

# 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](http://charlestowncatholic.org)*

*St. Francis Rectory, 303 Bunker Hill Street, 617-242-0147, [info@charlestowncatholic.org](mailto:info@charlestowncatholic.org)*

Charlestown, MA 02129

May 19, 2024



## PENTECOST

*Receive the Holy Spirit.*

John 20:22

© 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 — Monday– Friday  
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 ...

*When you need direction, try to close your eyes.*

*If you don't know where you're heading, just hold on tight.*

*When you're lost I will guide you,*

*'cause I'm right here beside you, in every memory.*

*And just like a compass that leads the way,*

*we may take the long road, but I'll never fade...*

*When you're lost... I will guide you. Oh, tell me you'll try to remember...*

*on the darker days, love is a compass.*

### Catholic Appeal update

Both parishes have reached over 80% of our Catholic Appeal assessments!

We're almost there, but we need your help to reach and pass the goal!

It helps our parishes, our Collaborative and our Archdiocese!

Please give and help us build the ministries so many around us need.

To give, take a blue envelope from the pews or go to [catholicappeal.com](http://catholicappeal.com)  
and answer the call.

### First Communion!

We congratulate the boys and girls who received First Communion at St Mary's last Saturday and at St. Francis last Sunday and those who received the Sacrament of Confirmation- thanks to our directors, teachers and volunteers who gave us all their faith, hope and love!

*As we conclude the Faith Formation year, we express our thanks  
and fond farewell to Allison Buff,*

*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](http://charlestowncatholic.org)*

#### 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 ...*

*who ran our K-4 program so very well this year.*

### **Project Rachel Post-Abortion Healing Retreats**

Are you – or someone you know – seeking peace after an abortion?

The Project Rachel ministry of the Archdiocese of Boston extends a special invitation to women experiencing regret from a past abortion, to attend a *Come to the Waters of Healing* one-day retreat on **Saturday, June 8th**.

Locations are confidential. For more information on the retreats or other services, contact Project Rachel at 508.651.3100 or [help@projectrachelboston.com](mailto:help@projectrachelboston.com). Fr. John is a Project Rachel priest.

### **A Special Sending Forth**

Next 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.

*Please note that we'll be suspending the 6 pm Mass that day.*

### **Serving the Spiritual Needs of Grieving Parents**

Saturday, June 1 9:30am - 7:30pm

Mary Queen of Apostles Parish: St. James Church Hall 150 Federal St. Salem, MA

The Emmaus Ministry for Grieving Parents serves the spiritual needs of parents whose children of any age have died by any cause.

This one-day retreat gives parents the opportunity to concentrate on their individual spiritual journey through the grief and come to know the promise of Jesus and eternal life.

The retreat is open to parents of any age who have lost children at any age and by any means (including abortion, miscarriage, suicide, and overdose).

Participants must register and will be contacted by retreat leaders with additional information. To register, visit [mqoa.org/emmaus](http://mqoa.org/emmaus) or leave a message for Dr. Christine Williams at 978-594-7780.

### **When my heart finds Christmas...**

On Friday, Nov. 22, we're going to Manhattan to see incredible **Radio City Music Hall Christmas Spectacular**, starring the Rockettes! We'll leave Charlestown by motorcoach at 7 am, attend the 2 pm show in Orchestra seats, and have a few hours to take in the excitement of the Big Apple- we'll be back in the Town by midnight!

We're looking at about \$225 per person. We're limited to 40 people- we'll announce more info soon!

## Charlestown Catholic Collaborative

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

Saturday, May 18

9 am

4 pm

4 pm + Joseph & Frances Smith

Sunday, May 19 PENTECOST

8 am

9:30 am

11 am Celebration Mass for St. Nancy

6 pm *No 6 pm Mass this week*

Monday, May 20

8 am + Arthur Mari, Joseph Mari, Tranquillino, Minnie &  
Vincent Citro and Fabio Laudadio

Tuesday, May 21

8 am

Wednesday, May 22

8 am

Thursday, May 23

8 am

Friday, May 24

8 am

Saturday, May 25

9 am

4 pm

4 pm + Henry Shackford

Sunday, May 26

8 am

9:30 am

11 am + James Hingston

6 pm

# CHARLESTOWN CATHOLIC



*The staff thanks you for all that you have done in sharing your time, talent and knowledge with all of us. We also thank you for being there in so many of life's moments, always ready to help, pray for us and with us, as we shared joys and pains along the way. Thank you Sister Nancy. You will be very much missed.*

*We wish you joy and abundant blessings in your future endeavors in your ministry.*



### 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

Log onto our website at **Charlestown Catholic Community**

Find bulletins and Mass times for both parishes and view the latest recorded Sunday Mass. There is music, news from Harvest on Vine, pictures, and more. You may donate to the Parishes or its various ministries by selecting the Donate tab.



May 4 & 5

St. Mary-

St. Catherine Parishioners  
contributed \$4,646.36 to the  
Weekly Collection and  
\$731 to the Monthly Collection

*St. MC Attendance*

4 pm	62
8 am	62
11 am	104
6 pm	62
Total	290

St. Mary - St Catherine of Siena  
UPCOMING COLLECTIONS  
May 19 Seminary Offering

*We are grateful  
to you!*



*Requiescat in  
Pace*

*Marianne Wales*

*Katherine "Kate"  
Walker*

*Edward "Ed" Sullivan*

*Loretta Arbuckle*

*E. Paul Wedge*



May 4 & 5

St. Francis  
Parishioners  
contributed

\$1,752.00

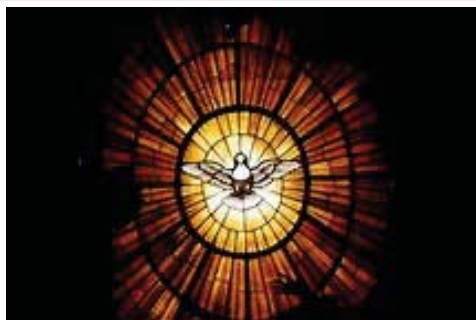
to the Weekly Collection and  
\$140 to Capital Improvement

*St. F Attendance*

4 pm	54
9:30 am	76
Total	130

St. Francis de Sales  
UPCOMING COLLECTIONS  
May 19 Seminary Offering

## COMMUNITY NEWS & INFO



Domingo de Pentecostés Fin de Semana del 18/19 de Mayo de 2024 Hoy celebramos el don del Espíritu Santo, el nacimiento de la Iglesia y el comienzo de su misión en el mundo. El Domingo de Pentecostés nos recuerda que nuestras vidas están llenas del Espíritu Santo y que Dios ha logrado cosas creativas en nosotros a través de este don. Nos ha sido confiado este gran don del Espíritu Santo. Este gran don nos empodera para ser pregoneros audaces del Evangelio en palabra y en acción. Nos insta a decir la verdad al poder. Nos alienta a usar palabras y exhortaciones e incluso argumentos que están destinados a sanar, mostrar cuidado y compasión y a reconciliarnos. Ahora es un buen momento para preguntar: ¿estamos siendo buenos corresponsables de este don del Espíritu Santo? ¿Qué cosas creativas hemos hecho para glorificar los logros de Dios en nosotros?

### May 19 ~ Pentecost Sunday

"Come Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful and kindle in them the fire of your love." The reading from the Acts of the Apostles is evidence that the gifts of the Holy Spirit were at work in the disciples and motivated them to speak about Jesus. They caught the fire of God's love and spoke openly about the wonderful things God had done. Take a few moments in prayer this week to consider some of the wonderful things God has done in your life. Ask the Holy Spirit to kindle in you the fire of God's love that was given to the disciples on that first Pentecost. Then, like the disciples go forth and share that good news of God's love with others

**Next weekend is Memorial Day Weekend. The office will be closed on Monday, May 27th and the Mass will be at 9 am on Memorial Day in the St Catherine Siena Chapel.**

## The SNDdeN Phoenix Immigration Project

### *A collection to be taken up at the Masses at St. Mary- St. Catherine Parish on the weekend of June 1-2 in gratitude for the ministry of Sister Nancy Citro, SNDdeN Advocating for Asylum Seekers*

When Bishop John Purcell invited the Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur to serve in his growing Cincinnati Diocese in 1840, he was concerned for the newly arrived immigrants, most of whom came from Germany. Since then, service to immigrants has been a constant in the ministry of the SNDdeN Ohio Province and has flourished for over 50 years in the Phoenix, AZ, Diocese.

In recent years, innumerable individuals and families have sought asylum in the United States to escape violence, extortion, extreme poverty, and political, religious, and sexual persecution. Motivated by the spirit of St. Julie Billiart to serve the most abandoned, we hear today Pope Francis' call urging *"the faithful to consider the treatment of immigrants, asking: Do we welcome them as brothers (and sisters) or do we exploit them?"* Today, we express God's goodness in our service to asylum seekers.

#### Asylum Seekers Before Covid

Before COVID-19 interrupted group activities in Arizona, small churches provided essential services of welcome, food, clothing, and showers. They also helped to arrange Asylee's transportation to family members and sponsors. Sisters Olivia Pacheco and Nancy Wellmeier volunteered at three Protestant churches. Sisters Meg Walsh and Liane Delsuc were doing the same at St. Matthew's Catholic Church and a Methodist Church. At each place, once a week, a Department of Homeland Security bus drops off already vetted asylum-seekers to pursue their claim while sponsored by a relative or friend in the U.S.

In 2019, the International Rescue Committee established the Welcome Center in central Phoenix and enlisted the aid of an interfaith coalition of volunteers. Sisters Nancy, Olivia, Meg, and Liane began volunteering there regularly.

#### Organizing a Team of Volunteers from Three Provinces

As asylum seekers increased, the need for volunteers at the Welcome Center grew. SNDdeN initiated a project to invite Sisters from across the U.S. to serve for short terms of two to four weeks. Sisters Liane, Meg, and Nancy, along with Sisters Loreta Jordan and Mary Alice McCabe, became the organizing team from our three U.S. Provinces. Given their passion to serve migrating peoples, they presented the project to the Ohio Province Leadership, who supported this expanded immigrant ministry.

All three U.S. Provinces endorsed the effort to serve asylum seekers, providing financial support for transportation, room, and board for Sisters who would live in the Habitat for Humanity community in South Phoenix with Sister Meg and Liane. They later extended the invitation for volunteers to Associates, SNDdeN staff members, Sisters of other Congregations, family members, and friends.

#### Mission to Educate and Advocate

Multiplying hands for the Welcome Center was only one objective: a second was that volunteers would return home with a mission to educate others with accurate facts regarding the "invasion" at the border and to advocate with legislators for comprehensive immigration reform.

The reality of global migration has been hopeful at the Welcome Center as people arrive from Russia, Georgia, India, Bangladesh, and Central and South America after harrowing journeys.

#### December 2021 through 2022

Fifteen Sisters of Notre Dame, five former Sisters, two Sisters of another Congregation, and four friends traveled to Phoenix to offer service at the Welcome Center.

Volunteers joined Sister Nancy as she greeted new asylum seekers and provided sandwiches and drinks for hungry travelers.

Others guided the asylum seekers as they chose one new set of clothing.

Sister Liane managed the schedule for the showers.

Volunteers helped Sister Meg pick up and serve the dinner St. Vincent de Paul Society provided.

Volunteers also spent mornings at the Habitat Community washing towels to be returned to the Welcome Center the next day.

#### Habitat Community

The Habitat Community provides a "home" for our volunteers and experiences of community with prayer and reflection on the reality of immigration. Volunteers share experiences in monthly newsletters designed by Sister Terry David, SNDdeN. Some Sisters and Associates participate in this mission by sending handmade scarves, hats, and care packages of needed items. Others give financial donations to cover clothing and hygiene items at the showers.

The sense that we are all in this together has been quite inspiring. St. Julie is undoubtedly proud of the Mission of her daughters: As we work for justice and peace today, we hold in our hearts... those people forced to migrate across borders in search of life and hope.

*Written by Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur Liane Delsuc, Loreta Jordan, Mary Alice McCabe, Meg Walsh, and Nancy Wellmeier.*

*First published in Good Works, Volume 19 No.1. March 2023*

## **BEST WISHES TO SISTER NANCY—FROM THE PARISHIONERS**

Best of luck in your retirement! Thank you for everything you have done for the parish! Denise

Dear Friend you have been my greatest supporter. You will be truly missed. All the best to you on your new adventure. Fran Taylor

Dear Sister Nancy, Your friendship is one of the great joys of moving to Charlestown fifteen years ago. Lots of love, Peter & Donna LeCam

For your warmth, kindness, empathy, and caring beyond measure, we are most thankful and filled with gratitude. With love, Maggie & Frank

From our very first day as new parishioners (more than 20 years ago, you have always made us feel so welcomed and loved. With gratitude, The Markeys

It was so fun having Sister Nancy teach chapel at Good Shepherd. We love seeing her at Mass. Evelyn and Carmen

It's impossible to put in 150 words how Sister Nancy has impacted my life. Thank you for EVERYTHING!

May God continue to bless Sr. Nancy with good health and happiness for many years to come! We will miss her dedication, faith and kindness!

Sister is truly graced with wonderful gifts of compassion, warmth and wisdom and is always willing to share these with others in our parish community.

We have been blessed to be part of this wonderful Parish! Thank you for everything. G.R., Kirsten, G3, W and E.

Sister Nancy has been a fixture for my family. She always has a kind word and warm hug. She will be missed! Conforti Family

Sister Nancy I am so grateful for having you in my life these past 20+ years. Words cannot begin to explain my appreciation for your wisdom and constant source of strength. You might not know this but you were my rock that got me through so many challenging family times. Best wishes for you always!

Sister Nancy is the most welcoming person.

Sister Nancy, thank you for your kind spirit and your dedication to this Parish. We are so blessed to have you in our lives. We will miss you!

Sister Nancy, you will be greatly missed. Filling your shoes will be a very tall task. Until we meet again, may God hold you in the palm of his hand.

Sister Nancy, Your compassionate and creative leadership, always with refreshing humor, has been a unique source of strength to St. Mary-St. Catherine of Siena Parishioners. Fondly, Sister Kathleen Carven

Sister. Nancy is a wonderful and kind spiritual woman. She is so caring and will be missed

Sr Nancy - thank you for all you have done for our parish and for your many years of service. You will be missed!!

Sr. Nancy has been a pillar of warmth and strength to our Catholic community. We wish you the best on your next journey! The Frawleys will miss you!

Sr. Nancy invited me to join the St. Mary-St. Catherine of Siena Parish. I am forever grateful for her wisdom and guidance and welcoming nature.

Sr. Nancy-in thanksgiving for your gift of loving kindness, we pray to Jesus and Mary for boundless and joyful blessings for you on your journey!

Sr. Nancy, there aren't words to express my gratitude for your contribution to my family! You are an angel on earth and always in my prayers! xo

Sr. Nancy is such a gift. She is always there like an old friend. Sharing both the joy in life as well as the sorrow. Best wishes on the next chapter!

Thank you for all the love, support, and friendship you've given me throughout the years! Congratulations on a job well done! Love you tons!

Thank you for all you have done for our parish community. You have left your mark on every aspect of the parish in a quiet, gentle way and with a wonderful sense of humor. You have enriched our faith and have been with so many of us through the happiest times and supported us in the most challenging times of our lives. Our gratitude is endless for your friendship and being the wonderful Sister Nancy that we love and will miss so much!

Thank you for everything you have done for the parish (and its parishioners)! You will be greatly missed. Best wishes for your next steps!

Thank you for everything you have done for us Sister Nancy. We will miss you and hope that you will come back to visit! Stephanie, Raj and Mira

Thank you Sister Nancy for all that you did at Good Shepherd - my children loved learning from you during chapel. Wishing you all the best!

Thank you Sister Nancy for leading an amazing RCIA program and welcoming us into the Charlestown Catholic Community! - Brian, Hannah and Henry Ferguson

Thank you Sister Nancy for your kindness and for all of the fantastic work you have done for all of us! God Bless You. Annie Shackford

Thank you so much Sister Nancy!!! Excited for your next chapter in life ♥

Thanks so much for everything Sr Nancy. You will be missed by all of us. God Bless You Mike Shackford.

There are no words to express my gratitude and admiration for all you are and all you do. You have been a gift in my life.

We will miss you. You are special

We'll always remember your very first year at St. Mary-St. Catherine of Siena when Eden played baby Jesus at Christmas Eve Mass.

We'll miss Sr. Nancy's calm presence and steady guiding hand. I will always appreciate the kindness she showed with my mother's illness and passing.

Words aren't enough to describe the gratitude & love for Sr. Nancy. She has truly been the heart & soul of our parish & will be greatly missed.

You exemplify the love and compassion of Christ in all that you do. We are forever grateful for your warm support and friendship to our family.

You have prayed with me in my greatest joys-sacraments of my children-and greatest sorrows- loss of my parents. I'm so blessed to call you my friend.



*In gratitude to an extraordinary woman who stayed strong and loving through difficult times to guide so many souls to light, happiness, and peace. Thank you, Sr. Nancy, for your faith, hope and love.*

*Our Parish, Collaborative, Town, and the whole Church is all the richer for the diversity of your gifts.*

*Please join us Sunday at the 11 am Mass (remember to wear red) as we honor her with a special Mass and a celebration to follow.*



## A letter from Sister Maureen Clark the Catholic Chaplain at MCI Framingham.

I am very honored to be able to share a small reflection on this wonderful day of appreciation for you, Sr Nancy.

I have had the opportunity to share in prison ministry with Sr. Nancy over the past 10 years. This time has been extremely gifted for the women she had the opportunity to meet and minister to through Bible Study, Sacrament Class and one-to-one Spiritual Direction.

What I have come to know with Sr. Nancy is her powerful presence. She doesn't even have to speak. Sr. Nancy has a gift that is so warm and welcoming everyone feels comfortable in her presence.

Early on when Sr. Nancy began prison ministry with me at MCIF it was clear that from the first moment she experienced and was moved by an overwhelming sense of compassion. She didn't miss for a minute where she was and who she was with .. many times... what she saw and heard was breaking her heart.

She knew the women were going nowhere. They would be locked down, few had visits, many longed to see their children and wished and hoped for positive court actions in their cases. Sr. Nancy feeling very vulnerable and wishing she could be of some help offered far more than she realized. The gentleness, hope and sincere meeting meant the world to the women. She saw and heard their suffering and loss. Her compassionate gesture was transforming in a way that allowed the women to feel safe and knew that what they shared would be held as sacred. The moments of prayer that followed were welcomed and very healing in the midst of a cold prison.

Sr. Nancy is a real gift to all of us. I thank her for listening carefully, for knowing Jesus and for sharing that love relationship with all of us. Your genuine service is alive and welcomes each and everyone of us into that circle of love..

I know I am so grateful to you,

Sr. Nancy. Looking forward to your help in the days ahead in prison!





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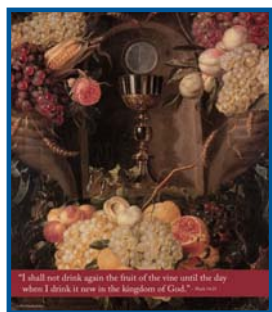
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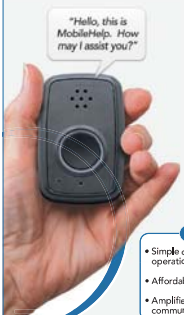
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