



# 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.*

October 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.

## FAITHFUL



Winter in Andahuaylas means a deep and dry cold that only diminishes as the brilliant Andean sun rises and blesses the landscape with warmth and light. It was July, and I had been at the parish there for only six weeks. I arrived by bus after two days of travelling from Lima. The air is thin and the altitude is around 8,500 feet above the Pacific coast. The entire reality was beyond

anything I had ever known or imagined.

At 7 o'clock morning Mass began, and I arrived each day around 6:30. Slowly the parishioners would come into the darkened church building, shuffling in sandals made from old truck tires, warmly wrapped in ponchos. Some women carried a child or two. Many were elderly, and women always wore their hats with long braided hair flowing behind. They are a beautiful people, these Peruvians, whose ancestors have lived in these regions for countless generations.

Each day in a few benches in front of me, an elderly woman would slowly come down the aisle saying her prayers and sit down. Very shortly after, an old dog would sort of tip-toe down the aisle and go to her. She would immediately shoo the dog away. The dog would obey, sort of, for he would simply step back and lie down under the bench behind her. I watched this game go on for months until one day the woman did not arrive.

Later that day, I heard she was ill and shortly after we celebrated her funeral. A few days passed, and one morning I sat in the half-light of the dawn in the church when I heard the unmistakable sound of the dog's approach. Wagging his tail, he went to the bench where he always found the old woman. He looked around everywhere and even came over to me. Finally, he stretched out under her bench and with a sigh, waited for her return.

I recall the story vividly and continue to be touched by the beauty and the



## RESPECT FOR LIFE SUNDAY



## 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/](http://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

John Anthony Volpe

### Administrative Assistant

Dianne Ludy

*Staff emails are first initial with last name (example, "jsmith@stmarystcatherine.org")*

### Clergy In Residence

Fr. Jerome Gillespie

Fr. Anthony Nweke C.S.S.p.

Fr. Britto Dhinakaran

Fr. Mark Shimave

### Hispanic Ministry

Blanca Paz

### Vice Chairs Pastoral Council

Brendan Sullivan

### Vice Chair Finance Council

Nancy Higgins

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stmarystcatherine](https://facebook.com/stmarystcatherine)

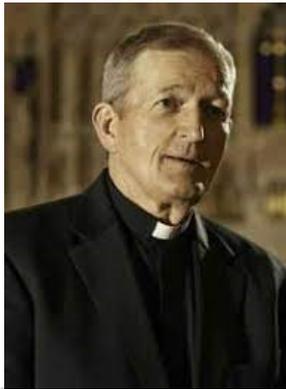
faithfulness of a dog. We have seen other accounts as well, sometimes of dogs who serve in the military and display astonishing faithfulness toward soldiers in life and death. Yet all of us who are blessed to be accompanied by a pet have our own stories and we know.

The pandemic prevents us from having our traditional Blessing of the Animals service. It is a beautiful service offering prayers and blessings on the gathered animals and all present who share the day. But the pandemic does not prevent each pet owner to offer their own blessing for their faithful pet. Here's one sample that you can edit and make your own:

*In Your infinite wisdom, Lord God, when You created the universe you blessed us with all living creatures. I especially thank you for giving me my pet who is my friend and who brings me so much joy in life. Kindly bless my pet. May my pet enjoy good health and be given length of years.. May the love I have for my pet and the love my pet offers me remind me of Your love for me. In the name of your Son, Jesus. Amen.*

Not long ago a friend gifted me with a simple image of a black lab and a prayer that read: *Lord, make me as good a person my dog thinks I am*". Indeed

Fr. Ronan



Fr. Ronan had spine surgery on Friday, September 24th. We're told that he is doing well. Please keep him in your prayers for a full recovery and a speedy return to the Parish life he loves so well.

## 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

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**



Los fariseos plantean a Jesús una pregunta para ponerlo a prueba. Esta vez no es una cuestión sin importancia, sino un hecho que hace sufrir mucho a las mujeres de Galilea y es motivo de vivas discusiones entre los seguidores de diversas escuelas rabínicas: "¿Le es lícito al varón divorciarse de su mujer?".

No se trata del divorcio moderno que conocemos hoy, sino de la situación en que vivía la mujer judía dentro del matrimonio, controlado absolutamente por el varón. Según la ley de Moisés, el marido podía romper el contrato matrimonial y expulsar de casa a su esposa. La mujer, por el contrario, sometida en todo al varón,

no podía hacer lo mismo.

La respuesta de Jesús sorprende a todos. No entra en las discusiones de los rabinos. Invita a descubrir el proyecto original de Dios, que está por encima de leyes y normas. Esta ley "machista", en concreto, se ha impuesto en el pueblo judío por la "dureza de corazón" de los varones que controlan a las mujeres y las someten a su voluntad.

Jesús ahonda en el misterio original del ser humano. Dios "los creo varón y mujer". Los dos han sido creados en igualdad. Dios no ha creado al varón con poder sobre la mujer. No ha creado a la mujer sometida al varón. Entre varones y mujeres no ha de haber dominación por parte de nadie.

Desde esta estructura original del ser humano, Jesús ofrece una visión del matrimonio que va más allá de todo lo establecido por la Ley. Mujeres y varones se unirán para "ser una sola carne" e iniciar una vida compartida en la mutua entrega sin imposición ni sumisión.

Este proyecto matrimonial es para Jesús la suprema expresión del amor humano. El varón no tiene derecho alguno a controlar a la mujer como si fuera su dueño. La mujer no ha de aceptar vivir sometida al varón. Es Dios mismo quien los atrae a vivir unidos por un amor libre y gratuito. Jesús concluye de manera rotunda: "Lo que Dios ha unido, que no lo separe el varón".

Con esta posición, Jesús esta destruyendo de raíz el fundamento del patriarcado bajo todas sus formas de control, sometimiento e imposición del varón sobre la mujer. No solo en el matrimonio sino en cualquier institución civil o religiosa.

Hemos de escuchar el mensaje de Jesús. No es posible abrir caminos al reino de Dios y su justicia sin luchar activamente contra el patriarcado. ¿Cuándo reaccionaremos en la Iglesia con energía evangélica contra tanto abuso, violencia y agresión del varón sobre la mujer? ¿Cuándo defenderemos a la mujer de la "dureza de corazón" de los varones?



### Twenty-seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time - October 2/3, 2021

In today's Gospel Jesus teaches us about the sacredness of marriage; a covenant that is a gift from God. Our relationships with our spouses, family, friends, coworkers, and those in our community of faith are all gifts from God. Jesus reminds us today that it is the hardened heart that damages or breaks up relationships. Good stewards understand the holiness of relationships and pray for the love, patience, understanding and kindness necessary to sustain those relationships. Take time out to prayerfully reflect on your relationships this week. Is

your stewardship of these relationships as God intended? What relationships need to be healed and reconciled?



## OCTOBER IS THE MONTH OF THE HOLY ROSARY

Devotion to the Rosary is one of the most notable features of popular Catholic spirituality. According to Pope John Paul II, rosary devotions can foster some central objectives of Christian spirituality and they are "among the finest and most praiseworthy traditions of Christian contemplation." From its origins in the twelfth century the rosary has been seen as a meditation on the life of Christ, and it is as such that many Popes have approved of and encouraged recitation of the rosary.





**SAINT  
JOSEPH  
PREP**



Saint Joseph Prep in the Allson-Brighton neighborhood is offering a prep course for the High School Placement Test for eighth grade students interested in applying to Catholic high schools.

HSPT Test Prep sessions will be offered on Saturday mornings from 9:00-11:15 AM on Oct. 2, Oct. 16, Oct. 23, and Oct. 30, both in person and virtually.

Families can register their eighth grade students for the prep course on our website. Please share this registration form with your parish families.

Additionally, SJP will administer the HSPT on Nov. 6. Registration information is available on our website. For more information, please contact our Enrollment team at [admissions@saintjosephprep.org](mailto:admissions@saintjosephprep.org).

Thank you and be well!

Emily Keily

Director of Enrollment Management

Saint Joseph Prep Boston

[admissions@saintjosephprep.org](mailto:admissions@saintjosephprep.org),

617-254-8383, x1308



WEDDING BANNERS II

Jillian Conway & John Hartigan



BAPTISMS Sept 18, 2021

Gabriella Frances Middlemiss & Sebastian Jeffrey Middlemiss



**Dear Marian Friends,**

On Saturdays, 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](mailto:donna.lecam@gmail.com) for the Zoom information.

*All are most welcome.*



**Ministry to the Sick & Homebound**

We welcome the opportunity to provide the Sacraments of Confession, Communion, or Anointing of the Sick to anyone who is confined to home, either on a short or longer term basis, as we want to do our best to help them feel connected to our community.

Please call us at 617-242-4664 if you, a relative or neighbor is open to having a home visit for some friendly conversation and prayer.



**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@stmaryscatherine.org](mailto:ncitro@stmaryscatherine.org)

**WOMEN'S FAITH-SHARING GROUP**



The women's group resumed on Wednesday, September 22, at 6:30pm via Zoom. The group welcomes new participants. It's a wonderful opportunity to nurture your soul and make new friends. Please call Sr. Nancy if you want to learn more.

## LET YOUR VOICE BE HEARD

### Say **NO** to *Physician Assisted Suicide*

The Massachusetts State Legislature is considering passing into law two deeply troubling bills this session which would legalize Physician Assisted Suicide. The bills, House 2381 and Senate 1384, are identical in text and titled “An Act relative to end of life options”.

*“The Catholic Bishops of Massachusetts stand united in our strong opposition to Physician Assisted Suicide. It is an affront to life and a dangerous precedent for determining end of life issues. Physicians are trained to care for the ill, not to hasten death.”<sup>1</sup>*

<sup>1</sup>Boston Pilot - Statement of the four Roman Catholic Bishops of Boston, Fall River, Springfield, and Worcester (December 8, 2017)

Here are some facts to consider before you take action:

1) The bills would allow a physician to provide a deadly drug mixture to an individual diagnosed with less than 6 months to live that, when consumed, would cause death. **NOTE-** That diagnosis could be wrong. Countless individuals have outlived that 6 month diagnosis and enjoyed many more precious months and years with family and friends.

2) No Real Safeguards - A vulnerable individual (who could be depressed or fears being a “burden”) may be subject to undue influence by others to take the drug mixture, especially if there is a financial benefit as an incentive.

3) The primary focus of elected officials should be dedicated to legislation providing quality health care, mental health care and palliative care to the sick and dying – particularly in the underserved, poor and minority communities that suffer the most at the time of need.

#### How can your voice be heard?

Call or email your legislators, let them know you are a Massachusetts voter, and say NO Physician Assisted Suicide! Log on to [www.macatholic.org](http://www.macatholic.org) and follow the links to find contact information for:

- Your individual State Senator and Representative via address and zip code link.
- Members of the legislative Joint Committee on Public Health who will be considering these bills.

**For individuals without internet access, please call the Massachusetts Catholic Conference at 617-746-5630 for legislative contact information.**



Massachusetts  
Newborns  
Protection  
Coalition



**They need our help.**

With the passage of the ROE Act (Remove Obstacles and Expand Abortion) last December, Massachusetts is now among the most pro-death states in the country having removed the existing state law mandating lifesaving medical care to be administered to a child who survives an abortion.

The Massachusetts Newborns Protection Coalition is conducting a fall statewide signature campaign to place a question on the 2022 ballot ensuring life saving medical care for babies born alive after a botched abortion.

If you believe that every newborn in MA deserves this life-saving protection, please sign the petition that will be available after every Mass the weekend of November 6 and 7.

## RESPECT LIFE MONTH 2021 | REFLECTION

*Dear St. Joseph, help us to imitate your faithful trust and courage.*

### St. Joseph: Faithful Protector of Mother and Child

The infant Christ “came into our world in a state of great vulnerability. He needed to be defended, protected, cared for and raised by Joseph” (PC 5). The humble and often hidden carpenter of Nazareth accompanied Mary in her pregnancy, assisted at the birth of the Messiah in a stable, presented Jesus in the Temple, fled with his family far from their homeland to protect them, and lovingly raised Jesus as his own son in the years to come.

While the angel of the Lord appeared to Mary to announce that she would bring forth the Savior of the world, it was revealed to Joseph in a series of dreams how God’s plans would be brought to fulfillment. As Pope Francis highlights, “God trusted Joseph, as did Mary, who found in him someone who would not only save her life, but would always provide for her and her child” (PC 5).

Like every other human family, the Holy Family had to confront real and concrete challenges. Yet, “in every situation, Joseph declared his own ‘fiat’” (PC 3). His “yes” to the Lord meant that regardless of the hardship and personal sacrifice to himself, he consistently chose to put the needs of Mary and Jesus before his own. Joseph’s devotion helps reveal to us our own call to show special care for the lives of those whom God has entrusted to us.

During this Year of St. Joseph, each of us can find in him “an intercessor, a support and a guide in times of trouble” (PC, Intro). Joseph shows us how to say “yes” to life, despite our own fears, frailties, and weaknesses. For it is Joseph who was “chosen by God to guide the beginnings of the history of redemption. He was the true ‘miracle’ by which God saves the child and his mother” (PC 5).

May we, too, be miracles in the lives of those who are most in need, especially at the beginning and end of life. Dear St. Joseph, you who were “able to turn a problem into a possibility by trusting always in divine providence” (PC 5), help us to imitate your faithful trust and courage.

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## MASS SCHEDULE

**10:30 AM SUNDAY MASS IS LIVE ON OUR WEBSITE AND FACEBOOK AND ARCHIVED ON FACEBOOK AND OUR WEBSITE FOR FUTURE VIEWING.**

**SATURDAY 10/02**

**9:00 AM**

**4:00 PM + JOHN, MARY,  
KATHLEEN & MICHAEL  
DEVLIN**

**SUNDAY 10/03**

**8:00 AM + ANNA, PEG, JOHN &  
JAMES FINN**

**10:30 AM + BOB AND PAT ROONEY**

**6:00 PM INTENTIONS OF ALL  
PARISHIONERS**

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

**MONDAY 10/04**

**8:00 AM TRANQUILLINO, MINNIE  
VINCENT CITRO; JOSEPH  
AND ARTHUR MARI;  
FABIO LAUDADIO**

**TUESDAY 10/05**

**8:00 AM**

**WEDNESDAY 10/06**

**8:00 AM PARISH PRAYER GUILD**

**THURSDAY 10/07**

**8:00 PM**

**FRIDAY 10/08**

**8:00 AM**

**EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION  
PARISH CENTER  
3:00 PM TO 5:00 PM**

**SATURDAY 10/09**

**9:00 AM + JANE GREEN**

**4:00 PM + LAWRENCE MAHONEY &  
MARY HOLMES**

**SUNDAY 10/10**

**8:00 AM + FRANK ABRAMO**

**10:30 AM + PATRICK MICHAEL  
SMITH**

**6:00 PM INTENTIONS OF ALL  
PARISHIONERS**

**Weekend of  
September 25 & 26**

**Parishioners contributed  
\$ 3,289.55 to the weekly  
Collection**

***We truly appreciate your  
generosity***

### **UPCOMING COLLECTIONS**

Oct 3 - Monthly  
Oct 24 - Mission Sunday  
Nov 14 - Monthly



**The Sanctuary  
Lamp  
is lit in honor of  
Helen Potter  
Peneau**

# Welcome

### **ATTENDANCE**

**SEPTEMBER 25**

**4:00 PM 72**

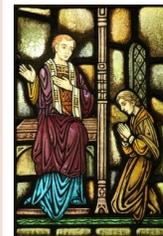
**SEPTEMBER 26**

**8:00 AM 45**

**10:30 AM 75**

**6:00 PM 54**

**TOTAL 246**



**Sacrament of  
Penance**

**Saturdays - 3:15  
pm to 3:45 pm**

**Or call the office for  
an appointment**

**617-242-4664**



## **CELEBRATION OF THE PRIESTHOOD**



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***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***

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"Jesus Wept." John 11:35

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October 15, 2021

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