

# CHARLESTOWN CATHOLIC COLLABORATIVE

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

October 1, 2023



## 26<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

At the name of Jesus  
every knee should bend,  
of those in heaven and  
on earth and under the earth,  
and every tongue confess  
that Jesus Christ is Lord.

Philippians 2:10-11

### 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

**Pastoral Associate**

Sr. Nancy Citro, SNDdeN

**Finance & Operations Manager**

James Santosuosso

**Social Ministry Director**

Thomas J. MacDonald

**Pastoral Assistant, Faith Formation**

Allison Buff

**Confirmation Director**

Cynthia Markey

**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@charlestowncatholic.org



Fr. Mark Riley, Fr. Paul Coughlin, Fr. Larry Rondeau, Fr. Jim Ronan, Fr. Britto, Fr. John, and Fr. Bob Monagle with Bishop Mark O'Connell

### Looking up. Looking ahead.

- Please note that I'll be out of the state Oct. 1-7, at a Catholic Stewardship conference.
- Join us on Sunday evening, Oct. 29<sup>th</sup> at 6 pm at St. Mary's Church for a special Mass of Remembrance for those who have gone before us, particularly in the past year at St. Francis and St. Mary- St. Catherine.
- Wednesday, Nov. 1<sup>st</sup> is All Saints' Day, a holy day of obligation. Mass will be offered at 9 am at St. Francis de Sales, and at 6 pm at St. Mary's Church.
- Work is beginning on painting the inside of St. Francis de Sales church, courtesy of Painters' Union Local 35. What a blessing this is for us!
- I'll be out of the state, on retreat, Nov. 13-17.

Blessings,

Fr. John

**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

**Charlestown Catholic Collaborative**

**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 ...*

*One moment someone whispers, "Thank you!"  
Just then, another heart cries, 'How could You?'  
When Jesus, who sees us, He says, 'I hear you. I'm near you.'  
It may be miles and miles before the journey's clear.  
There may be rivers, maybe oceans of tears.  
But the very hand that shields your eyes from understanding...  
is the hand that will be holding you for miles.*

From Miles written by Nichole Nordeman

There are moments in life when we don't know why things happen- we may never know why. One of the most important things I've learned when I walk through these times with people is not to even try to explain why- there are no answers often, and we have to struggle with the darkness and pain. These are the moments when faith takes over, when we don't give up, but we let go and we find Christ in the midst of our questions, doubts, and fears, when we move from, "Why me?" to "What now?"

This weekend's readings call us to an understanding and acceptance that there is a bigger plan than we can see, and although it's only human and perfectly natural to question why things so often as they are, we're called to let go of our doubt and trust His will. Mary did- so can we.

### **In exceptional gratitude**

Please allow me to share a word of sincere gratitude to everyone who worked very hard to bring last Sunday's installation celebrations about- those prepared the church and the hall, those who led us in the Mass by sharing their gifts in welcoming, word, song, service, and sacrament, those prepared, served, and cleaned up after our reception, Sr. Nancy, James Santosuosso and our incredible collaborative staff and councils, Bishop Mark and the concelebrating priests, our many guests and friends in the Town, family members, and many more who joined us online and shared our joy. It was a special day, and I hope everyone experienced the presence of the Holy Spirit. There is much to do, there is much to share. Let's get to it!

### **Mass Schedule change**

In light of the heating season starting soon, beginning on Oct. 16, Daily Mass will be held at St. Catherine's Chapel, Monday through Friday at 8 am and Saturday at 9 am. It will allow us to save heat at St. Francis, since the St. Mary Church building is already being used. Funerals, holy days, and weekend Masses will be held as usual at St. Francis. Thank you for your understanding as we look up and ahead.

### **Come to the Waters of Healing**

#### **A Retreat for Post-Abortion Healing**

*"I had never heard about Project Rachel until I read the blurb in my parish bulletin. If it hadn't been there, I shudder to think where I would be now. It's not just a 'blurb', for me it was life changing. The retreat was an experience I will take with me for the rest of my life. I received back the grace of God within me and felt a true sense of peace and self-forgiveness."*

-A Retreat Participant

Saturdays: Sept. 23, Nov. 11 9 am – 5 pm

Location is confidential. Pre-registration is required. Limited to 10 participants.

Call (508) 651-3100 or [help@projectrachelboston.com](mailto:help@projectrachelboston.com)

Sponsored by the Project Rachel Ministry - Archdiocese of Boston

-Fr. John is a Project Rachel priest.







## St. Francis de Sales Mass Intentions

Saturday Sept 30 at 4:00 pm Richard(38) & Rose (9) Lyman and James(7) & Catherine (3) Ellis

Sunday October 1 at 9:30 am Megan & Jillian Johnson; Jim & Joan Godding

Monday, October 2 at 8:00 am

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

Tuesday, October 3 @ 8:00 am

Wednesday October 4 27 at 8:00 am

Saturday October 7 at 4:00 pm

Sunday October 8 at 9:30 am Dorothy Gordon

St. Francis de Sales

### UPCOMING COLLECTIONS

Oct. 1—Holy Father's Missionary Efforts

Oct. 22—Mission Sunday

Nov 5—Capital Improvement

**ATTENDANCE—9/23 & 9/24**

**Sat. @ 4:00 pm 42**

**Sun @ 9:30 am 54**

**Total 96**

### WE ARE GRATEFUL TO YOU

**We are grateful to you for  
your offerings from the  
weekend of September 17**

**\$1,377 was contributed  
to the Weekly Collection**

**and \$165 for the  
2nd Collection**



Welcome Charles Ryan 9.23-23!

# CHARLESTOWN CATHOLIC



Bishop Mark O'Connell concelebrated the Mass with Fr. John Sheridan A Collation was held at Bishop Lawton Hall at St. Francis de Sales. Volunteers (pictured below in the hall) helped to get every thing ready for the big day.







## ST MARY - ST CATHERINE

### OF SIENA MASS INTENTIONS

11:00 AM  
SUNDAY MASS IS LIVE

ON OUR WEBSITE AND FACEBOOK  
AND ARCHIVED ON FACEBOOK

#### SATURDAY 10/01

9 AM

4 PM + KATHLEEN, MICHAEL, MARY & JOHN DEVLIN

#### SUNDAY 10/02

8 AM PARISHIONER INTENTIONS

11 AM + ROBERT MYERS PEARSON

6 PM

#### THURSDAY 10/05

8 AM + SARAH FARMER— WILLIAMS, ROBBIE BRADY &  
MEAGHAN BRADY

#### FRIDAY 10/6

8 AM + TRANQUILLINO, MINNIE & VINCENT CITRO; JOSEPH &  
ARTHUR MARI & FABIO LAUDADIO

#### SATURDAY 10/07

9 AM

4 PM + ROSA SHACKFORD

#### SUNDAY 10/08

8 AM + LAWRENCE MAHONEY & MARY HOLMES

11 AM + PEG, ANNA, JOHN & JAMES FINN

6 PM

#### Attendance 9/23 & 9/24:

4 pm 61

8 am 50

11 am 210

6pm No Mass this week

TOTAL = 321

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

October 1—Holy Father Mission Efforts

October 15—Monthly

October 22—Mission Sunday

November 12—Monthly

October is the month of the  
Holy Rosary

#### Weekend of September 17

Parishioners contributed

\$4,055.24 to the

Weekly Collection

and

\$845.00

To the Pilot Collection

# COMMUNITY NEWS & INFO



#### Father John's installation Mass

Pictured is our current pastor,  
Fr. John with the last 2  
pastors Fr. Ronan & Fr.  
Coughlin.

Pictured at the podium is  
Bishop O'Connell

John Volpe (on piano) led the  
choir and musicians who sang  
and played beautifully.

Not pictured is Tim Leahy  
who sang a solo and played  
the organ for the occasion.





En un viaje hacia Madrid, a la hora de la cena, la azafata me preguntó: ¿desea cenar? Yo le pregunté: ¿cuáles son las opciones? “Sí o no”, esas son las opciones, contestó la azafata. Tenemos el poder de elegir. Un no siempre puede convertirse en un sí. El primer hijo de la parábola está representado por los ancianos, los sacerdotes, los escribas, los conocedores de las Escrituras, los exploradores de todas las minucias de la Ley. Sus vidas aparentemente eran un sí.

Sus mentes y sus corazones no cambiaron y sus corazones no se transformaron ante el mensaje de Jesús. Jesús fue para ellos una decepción, no era su Mesías. El segundo hijo representa a los recaudadores de impuestos y prostitutas, gente sencilla y sin pretensiones intelectuales...

Sus vidas aparentemente eran un no. Juan Bautista predicó la conversión, la opción del sí a Jesús. Nuestra primera reacción es decir “no” al evangelio de Jesús. ¿Por qué? Porque es duro cargar con la cruz, es duro amar a los enemigos, es duro perdonar siempre, es duro orar por los que nos persiguen, es duro hacer siempre el bien... ¿Qué clase de mundo nos hace decir no?

El mundo de la violencia, de los niños hambrientos, el de la droga... El evangelio de hoy nos invita a vivir en el sí, en una obediencia no de palabras sino una obediencia en acción. Si decimos “sí” a Dios amor, debemos decir no al rechazo a los hermanos, a los que no nos caen bien. Si decimos “sí” al perdón ofrecido en la cruz, debemos decir no al deseo de venganza. Si decimos “sí” al Dios de la vida, debemos decir no a todo lo que mata la vida y la verdadera felicidad. Si decimos “sí” a la invitación que Dios nos hace a trabajar en su Iglesia, debemos decir no a la pereza, a la comodidad y a la haraganería. Si decimos “sí” a todo lo que engendra paz y alegría, debemos decir no a todo lo que destruye la paz y divide a los hombres. Si decimos “sí” al amor en el matrimonio, debemos decir no a las aventuras extramatrimoniales.

Jesús es el hombre del “sí” dice San Pablo. Sí y no, las dos palabras más poderosas e importantes que podemos decir. Dios dice “sí” a sus hijos, a todos. Nosotros somos invitados en este domingo a decir a Dios nuestro sí de todo corazón y decirlo con nuestra vida. El privilegio del pecador es poder cambiar, decir sí. El joven Teophanos sólo tenía un deseo, entregarse por completo a Dios. Así que un día se dirigió a un monasterio. Fue recibido por un viejo monje que le preguntó: ¿Qué quiere usted? Quiero entregarme a Dios, le contestó el joven. Éste esperaba que fuera amable y paternal, pero el viejo monje le gritó: AHORA.

Luego alcanzó un palo y le perseguía diciendo: AHORA, AHORA. Después de muchos años de monje aún le sigue por doquier diciéndole: AHORA. Y es que las cosas de Dios no hay que dejarlas para mañana. El sí a Dios, si es verdadero, hay que dárselo ya, ahora.

## October 1 Twenty-sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

In our second reading today St. Paul expresses the need for unity within the community of Philippi. “Do nothing out of selfishness or out of vainglory; rather, humbly regard others as more important than yourselves...” The same concern is of importance to each parish community. If we have Christ as our companion, his presence and love will keep us united to one another. St. Paul knew that a lack of unity, signs of divisiveness or a lack of harmony erodes the spirit of a community. What is Christ asking of us so that we can be united to him in our thinking and actions? This week, pray the prayer of St. Francis, whose feast we celebrate this week: “Lord, make me, [make us] instruments of your peace.”



## “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 Oct. 14 -Oct. 22. 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!

Pics—Blessing of the Animals at the statue of Our Lady across from St. Francis Church on Sept. 23





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"Pray without Ceasing" 1  
Thessalonians 5:17



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