



St. Mary-St. Catherine Of Siena

Roman Catholic Parish

Charlestown, Massachusetts ▪ Archdiocese of Boston

Est. April 18, 2006

stmarystcatherine.org

December 29, 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 Statement To make active disciples of Jesus Christ by creating a welcoming community rich in spirituality and by moving people to embrace their God-given talents in the service of others and the care of creation.

About Us Saint Mary - Saint Catherine of Siena is an intentionally inclusive Roman Catholic Parish that welcomes all those who make up our diverse community in a way that reflects God's love. Nourished by the Gospel and the real presence of Jesus in the Eucharist, we build a vibrant Parish that strengthens our faith and elevates our worship. With gratitude for the gifts God has bestowed upon us, we respond to His call to stewardship and embrace our lives of service and compassion.

AND WHAT DO YOU EXPECT FOR 2020?



As we bid adieu to 2019 and turn the page of the calendar for this New Year, it seems a fair question to pose. Because it is an election year, most everyone has something to say about politics these days. There is much in the news, and the candidates are all jockeying for position in the eye of the voters. In the area of sports, similarly, many folks have ideas and opinions; and it is the same about music, movies, the weather, social media, TV, religion, the church, globalization, the economy, work places and so on.

Usually I enjoy conversations about some of the complex and popular topics of the day. But, from time to time, I find myself in a conversation with someone who seems negative about everything. Maybe you have had the same experience. Sometimes their position is couched in the opening line, "*Now-a-days ...*" with a conclusion that whatever the topic, its state has deteriorated from earlier days. I used to think this was the mindset of older folks. However, now I am older and I am surprised to discover that this attitude is found in all age groups. Moreover, within that group of people for whom the glass is always half-empty, there is another angle – those who feel that all along there has been a plan for the glass to be this way!

A cynic is a person who speaks critically about something – often with great passion – and appears to be dismissive about any or much of value in the topic at hand. Yet what is most intriguing to me is that the cynic posits there is nothing one can do to make a difference, for the cynic has little faith in human sincerity and goodness. In my experience, a cynic is usually righteous and even intimidating in exerting a position, and for this reason, it can be poisonous.

I speak about cynicism because it appears to me the opposite of the mindset of a Christian. We believe in redemption, forgiveness and in the genuine goodness of persons. Further, we believe that God's generosity is without limit and persons of faith are encouraged to work for the common good. Trust enters here as well; a cynic would dismiss trusting others and/or society with contempt and the Christian would be called to live the "Golden Rule" – *treat others, as you would have them treat you*.

Certainly, I realize the issues facing our community, country and world



Prayer for the New Year 2020

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 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

Matthew Arnold

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. Britto Dhinakaran

Visiting Clergy

Fr. Pat Universal

Hispanic Ministry

Blanca Paz

Vice Chairs Pastoral Council

Brendon Sullivan

Vice Chair Finance Council

Nancy Higgins

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

are daunting on many fronts. And I believe that God's power is limitless and the most intractable problem is not beyond resolution. Our faith tradition and Scripture invite each of us into a relationship with Jesus Christ. In and through this relationship, persons can accomplish the unimaginable. Most of us have seen proof of this even in our own lives.

The truth is that there is a bit of the cynic in each of us. However, we have a choice to be otherwise. The New Year is upon us. Will we look at this new beginning with hope or cynically dismiss it? The latter leads to darkness and despair. The former leads to light and limitless possibilities.

Fr. Ronan



December 29 ~

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

The example of the Holy Family can be summed up in the words of today's second reading. They were clothed in "heartfelt compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience, bearing with one another and forgiving one another..." This feast offers all families the inspiration and encouragement to make these values an essential part of each relationship, conversation and interaction with one another. Pray in a special way today for all parents, grandparents, and guardians as they strive to make their families holy.



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**

SAGRADA FAMILIA



Cuando nace un niño inmediatamente buscamos parecidos. Unos dicen: mira, tiene los ojos como los del padre; otros señalan su sonrisa que se parece a la de la madre. Estos parecidos son genéticamente transmitidos de generación en generación.

San Pablo nos invita, en la lectura de hoy, a reproducir nuestra semejanza con Cristo en virtud de nuestra pertenencia a la familia de Dios. Los miembros de la familia, no por la sangre, sino por la fe estamos llamados a reflejar la bondad y la santidad de nuestro Padre Dios y de nuestro hermano Jesucristo. La gente que nos mira y observa debería poder reconocer nuestra semejanza con Jesús, no en nuestros ojos o en la nariz sino en nuestra mente y en nuestro cora-

zón, en nuestra manera de vivir y de amar."Y por encima de todo esto, el amor, que es el ceñidor de la unidad consumada", nos recomienda San Pablo.

A la familia se la define como "la escuela del amor" y como "la iglesia doméstica". Nosotros la podemos definir como una "mini-iglesia. En la iglesia primitiva la iglesia era esencialmente una iglesia doméstica. No existían ni catedrales, ni iglesias, ni ermitas, no edificios donde los cristianos pudieran congregarse. Los cristianos se reunían en una casa para celebrar la eucaristía. Era literalmente una iglesia familia. Cuando los cristianos se hicieron más numerosos edificaron templos y la familia y la iglesia se convirtieron en experiencias separadas.

El fin de la familia es formar buenos ciudadanos y el fin de la iglesia es hacernos a todos buenos cristianos. Si la familia es una mini-iglesia, ésta debería ayudar a sus miembros a encontrar a Dios en la vida de cada día y en los momentos festivos. En la Iglesia celebramos los sacramentos pero en la familia celebramos y creamos los nuevos sacramentales: pequeños y originales ritos que nos recuerdan a Dios y lo hacen presente en nuestras actividades.

La familia es el lugar providencial donde somos formados como humanos y como cristianos. Cada uno de nosotros tenemos nuestro personal "Nazaret" donde aprendemos a obedecer para crecer en sabiduría, edad y gracia ante Dios y los hombres. Este es el magnífico don de la familia. Este es el don que recordamos y celebramos hoy, el don de la Sagrada Familia, María, José y Jesús.



Playspace Is Returning!

Playspace will return for the 2020 season! Playspace is a group for children ages six months to 2.9 and is open to the entire Charlestown community, based out of the Parish Center on 46 Winthrop Street. Playspace runs on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9:30-11:30 a.m. The program is scheduled from January 7 to March 31, 2020. (Closed for February school vacation.) The space is filled with educational toys, including centers for active play, building, trains, dramatic play, art, reading, and more. There is also an area dedicated to infant play for younger children. Moms, dads, grandparents, nannies, sitters, au pairs, and other caregivers must come with their children. Please note that this is not a drop-off or babysitting service. The adults responsible for the children are expected to stay and play an active role in monitoring the behavior of their children during their stay. For more information, contact the Parish Center at 617-242-4664.

FYI

All are invited to begin the New Year in prayer with Cardinal Sean at the annual New Year's Eve Vigil and Mass on Tuesday, December 31, 2019 at St. Clement Eucharistic Shrine Church, 1105 Boylston Street, Boston (at the corner of Ipswich Street). Holy Hour with Eucharistic Adoration and Confessions begins at 10:30 pm. Rosary at 11:00 pm. Vigil Mass for the Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God at 11:30 pm. Special prayer intentions for life, love and vocations. For more information, contact the Pro-Life Office at (508) 651.1900 or ProLifeOffice@rcab.org

**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.**



We extend a warm welcome to all visitors and those who are new to our parish. If you are new to Saint Mary - Saint Catherine of Siena Parish, please visit our website for events and resources. You may also register on line at:
stmaryscatherine.org

A STEWARDSHIP PRAYER

for the New Year - 2020

Lord of new life,

Thank you for the gift of a new year. You have entrusted us with the coming days, weeks and months as stewards of your divine plan; to live in gratitude, joy, and an ever growing confidence in your Kingdom to come.

We ask for the humility to reform our lives; the courage to commit ourselves to you no matter the cost; and the wisdom to shine the light of faith on others.

Open our hearts, give us your Spirit and show us how to share your love so that we may bring hope to a world in need of your justice and peace.

We pray to be a sign of your grace in this new year through your son, Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever.

Amen



January 1, 2020

The encounter between God and Moses in today's first reading is awe-inspiring. God bestows three blessings upon Moses and directs him to extend those blessings to others: The Lord blesses you and keeps you. The Lord lets his face shine upon you and be gracious to you. The Lord looks upon you kindly and gives you peace. Good stewards realize these blessings are showered upon them in a unique and special way each time they receive the Eucharist, and exercising good stewardship of the Lord's blessings in this sacrament begins by receiving these gifts with profound gratitude. Perhaps it would be a good idea this week to memorize these marvelous blessings and repeat them to yourself frequently. Make them part of your morning prayer each day.

Masses:

December 31, 6:00 pm

January 1, 9:00 am

The Solemnity of Mary is a holy day of obligation as well as a day of prayer for world peace.

January Schedule

Religious Ed

Sunday, January 5 - 9:00 am

Tuesday, January 7 - 3:45 pm

Sunday, January 12 - 9:00 am

Tuesday, January 14 - 3:45 pm

Sunday, January 19 - no class

Tuesday, January 21 - no class

Sunday, January 26 - 9:00 am

Tuesday, January 28 - 3:45 pm

Confirmation Class

Sunday, January 12 - 6:00 pm Mass & class

Baptism

Friday, January 10 - 7:00 pm class

Sunday, January 12 - 1:30 pm

ROSARY FOR PEACE

In her apparitions at Fatima, Our Lady instructed us to pray the rosary for peace. We gather every first Saturday of the month at the **Parish Center** to pray for peace.

**Please join us on Saturday,
January 4 at 9AM**

All are welcome.



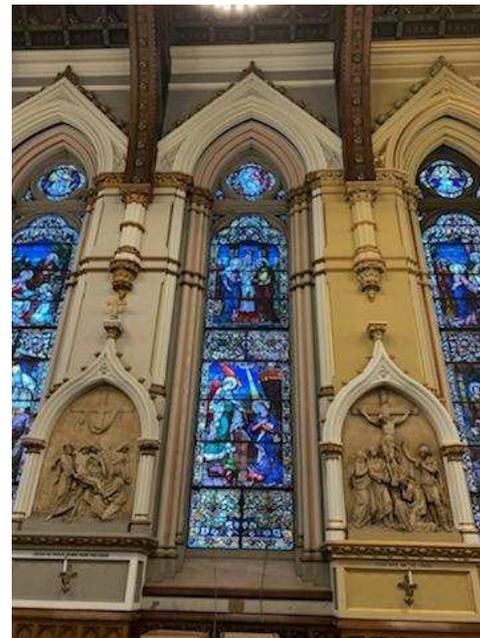
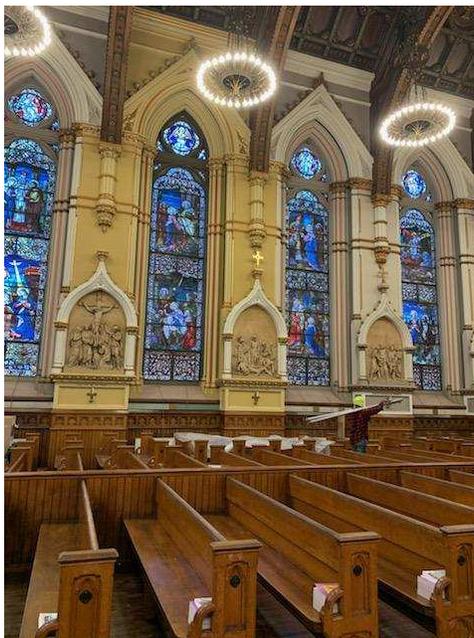
CLERGY HEALTH AND RETIREMENT TRUST

THANK YOU FOR YOUR DONATION TO THE CLERGY BENEFIT TRUST

Thanks to all who contributed to the Christmas collection for our priests. If you did not have the opportunity to give but you'd like to make a gift, please visit clergytrust.org or pick up an envelope in the back of the Church. To learn more about the Trust and stay up to date on what's going on with our priests, find the Trust on Facebook by searching "@ClergyTrust." Thank you for your prayers and generous support.

Christmas Flowers

Barbara Dugan
Barbara Gould
Danny Woods
John Woods
Richie Woods
Rose Woods



Worldwide Marriage Encounter

"Put on, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, heartfelt compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience, bearing with one another and forgiving one another." Work to live in your marriage as God desires by attending a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend. The next Weekends are Mar 13-15, 2020 in Duxbury, MA and Apr 18-19, 2020 in BREWSTER, MA. For more information, call Stephen & Michelle O'Leary at 800-710-9963 or visit them at <https://wwmema.org/>.

Painting of the Church

For anyone who would like to learn more about both the history of our beautiful church and this project, Please join us for a presentation and discussion of the paint project that will be offered by David Riccio from Canning Liturgical Arts on Sunday, January 5th after the 8:00 am Mass. All are welcome.

Transformed in Love Marriage

Prep is the Archdiocesan program for marriage preparation. For upcoming 2019-2020 dates, locations, and registration information, visit www.bostoncatholic.org/transformedinlove; or contact Liz Cotrupi at ecotrupi@rcab.org.



BANNS OF MARRIAGE

II
Matthew Roberto
✠
Anna Noonan

Quiet Time with Jesus

Eucharistic Adoration -
Fridays at



5:30 to 6:30 pm in the
St. Catherine of Siena Chapel.



Ministry to the Sick and Home- bound

We welcome the opportunity to provide the Sacraments of Confession, Communion or Anointing of the Sick to anyone who is confined to home, either on a short or longer term basis, as we want to do our best to help them feel connected to our community.

Please call us at 617-242-4664 if you, a relative or neighbor is open to having a home visit for some friendly conversation and prayer.



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 email:
ncitro@stmarystcatherine.org.

The month of January is dedicated to the Holy Name of Jesus.

"In the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those that are in heaven, on earth and under the earth" (Phil 2:10). Christ's name is chosen in heaven, and the Angel Gabriel announces it when he informs the Blessed Virgin of the incarnation: "Behold thou shalt conceive in thy womb and shalt bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name Jesus". It means "savior."



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

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 12/28

4:00 PM + JESSIE O'NEIL

SUNDAY 12/29

8:00 AM PARISHIONER INTENTIONS

10:30 AM +ELIZABETH & JOSEPH
PELOSI

6:00 PM

• ROSARY SAID BEFORE DAILY MASS

MONDAY 12/30

8:00 AM DECEASED MEMBER OF THE
STANFORD FAMILY

TUESDAY 12/31

6:00 PM VIGIL OF THE SOLEMNITY OF
MARY

NEW YEAR'S - OFFICE CLOSED

WEDNESDAY - 01/01

9:00 AM SOLEMNITY OF MARY

THURSDAY 01/02

8:00 AM

FRIDAY 01/03

8:00 AM

5:30 PM EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

SATURDAY 01/04

4:00 PM + ANGELA & JAMES FORD

SUNDAY 01/05

8:00 AM PARISHIONER INTENTIONS

10:30 AM BETTE MCNIFF

6:00 PM



Sanctuary Lamp in

St Mary Church

Is lit for
Joseph & Elizabeth Pelosi

&

**The Sanctuary Lamp in
The Chapel**

Is lit for
Mary Coffey & Patrick Curry

UPCOMING COLLECTIONS

January 12, 2020 Monthly

January 19, 2020 Special

January 26, 2020 Latin America

*Note: Bulletin submitted before
weekend due to holiday. Therefore,
attendance numbers and collection
info for the 22nd will be in the
following bulletin.*

**CHARTERED BUS TRIP TO NA-
TIONAL
MARCH FOR LIFE**

MCFL is providing 2 bus itineraries to
the 2020 National March For Life,
January 24, 2020

Bus One: 1 Day Only. Departs Thurs-
day, Jan. 23 ~8pm from Riverside Sta-
tion, arrives in time for Vigil for Life
Mass,

National Shrine, Friday morning. Re-
turns Friday night and arrives back at
Riverside Saturday, January 25, ~6am.

Bus Two: 3 Day / 2 Night Hotel Stay.
Departs Wednesday, Jan. 22 ~9pm
Riverside Station, arrives in time for
daily mass, National Shrine ~8am. In-
dividuals will have the chance to at-
tend March for Life Expo, Youth Rally,
and the historic PROLIFE SUMMIT

(Saturday)

Returns Saturday, Jan. 25, ~7pm from
National Shrine.

Group rate for hotel rooms (limited
number!): \$139/night (double occu-
pancy)

Full bus fare: \$170 (1 day)/\$180 (3
day)

Questions? Need a scholarship?

Email: cj@masscitizensforlife.org

More details: [https://](https://www.masscitizensforlife.org/2020_marchforlife_dc)

[www.masscitizensforlife.org/2020_ma
rchforlife_dc](https://www.masscitizensforlife.org/2020_marchforlife_dc)

Joyful Mysteries of the Rosary



PARISH MINISTRIES

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

CHRISTMAS CAROLERS
HARVEST ON VINE
PRISON MINISTRY
ST. VINCENT DE PAUL
ZELMA LACY ASSISTED LIVING

FAITH FORMATION & ENRICHMENT

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

LITURGICAL MINISTRIES

ALTAR SERVERS
ALTAR SOCIETY
ARIMATEA SOCIETY
CANA SOCIETY
EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS
GREETERS
LECTORS
MUSIC MINISTRY
ST. MATTHEW SOCIETY
USHERS

PARISH COUNCILS

FINANCE COUNCIL
PASTORAL COUNCIL
STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE &
WELCOMING COMMITTEE

SOCIAL GROUPS

CATHOLIC YOUNG ADULTS IN
CHARLESTOWN (CYAC)
COFFEE HOUR
PLAYGROUP

*To learn more and/or become involved
contact us at*

617-242-4664 and check out the web site!

smarystcatherine.org

Registration for

Discipleship Week is now open!

This is a great opportunity for Catholic
teens (Grades 9-12) who want to go
deeper in their faith and spend five
days with other teens from all over the
diocese. Takes place June 24-18, 2020 at
Assumption College in Worcester. For
more information and to register,

Visit: [disciplesinmission.com/
discipleshipweek](http://disciplesinmission.com/discipleshipweek).