-3313x210
parishhallstjn@gmail.com

SUNDAY MASSES:

Saturday 5:00 PM
8:00 and 10:00 AM and 6:30 PM

WEEKDAY MASSES:

Monday - Wednesday & Friday 9:00 AM
No Mass on Thursday
Saturday 8:00 AM

HOLY DAY MASSES:

See inside bulletin for Holy Day Mass schedule

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM:

Second and fourth Sundays of the month at 12 Noon
Please call for information

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION:

Saturday 8:30-9:15 AM in the lower church

SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE:

Arranged at least 6 months in advance

ORGANIST/CHOIR DIRECTOR

Brendan Kenney
bkenney@stjohnhopkinton.com
508-435-3313x214

PARISH "NEWS" DEADLINE

All copy must be submitted in writing no later than Monday noon. (Holiday weeks may require a longer lead time.)

ST. JOHN'S ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

For those that need a little help,
please call: 508-435-3313x207



Behold, the angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary your wife into your home. For it is through the Holy Spirit that this child has been conceived in her. She will bear a son and you are to name him Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins." - Mt 1:20-21

Readings for **NEXT** Sunday, December 25, 2016:
Is 52:7-10/ Ps 98/Heb 1:1-6/ Jn 1:1-5, 9-14



Mass Intentions

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 17

5:00 PM Arlene and Esau Olio

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 18

8:00 AM Jean Fuller

10:00 AM Parishioners of St. John

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 21

9:00 AM Matthew O'Leary

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 24

8:00 AM Special Intention

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 25

12:00 AM Parishioners of St. John



MONDAY, DECEMBER 19

2:10 PM Grade 6

4:15 PM Grades 3, 4 & 5

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 20

4:15 PM Grades 3, 4 & 5

6:30 PM Grade 8

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 21—NO CLASSES

CHRISTMAS VACATION BEGINS DECEMBER 21.

CLASSES WILL RESUME TUESDAY, JANUARY 3, 2017.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament follows the 9AM Mass in the lower church every Friday, beginning with the Litany to our Blessed Mother. The Chaplet of Divine Mercy is recited at 11:45AM followed by Benediction. Please feel free to drop in for a visit.

The Sacrament of Reconciliation will be celebrated 8:30-9:15AM in the lower church NEXT Saturday, December 24, and THIS Monday, December 19, from 6:30-7:30PM.

Divine Mercy Prayer Group

There will be a holy hour of Divine Mercy every Monday from 6:30-7:30PM in the lower church. All are welcome.

Winter Weather Notice: Please note that if Hopkinton schools are canceled or delayed due to the weather, there will be no morning daily Mass.



Rest in Peace

don Michele Alessio



St. John's parish family invites you to join us for coffee and conversation following the 10AM Mass hosted this Sunday by the Schuster Family and the Gallagher Family.

2nd collection **THIS** weekend
Parish Upkeep and Debt Reduction



This Christmas, our parish collection will once again benefit the Clergy Health and Retirement Trust. This important fund ensures that our priests will be cared for and supported throughout their lives. Remember priests who have made a meaningful difference in your life and consider honoring him/them with a gift to the Christmas collection. Thank you in advance for your prayers and generous support.



HOLIDAY MASS SCHEDULE

CHRISTMAS EVE (Sat. 12/24) 4PM (x2*), 6PM & Midnight
CHRISTMAS DAY (Sun. 12/25) 8 & 10AM, NO 6:30PM Mass
MARY, HOLY MOTHER OF GOD (Sat. 12/31) 5PM
MARY, HOLY MOTHER OF GOD (Sun. 1/1) 8AM, 10AM, & 6:30PM

*There will be 2 Masses offered at 4PM on Christmas Eve. One will be in the upper church and the other will be in the Parish Center.

150th Anniversary Commemorative Book

The long-awaited books have arrived. They are available at the rear of the church or at the Parish Office. There is no charge. We ask that only one book be taken by each family. Thank you and enjoy.

A SPECIAL THANK YOU

A special note of appreciation to the members of the 150th Anniversary Committee for a job very well done! The Committee Members were: Mary Kniaz, Denise Antaki, Ann Click, Louise Donahue, Debbie Johnston, Mary McRobert, Mary Morrissey, Mavis O'Leary, John Palmer, and Diane Regan. A very special thank you as well to Mary Kniaz for the book: "The Cathedral in the Woods, The Heroic Beginnings of the Parish of St. John the Evangelist, Hopkinton, Massachusetts" and to Denise Antaki and John Palmer for putting together the wonderful 150th Anniversary commemorative booklet. We thank you all for your hard work and dedication to our parish.

WEDNESDAY EVENING ROSARY

On Wednesday evenings at **6PM in the lower chapel**, the rosary will be offered. This will be held every Wednesday evening throughout the year. Please feel free to come on down, and don't be afraid to let your children join in. Rosary booklets will be made available for those who need a refresher in this beautiful Marian devotion.

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT



WELCOME NEW PARISHIONERS

If you are new to the Parish, please introduce yourself. We want to know and serve you. We hope you will support your parish with your prayers, your presence and your talents. **Please call the Parish Office (435-3313x203) to register.**



Giving Tree

The Giving Tree

Global Mission Apostolate

The Giving Tree is a wonderful Advent tradition here at St. John's. This year's gifts will support the poor in Africa, Haiti, the Philippines, as well as the homeless here in Worcester. A document describing all the missions and gift designations is located on the table with the Giving Tree at the back of the church. Gifts may be brought through January 1st.

150th Anniversary Ornaments

There are still a few of St. John's 150th Anniversary Christmas ornaments left for sale. The cost is \$20 and they are available from the parish office or the religious education office.

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

St. John's St. Vincent de Paul Society is looking for donations of gift cards to distribute to those we help. Gas, food, and department store cards in denominations of \$25 and above are greatly appreciated. Please call Colleen with questions at 508-497-9144.

Help Feed the Hungry this Christmas



St. John's Mustard Seed ministry group prepares and serves a meal to the needy once a month at Mustard Seed Catholic Worker Soup Kitchen in Worcester. The meal is 100% funded by your donations. Each month, approximately 200 people are given a hot meal in a welcoming environment thanks to your generosity. Please help us make this month's meal a special one! **Collection boxes will be in the back of church THIS weekend.** Checks may be made out to St. John's/Mustard Seed and put in the boxes or mailed to St. John's Parish Office, 20 Church St, Hopkinton. Thank you!

PARISH NEED

Do you have a gently used or know of a gently used truck for sale or donation? It is time to retire our parish truck as it has more than 140,000 miles, is over 16 years old and will not pass it's upcoming inspection. Please contact the parish office with any information (508-435-3313x203).



Middle School Youth Group

Stay tuned for upcoming events.

High School Youth Group

Service & Skating, Saturday, January 7, 12:30-7PM

Join the High School Youth Group as we travel to Boston Common to hand out "blessing bags" to the homeless, followed by skating at City Plaza and dinner at Faneuil Hall. See St. John's website to sign up by January 4. (stjohnshopkinton@verizon.net) click on Youth Ministry. Adult drivers needed. (stjohnythmin@gmail.com)



Donations Needed!!!

For the month of December a box for donations of adult new socks and gloves will be in the Parish Center. The high school youth group will travel to Boston Common to hand out blessing bags to Boston's homeless on Saturday, January 7. If you can help please leave your items in the box in the Parish Center. Thank you for your generosity.

PARENTS!

If your child(ren) attends class Sunday mornings, you may want to stay for our parent session on the history of the Catholic Faithful In America with a focus on the history of our own St. John's Parish. The sessions are only 20 minutes, 9:10-9:30 AM, and will be offered until March. Even if you don't have anyone attending class at that time you are most welcome to join us in the Parish Hall. The next session is January 22.

FIRST RECONCILIATION

68 children received first reconciliation in December culminating 6 weeks of preparation with their catechists and their parents. Congratulations to all.

WEATHER NOTICE



Any time the Hopkinton Public School District cancels school due to weather conditions, St. John's Religious Education Classes will also be canceled.



Christmas Lights 2016

Our Lady of Fatima Shrine in Holliston

This year's lighting display includes some 100 elegantly decorated devotional and seasonal fixtures over a compact parcel of the Shrine's grounds. This year's lighting display will be particularly appealing to families. Admission to the Shrine is free and the lighting display will continue every day **through December 29, 2015.** Open daily from 5-9PM. Cookies and hot chocolate are served in the Shrine Hall.

2017 Calendars are available at the back of the church

DECEMBER 18, 2016

Fourth Sunday of Advent



"She will bear a son and you are to name him Jesus." Joseph heard these prophetic words in a dream. They were words of anticipation, of what was to come. And in a sense, they ushered in a kind of Advent for Joseph. With this divine message, Joseph began a period of holy waiting. He now knew that the Messiah was going to be coming into his

own home, and he had just nine months to prepare! We can only imagine how Joseph might have spent these precious days. Most likely he did more than prepare a physical home for his soon-to-be-born Son; he must have also used these days to prepare his heart, mind, and soul for such a tremendous mission. Today, we stand in a position not all that different from St. Joseph. We also know that the Messiah will be arriving--not just in remembrance at Christmastime, but in reality at the second coming. But unlike Joseph, we don't have an exact timeframe. We don't know when Jesus will return. We just know that we need to be ready! During the season of Advent we are challenged to recall this fact and strive to get our hearts in order. The days are short now until Christmas, and for all we know they might be short until Christ's return as well. What remains to be done? Aside from wrapping presents and planning parties, where do we yet need to tidy up our habits to properly celebrate the real meaning of this festive season? How can we make sure that we don't get swept away in the external preparations, forgetting the work that needs to be done in the invisible silence of our souls? God may not speak to all of us directly in our dreams, but he does speak to us clearly through his word. May we recognize today the mission he has laid before us.

CHRISTMAS FLOWERS

For those parishioners on our offertory envelope system, you will notice a Flower Offering envelope in your packet. (Flower envelopes are also available at the rear of the church.) These envelopes provide an opportunity to donate to the flower costs and other altar supplies during the upcoming Advent and Christmas Seasons. These donations can be made in memory of loved ones. They can be put in the regular collection or sent in to the parish office anytime between now and Christmas. Thank you.

TRAVELING?

FREE ministry to traveling Catholics: You can check out www.masstimes.org from any internet connection to find out the name, location, and Mass schedule of the nearest Catholic church anywhere in America.

MOVING?

Please be sure to notify the Parish office (435-3313x203) and the Religious Education office (435-3313x208) if your address and/or telephone number changes, OR if you are moving out of town. We appreciate your help in keeping our parish records up to date.