

CHARLESTOWN CATHOLIC COMMUNITY

Saint Mary–Saint Catherine of Siena and Saint Francis de Sales Parishes

Parish Center & Eucharistic Center, 46 Winthrop Street, 617-242-4664, stmarystcatherine.org

St. Francis Rectory, 303 Bunker Hill Street, 617-242-0147, stfrancis02129@gmail.com

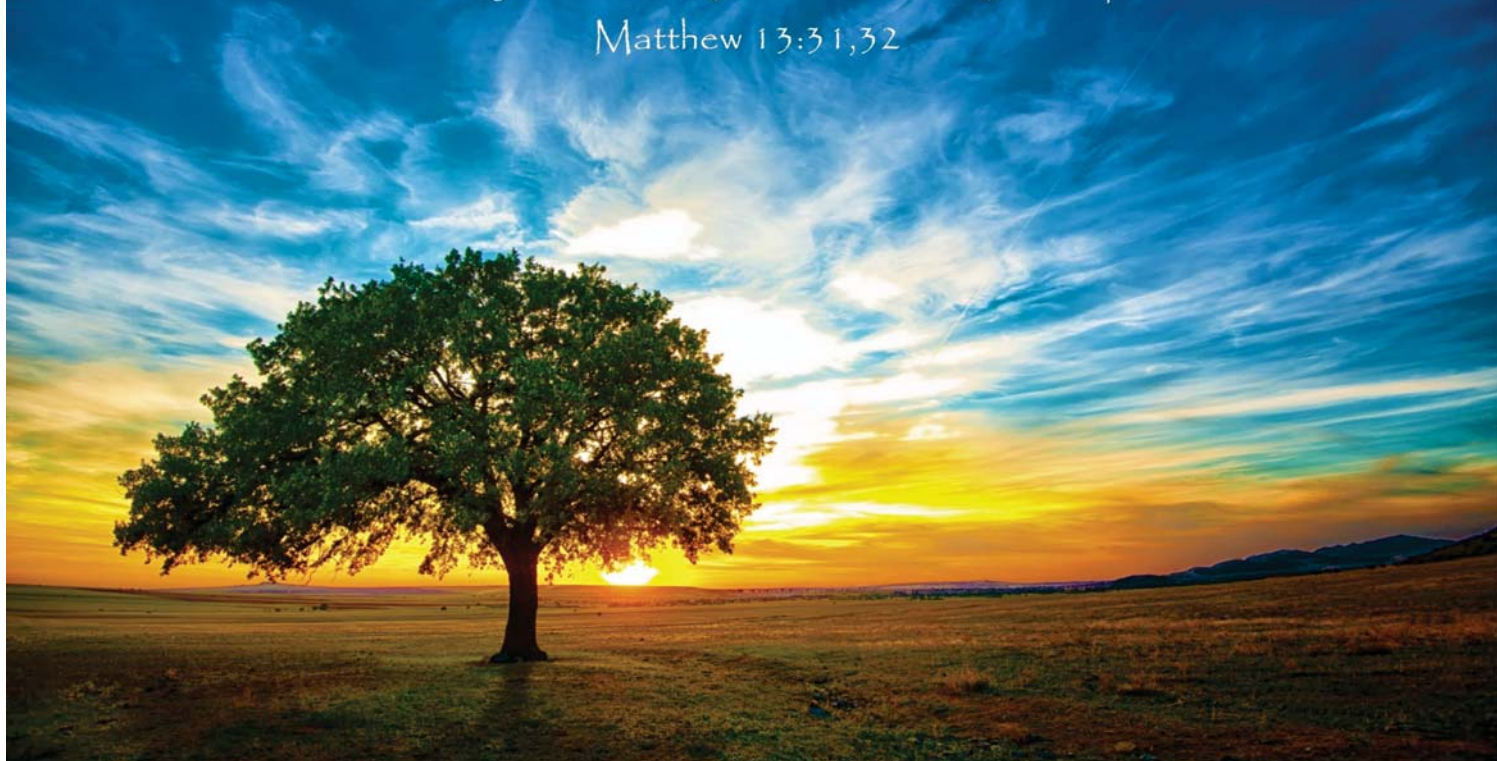
Charlestown, MA 02129

July 23, 2023

Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed. It is the smallest of all the seeds, yet when full-grown it is the largest of plants.

Matthew 13:31,32



WELCOME!

To visitors to our parish, to those who have recently moved into the area, and to those who are comfortable and nourished here—welcome to all! Please introduce yourself to the priest, and register as a member of our parishes.

SAINT MARY - SAINT CATHERINE

Our Mission is to make active disciples of Jesus Christ by creating a welcoming community rich in spirituality and by moving people to share their God-given talents in the service of others and the care of creation.

We are 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 strive to build a vibrant parish that strengthens our faith and elevates our worship.

SAINT FRANCIS DE SALES

Led by the Holy Spirit, the Parish Family of Saint Francis de Sales seeks to know and celebrate Jesus through Mass, Prayer, Sacrament and Service.

Saint Francis de Sales Church is the oldest consecrated church in New England, the oldest in the city of Boston in continuous service, and the fourth oldest in America, built in 1859, on the top of Bunker Hill. Saint Francis is known affectionately as the Firefighter's church – The statue of St. Florian, patron saint, is located in the bell yard next to the church.

Mass Schedule

Saturdays at 9 am, Holidays at 9 am

8:00 am Masses — Weekdays

Mon, Tues, Wed at St. Francis

Thurs, Fri & Sat at St. Mary-

St. Catherine in the Chapel

Weekend Masses

Saturday

4 pm St. Francis de Sales

4 pm St. Mary - St. Catherine

Sunday

8 am St. Mary- St. Catherine

9:30 am St. Francis de Sales

11 am St. Mary - St. Catherine

6 pm St. Mary - St. Catherine

Pastor

Fr. John Sheridan

St Mary - St Catherine of Siena

Pastoral Associate

Sr. Nancy Citro, SNDdeN

Finance & Operations 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

Hispanic Ministry

Blanca Paz

St Francis de Sales

Pastoral Assistant

Joan C. Rae

Music Director

Timothy Leahy

Parish Nurse Ministry Director

Mrs. Maureen Collier, RN BSN

Clergy in Residence

Fr. Jerome Gillespie

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

Fr. Britto Dhinakaran

Fr. Mark Shimave

Email

info@stmarystcatherine.org

stfrancis02129@gmail.com

From our Pastor ...

There's been a lot said recently about the atomic bomb as we near the 78th anniversary of its detonation. There is a moment in the life of J. Robert Oppenheimer, the brilliant physicist and leader of the team that developed the atomic bomb, when many years ago as a young teacher and scholar, one of his contemporaries caught him in front of a blackboard, chalk in hand, staring into space and mumbling over and again, "the point is..."

I think of today of St. Bonaventure, who helped us move the thinking of Philosophy to a deeper, more profound, and beautiful way of understanding of God in Theology, of how we as humans, in our pursuit of science and knowledge, as noble and important as is, we can lose the point of the entire enterprise, and when we do, we can fail, oh, so miserably. In so many ways, we can treat human lives as just figures on a board, not as the creation of a God who has placed each of us here for a holy and beautiful reason.

The pursuit of the secrets of this world and beyond are important and valuable, but a deeper understanding align them properly and help make our world more understandable, clearer, and better. The need will always be there to find a context that allows us not just to search into the "How?" of these things, we can come to a deeper and more profound meaning of the "Why?" - the workings of what is at the very heart of the Divine. This will allow us to open the door to the ethical implications of these important findings- of using not just how to make discover and create new things, but how to develop and use them in ways that make a difference to this earth and her inhabitants.

Einstein said this about God: "I want to know His thoughts; the rest are just details." He was not a religious man, but he had the point. With all we know, there is so much we don't - of our world, our universe, but no less, mysteries of our hearts and souls.

A few years ago, someone asked me what the most important thing is I've learned as a priest- I answered that as St. Paul reminds us in his letter to the Philippians 3:8:

Saint Mary Church

55 Warren Street

Saint Catherine of Siena Chapel

Warren & Soley Street

617.242.4664

St. Francis de Sales Church

313 Bunker Hill Street

617.242.0147

St Mary-St. Catherine of Siena

Parish Center

46 Winthrop Street

617-242-4664

Social Ministry Office

49 Vine Street 617-580-8305

Good Shepherd School

20 Winthrop Street 617-242-8800

Handicap Access

St. Mary's Church is handicapped-accessible on Soley Street.

St. Catherine's Chapel is handicapped-accessible on Winthrop Street.

*Yes, I will go further: because of the supreme advantage of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord,
I count everything else as loss.*

God has given us so much: faith, hope, love, life, this world, family, friends- *everything* begins and ends with Him. We are called to be grateful for all He has given us- even the challenges. Apart from Him, we are lost, like that gifted professor, enriched with all this human wisdom, staring blankly at the board, asking that question. Then we return to the true Teacher and listen... and learn.

One of Oppenheimer's ways of dealing with the extraordinary stress he encountered through his life was his love of poetry. When I reflect on what Christ calls us to in this world where things change and fall over and again, these lyrics come to my mind:

*Everybody says love makes the world go round...
I hear a bubbling and I hear a sound of my heart beating
and I turn around and find you standing at the door.
You know me, I like to dream a lot... of this and that, and what is not...
and finally I figured out what was what... It was the power of the heart.*

Search for the "How" in the mysteries- just keep asking "Why?" The answers will lead you to Christ. This world will change- The heart of Christ's love remains- let's find our joy and hope in Him.

Look up. Look ahead.

"The Power of the Heart" was written by Lou Reed

~ Fr. John Sheridan

**PRAYER FOR THE THIRD WORLD DAY FOR
GRANDPARENTS AND THE ELDERLY 2023**

Virgin Mary,
Mother of faith and hope,
an example for this humanity bent by indifference,
make me as willing as You
to accept the will of God,
to magnify and praise His Mercy.

Mary, Mother of fortitude,
you who knows my heart,
do not allow me to become discouraged.
I confidently surrender my life into your hands.
Heal my wounds.
May your tenderness accompany me on the way.

Your presence, Mother of love,
brings us to experience the joy
of seeing our families united.
Help me to transmit the tenderness and Love of God
to the grandchildren and youth
so that, in addition to praying for them,
we can pray with them.

Mary, may the gift of the Holy Spirit intercede for me:
sustain my weakness;
breathe into my heart the consolation
that I may leave traces of faith among the young,
bearing witness to the beauty of life,
knowing that life has a limit
and that beyond it lies before us our Father's embrace.
Amen.

Dicastery for Laity, Family & Life-USCCB web site





Intentions

Saturday July 22 at 4:00 pm Edward, Marie & Sally Leahy
 Sunday July 23 at 9:30 am Parishioner Intentions
 Monday, July 24 at 8:00 am
 Weekly Mass for Vocations to Consecrated Life, Permanent Diaconate & Priesthood
 Tuesday, July 25 @ 8:00 am
 Wednesday July 26 at 8:00 am— for the sick members of the parish
 Saturday July 29 at 4:00 am Maureen Wedge
 Sunday July 31 at 9:30 am Parishioner Intentions

St. Francis de Sales UPCOMING COLLECTIONS

July 23 Organ Restoration
 Aug 6 Capital Improvement
 Aug 13 Religious Education
 Aug 20 Parish Deficit
 Aug 27 Mission Appeal

WE ARE GRATEFUL TO YOU

We are grateful to you for your offerings from the weekend of July 16

\$1,151 was contributed to the Weekly Collection

and \$415 for the Second Collection



Resquiescat in Pace

*Francis X
"Frank"
Kelley*

ATTENDANCE—7/15 & 7/16
 Sat. @ 4:00 pm 27
 Sun @ 9:30 am 35
 Total 62

CHARLESTOWN CATHOLIC

Dear Charlestown Catholic Community -



...anyone who wants to become Catholic?

...anyone who is baptized Catholic but has not received First Communion and Confirmation and would like to?

...any Catholic in good standing that married outside of the Catholic Church and would like to receive the Sacrament of Marriage?

If you do, please have them contact Sr. Nancy at 617-242-4664 or ncitro@stmaryscatherine.org

Thanks so much!

DON'T FORGET THE POOR

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

Please remember the good work with a gift to the Poor boxes at the back of the church. Thanks so much!

SAVE THE DATE

Fr. John's Installation
 Our Installation and
 Inauguration Mass
 with Bishop O'Connell

has been rescheduled for **Sunday, Sept. 24**

@ 11am at St. Mary's Church!

A collation will follow at Bishop Lawton Hall.

Please invite everyone to join us!



ST MARY - ST CATHERINE OF SIENA MASS INTENTIONS

11:00 AM SUNDAY MASS IS LIVE
ON OUR WEBSITE AND FACEBOOK
AND ARCHIVED ON FACEBOOK
FOR FUTURE VIEWING

SATURDAY 07/22

9 AM

4 PM + FRANK & NORA BUTLER

SUNDAY 07/23

8 AM SR. MARY DOYLE, SNDDE

11 AM PARISHIONER INTENTIONS

6 PM

THURSDAY 07/27

8 AM

FRIDAY 07/28

8 AM

SATURDAY 07/29

9 AM

4 PM

SUNDAY 07/30

8 AM

11 AM PARISHIONERS INTENTIONS

6 PM

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.*

Weekend of July 16

Parishioners contributed

\$3,665.82 to the

Weekly Collection and

\$ 1,144.00

To the

Monthly Collection

St. Mary - St Catherine of Siena

UPCOMING COLLECTIONS

August 15—Assumption

August 20—Monthly

Attendance 7/15 & 7/16:

4 pm 67

8 am 44

11 am 95

6pm 55

TOTAL = 261

COMMUNITY NEWS & INFO

Sacrament of Reconciliation: Saturdays in the Church 3:15- 3:45 pm

Rosary

On Saturdays, we gather for our Saturday Rosary via Zoom.

Sign on is at 8 am and we will begin praying at 8:15.

If you are interested, please email Donna at:

donna.lecam@gmail.com

for the Zoom information. All are most welcome!

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 confined to home, either on a short or long term basis. We want to do our best to help those who are homebound feel connected to our community.

Please call the

Parish Center at 617-242-4664 if you have a relative or neighbor who is open to having a home visit for some friendly conversation and prayer.

Celebrating the Sacrament of Baptism

is always a joyful event in the 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

Log onto our website at

Charlestown Catholic Community

For news, information and resources.

Select the education button at the top to register for the Religious Education Program for the 2023-2024 year.

If you are new to the parish and would like to register, just select join and complete the registration form.

Getting married? Fill out the wedding request form under resources and/or go into Sacraments for more information and wedding checklist form!

Bulletins, and Mass times for both our parishes are available on the website. The latest recorded Sunday Mass may be viewed there as well. There is Music, news from Harvest on Vine, pictures, and more.

You may donate to the Parish or its various ministries by selecting the Donate tab.

TRIGO Y CIZAÑA

Domingo 16° del Tiempo Ordinario. A

“Tú, poderoso soberano, juzgas con moderación y nos gobiernas con gran indulgencia, porque puedes hacer cuanto quieres” (Sab 12,18). La historia y nuestra propia experiencia nos dicen que los poderosos no siempre son clementes. Muchos de los que prometen hacer justicia, terminan ajusticiando a los demás.

Pero este texto del libro de la *Sabiduría* que se lee en este domingo 16° del Tiempo Ordinario nos recuerda que el poder de Dios se manifiesta precisamente en su misericordia. Obrando así nos ofrece la esperanza de ser perdonados y, al mismo tiempo, nos enseña que el justo debe ser humano.

Eso es lo que proclamamos en el salmo responsorial: “Tú, Señor, eres bueno y clemente” (Sal 85). Como escribe san Pablo, “el Espíritu viene en ayuda de nuestra debilidad, porque no sabemos pedir lo que nos conviene” (Rom 8,26).

EL SEMBRADOR Y SU ENEMIGO

De nuevo, el evangelio que hoy se proclama refleja el ámbito agrícola con un mensaje sobre la siembra y la cosecha (Mt 13,24-43). Y de nuevo el texto pone en boca de Jesús una parábola y le atribuye después una alegoría.

- La parábola refleja la paciencia de Dios. Él es el sembrador de la buena semilla. Trabaja a plena luz del día y permanece cerca del campo, acompañado por sus operarios que se muestran responsables y preocupados por la sementera. Pero se menciona también a un enemigo que actúa en la oscuridad, siembra una mala semilla y desaparece. A la prisa de los empleados por arrancar la cizaña, la parábola contrapone la gran paciencia del dueño.

- La explicación de Jesús se expresa en forma de alegoría. Los protagonistas son el Hijo del hombre que siembra buen trigo y el diablo que siembra cizaña. También las semillas tienen un significado. El trigo son los ciudadanos del Reino, mientras que la cizaña representa a los partidarios del Maligno. La alegoría anuncia que la cizaña será echada al fuego, suerte que espera a todos los malvados, que han nacido de la semilla sembrada por el Maligno.

LOS JUSTOS Y EL REINO

Llama la atención ver que la alegoría no se refiere al trigo, sino que pasa inmediatamente a mencionar a los que el trigo representa, que son los que han nacido de la semilla sembrada por el mismo Señor. ¿Y cuál es su suerte?

- “Los justos brillarán como el sol en el reino de su Padre”. En primer lugar, es una alegría ver que los que han nacido de la iniciativa y de la semilla sembrada por el Hijo del hombre son calificados como “justos”.

- “Los justos brillarán como el sol en el reino de su Padre”. En segundo lugar, se evoca el hecho de que la buena semilla fue sembrada a pleno día. Y se anuncia para los justos un futuro de luz semejante a la del sol.

- “Los justos brillarán como el sol en el reino de su Padre”. En tercer lugar, recordamos que la buena semilla son “los ciudadanos del reino”. No es extraño que su destino y la plenitud de su vocación se sitúe precisamente en el reino de su Padre.

- Señor Jesús, tú conoces la confusión del mundo en el que vivimos. Te agradecemos la presencia de los buenos sembradores, te rogamos que nos libres de la cizaña que siembra el Maligno y que nos ayudes a dar el fruto bueno que pacientemente esperas de nosotros.

July 23 ~ Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

The Gospel today speaks to some everyday realities. Gardeners dealing with weeds growing among good plants, bakers knowing the importance of yeast in bread baking. Jesus uses parables to teach us lessons that we can identify with. At a deeper level, these parables highlight the importance of being discerning, of being patient, of allowing the life of God to grow and bear fruit in our lives. St. Paul reminds us that the Spirit is present knowing our intentions, aiding us when we don't feel up to the task of being an active disciple. What new growth is God nurturing and encouraging in you? How might you be “yeast” helping the life of God to grow in another? Reread today's gospel and pray for the grace to apply Jesus' message to your daily living.

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Thessalonians 5:17



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previously served at St. Eulalia's in
Winchester for 17 years. A Harvard
graduate and native of West Roxbury,
Fr. Nestor is known for fostering a
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