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Mary Immaculate of Lourdes Parish

270 Elliot Street Newton, MA 02464

Parish Staff

PASTOR: FATHER CHARLES JEREMIAH HIGGINS
IN RESIDENCE: FATHER STEPHEN LEBLANC
VISITING ASSISTANT PRIESTS: FR. JOHN TOKAZ, OFM
CAP; FR. JUAN CARLOS RIVERA CASTRO, S.J.,
FR. DESIRE SALAKO, S.M.A.
CHALDEAN MISSION: FR. SELWAN TAPONI
PASTORAL ASSOCIATE: MR. DAVID ALLEN, M.T.S.
BUSINESS MANAGER: SHARON HOGAN
PARISH & CEMETERY SECRETARY: MARGIE BIBBO
SUNDAY SACRISTAN: FRANCIS GALLAGHER
RELIGIOUS EDUCATION: JEAN JOHNSON (DIRECTOR)
PATTI STROM (LATIN MASS CHILDREN'S CATECHISM)
DIRECTOR OF MUSIC: MRS. BOBBIE HOFFMANN

Telephones

Parish Office: 617-244-0558 / FAX 617-965-4815

NEW WEBSITE ADDRESS:

www.maryimmaculateoflourdes.org

To contact the parish by internet, please access this new website.

Facebook: www.facebook.com/miolnewton



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Mary's, Needham
**GUARDIAN
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INC.**

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Guardian Staff on-site for service hours Mon.-Fri.,
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The Cemetery Office is located at the parish
rectory on 270 Elliot St, Newton Upper Falls and is
open Monday-Friday, 8 AM—5 PM.

Telephone: 781-235-1841
saintmaryscemetery.org

Mass Schedule

Saturday Vigil: 4:00 PM

Sunday: 7:30 AM & 9:00 AM, 5:30 PM

Traditional Latin High Mass: 10:30 AM

Weekdays: Mon.-Tues., Thurs.-Fri. 7:30 AM

Traditional Latin Mass : Mon-Wed-Fri: 12:30
PM; Thu: 5:30 PM; Sat: 9:00 AM.

Holy Days: if Mon-Fri., 7:30 AM., 12:30, 5:30 &
7:30 PM.; if on Saturday, 7:30, 9:00 & 10:30 AM

Christmas Eve: 4:00 PM & 12 Midnight

Christmas Day: 7:30, 9:00 & 10:30 AM

January 1st: 7:30, 9:00 & 10:30 AM

SACRAMENTS

Baptism: Upon request. Please contact Father Higgins.

Penance (Confession):

Saturday 8:30-9:00 A.M. and 3:30-4:00 PM
Sunday, before and after the 10:30 a.m. AM Mass,
Weekdays, before and after the Latin daily Masses

Matrimony:

Engaged couples should make arrangements with the
parish church so as to allow for adequate sacramental
preparation (six months), including a Pre-Cana program.

Pastoral Care of the Sick

Anointing of the Sick (for those who are gravely ill or
facing serious surgery); **Communion of the Sick for
the Homebound:** Please contact Father Higgins.

ABOUT OUR PARISH

Welcome, New Parishioners
and Sunday Visitors:

Mary Immaculate of Lourdes Parish is a canonically open parish of the Archdiocese of Boston, which has a Traditional Latin Mass apostolate. Both the ordinary form of the Roman Rite (1970 Missal) and the extraordinary form (1962 Missal) are celebrated here with the blessing of His Eminence Sean Cardinal O'Malley, Archbishop of Boston. We encourage new parishioners to please register in the parish and to introduce yourselves to the Pastor. We are always glad to welcome Sunday visitors here to our beautiful, historic church. We look forward to your coming again.

**PLEASE TAKE THE TIME
TO FILL OUT A PARISH
REGISTRATION FORM.**



Parish Mission Statement

“What then is a parish? It is the smallest section of the one universal flock which has been entrusted to Peter by the Lord.

Under the authority of a responsible priest who has received the care of souls from his bishop, the parish is, within the Church of Jesus Christ, the first community of Christian life; it is a community cut to human dimensions, in which the shepherd can know his flock and the flock can know their shepherd ... At the heart of this area, we find the parish church with its bell-tower, its baptistery, its confessional, its altar and tabernacle, a symbol of unity and the centre of community life.”

(Pope Saint Paul VI, reigned 1964-1978)
Raised to the Altars October 14th, 2018

Mary Immaculate of Lourdes
(Formerly St. Mary's Parish, 1870-1910)
Newton/Needham, Massachusetts
Newton & Needham's Oldest Roman
Catholic Parish
*Iraqi Chaldean-rite Catholic Mission of
Boston*



**THE POPE'S INTENTION
FOR THE MONTH OF
MARCH, 2020: "CATHOLICS
IN CHINA: That the Church in
China may persevere in its
faithfulness to the Gospel and
growth in unity."**



(PHOTOS: (1) Pope Francis bestows a kiss on the forehead of Clement Pappin, son of parishioners Gladden and Jeannette Pappin, St. Peter's Square, 2015. (2) Clement Pappin, summer of 2019, aged 6. (3) Fr.



Salako's audience with Pope Francis, 2019.)



**"IF YOU ARE WILLING TO
SERENELY BEAR THE TRIAL
OF BEING DISPLEASING TO
YOURSELF, THEN YOU
WILL BE FOR JESUS A
PLEASANT PLACE OF
SHELTER."—ST. THERESE OF
LISIEUX (+1897)**

Pastor's Note



CATECHUMENS, PENITENTS, ALL-THE-FAITHFUL

As Latin-rite Roman Catholics we follow the liturgy as it developed in the city of Rome where St. Peter's Successor the

Pope is Bishop. This means that the Lenten Mass liturgies which we inherit owe their peculiar character to the way things were done in Rome through the 4th-6th Centuries.

Daily Mass was not customarily celebrated in the ancient Church. During Lent, however, the Mass was offered almost every day. In the city of Rome, the whole people would gather in a designated church and from there go in procession through the streets to another "station" church where the Pope would offer the Mass.

At first, daily Masses were offered on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays for the instruction of the Catechumens enrolled for the Sacraments of Christian Initiation that Easter (those three Sacraments being Baptism, Confirmation, and Holy Eucharist). Later, Masses were added for Tuesdays, Thursdays, and, finally, Saturdays. These added Masses were largely formulated to the theme of mercy as a result of doing penance (especially the Thursday Masses). They were encouragement to another group of people besides the Catechumens, that is, the "Penitents"—baptized Christians who had fallen into grievous public sin after their Baptism.

Accompanying both groups during these daily Lenten processions and Masses were all-the-faithful. It was a beautiful and moving manifestation of the Christian collectivity.

Ash Wednesday was originally the day when those bound to do public penance began their ordeal. The First Sunday in Lent was the enrollment of names of those to be baptized at

the Easter Vigil.

What spiritual profit we can derive from an understanding of the historical development of our Roman-rite Lenten Mass liturgies. In spirit we can place ourselves variously as Catechumens, Penitents and members of All-the-faithful as we journey through Lent.

(Fr. Higgins)

BAPTISMS

On Saturday, February 22nd, parishioner LEWIS KEAN received the Sacraments of Baptism and Confirmation at Mary Immaculate of Lourdes Church. The next day, he received his First Holy Communion at the 10:30 A.M. Mass.

LENTEN REGULATIONS

ABSTINENCE

PENANCE

FAST

1. **Abstinence from Flesh Meat:** obliges beginning on a person's 14th birthday and applies to Ash Wednesday and all Fridays during Lent.
2. **Practice of Penance:** all Catholics should perform some act of penance on the weekdays of Lent (for example, our personal Lenten sacrifices), and Fridays throughout the year (for example, not eating meat on Friday).
3. **Days of Fast:** Ash Wednesday & Good Friday. On these 2 days of the year all Catholics between the ages of 18-59 are bound to fast according to the guideline of 1 full-meal permitted and 2 smaller meals allowed to maintain strength.

Any person is free to observe the more stringent laws of abstinence, penance and fast in place before 1965 for himself, provided he understands that he cannot impose that same strictness on others.

LENTEN REGULATIONS

CURRENT DISCIPLINE

Days of Abstinence

Begins on one's 14th birthday.

Ash Wednesday and the Fridays of Lent.

Obliges abstinence from flesh meat.

Days of Penance

Applies to all the Faithful. Lent and Fridays outside of Lent.

Days of Fast

Everyone aged 18-59. 1 full meal permitted, two other meals may be taken which, when combined, are less than a full meal. Ash Wednesday and Good Friday.

(The obligation to do penance is lifted on Fridays which are also celebrated as a solemnity: e.g., Christmas Day).

OLDER DISCIPLINE

Days of Abstinence

Applies on one's 7th birthday.

Complete Abstinence on all Fridays of the year, Ash Wednesday, and the Vigil of Christmas.

Partial Abstinence (meat and soup, or gravy made from meat permitted once a day at principal meal.)

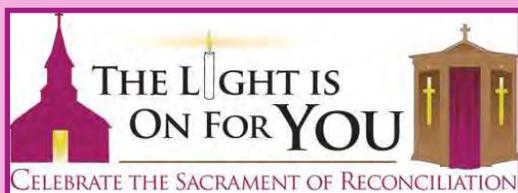
Lent, Ember Days of Wednesday & Saturday, Vigils of Pentecost & Assumption. Abstinence dispensed on Holy Days of Obligation.

Days of Fast

Everyone aged 21-59. Days of Lent from Ash Wednesday on, Ember Days, Vigils of Christmas, Pentecost and the Assumption.

One full meal permitted, with 2 smaller meals.

Confessions heard Wednesday nights during Lent in the Main Church: 6:30-8:00 PM (Beginning March 4th)



“GRATITUDE IS THE THING THAT BRINGS US THE MOST GRACE...I HAVE LEARNT THIS FROM EXPERIENCE; TRY IT AND YOU WILL SEE. I AM CONTENT WITH WHATEVER GOD GIVES ME, AND I SHOW HIM THIS IN A THOUSAND LITTLE WAYS.”—ST. THERESE OF LISIEUX (+1897)

PARISH LENTEN MISSION 2020

PARISH LENTEN MISSION FOR 2020
“THE FIRST FIFTY YEARS OF THE LOURDES PILGRIMAGE”
Each Friday evening during Lent, 7:30-8:30 PM February 28th-April 3rd

Please join us for this year's Lenten Parish Mission over six Fridays of Lent beginning on Friday after Ash, February 28th. The service consists of the VIA CRUCIS (Stations of the Cross), followed by a Sermon, distribution of Holy Communion outside of Mass, and concludes with Exposition and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament. This year's theme is: “THE FIRST FIFTY YEARS OF THE LOURDES PILGRIMAGE”. The six Conferences will present various aspects of the coming-to-be of the now world-famous Lourdes Pilgrimage in the decades immediately following France's disastrous defeat in the Franco-Prussian War (1870-1871).



PHOTO above: the Lourdes spring as it comes out of the Massabielle. This is how pilgrims to the Shrine today can view it.



David Allen

**FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT
POST-COMMUNION**

(*Missale Romanum* 1962)

“May the offering of Your holy sacrament, Lord, restore us, and, having been purged from old things, may it enable us to pass through into the fellowship of the saving mystery. Through our Lord, etc. Amen.”

As we engage in our Lenten disciplines, it is always good to be mindful of the end-goal: the solemn celebration of Good Friday and Easter, Christ’s Death and Resurrection. This Post-Communion Collect, situated right at the beginning of Lent, does just this very thing: it obliquely foreshadows the shedding of Christ’s Precious Blood on Good Friday.

The word I translate here as “offering,” in the original text of the prayer is *libatio*, from which we get our word “libation,” or a drink-offering. It refers concretely to Our Lord’s Precious Blood “poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins” under the species of wine. Thus, the sense of the prayer is “*May the poured-out drink offering of Your Precious Blood, Lord...*”. Thus, this Post-Communion Collect shows the unity between the shedding of Christ’s Blood on Calvary, the un-bloody renewal and re-presentation of this very Sacrifice in the Mass, and the reception of our Priest-Victim in Holy Communion.

In the Old Law each year on *Yom Kippur* (the “Day of Atonement”), the High Priest sprinkled the blood of the sacrifice on the Mercy Seat of the Ark of the Covenant, symbolically effecting atonement for the people. In the letter to the Hebrews, St. Paul explains all of this in great detail. He shows us how Christ fulfills these rites and truly makes satisfaction for our sins, reconciling us with the Father *in His own Person* as Priest and Victim. Our prayer above presumes these things.

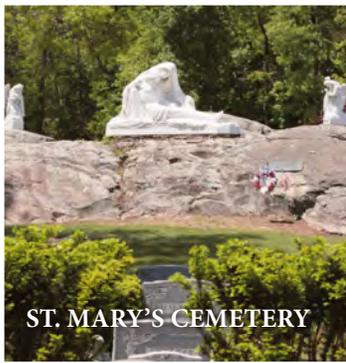
We see this demonstrated in the clause, “*having been purged from old things,*” that is, from our sins. The prayer indicates that our present offering of Christ’s Blood is “*truly propitiatory*” as the Church teaches;

it continues to atone for our sins and those of the faithful departed. The Mass, insofar as it is Christ’s one Sacrifice of the Cross re-presented and “*offered in an un-bloody manner,*” transmits its saving effects to the Church for her ongoing purification and growth in holiness (cf. *Catechism of the Catholic Church* no. 1367). Consequently, we ask that we may “*pass through into the fellowship of the saving mystery.*” The notion of *passing through* evokes the Exodus event. The Christian fulfillment of the Passover rites of the Jews is our passing over from sin and death to divine life in the waters of Baptism, but it is also more than this. Our participation in the Eucharistic Offering and in Holy Communion gives us an even deeper and closer sharing in the divine life of Christ Himself and a pledge, a “down-payment,” of bodily resurrection.

Through the offering of Christ in the Sacred Liturgy, we continue to move closer to the life of heaven. All these things stand behind the phrase “*pass through into the fellowship of the saving mystery.*” In other words, we enjoy presently- and we hope to share even more fully- all the graces of the redemption *with all the saints* in heaven (cf. *Catechism* nos. 947-959). Essentially, the Post-Communion indicates the trajectory from our present sharing in Holy Communion to the deeper participation in the Communion of Saints, both now and in heaven. May this joyful hope sustain us during our Lenten disciplines.

Mr. David Allen, M.T.S., is the lay Pastoral Associate for our parish of Mary Immaculate of Lourdes.





St Mary's Cemetery in Needham, founded in the 1870's, is the parish cemetery of Mary Immaculate of Lourdes. The Cemetery is a reverent resting place for those awaiting reunion with the Risen Lord. The decision to pre-plan and purchase interment rights is a responsible and thoughtful gesture, sparing loved ones the stress of making difficult decisions during a time of grief and loss.

For information, call the cemetery staff at Mary Immaculate of Lourdes Church at 781-235-1841. St. Mary's Cemetery | 1 Wellesley Avenue, Needham, MA 02494

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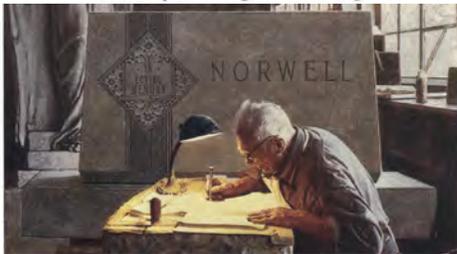
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