

# St. Mary-St. Catherine Of Siena

## Roman Catholic Parish

Charlestown, Massachusetts ▪ Archdiocese of Boston

[stmarystcatherine.org](http://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 3, 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.

## Arrival of Strangers



I grew up in a neighborhood where everyone pretty much looked the same, went to the same schools, church, markets, bakeries, bank, park, and so forth. It was a kind of Irish enclave. We followed with passion the Boston sports teams. Most had brothers and sisters and everyone knew everyone else's family members and their story. Anybody's mother could correct any child and

hopefully would not carry out the threat to tell "your mother". We never knew it was different anywhere else, and it was a good way to grow up with lots of folks a part of your life – a real sense of community.

Jesus grew up in Nazareth, a small Jewish village in Galilee. I imagine it was a closely knit community as well. In fact at that time in history, almost all folks lived this way, each one mutually helping and supporting one another through hard times and staying safe against external forces.

The arrival in Jerusalem of three notable strangers, along with others in their team, would have been noticed immediately. And when the three distinguished foreigners started to ask questions about the whereabouts of the birth of a new Jewish king, everyone including King Herod, listened attentively. This was a moment that would go down in history. The birth of Jesus Christ, the Son of God, had become known outside their local quarter and beyond.

The Feast of the Epiphany pulls us into the realization that our God sent His Son to be born among us. He came, in fact, as a member of a small minority people - for them and in fulfillment of promises made to them through the ages. Furthermore, this Feast makes clear that God's saving action is for all the people: in the East and the West, in the South and the North – and this realization is the true gift of the Three Wise Men.

# HAPPY NEW YEAR 2021

## 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 [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

### Hispanic Ministry

Blanca Paz

### Vice Chairs Pastoral Council

Brendan Sullivan

### Vice Chair Finance Council

Nancy Higgins

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

Growing up in small, homogenous areas as many of us have in one way or another is such a good thing in so many ways. It can also be an easy way to exclude from one's world others who are different. At its worst, it can re-enforce prejudices and bigotry fueled by ignorance and small-mindedness.

Every people of every nation know something of the struggles of prejudice. Even today, the tribalism of some people leads to the slaughter of others and the divisions of peoples along lines of race, color, ethnicity, and religion. This is nothing new – rather it is sadly old.

At the birth of the Child Jesus in Bethlehem, the three Wise Men from the East announced the dawn of a new and universal act of God – to be among us as the sign of Hope and salvation for all humankind. Jesus Christ came to set us free for all of this and more! This freedom at its core is based in the God given dignity of every human person, without distinction. As followers of Jesus, it is up to each of us to live out this, God's vision, in our lives and in our world.

Fr. Ronan

## 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 is a name that has marvelous implications, for it means "savior." The very name bespeaks the magnitude of His mission, His infinite love, a love that will cause Him to offer Himself up for us.



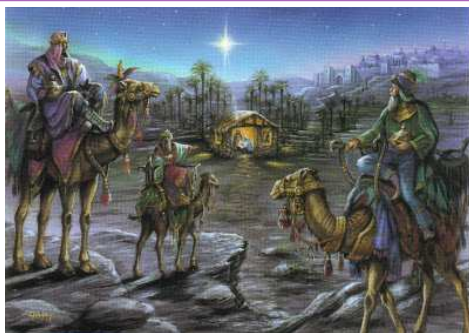
### Our Stewardship Prayer by the Welcoming Committee

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**



## Feast of the Epiphany of the Lord

January 2/3, 2021

Today's Gospel reading reveals the story of the magi who come from the east to pay homage to Jesus, the newborn king. The story of the magi teaches Christian stewards three Christmas truths: God, in the person of Jesus Christ, is present and active in the world, and good stewards strive daily to follow his star. Second, each of us, no matter our circumstances or station in life, has a gift to bring to the Lord. And finally, our life's journey always leads to Christ, even when at times we do not know where the road is taking us.

### *Things to know about Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession)*

*When are Confessions held at St. Mary-St. Catherine of Siena Parish?* Usually, a priest is available in Church to hear confessions on Saturdays at 3:45PM except on Holy Saturday. During the season of Lent, we have a communal penance service after which a number of priests are available to hear individual confessions.

*Can I go to confession at times outside of the regular schedule?* Yes. Confessions are available by appointment by calling our pastor, Fr. Ronan at the Parish Center at (617) 242-4664.

*What do I need to do to make a good confession?* Take some time beforehand to review your life and identify any sins you have committed. Any serious sins you recall should be confessed with repentance and a sincere sorrow for sin. The priest will give you a penance, which is a prayer or act that allows you to show your repentance. There is a brief prayer, an act of contrition that expresses your sorrow for sin. Through the priest, you receive God's pardon/absolution.

*If you have any questions, don't hesitate to call Fr. Ronan at (617) 242-4664 or email [ironan@stmarystcatherine.org](mailto:ironan@stmarystcatherine.org). All inquiries are confidential. An excellent resource from the Archdiocese of Boston is also available at [thelightisonforyou.org](http://thelightisonforyou.org).*



### **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](mailto:ncitro@stmarystcatherine.org).



### ADULT CONFIRMATION CLASSES PLEASE SPREAD THE WORD

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.

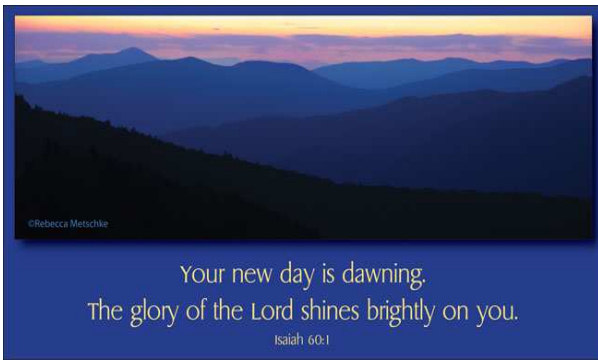
Candidates 18 years of age or older will attend seven 90-minute classes. Please contact Sr. Nancy Citro, SND at

617-242-4664 or [ncitro@stmarystcatherine.org](mailto:ncitro@stmarystcatherine.org) for additional details and to register for the program.

**Transformed in Love** is the Archdiocese of Boston's marriage preparation program. The Paulist Center is one of the sites which offers this program on a regular basis. Upcoming dates are: Feb. 5 & 6; March 19 & 20; May 7 & 8; June 18 & 19. For more information and registration, contact the Paulist Center at 617-742-4460.

### **CALL TO STEWARDSHIP**

**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.**



## *A New Year's Prayer*

*Stand at the crossroads and look,  
Ask for the ancient paths;  
Which was the good way? Take it  
And you will find rest for yourselves.  
Jeremiah 6:16*

**Our life is a journey. We are always “on the road.” Each time another January greets us, we have an opportunity to pause, to see where we have been, to notice how far we have come, and to ponder how that journey has been for us. Each new year is also a time to clear our vision, to take stock of our resources, and to refresh our dreams as we set out once more on the journey that is ours.**

**As we strive to live our lives well... Walk closely with us, God.  
As we enjoy the treasures we've found in the field of faith... Walk closely with us, God.  
As we continue to surrender ourselves to you... Walk closely with us, God.  
As we journey into the unknown territory of a new year... Walk closely with us, God.  
As we hurt in the process of loving our enemies... Walk closely with us, God.  
As we learn to accept our weaknesses and our strengths... Walk closely with us, God.  
As we open our hearts to the messengers you send us... Walk closely with us, God.  
As we stay faithful to our relationship with you... Walk closely with us, God.  
As we give ourselves to the poor and the powerless... Walk closely with us, God.  
As we keep searching for the truth... Walk closely with us, God.  
As we try to live in the heart of the scriptures... Walk closely with us, God.  
As we accept your constant love for us... Walk closed with us, God.**

### **A NEW YEAR'S BLESSING**

**God of the New Year, we are walking into mystery. We face the future, not knowing what the days or months will bring to us or how we will respond. Be love in us as we journey. May we welcome all who come our way. Deepen our faith to see all of life through your eyes. Fill us with hope and an abiding trust that you will dwell in us amidst all our joys and sorrows. Thank you for the treasure of our faith life. Thank you for the gift of being able to rise each day with the assurance of your walking through the day with us. God of this new year, we praise you. Amen.**

**May your inner vision be transformed so that you can see more clearly your own journey with humankind as a journey of peace, hope and bondedness. (Nm 24:15-17; Jn 20:20)**

**May your God be someone you can lean on in your weak or painful moments. May you know God as your rock, your shelter, your strength, your wing of comfort and support. (Ps 94:18)**

**May you be aware of all the places your feet carry you in the new year. May you know “How beautiful are the feet of the messenger of good news.” (Rom 10:15)**

**May you be the one with welcome in your smile and hello etched upon your hand, the hand you extend to everyone who blesses you with presence. (Lk 7:36-50)**

**May you awake each morning with thank you on your lips and in your heart, recognizing that all is gift, all is blessing. (Ps 138:1)**

**May your life this new year be a living legacy to your God.—Joyce Rupp**



La Epifanía es la historia de un viaje de ida y vuelta. Dios vino a los suyos en pobreza y debilidad y los suyos no lo reconocieron ni lo recibieron. Este viaje es la Epifanía, la manifestación de Dios a los hombres. La vida del creyente es también la historia de un viaje, un viaje al encuentro de Dios. Si Dios sale a mi encuentro, yo también tengo que salir a su encuentro. Navidad es la cita del amor de Dios con cada uno de nosotros.

Navidad es el viaje de Dios que sale a nuestro encuentro. ¿Hay sitio en tu corazón? ¿Estoy dispuesto a acudir a la cita del amor? Todos de pequeños hemos jugado a lanzar piedras en algún estanque o algún lago. ¿Quién lanzaba la piedra más lejos? ¿Quién hacía más ondas?

Jesús fue, por así decir, como una piedra lanzada en el Oriente. La primera onda alcanzó a los judíos. La segunda onda a los gentiles. La tercera y la cuarta... hasta llegar a nosotros. Y hasta que la última llegue a toda la humanidad y conecte con el acontecimiento Cristo.

Ondas de amor y de luz emanan de la piedra Cristo y alcanzan a muchos hombres.

Este evangelio que hemos proclamado debiera ser el evangelio de nuestra historia personal. No basta que digas: ¡qué hermosa la historia de los tres Reyes Magos!. ¡Qué suerte la de los tres Reyes guiados por la estrella!. ¡Qué suerte la de Jesús que le ofrecieron oro, incienso y mirra! No, tienes que dejarte tocar por el evangelio. Mi vida es una eterna pregunta: ¿Dónde está el Rey que ha nacido para ir a adorarle? Mi vida es esta búsqueda y este viaje hacia Dios.

Búsqueda a pesar de las dificultades del camino, a pesar de que la estrella se oculte, a pesar de que la vida no me sonrío, a pesar de que el mundo parece hundirse, a pesar de los escándalos y las traiciones... Los Magos hicieron un largo viaje, la cita era en Belén, la cita era con el Rey, el jefe, el pastor de Israel, con un niño recién nacido. Los Magos que no tenían ni los profetas, ni las promesas, ni las tradiciones, ni la esperanza de un Mesías... se pusieron a viajar en busca de Dios.

Los Magos, unos extranjeros, vinieron a enseñar a los judíos una estrella que brillaba en su propio cielo y no la habían visto. Los Magos, unos sacerdotes paganos, vinieron a enseñar a los judíos, los herederos, que el Señor ya había viajado hasta nosotros. Los judíos, los sacerdotes, los escribas y Herodes siguieron estudiando la Biblia, pero no se pusieron en camino. Nunca hicieron el viaje al lugar de la cita, Belén, a la cita con Jesús. Los profesionales de la religión no encontraron al Dios de la vida. Su libro santo no les sirvió de nada. Porque Jesús no es un libro, es el Salvador. Más tarde estos profesionales rechazaron y mataron a Jesús y a sus seguidores.

Hermanos, hay que viajar al lugar de la cita del amor y con el amor. Hay que viajar y preguntar el camino como los Magos y no descansar hasta encontrar al Rey. Hay que viajar, sin regresar a los Herodes, que quieren matar el amor de Dios que llevamos todos dentro. Hay que viajar, ahora que es Navidad, ahora que hay una oferta, ahora que te sientes bien. Hay que viajar al encuentro del Dios que nos ha visitado en su hijo. Hay que viajar sin maletas, sin regalos, con el corazón abierto para adorar a Dios. "Hemos visto su estrella y venimos a adorarlo".



## CARDINAL SEÁN O'MALLEY'S CHRISTMAS MESSAGE

Our God has made a gift of Himself to us at Christmas. The best way to celebrate Christmas is to make it truly a feast of love and reconciliation.

Christ is like a liberating vaccine leading us from the isolation imposed by the pandemic of sin, by our selfishness, our indifference, our rivalries, our anger, our pride, the real causes of distances between us.

God's love can cure us and set us free.

This Christmas let us mend a quarrel.

Build peace.  
Seek out a forgotten friend.  
Write a love letter.  
Encourage a young person.  
Keep a promise.  
Forgo a grudge.  
Forgive an enemy.  
Be gentle.  
Express our gratitude.  
Welcome a stranger.  
Take pleasure in the beauty and the wonder of creation.  
Speak out our love.  
Speak it again.  
Rejoice in God's gratuitous love and His gifts.

*Cardinal Seán P. O'Malley, OFM Cap  
Archbishop of Boston  
December 24, 2020*

## MASS SCHEDULE

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

**SATURDAY 01/02**

**9:00 AM**

**4:00 PM**

**SUNDAY 01/03**

**8:00 AM**

**10:30 AM + ELIZABETH & JOSEPH  
PELOSI**

**6:00 PM**

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

**MONDAY 01/04**

**8:00 AM**

**TUESDAY 01/05**

**8:00 AM**

**WEDNESDAY 01/06**

**8:00 AM PARISH PRAYER GUILD**

**THURSDAY 01/07**

**8:00 AM**

**FRIDAY 01/08**

**9:00 AM**

**SATURDAY 01/09**

**9:00 AM**

**4:00 PM + NORA & FRANK  
BUTLER**

**SUNDAY 01/10**

**8:00 AM**

**10:30 AM**

**6:00 PM + THOMAS BRODERICK**



The  
Sanctuary Lamp  
is lit for:  
Nora & Frank Butler

## ATTENDANCE

### December 19-20

**4:00 pm 34**

**8:00 am 24**

**10:30 am 54**

**6:00 pm 14**

**Total 131**

### December 24 - 25 (Christmas)

**1:00 pm 61**

**3:00 pm 87**

**5:00 pm 69**

**7:00 pm 41**

**9:00 am 30**

**11:00 am 40**

**Total 328**

### December 26 - 27

**4:00 pm 22**

**8:00 am 18**

**10:30 am 36**

**6:00 pm 13**

**Total 89**



## CHRISTMAS FLOWER DONATIONS

### Remembering Loved Ones

*Edward & Margaret Walsh  
William & Mildred Walsh  
Thomas, Michelle & "Mitzi"  
Moles*

*Mary McGowan  
"Peg" Murphy*

*Robert F Rooney, Jr.  
Peter & Mary Pappas*

*Barbara Coyman  
The Hafey Family*

*The Maughn Family  
Phil & Mary Coleman*

*Ed & Anne Roche  
Phil Coleman*

*William & Bennie Daniels  
Dennis Sullivan & Family*

*Jane Herbert  
Mary Pruett*

*Ellen Whiteside  
Sheila Herbert*

### Tax Season Coming Up!

Would you like a statement of your Parish contributions? Please email Dianne at [dludy@stmarystcatherine.org](mailto: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.

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

### Weekend of Dec. 19-20/2020

\$ 4,811.55  
To the Weekly Collection  
And  
\$ 1,015.00  
second collections

**Christmas Collection  
For Clergy Benefit Trust**  
\$2,774.00

### Weekend of Dec. 26-27/2020

\$ 3,074.00  
To the Weekly Collection  
And  
\$ 605.00  
second collections

*Thank you for your  
continued support*