

# 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

September 17, 2023



## Twenty-fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

*"My friend, I am not cheating you. Did you not agree with me for the usual daily wage? Take what is yours and go. What if I wish to give this last one the same as you? Or am I not free to do as I wish with my own money? Are you envious because I am generous?" Thus, the last will be first, and the first will be last." (Mt 20:13-16a)*

### 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 Santosuoso

**Social Ministry Director**

Thomas J. MacDonald

**Pastoral Assistant, Faith Formation**

Allison Buff

**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



## BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS

**Saturday, September 23, 2023**

**Noon**

**At the statue of Our Lady across from  
St. Francis Church (303 Bunker Hill Street)**

### September 17 ~ Twenty-fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Forgiveness – even the first disciples found it hard to be forgiving. When they asked Jesus, perhaps in frustration, how many times they were to be forgiving, Jesus does not soften his response. Rather he multiplies the number of times they are to be forgiving saying “not seven times but seven times seventy-seven times.” How fortunate are we that each time we seek out God’s forgiveness in the Sacrament of Penance, we are never turned away. God’s response is always one of mercy and compassion. To whom is God calling us to extend that same kind of forgiveness?

### 42<sup>nd</sup> Annual Lawn Party to benefit Seminarians

Pope St. John XXIII National Seminary in Weston is hosting its Annual Lawn Party on Wednesday, September 27th, at 6:00 P.M, on the grounds of the seminary. This premiere fundraising event is hosted by His Eminence, Seán Cardinal O’Malley, OFM Cap. The evening will include a cocktail reception and dinner with music. Located on Route 30 in Weston, the Seminary prepares second career candidates, men over the age of 30, for priesthood. The proceeds from the Lawn Party help to keep tuition costs affordable. For ticket information, please call the Pope St. John XXIII Development Office at 781-899-5500, or visit their website <https://www.psjns.edu/lawn-party>. You can make a difference and encourage the vocations of these men through your support of the Lawn Party

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

**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 ...*

This story was shared with me recently:

A lady asked a farmer: "How much do you sell your eggs for?" The old vendor replies "50 cents an egg, madam." The lady says, "I'll take 6 eggs for \$2.50 or I'm leaving." The old salesman replies, "Buy them at the price you want, Madam. This is a good start for me because I haven't sold a single egg today and I need this to live." She bought her eggs at a bargain price and left with the feeling that she had won.

She got into her fancy car and went to a fancy restaurant with her friend. She and her friend ordered what they wanted. They ate a little and left a lot of what they had asked for. They paid the bill, which was \$150. The ladies gave \$200 and told the fancy restaurant owner to keep the change as a tip...

This story might seem quite normal to the owner of the fancy restaurant, but very unfair to the egg seller...The questions it raises are: Why do we always need to show that we have power when we buy from the needy? Why are we generous to those who don't even need our generosity?

I once read this somewhere, that a father used to buy goods from poor people at high prices, even though he didn't need the things. Sometimes he paid more for them. I was amazed. One day his son asked him "Why are you doing this Dad?" His father replied: "It's charity wrapped in dignity, son."

Each one of us can do better. God gave us the power.

Blessings.

Fr. John



### **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.



### **RCIA**

Registration for RCIA classes is now open. This program is for those who have been baptized Catholic but have not received First Communion and Confirmation and for those who would like to become Catholic.

Orientation is on Monday, September 25<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 at the Parish Center, 46 Winthrop Street. Please call Sr. Nancy if you are interested: 617-242-4664 or email her at [ncitro@stmaryscatherine.org](mailto:ncitro@stmaryscatherine.org).





### Intentions

Saturday Sept 16 at 4:00 pm + Richard E. O'Brien Sr. (3rd anniversary)

Sunday Sept 17 at 9:30 am + Helen Hunna Gillen

Monday, Sept 18 at 8:00 am

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

Tuesday, Sept 19 @ 8:00 am

Wednesday Sept 20 at 8:00 am— Eddie "Biga" Greatorrex & Mary "Nana" Small

Saturday Sept 23 at 4:00 am

Sunday Sept 24 at 9:30 am

**Collation at Bishop Lawton Hall celebrating the installation of Fr. John Sunday September 24 after the 11 am Mass at St Mary Church**

St. Francis de Sales

#### UPCOMING COLLECTIONS

Sept. 17—Clergy Trust

Sept. 24—Organ Restoration

Oct. 1—Holy Father's Missionary Efforts

Oct. 22—Mission Sunday

### WE ARE GRATEFUL TO YOU

**We are grateful to you for your offerings from the weekend of September 10**

**\$1,343 was contributed to the Weekly Collection**

**and \$348 for the Second Collection**



*Resquiescant in Pace*

*Dennis M. Kane  
&  
Mary "Mae" Prince*

### ATTENDANCE—9/9 & 9/10

**Sat. @ 4:00 pm 32**

**Sun @ 9:30 am 48**

**Total 80**

# CHARLESTOWN CATHOLIC



## INSTALLATION OF FR. JOHN SHERIDAN AS PASTOR and INAUGURATION OF THE CHARLESTOWN CATHOLIC COLLABORATIVE

**Sunday, September 24, 2023 starting at 11AM**

**Inauguration Mass with Bishop O'Connell at St. Mary Church  
Collation at Bishop Lawton Hall at St. Francis de Sales Church following  
the Mass**

*If you would like to help at:  
St. Mary Church on the morning of the event  
or*

*Bishop Lawton Hall to decorate on Saturday, September 23 at 1pm*

*Please contact Dianne Ludy: [dludy@stmaryscatherine.org](mailto:dludy@stmaryscatherine.org)*



**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 09/16**

**9 AM**

**4 PM + RONALD GOGGIN**

**SUNDAY 09/17**

**8 AM + JANET G. HIGGINS**

**11 AM + KELIANN BURTON-KARABELLO**

**6 PM**

**THURSDAY 09/21**

**8 AM**

**FRIDAY 09/22**

**8 AM + JOSEPH MARI, ARTHUR MARI**

**MINNIE, TRANQUILLINO &**

**VINCENT CITRO & FABIO**

**LAUDAADIO**

**SATURDAY 09/23**

**9 AM**

**4 PM + ANNEMARIE COLLINS**

**SUNDAY 09/24**

**8 AM + WILLIAM POTTER**

**11 AM INSTALLATION OF FR. JOHN**

**6 PM NO MASS THIS WEEK ONLY**

**Attendance 9/9 & 9/10:**

4 pm 35

8 am 59

11 am 88

6pm 42

TOTAL = 224

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

September 17—Clergy Trust

October 1—Holy Father Mission Efforts



Saint Mary Church  
Sanctuary Lamp  
is lit in remembrance of  
  
John McNamara



*Resquiescant in  
Pace*

*Patricia Gallagher  
&  
Albert Ronald Vitale*

**Weekend of September 10**

**Parishioners contributed**

**\$3,308.00 to the**

**Weekly Collection**

**and**

**\$948**

**To the Monthly Collection**

# COMMUNITY NEWS & INFO

## YOUNG CATHOLIC PROFESSIONALS (YCP)

Boston became the 25th Chapter of YCP in 2021. The mission of YCP Boston is to offer a community in which young adults (ages 21-40) can reconnect with and deepen their faith. The main programs include Networking Happy Hours, Executive Speaker Series, and Executive Panel Discussions. The next event will be a Happy Hour and it will be held on Tuesday, September 26th, 7 PM - 9 PM at Ned Devine's. It is YCP's pleasure to extend this invitation to you.

If you are interested in attending the event;

Please contact John Volpe at [Jvolpay@gmail.com](mailto:Jvolpay@gmail.com) and he will then assist you in registering.

## 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](mailto:ncitro@stmarystcatherine.org)

## "Bundle Sunday" in Charlestown will be

**October 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2023!**

Bundle Sunday is a call to all Charlestown residents to donate clothing and shoes to support the efforts of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul locally. All clean, usable clothing and shoes will be gratefully accepted, so please, use this opportunity to streamline your closet and that of your family members.

Collection will occur from **October 14<sup>th</sup> to October 22<sup>nd</sup>**. During this week, donations can be left at the back of St. Mary and St. Francis de Sales Churches before and after services, St. Mary Parish Center at 46 Winthrop Street, and at the Harvest on Vine Office at 49 Vine Street.

**Thank YOU** for your generosity in responding to this call for help!





A una señora que celebraba sus bodas de oro de matrimonio le preguntaron sus hijos por el secreto de su largo y feliz matrimonio. La señora les contestó: El día de mi boda decidí hacer una lista de las 10 faltas de mi marido que pasaría por alto para salvar mi matrimonio. ¿Y cuáles fueron esas 10 faltas de la lista? A decir verdad nunca escribí la lista. Pero cada vez que mi marido hacía algo que me molestaba y que me subía por las paredes le decía: tienes suerte, bandido, porque eso no está en mi lista.

Y usted también tiene suerte porque Dios, con o sin lista, le perdona siempre. Los que tenemos lista y larga somos los hombres. El capítulo 18 del evangelio de Mateo es conocido como el discurso eclesial, el discurso de la comunidad, de la vida de los creyentes. El perdón, perdonar, para nosotros es un adorno, un lujo. Para los seguidores de Jesús es una realidad vital, es el corazón del evangelio, es un estilo de vida. Jesús vivió, murió y resucitó para ofrecernos el perdón de Dios. Todo lo que hizo Jesús fue reconciliar el mundo y los hombres con Dios. El ministerio de Jesús fue un ministerio de perdón. “Tanto amó Dios al mundo que nos dio a su Hijo, a Jesucristo”. ¿Para qué? Para abrirnos las puertas de su amor. Para reunir lo que estaba disperso. Para que conociéramos su ser más íntimo, Dios rico en perdón. Para decirte a través de Jesús: mi Padre te ama, te limpia, te sana y pone alegría en tu corazón herido por la vida.

El evangelio de Jesús es el evangelio del amor y sólo el amor sin límites y sin condiciones puede perdonar. Pueblo de Dios aquí reunido por el Señor Jesús y su Espíritu para escuchar el mensaje del perdón de Jesús. “El Reino de Dios es como un rey que perdonó a un deudor una deuda inmensa”. Ese deudor es usted y yo. ¿Por dónde empezar? ¿Por mis enemigos? ¿Por mi marido? ¿Por mis hijos? ¿Por mi jefe?... Estos sí que son malos. ¿Por dónde empezar? No mire a nadie. Aquí, en la iglesia, empecemos siempre por nosotros, por mí. Todo empieza por mí. ¿Cuál es mi deuda con Dios? ¿Cuántas veces me ha perdonado Dios a lo largo de mi vida? Dios ha perdonado mi odio, mi lujuria, mi avaricia, mis infidelidades....

El perdón se siente pero se expresa y vive cuando entro en un proceso de conversión. El perdón de mi inmensa deuda es un poder creador de un corazón y una mente nueva. Todo empieza por mí. Yo me dejo perdonar. Yo me abro al amor de Dios. Yo pongo mi deuda en manos de Dios. Sin deuda, sin miedo, puedo caminar ligero al encuentro de mis hermanos. Y cuando salga ahí afuera, sabré que el ministerio de Jesús es el del perdón, nunca la venganza. Y cuando salga ahí afuera, sabré que lo que tengo que perdonar es poco comparado con lo que a mí Jesús me perdona cada día. Y cuando salga ahí afuera no haré lo del siervo malo que le dijo a su hermano. “paga lo que me debes”.

Sólo los que no han experimentado el perdón de Dios, su inmenso amor, son incapaces de perdonar a los hermanos. Sólo cuando experimento el perdón de Dios, mi corazón se rompe, mis murallas se desvanecen y como no me queda nada que defender puedo ceder, rendirme e incluso perdonar. Es verdad, Jesús es muy exigente. Nunca dice: ésta es la gota que colma el vaso. Nos dice: no cuentes las ofensas, simplemente perdona. Tiene que saber que su deuda ha sido pagada y que ya no debe nada. Dios no necesita nada, pero sus hermanos sí. Dios no necesita ser perdonado, pero sus hermanos sí. Dios no cuenta sus pecados, sus ofensas, pero usted sí. Y seguiremos preguntando ¿cuántas veces tengo que perdonar? El perdón no es una cuestión de matemáticas. Perdóne siempre que sea ofendido como Dios lo hace con usted.

## SEASON OF CREATION



September 1 through October 4 is the **SEASON OF CREATION** – a time to reflect more deeply on the call to ecological conversion, both personal and communal.

Let's reflect on these words from Pope Francis' *Laudato Si'*:

(LS 217 – 219) – “The ecological crisis is a summons to a profound interior conversion needed to bring about lasting change...Living our

vocation to be protectors of God's magnificent handwork is **essential to a life of virtue...it is not an optional or secondary** aspect of our Christian commitment. It entails a loving awareness that we are not disconnected from the rest of creation but joined in a splendid universal communion.”

And on these words from Thomas Berry's **The Great Work**:

“The universe story is our Sacred Story...We will recover our sense of wonder and our sense of the sacred only if we appreciate the universe beyond ourselves as a revelatory experience of the Creator. **The Great Work** now is to carry out the transition from a period of human devastation of the Earth to a period when humans would be present to the Earth in a mutually beneficial manner... **The Great Work** is the work of all people. No one is exempt.”



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"Pray without Ceasing" 1  
Thessalonians 5:17



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