



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.

May 2, 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.

We Are Called

This weekend eight tenth graders will all line up in the Church. Beside each of them will be their sponsor – one person chosen to literally “stand-by-them” as they are called forward to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation. Some are tall and appear older than their years; all are handsome and beautiful. Their families will sit nearby and watch as each young person answers the call to become an adult in the Church. The Episcopal Vicar will speak about the “call” each has received – it is a call to serve, to be in relationship with Christ and to make a difference in the world.

This idea of *being invited to step forward* gy. The theme actually young and old. When adolescents brought baptized, they prom- in the practice of the marriage and *called* to this role, and sent, they had no idea

“Be who God meant you to be and you will set the world on fire.”

called, singled out, is a theme of this litur- speaks to all of us, the parents of these their children to be ised to raise their child faith. Indeed, called to parenthood, they were at the time of their as- what was to come!

Yet, with each call God makes, comes the courage and Grace to respond! God calls every baptized Christian to a life of service, and although the chal- lenge to respond may be daunting, the Grace to do so is always enough. For, we celebrate that God has faith in each of us! Most of the time, God has more faith in us than we do in ourselves. So it is that in faith we can trust that God's call to serve and live a life of dignity and love is not beyond our reach. In fact, such is our destiny and the source of our greatest happiness in life.

This world of ours needs a lot of help! We need lots of hands and hearts to stand up and pull together to correct and improve, to search for and discover, to comfort and to lead. All this and more is needed in our world, our city, or families and is also needed in our Church and parish.

How are you who are reading this article called to respond? Could it be in

INSIDE: RESTORATION PROJECT

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/ 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

John Volpe

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

some ministry in the Parish: the food pantry, in liturgy, at the office, in education of our children, in different committees and commissions, in outreach to the homebound and ill, in support for those in prison and their families? There is so much that is being done and needs to be undertaken.

Consider how many men and women have answered this call: to marriage, to ministry, to service in helping professions, to parenting, to military service, to priesthood, to religious life, and so on. In truth, I have never met anyone who has not been nervous, fearful and anxious in front of a major call to serve. I certainly have been. And when that happens, we recall from whence comes the call – and the One who calls us will always give us the strength and courage to respond.

Many have long been inspired by the wisdom of St. Catherine of Siena when she wrote: *"Be who God meant you to be and you will set the world on fire."*

Fr. Ronan

CROWNING MARY (Weekend of May 1st-2nd)

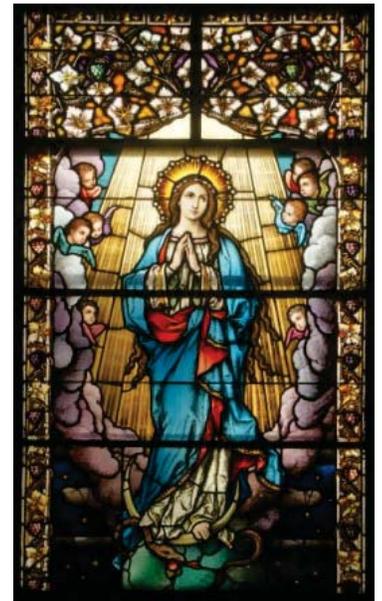
Bring flowers of the fairest
Bring flowers the rarest,
From garden and woodland and hillside and dale;
Our full hearts are swelling,
Our glad voices telling
The praise of the loveliest flower of the vale!

Refrain:

*O Mary, we crown thee with blossoms today!
Queen of the Angels, Queen of the May.
O Mary, we crown thee with blossoms today,
Queen of the Angels, Queen of the May.*

Our voices ascending, in harmony blending,
Oh! thus may our hearts turn, dear Mother, to thee;
Oh! thus shall we prove thee
how truly we love thee,
How dark without Mary, life's journey would be.
Refrain

O Virgin most tender,
our homage we render,
Thy love and protection, sweet Mother, to win;
In danger defend us,
in sorrow befriend us,
As pure as the lilies we lay at your feet. Refrain



**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**

SAVE THE DATE

MONDAY, MAY 10 @ 6:30 pm TO 7:45 pm

With the budding of spring and our collective hope for a new beginning in many ways, please join me for a parish wide virtual conversation of how our Parish emerges from this pandemic stronger than ever!



Invitations will be going out to all parishioners for the event with the opportunity to respond. So be on the lookout!

God's abundant blessings and congratulations to our First Holy Communion Class and to our Confirmation Class as they receive these Sacraments this weekend.

Important Dates in May

May 1 – Asian & Pacific Island National Heritage Month Begins

May 1 – Foster Care Awareness Month Begins

May 9 – Mother's Day

May 15 – Armed Forces Day

May 16 – Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord

May 16 – Catholic Communications Campaign Collection

May 22 – National Maritime Day

May 23 – Pentecost

May 24 – World Communication Day

May 31 – Feast of the Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary

May 31 – Memorial Day



Foster Care Awareness Month

May is Foster Care Awareness Month! Join us in praying for all foster parents and children

Tech Ministry...



Do you have familiarity with any aspect of technology, computers, Social Media (Instagram Facebook, ...), websites, etc? Are you gifted with creativity? If so, please join a few other parishioners as they seek to broaden the outreach of our parish throughout the community.

This Ministry is new and an exciting opportunity for parishioners who are savvy in these areas to spread the Good News and help us make a difference in the lives of people in the town. To learn more, send an email to: info@stmarystcatherine.org.



Solidarity with Seafarers as Key Essential Workers

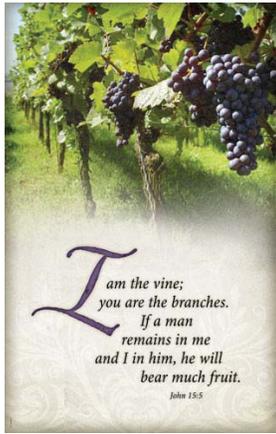
Over 1.5 million seafarers work on ships that bring goods and medicine to stores here in the United States and around the world. Their work allows our economy to grow. But the COVID-19 pandemic has hit the industry hard, and our help is needed. As governments around the world have closed their borders to contain the coronavirus, many of these workers are restricted from leaving their vessels. Several have had their contracts extended, often against their will, unable to return to their homes. Join with Catholics around the globe by advocating and praying for seafarers!

Seafarers, those who work on ships around the world, are mostly invisible and unsung heroes. They work to ensure that 90% of the raw materials, food, medicine, and products we use on a daily basis arrive to our shores. Without seafarers, the global economy would come to a halt. We would be deprived of basic necessities; some nations would struggle to survive. Join with Catholics around the globe in committing to stand up for the human rights of seafarers who face one of the most difficult jobs in the world!

DID YOU KNOW ... there are over 400,000 seafarers – those who work on ships – who are stuck on vessels at sea and unsure when they will be able to return to their families? The pandemic has hit workers of the maritime industry hard, directly impacting the ability for stores to keep shelves stocked with goods we need each day. Seafarers caught up in this crisis are enduring extreme hardship and suffering. Join with Catholics around the globe in encouraging governments to designate seafarers as key essential workers and provide them with priority access to vaccines!

Pope Francis teaches us: “The life of sailors or fishermen and their families is very difficult. Sometimes they are victims of forced labor or are left behind in distant ports ... Without the people of the sea, many parts of the world would starve. Let us pray for all those who work and live from the sea, among them sailors, fishermen and their families.” Join with Catholics around the globe in praying for seafarers!

Thanks to Stella Maris and the Apostleship of the Sea of the USA, we have port chaplains, ship visitors, and volunteers who minister to seafarers and fishers throughout our country and around the world. They offer everything from a listening ear and spiritual guidance for seafarers struggling after months at sea to providing Wi-Fi access to connect them with loved ones. Stella Maris and AOS-USA work to ensure that the dignity and rights of seafarers and fishers are upheld by monitoring for any signs of unsafe work conditions or labor exploitation. Join with Catholics around the globe in raising the visibility of the Church's ministry to the men and women who work at sea!



Fifth Sunday of Easter - May 1/2, 2021

In today's Gospel reading on "the vine and the branches," Jesus offers a quintessential stewardship statement: "Whoever remains in me and I in him will bear much fruit, because without me you can do nothing." The theme of this reading is "fruitfulness." We hear the expression "bear fruit" five times. And "bearing fruit" is not something that the branches can do by themselves. They are extensions of the vine, Jesus, and are pruned by the gardener, God the Father, who wants them to be fruitful and to be drawn into the unity of the Father and Son. Good stewards recognize that God's love, presence, gardening and pruning are gifts. Do our lives reflect a capacity to be fruitful? Do we believe that by hearing the Word of the Lord and responding, we not only produce "good fruit," but abide in the very life of God?



Todo sarmiento que da fruto, lo poda

«Yo soy la vida verdadera, y mi Padre es el viñador. Todo sarmiento que en mí no da fruto, lo corta, y todo el que da fruto, lo poda, para que dé más fruto». En su enseñanza Jesús parte con frecuencia de cosas familiares para cuantos le escuchan, cosas que estaban ante los ojos de todos. Esta vez nos habla con la imagen de la vid y los sarmientos.

Jesús expone dos casos. El primero, negativo: el sarmiento está seco, no da fruto, así que es cortado y desechado; el segundo, positivo: el sarmiento está aún vivo y sano, por lo que es podado. Ya este contraste nos dice que la poda no es un acto hostil hacia el sarmiento. El viñador espera todavía mucho de él, sabe que puede dar frutos, tiene confianza en él. Lo mismo ocurre en el plano espiritual. Cuando Dios interviene en nuestra vida con la cruz, no quiere decir que esté irritado con nosotros. Justamente lo contrario.

Pero ¿por qué el viñador poda el sarmiento y hace «llorar», como se suele decir, a la vid? Por un motivo muy sencillo: si no es podada, la fuerza de la vid se desperdicia, dará tal vez más racimos de lo debido, con la consecuencia de que no todos maduren y de que descienda la graduación del vino. Si permanece mucho tiempo sin ser podada, la vid hasta se asilvestra y produce sólo pámpanos y uva silvestre. Lo mismo ocurre en nuestra vida. Vivir es elegir, y elegir es renunciar. La persona que en la vida quiere hacer demasiadas cosas, o cultiva una infinidad de intereses y de aficiones, se dispersa; no sobresaldrá en nada. Hay que tener el valor de hacer elecciones, de dejar aparte algunos intereses secundarios para concentrarse en otros primarios. ¡Podar!

Esto es aún más verdadero en la vida espiritual. La santidad se parece a la escultura. Leonardo da Vinci definió la escultura como «el arte de quitar». Las otras artes consisten en poner algo: color en el lienzo en la pintura, piedra sobre piedra en la arquitectura, nota tras nota en la música. Sólo la escultura consiste en quitar: quitar los pedazos de mármol que están de más para que surja la figura que se tiene en la mente. También la perfección cristiana se obtiene así, quitando, haciendo caer los pedazos inútiles, esto es, los deseos, ambiciones, proyectos y tendencias carnales que nos dispersan por todas partes y no nos dejan acabar nada.

Un día, Miguel Ángel, paseando por un jardín de Florencia, vio, en una esquina, un bloque de mármol que asomaba desde debajo de la tierra, medio cubierto de hierba y barro. Se paró en seco, como si hubiera visto a alguien, y dirigiéndose a los amigos que estaban con él exclamó: «En ese bloque de mármol está encerrado un ángel; debo sacarlo fuera». Y armado de cincel empezó a trabajar aquel bloque hasta que surgió la figura de un bello ángel.

También Dios nos mira y nos ve así: como bloques de piedra aún informes, y dice para sí: «Ahí dentro está escondida una criatura nueva y bella que espera salir a la luz; más aún, está escondida la imagen de mi propio Hijo Jesucristo [nosotros estamos destinados a «reproducir la imagen de su Hijo» (Rm 8, 29. Ndt)]; ¡quiero sacarla fuera!». ¿Entonces qué hace? Toma el cincel, que es la cruz, y comienza a trabajarnos; toma las tijeras de podar y empieza a hacerlo. ¡No debemos pensar en quién sabe qué cruces terribles! Normalmente Él no añade nada a lo que la vida, por sí sola, presenta de sufrimiento, fatiga, tribulaciones; sólo hace que todas estas cosas sirvan para nuestra purificación. Nos ayuda a no desperdiciarlas.

Please Support our Restoration Project

Welcome to our newly restored church! St. Mary-St. Catherine Parish has been undergoing an extensive repainting and artwork preservation and restoration project the past two years. Through the generosity of more than 125 parish families, more than \$600,000 has been raised thus far, enabling most of the work to be completed last summer. There is more to do, however, with renovations to the front entry way and new sanctuary carpeting still outstanding. We are hoping to get participation of any amount from all our Parish families.

If you are able to assist in this project, you can participate in our Inspiring Hope campaign with a special donation. Just follow the link below or snap a picture of the QR Code on your phone to visit the donation page directly. All gifts are welcomed and appreciated! We look forward to welcoming everyone back to our beautiful church.

From your smartphone: Use your phone's camera to visit the donation page. Make sure to select St. Mary-St. Catherine Parish as the designation.

Or from your computer: Visit www.InspiringHopeCampaign.org and click on "Ways to Give" to access the donation page or to download a pledge form.

THANK YOU!



Wedding Banns



I Timothy Harvey & Jacqueline Sparaco
(with their dog Reagan)

May is the Month of Mary!



As the Mother of God, the Virgin Mary has a unique position among the saints, indeed, among all creatures. She is exalted, yet still one of us.

Redeemed by reason of the merits of her Son and united to Him by a close and indissoluble tie, she is endowed with the high office and dignity of being the Mother of the Son of God,

by which account she is also the beloved daughter of the Father and the temple of the Holy Spirit. Because of this gift of sublime grace she far surpasses all creatures, both in heaven and on earth. At the same time, however, because she belongs to the offspring of Adam she is one with all those who are to be saved. (Lumen Gentium, no. 53)

Mary embraces God's will and freely chooses to cooperate with God's grace, thereby fulfilling a crucial role in God's plan of salvation. Throughout the centuries, the Church has turned to the Blessed Virgin in order to come closer to Christ. Many forms of piety toward the Mother of God developed that help bring us closer to her Son. In these devotions to Mary, "while the Mother is honored, the Son, through whom all things have their being and in whom it has pleased the Father that all fullness should dwell, is rightly known, loved and glorified and . . . all His commands are observed." The Church honors her as the Mother of God, looks to her as a model of perfect discipleship, and asks for her prayers to God on our behalf.

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I Matthew Midon & Lauren McDermott

I am
God's Child.
Lavished in
LOVE.
Gifted with
GRACE.
Showered with
MERCY.
Overflowing with
HOPE.



H.S.

MASS SCHEDULE

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

SATURDAY 05/01

9:00 AM

4:00 PM CONFIRMATION

SUNDAY 05/02

8:00 AM + JOHN & MARY WALSH

10:30 AM + PATRICIA & JACK RING

1:00 PM FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

6:00 PM

ROSARY SAID BEFORE
DAILY MASS AT 7:30

MONDAY 05/03

8:00 AM

TUESDAY 05/04

8:00 AM

WEDNESDAY 05/05

8:00 AM PARISH PRAYER GUILD

THURSDAY 05/06

8:00 AM

FRIDAY 05/07

8:00 AM

SATURDAY 05/08

9:00 AM

4:00 PM

SUNDAY 05/09

MOTHER'S DAY

8:00 AM

10:30 AM

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 Parish,
please visit our website for
events and resources. You may
also register
online at:
www.stmarystcatherine.org*

Weekend of April 24 & 25, 2021 Parishioners contributed

\$ 2,783.55
to the Weekly Collection
And
\$365 for second collections

*We truly appreciate your
generosity*



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



Dear Marian Friends,

On Satur-
days, we gather for
our Saturday

Rosary via Zoom.

Sign on is at
8AM, and we will
begin praying at

8:15AM.

If you are interested, please
email Donna at:

Donna.lecam@gmail.com for
the Zoom information.

All are most welcome.

ATTENDANCE

APRIL 24

4:00 PM 45

APRIL 25

8:00 AM 43

10:30 AM 71

6:00 PM 32

TOTAL 191



The
Sanctuary Lamp
is lit in honor
of
The Confirmation
students



*Resquiescat
in
Pace*

Roger Paul Woods

UPCOMING COLLECTIONS

- May 2 - Parish Insurance
Collection
- May 13 - Ascension
- May 16 - Monthly
- May 23 - Seminary Offering



Our Stewardship Prayer by the Welcoming Committee

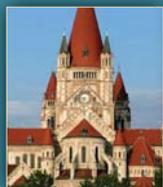
Heavenly Father, instill in our hearts a spirit of love and compassion.
May we foster a welcoming parish community with acceptance and
respect for all. Inspire us to make a difference by being generous with
our time and talents. Please send your Holy Spirit among us to remind us to fol-
low Jesus and 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 pa-
rishioners. Through Christ, our Lord. Amen

Teamwork



A sincere thank you to all of you who have contributed to this year's Catholic Appeal.

If you have not had the opportunity to donate, there is still time! Just visit bostoncatholicappeal.org or scan the code below to make your gift today.



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podcasts

You won't find the word "grexly" in the dictionary—but like its Latin root "grex," meaning "flock," Grexly is a family shepherded by the shared commitment to reflect beauty, truth, and goodness. On www.grexly.com you'll find free, high-quality podcasts that range in topic from mental health to popular culture to living the Faith. You can even pray on the go with audio versions of the Rosary, chaplets, and other Catholic prayers. We've got something for everyone, and we hope you'll join us.





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