



**North American Martyrs Church
8 Wyoma Drive, Auburn, MA 01501**

**Rev. John F. Gee, Pastor
Rectory 508-798-8779**

**Joan Sundstrom, Religious Education Coordinator
Religious Education Office 508-798-0612**

www.namartyrsauburn.org

Parish e-mail: namoffice@verizon.net

Relig. Ed e-mail: namparish@namparish.com

Lord's Day Saturday, 4:30 p.m.
Masses Sunday, 8:30 & 10:30 a.m.

Weekday 7:00 a.m. (except Thursday)
Masses 8:00 a.m. Saturdays

Confessions Saturday 3:00 to 4:00 p.m.

Baptisms By appointment

Weddings Please make arrangements 1 year in advance

January 1, 2012

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, December 31, 4:30 p.m.

Richard Strozina

Requested by Bill & Jane Van Winkle

Sunday, January 1, 8:30 a.m.

Helen Connor

Requested by her family

Sunday, January 1, 10:30 a.m.

1st Anniv.: Paul Gregory

Requested by his family

Wednesday, January 4, 7:00 a.m.

George Maroney

Requested by his family

Friday, January 6, 7:00 a.m.

Rick Belair

Requested by his family

Saturday, January 7, 4:30 p.m.

James Cahill

Requested by his family

Sunday, January 8, 8:30 a.m.

6th Anniv.: Judith Ann Cox

Requested by her family

Sunday, January 8, 10:30 a.m.

6th Anniv.: Priscilla Groves

Requested by friends

Feast of the Mother of God

STEWARDSHIP PRAYER

O God, our loving creator and giver of all good gifts, bless our parish and the diocese, strengthen our faith and grant us the spirit of Christian stewardship so that we may give generously of our time, talent and treasure to the spreading of Your kingdom here at North American Martyrs and throughout the world. We ask this through our Lord Jesus, your Son, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God forever and ever. Amen.

Bereavement - Refreshments are offered to families after the funeral of a loved one. You may request this ministry by calling Fr. Gee at 508-798-8779.

Hymn Requests - Eagle's Wings is our liturgical music group that plays at the 8:30 mass. Please call Pete Michaud at 755-5863 or talk to him after mass.

Coffee And ... - Every Sunday after the Masses, teams of men in the parish serve coffee and doughnuts in the parish hall. Everyone is welcome.

**1/1 - New Year's Day (No Coffee And)
1/8 - Team 4**

Hall Reservations -- To reserve the hall, please contact T Jablanski at 508-751-6476.

Bulletin Items -- Please submit by Wednesday at 8:00 a.m. all items to appear in the bulletin. Please contact Pam Ashmankas at 508-798-0612 or NAMparish@namparish.com.

It's a joy to welcome new parishioners and visitors. Please let us know who you are.

**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION
JANUARY CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

Wednesday, January 4
7:00 p.m. - Eucharist Catechist Training

Sunday, January 8
8:30-11:30 a.m. - Mass followed by
First Eucharist Class
1-4 p.m. - Grade 7/8 Retreat
6:30-8:00 p.m. - Grade 9/10 Class

Thursday, January 12
7-8:30 p.m. - Scripture Study

Monday, January 16
2:30-5:30 p.m. - Jeremiah's Inn (EYF)

Tuesday, January 17
7:00 p.m. - Religious Education Board

Thursday, January 19
7-8:30 p.m. - Scripture Study

**Saturday-Sunday, January 21 & 22
Gathering Day**

Sunday, January 22
6:30-8:00 p.m. - Grade 9/10 Class

**GATHERING DAY SIGN-UP
(GRADES 1-6)**

A Gathering Day will be held on

**Saturday, January 21 from 1 - 3:15 p.m.
and
Sunday, January 22 from 2-4:15 p.m.**

Your child can attend either Saturday or Sunday. At sign-up, your child will receive service project information and a home lesson to be completed and brought to the Gathering Day.

Sign-ups for this Gathering Day will be held during the following times:

**Sunday, January 8 - after the 8:30 & 10:30 Masses
- 6:30-8:00 p.m.**

**Tuesday, January 10 - 11 a.m.-5:00 p.m.
Wednesday, January 11 - 11 a.m. -5:00 p.m.
Thursday, January 12 - 11 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.**

Spaghetti Supper

North American Martyrs' own Cub Scout Pack 121 will be holding a Spaghetti Supper on Saturday, January 14th, from 5:00 to 7:00 PM in the Parish Hall. This annual event helps to raise funds for the Pack's numerous activities. Tickets are \$6.00 per person, with children 3 years old and under free and will be available at the door.



Feast of the Mother of God

*"Mary set out and traveled to the hill country in haste."
(Luke 1:39)*

Mary, why were you so eager to visit Elizabeth? Wouldn't it have been better to wait until Joseph was free to travel with you? Wouldn't the road have been safer, and the journey more enjoyable, with your betrothed?



What was it about Elizabeth that drew you to her side? The angel told you that she too had conceived miraculously. Was it because you wanted to share stories with someone who understood the excitement and joy you were experiencing? Perhaps it was because you felt you needed to witness the birth of this first miracle baby—both to help you prepare for your own and to see the one who would set the stage for your child's mission.

Most blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. (Luke 1:42) With such strange words does your kinswoman greet you! Simply by hearing your voice, she knows that something new and exciting has happened to you. Moved by the Spirit, she senses that you too are with child—a child who will become her Lord. And she honors you for believing God's promises and surrendering so fully to his plan.

How could she know all of this? How could she have seen so much grace in you, without having first heard the wonderful news?

Perhaps this is why you were drawn to Elizabeth. Here was a woman of deep faith, a woman whom you knew to be close to God and open to his Spirit. Here was an elder kinswoman whose wisdom, counsel, and insight could prove to be invaluable to you. Here was a woman who knew the pain of being childless and yet did not give in to bitterness or sadness. Perhaps Elizabeth could offer words to help you face the challenges that lie ahead.

How you must have treasured your relationship with Elizabeth! As you stood at the threshold of a new world—a world of new adventures, personal risk, and uncharted territory—you knew you weren't standing alone. Elizabeth was your cousin, yes, but even more important, she was your sister in the Lord!

Adapted from The Word Among Us

SCRIPTURE STUDY

A Scripture Study using the "Six Weeks with the Bible" series will be held on **Thursday evenings, January 12, January 19, January 26, February 2, February 9, and February 16** from 7-8:30 p.m. in the rectory. The series title we will be using is "*Jonah/Ruth: Love Crosses Boundaries.*" Please call the Religious Education Office at 508-798-0612 if interested in attending.

GOD SPEAKS! Family Scripture Puzzles

Look for the activity in the folders attached to the bulletin boards at both church entrances.



Praying

It is the most powerful thing we can do.

Please pray for the souls
of all the faithful departed,

for those who are ill:

*Emery Lucier, Betty Gallant, Anthony Real,
Janie Bouges, Mary DePasquale, Eugene Gosselin,
James Stefanik, Fred Brown, Ray Perron, Jacob Roy,
Christopher Lonergan, Debra Lynne Iles, Bob Bedker*

and for all the men and women
serving in our country's military



First Friday

Friday of this week is the **First Friday of the Month**. Adoration of the Real Presence of Jesus will begin after the 7 a.m. Mass and will conclude at the 7 p.m. Mass.

We are grateful to all who come for a half hour of adoration during the day.



We wish all our parishioners and parish friends God's blessing during 2012.



Fr. John Gavin of the Society of Jesus at Holy Cross College will celebrate one of our Masses each weekend.

Kateri Tekakwitha Senior Housing

The housing lottery will be held on Thursday, January 5 at 11 am at North American Martyrs.

STATE HOSPITAL CHRISTMAS GIFTS

Thank you to everyone who donated Christmas gifts to residents of Worcester State Hospital. You were extremely generous with the gifts this year and the gifts were much appreciated.

St. Vincent De Paul Clothing Bin

Just a reminder that there is a collection bin against the back wall of our church where you can donate used clothing and shoes.

Kateri's Kitchen -- Open Saturdays, 10-12



We are asking our parishioners to help "stock our shelves" by donating ANY non-perishable food items. You may bring your donations to the altar at the offertory or to the classroom at the back entrance.

We are especially in need of the following:

**Ketchup
Mustard
Oatmeal
Pasta Sauce
Cookies**

**Mayonnaise
Canned Meat
Juice
Baked Beans
Crackers**

We are very grateful for your extraordinary generosity in bringing food. If you have any questions, please call Ann Marie Lucas at 508-752-4852.

The Prayer Shawl Ministry Group meets in the Kateri's Kitchen classroom on the first Monday of each month from **1-2:30 pm**. The next meeting will be **Monday, January 2**. Everyone is welcome. If you or anyone you know is in need of a Prayer Shawl, please contact Angela Rothera at 508-832-4390.



There will be a **special collection for The Catholic University of America** to be taken in all the parishes throughout the Diocese of Worcester next weekend, January 7 and 8. The Catholic University of America, founded in 1887 by the U.S. Catholic bishops with the support of Pope Leo XIII, is the national university of the Catholic Church in the United States. Established as a graduate research center, the university began offering undergraduate education in 1904 and today is home to 12 schools and 21 research facilities. Catholic University is the only American university with ecclesiastical faculties granting canonical degrees in three disciplines (canon law, philosophy, and theology). As such, it has a special responsibility to educate future leaders for our Church and our nations. In this sense, The Catholic University of America belongs to all of us in the Church, regardless of where we live. All of the funds received through this collection underwrite the financial aid program at the university. Simply put, your contributions directly benefit students at CUA from all over the country, including the Diocese of Worcester, by funding scholarships for those who would not otherwise be able to attend. Every year, nearly 3,000 students at CUA (about 60% of the student body) receive scholarship support through the funds raised through this collection.



COLLECTIONS

The Christmas collection and the collection for last weekend will be reported next week.

We are grateful to these parishioners, whose ads pay for the equipment and materials to produce this bulletin.



1464 Grafton Road
Millbury, MA 01527
(508) 755-5253
Fax (508) 754-4659
Pamela Murphy

Worcester County Safety Consulting, LLC
Authorized OSHA Outreach Trainer #65438
Pete Michaud

10 & 30 Hour Training for Construction Telephone 508.450.2559
29 Years Experience email: wcsafetyc@gmail.com

Lindblom Landscaping & Home Repair
ICPI-NCMA Certified



10% off Snow Plowing with this ad

Mark Lindblom Fully Insured/Free Estimates
774-262-4712

T&C Bookkeeping Services
Amy B. Messina

Auburn, MA &
Dennisport, MA

Please call for a free estimate.

All types of bookkeeping services available for small business owners.

774-535-1618

amymess@verizon.net



Joshua Crowley
Licensed Electrician
(508) 868-8228

Free Estimates
Fully Insured

Journeyman Lic.# 51285E



Ken Roux
(508) 723-4612

Handyman Services
(All types of home repairs, including carpentry and mechanical)



Erin Conley, Voice

Weddings~Funerals, Opera~Musical Theater Pop~Jazz Performing & Creative Arts
11 Candlewood Place
Worcester, MA 01606
(774) 670-6651
erinsingerconley@gmail.com

Auntie Sari's Pet Sitting
Sari Bitticks, 508-832-3159



"Pets lovingly cared for in your own home"
Daily Visits. Mail/paper fetched, plants watered.



A Step Ahead

Christine M. Ganong
Owner/Child Care Provider

"A Progressive Approach to Family Child Care"

Family Child Care Center
102 Pakachoag Street,
Auburn, MA 01501

508-767-1214
www.astepaheadauburn@hotmail.com

Spring/Fall Clean-up, Hedges,
Mulching and Planting

Ask about our FREE lawn cut for new customers

Mike Houston

Houston Lawn Service
774-232-9988



We get the job done!



BELANGER
PLASTERING & PAINTING

Michael - 508-987-5510
John P. - 508-752-7490

Fully Insured/Free Estimates
Residential/Commercial
Interior/Exterior



CAPITOL SIDING CO.

Vinyl Siding, Roofing,
Replacement Windows,
Seamless Gutters, Carpentry

30 Auburn Street
Auburn, MA 01501
(508) 832-5981 X14
Fax (508) 832-0464

DALE SARKISIAN, Sales Manager

E-Mail - dale@capitolsiding.com
www.capitolsiding.com



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

49 Central Street, Auburn, MA 01501
Hall Rental — Catering Arranged
Call 508-832-3443

We Serve Our Church & Community - Join Us!



476 Southbridge Street
Auburn, MA 01501
508/832-0444; Cell: 508/277-9478
tomw@acuraofauburn.com

Acura of Auburn

Tom White
Sales Consultant



Scott McDonald Plumbing & Heating

Service & Repairs
No Job Too Small

Scott McDonald, Plumber
Worcester, MA
Lic#31613 and Insured

Cell: 508-572-5393
scottplumbing@charter.net



FLINT RIVER RANCH
SUPER PREMIUM HEALTH FOOD FOR PETS

Call For A FREE Sample!

Lynn Foster
55 Brook Street
Auburn, MA 01501

•All Natural •No By Products
•No Preservatives •Oven Baked
•Home Delivered

508-832-6812
Ind. Dist.# D222

Phillip D. O'Connell, Jr., P.C.



Attorney at Law
425 Pakachoag St.
Auburn, MA 01501
Tel: (508) 832-5872
Fax: (508) 832-7167



Chuck's
STEAK HOUSE

STEPHEN LONDREGAN

Private Bereavement Luncheons

10 Prospect Street
Auburn, MA 01501

Open Daily at 4:00
Sunday at 2:00