



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 17, 2021

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.

OUR STRENGTH IS OUR UNITY



I think it was on a Monday when I drove out of the parish in Durán, Ecuador past an open field, large and unused in any way. The next morning, as I came around the corner in my truck, I could barely believe it: there were hundreds of caña shacks with tin roofs dotting the large field. An “invasion” had happened;

poor people occupying unused open space and by the mere occupancy, claiming it as a place to build a home and live. This has happened all over Latin America. It has been the way cities that once had populations of 50,000 now have sprawled into cities of millions of people. It is very messy, sometimes violent and a hard way to find a place to live. It is also a scene that is ripe for extortion and dishonesty.

Internal migration of the poor from the rural to the urban areas is happening all over the southern hemisphere. The motivation is social and economic: people are seeking a better life with opportunities for education, health care and jobs for themselves and especially for their children. Life in these new areas is harsh and survival only happens as people come together. Often a saying like: “*Nuestra fuerza es nuestra unidad*” (*Our strength is our Unity*) is a common expression of the truth of their reality. Primitive as this reality is, it also exposes some of the best of our human nature.

Little by little this new invasion worked its way into becoming a neighborhood and a community. Organization of all forms was needed: streets were laid out, systems of protection established; bus routes near the main streets around the area were established. Small business, like stores that sold basics were opened and other necessities of several thousand people living in one neighborhood came to life. From the community, more and more families came to the local parish church and I came to know them and the stories of the villages from which they had come. Soon enough, the people were organized sufficiently to ask me if they could have a chapel of their own.

INSIDE: PROTECT HUMAN LIFE

Mass Schedule

Saturday – St. Mary Church

900 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

I was amazed at the fervor and commitment the people expressed for having a chapel they could call their own. Slowly, I came to realize this wonderful hard working Catholic people would not feel as if they really had "arrived until they had a church in the middle of their community. They had already carved out space for the church and had come together to organize a way to build it. All of this and more they carefully laid out to me at a meeting late one Saturday afternoon. I agreed and promised to work with them to make it a reality.

Traveling by 4 WD vehicle in these parts always requires one to carry rope and other emergency supplies. I walked over to the truck and pulled out a large coil of rope, unrolled it and began to pass it out to everyone gathered for the meeting. At least 25 people, not counting children, grabbed a piece of the rope and we formed a big square in the image of a church building! Slowly we moved around in different directions trying to figure out the best size and location for the dreamed-of-chapel. It was an amazing moment: I was watching the church, the people of God, joyously moving to the left and right in what appeared to be a fun game, envisioning a building for their church.

For generations our Church has taught us that the Baptized faithful are the "people of God", the "Body of Christ". Not only is a church building not truly THE CHURCH but no single one of us is THE CHURCH. We are only THE CHURCH when we stand together in Christ. We did build a lovely caña chapel in that amazing place, laid out exactly as all the people agreed it ought to be. And that day what I learned from those beautiful folks was an ever deeper appreciation of our true Church. We are ONE in Christ and, *Our Strength is our Unity.*

Fr. Ronan



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!



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

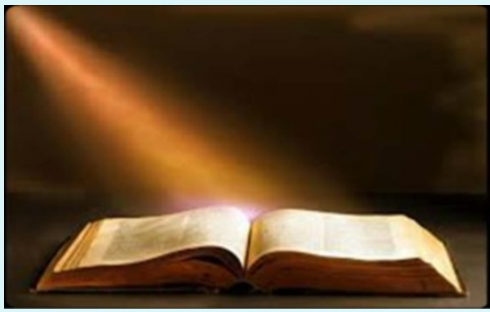
Saint Catherine of Siena Chapel

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://facebook.com/stmarystcatherine)



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. We will celebrate Word of God Sunday on January 26, 2021.

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!

PRAY TO PROTECT HUMAN LIFE! JANUARY 21-29, 2021 NOVENA

Please pray for the protection and support 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.

Most Gracious and Loving God, Creator of us all, thank you for the precious gift of life. Help us to cherish and protect this gift, even in the midst of fear, pain, and suffering. Give us love for all people, especially the most vulnerable, and help us bear witness to the truth that every life is worth living.

Grant us the humility to accept help when we are in need, and teach us to be merciful to all. Through our words and actions, may others encounter the outstretched hands of Your mercy. We ask this through Christ, our Lord. Amen. One Our Father, Three Hail Marys, One Glory Be.

9 DÍAS POR LA VIDA

Jueves, 21 de enero – viernes, 29 de enero de 2021

Padre celestial, gracias por el preciado don de la vida. Ayúdanos a valorar y proteger este don, incluso si hay temor, dolor y sufrimiento. Danos amor por todas las personas, en especial las más vulnerables, y ayúdanos a dar testimonio de la verdad que toda vida merece vivir.

Concédenos la humildad de aceptar ayuda si la necesitamos, y enséñanos a ser misericordiosos con todos. Que otros encuentren, por nuestras palabras y acciones, el abrazo de Tu misericordia. Te lo pedimos por Cristo, nuestro Señor. Amén. Padre Nuestro, tre Ave Marias, Gloria.

Another 9 Days for Life novena can be accessed at www.9daysforlife.com Or prolife@usscb.org.

Each day's intention is accompanied by a short reflection and suggested actions to help build a culture of life.

Thursday, January 21 – Friday, January 29, 2021



Second Sunday in Ordinary Time January 16/17, 2021

Christian stewardship begins with the call to discipleship and in today's Gospel we discover those first individuals who sought out Jesus and wanted to listen to him, learn from him and stay with him. Today, Christian stewards search out the hidden presence of Jesus in their own lives every day. They know Christ is the "Messiah" who will one day bring about a perfect restoration to a troubled world. They further understand that they are sacraments of his hidden presence in the world. Their task is to make that reality known through their own words and actions. What is one thing we can do to be better stewards of Christ's life in us



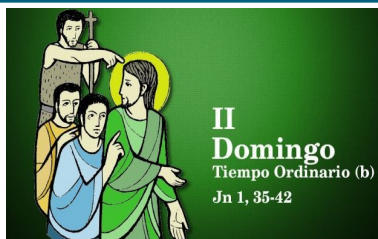
CARDINAL O'MALLEY STATEMENT FOLLOWING VIOLENCE IN WASHINGTON DC BostonCatholic.org

January 7, 2020

"The beginning of the Prayer of St. Francis is familiar to most of us: "Lord, make me an instrument of your peace". And it is peace we need in our nation today, united by the common good of our people. The violence witnessed in our nation's capital yesterday serves only to inflame our divisions and pit citizen against citizen at a time we need to be united. We reject all forms of violence including the acts of those who stormed our Capitol. We pray for those who lost their lives and for their loved ones and for the injured. We live in a divided nation and the challenges our nation faces are significant.

Our recovery from yesterday's assault will require the best talents of our civic leaders. Very soon President-elect Biden and Vice President-elect Harris will be sworn in to lead our country. In the spirit of what makes America a beacon of light and democracy for the entire world we must set aside our divisions and together go about the work of helping to lift people out of poverty, healing the sick, welcoming the immigrant and address systemic racism, and many other tasks.

Let us heed the words of St. Francis' simple prayer: *"where there is hatred, let me sow love; where there is injury, pardon; where there is doubt, faith; where there is despair, hope; where there is darkness, light; where there is sadness, joy."*



Dos discípulos, orientados por el Bautista, se ponen a seguir a Jesús. Durante un cierto tiempo caminan tras él en silencio. No ha habido todavía un verdadero contacto. De pronto, Jesús se vuelve y les hace una pregunta decisiva: « ¿Qué buscáis? », ¿qué esperáis de mí? Ellos le responden con otra pregunta: Rabí, « ¿dónde vives? », ¿cuál es el secreto de tu vida?, ¿desde dónde vives tú?, ¿qué es para ti vivir? Jesús les contesta: « Venid y veréis ». Haced vosotros mismos la experiencia. No busquéis otra información. Venid a convivir conmigo. Descubriréis quién soy y cómo puedo transformar vuestra vida.

Este pequeño diálogo puede arrojar más luz sobre lo esencial de la fe cristiana que muchas palabras complicadas. En definitiva, ¿qué es lo decisivo para ser cristiano? En primer lugar, *buscar*. Cuando uno no busca nada en la vida y se conforma con «ir tirando» o ser «un vividor», no es posible encontrarse con Jesús. La mejor manera de no entender nada sobre la fe cristiana es no tener interés por vivir de manera acertada. Lo importante no es buscar algo, sino buscar a *alguien*. No descartemos nada. Si un día sentimos que la persona de Jesús nos «toca», es el momento de dejarnos alcanzar por él, sin defensas ni reservas. Hay que olvidar convicciones y dudas, doctrinas y esquemas. No se nos pide que seamos más religiosos ni más piadosos. Sólo que le conozcamos mejor.

No se trata de conocer cosas sobre Jesús, sino de *sintonizar* con él, interiorizar sus actitudes fundamentales, y experimentar que su persona nos hace bien, reaviva nuestro espíritu y nos infunde fuerza y esperanza para vivir. Cuando esto se produce, uno se empieza a dar cuenta de lo poco que creía en él, lo mal que había entendido casi todo. Pero lo decisivo para ser cristiano es tratar de *vivir como vivía él*, aunque sea de manera muy pobre y sencilla. Creer en lo que él creyó, dar importancia a lo que daba él, interesarse por lo que él se interesó. Mirar la vida como la miraba él, tratar a las personas como él las trataba: escuchar, acoger y acompañar como lo hacía él. Confiar en Dios como él confiaba, orar como oraba él, contagiar esperanza como la contagiaba él. ¿Qué se siente cuando uno trata de vivir así? ¿No es esto aprender a vivir?



Martin Luther King, Jr.'s Day

"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

On Monday, January 18th, 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 some of his words:

"I believe that unarmed truth and unconditional love will have the final word in reality. This is why right temporarily defeated is stronger than evil triumphant" (Nobel Prize acceptance speech, December 10, 1964 in Oslo, Norway)

"This faith can give us courage to face the uncertainties of the future. It will give our tired feet new strength as we continue our forward stride toward the city of freedom. When our days become dreary with low-hovering clouds and our nights become darker than a thousand midnights, we will know that we are living in the creative turmoil of a genuine civilization struggling to be born." (Nobel Prize acceptance speech, December 10, 1964 in Oslo, Norway)

"It really boils down to this: that all life is interrelated. We are all caught in an inescapable network of mutuality, tied into a single garment of destiny. Whatever affects one directly, affects all indirectly. We are made to live together because of the interrelated structure of reality." (Rev. Martin Luther King, "A Christmas Sermon on Peace," 1967)

"I choose to identify with the underprivileged. I choose to identify with the poor. I choose to give my life for the hungry. I choose to give my life for those who have been left out of the sunlight of opportunity. I choose to live for and with those who find themselves seeing life as a long and desolate corridor with no exit sign. This is the way I'm going. If it means suffering a little bit, I'm going that way. If it means sacrificing, I'm going that way. If it means dying for them, I'm going

that way, because I heard a voice saying, 'Do something for others.'" (Martin Luther King, Jr., in The Autobiography of Martin Luther King, Jr., ed. by Clayborne Carson (New York: Time Warner Co., 1998).)

"Let us rise up tonight with a greater readiness. Let us stand with a greater determination. And let us move on in these powerful days, these days of challenge to make America what it ought to be. We have an opportunity to make America a better nation." (I've Been to the Mountaintop. In support of the striking sanitation workers at Mason Temple in Memphis, Tenn., on April 3, 1968)

"Now let me say that the next thing we must be concerned about if we are to have peace on earth and good will toward men is the nonviolent affirmation of the sacredness of all human life. Every person is somebody because they are a child of God . . . And when we truly believe in the sacredness of human personality, we won't exploit people, we won't trample people with the iron feet of oppression, we won't kill anybody." (Rev. Martin Luther King, "A Christmas Sermon on Peace," 1967)

Let us pray: O God, grant us the courage and strength to live out our commitment to create a world in which peace flourishes and "justice rolls down like water and righteousness like a mighty stream." Amen.*

*Adapted from Amos

MASS SCHEDULE

**10:30 AM SUNDAY MASS WILL BE
ON OUR WEBSITE OR
FACEBOOK LIVE**

SATURDAY 01/16

9:00 AM

4:00 PM + JESSIE O'NEILL

SUNDAY 01/17

8:00 AM + RICHIE MINICHELLO

10:30 AM THE RYAN FAMILY

6:00 PM

**ROSARY SAID BEFORE
DAILY MASS AT 7:30**

MONDAY 01/18

MLK DAY - OFFICE CLOSED

9:00 AM + ROY McNEIL

TUESDAY 01/19

8:00 AM + KATHLEEN SAVIANO

WEDNESDAY 01/20

8:00 AM + MARIE MACDONALD

THURSDAY 01/21

8:00 AM

FRIDAY 01/22

8:00 AM

SATURDAY 01/23

9:00 AM

4:00 PM + DAVID LATTA, JR.

SUNDAY 01/24

8:00 AM

10:30 AM + FRANCIS X NORTON

6:00 PM

Welcome

*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 Par-
ish, please visit our website for
events and resources. You
may also register on line at:
stmaryscatherine.org*

ATTENDANCE

January 9 - 10

4:00 pm 39

8:00 am 17

10:30 am 38

6:00 pm 20

Total 114

**Weekend of Jan 9-10,
2021
Parishioners contributed**

\$ 6,156

**To the Weekly Collection
And**

\$ 465

To second collections

**Thank you for your
continued support**



Tax Season Coming Up!

Would you like a statement of your
Parish contributions? Please email
Dianne at
dludy@stmaryscatherine.org or call
(617) 242-4664. Please include your
full name and address with your re-
quest. Statements may take 3-5 busi-
ness days to process.



**Resquiescat in
Pace**

**Kathleen Saviano
&
John Carven**

CALL TO STEWARDSHIP

**GRATEFULLY ACKNOWLEDGING THAT GOD GIVES US ALL, WE EACH WILLINGLY OF-
FER OUR UNIQUE GIFTS TO ONE ANOTHER AND ALL CREATION IN THE SPIRIT OF
JESUS CHRIST.**



ST. KATHARINE DREXEL PARISH
517 BLUE HILL AVE. DORCHESTER, MA

36TH ANNUAL

REV. DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR.

Birthday Commemoration

MONDAY, JANUARY 18, 2021 10 AM



Keynote Speaker

Rev. June Cooper
Executive Director, City Mission Boston

<https://giving.parishsoft.com/App/Giving/stk175200>
MLK Annual Breakfast Donation



Online Registration is REQUIRED

https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_1wFZt7V2RxGfyqZQSLPq5w