



# St. Mary-St. Catherine Of Siena

## Roman Catholic Parish

Charlestown, Massachusetts ▪ Archdiocese of Boston

Est. April 18, 2006

[stmarystcatherine.org](http://stmarystcatherine.org)

January 13, 2019

**Welcome!** To visitors to our Parish, to those who have recently moved into the area and to those comfortable and nourished here—*Welcome To All*. And, regardless of your status in the Church, your marital state, your ethnicity, your prior religious experience, your personal history, background or sexual orientation, please know that you are accepted and respected at Saint Mary–Saint Catherine of Siena Parish. Please introduce yourself to the priest and register as a member of our Parish.

**Mission** Saint Mary–Saint Catherine of Siena is an urban, Roman Catholic Parish formed in 2006 from two historic Charlestown parishes. We are an intentionally inclusive community welcoming all of the many people who make up our diverse neighborhood. Because our lives are nourished by the Eucharist, we strive to build a vibrant Parish that develops and strengthens our faith and worship. With a goal of being community-oriented in the Spirit of the Gospel, we are involved in the local and global issues of our times. We are therefore dedicated to service, action, and compassion

**Misión** St. Mary's–St. Catherine of Siena es una parroquia urbana, Católica Romana, formada en 2006 de la unión de dos parroquias históricas de Charlestown. Somos una comunidad intencionalmente inclusiva que acoge a toda clase de personas que constituyen nuestro diverso vecindario. Porque nuestras vidas están alimentadas por la Eucaristía, nuestra intención es establecer una parroquia vibrante que desarrolle y fortifique nuestra fe y nuestro culto. Con la meta de estar orientados hacia la comunidad en el Espíritu del Evangelio, estamos comprometidos en los asuntos locales y globales de nuestros tiempos. Estamos, por lo tanto, dedicados al servicio, a la acción y a la compasión.

*Inside: Christmas Pictures*



## QUIET ISN'T PEACE!

When my four brothers and sisters and I were in the back seat of the car on some sort of a trip somewhere, the usual squabbles and arguments came to happen. When my mother or father sought to quiet us down and get some peace in that old Ford, it usually got louder before it got quieter with accusations like, “*But she/he started it!*” Finally, we were all told to be quiet; and so we were. Yet I recall that quiet did not mean peace.

The absence of war is not the definition of peace, although it is one major part of having peace. It might be said that the opposite of peace is violence. Dom Helder Camara, the late prophetic Archbishop of Recife, Brazil, once defined violence as *anything that diminishes the dignity of another*. That “anything” can be a word, action, or even silence that serves to deny or denigrate another person. Using this definition, we live in a very violent world and one can see that the violence in one’s own life is both outside and inside. Violence is ugly in any form, no matter how it is known or experienced. The fact that our culture has made violence a form of entertainment is a tragedy and one for which we are paying dearly.

Our Catholic tradition has long taught that one fundamental cornerstone of our moral teaching is the dignity and worth of each person at every stage of life and in any state in life. Each human life is precious and possesses incalculable value. Each life is from God and created in the image of God. This principle is the underpinning of all of our moral and social teaching as a Christian community. From our stand against abortion to the immorality of the death penalty; our commitment to the poor and our social services to the

hungry and homeless; everything of this nature and more flows from our understanding and belief in the dignity of each person. Violence, it follows, willfully chosen and enacted in whatever form is wrong.

So many people are searching for that something that will satisfy and yield peace and, at times, the need can be so great that it leads to a sense of entitlement. This attitude only serves to diminish others and is a guarantee that peace will not be found. There are those who believe peace occurs only through one’s own making, by working hard and accumulating stuff. This way only leads to disappointment as time passes and it is discovered that peace continues to elude them.

Peace cannot be found in things or in diminishing others. Christianity holds that peace is a gift and is the clear sign of the presence of the Holy Spirit. True peace is only found inside oneself and cannot be mandated or forced, purchased or acquired. In my experience, peace arrives when there is a harmony and togetherness with me, myself, and God. It is usually a conscious choice to be in relationship with God – with a mature self-acceptance and faith that God is present, holds us close, and sustains us in all situations.

Yes, peace begins with fostering an honest relationship with God who through love, graces us with the ability to nurture a sense of self-respect, respect for others, and a moral compass to help us realize what really matters in life. And then, even when in the midst of turbulence on all sides, we can find peace. What a gift!

The back seat of the Ford did eventually become peaceful as each of us was

## Mass Schedule

### Saturday – St. Mary Church

4:00 p.m.

### Sunday – St. Mary Church

8:00 a.m.

10:30 a.m. Family Mass

6:00 p.m. (*in Chapel during Summer months*)

**Daily Mass** Mon.-Fri., 8:00 a.m. at **St. Catherine of Siena Chapel** (entrance on Soley St. side of Church)

**Holidays** 9:00 a.m. in Chapel

**Reconciliation** 3:45 p.m. Saturday in Church or by appointment

**Baptism** Visit [stmaryscatherine.org/sacraments/](http://stmaryscatherine.org/sacraments/) for our 2017 schedule or call Sr. Nancy at (617) 242-4664. Preparation classes are held for Parents and Godparents on the preceding Friday of the monthly baptism at 7PM in the Parish Center.

### Pastor

Fr. James J. Ronan

### Pastoral Associate

Sr. Nancy Citro, SNDdeN

### Business Manager

James Santosuosso

### Social Ministry Director

Thomas J. MacDonald

### Pastoral Assistant, Faith Formation

Katy Fleming

### Director of Music and Organist

Daniel Saucedo

### Administrative Assistant

Dianne Ludy

*Staff emails are first initial with last name (example, "jsmith@stmaryscatherine.org")*

### Clergy In Residence

Fr. Jerome Gillespie

Fr. Ken Chemizie O.C.D.

Fr. Anthony Nweke C.S.S.p.

Fr. Clemente Yeboah

### Visiting Clergy

Fr. Pat Universal

### Hispanic Ministry

Blanca Paz

### Vice Chairs Pastoral Council

Shawn Burke

### Vice Chair Finance Council

Nancy Higgins

Visit us at  
[stmaryscatherine.org](http://stmaryscatherine.org)  
and  
[facebook.com/  
stmaryscatherine](https://www.facebook.com/stmaryscatherine)

called to mutual respect and fairness that helped us grasp that we were all equal, no matter our age and size. We were also reminded often of God's presence in that car and in our lives, and invited to be thankful for God's blessings. Indeed.

Fr. Ronan



### BAPTISM OF OUR LORD - This Sunday

Many of the incidents which accompanied Christ's baptism are symbolical of what happened at our Baptism. At Christ's baptism the Holy Spirit descended upon Him; at our Baptism the Trinity took its abode in our soul. At His baptism Christ was proclaimed the "Beloved Son" of the Father; at our Baptism we become the adopted sons of God. At Christ's baptism the heavens were opened; at our Baptism heaven was opened to us. At His baptism Jesus prayed; after our Baptism we must pray to avoid actual sin.

Dear Volunteers and Supporters

We had quite a year in 2018. In addition to our 24 scheduled food distributions, we ran the following events: Easter ham distribution (400 spiral hams), summer cookout (350 people attended), Thanksgiving turkey baskets (serving 720 families in miserable conditions), Christmas hams (420 spiral hams), Christmas breakfast at the Harvard-Kent School (150 families). We also ran two fundraisers, one at the K of C, the other at the Navy Yard Bistro. All of these efforts were successful. I am grateful to you for making this happen.

I also appreciate your monetary support. Your generous donations gave us the means to offer a first-class food pantry to our clients. Each family receives about 7 days' worth of food each month. In 2019 we hope to do more.

#### January dates:

Friday 1/11 4PM set-up

Friday 1/25 4PM Set-up

Saturday 1/12 10AM distribution

Tuesday 1/29 7PM distribution

Thank you,

Tom MacDonald



**HARVEST ON VINE**

### St. Mary-St. Catherine of Siena Parish Call to Stewardship

Gratefully acknowledging that God gives us all, we each willingly offer our unique gifts to one another and all creation in the Spirit of Jesus Christ.



### Our Stewardship Prayer by the Welcoming Committee

*Heavenly Father, instill in our hearts a spirit of love and compassion. May we foster a welcoming parish community with acceptance and respect for all. Inspire us to make a difference by being generous with our time and talents. Please send your Holy Spirit among us to remind us to follow Jesus and his teachings in all aspects of our lives. As we end this Mass, may we go forth and spread goodwill among our neighbors, friends, and fellow parishioners. Through Christ, our Lord. Amen*

**The Church is handicap-accessible on Soley Street.  
The Chapel is handicap-accessible on Winthrop Street.**

**Parish Center  
& Eucharistic Chapel**  
46 Winthrop Street 617-242-4664

**Saint Mary Church**  
55 Warren Street

**Saint Catherine of Siena Chapel**  
Warren and Soley Street

**Social Ministry Office**  
49 Vine Street 617-580-8305

**Good Shepherd School**  
20 Winthrop Street 617-242-8800



La celebración del Bautismo de Jesús en el Jordán, cuya fiesta celebramos hoy, cierra el tiempo de Navidad. Es verdad que el Bautismo de Jesús no tiene el mismo significado que el nuestro, por eso uno de los evangelistas, Mateo, que escribía para judíos, y por lo tanto podía no entender bien el gesto de Jesús, pone un dialogo entre Juan y Jesús en el que el primero se niega a bautizarlo, diciéndole que es Él el que lo tiene que bautizar, pero Jesús le pide ser bautizado, y le pide ser bautizado para darnos una nueva lección de humildad y de saber hacer, el evangelista aprovecha el rito del bautismo para presentar a Jesús como el Salvador esperado, como el Mesías.

Juan bautiza a Jesús al comienzo de su vida pública, es como la puesta en marcha de la misma. De los treinta años de vida oculta de Jesús con sus padres en Nazaret los evangelios no nos dicen nada, hay un silencio respetuoso sobre ella. Aunque nos gustaría saber cómo fue la vida durante esos treinta años en Nazaret, la verdad es que lo que verdaderamente nos interesa es lo que Jesús dijo e hizo en su vida pública y ésta es la que comienza después de su bautismo. Por lo tanto si queremos conocer y profundizar en el mensaje de Jesús tenemos que estar atentos a la palabra de Dios en los domingos que van a venir a partir de ahora hasta el tiempo de Cuaresma. En ellos iremos recorriendo el camino que Jesús realiza hasta Jerusalén, escuchando su mensaje, viendo cómo trata a las personas, contemplando sus gestos y aprendiendo de todo lo que dice y hace.

Juan nos presenta a Jesús como el enviado de Dios, el esperado por el pueblo, el anunciado por los profetas del Antiguo Testamento, es nuestro Salvador, nuestro Dios. Nos lo señala con el dedo, para que no tengamos ninguna duda y nos dice que es Él. Que dispongamos nuestro corazón para seguirle y nuestro oídos para escucharle. Efectivamente, Jesús es la referencia principal del cristiano, Él es el modelo fundamental. Las actitudes de Jesús deben ser las nuestras, la manera de comportarse de Jesús debe reflejarse en nuestro comportamiento, su talante, su modo de situarse ante las cosas, su manera de tratar a las personas, deberían ser imitados por nosotros. Pero, difícilmente puedo seguir y actuar como alguien que no conozco, o peor, que sólo conozco de oídas o porque otros me lo han dicho. No, debo ser yo quien descubra a ese Jesús, debo ser yo quien me preocupe por conocer lo que hizo, debo ser yo el que personalmente interiorice y haga mío, todo lo que ese Jesús me enseñó, sólo de esta manera Jesús podrá ser alguien significativo para mí.

El reflexionar hoy sobre el bautismo de Jesús, puede ser también un buen momento para reflexionar sobre el nuestro. Todos sabemos que el bautismo es el sacramento fundamental del cristiano, desde que me bauticé puedo decir que pertenezco a la Iglesia, de aquí la importancia que tiene el saber lo que se hace cuando se pide este sacramento, y que el mismo no tiene que responder a la sola presión social, sino más bien a la exigencia de ser transmisores de lo que creemos. Como perteneciente a la Iglesia, tengo la obligación de intentar vivir como esa pertenecía me exige, y mi conducta tendría que ser manifestación de sus exigencias, por eso hoy podríamos preguntarnos, ¿qué fidelidad tengo yo a lo que mis padres hicieron por mi el día de mi bautismo?, ¿he hecho mío aquel gesto? ¿he aceptado las consecuencias que lleva consigo estar bautizado?

Tendremos que reconocer que como casi siempre no encontramos en nosotros la fidelidad suficiente a lo que nuestra fe nos exige. Le pedimos con sinceridad al Señor, que nos de la fuerza necesaria para ser sus testigos fieles en este mundo nuestro, que nos haga valorar los sacramentos en los que su presencia se hace más real y mas evidente. Y lo hacemos al tiempo que seguimos pidiendo los unos por los otros, especialmente por los que menos tienen, para que el Señor los ayude, los que sufren, los enfermos, para que ya que son los preferidos del Señor, también lo sean los nuestros.

## **CHRISTMAS GRATITUDE CONTINUES**

Heartfelt Gratitude to:

Sandy, Gerry, and Jesse O'Neil for their outstanding contributions in enriching our Christmas experience in the Parish. The O'Neil's are responsible for the Christmas wreaths on the doors of the Church each year. Sandy made the Holy Family costume, and as always, dressed the Holy Family for the Live Nativity during the Christmas Eve Mass. Gerry, taking up the mantle his father, Jesse O'Neil, wore for many years, recited the narrative for the Holy Family scene. You made your father proud, Gerry! And Sandy and Gerry's son, Jesse, was Santa, presenting a gift to the baby Jesus, as the real Santa was too busy with his Santa duties to make an appearance that night as he was delivering gifts throughout the world.

Kevin Broderick, our Parish photographer, who is responsible for capturing the important Christmas Eve Mass moments with the lens of his camera. Enjoy the pictures everyone!

Joseph Broderick and Annie Broderick who with short notice, willingly agreed to be Mary and Joseph for our Live Nativity when a Parish family with an infant could not be found. Great job!!

Marianne Broderick for cheering her family on!

Sean Burke, our sexton, altar servers, ushers, and ministers who served so graciously.

And all of our parishioners, especially the children, and visitors for your participation!



## The Amazing Generosity of You

When I arrived in Charlestown in November 2004, it was just in time to send out a letter to parishioners at Saint Mary's about the Grand Annual Collection. For all who were around town at the time, those were not happy times in our 3 parishes. I sent out the letter and by January 1, 2005, the total of the collection, best I can recall, was approximately \$ 18,000.

Now fifteen years later, you, the members of this "new" parish have contributed to the weekly offertory, special collections, capital campaigns, and varied others initiatives with amazing generosity. Working together so much has happened, including building and opening Good Shepherd School, Saint Catherine of Siena Chapel, and maintaining our beautiful old buildings.

In September, we launched the Inspiring Hope Campaign to paint the interior of St. Mary's Church and restore the magnificent artwork. Once again, because of your amazing generosity we have now surpassed the goal of \$500,000 in gifts and pledges. The new total is \$569,350.

It is very unfortunate that the timing of the Grand Annual Collection coincided with the Inspiring Hope Campaign. Nonetheless, 171 parishioners have contributed \$62,589 to this important once a year appeal. The budgeted goal of this collection is \$100,000 and is needed for the day-to-day operating budget of the Parish to break even.

I am deeply grateful to each member of the Parish for your ongoing and amazing generosity, especially in these challenging times. If you haven't had the chance to contribute to the Grand Annual Collection and are able, it would be a tremendous help.

I believe the New Year will be very exciting for our Parish – we have many things planned to help us continue to grow as a welcoming and faithful Community of Faith, concerned for those within and without our Parish. Grounded in our vibrant faith in Jesus Christ, all of our efforts are for the spreading of the Gospel and ministering to all in need. Thank you for making this possible.

Fr. Ronan



### *Christmas Pictures*

*Sing-a-long,  
choir loft,*

*Live Nativity,*

*Celebration  
of the Mass*





Please pray for those serving in our Armed Forces and their families:

Gerald Byrnes Jr. (Marines)

Ralph Rizzo, Jr. (Marines)

Joseph Upton, Jr. (Marines)

Kenneth (Army)

Jackie Walsh (Army)

If you have a loved one serving in the military, please contact the Parish at 617-242-4664.

**THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM**



Celebrating the Sacrament of Baptism is always a joyful event in our Parish. It's such a privilege to facilitate this momentous event in the lives of families and in particular, the life of the child. To learn more, please contact

Sr. Nancy at 617-242-4664 or [ncitro@stmarystcatherine.org](mailto:ncitro@stmarystcatherine.org).

**MASS SCHEDULE**

**SATURDAY 01/12**  
4:00 PM

**SUNDAY 01/13**  
8:00 AM  
10:30 AM + MARILYN DOHERTY  
6:00 PM

**MONDAY 01/14**  
8:00 AM

**TUESDAY 01/15**  
8:00 AM

**WEDNESDAY 01/16**  
8:00 AM PARISH PRAYER GUILD

**THURSDAY 01/17**  
8:00 AM

**FRIDAY 01/18**  
8:00 AM

**SATURDAY 01/19**  
4:00 PM

**SUNDAY 01/20**  
8:00 AM  
10:30 AM  
6:00 PM



*Resquiescat  
in Pace*

*Albert  
Maurice  
Reilly*

**ATTENDANCE**

<b>SAT 01/05</b>	<b>4:00 PM -</b>	<b>102</b>
<b>SUN 01/06</b>	<b>8:00 AM -</b>	<b>65</b>
<b>SUN 01/06</b>	<b>10:30 AM -</b>	<b>159</b>
<b>SUN 01/06</b>	<b>6:00 PM -</b>	<b>65</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>391</b>

**Upcoming Collections**

January 13 - Monthly

January 20 - Special Collection

January 27 - Latin America



Weekend of 01/06 Parishioners contributed \$7,437.55 to the Weekly Sunday Collection

Parishioners contributed \$1,978.00 to the St Vincent de Paul Collection

Thank you for your continued support!

**Tax Season**



Would you like a statement of your Parish contributions?  
Please email

Dianne Ludy at [dludy@stmarystcatherine.org](mailto:dludy@stmarystcatherine.org)

or call (617) 242-4664. Please include your full name and address with your request. Statements may take 3-5 business days to process.

**PARISH MINISTRIES**

**PARISH COUNCILS**

- FINANCE COUNCIL
- PASTORAL COUNCIL
- STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE & WELCOMING COMMITTEE

**LITURGICAL MINISTRIES**

- EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS
- LECTORS
- ALTAR SERVERS
- MUSIC MINISTRY
- USHERS
- ALTAR SOCIETY
- GREETERS
- ST. MATTHEW SOCIETY
- ARIMATHEA SOCIETY
- CANA SOCIETY

**FAITH FORMATION**

- BAPTISM TEAM
- RELIGIOUS ED K - 8
- RCIA
- ADULT CONFIRMATION
- CONFIRMATION
- CENTERING PRAYER
- FAITH SHARING
- CURSILLO

**OTHER MINISTRIES**

- PRISON MINISTRY
- ZELMA LACY ASSISTED LIVING
- PRAYER FOR PEACE
- CHRISTMAS CAROLERS

**SOCIAL MINISTRIES**

- HARVEST ON VINE
- ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

**SOCIAL GROUPS**

- COFFEE HOUR
- BOOK CLUB
- PLAYGROUP

*To learn more and/or become involved contact us at 617-242-4664 and check out the web site!*  
**stmarystcatherine.org**