



St. Mary-St. Catherine Of Siena

Roman Catholic Parish

Charlestown, Massachusetts ▪ Archdiocese of Boston

Est. April 18, 2006

stmarystcatherine.org

March 03, 2019

LISTENING

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.

In the course of any parish priest's day there are many varied activities. Really, from concern over some item of the buildings to time spent with a family grieving the death of a loved one, the spectrum is broad and deep – and I love it! And often the activity that is the most important and precious is listening. We priests are good listeners – at least we try to be! Now that might not sound like “heavy lifting” – yet there are many times when it is! The issue is around the matter being discussed. If it is about the possible retirement of Tom Brady from the Patriots that is one thing; if the subject is a family coping with a loved one diagnosed with a terminal cancer, that is something else.

Listening in any event calls one to offer complete attention to the other – and often we do not listen that way! We hear what another is saying without truly listening. Rather we are inclined to anticipate what someone is saying as we formulate our response before the person has finished speaking! At other times one's mind is elsewhere while another is speaking. All of

us have done this and also have been in conversations when this is common.

Some years ago Carl Rogers, a noted psychologist and prolific author introduced a new way of looking at effective therapy. Among other things, he suggested that what he called;



“*Unconditional Positive Regard*” was crucial to effective psychotherapy. Rogers was talking about how we **listen**. He taught that when a listener gives his/her entire attention to the other, in a positive and nonjudgmental way, allowing a person to speak and no matter what is said, it is accepted without judgment, in that encounter healing can take place. A person's hurts, brokenness, shame, anxiety, fear, inferiority, confused identity and so much more, can improve. On the one hand it sounds so elementary and yet in truth, it is so profound.

And this very experience happens all the time, among friends, spouses, colleagues and teachers ... It is that phenomenon of one human being caring for another – and caring in such a way as to make it possible for another to open up and unburden all kinds of

INSIDE: Ash Wednesday Schedule

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/ 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
and
[facebook.com/
stmaryscatherine](https://www.facebook.com/stmaryscatherine)

trouble and pain that is within. We all need such opportunities and everyone is healthier because of them. At the same time we all know there are some parts of life, some experiences, choices and actions that are very difficult and cannot be spoken about easily. Sometimes a priest can help.

Actually it is better to say, all the time, God can help. And God has chosen, for God's own reasons, to be present to us in countless ways and through the Sacraments of the Church, in very specific and deeply helpful ways. The Sacrament of Penance, Confession, is one of these gifts. The fact that few use the Sacrament in these days does not diminish its value and its availability to be a source of Grace and healing for those who approach this precious gift.

Since my Ordination as a Priest in June, 1982 to this present day, I am in awe of how God uses this sacrament to bring His love to people in these moments. Further while I am well aware of the effectiveness of counseling and therapy – the listening that happens in this Sacrament occasions a time of

Grace: God is present and the Priest serves only as an instrument of this Grace in ways that are far beyond understanding.

During Lent, Confession will be available in churches and chapels throughout the Archdiocese every Wednesday evenings from 6:30-8:00. In



our Parish there will be a priest at the Parish Center on Winthrop St. Also a priest will be available every Saturday afternoon from 3:15 – 3:45 in the Confession corner in the upper Church. Further, there will be a parish wide Lenten Prayer and Penance Service on **Monday evening, April 15 at 7:00**. Also any person can contact the Parish Office to set up an appointment to celebrate the Sacrament of Penance.

Rogers is right – lovingly listening to another can be a wonderful and healing experience. Imagine how much more such a moment can be when one seeks God in the Sacrament of Penance and the fruit of that is forgiveness, healing and consolation. This Lent the Light is On for You.

Fr. Ronan

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**

This Coming Wednesday

There is not another day in the calendar of any parish church like Ash Wednesday. Many of us have wondered why reception of Blessed Ashes is so important to so many and I have never heard a good answer. The point is quite straightforward: we open Saint Mary's Church and folks all over town stream in to receive ashes smudged on their foreheads as they listen to the words: "Remember you are dust and unto dust you shall return" or "Turn away from sin and follow the Gospel of the Lord Jesus".

The beginning of the holy season of Lent, the 40 days of preparation for Holy Week and Easter Sunday begins on March 6. Christians are all aware of the call to make this time unlike the other days of the year – to mark them with choices that acknowledge our need to bring God more deeply into our days. I think we all welcome the time and usually nod in assent to the need to turn our lives a bit more into the Light who is Christ and away from the shadows and darkness that can consume our days in empty busyness.

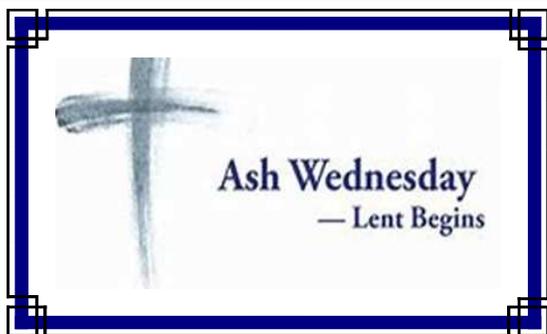
The Church has long offered three pillars or guideposts for our Lenten journey: prayer, fasting/abstinence and almsgiving. Choose to include in your days some small time for prayer, a visit to a Church, a rosary, daily Mass or quiet reflection. Many are now finding prayer apps for their mobile devices to be excellent aids (we will offer some hints about this on Wednesday!).

Of course, almsgiving speaks to our need to give of ourselves in all kinds of ways, especially to those most in need. Abstinence speaks to a need we all have to be more, do more and grow more deeply into ourselves and in our relationships with others. To me it means we step away from in order to be available for; we give up in order to find; we put away in order to pick up. Abstinence is rarely easy and convenient yet the prize is often much more than the cost.

Perhaps you have heard of a "Social Media Sabbath" or a "Technology Sabbath". Simply put, it calls for one to turn-off, unplug and put away your mobile device and computer for 24 hours every week. Complementing the unplugging I have read suggestions that one adds a creative list of substitutes: "Avoid Technology; Connect With Loved Ones; Nurture Your Health; Get Outside; Avoid Commerce; Light Candles; Drink Wine; Eat Bread; Find Silence; Give Back" (Tanya Schevitz, Why we Need a Technology Sabbath).

We all realize the wonder and value of technology and at the same time, most can agree technology has invaded our lives and often diminished other parts of our lives. Introducing a technology Sabbath into this Lenten time – six days over the next 6 weeks may well make this Lent, 2019 a special time for Grace that is waiting for you. That Grace will likely nudge you to do something(s) for others, wonder more about your life's journey and listen to God's call to know God's love for you more totally.

Fr. Ronan



ASH WEDNESDAY - MARCH 6

Ash Wednesday opens Lent, a season of fasting and prayer. Ash Wednesday takes place 46 days before Easter Sunday, and is chiefly observed by Catholics, although many other Christians observe it too.

Ashes also symbolize grief, in this case, grief that we have sinned and caused division from God. Writings from the Second-century Church refer to the wearing of ashes as a sign of penance. Priests administer ashes during Mass and all are invited to accept the ashes as a visible symbol of penance. Small children, the elderly and sick are exempt from this observance.

There are 3 Masses and 1 service on Ash Wednesday;

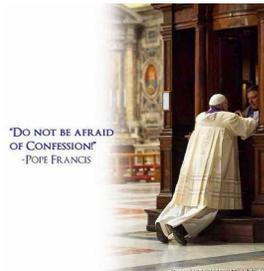
***8:00 AM *12:00 Noon *5:30 Pm (service) *7:00 PM**



March 3 ~ Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time

"Remove the splinter in your own eye first, then you see clearly to remove the splinter in your brother's [sister's]

eye." These words from today's gospel may be difficult to hear yet they remind us to take time to reflect on our attitudes and behaviors and how blinded we can become to their adverse effects. One good way to deal with the "splinter in our own eye" is to receive the Sacrament of Penance.



The Sacrament of Penance

Everyone knows that going to Confession is not as common as it was years ago. Some of the parishioners can't remember when confession was a weekly part of the life of many Catholics. At the same time, this sacrament continues a precious gift to the Church and is available to all of us. You will notice in each Church space put aside for the Sacrament and a priest available each Saturday afternoon from 3:15 – 3:45. Take advantage of the gift that is ours in this sacrament of God's loving mercy.

"DO NOT BE AFRAID
OF CONFESSION"
- POPE FRANCIS

Octavo Domingo del Tiempo Ordinario

Érase una vez una joven pianista que daba su primer concierto. El público en silencio y con fervor escuchaba la música que brotaba desus dedos disciplinados. Todos tenían los ojos clavados en la joven pianista. Al final del concierto todos puestos de pie aplaudieron a rabiar. El manager se acercó a la pianista y se deshizo en alabanzas. Y le dijo: Mira, todos están de pie aplaudiéndote, menos ese viejito de la primera fila. La pianista entristecida le contestó: "Sí, pero ese viejito es mi maestro". Sólo el maestro podía juzgar la actuación de su discípulo con autoridad. Y sólo el Maestro con mayúscula, Jesús, puede juzgar hoy a su pueblo aquí reunido. Si el no aplaude, mala señal.

El domingo pasado, Jesús nos mandaba "amar a los enemigos". Amar no como sentimiento, sino amar como decisión, acto de voluntad, querer amar a pesar del miedo al sufrimiento. Hoy, Jesús nos cuenta cuatro cortas parábolas para decirnos cómo tienen que ser las relaciones en la comunidad cristiana. "¿Puede un ciego guiar a otro ciego?" Si Jesús nos estuviera dando un consejo más no tendría gran importancia, no han faltado hombres a lo largo de la historia que han dado buenos consejos. Jesús es más que un buen consejo y más que una frase que repetimos, Jesús es una manera de vivir.

Jesús es una llamada a vivir nuestras responsabilidades. Un buen guía conoce el camino, los obstáculos del camino y el final del camino. Todos somos guías de alguien y al mismo tiempo todos somos guiados por alguien. Sí, los padres guían a sus hijos, los maestros a los alumnos, los sacerdotes a los fieles, el jefe de la ganga a sus compinches... ¿Cuál es mi responsabilidad? ¿A quién tengo que guiar? ¿Quién depende de mí? ¿Soy guía ciego o veo con claridad? ¿Asumo mi responsabilidad o me desentiendo? ¿Guío a los míos con el ejemplo o soy motivo de escándalo con mi vida desordenada?

Como creyentes somos guiados por el mejor de los guías, Jesús. Si nos dejamos guiar por Jesús, si le escuchamos y le miramos a Él, seguro, seguro que nosotros seremos también guías que ven claro, guías que se sacrifican por sus hijos, por sus alumnos, por sus feligreses... guías que no tiran la toalla y hacen el camino hasta el final. "El discípulo no es más que su maestro". ¿Podría usted nombrar a tres personas que hayan influido, hayan dejado huella en su vida? ¿Sus tres mejores maestros?

Para muchos de nosotros los tres mejores maestros han sido: el padre, la madre y Jesús. Las primeras y las mejores lecciones las aprendimos en la casa. El mundo visto a través de los ojos de los padres. El trabajo y el descanso, el amor y el perdón, la alegría y las lágrimas, el cariño y los gritos, los premios y los castigos, la iglesia y la casa, la vida dada por los hijos. De la mano, nuestros padres nos llevaron a otro maestro: a Jesús. Había cosas que los padres no sabían, hay cosas que nosotros no sabemos y Jesús se presenta como el maestro que sabe y nos enseña. Jesús es "el maestro de la vida". Los niños, hoy, tienen Internet, la televisión y ahí aprenden muchas cosas. Tienen personas que los cuiden, pero ¿tienen padres?

Para aprender las cosas de Dios sólo tenemos un maestro, Jesús. Las cosas de Dios se transmiten de persona a persona, de creyente a creyente. La fe es una persona, Jesús. Para saber lo que pasa en el mundo tengo la televisión y el Heraldo Soria. Para saber de Dios tengo que acudir al Maestro. Sólo Él me lo puede dar a conocer. Aquí venimos a escuchar a Jesús. Nunca sabremos más que Él, nunca seremos como Él, siempre seremos discípulos que quieren estar con Él. ¿Es Jesús el mejor maestro de su vida? ¿Ha dejado huellas profundas en su vida? "La mota y la viga". Sí, hay que denunciar el mal y hay que manifestarse contra la injusticia. Jesús nos avisa de una gran tentación: agrandar el mal de los demás e ignorar el mal que anida en nuestro corazón. Y nos invita a cambiar el corazón ya que nunca terminamos de convertirnos. La crítica siempre tiene que empezar por uno mismo.

"El árbol bueno". El discípulo de Jesús se reconoce por sus obras, no por sus palabras. Los actos, las obras, son las que dicen si uno cree o no, si uno ama o no, si uno espera o no. La boca habla de la abundancia del corazón.

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

Imagine that your couch is infested with fleas but you can't afford to buy a new one.

Imagine that the only bed you can give your child is a mattress on the floor.

For some of our neighbors in Charlestown, these challenges are not imaginary. Nearly one in five Charlestown residents lives below the poverty line. Many struggle to maintain a safe and comfortable living environment.

When members of our community are in need, the Society of St. Vincent de Paul is there to answer the call. This group of dedicated parishioners hears and responds to the concerns of our friends and neighbors, connecting with local residents to meet critical needs such as furniture and rent assistance.

We encourage you to support our ministry by donating to St. Vincent de Paul. Every dollar you donate goes to serving members of our local community—the more you give, the more aid we can offer to our brothers and sisters striving to build a better life for themselves and their families.

A donation box labeled "St. Vincent de Paul" is available at the back of the church. Thank you for your generosity.



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASSES ARE PREPARING FOR LENT AS WELL!

Today, March 3rd, the Religious Education families created Children's Offertory envelopes for the students to return in the collection baskets during Lent. Families should bring these envelopes to Mass during Lent, or children should bring them to Religious Education classes on Sunday or Tuesday, to pass in to show their devotions during Lent. Each student will put something in the envelope from one of the 3 pillars of Lent. At the family gathering, families prepared offering tabs for **prayer**, **abstinence** and **almsgiving**. Students are encouraged to participate in these activities for Lent in preparation of the Easter Season.

BAPTISMS IN FEBRUARY, 2019



Eden Anne Blesius



Cora Clarke Bower



Carter Lee Dixon



Kennedy Louise Hanly



Grace Paige Rogers



Siena Paige Troisi



COMMITMENT WEEKEND: MARCH 2 - 3

In the Gospel today, Jesus reminds us that we are known by the fruits of our generosity. In opening the doors of our hearts to this season of Lent, may we consider supporting those who turn to the Church for assistance, through life-changing ministries such as Addiction Recovery Services or the Faith Community Nursing program. Your gift to the 2019 Catholic Appeal provides half of the funding for many important programs that enrich parish life, our Catholic schools, and the lives of many. Every gift has an immediate impact in our parish communities. Please find more information about this life-changing work in the envelope in your pew or visit our website at bostoncatholicappeal.org to view our latest video about the Appeal. Thank you!

Religious Ed March, 2019 Schedule Grades K through 5

Sun, March 3 Family Day at the Parish Center
Tues, March 5 No class - See Family Day
Sun, March 10 Class
Tues, March 12 Class
Sun, March 17 Class
Tues, March 19 Class
Sun, March 24 Class
Tues, March 26 Class

Strategies for Youth Evangelization Come and connect with some of the leading organization offering quality resources for ministry to middle and high school-aged teens. Representatives from LifeTeen, Alpha, YoungLife, NET Ministries, Hunger for Justice, Abide and more will all be present to showcase their materials! Saturday, March 30, 2019 from 9AM – 3PM at the Pastoral Center in Braintree. Cost is \$10. For more information or to register visit, <http://bit.ly/ye33019>.



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@stmaryscatherine.org.



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.

MASS SCHEDULE

SATURDAY 03/02

**4:00 PM + JAMES P COLLINS, SR. &
JAMES P. COLLINS, JR.**

SUNDAY 03/03

**8:00 AM + BROTHER ROBERT
DONOVAN**

**10:30 AM + CHARLES FARMER
6:00 PM**

MONDAY 03/04

8:00 AM + BETTY McNIFF

TUESDAY 03/05

8:00 AM + MARY JOHNSON

ASH WEDNESDAY - 03/06

8:00 AM PARISH PRAYER GUILD

12:00 NOON

5:30 PM - PRAYER SERVICE

7:00 PM

THURSDAY 03/07

8:00 AM

FRIDAY 03/08

**8:00 AM THOSE WHO ARE SICK IN THE
PARISH**

5:30 PM EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

SATURDAY 03/09

**4:00 PM + JACK & BETTY
FITZPATRICK & JOHN
FITZPATRICK**

SUNDAY 03/10

**8:00 AM 6:00 PM THERESA,
DONALD & JOHN RING**

10:30 AM

6:00 PM

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.

**SPEAK IN SUCH A WAY
THAT OTHERS LOVE TO
LISTEN TO YOU.**

**LISTEN IN SUCH A WAY
THAT OTHERS LOVE
TO SPEAK TO YOU**

*"We have but two ears and one
mouth so that we may listen twice
as much as we speak."*

Thomas Edison

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ATTENDANCE

SAT 02/23	4:00 PM -	91
SUN 02/24	8:00 AM -	68
SUN 02/24	10:30 AM -	132
SUN 02/24	6:00 PM -	58
TOTAL		349

Parish Giving

Weekend of 02/24/19

Parishioners contributed
\$5,032.62 to the Weekly Sunday
Collection

Thank you for your continued
support!

UPCOMING COLLECTIONS

Mar 06	Church in Africa / Eastern Europe
Mar 10	Monthly
Apr 07	Monthly

PARISH MINISTRIES

PARISH COUNCILS

FINANCE COUNCIL

PASTORAL COUNCIL

STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE &

WELCOMING COMMITTEE

LITURGICAL MINISTRIES

EUCHARISTIC 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