

CHARLESTOWN CATHOLIC COLLABORATIVE

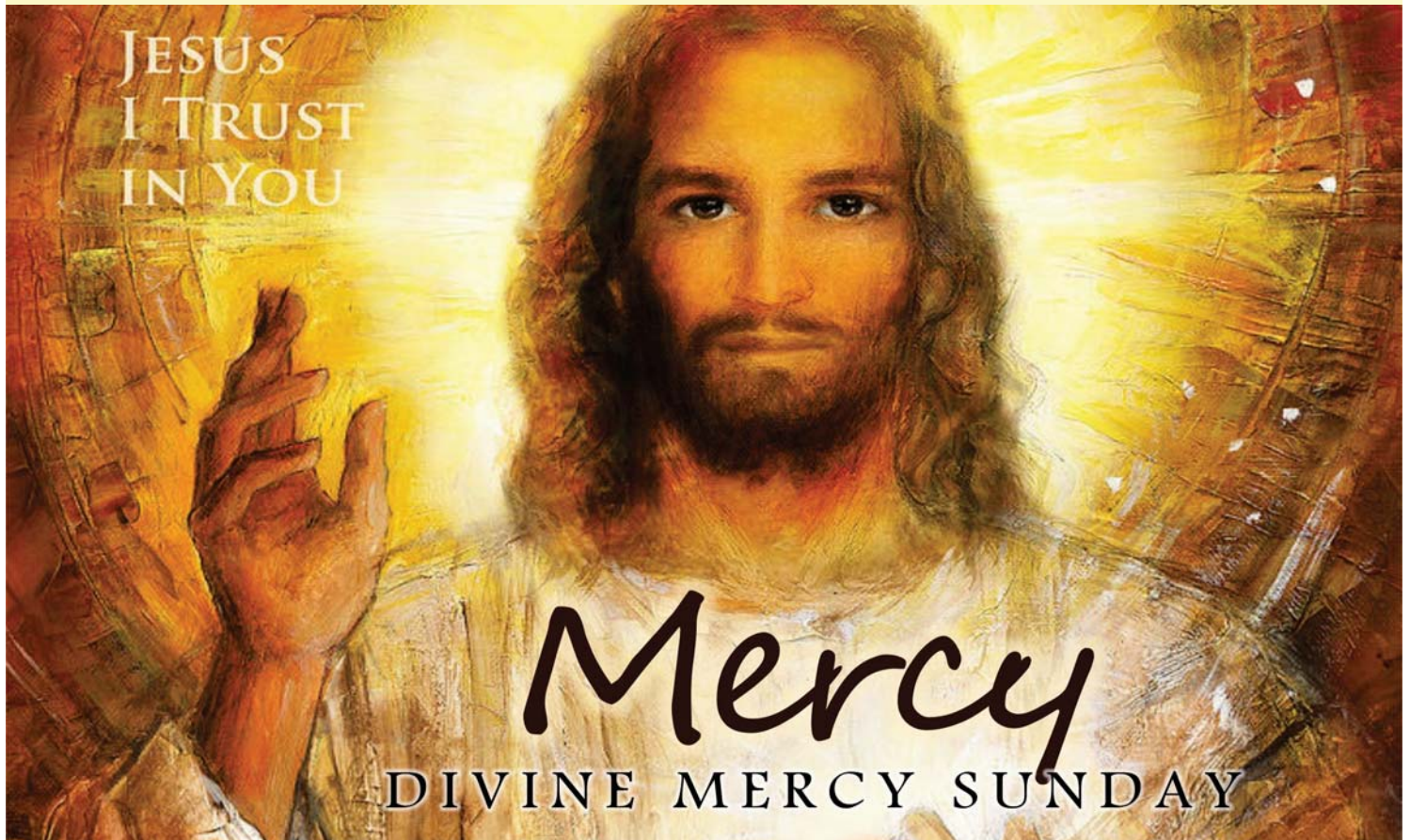
Saint Mary–Saint Catherine of Siena and Saint Francis de Sales Parishes

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

April 7, 2024



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



Welcomed into the Church at the Easter Vigil

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

**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 ...

What a Holy Week! From a beautiful Lenten prayer service to an electrifying Drama Mission to a chilly but warm Palm Sunday, through a movie night that touched and challenged us all in a theatre filled to capacity, to reaching out to hundreds of Charlestown families, into a Sacred Triduum of prayers, Stations and liturgies to an exhilarating Easter Vigil and Day where in both churches we welcomed new members of the family through the sacraments of our faith, I am so grateful to Sr. Nancy, our collaborative staff and everyone who shared their multitude of gifts. Have a joyous Easter season! Look up. Look ahead. The light of the resurrected Christ shines for us all!

Thank You!

Thanks so much to James, John, Oscar, Shawn, and everyone else for their hard work as we welcomed Frank Runyeon to Charlestown last week and were spellbound by the talent, faith, hope and love he shared at our Lenten Mission!
If you're interested in more about Frank, go to runyeonproductions.com

Rice Bowls!

Remember to bring back your Rice Bowls, which benefit the great work of Catholic Relief Services!
Your generosity makes such a difference! For more info, see crs.org

The Easter Collection

The Easter collection was for the retired priests of the Archdiocese.
Your generosity was deeply appreciated!
If you haven't yet given, please make a donation to this important cause. Go to clergytrust.org

Confirmation!

The Sacrament will be administered by our regional Bishop Cristiano Barbosa
on **Saturday, April 27 at St. Mary's at 4 pm,**
and by Fr. John on **Sunday, April 28 at St. Francis at 9:30 am.**

Thank You!

Following the **6 pm Mass on April 21 & 28**, join us for goodies in the back of St. Mary's Church, as we celebrate our extraordinary Faith Formation year and express our thanks and fond farewell to Allison Buff, who ran our K-4 program so very well.

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!**

A Special Sending Forth

On **Pentecost Sunday, May 19 at the 11 am Mass** (*wear red that day for the Holy Spirit*), we'll be sending forth Sr. Nancy, 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, April 6

9 am

4 pm + Donna Wrenn-Fortenot

7 pm + Nora & Frank Butler

Sunday, April 7

8 am

9:30 am + Brenda M. Page

11 am + Frank Gabbianelli

6 pm

Monday, April 8

8 am

Tuesday, April 9

8 am

Wednesday, April 10

8 am



Thursday, April 11

8 am

Friday, April 12

8 am

Saturday, April 13

9 am

4 pm

4 pm + Frank Abate

Sunday, April 14

8 am

9:30 am + Adeline & Peter Tkachuk

11 am + Thomas Regan

6 pm



CHARLESTOWN CATHOLIC





Weekend of
March 29 to 31

Parishioners contributed
\$7,388.06
to the Clergy Collection and
\$240 to the Good Friday collection
For Weekend of Palm Sunday
Parishioners contributed
\$4,110.33 and
\$1,852.00 to the Parish Easter
Collection

St. MC Attendance

Holy Thursday	95
Easter Vigil	104
EASTER	
8:00 am	192
11:00 am	553
Total	944



Saint Francis de Sales
Sanctuary Lamp
is lit for

Florence & Eugene
Connors

Easter Flowers—St Francis de Sales

Ann & Bridget Carrier
The Collins Family
Joseph Kane and Joseph Hughes
William & Pauline Lynch
The Lynch Family
Mary & Arthur McCarthy
Amanda Nadeau
James & Grace McGonagle
The McGonagle Family
Marty, Catherine & James O'Brien
The Shaw Family
Franny Wallace

Easter Flowers St Mary—St Catherine

Thomas Regan, Patrick Ryan S.J.
Regan Family & Ryan Family
Staley Family



**WE ARE GRATEFUL
TO YOU**
March 29 to 31
Parishioners
contributed \$2,243
to the Clergy Collection and
\$434 to the Good Friday collection
For Weekend of Palm Sunday,
Parishioners contributed
\$2,701.00

St. F Attendance

Good Friday	68
Stations	110
EASTER	
9:30 am	243
Total	427



*Requiescat in
Pace
Peter Francis
Mugford*

COMMUNITY NEWS & INFO

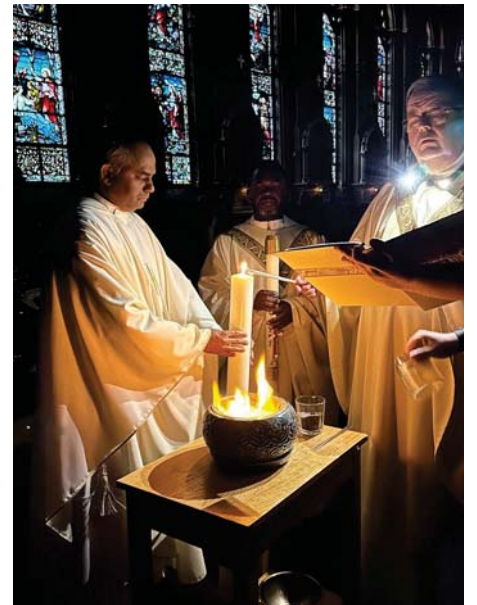
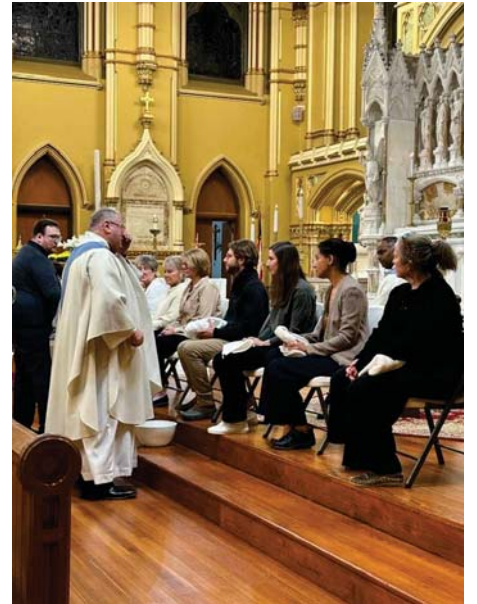




Here is a sampling of pictures for St Francis de Sales and St Mary—St Catherine Siena Parishes from Holy Week and Easter.

If you have any pictures, you would like to share, please send them along to dludy@stmaryscatherine.org

Also, Baptized at St Francis -
Chris & Luca Rizzo





En el Segundo Domingo de Pascua, o Domingo de la Divina Misericordia, la experiencia del Resucitado trae gozo y consuelo al grupo de los discípulos. En un día como hoy, un domingo, el primer día de la semana, Jesús se presenta en medio de los discípulos. Describamos a esa comunidad, porque de ahí viene una gran lección que no debe pasar desapercibida para nosotros. Del Evangelio que acabamos de escuchar fijemos nuestra atención en cuatro detalles:

Estaban **reunidos** en una casa; estaban con las **puertas cerradas**;

tenían **miedo a los judíos**; Tomás **no estaba** con ellos.

El Evangelio comienza con el detalle de la "reunión". Estaban reunidos, eran una pequeña comunidad que se reunía; pero **el temor, el desaliento y el dolor** por la muerte de Jesús les llevaba a permanecer "encerrados", aislados porque "tenían miedo a los judíos". Ojo, porque cuando la experiencia de un Cristo resucitado no forma parte de una comunidad, el temor se apodera y hace que la comunidad se encierre en sí misma y vea enemigos por todas partes, que no se abra a la evangelización y no tome el riesgo de abrir las puertas al mundo para que puedan entrar en ella todos los que quieran conocer al resucitado. Una comunidad sin la experiencia de un Cristo vivo es una comunidad que no avanza, se estanca, se encierra.

Hay un alto riesgo de caer en esa realidad cuando la religión se vive desde la teoría y no se pasa a la vivencia de Cristo resucitado. Hay muchas predicaciones que suenan a pura "teoría" y no logran penetrar en el corazón de la comunidad porque se quedan solo ahí, en la "teoría", pero no llevan el peso de la predicación de aquellos apóstoles que anunciaban a Cristo habiendo sido ellos testigos de esa resurrección. A Cristo hay que experimentarlo primero para poderlo anunciar; hay que sentirlo vivo en nuestras vidas para poderlo compartir en comunidad. Hay que ser testigos de su resurrección, hay que encontrarse con él y recobrar la paz, perder el miedo y llenarse de gozo. Es que se nota cuando una comunidad se ha encontrado con Cristo, que lo ha experimentado: hay gozo, paz, alegría y se vive con una fe inquebrantable y avanza con fuerza, sin temor contra viento y marea. A una comunidad que vive de la experiencia del resucitado no la detiene nada ni nadie. Una comunidad que ha experimentado a un Cristo vivo avanza y crece más cada día.

Y hay algo más sobre esta pequeña comunidad de los discípulos: se reunían, aunque con temor, pero se reunían; se mantenían en comunidad. Porque solos no podremos sobrellevar el desaliento, el desconsuelo y el dolor. Si al encontrarnos con las dificultades nos aislamos y dejamos la comunidad, nos será difícil experimentar el poder de un Cristo vivo viniendo en nuestro auxilio. Es necesaria siempre la comunidad. Eso le sucedió a Tomás, no estaba con el grupo, con la comunidad cuando se les presentó el resucitado. Pero ahí viene la importancia de compartir esa experiencia con los que se alejan o nunca han estado en la comunidad. Los discípulos compartieron esa experiencia con Tomás y éste, a pesar de su incredulidad, no se cerró al encuentro con el Cristo vivo. Por eso estaba ahí el siguiente domingo, reunido, en comunidad, y ahí pudo vivir también él la experiencia de los demás discípulos.

Hay mucha gente que se nos ha ido de la Iglesia, por la razón que sea, pero se ha retirado de nuestras comunidades. Si nos hemos encontrado con Cristo, estamos llamados a ir a buscarlas y traer a ese "Tomás", para que sienta en su corazón el poder del resucitado. Hay mucha gente que quiere vivir una relación vertical: Cristo y yo, yo y Cristo, y se les olvida mirar hacia los lados, a sus hermanos a una comunidad. Hay muchos hermanos que prefieren ver la misa por televisión o escucharla por la radio y no reunirse en una comunidad, no asistir a la Iglesia. Si queremos realmente experimentar el poder del resucitado debemos incorporarnos a esta Iglesia que es testigo desde hace más de dos mil años de ese Cristo que no se quedó en el sepulcro sino que se levantó y camina en medio de nosotros.

Vamos! Somos Iglesia! Somos comunidad! Somos testigos de un Cristo vivo!



April 7 ~ Second Sunday of Easter, Sunday of Divine Mercy

Our readings today give us clear description of what our parishes are to be and how we are to live as disciples. In the reading from Acts, the author describes the life of the disciples in this way: "The community of believers were of one heart and mind. . . they bore witness to Christ." Does this describe our parish, our community of believers? Is unity a hallmark of our community? Our efforts at strengthening our community and living faithfully as disciples may at times leave us feeling discouraged and doubtful, Jesus words in today's gospel urge us to keep believing in him, even when our faith is weak. May we take comfort in Jesus words, "Blessed are those who have not seen me, but still believe."

Dear Parents,

As we head into year end, I wanted to make you aware that I will be stepping away from my position of K-4 Religious Education Director. After careful consideration, I have decided to embark on a new journey which will afford me many positive opportunities. I am excited about this new path. Let me assure you that I will remain by your side throughout April and 1st Holy Communion. Please know that I have thoroughly enjoyed my time working for the Charlestown Catholic Collaborative and that I have appreciated all the help and guidance you have offered me throughout our 14 + classes. You have been amazing.

As I reflect on my time here, I can't help but have fond memories of the many children that have crossed the Parish Center threshold with smiles on their faces, both on their way in and out of their Tuesday classes. As a team, we have provided a safe haven for children, where all are welcome to learn about God and the Catholic faith. We have built on the curriculum making it even better for my successor next year.

I have made some great memories and friends during my time here and I will cherish you forever.

I will do my best to ensure a smooth and seamless transition by working closely with Fr. John to prepare for my successor and for all that next year will bring.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions or suggestions.

**Warm Regards,
Allison Buff**

Dear Volunteers and Supporters,

Your service and generosity is keeping **Harvest on Vine** thriving. In March we served more than 500 families, including single mothers, children, the elderly and handicapped, and it happened because of you. We distributed roughly 25,000 pounds of food to the neediest of our neighbors. I am so grateful to you!

A quote from Dorothy Day: *“People say, what is the sense of our small effort? They cannot see that we must lay one brick at a time, take one step at a time. A pebble cast into a pond causes ripples that spread in all directions. Each one of our thoughts, words and deeds is like that. No one has a right to sit down and feel hopeless. There is too much work to do.”*

*Thank you,
Tom MacDonald, Director of Parish Social Ministries*

APRIL - MONTH OF THE EUCHARIST

My Lord and Creator, Your goodness encourages me to converse with You. Your mercy abolishes the chasm which separates the Creator from the creature. To converse with You, O Lord, is the delight of my heart. In You I find everything that my heart could desire. Here Your light illumines my mind, enabling it to know You more and more deeply. Here streams of grace flow down upon my heart. Here my soul draws eternal life. O my Lord and Creator, You alone, beyond all these gifts, give Your own self to me and unite Yourself intimately with Your miserable creature. (Saint Faustina)

APRIL DATES

- April 7 Divine Mercy Sunday
- April 8 Annunciation of the Lord
(moved from March 25 due to Holy Week)
- April 9 Religious Ed Classes
- April 15 Presidents Day
(Boston Marathon; Office closed; school vacation)
- April 27 Confirmation at St Mary Church
- April 28 Confirmation at St Francis
- April 29 Feast of St Catherine of Siena
- April 30 Religious Ed Classes

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



HUNGRY SUNDAY APPEAL **NEXT WEEKEND**

Every Second Sunday of the month both parishes will be conducting the Hungry Sunday Appeal for our **Harvest On Vine Food Pantry**. Bring a non-perishable food item such as cereal, rice, soup or pasta to the Usher's Tables at St Francis de Sales or to the back of the church at St Mary- St Catherine of Siena when you come to Mass next weekend.

Thank you!



THANKS TO THESE SPONSORS WE ARE ABLE TO PROVIDE YOU WITH YOUR BULLETIN FREE EACH WEEK

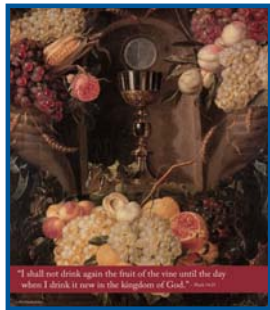
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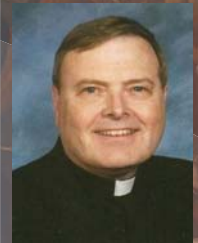
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MAY - JULY |



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"WHERE THERE IS DESPAIR, I MAY BRING HOPE" - ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI

"Jesus Wept." John 11:35



healthier priests. stronger communities.

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.

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