



# 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.*

February 6, 2022

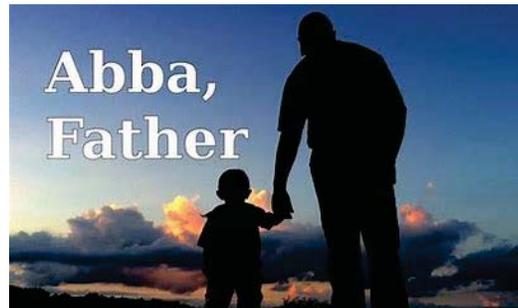
### Welcome!

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.

## THE PRAYER



After over 30 years of priesthood and active ministry, I should not be surprised, yet often am, at how the prayer, *The Our Father*, has a way of comforting people. For example, when standing around a hospital bed when a member of the family is close to death – inviting people to join in this prayer – sort of changes

everything. At one level, loved ones experience this action is DOING something in an otherwise helpless situation. On another level, there is the comfort of the familiarity of the prayer and the very calling to mind of God as Father that touches people's hearts. And on yet another level, turning to prayer changes our entire disposition and takes us to a different place.

At times during the Family Mass, I invite children to join me in the sanctuary as we say *The Our Father*. Of course, the kids love it and as they are holding hands I ask them, "If you and I have the same father what does that make you to me?" The children quickly conclude the answer is we are brother/sister to one another. Standing in our magnificent church with these beautiful children – that is a wonderful truth to celebrate!

Yet as we know, *The Our Father* is prayed by millions and millions of Christians. And it is fair to say there are many who do not look like me, share the same history, language, traditions, culture, beliefs or even vote as I do or support the same baseball team that I do! And there are those who may not even know how to pray this prayer. Does that mean that they are NOT my brother or sister? These two simple opening words, **Our Father**, which Jesus taught us, are radical, in every possible way! They push back against age old prejudices, discriminations, and divisions and demonstrate that God sees us all as brothers and sisters. It is not a coincidence the prayer came from the lips of Jesus himself.

There are so many deep and extraordinary truths buried in this prayer. Another phrase that I find both comforting and challenging is "Thy will be done ..." When I first pray these words, it is comforting in that it implies that God has a plan for me – and because I often do not seem to have a plan – I'm glad God

# TODAY: BLESSING OF THROATS

## 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 Chair Pastoral Council

Brendan Sullivan

### Vice Chair Finance Council

Kevin Walsh

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[stmarystcatherine.org](http://stmarystcatherine.org)  
and  
[facebook.com/  
stmarystcatherine](https://facebook.com/stmarystcatherine)

does! And yet when I really think about this part of the prayer, it means that God's will is dominant, rather than my will. This is a big step and it may well give one pause! I think we usually say this part of the prayer easily, sort of sliding over the words and maybe not fully realizing it means each of us is asking God to help us put our own will off to the side and make His will the action plan of our lives. That is a big and very beautiful prayer – and its fulfillment will not happen overnight.

I love the part of *The Our Father* when we ask for forgiveness of our sins; that is a part I need to pray often. However Jesus has a contingency clause built into this petition – "*As we forgive those who trespass against us*". This is a troubling condition! Forgiving another may be one of the most difficult tasks a person has to confront – most especially when the hurt seems to have been very serious and intentional. And yet there does not seem to be a way around this – God insists He is ready to forgive us, whatever, but when needed we need to take a forgiving step as well.

Arguably the most exquisite prayer in the entire Bible, *The Our Father* is both deeply comforting and powerfully challenging to all of us. At the same time our familiarity with the prayer may dull our appreciation for the richness and depth of Jesus' words.

In this challenging winter season, perhaps refreshing our familiarity with *The Our Father* is a wonderful undertaking and certainly the perfect prayer.

Fr. Ronan



## FEBRUARY IS BLACK HISTORY MONTH

Black History Month, or National African American History Month, has been celebrated annually since 1915. It is a time to recognize and celebrate the achievements by black Americans and their central role in United States History.

Black History month has been celebrated by every U.S. President during the month of February since 1976. Other countries in the world, including Canada and the United Kingdom also devote a month to celebrating black history.

During this month, make a point of researching the stories of a variety of African American men and women who have made extraordinary contributions to our society and to the Catholic Church throughout history.

*Merciful God, in this troubled world we live in, heal and renew us in these trying times. Inspire us to look beyond our own fears, self-absorption and indifference, and to listen to the voice of conscience within us that orients us towards truth, love and justice. May we learn to be a society free of embedded judgments and racism, and celebrate together our differences and our humanity. Amen.* Adapted Prayer written by Dianna Ortiz, O.S.U.

**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**  
[info@stmarystcatherine.org](mailto:info@stmarystcatherine.org)

**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**

## La Oración

# Oración

Después de más de 30 años de sacerdocio y ministerio activo, no debería sorprenderme, aunque a menudo lo estoy, de cómo la oración, el Padre Nuestro, tiene una forma de consolar a las personas. Por ejemplo, estar de pie alrededor de una cama de hospital cuando un miembro de la familia está a punto de morir, invitar a las personas a unirse a esta oración, cambia todo. En un nivel, los seres queridos experimentan que esta acción está HACIENDO algo en una situación que de otro modo sería indefensa. En otro nivel, está el consuelo de la familiaridad de la oración y el mismo llamado a la mente de Dios como Padre que toca el corazón de las personas. Y en otro

nivel, recurrir a la oración cambia todo nuestro carácter y nos lleva a un lugar diferente.

A veces, durante la Misa familiar, invito a los niños a unirse a mí en el santuario mientras decimos el Padre Nuestro. Por supuesto, a los niños les encanta y, mientras se toman de la mano, les pregunto: "Si tú y yo tenemos el mismo padre, ¿en qué te convierte eso para mí?" Los niños concluyen rápidamente que la respuesta es que somos hermanos el uno del otro. De pie en nuestra magnífica iglesia con estos hermosos niños, ¡esa es una verdad maravillosa para celebrar!

Sin embargo, como sabemos, el Padre Nuestro es rezado por millones y millones de cristianos. ¡Y es justo decir que hay muchos que no se parecen a mí, compartan la misma historia, idioma, tradiciones, cultura, creencias o incluso votan como yo o apoyan al mismo equipo de béisbol que yo! Y hay quienes tal vez ni siquiera sepan cómo rezar esta oración. ¿Significa eso que NO son mi hermano o hermana? ¡Estas dos simples palabras de apertura, Padre Nuestro, que Jesús nos enseñó, son radicales, en todas las formas posibles! Rechazan prejuicios, discriminaciones y divisiones ancestrales y demuestran que Dios nos ve a todos como hermanos y hermanas. No es casualidad que la oración saliera de los labios del mismo Jesús.

Hay tantas verdades profundas y extraordinarias enterradas en esta oración. Otra frase que encuentro tanto reconfortante como desafiante es "Hágase tu voluntad..." Cuando oro estas palabras por primera vez, es reconfortante porque implica que Dios tiene un plan para mí, y porque a menudo parezco no tener un plan. – ¡Me alegro de que Dios lo haga! Y, sin embargo, cuando realmente pienso en esta parte de la oración, significa que la voluntad de Dios es dominante, en lugar de mi voluntad. Este es un gran paso y bien puede dar una pausa! Creo que por lo general decimos esta parte de la oración con facilidad, deslizándonos sobre las palabras y tal vez sin darnos cuenta del todo, significa que cada uno de nosotros le está pidiendo a Dios que nos ayude a dejar de lado nuestra propia voluntad y hacer de Su voluntad el plan de acción de nuestras vidas. Esa es una oración grande y muy hermosa, y su cumplimiento no sucederá de la noche a la mañana.

Me encanta la parte del Padre Nuestro cuando pedimos perdón por nuestros pecados; esa es una parte que necesito orar a menudo. Sin embargo, Jesús tiene una cláusula de contingencia incluida en esta petición: "Como nosotros perdonamos a los que nos ofenden". ¡Esta es una condición preocupante! Perdonar a otro puede ser una de las tareas más difíciles que una persona tiene que enfrentar, especialmente cuando el daño parece haber sido muy serio e intencional. Y, sin embargo, no parece haber una forma de evitar esto: Dios insiste en que está listo para perdonarnos, lo que sea, pero cuando sea necesario, también debemos dar un paso de perdón.

Posiblemente la oración más exquisita de toda la Biblia, el Padre Nuestro es profundamente reconfortante y poderosamente desafiante para todos nosotros. Al mismo tiempo, nuestra familiaridad con la oración puede entorpecer nuestro aprecio por la riqueza y profundidad de las palabras de Jesús.

En este hermoso invierno tardío, tal vez refrescar nuestra familiaridad con el Padre Nuestro sea una tarea maravillosa y ciertamente la oración perfecta.

Padre Ronan

## Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes - February 11th



On December 8, 1854, Pope Pius IX proclaimed the dogma of the Immaculate Conception in the apostolic constitution *Ineffabilis Deus*. A little more than three years later, on February 11, 1858, a young lady appeared to Bernadette Soubirous. This began a series of visions. During the apparition on March 25, the lady identified herself with the words: "I am the Immaculate Conception" Through that humble girl, Mary revitalized and continues to revitalize the faith of millions of people. People began to flock to Lourdes from other parts of France and from all over the world. In 1862 Church authorities confirmed the authenticity of the apparitions of Our Lady of Lourdes. The Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes became worldwide in 1907.

Lourdes has become a place of pilgrimage and healing, but even more of faith. Church authorities have recognized over 60 miraculous cures, although there have probably been many more. To people of faith this is not surprising. It is a continuation of Jesus' healing miracles—now performed at the intercession of his mother. Some would say that the greater miracles are hidden. Many who visit Lourdes return home with renewed faith and a readiness to serve God in their needy brothers and sisters. There still may be people who doubt the apparitions of Lourdes. Perhaps the best that can be said to them are the words that introduce the film *The Song of Bernadette*: "For those who believe in God, no explanation is necessary. For those who do not believe, no explanation is possible." (American Catholic .org)



**DON'T FORGET THE POOR**

The work of the St. Vincent de Paul Society continues in our parish. The Society helps a number of individuals and families in Charlestown.

The Pandemic has greatly limited our outreach, but for the year 2021, St. Vincent de Paul assisted 31 families with beds and rental assistance. Thank you for your generous contributions.

On February 13, the second collection will be for the Saint Mary-Saint Catherine Siena conference of the Saint Vincent de Paul Society. With your help, we can continue to assist families in need in our community. Thank you for all of your support.

**Charlestown Towel Drive!**

sponsored by St Vincent de Paul Society of St. Mary-St. Catherine of Siena Parish in collaboration with St. Francis de Sales Parish



*please help us collect*  
**1000 NEW BATH TOWELS!**  
*to distribute to those in need*

Between January 26 & February 9, please drop off new bath towels, in bags for cleanliness, at these locations:

- St. Mary's Church & St. Francis de Sales Church – before weekend masses
- St. Mary's Parish Center - 46 Winthrop St.
- Harvest on Vine Food Pantry - 49 Vine St.
- Cooperative Bank - 201 Main St.



**THANK YOU!!**

If you are unable to get out to buy towels, donations can be mailed to:  
St. Mary Parish Center  
46 Winthrop St.,

Saturday, April 30, 2022  
*Growth through Grief*

**Wellness Day for Grieving Mothers**

*For mothers who have lost children to substance use disorder (SUD)*

**Our Lady of the Lake Church (Holy Apostles Parish)**  
575 Monponsett Street, Halifax, MA 02338  
10:00am to 4:30pm  
9am Mass available before retreat

Cost Per person \$ 25.00 (Includes morning refreshments and lunch)  
Space is limited, please register early  
Limited scholarships are available upon request

For more info, contact:  
Sr. Maryadele Robinson (617) 464-8501  
maryadele\_robinson@ccab.org  
or  
Karen Wenger  
kwenger224@comcast.net



**International Day of Prayer and Awareness Against Human Trafficking**  
February 8, 2022

The Pontifical Council for Justice and Peace and the International Union of Superiors General has designated February 8 as an annual day of prayer and awareness against human trafficking. Please include the intention to end Human Trafficking in your personal and communal prayers.



Josephine Bakhita

O ST. BAKHITA, ASSIST ALL THOSE WHO ARE TRAPPED IN A STATE OF SLAVERY;

INTERCEDE WITH GOD ON THEIR BEHALF SO THAT THEY WILL BE RELEASED FROM THEIR CHAINS OF CAPTIVITY.

THOSE WHOM MAN ENSLAVES, LET GOD SET FREE.



**Pope's February prayer intention: For consecrated women**

Pope Francis releases his prayer intention for the month of February, and invites Catholics to pray for religious sisters and consecrated women as they continue in their mission with courage.

## WORLD DAY OF THE SICK

Receive the Sacrament of Anointing on Saturday, February 12, 4PM Mass  
(Conditions Permitting)

The World Day of the Sick is customarily celebrated around the Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes which is February 11, the anniversary of the first apparition of Our Lady to St. Bernadette in Lourdes, France. Since February 11 falls on a weekday, we will honor this day on February 12<sup>th</sup> at the 4PM Mass. During this Mass, we will administer the Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick, one of the seven sacraments of the Roman Catholic Church.

This sacrament used to be called “the Last Rites” or “Extreme Unction” because it was usually reserved for the dying person. But since 1972, the sacrament is available and recommended not just for the dying but for all Catholics who are “sick” in any way. And so, if someone is diagnosed with an illness, is struggling with addiction, depression, anxiety, is awaiting surgery, has a chronic condition, is suffering with chronic pain, or feels in need of healing, it is fitting to receive this sacrament.

There are three parts to this sacrament: the prayer of faith, the laying-on of hands and the anointing with oil. In the prayer of faith, the whole community prays to God for the person receiving the sacrament. The laying-on of hands on the person’s head is a sign of blessing, a prayer for the presence of the Holy Spirit, and reminds us of the way in which Jesus healed: “and he laid hands on every one of them and healed them” (Luke 4:40b). Anointing the forehead and hands with oil symbolizes healing, strengthening, and the presence of the Holy Spirit.

In addition to other settings, it has become a common practice to celebrate this sacrament during a designated Mass. The sacrament invites us to place our trust in God, to open ourselves to the Spirit’s presence, and to acknowledge Jesus as the source of all strength for our journey. Please join us on Saturday, Feb. 12 at the 4PM Mass to receive the Sacrament of Anointing, if you wish, and/or to pray for those who will receive this Sacrament. *If you have a loved one who is homebound and wants to be anointed, please call the Parish Center at 617-242-6440.*

### Ministry to the Sick and Homebound

We welcome the opportunity to provide the Sacraments of Confession, Communion or Anointing of the Sick to anyone who is homebound, 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@stmarystcatherine.org](mailto:ncitro@stmarystcatherine.org)**



### Sacrament of Penance

Saturdays in the Church  
3:15 pm - 3:45 pm  
or call the for an  
appointment by dialing  
617-242-4664



### February is dedicated to the Holy Family

#### Prayer to the Holy Family

Dear Lord, Please bless our family. Be so kind as to give us the unity, peace, and mutual love that You found in Your own family in the little town of Nazareth.



### Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time - February 5/6, 2022

In the first reading from the prophet Isaiah we get a glimpse of a model for Christian stewards to follow. Within the temple, God’s voice shakes the foundations and causes the natural world to shake and tremble. The Lord asks: “Whom shall I send? Who will go for us?” Isaiah replies to the call of God for service with immediacy and enthusiasm: “Here I am, send me!” There is no hesitation. There are no excuses, contingencies, or “what-ifs.” Good stewards know that responding to the Lord’s call to serve is never easy, never simple to grasp, never designed for ready comfort and success. But the call needs a response. What about us? What does it take to shake us into an enthusiastic response? To say to God: “Here I am, Lord. Send me!”

## MASS SCHEDULE

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

### **BLESSING OF THE THROATS**

**SATURDAY 02/05**

**9:00 AM**

**4:00 PM + FRANCES AND**

**ELIZABETH HENNESSEY**

**SUNDAY 02/06**

**8:00 AM + MARY MEISSNER &**

**NORA COSTELLO**

**10:30 AM + JOHN PARRY**

**6:00 PM PARISHIONER INTENTION**

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

**MONDAY 02/07**

**9:00 AM**

**TUESDAY 02/08**

**8:00 AM**

**WEDNESDAY 02/09**

**8:00 AM PARISH PRAYER GUILD**

**THURSDAY 02/10**

**8:00 AM**

**FRIDAY 02/11**

**8:00 AM**

### **ADORATION AT THE PARISH CENTER 3 TO 5**

**SATURDAY 02/12**

**9:00 AM**

**4:00 PM HEALING MASS**

**SUNDAY 02/13**

**8:00 AM**

**10:30 AM PARISHIONER INTENTION**

**6:00 PM**

*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](http://www.stmarystcatherine.org)*

## **ATTENDANCE**

**JANUARY 29**

**4:00 PM BLIZZARD NO MASS**

**JANUARY 30**

**8:00 AM 13**

**10:30 AM 67**

**6:00 PM 35**

**TOTAL 115**

**Weekend of  
January 29 & 30**

**Parishioners contributed**

**\$ 4,568.46 to the weekly  
Collection**

**And**

***Thank you for your  
continued support***

## **WINTER ALERT 2021 - 2022**

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!



## **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.

*To learn more and/or become involved contact us at 617-242-4664 or check out the web site!*

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



**The Church  
Sanctuary Lamp  
is lit for**

**Rose Woods**

## **UPCOMING COLLECTIONS**

Feb 13 - St. Vincent de Paul  
Feb 20 - Monthly  
Feb 27 - Support around the world



***Resquiescat  
in  
Pace***

***Kelly King  
&  
Charleen Brown***



**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.***

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"Jesus Wept." John 11:35

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**Interactive Services:** ADT Command Interactive Solutions Services ("ADT Command") helps you manage your home environment and family lifestyle. Requires purchase of an ADT alarm system with 36-month monitoring contract ranging from \$45.99-\$59.99/mo. with GSP (24-month monitoring contract in California, total fees ranging \$1,103.76-\$1,439.76), enrollment in ADT EasyPay, and a compatible device with Internet and email access. These interactive services do not cover the operation or maintenance of any household equipment/systems that are connected to the ADT Command equipment. All ADT Command services are not available with all interactive service levels. All ADT Command services may not be available in all geographic areas. You may be required to pay additional charges to purchase equipment required to utilize the interactive service features you desire. **General:** Additional charges may apply in areas that require guard response service for municipal alarm verification. System remains property of ADT. Local permit fees may be required. Prices and offers subject to change and may vary by market. Additional taxes and fees may apply. Satisfactory credit required. A security deposit may be required. Simulated screen images and photos are for illustrative purposes only.

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