

St. Mary-St. Catherine Of Siena

Roman Catholic Parish

Charlestown, Massachusetts ▪ Archdiocese of Boston

stmarystcatherine.org

Our Mission is 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.

January 19, 2020

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.

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.

EXCLUSIVE



Some years ago, I recall reading about a response Mother Theresa gave to a question about offensive language. She explained that, to her, one of the most offensive words in the language is *exclusive*. I never forgot that simple point of view - the more so as our world and communities seem to become increasingly divided over count-

less issues. This results in an inclusion of some but mostly an exclusion of others – be that in clubs, classes, economic status, citizenship and/or membership and belonging to whatever.

It seems to me it would be a contradiction for a Christian community to present itself as exclusive. I mean, the idea that a community of persons united in their faith in Jesus Christ would consider it right to exclude some population of persons from that community would render itself, in essence, an Un-Christian community.

Does that seem too simplistic? Maybe it is. But when a community announces itself as a “welcoming community”, that seems like an unconditional welcome. Yet, perhaps the problem lies in the delta between what we say and announce and what, in fact, we practice.

I believe for a Christian community to authentically “be welcoming,” the welcome must be unconditional and entirely inclusive. Therefore, any person, young or old, man or woman, gay or straight, rich or poor, employed or unemployed, of any color, race, background or tradition, married, divorced, single, handicapped, or healthy should be welcomed.

Being a welcoming community does not necessarily mean that the welcoming members agree with, practice, or live in total accord with one another's beliefs. Nor does it mean that the members are always in agreement with those who are being welcomed. It's not about agreement, it's about acceptance.

I write about this topic because I believe there are many who do not feel welcomed in church. Even if a church announces “Welcome,” it does not automatically mean one entering a church experiences a feeling of welcome – an environment or climate of welcome. To make that happen requires a deliberate intention on the part of everyone to be welcoming and an openness to be welcomed.

Everyone carries his/her own baggage. For many, the load is very heavy and it

INSIDE:

ADULT CONFIRMATION

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

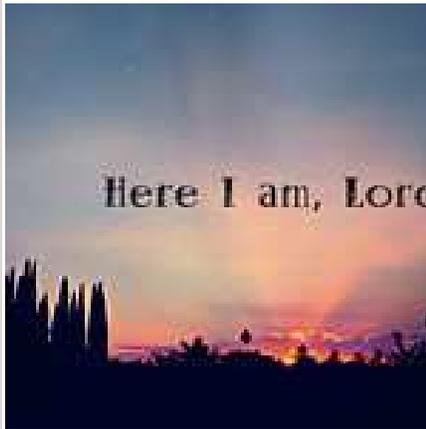
Nancy Higgins

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

often includes scars, deep hurt, and sometimes fear. There may be uncertainty about how God views them or if a faith community will be accepting of them. The truth is everyone is unconditionally loved and accepted in the eyes of God and followers of Christ are called to do the same.

Jesus Christ comes to bring light into our darkness, hope into our desolation, and freedom to our enslavement. He enjoined us to love God and love our neighbor as ourselves. He told us that whatever we do to those we consider to be "the least of our brothers and sisters" we do to him. If we want to call ourselves Christians, then we must work hard at following Christ's teachings and at creating communities of welcome. So let's roll up our sleeves and do our part in creating the world God envisioned for us right where we are.

Fr. Ronan



January 19 ~

Second Sunday Ordinary Time

In today's gospel, John the Baptist testifies that Jesus is the Son of God. Our faith and Sacred Scripture confirm this for us – Jesus is the Son of God. Pray today's Psalm with an open heart and open mind: "Here am I, Lord; I come to do your will." What is God's will for us - for you? It is to speak the name of Jesus and tell of His work in your life. It is Jesus' will that you make disciples. Not everyone will do this the same way. Ask for the grace to find the best way you can to testify – talk about - Jesus.



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**



En medio de una sociedad, donde tanto se busca y tanto se ofrece, implica relacionarnos con personas y organizaciones.

Hoy, Juan Bautista, nos presenta una carta de presentación de Jesús de Nazaret y con un objetivo: atraer nuestra atención y, sobre todo, ver todo el historial que –ya desde antiguo- completaba el historial o el currículum de aquel que, siendo Niño, fue bautizado en el río Jordán y que ha iniciado su vida pública. Es una carta de presentación un tanto original: viene a quitar los pecados del mundo. No viene con grandes programas de actuación (o por lo menos con

aquellos a los que estamos acostumbrados); su objetivo no es otro que llenarnos de paz de Dios y acercarnos un poco la gracia de Dios para que nos sintamos sus hijos.

Hoy, Juan Bautista, con la carta de presentación de Jesús nos hace sentir que el dolor es posible llevarlo sin que nos aplaste. Que con la llegada de Jesús, siervo humilde y dócil, es posible encontrar respuestas a mil absurdos que nos crean dudas, incomodidad o infelicidad. Se acercaba un joven a una oficina de empleo. Al llegarle su turno, el funcionario –con frialdad más que con profesionalidad- le preguntó: ¿Qué garantías nos trae Vd. para trabajar? El joven, un tanto decepcionado, contestó: traigo lo que soy...mi persona y mis ganas y necesidad de trabajar.

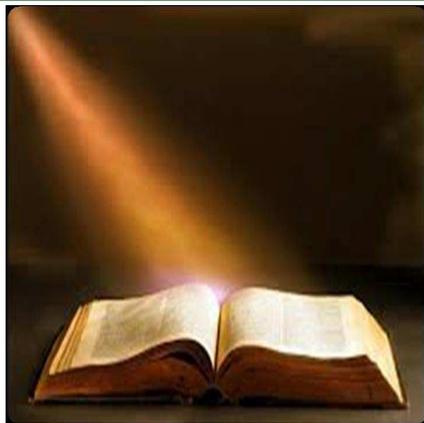
Ese es Jesús. No tiene más pretensiones que ofrecer todo su ser a favor del Reino de Dios, una realidad invisible pero visible en la medida que nos esforzamos por convertir la injusticia en justicia, la mentira en verdad, la cobardía en audacia, la tristeza en alegría, la tacañería en bondad. Y, esto, puede que en “currículum” que exige el mundo, no sea bien recibido. ¡Estamos tan acostumbrados a exigir profesionalidad y no dignidad!

Hoy, ante el mostrador de nuestra vida cristiana, se presenta un tal Jesús con una credencial muy genuina: “Cordero de Dios”. Aquel que es capaz de dar la vida por los que somos tan económicos a la hora de ofrecerla. Aquel que camina por delante, cuando nosotros, preferimos estar detrás de la barrera en situaciones complicadas o que nos pueden traer sin sabores. Aquel, Jesús, que disfruta sirviendo –no sólo las estipuladas 8 horas laborales- sino en jornada continua y sin remuneración alguna. Bueno sí, con un poco de amor...se paga a Jesús y al mismo Dios.

A muchos, esta forma de presentarse Jesús, les dirá poco o nada. Están, estamos, acostumbrados a las luces, sonidos, marketing y espectáculo. Pero, Juan Bautista, nos dice que el Cordero de Dios es aquel que –lejos de buscar un empleo con tan pobre currículum- busca y tiene un objetivo: llevarnos a Dios y hacer que vivamos como hijos de Dios.

Ojala, también de nosotros, pudieran decir: éstos son los que hacen frente a muchas dificultades; los que aligeran el peso de los hombros de los demás; los que se sacrifican y trabajan en movimientos eclesiales para que, niños, pobres, sacerdotes, parroquias, o fines sociales sigan adelante. ¡Éstos son los que “como corderos” ofrecen la lana de su tiempo y la sangre de su carisma, su creatividad o su espiritualidad para que, la Iglesia y el Reino de Dios, o el Reino de Dios y la Iglesia, sigan brotando como paz amor de Dios en la tierra!

Que, en estos días en los que celebramos el Octavario por la Unión de los Cristianos, pidamos al Buen Pastor, al único Señor, que la Iglesia –más pronto que tarde-vuelva a ser también una única casa, presidida y fortalecida por la unidad de todos los cristianos. Al fin y al cabo, en uno de sus puntos, Jesús, lo dejó bien claro: “que todos sean uno”.



WORD OF GOD SUNDAY – JANUARY 26, 2020

“Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, as in all wisdom you teach and admonish one another, singing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs with gratitude in your hearts to God” (Colossians 3:16)

On September 30, 2019, on the liturgical memorial of St. Jerome, Pope Francis announced that the Third Sunday in Ordinary Time would be celebrated as the Sunday of the Word of God. In its inaugural year, this Sunday will fall on January 26, 2020.

In the *Introduction to the Lectionary for Mass*, we are reminded of the role of the Word of God in the life of the Church:

In the hearing of God's word the Church is built up and grows, and in the signs of the liturgical celebration God's wonderful, past works in the history of salvation are presented anew as mysterious realities. God in turn makes use of the congregation of the faithful that celebrates the Liturgy in order that his word may speed on and be glorified and that his name be exalted among the nations.

Whenever, therefore, the Church, gathered by the Holy Spirit for liturgical celebration, announces and proclaims the word of God, she is aware of being a new people in whom the covenant made in the past is perfected and fulfilled. Baptism and confirmation in the Spirit have made all Christ's faithful into messengers of God's word because of the grace of hearing they have received. They must therefore be the bearers of the same word in the Church and in the world, at least by the witness of their lives.

The word of God proclaimed in the celebration of God's mysteries does not only address present conditions but looks back to past events and forward to what is yet to come. Thus God's word shows us what we should hope for with such a longing that in this changing world our hearts will be set on the place where our true joys lie (Preamble, 7).

We look forward to celebrating with you!



ADULT CONFIRMATION CLASSES PLEASE SPREAD THE WORD

Classes Begin on Saturday, February 8, 11:00 to 12:30

Full adult membership in the Roman Catholic Church is achieved with the reception of the sacraments of Baptism, Eucharist, and Confirmation. Most Catholics born into our faith receive Baptism as infants and Eucharist in the second grade. Confirmation is often received in the tenth grade. Due to circumstances of all kinds, a significant number of adults have never received the Sacrament of Confirmation.

Maybe... It's Time:

To deepen your relationship with God who loves and cares about you.

To re-engage your world again as a Catholic more informed about your faith and its impact in your life.

To re-new yourself and others through the unique power of the Holy Spirit who guides us in Love and Truth.

Candidates 18 years of age or older will attend eight 90-minute classes.

Please contact Sr. Nancy Citro, SND at ncitro@stmarystcatherine.org or 617-242-4664 for additional details and to register for the program.

RCIA CANDIDATES



L - r: Allison Pastene
William Heuschneider
Emily Lloyd

Dear Parishioners, please keep Allison, Emily, and Will, our RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation) candidates in your prayers. RCIA is a program that enables adults to learn more about the Catholic Church and its teachings and to discern if they believe they are called to be members.



Holy Hour for Life, Forgiveness, and Healing

**An Hour of Prayer with Exposition of the Holy Eucharist
In Support of the Dignity of Human Life
from Conception to Natural Death**

Sponsored by Boston Deacons for Life in collaboration with the Office of Diaconal Life and Ministry & the Pro Life Office of the Archdiocese of Boston

The 12th annual Holy Hour for Life will be held in parishes across the Archdiocese leading up to the anniversary date of Roe v. Wade (January 22), praying in solidarity with thousands of pilgrims going to Washington, D.C. for the March for Life on January 24th.

Let us pray together in solidarity for increased respect for the dignity of human life from conception to natural death, forgiveness and healing for all those wounded by abortion,

peace for those facing death and terminal illness, and holiness within the Church to transform the culture.

Our Parish will hold a Holy Hour for Life on Friday, January 24th from 5:30 to 6:30 in our St. Catherine of Siena Chapel. In addition, we will have exposition of the Blessed Sacrament after each Mass for 15 minutes to pray for Respect for Life from birth to natural death.

MASS FOR AN INTENTION OR LIGHTING THE SANCTUARY CANDLES



It is a common and beautiful gesture for parishioners to ask to have Mass celebrated in memory of a deceased loved one and/or for some special intention. Praying for our loved ones who are deceased is a spiritual work of mercy. Customarily, a donation is made for the Mass being offered for a special intention. In order to avoid any abuses about the celebration of the Sacrament of the Eucharist, Church law regarding the appropriate stipends for such requests is very specific and the standard donation requested for an intentioned Mass is \$15.00.

You may also donate to lighting the Sanctuary Candle in either the upstairs Church or in the St. Catherine of Siena Chapel in memory of a loved one. The red Sanctuary Lamp is always lit when the Real Presence is in the Tabernacle. There is a requested donation of \$15.00 which is used for the purchase of the candles. The Lamp will be lit for seven days (Sunday to Saturday) in memory of your loved one.

The bulletin lists those requests each week. Any requests to appear in the bulletin must be made no later than one week prior.

Baptisms - January 12, 2020



Bowen Anthony Trethewey



Edward Stephen Switchenko



Henry Joseph Morris IV

**MEASURABLE PROGRESS
UNLIMITED SUPPORT**

YMCA DIABETES PREVENTION PROGRAM

PROGRAM FEATURES

This one year group based program consists of weekly and monthly sessions led by a trained lifestyles coach who facilitates a small group of adults with similar goals in a classroom setting.

- 16 weekly sessions (60 minutes)
- Followed by 3 bi weekly sessions (60 minutes)
- And 6 monthly sessions (60 minutes)
- Complimentary membership during participation

PROGRAM GOALS

- Lose 7% of body weight
- Gradually increase physical activity to 150 minutes per week

WHO QUALIFIES

- Adults 18+
 - Overweight (BMI >25)
 - Asian individuals BMI >22
 - At risk for or have been diagnosed with Prediabetes
1. Blood test with one of the following results
 - Fasting Plasma Glucose between 100-125mg/dL
 - 2 hour Plasma Glucose between 140-99mg/dL
 - A1c between 5.7-6.4%
 2. Previous diagnosis of gestational diabetes

If a blood test is not available, a qualifying risk score based on a combination of risk factors—family history, age, etc.

For more information, contact:

Name: Liz Williams
Email: Lwilliams@ymcaboston.org
Phone: 781-966-3627

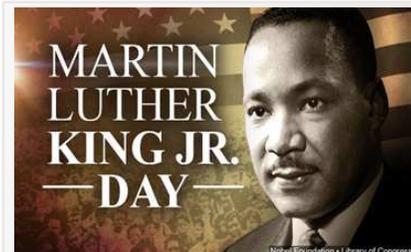
CHARLESTOWN YMCA

Program Begins: January 28th
5:30-6:30pm

YMCA OF GREATER BOSTON | ymcaboston.org/dpp

REMINDER:

OFFICE CLOSED ON MONDAY, JANUARY 20, 2020 FOR MLK DAY. THERE WILL BE NO RELIGIOUS EDUCATION ON SUNDAY, JANUARY 19TH OR TUESDAY, JANUARY 21ST.



On Monday, January 20th we celebrate Martin Luther King Jr. Day. Since 1986, three years after President Ronald Reagan

signed the holiday into law, every third Monday in January is designated Martin Luther King Jr. Day, a federal holiday that celebrates Dr. King's life and work. In 1994, Congress named Martin Luther King Jr. Day as a national day of service, and since then Americans have often celebrated the day through acts of service.

People throughout the United States will spend time on this day putting into action Dr. King's teachings and philosophy of non-violence by volunteering in various social service venues such as food pantries, homeless shelters, and soup kitchens, and in developing various types of educational programs.

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. believed that "everybody can be great because everybody can serve." Let us thank God for the leadership and vision of Martin Luther King, Jr. who incorporated Gospel values in the non-violent struggle for equality, justice, freedom and peace for all human beings. Let us open our hearts and reflect on his words:

"I am convinced that love is the most durable power in the world. It is not an expression of impractical idealism, but of practical realism. Far from being the pious injunction of a Utopian dreamer, love is an absolute necessity for the survival of our civilization. To return hate for hate does nothing but intensify the existence of evil in the universe. Someone must have sense enough and religion enough to cut off the chain of hate and evil, and this can only be done through love." (Martin Luther King, Jr., in The Papers of Martin Luther King, Jr., Volume IV: Symbol of the Movement, January 1957-December 1958. Edited by Clayborne Carson, Susan Carson, Adrienne Clay, Virginia Shadron and Kieran Taylor. (Berkeley: University of California Press, 2000).)



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 01/18
4:00 PM + ELIZABETH "BETTY" HENNESSEY

SUNDAY 01/19
8:00 AM PARISHIONER INTENTIONS
10:30 AM + IRENE MOORE
6:00 PM

- ROSARY SAID BEFORE DAILY MASS

MONDAY 01/20
9:00 AM MLK DAY - OFFICE CLOSED

TUESDAY 01/21
8:00 AM

WEDNESDAY - 01/22
8:00 AM PARISH PRAYER GUILD

THURSDAY 01/23
8:00 AM

FRIDAY 01/24
8:00 AM + ELEANOR EMERY

5:30 PM EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

SATURDAY 01/25
4:00 PM + DAVID M. LATTA

SUNDAY 01/26
8:00 AM PARISHIONER INTENTIONS
10:30 AM + FRANCIS X. NORTON
6:00 PM



The Sanctuary Lamp in St Mary Church Is lit for Maureen Dewey

And the

Sanctuary Lamp in the St. Catherine of Siena Chapel Is lit for Assunta Caranfa

ATTENDANCE

Sat 01/11	4:00 PM -	72
Sun 01/12	8:00 AM -	74
Sun 01/12	10:30 AM -	147
Sun 01/12	6:00 PM -	60
Total:		353



Weekend of 01/12/2020

\$6,401.55
To the Weekly Collection

And

\$1,423.00
To the Monthly Collection

Thank you for your continued support

UPCOMING COLLECTIONS

- January 26, Latin America
- February 2, Fuel collection
- February 16, Monthly



Tax Season

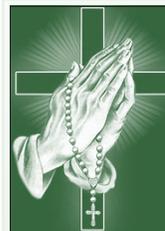
WOULD YOU LIKE A STATEMENT OF YOUR PARISH CONTRIBUTIONS? PLEASE EMAIL

DIANNE LUDY AT

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.



Resquiescat in Pace

Jane Catherine McNeil

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.



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

stmarystcatherine.org