



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.

December 20, 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.

BIRTH AND DEATH



My mother died on Friday, December 13, 1991. Earlier in that week, my family reached me with news of her decline and I was able to arrive home from Ecuador to be with her in those early morning hours. Her death was not sudden; she had been on the journey since a serious stroke three years earlier.

As my sisters and brothers gathered in the days that followed, we shared wonderful memories of this remarkable and most loving woman. Of course, while we were preparing for Mom's funeral, everything around us was wrapped in Christmas lights, decorations and cheer. While that may have appeared to make our grief more painful, it did not.

Preparing for celebrating the Birth of Jesus Christ – and the power of the promise of this infant king – opens for the Christian the deepest mystery of God's love. In and through the life, death, and resurrection of the Lord, through the ages and today, we joyfully proclaim: "In death life is changed, not ended".

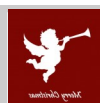
It is the story of life – each life an immeasurable gift, a unique work of art from the Creator, never meant to end, always destined for eternity. Living in this truth can transform our grief and sadness. Not changing it or making it go away, rather transforming it to accept our human frailty and look beyond it to the Author of life and the promise of life eternal.

Christmas 1991 was a peaceful and sweet time for my family. We remembered with deep love and gratitude as we celebrated the Birth of the Messiah, the font of all Love.

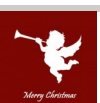
Christmas 2020, well maybe you and I need to do something similar. Painful losses beyond measure have been part of everyone's life as well as the life of our nation and world. The human frailty of our nation has been exposed like never before. Nonetheless, we look to Bethlehem and recall Immanuel – God is with us.

The hope we long for is not only from a vaccine but more so, from re-embracing the infinite Love, discovered by the shepherds, sought by the kings, and here for us this day.

Fr. Ronan



OH COME ALL YE FAITHFUL



Mass Schedule

Saturday – St. Mary Church
9:00 a.m.
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 3:15 p.m. Saturday in Church or by appointment

Baptism Visit stmarystcatherine.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@stmarystcatherine.org")

Clergy in Residence
Fr. Jerome Gillespie
Fr. Ken Chemizie O.C.D.
Fr. Anthony Nweke C.S.S.p.
Fr. Britto Dhinakaran

Hispanic Ministry
Blanca Paz

Vice Chairs Pastoral Council
Brendan Sullivan

Vice Chair Finance Council
Nancy Higgins

GRAND ANNUAL UPDATE

Thank you to all of you who have already contributed to the Grand Annual. To date, contributions total \$54,975.

For those who have yet to contribute, please consider a gift so that we can yield a balanced budget.

There are different ways for you to make contributions! ▪ Please go to our web site (stmarystcatherine.org) and click "Donate" in the footer of our webpage, to be directed to a Paypal button. ▪ Did you know you can donate via **online banking**? You can list St. Mary-St. Catherine of Siena Parish as a *payee* with our address (46 Winthrop Street, Charlestown MA 02129) and phone number (617-242-4664).

If you have questions, please contact James Santosuosso at jsantosuosso@stmarystcatherine.org or (617) 242-4664. Thank you for all your support and active participation. We are humbled and deeply grateful!



The Nativity of the Lord (Christmas Day) December 25, 2020

In the Christmas Mass at dawn we have the Gospel reading that God has entered quietly into the world. Not into the great city of Jerusalem, but into a small village about five miles south. Not into a noble family, but to an outcast couple keeping the newborn in a manger. Not announced by royal edicts, but to common shepherds, the first human heralds of Christ's birth. As Christian stewards we simply allow Christ to live in us no matter what our circumstances happen to be. We allow Christ to share his love with us and reflect that love out to others. We now are the heralds of Christ's Incarnation. What an unimaginable gift from a generous Lord. Good stewards rejoice in this gift and give glory to God.



Our Stewardship Prayer by the Welcoming Committee

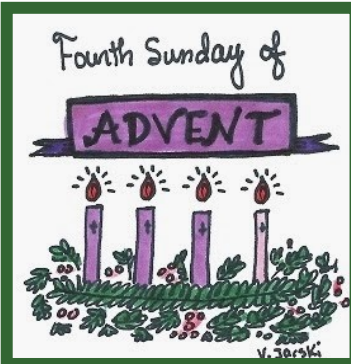
Heavenly Father, instill in our hearts a spirit of love and compassion. May we foster a welcoming parish community with acceptance and respect for all. Inspire us to make a difference by being generous with our time and talents. Please send your Holy Spirit among us to remind us to follow Jesus and his 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**

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



Fourth Sunday of Advent - December 19/20, 2020

In today's Gospel reading we have the story of the Annunciation, when the angel of the Lord announced to Mary that she would give birth to Christ through the intercession of the Holy Spirit. Mary allowed God's messenger to speak to her. She was attentive, not afraid to enter into a dialogue, then unconditionally obedient. Mary's acceptance of this mystery is a stewardship model for us. Good stewards remain open to the incursions of divine life into the normal course of their daily lives. How open are we to the promptings of the Holy Spirit in our own lives? What might we do this last week of Advent to be more attentive to the Lord?



«Vas a dar a luz un hijo, a quien pondrás por nombre Jesús»

Hoy, el Evangelio tiene el tono de un cuento popular. Las rondallas empiezan así: «Había una vez...», se presentan los personajes, la época, el lugar y el tema. Ésta llegará al punto álgido con el nudo de la narración; finalmente, hay el desenlace.

San Lucas, de modo semejante, nos cuenta, con tono popular y asequible, la historia más grande. Presenta, no una narración creada por la imaginación, sino una realidad tejida por el mismo Dios con colaboración humana. El punto álgido es: «Vas a dar a luz un hijo, a

quien pondrás por nombre Jesús» (Lc 1,31).

Este mensaje nos dice que la Navidad está ya cercana. María nos abrirá la puerta con su colaboración en la obra de Dios. La humilde doncella de Nazaret escucha sorprendida el anuncio del Ángel. Precisamente rogaba que Dios enviara pronto al Ungido, para salvar el mundo. Poco se imaginaba, en su modesto entendimiento, que Dios la escogía justamente a Ella para realizar sus planes.

María vive unos momentos tensos, dramáticos, en su corazón: era y quería permanecer virgen; Dios ahora le propone una maternidad. María no lo entiende: «¿Cómo se hará eso?» (Lc 1,34), pregunta. El Ángel le dice que virginidad y maternidad no se contradicen, sino que, por la fuerza del Espíritu Santo, se integran perfectamente. No es que Ella ahora lo entienda mejor. Pero ya le es suficiente, pues el prodigio será obra de Dios: «A Dios nada le es imposible» (Lc 1,38). Por eso responde: «Que se cumplan en mi tus palabras» (Lc 1,38). ¡Que se cumplan! ¡Que se haga! Fiat! Sí. Total aceptación de la Voluntad de Dios, medio a tientas, pero sin condiciones.

En aquel mismo instante, «la Palabra se hizo Carne y habitó entre nosotros» (Jn 1,14). Aquel cuento popular deviene a un mismo tiempo la realidad más divina y más humana. Pablo VI escribió el año 1974: «En María vemos la respuesta que Dios da al misterio del hombre; y la pregunta que el hombre hace sobre Dios y la propia vida».



REMEMBERING OUR LOVED ONES WHO ARE WITH GOD

Weekend of
December 19/20

At all of our Masses this weekend of December 19 and 20, we will have a Ritual of Remembrance for all of our loved ones who have gone to God. Due to Covid, this year, the sand dollars will be placed on the tree on your behalf.

CLERGY HEALTH AND RETIREMENT COLLECTION - DECEMBER 25th

The upcoming Christmas collection will benefit the Clergy Health and Retirement Trust which cares for the health and well-being of our 536 active and senior priests in good standing. Whether it is within our parish communities or in the community at large, our priests are making a difference every day. If you are able, please consider a generous gift to the Christmas collection this year. Thank you in advance.



Remembering Loved Ones

All deceased members, priests, and sisters of St. Mary-St. Catherine of Siena Parish.

Deceased members of the St. Vincent de Paul Society

Intentions of unnamed parishioners

Our Troops and Families

Those who have died from Covid, addiction, violence, natural disasters

Our Grandparents

List of names - page 5



Christmas Eve Masses

1:00pm, 3:00pm, 5:00pm and 7:00pm

Christmas Day Masses

9:00 am and 11:00 am

Register through our web site!

And

Solemnity of Mary Vigil Mass is on

Thursday, December 31, 2020 at 6:30pm

Solemnity of Mary Mass

Friday, January 1, 2021 at 9:00am.



Give yourself a gift this Christmas by receiving the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

Some folks are reticent to receive this sacrament because they haven't done so in such a long time and don't recall the prayers or even how to participate in the sacrament. Please do not let this be a barrier. The priest will guide you and help you to feel welcomed.

Every Saturday, the **Sacrament of Reconciliation is celebrated starting at 3:15 PM before the 4:00 PM Mass.**

Or ... call the Parish Center at 617.242.4664 to schedule an appointment. A priest will get back to you and schedule a time that works for you.

The Light is ON  **for You.**
Celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation



Prayer before Christmas Dinner

God of all gifts, we thank you for the many ways you have blessed us this day. We are grateful each of those who are gathered around this table. We ask you to bless us and our food and to bless those we love who are not with us today. In our gratitude and love, we remember your humble birth into our lives and pray for those who are without enough to eat. We remember the stable in which you were born and pray for those who have no place to live. We remember your challenging message of caring and giving, and we pray for peace in families and nations throughout the world. We bless you and give you thanks in your Spirit who brings our hearts to life this Christmas Day and forever. Amen.

Prayer for those who have lost a loved one: God of compassion, there is such a hole in my heart! Today should be a day of joy, but I feel only the emptiness and loss of someone so beloved. While the world celebrates around me, I remember Christmas celebrations of the past and I long to have my loved one with me. I bring my sorrows to you, Lord, like some odd gift of the magi and dump them at your feet. In my blind tears I wonder if anyone can possibly understand the depth of my sadness. Yes, you can. You sent your son to be *with* us in our deepest sorrows and I know that even though I might not feel it at this minute, you are here with me, grieving with me, caring for me in my sadness and loving me. Dearest lord, help me to turn to the one I miss so much today and speak. Help me heal the loss of our parting and help me not to regret the things I didn't say. Sorrow tears at my heart, but today I ask that my loss soften my heart and make me more compassionate with everyone I meet. onlineministries.creighton.edu/CollaborativeMinistry/Advent/secondweek.html

A Christmas Blessing for All of Our Parishioners and Visitors, and Their Loved Ones

May there be harmony in all your relationships. May sharp words, envious thoughts and hostile feelings be dissolved. May you give and receive love generously. May this love echo in your heart like the joy of church bells on a clear December day. May each person who comes into your life be greeted as another Christ. May the honor given the Babe of Bethlehem be that which you extend to every guest who enters your presence. May the hope of this Sacred Season settle in your soul. May it be a foundation of courage for you when times of distress occupy your inner land. May the wonder and awe that fills the eyes of children be awakened with you. May it lead you to renewed awareness and appreciation of whatever you too easily take for granted. May the bonds of love for one another be strengthened as you gather with your family and friends around the table of festivity and nourishment. May you daily open the gift of your life and be grateful for the hidden treasures it contains. May the coming year be one of good health for you. May you have energy and vitality. May you care well for your body, mind and spirit. May you keep your eye on the Star within you and trust this Luminescent Presence to guide and direct you each day. May you go often to the Bethlehem of your heart and visit the One who offers you peace. May you bring this peace into our world. - Joyce Rupp



Remembering Loved Ones in Prayer this Christmas

Abate Family
Mary & Bob Alix
Rose Ann Annaratone
Louis James Annaratone
Edward Annaratone

Stephen Barker
George Barker
John & William Benson
Mary E. & Michael T. Bird
Kay & Ben Blaikie
Blake Family
Bernadette Bourgoin
Louis Bourgoin
Edward & Ann Boyle
Boyle Family
Meaghan Brady
Robert Brady
Kathleen & Thomas
Broderick

Marion Burr
Burton Family
The Butler Family
Frank & Nora Butler

Rev. James B. Canniff
Daniel Carr, Sr.
Patrick Carroll
Ginevro & Assunta Caranfa
Winston Chiong
Chisholm Family
Minnie Citro
Tranquillino Citro
Vincent Citro
Mary Coffey
Eileen & Frank Conforti
Considine Family
Joseph Coote
Costello Family
Michael J. Curran
Patrick Curry

Dacey Family
Devlin Family
Berta de Paz
Clinton DeVoe
Richard P. Dickinson
Joseph & Lillian

DiFrummolo
Patricia Dillon
Doherty Family
Dolan Family
John J. Donahue
Kathleen Dooher
Duane Family
Daniel Duarte
Shirley Dube

The Emery Family
Evers Family

Charles Farmer
Farmer Family
Sarah Farmer-Williams
Pat Flarehty
Elinor Foley
Gladys Foley
John Foley
John Foley, Jr.

Jimmy Gallagher
Hammons Family
Joe & Eileen Hanson
Pat Hanson
Hafey Family
Arthur Harrington
George Harrington
Jeremiah & Margaret

Harrington
Mary Harrington
Elizabeth & Frank
Hennessey
Brian Hignston
Katherine & Bill Howard
Arthur J. Hurley

Carl Jacobson
Jake Jacobus
"Johnny"
"Judy"
William & Catherine Keane
Carl & Laura Kelly
Helen Kelley
Joseph & Helen Kerr
Raymond L. Kessler
Betty J. Kessler
Bill King
Lois & Thomas Kraman

Walter Landergan, Jr.
John Landrigan
Anne Latino
Joseph Latino
David Latta Jr
Fabio Laudadio
LeCam Family
Lombard Family

Guy Maccarone & Family
Clara & John Mahoney
Frank & Rose Manganello
Joseph Mari
Gene McFadgen
Billy McKillop
McKillop Family
John T. McNamara
William & Winifred
McNamara
George McNelley
Bette McNiff
McPortland Family

McShane Family
William & Maryon Melvin
The Mills Family
Irene Moore
John R. Moore
John S. Moore
Michael D. Moore
Muldoon Family
Wyllis Mueller
Ralph & Alice Mulvaney
Catherine & Michael

Murphy
Eleanor & Joseph Murphy
Al Napolitano
Noonan Family
Nulty Family
Jess O'Neill
Anne O'Laughlin
Heather O'Laughlin

Kate Pacheco
Philip & Theresa Pollack

Reffi Family
Mary Anne Regan
Thomas J. Regan
Alfred & Frances E. Ridings
Ridings Family
Ring Family
Capt. John Rooney
Patricia Rooney
Helen Rosetti
Mary Rosetti
Christina Ryan
Donald Ryan
Patrick & Mary Ryan
& Family

Ellie "Cis" & Michael
Santosuosso
Fred & Gertrude
Santosuosso
Antonetta & Domenic
Screnci, Sr.

Henry F. Shackford
Shea Family
JoAnn Sheehan
John & Mary Sheehan
Paul & Evelyn Sheehan
Wanda Sheehan
Paul Sheehy
Sisters of St. Joseph
Prison Ministry
Agnes & Bill Smith
Edward & CarolAnn Smore
Peter & Anna Smore
Eugene and Dorothy
Sullivan
Michael & Margaret
Sullivan

Patrick Sullivan
Russell Taylor

Minnie Tranquillino

Charles Robert Upton
Herbert H. Upton
John Edward Upton
Joseph John Upton
Robert Douglas Upton

Alfred & Mary Voboril
George Walsh
John & Mary Walsh
William & Mildred Walsh
Francis Webber
Sue Ellen Whelan
Whelan Family
John Butler Woods
John J. Woods III
Rose Woods

Those who have passed in 2020

Arthur "Archie" Florentino
Barbara Ann Connell
Bridgette Erin Ahearn
Charles Thomas Lyons
Edward Francis Carpenter
Eleanor Josephine Lane
Elvie K. (Kepple) Lacey
Eugene Sullivan
Gerard Francis Doherty
Irene Theresa Reeder
James Henry McCormick
Jane Bernadette Green
Jane Catherine McNeil
Janet Marie Sullivan
Jean Marie Lynch
Jeremiah Joseph Harrington
Lee Rose Jesso
Linda Marie Ross
Maria Isabel D'Oliveira
Mary Breslin
Mary Christine Sullivan
Mary Harrington
Michael "Mike" Sullivan
Michael D Lacey
Nancy (Keegan) Russell
Patrick Bernard Sullivan
Quinlan Joseph Sullivan Jr.
Reggio James Randazza
Regina Theresa Reynolds
Robert Paul O'Neill
Susan Jean Olson
Teddy Kokolari
Therese Margaret McSweeney
Thomas Oliver Gorsuch IV
Veronica Smith
William "Billy" Wadman
William Edward (Bill) Burke
Jr.
William Henry Fitzgibbons III
William Joseph Briggs, Sr.

MASS SCHEDULE

THE 5:00 PM CHRISTMAS EVE MASS AND THE 11:00 AM CHRISTMAS MASS AS WELL AS THE 10:30 AM SUNDAY MASS WILL BE ON OUR WEBSITE OR FACEBOOK LIVE

SATURDAY 12/19

**9:00 AM
4:00 PM SAND DOLLAR TREE**

SUNDAY 12/20

**8:00 AM SAND DOLLAR TREE
10:30 AM + ELLEN MORTON
6:00 PM + DECEASED MEMBERS OF THE COLLINS FAMILY**

ROSARY SAID BEFORE DAILY MASS AT 7:30

MONDAY 12/21

8:00 AM

TUESDAY 12/22

8:00 AM

WEDNESDAY - 12/23

8:00 AM - PARISH PRAYER GUILD

THURSDAY 12/24

CHRISTMAS EVE

**1:00 PM
3:00 PM
5:00 PM
7:00 PM**



FRIDAY 12/25

CHRISTMAS

**9:00 AM
11:00 AM**

SATURDAY 12/26

**9:00 AM
4:00 PM + KATHELEEN & THOMAS BRODERICK**

SUNDAY 12/27

**8:00 AM
10:30 AM
6:00 PM**



The Sanctuary Lamp is lit for:

Guy Maccarone

&

The Sanctuary Lamp in the Chapel is lit for

John O'Connell



Weekend of Dec. 12-13/2020

**\$ 4,347.55
To the Weekly Collection
And
\$ 510.00
second collections**

Thank you for your continued support

To learn more contact us at 617-242-4664 or check out our web site! stmarystcatherine.org

ATTENDANCE

December 12-13

**4:00 pm 41
8:00 am 38
10:30 am 52
6:00 pm 29**

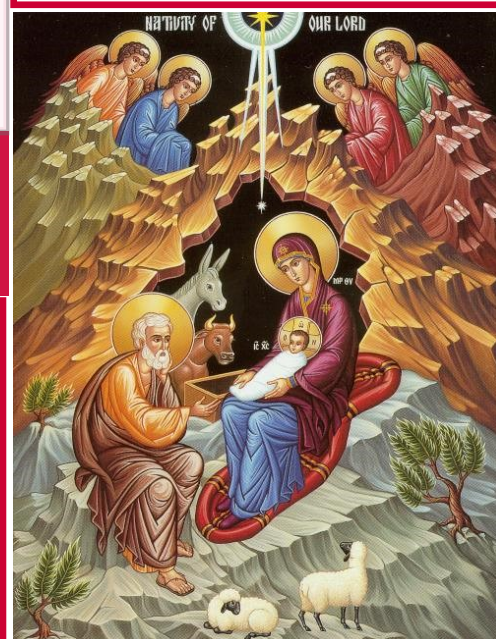
Total 160



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.



WINTER 20-21 ALERT

Dear Friends, in the event of inclement weather that necessitates the closing of the church, we will post the closing on Channel 5, WCVB-TV and Channel 7 WHDH and 56 WLVI

Stay warm and safe!

