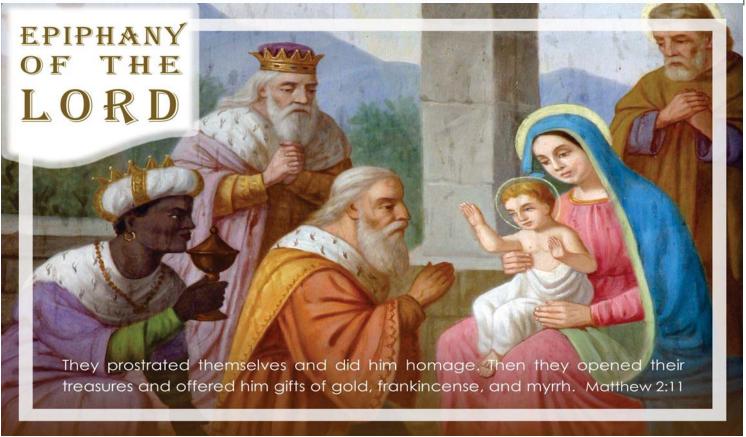
CHARLESTOWN CATHOLIC COLLABORATIVE

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 January 5, 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

Daily

8:00 am Masses — Mon through Fri St. Catherine Chapel at St. Mary Church Saturdays at 9 am, Holidays at 9 am

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

Finance & Operations Manager James Santosuosso

> Social Ministry Director Thomas J. MacDonald

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. Anthony Nweke C.S.S.p. Fr. Mark Shimave Msgr. Felix Ojimba

Email info@charlestowncatholic.org

Three gifts used today

Three special presents were carried by the Magi to Bethlehem, but what do we know about them?

Frankincense, also called *olibanum* and *al·lubān*, is an aromatic resin found in the Boswellia tree. The material is valued for its aromatic qualities and has been used in church for thousands of years. Frankincense is also found in medicine, oil, and perfume. While the Frankincense market has existed for millennia, its viability is now threatened by the overharvesting of Boswellia trees, deforestation, and the longhorn beetle.

Myrrh, also called the Balm of Gilead or Balsam of Mecca, is similar to Frankincense but obtained from Commiphora plants. Myrrh is mixed with Frankincense in church. The substance has also been used in salves and liniments, arthritic remedies, perfume, even the embalming of mummies. At one point in ancient economy, myrrh was worth more than gold.

Gold is the most malleable metal in the world. Its resistance to moisture and corrosion has made it the perfect material for currency, jewelry and sacred objects. Gold is found in dental crowns and bridges, high-end CDs, toners, spacecraft, airplane windows, USB cables, semiconductors, and even gourmet dessert.

January 5 ~ The Epiphany of the Lord

Today we celebrate Epiphany, the revelation of Jesus to the Magi who traveled from afar to see the Christ child. Over the past two weeks in parishes throughout the archdiocese people have come from far and near to celebrate the birth of our Savior. Many were people we know and recognize, and many more were people unknown. Yet, it is important for us to remember that like the Magi, everyone who came was drawn by God's grace to see Christ! As you reflect on this Epiphany and Christmas, were all who gathered for the beautiful celebrations welcomed with the same humble spirit as Mary and Joseph welcomed the shepherds and Magi? Let us ask for the grace to welcome and celebrate everyone who desires to journey with us. This journey is always better when traveled with companions.

GRATEFULLY ACKNOWLEDGING THAT GOD GIVES US ALL, WE EACH WILLINGLY OFFER OUR UNIQUE GIFTS TO ONE ANOTHER AND ALL CREATION IN THE SPIRIT OF ESUS CHRIST.

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

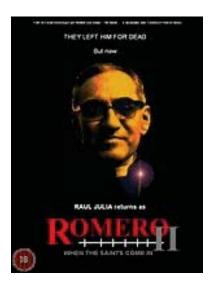
St. Francis de Sales Church 313 Bunker Hill St. Charlestown Catholic Collaborative
Parish Center
46 Winthrop St.
617-242-4664

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.



Coming Friday, Jan, 10 at 7 pm to 46 Winthrop: The acclaimed film, *Romero*, starring Raul Julia, is based on the life of Bishop Oscar Romero of San Salvador, a martyr who was recently proclaimed a saint.

Admission is free and refreshments will be served.

Please note that because of violent content, the film is rated PG-13.



WINTER 2025 ALERT

Dear Friends, in the event of inclement weather that necessitates the closing of the church, we will post the closing on Channel 5, WCVB, Channel 7 WHDH and 56 WLVI. Stay warm and safe!

If Boston Public Schools are closed due to winter weather, for safety reasons the 8 am Mass will be

Faith Formation! K-4 classes will meet on Tuesday, Jan. 7 @ 4 - 5 pm at 46 Winthrop. Confirmation prep will meet after the 6 pm Mass on Sunday, Jan 12th.



Symbolon is an exciting program of videos and discussion about our Catholic faith - it's never too late to join us!

Come and see and learn what we believe - and more importantly, why we believe it.

Our next meeting will be Monday, Jan. 6 at 7 pm at St. Catherine's Chapel.

If you have any questions, see Fr. John!



On Friday, Jan. 7 at 5:30 pm at St. Mary's Hall, our Family Film Night presents the Lego Movie!

St. Mary-St. Catherine of Siena Mass Intentions

St. Francis de Sales Mass Intentions

Saturday, January 4

4 pm + Margaret O'Connell

Sunday, January 5

8 am + Michael Keigney 11 am + Eleanor Fiamma

6 pm

Monday, January 6

8 am

Tuesday, January 7

8 am

Wednesday, January 8

8 am Donna Toelke

Thursday, January 9

8 am

Friday, January 10

8 am

Saturday, January 11

4 pm

Sunday, January 12

8 am

11 am Barbara Dugan

6 pm

Saturday, January 4

4 pm Memorial Mass for Bishop Edward Lawton

Sunday, January 5

9:30 am Parishioner Intentions



Saturday, January 11

4 pm Parishioner Intentions

Sunday, January 12

9:30 am

CHARLESTOWN CATHOLIC

Mass Intentions—We are currently booking Mass Intentions for 2025. To book a Mass, please call the parish office at 617.242.4664.

Sanctuary Candles— To have a Sanctuary Candle lit in memory of a loved one, please contact the parish office. You may request one for St Francis des Sales, St Mary Church or the St Catherine of Siena Chapel.

Sacrament of Baptism—Baptisms are generally held on the 2nd Sunday of each month at St Mary Church. Baptisms at St Francis de Sales Church are scheduled with Fr. Sheridan. For all requests for Baptisms, please call the Parish Office to start the process. Classes are generally held on the 2nd Saturday at the Parish Office at noon. Parents and God parents should attend.

Confessions— For St. Francis de Sales Parish and St. Mary-St Catherine of Siena Parish. Confessions are held at 3:30 pm on Saturday's before the 4 pm Mass.

Weddings— All couples; Please access the request for wedding form on our website—Charlestowncatholic.org— Fr. Sheridan will contact couples after the form is submitted. Always feel free to call the Parish office with any questions.

Daily Rosary—St. Catherine of Siena Chapel before the daily Mass. Weekdays, 7:35 am (Mass is at 8 am)

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

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

St Mary St Catherine Weekend of Dec. 22 Parishioners gave \$4,101.55 to the weekly collection

And \$7,649 to the Clergy Benefit Collection

St Mary-St Catherine of Siena

12/21

4 pm 62

12/22

8 am 41

11 am 123

6 pm 39

Total 265

11/24

4 pm 695

11/25

8 am 70

11 am 130

Total 895

St. Francis de Sales UPCOMING COLLECTIONS

January 5 Capital Improvement January 26 Latin America

St. Mary - St Catherine of Siena UPCOMING COLLECTIONS

January 12 Monthly January 26 Latin America

Tax Season Coming Up!

Would you like a statement of your Parish contributions?

Please email Dianne at dludy@stmarystcatherine.org or call (617) 242-4664. Please include your full name and address with your request. Statements may take 3-5 business days to process.

St Francis de Sales Weekend of Dec. Parishioners gave \$2,568 to the weekly collection

And \$9,332 for the Clergy Benefit collection

St Francis de Sales

12/21

4 pm 47

12/22

9:30 am 64

Total 111

12/24

4pm 236

12/25

9:30 am 37

Total 273

COMMUNITY NEWS & INFO



Christmas flowers on the Altar

The Brassil Family
Nicholas Cantin
Johnny Castro
The Crawford Family
Michael Curran
Frank Dinoia
Emily Fallon
Jeremiah Flynn
Patti & Bob Harty
Frank & Barbara Kelly
Francis X Kelly

John Landrigan
Bill Lynch
William & Pauline Lynch
The Lynch/Shaw Family
James & Grace McGonagle
Paul McGonagle
McGonagle/Collins Family
McGonagle/Lynch Families
Rev Patrick J Ryan S.J.
James F Swales, Sr
David Whelan
Rowan Joseph Yandle



Saint Mary Church Sanctuary Lamp is lit for the

Elizabeth & Joseph Pelosi



Requiescant in Pace

John Michael LaTerz Albert Patrick Shea Robert William David

The Winter Walk to end homelessness in Boston is Feb. 9th, 2024.

Please, consider joining the Charlestown Catholic Collaborative Team for this rewarding experience!

Harvest on Vine, and the St. Vincent de Paul Society, are supporting this amazing fundraiser.





















Cuando miramos a nuestro alrededor en esta Navidad, ¿qué encontramos? ¿qué vemos a nuestro alrededor?

Cuando observamos nuestro entorno en esta Navidad, ¿qué podemos decir sobre lo que se celebra?

Nuestra ciudad celebra, pero, ¿conoce lo que celebra? ¿celebra lo que la celebración significa? O, ¿celebramos sin celebrar, celebrándonos a nosotros mismos simplemente?

Puede ser que nuestra ciudad haya perdido la dimensión de la Presencia de lo que se ha manifestado: "…encontraron al niño con María, su madre…" Pero no buscamos condenar a nuestra ciudad y su gente, buscamos reconocerla, percibirla en su más pura realidad.

Queremos saber con crudeza en que está y como está. Más aún, necesitamos y nos es imprescindible mirar a nuestro alrededor y observar más allá de nosotros mismos y ver lo que es tal cual es, porque eso mismo está haciendo el Señor.

Somos los profetas de la esperanza, que hemos conocido "por medio de una revelación como se me dio a conocer este misterio". Nosotros mismos hemos sido sorprendidos por una estrella que en medio de la noche brilla y nos conduce: "Cuando vieron la estrella se llenaron de alegría y, al entrar en la casa, encontraron al niño con María, su madre, y postrándose, le rindieron homenaje." Llenos de alegría hemos entrado en la casa de la aceptación y asimilación de un Dios con nosotros que se manifiesta en la pequeñez, que hoy experimentamos en la Palabra proclamada y guardada en el corazón; en la Eucaristía celebrada, comulgada y adorada como presencia viva del Dios Encarnado y Glorificado que nos da Vida en abundancia.

Somos los profetas de la esperanza, que hemos sido sorprendidos por el regalo del don que nos permite ver la estrella que nos guía y vivir la experiencia de los que: "…encontraron al niño con María, su madre, y postrándose, le rindieron homenaje." Encontrar al Niño... Postrarse ante el Niño... Rendirle nuestro homenaje de amor al Niño... Todo un programa de vida espiritual cotidiana. Como los magos de Oriente, hemos recorrido un largo camino sorprendidos por una estrella que nos guía a Jesús recostado en un pesebre en presencia de María. Y como nosotros pudimos hacer la experiencia de esta sorpresa, creemos que otros pueden hacerlo también, porque: "Este misterio consiste en que también los paganos participan de una misma herencia, son miembros de un mismo Cuerpo y beneficiarios de la misma promesa en Cristo Jesús, por medio del Evangelio."

La ciudad y su gente, que celebra sin celebrar el misterio profundo del Nacimiento entre los hombres de Dios en el Niño Jesús, es la ciudad y su gente que necesita de este anuncio, que necesita dejarse sorprender por este anuncio, que necesita la insistencia de este anuncio en medio de la oscuridad. No son los que tienen fe los que necesitan el anuncio de una profecía cumplida, sino el mundo de los hombres sin fe, sin esperanza más que en sí mismos. Es ese mundo cerrado sobre sí mismos y sus preocupaciones, que lejos de querer rendirle homenaje a su Salvador y Rey, tiene segundas intenciones de quitárselo de en medio porque solo podrá reinar uno: o Él o nosotros. Todos somos algo de Herodes, no lo olvidemos. Hay muchos Herodes aún vivos que traman como permanecer en su reinado, que ha sido ocupado por su legítimo heredero, Jesús.

Creativos, prevenidos como los magos de Oriente, los creyentes de esta hora debemos saber continuar el camino. Visionarios y advertidos como los magos de Oriente, los adoradores de esta este hora, debemos volver a nuestra tierra cotidiana sin perder esta presencia que hemos encontrado y adorado. Alegrémonos en este día de la manifestación de Dios en el Niño Jesús y dejémonos llevar por: "Mira a tu alrededor y observa: todos se han reunido y vienen hacia ti... encontraron al niño con María, su madre, y postrándose, le rindieron homenaje." Y a pesar que faltan muchos de los que han sido llamados a dejarse llevar por la estrella de Oriente, lejos de desesperar, fortalecidos por la íntima comunión de Amor con el Niño Jesús y María, celebremos ante la ciudad y sus habitantes la Presencia que se manifiesta y no se oculta ya al que la quiere recibir, enteramente disponible para quien la quiere acoger y quiere entrar en la casa del Evangelio.

Señor Jesús, llévame por tu estrella hasta tu Presencia... Reúne a todos entorno a Ti, que todos vayan hacia Ti y en una unidad inaudita nos alegremos entrando en tu casa.







Epiphany

Some kids in the parish school were doing an informal survey about New Year's resolutions. No one in our school is sure why we make them, since no one seems able to keep them, even though they focus on something we can do or change that will make us better people, or help us accomplish our goals. Have you made your New Year's resolution? More importantly, will you keep it?

New Year's Day marks a new beginning, another notch in the life that measures time's progress. We often use the image of a journey to describe it. Journeys are trips with a purpose and we journey through time, through faith, through life, with a purpose—something that we do that gives us a sense of meaning and value.

In the spirit of this feast day, here's a spiritual resolution that is one we can keep. Make progress in your spiritual journey. Set a goal, make a plan, and then accomplish it. Choose something that will make a difference in the way you pray, or believe or practice your faith. Write it out and put it in a place where you will read it often, reminding yourself to stay on course. A year from now, you'll be amazed at just how far you've come!

~James Gaffney, © 2009 Karides Lic. to Pilot Bulletins

GET INVOLVED

Parish Councils

Collaborative Finance Council Collaborative Pastoral Council Stewardship Committee

Liturgical Ministries

Altar Servers
Eucharistic Ministers
Lectors
Music Ministry
Worship Committee

Faith Formation

Adult Confirmation/RCIA
Baptism Prep
Confirmation
Religious Ed K - 8
Spiritual Committee

Social Ministries

Wedding Committee

Family Ministry
Social Ministry
Social Justice Committee
St. Francis Hall Committee

QUIZ

Can you choose the correct endings?

- 1. Jerusalem should rise up:
 - (a) in sackcloth and mourning (b) against the nations (c) in splendor?
- 2. The kings of Tarshish and the Isles:
 - (a) shall offer gifts (b) shall seize Jerusalem
 - (c) shall see the face of God?
- 3. Saint Paul had been given the stewardship of:
 - (a) the Church's income (b) God's grace
 - (c) the city of Jerusalem?
- 4. When King Herod heard of Jesus' birth:
 - (a) he was troubled (b) he was awestruck
 - (c) he was indifferent?
- 5. The magi found the child Jesus:
 - (a) in a cave (b) in the open fields (c) in a house?

ANSWERS

The correct answers are: 1(c); 2(a); 3(b); 4(a); 5(c)

Sunday Funday © 2007 Karides Lic. to St. George Publishing

Holy Days of Obligation

May 29 - The Ascension of Our Lord

August 15 - The Assumption of the

Blessed Virgin Mary

November 1 - Solemnity of All Saints (All Saints' Day)

December 8 - The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

December 25 - Christmas, The Nativity of Our Lord

If the Holy Day falls on a Saturday or Monday, the obligation is lifted.

LITURGICAL YEAR 2025

Ash Wednesday March 5, 2025

Easter Sunday April 20, 2025

The Ascension of the Lord [Thursday] May 29, 2025

Pentecost Sunday June 8, 2024

The Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ June 22, 2024

First Sunday of Advent November 30, 2025



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

FREE EACH WEEK

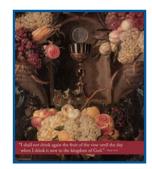
Enjoy the full color bulletin that will change weekly and may feature images to reflect the Gospel of the week or a meaningful Parish event.

To receive this bulletin in your inbox each week please email signup@pilotbulletins.net

617-779-3770 // www.pilotbulletins.net



Online Bulletin Delivery







To your inbox

Sign Up at www.pilotbulletins.net/sign-up

Receive your Parish Bulletin in your inbox every week.



INOGEN® PORTABLE OXYGEN CONCENTRATORS

Call us toll-free at **1-888-485-5350**



Custom Pull-Out Shelves for your existing cabinets and pantry.



Easy access, less stress, everything within reach.

ShelfGenie®

a **neighborly** company

Call for Your FREE Design Consultation: (855) 625-9032

*Limit one offer per household. Must purchase 5+ Classic/Designer Pull-Out Shelves. EXP 12/31/24. Independently owned and operated franchise

The Bath or Shower You've Always Wanted IN AS LITTLE AS 1 DAY





CALL NOW!

(844) 300-2419

*Includes labor and product; bathtub, shower or walk-in tub and wall surround. This promotion cannot be combined with any other offer. Other restrictions may apply. This offer expires 3/31/2025. Each dealership is independently owned and operated. **Third party financing is available for those customers who qualify/Participating dealers



BECOME DEBT FREE IN AS LITTLE AS 24-48 MONTHS

If you owe more than \$10,000 in credit card or other unsecured debt, see how National Debt Relief can help resolve your debt for a fraction of what you owe.

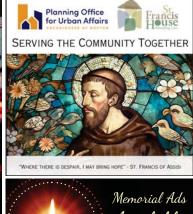
Call today:

+1 (866) 605-1934











The answer to your real estate prayers.

Eve Dougherty 617.838.5884 Vice President eve@compass.com

COMPASS



Available 617-779-3771

Are You Irish & Catholic?



Learn About the AOH: Ancient Order of Hibernians. Call (617) 575-9585 or email:

President.AOHDiv14@gmail.com https://www.facebook.com/aohdiv14



AD SPACE AVAILABLE

Make the smart and ONLY CHOICE when tackling your roof!





LIMITED TIME OFFER! SAVE

INSTALLATION



FREE ESTIMATE 1.855.720.0765



New orders only. Does not include material costs. Cannot be combined with any other offer. Minimum purchase required. Other restrictions may apply. This is an advertisement placed on behalf of Erie Construction Mid-West, Inc ("Erie"). Offer terms and conditions may apply and the offer may not available in your area. If you call the number provided, you consent to being contacted by telephone, SMS text message, email, pre-recorded messages by Erie or its affiliates and service providers using automated technologies notwithstanding if you are on a DO NOT CALL list or register. Please review our Privacy Policy and Terms of Use on homeservicescompliance.com. All rights reserved. License numbers available at eriehome.com/erie-licenses/



Helping seniors stay healthy. Call (866) 384-6796 (TTY 711) to join.

Here today, here tomorrow.

home?



"Jesus Wept." John 11:35



The Best of Boston is ready for the season. How about your



As our faith nurtures our community, a solid roof keeps your loved ones safe and warm.

Our dedicated team is ready to turn any roofing concerns into solutions, ensuring your home remains a haven for all who enter.

Keep your home as blessed as the gatherings we cherish, get you free estimate now!

RESIDENTIAL AND COMMERCIAL ROOFING SOLUTIONS

(781) 648-5446 | INFO@FARINAROOF.COM









www.farinaroof.com