



# 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.*

May 9, 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.

## FRIENDSHIP



was her friend. Their sweet affection for each other was evident.

The other morning I was walking out of the lobby after the 8 o'clock Mass and a class of children from Good Shepherd School was ahead of me. It was a beautiful day, sunny and warm, and the teachers were taking the children to the park. The children were holding hands, and one little girl explained that the girl beside her

Friendship is a subject about which everyone has experience and comments. The brilliant Dominican friar, St. Thomas Aquinas, once said: *There is nothing on this earth more to be prized than true friendship*. From Sacred Scripture to philosophers, scholars, saints and everyday folks, friendship is valued as precious. While the use of the term "best friend" is more common among children and teens, an adult who has a best friend is blessed beyond measure.

In the Gospel of John proclaimed this weekend, Jesus calls us friends. Imagine. He qualifies His use of the noun: *You are my friends if you do what I command you*. The command of Jesus is that we are to love one another as He has loved us. Further He explains: *I have called you friends, because I have told you everything I have heard from my Father*. Friends do that. They are honest, forthcoming and trusting of one another. They do not rush to judgment. They are patient, loyal and always seek what is best for their friend.

And yet we all know too well that friends also make mistakes, misjudge, speak ill and can be hurtful. Indeed, friendship can be complex and hard work because love is hard work. In fact, love is the work of God for we hear this weekend that: *Because love is of God; everyone who loves is begotten by God and knows God*.

If love is of God, than surely forgiveness must also be of God. Because of love, we can forgive. Without love, forgiveness is merely practical and efficient, potentially self-serving and thus, not of God.



# HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY



## 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

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

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

In this fast-moving city and time, everyone seeks friendship. It seems authentic friendship can be more elusive than in what are perceived as more simple times. In truth, I do not know. Yet I am certain every soul seeks a soul mate, not just in terms of a life partner, but also in terms of a true friend. For me, the place to start in such a search is in friendship with Jesus. Here one finds the path to authentic love and friendship, and from there the path can open to friendship in countless ways and places.

Lest we think that each has to "make" this friendship happen, somehow, Jesus clarifies that misconception and self-centered position: *It was not you who chose me, but I who chose you.*

### Fr. Ronan



**UPDATE**  
**ON JUNE 19, 2021**  
**CARDINAL SEAN**  
will be  
Celebrating the  
**4:00 pm Mass**



### 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

### 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.

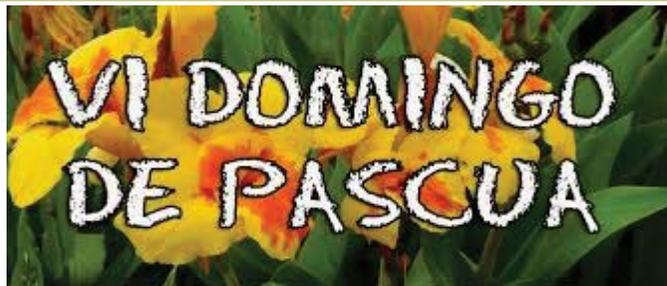
**The Church is handicap-accessible on Soley Street.**  
**The Chapel is handicap-accessible on Winthrop Street.**

**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**



**Sixth Sunday of Easter - May 8/9, 2021** In today's Gospel, Jesus commands his disciples, whom he calls "friends," to love one another as he loves them. Jesus uses the word "love" as a verb or a noun nine times. He also employs the word "command" or "commandment" five times. His command to love one another is explicit. Those who understand the depth of Christ's love for us have reason to be joyful. We are called to be stewards of this loving friendship; to love one another as Jesus loves us. Do we give serious attention to what this love requires of us? What is the price of this friendship with the Lord? Are we willing to pay this price to keep Christ's friendship



El libro de los Hechos de los Apóstoles que estamos leyendo como primera lectura en estos domingos de Pascua, está preocupado narrándonos el que fue uno de los primeros problemas serios de la Iglesia que estaba comenzado a nacer y que no fueron pocos: Decidir si el evangelio de Jesús era solo para los judíos o también para los que no lo eran, es decir, para los gentiles. O mejor dicho, si a los que se añadían que no eran judíos había que obligarlos a aceptar las leyes fundamentales del judaísmo. Esto,

que a nosotros, nos puede parecer un tema menor, pues tenemos clara la universalidad del mensaje de Jesús, independientemente de la cultura de cada país, fue para la primera Iglesia, una cuestión muy importante, e incluso gravemente conflictiva. Se presentaban como dos visiones del problema, la primera representada por Pedro y Santiago, dos figuras cruciales y de mucho peso en las primeras comunidades, estos representaban la opinión de que los gentiles debían asumir también las leyes judías; y la segunda representada por Pablo y Bernabé, dos que se habían añadido al colegio de los apóstoles después de la partida de Jesús, que defendían que lo que había que aceptar era únicamente el evangelio de Jesús, pero para nada los preceptos de los judíos. Reunidos en Jerusalén y escuchando a todos se decidió, como no podía ser de otra manera, que la Buena Noticia de Jesús no entiende ni de fronteras, ni de color, ni de lengua, ni de posición social, es una noticia con valor de universalidad y todos están llamados a la salvación.

Hoy la primera lectura nos presenta a Pedro cuando el tema ha entrado en vías de solución por su parte, y así se pregunta ¿se puede negar el agua del bautismo a los que han recibido el Espíritu Santo igual que nosotros aunque no sean judíos? Y respondiendo claramente que no, bautiza sin problema a los que se habían convertido aquel día vinieran de la nación que fuera. Los conversos a la fe en Jesús no vendrán ya sólo de Israel, sino que se ha formado un nuevo Pueblo de Dios de procedencia universal y de consecuencias universales. La única condición para ser discípulo de Jesús, entonces y ahora, es la de aceptar su mensaje, su evangelio, e intentar llevarlo a la práctica en nuestra vida, no hay ninguna otra condición que venga de las culturas y de las costumbres particulares de cada pueblo.

El evangelio es continuación del domingo pasado, el fruto bueno que dará el sarmiento que permanece unido a la vid, será el fruto del amor. El fundamento del amor cristiano, no está en que yo haya descubierto lo importante que es amar, cosa que puede hacer como persona alguien que no sea creyente, sino que el fundamento está en que Dios me amó primero. Si el fundamento del amor estuviera sólo en mí, tendría muy fácil justificar mis faltas, cuando la persona a la que tengo que amar no se merece mi amor, por sus fallos continuos, por sus errores, o porque deja de caerme bien; pero como el fundamento está en Dios, está en Jesús que demostró su amor dando la vida por los que lo mataban, a mí no me quedan excusas para justificar mis faltas de amor a los demás, no tendré razones para excusar mis faltas de amor sobre todo a los que no se lo merecen.

En la recta final del tiempo de Pascua, la liturgia nos propone estos textos de San Juan, que nos hacen retroceder al discurso de la cena, para que no perdamos de vista el testamento de Jesús que es el fundamento donde se cimienta la comunidad de la Pascua. Testamento que debe dinamizar la vida de la Iglesia, la de siempre y la de ahora, y que debe dinamizar también nuestra vida de hombres y mujeres de fe en este mundo que nos ha tocado vivir. La medida de ese amor es la de Jesús, la de la exigencia máxima, la de la entrega total por los que se ama y como respuesta siempre tendremos la nuestra, nuestra falta de entrega, nuestra falta de ilusión, nuestros escasos progresos en el camino de seguimiento de Jesús, lo que nos salva es nuestra confianza puesta siempre en el Señor.

Le pedimos al Señor que nos ayude a interiorizar estas cosas, a hacerlas nuestras, que no se queden en meras reflexiones teóricas sino que intentemos hacerlas realidad en nuestra vida. Se lo pedimos al Señor, y lo hacemos espacialmente por nosotros, por los que estamos aquí, al tiempo que recordamos a los enfermos y a todos los que sufren.



## ASCENSION THURSDAY - May 13

### HOLY DAY MASSES AT 8 AM AND 6:30 PM

Scripture passages describe the Ascension of the Risen Jesus into heaven in the sight of his disciples forty days after he rose from the dead on Easter Sunday. Before he ascended, he told his disciples, "All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age." Through our baptism, we, too, are disciples of Jesus and are entrusted with this great commission to make Jesus' presence and teachings known. May we be filled with the zeal of the first disciples, believing that Jesus is with us always and empowers us to give witness to our faith by the way we live our lives.



#### Prayer for Mothers

We thank you, Creator of us all, for our mothers who gave us life and nurtured us to the best of their abilities.

Bless them with the graces they need. Help them to feel precious in Your eyes each day and to know that they are loved.

Give them strength and courage, compassion and peace.

Bless them this day and all days with your love.

Amen.

#### For Mothers Who Have Gone to God

Good and Loving God, relying on your promises to us, we turn to you in trust that our mothers are with you and that they are enjoying your loving embrace.

May she enjoy the communion of all her family and friends who are with you.

Lord, we know our mothers still love us who are here on earth.

Please listen to their fervent prayers for us. Help us to grow into a new and deeper relationship with them now, as we wait for the day when we will meet again in Your embrace - freed from all that might have hindered our relationship on earth, knowing and understanding everything we did not know or understand on this earth.

We ask you this with faith in Your Son, Jesus' resurrection.

Amen.

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

**Reminder:** Many have responded to the invite for the Parish Wide Conversation with Father Ronan on Monday, May 10th at 6:30 pm to 7:45 pm via Zoom.

A link will be sent to all who have responded by the May 7th deadline via email.

We look forward to seeing you there!

### 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](http://www.InspiringHopeCampaign.org) and click on "Ways to Give" to access the donation page or to download a pledge form.



THANK YOU!

# Confirmation 2021



## HYMNS THAT MAKE YOU GO HMMMM

IS THERE A HYMN THAT YOU HAVEN'T HEARD IN A WHILE THAT YOU WOULD LIKE TO HEAR AT MASS? PLEASE GIVE OUR DIRECTOR OF MUSIC, JOHN ANTHONY VOLPE A CALL AT 978-729-4226 OR EMAIL [JAVOLPE@STMARYSTCATHERINE.ORG](mailto:JAVOLPE@STMARYSTCATHERINE.ORG). FOR HYMN REQUESTS. PLEASE ALSO INCLUDE THE MASS YOU REGULARLY ATTEND.

THANK YOU!

## MASS SCHEDULE

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

SATURDAY 05/08

9:00 AM  
4:00 PM

SUNDAY 05/09 MOTHER'S DAY

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

ROSARY SAID BEFORE  
DAILY MASS AT 7:30

MONDAY 05/10  
8:00 AM

TUESDAY 05/11  
8:00 AM + ROBERT BRADY

WEDNESDAY 05/12  
8:00 AM PARISH PRAYER GUILD

THURSDAY 05/13 - HOLY DAY  
8:00 AM ASCENSION THURSDAY  
6:30 PM

FRIDAY 05/14  
8:00 AM

SATURDAY 05/15  
9:00 AM  
4:00 PM + EUGENE KEEGAN &  
JOHN KEEGAN

SUNDAY 05/16  
MOTHER'S DAY  
8:00 AM  
10:30 AM + CHRISTINE RYAN  
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.stmaryscatherine.org](http://www.stmaryscatherine.org)*

## Weekend of May 1 & 2, 2021 Parishioners contributed

\$ 4,756.55  
to the Weekly Collection  
And  
\$925 for second collections

*We truly appreciate your  
generosity*

## UPCOMING COLLECTIONS

May 13 - Ascension  
May 16 - Monthly  
May 23 - Seminary Offering



If you have not signed up for the Newsletter and would like to receive it, please go onto our web site at [stmaryscatherine.org](http://stmaryscatherine.org). Sign up is on the bottom of the page.



The  
Sanctuary Lamp  
is lit in honor  
of  
Mothers in our  
Parish

## Wedding Banns



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



II Matthew Midon & Lauren



I Ryan Gillespie & Maria Sullivan

# 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](http://bostoncatholicappeal.org) or scan the code below to make your gift today.



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