

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, charlestowncatholic.org

St. Francis Rectory, 303 Bunker Hill Street, 617-242-0147, info@charlestowncatholic.org

Charlestown, MA 02129

November 12, 2023

32ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Stay awake and be ready!

For you do not know on what day your Lord will come. Mt 24:42a, 44



© Pilot Bulletins

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
St. Catherine Chapel
at St. Mary Church

Weekend Masses

Saturday

9 am St. Mary- St. Catherine
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

COMING UP



Advent Mission— Speaker series

Wednesday, Nov. 29
6:30 pm
St. Francis de Sales
On Gratitude

Wednesday, Dec. 6
6:30 pm
St. Mary- St. Catherine
On Joy

Wednesday, Dec. 13
6:30 pm
St. Francis de Sales
Prayer Service for Peace
With the Sacrament of
Reconciliation

A quiet force for good - The Society of St. Vincent de Paul

has been an active supporter of the greatest in need. Vincentians respond to a variety of issues in Charlestown every week. Some people need help with rent, utilities, and/or furniture. Society members engage in home visits to listen to their stories, determine their living situation, and assist in whatever way they can.

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

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 ...

*I won't look too far ahead... It's too much for me to take.
But break it down to this next breath... This next step... This next choice is one that I can make.
So I'll walk through this night... Stumbling blindly toward the light and do the next right thing.
And with the dawn, what comes then, when it's clear that everything will never be the same again?
Then I'll make the choice to hear that voice and do the next right thing.*
From *The Next Right Thing*, written by Robert Lopez and Kristen Anderson-Lopez

As we make our way through November and recall Saints and Souls, the Masses of Remembrance we've offered, and the fact that for many of us, with Thanksgiving around the corner and Christmas not far away, this special season has changed forever with the losses of those we hold dear, the world can feel plunged into the darkness of the short days and long nights around us- for many of us, it's hard to find and hold onto the light.

In the Gospel, Jesus calls us to keep the flame of faith alive in our hearts, to tend it and spread it- and of course that light is not in this world, it is the light of Christ that burns within us, the wisdom that is referred to in the first reading. It's that light gives us warmth and hope as we look up and look ahead. It is not easy, and it can take a long time, but Christ awaits- and calls us to keep going, to take the next step, to do the next right thing.

NEWS FROM RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CONFIRMATION PROGRAM

We had another full session of two great classes on Sunday night!

A special thank you to Katy Fleming for leading the Confirmation 1 class in Clare's absence and to Father John who joined the discussion on life, happiness, and faith. Later this month and next month, we'll have more small group interactions on interesting topics.

Confirmation 2 candidates discussed the Story of God and reviewed the requirements necessary for confirmation, including selecting saint names, confirmations sponsors, service hours, Letters of Intent, and class attendance.

Nick and Ari will be co-teaching the Confirmation 2 classes going forward. As candidates prepare to be confirmed this spring, Father John will host an informational Zoom session for parents in December. Details to follow at our next class.

Remember, classes meet twice per month, the first and third Sundays of the month.

Our next class is Sunday, November 19th at 7pm, immediately following the 6 pm mass.



NEWS FROM RELIGIOUS EDUCATION YOUTH GROUP

Sunday's Youth Group was amazing! It started with an engaging and interactive co-presentation by Kathleen Chiong of the Eliot School and who is involved with many service projects, and our Youth Group teacher, Kerry. They talked about why it is important to serve others, how kids can help, and shared lots of ideas on group service projects. A special thank you to Kathleen for joining us! Then, we moved on to a discussion about Saints.

Remember, class is once per month, the first Sunday of the month. Below you will find the class schedule. We can always use some extra hands at Youth Group - we have a large number of students (which is great!) and could use help passing out food, cleaning up, and general assistance with activities. If you are able to assist, please use this link to sign up! [Parent Assist](#)

Our next class is December 3 at 7 pm, after the 6 pm mass.

For those who are wonderingthere's still time to register and you may do so on our web site.

Cynthia Markey, Confirmation Director



Charlestown Catholic Collaborative

The 11 am Sunday Mass is live on our Website and Facebook
and archived on Facebook

Saturday, November 11

9 am

4 pm **Veterans Mass**

4 pm + Rose Boyle & Margaret Boyle

Sunday, November 12

8 am

9:30 am + Mary & Roland Contin

11 am + Rafael Emilio Soto

6 pm

Monday, November 13

8 am

Tuesday, November 14

8 am

Wednesday, November 15

8 am

Thursday, November 16

8 am

Friday, November 17

8 am

Saturday, November 18

9 am

4 pm **Veterans Mass**

4 pm + Mary Devlin

Sunday, November 19

8 am + Jean L. Higgins

9:30 am + Eugene F "Buddy" & David M Whelan

11 am + Marie, Nancy, John Maughn & Joan Minton

6 pm + Philip "Bucky" Jones

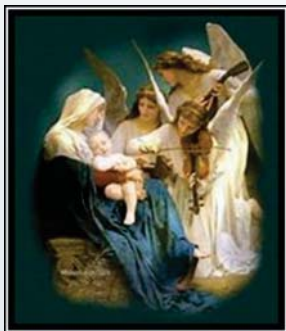
CHARLESTOWN CATHOLIC



Hockey Raffle for St. Francis de Sales Parish!

2 loge seats to Bruins vs. NJ Devils
on Dec. 30 (value: \$500 ea.)

Drawing: Dec. 16 after the 4 pm Mass.
Tickets: \$25 each, available from Fr. John,
St. Francis Parish Council members
and the Parish Offices at 46 Winthrop St.



SAVE THE DATE

FOR THE CHRISTMAS
CONCERT WITH THE
SPECTRUM SINGERS
DEC. 10 AT 3 PM
AT ST. MARY CHURCH

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
November 4-5**

**Parishioners contributed
\$4,740.82 to the
Weekly Collection
at St. Mary–
St. Catherine Parish.**

Attendance 11/04 & 11/05

4 pm	53
8 am	56
11 am	89
6pm	90
TOTAL =	288

St. Mary - St Catherine of Siena

UPCOMING COLLECTIONS

Nov 11-12—Monthly
Nov 19—Retired Religious Sisters
Dec 8—Immaculate Conception

**Saint Francis de Sales Church
Sanctuary Lamp**



is lit for

**Mary & Roland
Contin**

“Pray, hope, and don’t worry.”

Padre Pio

**Saint Mary Church
Sanctuary Lamp**



is lit in for

**James & Frances
Rowsey**



**WE ARE GRATEFUL TO
YOU**

**We are grateful to you
for your offerings!**

**On the weekend of Nov. 4-5,
\$1,663 was contributed
to the Weekly Collection
And
\$742.00 for the Cap, Imp.
at St. Francis de Sales Parish**

ATTENDANCE—11/04 & 11/05

Sat. @ 4:00 pm	43
Sun @ 9:30 am	73
Total	116

**St. Francis de Sales
UPCOMING COLLECTIONS**

Nov 19—Retired Religious Sisters
Dec 3—Capital Improvement

COMMUNITY NEWS & INFO

*If you are planning a Wedding,
Planning a Baptism,
If you are interested in becoming
Catholic or have not yet received
Confirmation, if you are homebound
and would like to
receive the Sacraments,
interested in the choir
Religious Education,
or becoming a volunteer in a ministry...*

*Contact us at the Parish office
at 617.242.4664 or email
info@charlestowncatholic.org*

*The Sacrament of Reconciliation is
offered at 3:15 pm on Saturdays
before Mass at both Parishes.*

*If you would like to pray the rosary
with us on Saturday mornings -
Please email Donna at:
donna.lecam@gmail.com*

ONLINE GIVING

Many have asked us how to contribute through online banking so that when they are not in the Parish, they can continue to make their offertory collection and second collection donations. This can be done easily by logging into your online banking account and entering St. Francis de Sales or St. Mary—St. Catherine as vendor/payee.

**For St. Francis, please use 303
Bunker Hill St for the address.**

**For St. Mary – St. Catherine, please
use 46 Winthrop Street.**

If you have any questions, please contact James Santosuosso at the Parish Office. Thank you for your continued generosity.



**WOMEN'S
FAITH-SHARING GROUP**

The women's faith sharing group will meet via Zoom on Wednesday, Nov. 15 at 6:30 pm. It's a wonderful opportunity to nurture your soul as we reflect on scripture and commentaries and make new friends.

Call Sr. Nancy at 617-242-4664 or go to ncitro@stmarystcatherine.org to learn more or to sign up!

TRIGÉSIMO SEGUNDO DOMINGO del Tiempo Ordinario

La primera generación cristiana vivió convencida de que Jesús, el Señor resucitado, volvería muy pronto lleno de vida. No fue así. Poco a poco, los seguidores de Jesús se tuvieron que preparar para una larga espera.

No es difícil imaginar las preguntas que se despertaron entre ellos. ¿Cómo mantener vivo el espíritu de los comienzos? ¿Cómo vivir despiertos mientras llega el Señor? ¿Cómo alimentar la fe sin dejar que se apague? Un relato de Jesús sobre lo sucedido en una boda les ayudaba a pensar la respuesta.

Diez jóvenes, amigas de la novia, encienden sus antorchas y se preparan para recibir al esposo. Cuando, al caer el sol, llegue a tomar consigo a la esposa, los acompañarán a ambos en el cortejo que los llevará hasta la casa del esposo donde se celebrará el banquete nupcial.

Hay un detalle que el narrador quiere destacar desde el comienzo. Entre las jóvenes hay cinco «sensatas» y previsoras que toman consigo aceite para impregnar sus antorchas a medida que se vaya consumiendo la llama. Las otras cinco son unas «necias» y descuidadas que se olvidan de tomar aceite con el riesgo de que se les apaguen las antorchas.

Pronto descubrirán su error. El esposo se retrasa y no llega hasta medianoche. Cuando se oye la llamada a recibirlo, las sensatas alimentan con su aceite la llama de sus antorchas y acompañan al esposo hasta entrar con él en la fiesta. Las necias no saben sino lamentarse: «*Que se nos apagan las antorchas*». Ocupadas en adquirir aceite, llegan al banquete cuando la puerta está cerrada. Demasiado tarde.

Muchos comentaristas tratan de buscar un significado secreto al símbolo del «aceite». ¿Está Jesús hablando del fervor espiritual, del amor, de la gracia bautismal...? Tal vez es más sencillo recordar su gran deseo: «*Yo he venido a traer fuego a la tierra, y ¿qué he de querer sino que se encienda?*». ¿Hay algo que pueda encender más nuestra fe que el contacto vivo con él?

¿No es una insensatez pretender conservar una fe gastada sin reavivarla con el fuego de Jesús? ¿No es una contradicción creernos cristianos sin conocer su proyecto ni sentirnos atraídos por su estilo de vida?

Necesitamos urgentemente una calidad nueva en nuestra relación con él. Cuidar todo lo que nos ayude a centrar nuestra vida en su persona. No gastar energías en lo que nos distrae o desvía de su Evangelio. Encender cada domingo nuestra fe rumiando sus palabras y comulgando vitalmente con él. Nadie puede transformar nuestras comunidades como Jesús.

HELP the 4th GRADE Service Project

During the month of November, the 4th Graders are collecting cereal for Harvest on Vine.

Please drop off cereal in the church lobby of both St. Mary's and St. Francis or at the Parish Center.

This service project will be running from now until Sunday, Nov. 19th .



4th grade
is
collecting
Cereal
For
Harvest
On
Vine



Thank you!
Allison Buff
Pastoral Asst.
Of Faith formation

LIVING LIFE AFTER COVID



“I have two words for Long Covid – the worst,” shares Eric T. of Burlington, MA.

While the initial alarm of the Covid-19 outbreak has subsided, the pandemic is ongoing. The spread may have slowed but we continue to feel the long-term impacts. Nearly 23 million Americans (100 million people globally) have learned that regardless of the severity of their initial infection, they may continue to experience debilitating symptoms for weeks, months, or even years. In a number of cases, these symptoms worsen with time, even turning deadly.

“I got Covid early last year, and it was pretty bad,” shares Eric. “I was hospitalized for 9 days, and there was a point where I wasn’t sure I would make it. I’m still here, so I guess God had other plans but months passed, and I was still gasping for air. I couldn’t do everyday tasks like cutting the grass or working in the yard, much less enjoy a quick bike ride. And then there was what my doctor called ‘brain fog.’ I’d lose my train of thought mid-sentence or forget words for stupid things like plates and toilet paper. It felt like I’d had a stroke more than it did a virus.”

Officially dubbed Long Covid, the aftermath of the original virus has taken on a life of its own. Dozens of symptoms have been reported, including shortness of breath and cognitive issues to a sudden onset of diabetes and cardiothoracic conditions.

These symptoms are so well-documented and common that those suffering now qualify for disability assistance.

Unfortunately for Eric and so many others, the treatment options thus far have been limited.

“I started with my primary care doctor and saw specialist after specialist. A pulmonologist finally told me ‘this is the best we can do for you, it’s time you start thinking about how you’re going to live with Long Covid.’ Apparently, their best was letting me live what felt like half a life.”

Eric wasn’t satisfied with that and resigned to doing his own research, which is how he ended up here at AWC Acupuncture & Wellness Clinic. “I fully believe the human body has the ability to heal itself, but sometimes it needs a little push. I’ve used acupuncture in the past to help me through a bout of sciatica and just knew if anyone could help me with this Long Covid business, it was going to be Acupuncturist, Min Jeon D.Ac. Lic.Ac.”

You might think that a novel virus needs a novel solution, but you’d only be half right. While we are using innovative solutions like ATP Resonance BioTherapy® to combat Long Covid because it aids in the healing and repair of specific cells and tissues, it’s a much more time-tested science that’s getting our patients back to living their lives.

AWC Acupuncture is the premier provider of ozone therapy in the state.

“Our O3 ReBoot Therapy® has all-encompassing and powerful healing capabilities,” shares Clinical Director Rebecca Rinn. “Ozone therapy has been used since the 1800s and was actually a popular tool for Doctors during the first world war because of its antibacterial, antiviral and anti-inflammatory properties. We use it today to inactivate residual Covid virus, stimulate oxygen metabolism and activate the immune system. And the whole treatment takes about 15 minutes and is completely noninvasive.” As with our other services, O3 ReBoot Therapy® requires consistent and repeated treatment to achieve measurable and long-lasting results.

“I’m in my second month of treatment and back to riding my bike and maybe breathing better than before I even had Covid. Everyone [at AWC] has been amazing! I feel cared for every time I walk in the door.”

Acupuncturist Min Jeon D.Ac. Lic.Ac. has successfully treated chronic pain and complicated conditions for over two decades. When Covid-19 emerged three years ago, we researched and developed therapies to address the complex virus effectively. Based on the testimony of patients like Eric, our efforts are a smashing success.



Call (781) 221-0162 where an AWC Care Coordinator is waiting to help you achieve optimal health and wellness!

**Visit www.AWClinic.com to learn more
and to take advantage of their NEW PATIENT OFFER!**



We help to amplify neighborhood voices and provide support to groups working to protect their communities.

www.neighborhoodvoicealliance.com

"Pray without Ceasing" 1
Thessalonians 5:17



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(TTY 711) to join.

Here today,
here tomorrow.



JOHN L. TOBIN

ATTORNEY AT LAW
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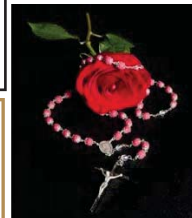
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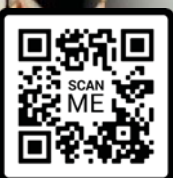
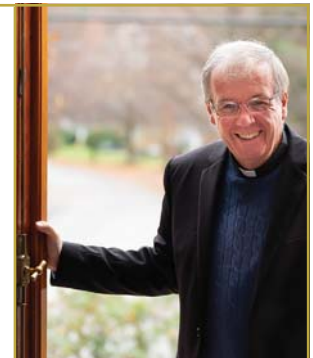
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Fr. Tom Nestor has served as pastor at the Collaborative Parishes of Resurrection and Saint Paul in Hingham for the past ten years, and previously served at St. Eulalia's in Winchester for 17 years. A Harvard graduate and native of West Roxbury, Fr. Nestor is known for fostering a sense of community wherever he goes.

donate at
clergytrust.org

— OR —



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of SAINT JOHN'S SEMINARY



Registration
Opens Nov. 14

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