

# Saint Aloysius - Saint Jude Parish

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## Parish Staff

Rev. John M. Lizewski - Parish Priest/Pastor  
Mr. Kevin D. Mathieu - Director of Liturgical Music  
& Parish Communications  
Mr. James D. Archibald - Parish Finance Advisor  
Mr. Shaun M. Stewart - Parish Custodian



## 1<sup>ST</sup> SUNDAY OF LENT

After John had been arrested, Jesus came to Galilee proclaiming the gospel of God: "This is the time of fulfillment. The kingdom of God is at hand. Repent, and believe in the gospel." - Mk 1:14-15

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

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### MASS Schedule

Saturday Afternoon: 4:30 p.m.  
Sunday Morning: 9:00 a.m.  
Weekdays (Mon-Thurs): 9:00 a.m.

### Confessions

Saturday afternoon 3:30 p.m. - 4:15 p.m.  
or call the Rectory for an appointment

### Chaplet of Divine Mercy & Rosary

Prayed in the Church every Friday  
afternoon from 3:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

### Sacrament of Baptism

Please call the Rectory to schedule  
preparation and dates with Father Jack

### Sacrament of Marriage

Couples should make arrangements  
with Father Jack at the earliest  
opportunity (ideally one year prior)  
to ensure availability of the Priest,  
Church, and Staff, and to allow time for  
preparation meetings

## MASS INTENTIONS

**Saturday, February 20**

**4:30 p.m. Madeleine Charron (12th anniv.)  
& Grace Charron (14th anniv.)**  
- req. by Jill & David Dupuis

**Sunday, February 21 - First Sunday of LENT**

**9:00 a.m. Ruth Capite**  
- req. by the Shea Family

**Monday, February 22** *The Chair of St. Peter the Apostle*

**9:00 a.m. Weekly MASS for our living Parishioners & loved ones**

**Tuesday, February 23** *St. Polycarp, Bishop and Martyr*

**9:00 a.m. Weekly MASS for our deceased Parishioners & loved ones**

**Wednesday, February 24**

**9:00 a.m. Monthly MASS for our nation and the world**

**Thursday, February 25**

**9:00 a.m. Monthly MASS for vocations to the priesthood & religious life**  
(Diocese of Worcester, MA)

**Friday, February 26**

**NO MASS**

**Saturday, February 27**

**4:30 p.m. Timothy McKeon**  
- req. by Robert and Michele McTiernan & Family

**Sunday, February 28**

**9:00 a.m. Marlon Zentano**  
- req. by Sergio & Tarin Flores & their Children

### **2021 MASS Book**

Weekend and weekday MASSES can be scheduled on a 'first-reserve'/'no-limit' basis for your living and deceased personal intentions; mark any 'anniversary death dates' if you want them to be listed here. - **Available weekends: beginning March 7, 2021 (Sundays); May 8 (Saturdays) - & weekdays throughout the year.**

### **Parish Council/Finance Committee**

Members for 2020-2022 are: Richard Cehon, Robert Coleman, Jill Dupuis, Leonard Harmon, Lucille Jacques, Robert Kennedy, Father Jack Lizewski, Kevin Mathieu (Staff), Christopher Shevchuk. **Next Meeting: Wednesday, March 3, 2021 @ 7:00 p.m.**

### **Legacy of Hope**

Diocese of Worcester fundraising campaign (2019-2023); kindly make your check/credit card payable to "Legacy of Hope" and NOT Saint Aloysius-Saint Jude Parish. Our assigned is \$187,143.00 - current donations/pledges: 54 @ \$102,972.00 - 40% of all money donated remains in this Parish. Three refund checks from the Diocese to the Parish **totaled: \$27,351.00.**

## Offertory Collections

**February 13/14, 2021**

Weekly Offertory - **\$2,162.00 - THANK YOU!**  
Retired Priests Collection (1) - **\$10.00**  
Catholic Church in Latin America Appeal (2) - **\$60.00**  
Catholic Free Press - (4) - **\$156.00**  
**Bank Deposit - \$2,388.00**

**Weekly minimum 'Offertory' budget amount \$2,500**

**MANY THANKS** to everyone (85%) donating according to their 'financial blessings' and in '2021 dollar costs'.

### **Realistic weekly donation amounts:**

\$20.00-\$25.00 (married couples) \$15.00-\$20.00 (single, working) \$10.00-\$15.00 (retired couples) \$5.00-\$10.00 (single, retired)

## 2020 Personal Donation Statements

Contact Father Jack Lizewski if you would like a statement of your Parish financial donations for your federal/state income tax filing records - **\$250.00** minimum required

### **Ladies Guild**

**March 10, 2021 @ 7 p.m.**

Contact Jill Dupuis if you are planning to attend to justify and properly plan for this yearly 'Lenten DVD' presentation by Father Jack Lizewski

### **Heating Fuel Bills**

(October 2020-February 2021): Church/Parish Hall, Rectory: **\$3,238.00 (paid-in-full)**

### **2021 Parish Calendars**

**Available at both Church doorways**

Generously sponsored for nine years now by Morin Funeral Home (Leicester) & Cornerston Bank (Leicester) help yourself and for your family!

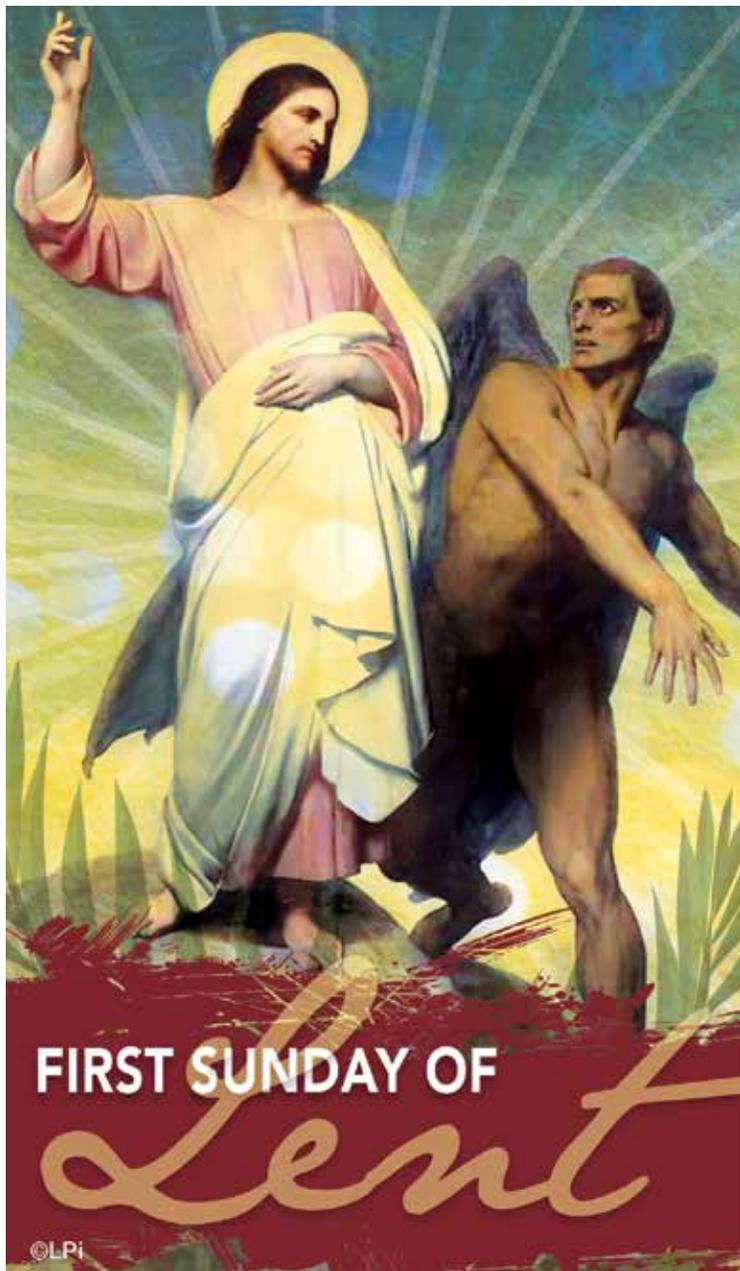
### **Ladies Guild \$500.00 Scholarship**

Application letters have been sent to this years eligible graduating high school seniors who faithfully attend weekend MASS and whose parents financially donate weekly to the Parish.

**Applications must be returned no later than March 1st, 2021**

### **For Your Information:**

The High Altar (installed in October, 2015) is being 'raised' six inches higher along with the side statues of the Blessed Virgin Mary and Saint Joseph to better display it's beauty and use with the tabernacle properly placed in the center of our altar area. This work will be done during the winter months by our Parish Director of Liturgical Music/Communications, Kevin Mathieu - "to be enjoyed at Easter"



## Gospel Meditation

**February 21, 2021**

**1st Sunday of Lent**

St. Oscar Romero said, “Aspire not to have more, but to be more.” These powerful words provide the perfect framework for a conversion oriented Lenten experience. God is giving us this Lenten sign to stop being concerned about what you have and focus on who you are. This requires that we create a desert space and listen more attentively for God to reveal His presence. It is all so wonderfully simple on the one hand and so incredibly challenging on the other. The message is simple: love God, neighbor, and self. Those simple words make great sense, but we struggle translating them into reality. Our attachments, compulsions, obsessions, addictions, routines, and busyness all anchor us to the “idol of the self,” keeping us mired in our compulsive need for self-aggrandizement. It’s not about us!

God vowed, long ago, to nurture, sustain and protect the relationship He has with His people. He called us into being, nurtures us in being, and sustains us in being. Without the Loving Divine Presence, all life would cease. Once we slow down a bit and clear away some of the clutter, we can see how the journey of our life is unfolding. We can see what brings us in and out of tune with God’s love and how we can better imitate God’s loving fidelity in our relationship with Him. In short, we will see our myopic short sightedness and figure out how we can better share the Divine Fire within with others. Lent isn’t just about giving stuff up for forty days and indulging again at Easter. We need to push things much farther and wrestle with the question of how we can be more. “Being more” means becoming more fully alive and in touch with the holiness of life and the divinity that lives in and empowers all beings and things. It is realizing that the “quality” of our presence is crucial to being an effective witness and herald of God’s unconditional love.

The illusion we have bought into causes us to believe that the wrong things and systems matter. We tirelessly fight to keep things the way they are, to return to the former ways of doing things or restore some nostalgic fantasy memory of “life in the good old days.” Lent isn’t about maintaining what we have or returning to something that is gone. It’s about becoming something new. It’s about being more focused, centered, convicted, and grounded so that we can be a person who truly loves and treasures being made in the image of God. The secret to Gospel living is not found in accumulating anything for ourselves, even merit points for heaven. Gospel living means learning how to live with less so that others can live with more. The thought of permanently giving something up makes us feel uncomfortable. Truth often does.

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## Live the Liturgy - Inspiration For the Week

Throughout history God has given His people signs. Our season of Lent offers us God’s sign that it is time to stop the ordinary routines of our lives, create some desert space, and listen more attentively for God to reveal His presence. We are asked to unplug from our attachments, compulsions, obsessions, addictions, routines, and busyness to clear the slate and take stock in who we have become. We are asked to remember the ancient sign of God’s covenant with humanity in which He vowed to nurture, sustain, and protect the relationship He has with His people. Once we slow down a bit and clear away some of the clutter, we can see how the journey of our life is unfolding. We can see what brings us in and out of tune with God’s love and how we can better imitate God’s loving fidelity in our relationship with Him. Even though some good solid self-denial is the order of the day, greater happiness and wholeness will be the fruit of our labors. Pleasant journey through the desert!

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## Why do We do That? - Catholic Life Explained

**Question:** Does it matter what leg you kneel on when genuflecting?

**Answer:** Genuflection is an act of devotion that literally means “to bend the knee.” For many Catholics, it’s an almost automatic gesture that we perform before entering our pew or row of seats at Mass. But, like many of the symbols and gestures of our faith tradition, genuflecting can also be an invitation for deeper reflection.

The practice of “bending the knee” is an ancient way of recognizing the presence of someone greater than we are. It has been said that the practice dates back to the time of Alexander the Great, but it became a common part of etiquette in the royal courts of the Middle Ages. From throne rooms and palaces, it was a small step to genuflecting, becoming part of the devotional lives of Christians who used this secular gesture as a way of recognizing the presence of the One who is King of Kings, especially in the Eucharist. In our tradition, although many have been taught or prefer to genuflect by placing their right knee on the ground, there is no prescribed way to genuflect. This is especially important to keep in mind if physical limitations or age make certain movements difficult for us.

Today, Catholics are asked to genuflect in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament (whether in the tabernacle or exposed on the altar during eucharistic adoration). So, while it has become second nature to genuflect before entering your seat in church, we should pay attention to where the Blessed Sacrament is kept in each church or chapel we visit, and genuflect in the direction of the tabernacle where the Blessed Sacrament is kept. In churches or chapels in which the tabernacle is in a separate space, we are invited to simply bow toward the altar. ©LPI

### Our Lady of Hope

Clean, decent clothing as well as soda/beer cans/bottles in clean trash bags can be placed on the inside left area of the rectory garage to be brought to Urban Missionaries on a weekly basis. Contact Parishioners Mary & Al O’Leary @ (508) 892-4135 or Ellin Clifford @ (508) 892-5661 for more details.

**Feb. 21 - Paulette & Bob Beaudin**

**Feb. 28 - Ellin Clifford**

### Empty Cupboard Program

Non-perishable food items are always needed to support those less fortunate at ‘Jeremiah’s Inn’, Worcester. Two wicker baskets in the back of the church are for this purpose. Kindly contact Parishioner, Margaret Shivick @ (508) 892-4517 for more details or to become a member of this outreach service.

**Feb. 21 - Mary & Bob Kennedy**

**Feb. 28 - Margaret Shivick**

## Everyday Stewardship - Recognize GOD in Your Ordinary Moments

### **The Unlikely Suspects**

Have you ever taken a nature walk? Have you leisurely strolled through a forest or field, with no real destination in mind and your only objective being receptivity to and observation of all God’s creation?

Sometimes, Scripture readings can feel like a nature walk. All of salvation history plays out against the backdrop of the natural world, with all elements of God’s creation — plants and animals and the dust of the earth itself — turning in a supporting performance. How about Jesus in the hot and dusty desert, tempted, living “among the wild beasts?” Noah departed from his ark with the animals he rescued, observing God’s sign in the very clouds of the sky. Even God Himself, offering us salvation from original sin through the waters of baptism.

How often do we remember that God speaks to us through all of His creation, even in the unlikeliest suspects?

Let’s go back to the nature walk. It sounds like a lovely way to pass an afternoon, amongst wildflowers and butterflies, but don’t forget the beating hot sun, mosquitos, and threat of rain on the horizon. Remember, we’re not in heaven yet. Here on earth, God may be present in His creation, but that doesn’t mean it’s always easy to endure.

Lent is, essentially, a time to listen for the voice of God in places we may not expect: the mild irritations you experience when you’re craving the chocolate you gave up, or the dull pangs of hunger during the Ash Wednesday fast. It’s a golden opportunity to see the divine hand in all of creation, even those unlikely suspects. -Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS ©LPI

### Scripture Questions of the Week

**First Reading:** God promises Noah to use a “bow in the clouds” (a rainbow) as a sign and symbol of His divine pledge to never again allow a world-wide flood to devastate the earth. This is the Bible’s first recorded covenant between God and humanity. What do you think of when you see a rainbow?

**Second Reading:** Peter teaches that Jesus preached to both the living and the dead — those dead dating back to the days of Noah — and connecting us through baptism. What do you find intriguing about this idea?

**Gospel:** We hear about Jesus’ temptation in the desert and his inaugural gospel message to those living in Galilee. Jesus saw repentance as necessary to believe his good news. As we begin the Lenten journey, what aspects of your life require repentance? ©LPI