

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

March 17, 2024

5th SUNDAY
of Lent



Whoever serves me must follow me, says the Lord;
and where I am, there also will my servant be. John 12:26

© 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!*

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

From our Pastor ...

*I have often dreamed of a far-off place
where a great, warm welcome will be waiting for me...
where the crowds will cheer when they see my face,
and a Voice keeps saying, this is where I'm meant to be.
I will find my way... I can go the distance...
I'll be there someday... if I can be strong.*

From *Go the Distance*, written by Menken & Zippel

A Word to the Wise...

Those 14 years and older are called to abstain from meat on Fridays during Lent. Catholics are also encouraged to engage in acts of kindness, justice, and mercy as well as abstain or refrain from something one would normally indulge in to mark the season.

For young children, parents should communicate the meaning and importance of Lent.

First Confessions!

Congrats to the kids who received First Reconciliation at St. Francis and St. Mary's! Thanks to Allison Buff, and Debbie O'Shea and her team who prepared our kids so well.

Peace before Holy Week

Join us on Wednesday, March 20th at 7 pm at St. Francis Church for a Lenten Penance Service!

Ready for My Close-Up

I make my return to the Catholic TV Mass on Thursday, March 21st at 9:30 am!



**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.**

Saint Mary Church
55 Warren St.
Saint Catherine of Siena Chapel
Warren & Soley St.
617.242.4664

—
St. Francis de Sales Church
313 Bunker Hill St.
617.242.0147

Charlestown Catholic Collaborative
Parish Center
46 Winthrop St.
617-242-4664

Social Ministry Office
49 Vine Street 617-580-8305

Good Shepherd School
20 Winthrop Street 617-242-8800

Handicapped Access

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

From our Pastor ...

Lenten Mission!

Two very special evenings with a dynamic TV and film star **Frank Runyeon**, who will light up St. Mary's Church at 55 Warren St. with **three** presentations:

Thursday, March 21 at 7 pm: Signs! The Gospel of John

Friday, March 22 at 7 pm: The Sermon on the Mount and 7:45 pm: Hollywood vs. Faith!

Take everyone to this special evening and be inspired, encouraged, and spellbound!

Admission is a free will offering. Mark these dates on your calendar and join us!

A Date to Remember

We're having a clean-up day at St. Mary's church on **Saturday, March 23rd** for Holy Week and Easter, so grab your cleaning supplies and join us as we spruce up our pretty church **starting at 10 am!**



***Cabrini* at the AMC Theatre in Assembly Square**

We're hosting a special evening with discount tickets **Monday, March 25 at 6 pm** to see this incredible movie based on the life of St. Mother Frances Cabrini, the first American saint and patron saint of immigrants.

See Fr. John for reservations!

Confirmation!

The Sacrament will be administered by Most. Rev. Cristiano Barbaro

on **Saturday, April 27 at St. Mary's at 4 pm**

and with special permission by Fr. John on **Sunday, April 28 at St. Francis at 9:30 am.**

First Communion!

We will celebrate First Communion at St Mary's on Saturday, **May 4 at 10 am**

and at St. Francis on **Sunday, May 5 at 9:30 am!**

As we conclude the Faith Formation year, we express our thanks and fond farewell to Allison Buff, who ran our K-4 program so very well this year.

A Special Sending Forth

On **Pentecost Sunday, May 19 at the 11 am Mass** (*wear red that day for the Holy Spirit*), we'll have a sending forth for Sr. Nancy Citro, as she heads off to her next adventure.

Join us for a special Mass and celebration as we express our gratitude to our beloved sister in Jesus Christ and her exceptional ministry here.

Charlestown Catholic Collaborative

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

Saturday, March 16

9 am

4 pm + Karen Langan, James Langan
Patricia & William Sullivan

4 pm + Lawrence Mahoney

Sunday, March 17—Happy Saint Patrick's Day!

8 am Colleen Bowman

9:30 am

11 am + Thomas Regan

6 pm + Frank Abate



Monday, March 18

8 am

Tuesday, March 19—Feast of St Joseph

8 am

Wednesday, March 20

8 am

Thursday, March 21

8 am

Friday, March 22

8 am + Edgar de la Riza

Saturday, March 23

9 am

4 pm + Jack O'Connor

4 pm

PALM SUNDAY—wear red!

Sunday, March 24

8 am

9:30 am + Eddie Groatorex, Jeanie Doherty Suprey &
Gerard Suprey

11 am

6 pm



CHARLESTOWN CATHOLIC

Don't Forget -Time to

Clean up for Easter!

St Mary Church

On SATURDAY Morning, March 23

Right after the 9:00 am Mass in the Chapel – about 9:30 am;

All are invited to come and help out to clean up the Church for Easter.

Breakfast? No problem!

Coffee & Donuts will be ready for you when you arrive.



**Easter
Flowers:**

Names for the Easter Flowers Bulletin must be submitted no later than Thursday, March 21. Please bring your envelope to Mass, or the Parish Center (46 Winthrop, St. 9-5, M-F), or email dludy@stmariystcatherine.org with the subject "Easter names".

FOR OUR PARISHIONERS

*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...*

*Or would like to register to the parish
Contact us at the Parish office at
617.242.4664 or email
info@charlestowncatholic.org*

*The Sacrament of Reconciliation is of-
fered 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*

Our Stewardship Prayer

Heavenly Father, instill in our hearts a spirit of love and compassion. May we foster a welcoming parish community with acceptance and respect for all. Inspire us to make a difference by being generous with our time and talents. Please send your Holy Spirit among us to remind us to follow Jesus and his teachings in all aspects of our lives. As we end this Mass, may we go forth and spread goodwill among our neighbors, friends, and fellow parishioners. Through Christ, our Lord. Amen



**Weekend of
March 9 & 10**

Parishioners contributed
\$7,526.75
to the Weekly Collection and
\$1,091.00 to the fuel collection



**Saint Francis de Sales
Sanctuary Lamp
is lit for**

Richard A. Doherty



**WE ARE GRATEFUL
TO YOU**

March 9 & 10

**Parishioners
contributed \$1,604
to the Weekly Collection and
\$491 to the second collection**

St. MC Attendance 3/29 & 3/310

Sat. @ 4 pm	74
Sun @ 8 am	36
11 am	190
6 pm	88
Total	388

Please bring in your rice bowls next week on Palm Sunday! Thanks so much!



St. F Attendance—3/9 & 3/10

Sat. @ 4 pm	49
Sun @ 9:30 am	53
Total	102

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

- Mar 17 Monthly
- Mar 24 Parish Easter
- Mar 29 Holy Land
- Mar 31 Clergy Benefit

*Happy
Saint
Patriks-
Day!*



**St. Francis de Sales
UPCOMING COLLECTIONS**

- Mar 29 Holy Land**
- Mar 31 Clergy Benefit**

COMMUNITY NEWS & INFO



**First Penance at St
Mary-St Catherine Si-
ena Parish on
March 7, 2024**
Congratulations to our reli-
gious education students



We extend a warm welcome to all visitors and those who are new to our parishes. If you're new to St. Mary—St. Catherine of Siena Parish or St. Francis de Sales Parish, please visit our website for events and resources. Please register online at: charlestowncatholic.org

Christ be with me, Christ within me, Christ behind me, Christ before me, Christ beside me, Christ to win me, Christ to comfort me and restore me, Christ beneath me, Christ above me, Christ in quiet, Christ in danger, Christ in hearts of all that love me, Christ in mouth of friend and stranger.... St Patrick



Saint Patrick

C. 389-461
FEAST DAY: MARCH 17

The patron saint of Ireland, Patrick was born in Roman Britain. He describes his life and ministry, including his work to convert the Irish people, in his short autobiography and testimony, Confessions. Kidnapped at age 16 by Irish raiders and sold into slavery in Ireland, his time spent in captivity transformed him spiritually. He was a lonely shepherd for six years before escaping and returning home.

After returning home, his dream of converting the Irish from pagan belief propelled him to priestly studies in Gaul (now France). In about 432, Pope Celestine I consecrated him as a bishop and sent him to Ireland. For nearly 30 years, he preached tirelessly, made countless converts, founded monasteries, and established the primatial see at Armagh in modern-day Northern Ireland.

Toward the end of his life, he made a 40-day retreat on Croagh Patrick mountain in present-day County Mayo. That gave rise to the pilgrimages that are made on the mountain to this day. Stories that Patrick used the shamrock to explain the Trinity and drove snakes from the island are unconfirmed legend.



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SOLEMNITY OF SAINT JOSEPH Husband of the Blessed Virgin Mary

19 de Marzo

In celebration of the Year of St. Joseph, we pray today for all fathers, that through the example of St. Joseph, they may fully embrace their vocation and accept the privilege and responsibility of caring for their children as St. Joseph cared for Jesus.

St. Joseph is also patron saint of the Universal Church, families, fathers, expectant mothers (pregnant women), travelers, immigrants, house sellers and buyers, craftsmen, engineers, and working people in general and also a happy death

A Very Special Message from Our Lady of Knock Shrine from John Volpe

Deeply rooted in the heritage of St. Mary's- St. Catherine and of course St. Francis de Sales parishes, is a lovely hymn, Lady of Knock. There are actually two versions of this hymn and both are gorgeous in their own right. One version was written by Fr. John MacGillivray in 1879, however the version we are most familiar with was written by Dana Scallon in 1981, released in 1983.

Fortunately, a while back, I had the opportunity to work with a very special member of the Knock Shrine Music Department, at my first assignment at St. Michael Church in Hudson, Mass. We have been able to stay in touch over the years, especially around St. Patrick's Day. She recently wrote us a little note:

Hello to all of our friends in St Mary-St Catherine of Siena Parish from Knock Shrine,

Knock is a small village in the west of Ireland with a big history. In 1879 the Blessed Virgin Mary, St. Joseph, St. John the Evangelist and an altar with a lamb appeared at the gable wall of the parish church for two hours in the pouring rain. Fifteen local people witnessed the apparition and as word spread of this amazing happening pilgrims began coming to pray at the site where it had occurred. Today, Knock is a thriving pilgrimage site with almost 1 million visitors coming in the year 2022 despite restrictions!

We would be delighted to have your wonderful cantor and organist, John Anthony, to sing here at one of our ceremonies and indeed would love to have you come on pilgrimage to us some time!

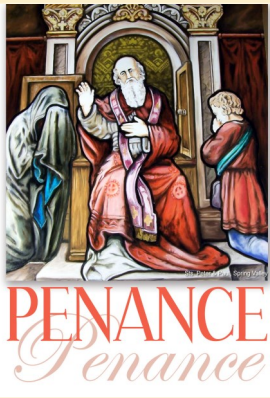
You can follow us on Facebook or check out our website for more information knockshrine.ie

Kind regards

Claire Lavin

Knock Shrine Music Department





LENTEN PRAYER AND RECONCILIATION SERVICE

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 20 - 7PMAN

AT SAINT FRANCIS DE SALES CHURCH

As we enter into the days before Holy Week, set an hour aside and come to our Lenten evening of prayer. In a serene and reflective atmosphere, we will pray together as a community of faith, contemplating God's love, mercy, and action in our lives. The evening will conclude with an opportunity for individual confession.

Quinto domingo de cuaresma

En este quinto domingo de Cuaresma, el evangelista Juan nos llama la atención con un particular curioso: algunos «griegos», de religión judía, llegados a Jerusalén para la fiesta de la Pascua, se dirigen al apóstol Felipe y le dicen: «Queremos ver a Jesús» (Jn 12, 21). En la ciudad santa, donde Jesús fue por última vez, hay mucha gente. Están los pequeños y los sencillos, que han acogido festivamente al profeta de Nazaret reconociendo en Él al Enviado del Señor. Están los sumos sacerdotes y los líderes del pueblo, que lo quieren eliminar porque lo consideran herético y peligroso. También hay personas, como esos «griegos», que tienen curiosidad por verlo y por saber más acerca de su persona y de las obras realizadas por Él, la última de las cuales—la resurrección de Lázaro— causó mucha sensación.

«Queremos ver a Jesús»: estas palabras, al igual que muchas otras en los Evangelios, van más allá del episodio particular y expresan algo *universal*; revelan *un deseo que atraviesa épocas y culturas*, un deseo presente en el corazón de muchas personas que han oído hablar de Cristo, pero no lo han *encontrado* aún. «Yo deseo ver a Jesús», así siente el corazón de esta gente.

Respondiendo indirectamente, de modo profético, a aquel pedido de poderlo ver, Jesús pronuncia una profecía que revela su identidad e indica el camino para conocerlo verdaderamente: «Ha llegado la hora de que sea glorificado el Hijo del hombre» (Jn 12, 23). ¡Es la hora de la Cruz! Es la hora de la derrota de Satanás, príncipe del mal, y del triunfo definitivo del amor misericordioso de Dios. Cristo declara que será «*levantado sobre la tierra*» (v. 32), una expresión con doble significado: «levantado» en cuanto crucificado, y «levantado» porque fue exaltado por el Padre en la Resurrección, para atraer a todos hacia sí y reconciliar a los hombres con Dios y entre ellos. La hora de la Cruz, la más oscura de la historia, es también la fuente de salvación para todos los que creen en Él.

Continuando con la profecía sobre su Pascua ya inminente, Jesús usa una imagen sencilla y sugestiva, la del «*grano de trigo*» que, al caer en la tierra, muere para dar fruto (cf. v. 24). En esta imagen encontramos otro aspecto de la Cruz de Cristo: el de la *fecundidad*. La cruz de Cristo es fecunda. La muerte de Jesús, de hecho, es una fuente inagotable de vida nueva, porque lleva en sí la fuerza regeneradora del amor de Dios. Inmersos en este amor por el Bautismo, los cristianos pueden convertirse en «*granos de trigo*» y dar mucho fruto si, al igual que Jesús, «*pierden la propia vida*» por amor a Dios y a los hermanos (cf. v. 25).

Por este motivo, a aquellos que también hoy «*quieren ver a Jesús*», a los que están en búsqueda del rostro de Dios; a quien recibió una catequesis cuando era pequeño y luego no la profundizó más y quizá ha perdido la fe; a muchos que aún no han encontrado a Jesús personalmente...; a todas estas personas podemos ofrecerles tres cosas: *el Evangelio*; *el Crucifijo* y *el testimonio* de nuestra fe, pobre pero sincera. El Evangelio: ahí podemos encontrar a Jesús, escucharlo, conocerlo. El Crucifijo: signo del amor de Jesús que se entregó por nosotros. Y luego, una fe que se traduce en gestos sencillos de caridad fraterna. Pero principalmente en la coherencia de vida: entre lo que decimos y lo que vivimos, coherencia entre nuestra fe y nuestra vida, entre nuestras palabras y nuestras acciones. Evangelio, Crucifijo y testimonio. Que la Virgen nos ayude a llevar estas tres cosas.

March 17 ~ Fifth Sunday of Lent

Jesus presents us with an amazing paradox in today's Gospel. He tells us that only by death comes life; only by spending our life do we preserve it; and only through service will come greatness. In this Gospel, Jesus calls us to live in a way that goes counter to what the world preaches. We will find life if we live by his word. In the remaining days of Lent, pray for the grace to make the necessary changes in your life to live in imitation of Christ.

Holy Week Schedule

Palm Sunday—March 24

4 PM- Saturday, March 23— both Parishes
8 AM- St. Mary's Church
9:30 AM— St. Francis de Sales Church
11 AM- St. Mary's Church
6 PM—St. Mary's Church

Monday—Mass 8 AM St. Catherine's Chapel

Tuesday— Mass 8 AM St. Catherine's Chapel

Wednesday— Mass 8 AM St. Catherine's Chapel

Easter Triduum



Holy Thursday

9 AM Morning Prayer @ St. Catherine Chapel
7 PM Liturgy @ St. Mary's Church

Good Friday

9 AM Morning Prayer @ St. Catherine's
3 PM Stations of the Cross @ St. Francis
7 PM Liturgy @ St. Francis de Sales Church

Holy Saturday

9 AM Morning Prayer @ St. Catherine's
7 PM The Great Vigil @ St. Mary's

Easter Sunday

Resurrection of Our Lord Masses:
8 AM and 11 AM @ St. Mary's Church
9:30 AM @ St. Francis de Sales Church

No 6 PM Mass on Easter Sunday



This week!

Two very special evenings with dynamic TV and film star **Frank Runyeon** who will light up St. Mary's Church with three presentations:

Thursday, March 21 at 7 pm:

Signs! The Gospel of John

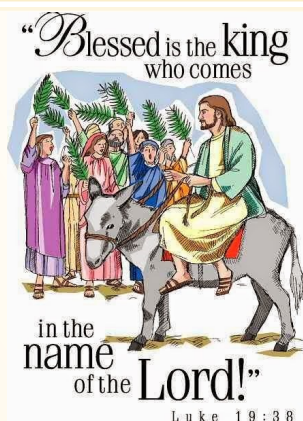
Friday, March 22 at 7 pm:

The Sermon on the Mount and Hollywood vs. Faith!

Take everyone to these special evenings and be inspired, encouraged, and spellbound!

Admission is a free will offering.

Mark these dates on your calendar and join us!



NEXT SUNDAY MARCH 24 IS PALM SUNDAY

PLEASE JOIN US AS WE GATHER AT THE TRAINING FIELD FOR BLESSING OF PALMS AT 10:45 AM. WE WILL THEN PROCESS IN SONG TO THE CHURCH FOR THE 11:00 AM MASS

DID YOU KNOW

- WHEN WE PROCESS TO CHURCH WE ARE IMITATING JESUS PROCESSING TO JERUSALEM
- THE STEPS IN THE SANCTUARY REMIND US OF JESUS ASCENT TO MOUNT CALVARY
- THAT THE SANCTUARY OF THE CHURCH SYMBOLIZES HEAVEN AND JESUS IS THERE IN THE EUCHARIST
- THAT THE PRIEST WEARS RED TO SYMBOLIZE THE PRECIOUS BLOOD OF CHRIST SHED ON THE CROSS. IT ALSO SYMBOLIZES LOVE, FIRE AND PASSION.

SO AS WE ARE BAPTIZED PRIEST, PROFIT AND KING, PLEASE JOIN FR. SHERIDAN AND WEAR SOME RED FOR PALM SUNDAY IN HONOR OF OUR LORD'S SACRIFICE FOR US.



Pic from the Music Ministry event on Sunday the 10th. Thank you to John Volpe and the choir.

Baptized on Sunday March 10! Welcome our new members.



Flynt Lee Gallagher



Shealyn Shea McMaster

Gym!

ST. JOHN SCHOOL
NORTH END • BOSTON
1895

Wednesdays
March 13, 20, 27
and April 3 & 10

9am-10am

Parents with toddlers turning 3 in 2024 and siblings are invited to learn about our Early Childhood Program while the children enjoy creative play.

Kindly enter St. John School at the gym door located on Lewis St.

Contact Lauren Price at lprice@sjsne.com for more information!