

# CHARLESTOWN CATHOLIC COMMUNITY

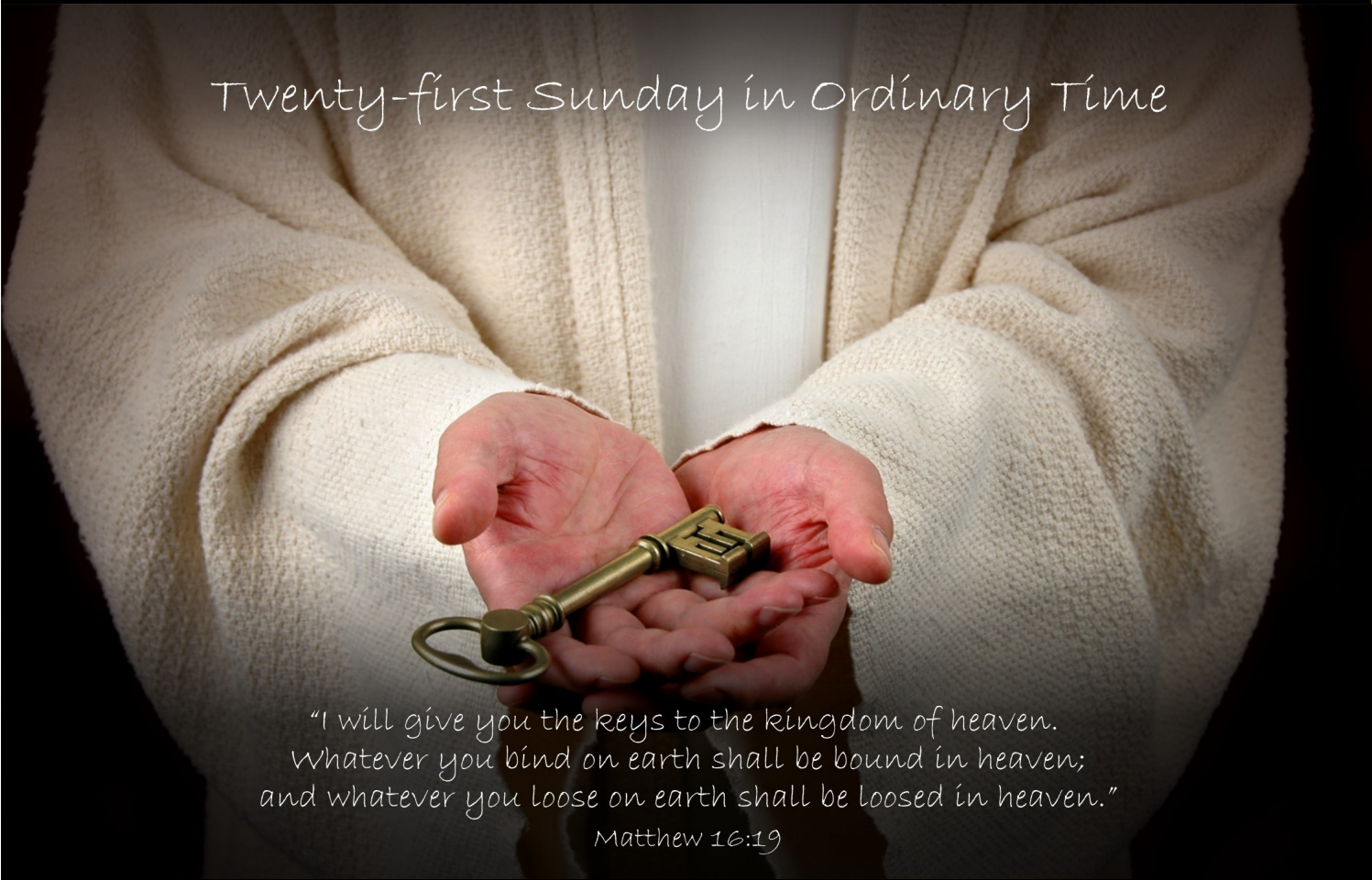
Saint Mary–Saint Catherine of Siena and Saint Francis de Sales Parishes

*Parish Center & Eucharistic Center*, 46 Winthrop Street, 617-242-4664, [stmarystcatherine.org](mailto:stmarystcatherine.org)

*St. Francis Rectory*, 303 Bunker Hill Street, 617-242-0147, [stfrancis02129@gmail.com](mailto:stfrancis02129@gmail.com)

Charlestown, MA 02129

August 27, 2023



Twenty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time

"I will give you the keys to the kingdom of heaven.  
Whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven;  
and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven."

Matthew 16:19

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

## August 27 Twenty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time

Today's Gospel is so familiar that it may be easy to just let Jesus' question go quickly by without taking the time to answer him - "Who do you say that I am?" Will you respond with the conviction of Peter - "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God"? Or do you struggle to say who Christ is or if you know him at all? This Gospel invites everyone to take a few minutes today to consider what answer we give and to urge us to give time for the relationship with Jesus to grow. Taking time to honestly answer Jesus' question, will lead to our ability to say like Peter - "You are the Christ!"

**FYI - Labor Day - September 4th, our offices are closed and daily Mass will be at 9:00 AM at St. Francis de Sales Church.**

## Prayer to Care for Our Common Home

Father of all, Creator and ruler of the universe, You entrusted your world to us as a gift. Help us to care for it and all people, that we may live in right relationship-- with You, with ourselves, with one another, and with creation.

Christ our Lord, both divine and human, You lived among us and died for our sins. Help us to imitate your love for the human family by recognizing that we are all connected— to our brothers and sisters around the world, to those in poverty impacted by environmental devastation, and to future generations.

Holy Spirit, giver of wisdom and love, You breathe life in us and guide us. Help us to live according to your vision, stirring to action the hearts of all— individuals and families, communities of faith, and civil and political leaders.

Triune God, help us to hear the cry of those in poverty, and the cry of the earth, so that we may together care for our common home. Amen.



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1st

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.**



## *From our Pastor ...*

There come times in life when we ask ourselves, “Is this what I’m called to be? Can I do this?” I had a moment like that right before my ordination; I panicked as I thought to myself that I was unworthy to follow through with this incredible undertaking. In a panic, I ran into my classmate’s room and told him. His response floored me. He simply said, “Do think I am? No one is. That’s kind of the point!” He was right- and I followed through.

In today’s Gospel, Jesus chooses Peter to lead this ragtag group of guys not because he was smarter or holier, but because he was willing to do what he was asked, even with all of misgivings, doubts and faults- let’s face it, Peter had plenty of them!

God chose you and me to do His work not because we’re smarter or holier or more creative or more talented anymore than the next person (far from it, in my case)- all He asks us to do is trust that He called each of us to do our part to fulfill His will. If we each spent less time trying to figure out His will- which is beyond our comprehension- and more work doing our part of it, maybe we’d be happier with God and ourselves.



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

Thanks so much!



### **Registration for**

### **Religious Education for 2023-24 is on our website!**

The beginning of our new year of Faith Formation is quickly approaching! We will kick off our year on Catechetical Sunday, September 17, 2023 at the 11:00 am Mass with a blessing for the Religious Education volunteers and staff. Please be sure to register your child as soon as possible.

Religious Education classes will take place on Sundays and Tuesdays and begin in October.

Please register on the Charlestown Community Catholic website. For any additional questions, comments, or concerns, please feel free to call the Parish office at 617.242.4664.

On Catechetical Sunday, Father Sheridan will be introducing the newest members of the team who will be leading the Religious Education Program this year.

Thanks to the Leahy Family, the Marian Statue across from St. Francis de Sales has been cleaned and painted.

This year the Blessing of the Animals will take place at the Statue on September 23rd.

More information to come!



## Intentions

Saturday Aug 26 at 4:00 pm Frank & Loretta Petkiewich

Sunday Aug 27 at 9:30 am + Joan Donovan, 1st anniversary

Monday, Aug 28 at 8:00 am

Weekly Mass for Vocations to Consecrated Life, Permanent Diaconate & Priesthood

Tuesday, Aug 29 @ 8:00 am

Wednesday Aug 30 at 8:00 am— for the sick members of the parish

Saturday Sept 2 at 4:00 am

Sunday Sept 3 at 9:30 am

## St. Francis de Sales UPCOMING COLLECTIONS

Aug. 27— Mission Appeal

Sept. 3—Capital Improvement

Sept. 17—Clergy Trust

Sept. 24—Organ Restoration

Oct. 1—Holy Fathers Missionary Efforts

Oct. 22—Mission Sunday

## WE ARE GRATEFUL TO YOU

**We are grateful to you for your offerings from the weekend of August 20**

**\$566 was contributed to the weekly Collection**

**and \$383 for the Second Collection**

## and for the Collection on the Feast of the Assumption

**\$84 was contributed**

ATTENDANCE—8/19 & 8/20

Sat. @ 4:00 pm 29

Sun @ 9:30 am 49

Total 78

Feast of Assumption 22

# CHARLESTOWN CATHOLIC



**Welcome Sean William,  
the newest member of the Parish!**

*"The reason for our existence is to quench the thirst of Jesus.  
When he asked for water, the soldier gave him vinegar to drink—  
but his thirst was for love, for souls, for you and me."*

*Mother Teresa of Calcutta*

## 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!*

## 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

## Sacrament of Reconciliation:

Saturdays in the Church 3:15- 3:45 pm



**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 08/26**

**9 AM**

**4 PM JIM & MICHELLE DUANE 50TH  
WEDDING ANNIVERSARY**

**SUNDAY 08/27**

**8 AM**

**11 AM + MARION BURR & SHIRLY DUBE  
6 PM + DOAN LAN & BOATRAM DOAN**

**THURSDAY 08/31**

**8 AM**

**FRIDAY 09/01**

**8 AM + MARION BURR**

**SATURDAY 09/02**

**9 AM**

**4 PM + MARGARET & EMMETT PULLIAM,  
HELEN IRVIN, RITA SULLIVAN &  
ELEANOR CONNORS**

**SUNDAY 09/03**

**8 AM**

**11 AM**

**6 PM**

**St. Mary - St Catherine of Siena  
UPCOMING COLLECTIONS**

September 10—Monthly  
September 17—Clergy Trust  
October 1—Holy Father Mission Efforts  
October 15—Monthly  
October 22—Mission Sunday

**Weekend of August 20**

**Parishioners contributed**

**\$2,367.48 to the**

**weekly Collection,**

**\$677**

**For the Monthly Collection,**

**and \$466 on the**

**Feast of the Assumption**

**Attendance 8/19 & 8/20:**

4 pm 52

8 am 38

11 am 68

6pm 43

TOTAL = 201

**Assumption Mass 8/15**

52

# COMMUNITY NEWS & INFO

## SPECIAL COLLECTION FOR THE PEOPLE OF MAUI Weekend of September 2/3, 2023

The images and news reports coming out of the Island of Maui are heartbreaking. The wildfires have killed more than 100 people, left many injured and missing, and destroyed homes and businesses.

Pope Francis has expressed his solidarity with the people of Maui including all suffering from this tragedy, while also invoking God's blessing of "strength and peace."

Recognizing the immediate and growing need for assistance, Cardinal Seán has asked that a special collection be taken in all parishes in the Archdiocese of Boston to support Church relief efforts in the Diocese of Honolulu.

**We will hold this collection the weekend of September 2/3, 2023**

Funds raised will support the Hawaii Catholic Community Foundation (HCCF) relief efforts for local community members affected by the Maui wildfires.

## Log onto our website at **Charlestown Catholic Community**

For news, information and resources, register for the Religious Education Program for the 2023-24 year. Getting married? Fill out the wedding request form under resources and/or go into Sacraments for more information and wedding checklist form! Find bulletins, and Mass times for both parishes and view the latest recorded

Sunday Mass. 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.



**VIGESIMO  
PRIMER  
DOMINGO**  
Tiempo ordinario



Un domingo, un hombre de negocios fue a misa y al final felicitó al párroco por su sermón, pero a su felicitación añadió la siguiente crítica constructiva: Si usted trabajara para mí tendría que tener una conversación con usted. Su voz captó mi atención. Su entusiasmo despertó mi interés. Lo que dijo era necesario decirlo. Y ahí terminó todo. No me pidió que hiciera algo, no me pidió nada a cambio.

En los negocios, si usted quiere triunfar, tiene que conseguir que la gente firme en la línea al final de la página, si no pronto estará fuera de los negocios. Hoy, no yo, sino el mismo Jesús le pide una firma o mejor una confesión y una respuesta para asegurar no los negocios, sino el único negocio importante: la salvación. Jesús siempre pide una firma, una adhesión, un seguimiento, un cambio a los suyos para no quedarse al margen del gran negocio. Ve y no peques más. Ve, vende todo y sígueme. Tu fe te ha salvado. Tú eres Pedro... Hoy estarás conmigo en el paraíso.

Hoy, en este texto de Mateo 16, Jesús hizo dos preguntas a sus discípulos: ¿Quién dice la gente que soy yo? ¿Quién dicen ustedes que soy yo? En la vida de cada día decimos que hay preguntas y preguntas: Preguntas rutinarias: ¿cómo le amaneció esta mañana? Preguntas maliciosas: ¿es verdad que nunca se ha enamorado? Preguntas sin importancia: ¿le gusta el baseball? Preguntas molestas, de ciencia... Y preguntas importantes: ¿Y después de la muerte? ¿De qué le sirve ganarlo todo si pierde su alma? ¿Para qué sirve la fe?...

Las respuestas a ciertas preguntas se aprenden en la vida, la familia, en la escuela... y hay respuestas que sólo Dios nos enseña. "Bienaventurado eres Pedro porque esa respuesta no viene de la carne ni de la sangre sino de mi Padre". Y hay respuestas que sólo yo puedo dar. No sirve yo opino como el otro, yo digo lo mismo, yo como dice la Biblia, yo como dice el párroco, yo como dice la iglesia... Llega un momento en la vida en que nuestra respuesta tiene que ser personal, tiene que salir del corazón y brotar del amor.

Hoy, Jesús le pregunta a usted: ¿Y usted, quién dice que soy yo? Fácil, ¿verdad? Jesús, tú eres el Cristo, el Hijo de Dios, el Señor, el Salvador, la vida, el camino, la verdad... Hasta un loro amaestrado podría repetir esa letanía de títulos. Nada fácil porque la verdad de nuestra respuesta se verifica en la vida. La policía emplea el detector de mentiras para saber si decimos la verdad. Dios tiene también su detector de mentiras y nosotros también. Responder a Jesús es responder también a la pregunta ¿quién soy yo? ¿Qué es mi vida? Responder a Jesús es recibir, como Pedro, una misión, unas llaves, una gracia, un poder. Al final de la invitación de Jesús hay una línea para firmar. No la deje en blanco. Gracias.

**OPEN HOUSE  
SAINT JOHN SCHOOL**  
In the North End  
9 Moon Street,  
Boston, MA 02113  
<https://sjne.com/>

Preschool to Eighth Grade  
Information Session & Tours  
August 27, 2023 at 10 AM  
September 13, 2023 at 10 AM  
October 11, 2023 at 10 AM

**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!



Project Rachel  
Post-Abortion  
Healing Retreats  
(9/23, 11/11)  
"Project Rachel  
led me to a place

of forgiveness and mercy. During the retreat, I realized the lasting impact of forgiveness. I knew God had forgiven me, and now I needed to forgive myself."

The Project Rachel ministry of the Archdiocese of Boston extends a special invitation to women suffering from the pain of a past abortion to attend a "Come to the Waters of Healing" one-day retreat. Upcoming dates are September 23 and November 11 from 9 AM to 5 PM.

Locations are confidential. For more information, contact Project Rachel at 508.651.3100 or [help@projectrachelboston.com](mailto:help@projectrachelboston.com).

*Fr. John is a Project Rachel priest.*

**Join Us!**



**A Triduum of Masses  
Celebrating St. Thérèse's  
150th Birthday**

Friday, September 29, at 7:00 p.m.  
Saturday, September 30, at 2:00 p.m.  
Sunday, October 1, at 2:00 p.m.

**Blessed roses will be distributed on October 1st!**



**Carmelite Monastery Chapel**  
61 Mount Pleasant Avenue, Boston, MA 02119  
Tel 617-442-1411

*All are invited. Supervised Parking.*

Follow us on: [Facebook](#) / [Twitter](#)

[CARMELITESOFBOSTON.ORG](http://CARMELITESOFBOSTON.ORG)