

# 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.*

February 23, 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.

## THAT DAY OF THE ASHES



Each year as Lent approaches, I recall my first Ash Wednesday as a missionary in Guayaquil, Ecuador. When I arrived at the remote chapel along the Bulabula River that Wednesday in February, the heavy rains had stopped and there was mud everywhere. Mosquitos and all the rest were in abundance and I'm thinking "I gotta get out of here before dark comes or I'm in trouble!"

As I climbed down from the 4x4 wagon, the crowds of people plodding through the puddles were larger than any I had seen in my brief time in Ecuador. The Lenten season was about to begin. The ancient ritual of being marked on the forehead with blessed ashes, deeply popular everywhere, seems especially so among the Ecuadorian people.

Frankly, to this day I do not think I fully understand the popularity - almost a frenzied focus on this ritual! People come by the thousands, stand in line eagerly, and eventually reach the priest where the damp ashes are smudged on their foreheads with the words, "Remember that you are dust and to dust you shall return". One would not think that reminder would be so popular!

In our own world here in Charlestown, the ritual of Ash Wednesday is also religiously observed. All over the city and, in fact, the world, women, men and children will step forward to be marked with blessed ashes. For many, life is so busy and hectic. People live with so much stress and work so hard and long. The simplicity of the Lenten ashes is, perhaps, considered a welcomed invitation to pause, reflect, and refocus on what really matters.

In the forty days ahead, the call is to spend more time in prayer, to exercise acts of fasting in some form, and to practice acts of generosity. All three are the pillars of the Lenten journey and offer us opportunities to gain deeper insight into our own lives and our relationship with God.

In the fast-paced, tension filled world in which we live, making time for

# INSIDE: ASH WEDNESDAY

## 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 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](http://stmaryscatherine.org)  
and  
[facebook.com/  
stmaryscatherine](https://facebook.com/stmaryscatherine)

prayer is not easy. Yet many Christians pray in ways both formal and informal. We pray for our loved ones and we pray for those in need. We pray for peace and we pray for success in our lives. We also pray in gratitude to the God who created us and who sustains us. Prayer brings us closer to God and to one another. At its root, prayer is exercising our faith and our hope in the God who loves us unconditionally.

Fasting may seem odd, especially in our society when so many have so much - unless we're fasting for health reasons. Yet fasting - choosing to deny oneself something (actually anything) - sharpens our understanding of our weaknesses and our dependence on so much that is unnecessary. Fasting can free us to see and act more clearly and with greater purity.

Confronting our selfishness by acts of generosity also is freeing. This freedom has one primary objective: to help us recognize our dependence on God above all else, and to acknowledge that all that we have is a gift from God. And in gratitude for what we have been given, we freely share with those who are in need, and in doing so, we find that we receive much more than we give.

While this marking with blessed ashes might appear morose and gloomy, its purpose is just the opposite! It truly is a wake-up-call to what matters most in this sweet journey called life. A journey that is surprisingly short and, at times, filled with disappointments and fear. Lent points us toward the enduring wisdom of our God, Who is Love, and aids us to choose wisely in the midst of the shallow, transient gods of our times.

Ash Wednesday, February 26, begins our Lenten journey. Each of us is invited to step forward and receive the simple mark of blessed ashes reminding us of what truly matters most in life and guiding us toward our destiny. In the challenges of these times, this is a gift - a lifeline of Hope and Love.

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**



**23 de Febrero~  
Séptimo Domingo del Tiempo Ordinario**  
En el Evangelio de hoy, Jesús nos dice claramente como debemos vivir: poner la otra mejilla, entregar la capa y también la túnica, pedir caminar una milla o dos. Todo esto nos lleva a lo más difícil de todos: AMA A TUS ENEMIGOS y ORA POR LOS QUE TE PERSEGUIEN. ¡Pero no desesperes! Ya que encontramos esperanza en la Carta de San Pablo a los Corintios "... ustedes son el templo de Dios, ... el Espíritu de Dios habita en ustedes." Nosotros, tu, podemos hacer cualquier cosa si estamos abiertos al poder de Dios, el amor de Jesús y la guía del Espíritu Santo.

sus y la guía del Espíritu Santo.

### **New Parishioner Welcome Reception**

Hosted by: Fr. Jim Ronan & the Parish Pastoral Council

**Thursday, February 27, 2020**

**5:30PM - 7:00PM**

Parish Center - 46 Winthrop Street, Charlestown, MA 02129

Questions: Dianne Ludy at (617) 242-4664

On behalf of Fr. Jim Ronan and the Parish Pastoral Council we invite you to join us for a new parishioner welcome reception. The evening will be an "open house" welcoming new parishioners from 5:30pm - 7:00pm so stop by for some small appetizers, beverages, desserts and conversations. Your entire family is welcome to attend! This is a great opportunity to meet with Fr. Jim Ronan, the Parish Pastoral Council, and other new members. We hope you can swing by on your way home from work until 7:00!

**CYAC Sunday evening March 8, following 6 PM mass**

**Reflection/conversation with Father Ronan**

**Refreshments provided All welcome Bring a friend!**



### **SAVE THE DATE**

Thursday, April 16, 6:30 P.M.

**Harvest on Vine** will have its

Annual Fundraiser

at the Knights of Columbus in Charlestown.

Table of ten \$500.

Food, entertainment, raffles, auctions.

### **March Religious Ed Schedule**

**March 1 – Lenten Family event for Sunday & Tuesday students**

**March 3 - No Tuesday class**

**March 8 - 9:00 am**

**March 10 - 3:45 pm**

**March 15 - 9:00 am**

**March 17 - 3:45 pm**

**March 22 - 9:00 am**

**March 24 - 3:45 pm**

**March 29 - 9:00 am**

**March 31 - 3:45 pm**

### **CONFIRMATION CLASS**

**March 1 Mass & Class - 6:00 pm**

**March 29 Mass & Class - 6:00 pm**



### **Walking with Mary**

Join Cardinal Seán O'Malley for Walking with Mary, a

procession through the streets of Boston with Our Lady, on

**Saturday, April 18, 11:30am to 3:30pm.** Event begins and ends at

the Cathedral of the Holy Cross and will include a Marian procession, an

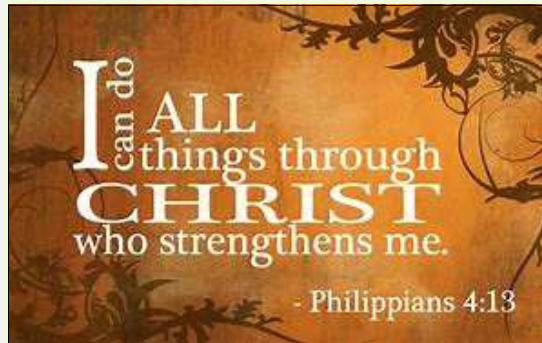
address from Cardinal Seán, Adoration, recitation of the Divine Mercy

Chaplet, and Benediction. For more information, visit [bostoncatholic.org/walkingwithmary](http://bostoncatholic.org/walkingwithmary).

### **Transformed in Love Marriage Prep**

is the Archdiocesan program for marriage preparation. For upcoming 2020 dates, locations, and registration information, visit [www.bostoncatholic.org/transformedinlove](http://www.bostoncatholic.org/transformedinlove); or contact Liz Cotrupi at [ecotrupi@rcab.org](mailto:ecotrupi@rcab.org).

**DURING LENT AND  
BEGINNING ON  
FEBRUARY 29TH,  
THERE WILL BE A  
MASS  
CELEBRATED IN THE  
ST. CATHERINE OF  
SIENA CHAPEL ON  
SATURDAY  
MORNINGS  
AT 9:00 AM**



**February 23 ~  
Seventh Sunday in  
Ordinary Time**

In today's Gospel, Jesus makes clear how we are to live: turn the other cheek, hand over your cloak as well as your tunic, asked to walk a mile, walk two. All of this builds up to the hardest of

all: LOVE YOUR ENEMIES and PRAY FOR THOSE WHO PERSECUTE YOU. But don't despair! We find hope in St. Paul's letter to the Corinthians: "... you are the temple of God, ... the Spirit of God dwells in you.." We – you – can do anything if you are open to the power of God, the love of Jesus, and the guidance of the Holy Spirit.



**ASH WEDNESDAY - Lent Begins  
FEBRUARY 26, 2020**

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 on Ash Wednesday;**

**\*8:00 AM**

**\*12:10 PM**

**\*7:00 PM**

**PRAYER**

Guide: Praying with Scripture

Enter His Gaze

Ask for Grace to be open

Read the Scripture a few times

Meditate on what bubbles up

Pray (or talk to the Lord) about your meditation

Contemplation - Be still and rest in His presence

Conclude with the Lord's prayer

**FASTING**

"Fasting gives birth to prophets and strengthens the powerful; fasting makes lawgivers wise. Fasting is a good safeguard for the soul, a steadfast companion for the body, a weapon for the valiant, and a gymnasium for athletes. Fasting repels temptations, anoints unto piety; it is the comrade of watchfulness and the artificer of chastity. In war it fights bravely, in peace it teaches stillness."

St. Basil the Great

**ALMSGIVING**

"Let us also love our neighbors as ourselves. Let us have charity and humility. Let us give alms because these cleanse our souls from the stains of sin. Men lose all the material things they leave behind them in this world, but they carry with them the reward of their charity and the alms they give. For these they will receive from the Lord the reward and recompense they deserve."

St. Francis of Assisi



**SCHEDULE**

**CONFESSIONS—CHURCH**  
Saturdays at 3:15 PM - 3:45 PM

And by appointment by calling the Parish Center at 617-242-4664

**Confessions @ Parish Center**  
Wednesday evenings 6:30 PM through 8:00 PM during Lent:

RENEW  
Scripture  
Series

# Luke

My Spirit  
Rejoices!



MARTIN LANG

*“ Let us receive the sublime*

*Treasure of the revealed word.”*

POPE FRANCIS, *The Joy of the Gospel*

**Journey through the Gospel of  
Luke, encounter Jesus, and draw  
guidance for today’s life.**



**JOIN A SMALL FAITH-SHARING COMMUNITY**

to deepen your faith and meet new friends. Groups begin March 2nd and will be held on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays.

Please see next week’s bulletin for sign up sheet and feel free to call the office with any questions at 617-242-4664.

*For  
Lent, 2020*

**Men's Group**

When: Tuesday mornings beginning March 3, 6:30-7:45 a.m.

Where: Parish Center at 46 Winthrop

Facilitated by Fr. Ronan

**Women's Group**

When: Wednesday evenings, beginning March 4, 6:30 to 8 p.m.

Where: Parish Center at 46 Winthrop

Facilitated by Sr. Nancy

**Mixed Group**

When: Tuesday mornings, beginning February 25, 8:45-10:15  
(Refreshments served)

Where: St. Mary Church Hall

Facilitated by Kathy Devaney

When: Thursday evenings beginning March 7, 7:00-8:30 p.m.

Specify \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**You can return this form to the  
Parish Center,  
46 Winthrop Street,  
or put it in the collection basket. If you have any  
questions, please contact Sr. Nancy Citro, SNDdeN at  
617-242-4664 or [ncitro@stmaryscatherine.org](mailto:ncitro@stmaryscatherine.org)**



## PROJECT RACHEL RETREATS

“ My spirit was broken and as far as I knew beyond repair. I was consumed with feelings of remorse. During the retreat, I realized the lasting impact of forgiveness. I knew God had forgiven me, and now I needed to forgive myself.” – A Project Rachel Retreat Attendee. The Project Rachel ministry of the Archdiocese of Boston extends a special invitation to women suffering from the pain of a past abortion to attend a Come to the Waters of Healing one-day retreat. Winter/spring dates are March 7, April 4 and May 30. Locations are confidential. Limited to ten participants per retreat. For more information, contact Project Rachel at 508.651.3100 or [help@projectrachelboston.com](mailto:help@projectrachelboston.com).



### Ministry to the Sick and Homebound

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.



### The Sanctuary Lamp in St Mary Church Is lit for

Maureen Dewey



*Resquiescat in Pace*

**Linda Marie Ross**

&

**Eleanor Josephine Lane**

### MASS SCHEDULE

**SATURDAY 02/22**

**4:00 PM PARISHIONER INTENTIONS**

**SUNDAY 02/23**

**8:00 AM + ROBERT MYLES PEARSON**

**10:30 AM + JENNIFER MARIE**

**SIMENSEN**

**6:00 PM**

- **ROSARY SAID BEFORE DAILY MASS**

**MONDAY 02/24**

**8:00 AM + ELEANOR EMERY**

**TUESDAY 02/25**

**8:00 AM**

**ASH WEDNESDAY - 02/26**

**8:00 AM MASS & ASHES**

**12:10 PM MASS & ASHES**

**7:00 PM MASS & ASHES**

**THURSDAY 02/27**

**8:00 AM**

**FRIDAY 02/28**

**8:00 AM + MINNIE, TRANQUILLINO,**

**& VINCENT CITRO, JOSEPH**

**MARI & FABIO LAUDADIO**

**5:30 PM EUCHARISTIC ADORATION**

**SATURDAY 02/29**

**4:00 PM + GEORGE WALSH**

**SUNDAY 03/01**

**8:00 AM + JOHN DONAHUE**

**10:30 AM PARISHIONER INTENTIONS**

**6:00 PM + MICHELLE GORMAN**

**MCCABE**

### ATTENDANCE

Sat 02/15 4:00 PM - 63

Sun 02/16 8:00 AM - 70

Sun 02/16 10:30 AM - 120

Sun 02/16 6:00 PM - 49

Total: 302



### Weekend of 02/16/2020

\$ 4,105.55

To the Weekly Collection

And

\$ 873.00

To the Monthly Collection

**Thank you for your  
continued support**

### UPCOMING COLLECTIONS

February 23, Church around the world

February 26, Catholic Charities

March 8 Fuel Collection

### 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

ARIMATHEA 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

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

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

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