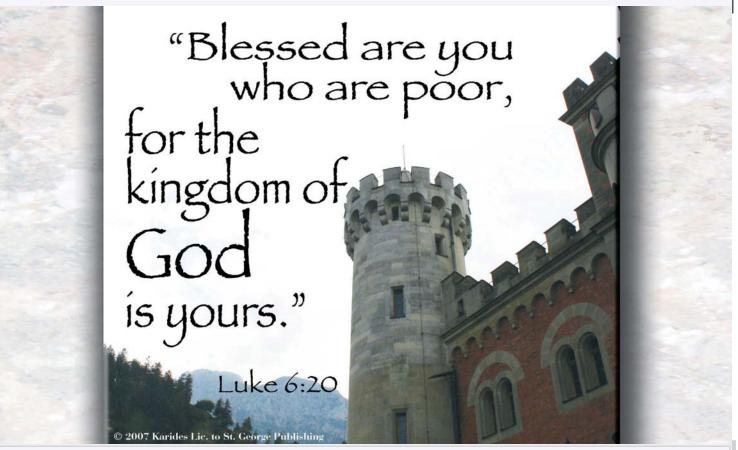
CHARLESTOWN CATHOLIC COLLABORATIVE

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 February 16, 2025



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 and 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 amSt. Mary- St. Catherine9:30 amSt. Francis de Sales11 amSt. Mary - St. Catherine6 pmSt. 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

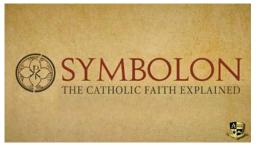
Pastoral Assistant Joan C. Rae

Music Director Timothy Leahy

Parish Nurse Ministry Director Mrs. Maureen Collier, RN BSN

Clergy in Residence Fr. Anthony Nweke C.S.S.p. Msgr. Felix Ojimba

Email info@charlestowncatholic.org



We will continue Symbolon for Lent! Join us **Monday evening, March 10 at 7 pm** at St. Catherine's Chapel. For info, see Fr. John.

Look up. Look ahead.



Coming March 25-27 for our Collaborative Lenten Mission: *The Three R's of Lent*

Monday, March 25 at 6:30 pm @ St. Francis Renewal with Fr. Paul Coughlin Sacrament of Anointing

Tuesday, March 26 at 6:30 pm @ St. Mary's Reconciliation with Fr. Mark Riley Sacrament of Reconciliation

Wednesday, March 27 at 6:30 pm @ St. Francis Resurrection with Deacon Joe Nickley Celebration of Mass

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.

The 2025 Catholic Appeal

Moving Forward in Faith... Together

One of the most meaningful ways that we deepen the impact of our Archdiocese's schools, parishes, and ministries is by supporting the Catholic Appeal. Your partnership and participation carry Christ's love into our communities and spread hope. Many of you may have received a letter from Archbishop Richard Henning requesting your support of the 2025 Catholic Appeal.

We hope that you will respond to his invitation with a generous gift, knowing that each contribution makes a difference. Your early support will help launch our parishes' campaigns in a positive way.

The Appeal is a primary means by which we enfold our brothers and sisters into Christ's circle of care. On behalf of Archbishop Henning and all who benefit from your generosity, Thank you.

To make an on-line donation or to learn more about the impact your donation will have, go to **bostoncatholicappeal.org**.

K-4 Faith Formation

It's hard to believe, but we're moving quickly to spring. There's a lot to do!

These are the remaining classes on our schedule: February 25, March 11 & 25, April 8 & 29

We'll have First Reconciliation on **Saturday, March 8** at 10 am at St. Mary's and at 1 pm at St. Francis.

First Communion Masses will be celebrated on Saturday, May 3 at 10 am at St. Mary's and Sunday, May 4 at 9:30 am at St. Francis. We will announce rehearsals for these celebrations.

What is Prayer?

Prayer doesn't only happen when we kneel or put our hands together, focus and expect things from God.
Thinking positively and wishing good for others is a prayer. When you hug a friend- that's prayer.
When you cook something to nourish family and friends, that's a prayer. When we send off our near and dear ones and say, 'drive safely' or 'be safe'- that's a prayer. When you are helping someone in need by giving your time and energy- you are praying. When you forgive someone, that is a prayer. Prayer is a vibration. A feeling. A thought.
Prayer is the voice of love, friendship, genuine relationships. Prayer is an expression of your silent being. Keep praying always...

Coming Soon!



We're looking to start Scouts in our Collaborative! We'll begin with a Cub Scout Pack, for grades K-4. An informational meeting for parents

will be held on **Monday**, **March 3 at 5 pm at 46 Winthrop**. Any questions? See Fr. John!



Ash Wednesday is March 5

8 am Mass @ St. Mary's 3 pm Service @ St. Mary's 12 pm Service @ St. Francis 6 pm Mass @ St. Francis

Over the next few weeks, find the palms and we'll transform them into the ashes we will mark ourselves with to begin our Lenten journey.



Oh Sacred Head, surrounded...

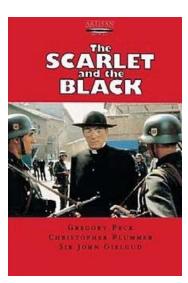
Stations of the Cross with Exposition and Benediction will be prayed on Fridays during Lent beginning March 7 at 5:30 pm at St. Francis. On March 14, it will be at St. Mary's Church.

Coming Friday, February <u>28</u> at 7 pm to 46 Winthrop...

Please note date change.

Originally scheduled for February 21st. Rescheduled to February 28th

The true story of an American priest in WWII Rome who saved over 6,500 Jews and prisoners of war.



HARVEST ON VINE NEWS





WINTER WALK 2025



Neither the snow, nor the cold temperatures, interfered with our Winter Walk Team from participating in the effort to end homelessness. It was an inspiring event from beginning to end!





Dedícatíon and Blessing of The Frances G. & Joseph F. Boyce Community Kitchen on February 8th.

A brief update from Sunday's Youth Group, February 2nd -

Students learned about Patron Saints and, in particular, St. Valentine. They discussed how someone becomes a saint and what it means to be a saint.

Two students from the Confirmation 2 class helped co-lead the class with Kerry and Madison, adding their own understanding and knowledge about saints and shared the saint names that they recently chose as their confirmation names in preparation of making the Sacrament of Confirmation this May.

Then, in honor of St. Valentine, the class decided to make Valentines for children recovering at the Spaulding Rehab Hospital in Charlestown. Attached are a few photos of the very creative and uplifting Valentines that the students made, including a group photo of the Valentine-inspired artists with Fr. John. who joined the group in making Valentines.

The Valentines will be delivered to the Chaplain at Spaulding Rehab later this week. He will ensure that they are delivered to children and families in anticipation of February 14th.

Thank you to Andrea Gorman and Lauren Digange for volunteering to bring pizza and water to Sunday's class.

If you'd like to volunteer for pizza or water for upcoming Youth Group classes, please use this <u>link to sign</u> <u>up.</u>

The next class for Youth Group is Sunday, March 2 at 7pm, after the 6pm mass.

A few updates from Sunday's Confirmation 1 & 2 classes -

Confirmation 1 continued their discussion on the Holy Spirit, Part 2, and learned about the gifts of the Holy Spirit and discussed what we should do with the gifts God gives to us. Then, the class broke into 3 groups and played a few rounds of Jeopardy where they were quizzed on their knowledge on religious education topics covered to date, including the Bible, the Books in the Old Testament, and the Names of the 4 Gospels. Thank you to Emily and Abigail for leading the game and making it so much fun everyone! Although there was one winning group, everyone left with prizes.

Meanwhile, Confirmation 2 students concluded their discussion on Prayer and began a new discussion on the Holy Spirit and the role that the Holy Spirit plays in their lives. Saint Reports are complete and Letters of Intent are in the process of being written and submitted by the end of the month. Sponsor names are due by March 15th. The students are making great progress as they move closer to making the Sacrament of Confirmation on Saturday, May 10th. Many thanks to Ari and Nick for making the class so enjoyable and keeping every-one on track.

Next classes for Confirmation 1 & 2 is Sunday, March 2nd at 7pm, following the 6pm mass.

Thank you, Cynthia Markey

Week of February 16: Jubilee Year 2025: Pilgrims of Hope

What is this Jubilee about?

This jubilee is called Pilgrims of Hope. We are called to rediscover the hope of Christianity and then be signs of hope to others in our daily life. It goes from December 29, 2024 to December 28, 2025. Pope Francis prays that this "Jubilee be a moment of genuine, personal encounter with the Lord Jesus, the 'door' (cf. Jn 10:7.9) of our salvation, whom the Church is charged to proclaim always, everywhere and to all as 'our hope' (1 Tim 1:1)" (*Spes Non Confundit*, 1). You can learn **more at bit.ly/JubileeOfHope**.

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.





St. Mary-St. Catherine of Siena Mass Intentions

Saturday, February 15 4 pm + Kimberly Thibault

Sunday, February 16 8 am + Nora Costello & Mary Meisner 11 am 6 pm Monday, February 17 - Office closed 9 am MLK day Tuesday, February 18 8 am Wednesday, February 19 8 am Thursday, February 20 8 am Friday, February 21 8 am Saturday, February 22 9 am 4 pm + Joe Andrea Sunday, February 23 8 am

11 am + Mary & Patrick Ryan

6 pm

St. Francis de Sales Mass Intentions

Saturday, February 15 4 pm + Rob Harty, Patti Harty, David Whelan & James Ahearn

Sunday, February 16 9:30 am + William Rae



Saturday, February 22 4 pm + Rev. Daniel Mahoney

Sunday, February 23 9:30 am + Edward Elwell

CHARLESTOWN CATHOLIC

Mass Intentions—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 de Sales, St Mary's 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. John.

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 Godparents 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 Saturdays before the 4 pm Mass.

Weddings— All couples; Please access the wedding form on our website—charlestowncatholic.org— Fr. John 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

Low Gluten Hosts -We're happy to provide consecrated lowgluten hosts. Please join the priest communion line and let him know that you need a low-gluten host.

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 volunteering for a ministry...

Contact us at the Parish office at 617.242.4664 or email: info@charlestowncatholic.org St Mary St Catherine Weekend of February 2 Parishioners gave \$4,587.23 to the weekly collection And \$1,208.00 To the fuel collection

St Mary-St Catherine of Siena 2/1 4 pm 88 2/2 8 am 37 11 am 73 6 pm 25 Total 223

St. Mary - St Catherine of Siena UPCOMING COLLECTIONS

Feb. 9MonthlyFeb. 23Support Around the World



Log onto our website at **Charlestown Catholic Community** See what's new; Find bulletins, and Mass times; view the latest recorded Sunday Mass.

> Saint Francis de Sales Sanctuary Lamp is lit for

> > William Rae

We extend a warm welcome to all visitors and those who are new to our parishes of St. Mary St.- Catherine of Siena and St. Francis de Sales. Thank you for joining us! St Francis de Sales Weekend of February 2 Parishioners gave \$1,485.00 to the weekly collection And \$250.00 To last week's Capital Improvement collection

St Francis de Sales

2/1 4pm 57 2/2

9:30 am 27 Total 84

St. Francis de Sales UPCOMING COLLECTIONS

Feb. 16 Parish DeficitFeb. 23 Support Around the World

We are grateful to you!

COMMUNITY NEWS & INFO

TRUE or FALSE ?

1. Blessed is the one who trusts in the Lord.

 Cursed is the one who trusts human beings.
 The one whose heart turns away from the Lord is like a barren bush in the desert.

4. The one whose hope is in the Lord is like a tree planted in the middle of the desert.

5. If Christ has not been raised, it makes no difference to us and our sins.

6. Jesus came down with the Twelve and stood on a steep hillside.

7. A huge crowd of people heard Jesus speak.

8. Jesus said that the poor are blessed.

9. Jesus said that those who are hated and insulted because of him are blessed.

10. Jesus said that you are fortunate if everyone speaks well of you.

I true, 2 true, 3 true, 4 false, 5 false, 6 false, 7 true, 8 true, 9 true, 10 false.

OFFICE CLOSED ON MONDAY,

FEB. 17 FOR PRESIDENTS' DAY

There are no K-4 religious education classes this week.

Our next class is Tuesday, Feb. 25. Next classes for Confirmation Students and Youth Group is March 2nd.

This week

Please note that for the national holiday on Monday, Feb. 17th, we will have a Eucharistic prayer service at St. Catherine's Chapel at 9 am. Tuesday- Friday, it will be at 8 am.

February 16 ~ Sixth Sunday of Ordinary Time



We hear the Beatitudes proclaimed in today's gospel. The text is so familiar, it is easy for our thoughts to drift off and miss what Christ is saying. Take time this week to reflect on these Beatitudes. As you do so, notice how they take accepted standards and turn them upside down. The people whom Jesus called happy, the world calls wretched and despised; and the people Jesus called wretched the world would call well-off and happy. Imagine the response we would get when saying, "Happy are the poor," and "Woe to the rich!" Jesus talks like this to put an end to the world's values. We may very well have forgotten how revolutionary these beatitudes are. The question before us today is - will we concentrate on the world's values or, will we concentrate on living according to the values of Christ?

Las palabras de Jesús que aparecen en el evangelio de hoy tienen que haber resonado en nuestros oídos de una forma especial. Es una lectura que va dirigida a la línea de flotación de nuestra vida de hombres y mujeres de fe, van directamente a lo fundamental, al cimiento sobre el que nos vamos construyendo como seres humanos y como personas creyentes. Cada vez que escuchamos Sexto Domingo del Tiempo Ordinario Ordinario aue no sustaría que no existieran en el evangelio, o que si pudiáramos arrancaríamos de esas que nos gustaría que no existieran en el evangelio, o que si pudiéramos arrancaríamos de él, porque son una demostración de los lejos que estamos todavía de cumplir con el espíritu de Jesús, de ese espíritu que él quería trasmitir a los suyos, y que quería que los suyos practicaran.

Las Bienaventuranzas son un mensaje que una vez leído y escuchado, uno tiene que mirarse a sí mismo, en su propio interior, y decir con humildad, Señor y yo que me justifico con cumplir unas cuantas normas, más o menos fáciles, y no he dado ni siquiera los primeros pasos en lo que dice relación a tus normas fundamentales: la Bienaventuranzas.

Ante las Bienaventuranzas caben entre otras, dos tentaciones: una, el pensar que no están escritas para uno, sino para los demás, no para que las cumpla yo, sino para que las cumplan los otros. Y otra, pensar que como otros mensajes del evangelio, son pura utopía, es decir son irrealizables, y por lo tanto nos parecen muy bien, pero no les hacemos ningún caso. Las bienaventuranzas, son la mejor demostración del mensaje novedoso de Jesús, ellas representan el vino nuevo, frente al añejo; ellas son imagen del nuevo estilo de Jesús frente a la tradición, las costumbres y los ritos sin vida de los judíos. Las Bienaventuranzas son la Buena Noticia que Jesús está comenzando a proclamar a aquellos que quieran oírle.

Si vamos repasando cada una de la Bienaventuranzas, inos vemos reflejados en ellas?: Dichosos los pobres... Dichosos los que lloran... Dichosos los limpios de corazón... dichosos los que trabajan por la paz... dichosos cuando os insulten por mi causa... Es este un mensaje del que se puede decir y hablar mucho y muy fácil, pero corres un gran peligro porque los que te conocen pueden decir, este está hablando de cosas que él no hace. El mensaje de las Bienaventuranzas es un mensaje que más que invitar a hablar, invita a practicarlo, tienen que ser las obras las que hablen de él, y normalmente los que las cumplen suelen hablar poco.

Las Bienaventuranzas deberían ser como un espejo ante el cual, yo siempre reconociera lo que me falta para dar pasos en la dirección de lo que Jesús me pide, deberían ser más que algo que cumplo, como una aspiración siempre constante, como una meta a la que intento siempre acercarme, pero a la que siempre me queda algo para llegar. Las Bienaventuranzas deberían dinamizar nuestra acción, ser el impulso siempre constante en nuestro actuar humilde, pero responsable. Estamos en la campaña de Manos Unidas en su lucha contra el Hambre en el mundo, recogemos los sobres que repartimos el domingo pasado, esa campaña nos recuerda que otro mundo es posible, que las estructuras sobre las que está basado el actual modelo de sociedad, están abocadas al fracaso porque no puede durar mucho aquello que está sustentado sobre tan evidente desigualdad.

La satisfacción de sentir a Jesús a nuestro lado en este empeño es lo que nos da ánimos para seguir intentándolo, y aportar nuestro pequeño grano de arena a la hora de construir un mundo donde el espíritu de las bienaventuranzas esté mucho más presente y sea más actual. Se lo pedimos al Señor, especialmente para nosotros, y hoy más que nunca reconocemos con humildad nuestros fallos y defectos iluminados por la doctrina de las Bienaventuranzas, y pedimos de forma especial por los que menos tienen...



DON'T FORGET THE POOR PLEASE REMEMBER THE POOR BOXES AT THE BACK OF THE CHURCH



PRESIDENT'S DAY PRAYER 3^{FD} MONDAY IN FEBRUARY

On this President's Day, we offer up a prayer for our civic leaders taken from Catholic Household Blessings and Prayers:

God our Father,

You guide everything in wisdom and love. Accept the prayers we offer for our nation. In your goodness, watch over those in authority so that people everywhere may enjoy freedom, security and peace. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.



We will meet via ZOOM on Wednesdays, from 6:30 to 7:30pm. Contact Sr. Nancy Citro, SNDdeN via email: nmcitro@gmail.com and she will send you a link to the meeting.



LOCATED AT 20 WINTHROP STREET IN THE LOWER LEVEL OF SAINT MARY'S CHURCH

Good Shepherd School is a diverse community of children and families that represents the entirety of Charlestown. To schedule a tour or for more information about the school, please contact 617-242-8800 or director@gsscharlestown.org. for more information on schedules and tuition fees

Cursillo: An Invitation!



Are you looking for an opportunity to grow spiritually and deepen your relationship with Jesus Christ? We invite you to join us for a Cursillo weekend to experience the love of Jesus Christ on a personal level and bring his love and joy into your daily life. Where: St. Basil's Salvatorian Center, Methuen. For more information, contact Nancy cy higginsneh@aol.com

Project Rachel Post-Abortion Healing Retreats

Are you – or someone you know – seeking peace Project Rachel[®] 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.

Spring dates are Saturdays, Mar. 15 & May 10. Locations are confidential.

For more info on the retreats or other services, call 508.651.3100 or <u>help@projectrachelboston.com</u>. *Fr. John is a Project Rachel priest.*

WINTER 2025 ALERT

Dear Friends, in the event of inclement weather that necessitates the closing of the church, we will post the closing on Channels 5-WCVB, 7-WHDH & 56-WLVI.
For weekday Masses, if Boston Schools have been called off, there will be no 8 am Mass. Stay warm and safe!

GET INVOLVED

<u>Parish Councils</u> Finance Council 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 Wedding Committee

<u>Social Ministries</u> Family Ministry Social Ministry Social Justice Committee St. Francis Hall Committee



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