

# 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

July 20, 2025

*"Lord, do you not care that my sister has left me by myself to do the serving? Tell her to help me."*

*The Lord said to her in reply, "Martha, Martha, you are anxious and worried about many things. There is need of only one thing. Mary has chosen the better part and it will not be taken from her."*

*Luke 10:40-42*

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## 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

St. Catherine Chapel  
at St. Mary Church

**Mon - Fri 8 am**  
**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 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

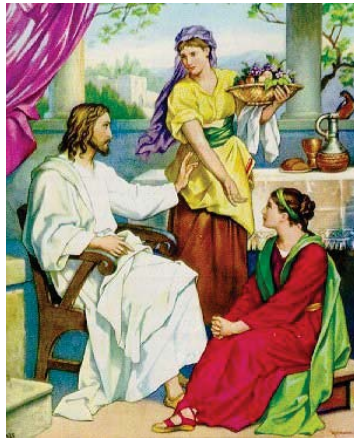
**Parish Nurse Ministry Director**  
Mrs. Maureen Collier, RN BSN

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

[info@charlestowncatholic.org](mailto:info@charlestowncatholic.org)

[stfrancischarlestown.org](http://stfrancischarlestown.org)

[stmarystcatherine.org](http://stmarystcatherine.org)



Érase una vez un padre de familia que intentaba leer el periódico después de un largo día de trabajo. A cada instante era importunado por sus hijos. Uno le pedía dinero para ir a comprarse un helado. Otro se le acercaba llorando, se había hecho daño en el pie y quería que un beso lo curara. El mayor le pedía que le ayudara a resolver un problema de matemáticas. Finalmente el más pequeño entró corriendo en la sala en busca del buen padre. Éste le preguntó cansado: "¿y tú que quieres?" El pequeño le contestó: "Papá, yo no quiero nada. Sólo quiero que me cojas en tus brazos".

Marta y María, trabajo y oración, lucha y contemplación, tierra y cielo, el trabajo en la fábrica y el descanso en la iglesia, los hombres y Dios. Nuestra vida es como una gran tela de araña tejida con muchos hilos y cada hilo es necesario e importante. El evangelio de hoy nos recuerda que todo es importante pero cuando estamos con Jesús, Él es el más importante y sólo una cosa es necesaria, escucharle y caer en sus brazos.

Supongamos que Dios, nuestro Padre, nos preguntara hoy: "¿Y tú que quieres?". Me imagino que se sorprendería muchísimo si nuestra respuesta fuera como la del niño pequeño: "No quiero nada. Sólo quiero que me cojas en tus brazos, disfrutar de tu compañía, estar contigo". El domingo es el día en que practicamos esta lección del Señor: "Una sola cosa es necesaria". Cualquiera que escoge esto, escoge la mejor parte. Los que desprecian las cosas del espíritu viven la desunión interior, viven en la dimensión temporal, cerrados a la trascendencia.

A los que les gusta la juerga y los juegos, difícilmente serán criticados; a los que les gustan las cosas de Dios están expuestos a la crítica y, a veces, a la burla. Marta criticó a María e incluso se quejó al Señor que no le decía nada. "Una sola cosa es necesaria", le contestó a Marta. El corazón humano de Jesús tenía hambre de amor y no de la cena de siete platos que Marta le estaba preparando. Si no somos alimentados con el plato del amor nunca seremos felices.

Jesús vino a ofrecernos su amor y la Buena Noticia de la salvación y Marta estaba afanándose en la cocina. Jesús no le dijo a Marta que le hubiera desatendido, dijo simplemente que María le había ofrecido el mejor regalo. Dios nos llama a amarle y a servirle. Nuestro amor se expresa en la oración. La oración es la hospitalidad para con Dios. Le escuchamos y le hablamos. Jesús nos mandó orar siempre; nunca nos dijo que trabajáramos siempre.

"Venid a mi todos los que estáis cansados y agobiados y os daré el descanso". No estamos en la iglesia para cumplir con una pesada obligación sino para descansar en la presencia del Señor. Necesitamos muchas cosas pero sólo unas pocas son necesarias y una sola cosa es absolutamente necesaria conocer, amar y servir a Dios nuestro Padre. Hay un tiempo para trabajar y un tiempo para orar. Hay un tiempo para olvidar y un tiempo para recordar. Hay días laborables y hay domingos. El domingo es el día en que cada cristiano da hospedaje a Dios y escucha a Jesucristo.

**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.

## July 13 ~ Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

"... heed the voice of the LORD, your God, and keep his commandments and statutes ...," Moses reminds us that the commandments are readily accessible. The command, simply put is - Love God, love your neighbor. That commandment is made abundantly clear to us in the parable of the Good Samaritan that Jesus presents in today's gospel. Who is "my neighbor" that needs assistance today? We don't have to look very hard to see who that might be. As we heard in the first reading, we have the ability, it is "already in your mouths and in your hearts; you have only to carry it out." Jesus not only challenges us to be responsive, he also promises to give us the grace we need to carry out his command.

## 13 de julio ~ Decimoquinto Domingo del Tiempo Ordinario

"... escucha la voz de Jehová, tu Dios, y guarda sus mandamientos y estatutos...", Moisés nos recuerda que los mandamientos son fácilmente accesibles. El mandamiento, en pocas palabras, es: Ama a Dios, ama a tu prójimo. Ese mandamiento se nos hace muy claro en la parábola del Buen Samaritano que Jesús presenta en el evangelio de hoy. ¿Quién es "mi prójimo" que necesita ayuda hoy? No tenemos que buscar mucho para ver quién podría ser. Como hemos escuchado en la primera lectura, tenemos la capacidad, que "ya está en vuestras bocas y en vuestros corazones; solo tienes que llevarlo a cabo". Jesús no solo nos desafía a ser receptivos, sino que también promete darnos la gracia que necesitamos para llevar a cabo su mandamiento.

## Jubilee Year 2025: Pilgrims of Hope

How can I be the "sign of hope?"

Hope comes from knowing Jesus Christ's mercy and love for you personally. Before we can share hope, we must know the hope that is in Jesus. Here are a few ways you can share the hope you have:

- When another Christian is discouraged or despairing, remind them that our hope is in Jesus, who offers us the opportunity to go to heaven.
- Perform spiritual and corporeal works of mercy.
- Share with others who may not have a relationship with Our Lord the reason for your hope in him (cf. 1 Peter 3:15).

You learn more about the Jubilee and being signs of hope here: [bit.ly/JubileeOfHope](https://bit.ly/JubileeOfHope).

## Preguntas Frecuentes Sobre el Año Jubilar 2025

¿Cómo podría yo ser "signo de esperanza"?

- Cuando otro cristiano se desespere, recuérdale que nuestra esperanza está en Jesús, quien nos ofrece la oportunidad de ir al cielo.
- Realiza obras de misericordia espirituales y corporales.
- Comparte con otros, que quizá no tengan relación con Nuestro Señor, la razón de tu esperanza en Él (cf. 1 Pedro 3, 15).

Puedes obtener más información en [bit.ly/JubileeOfHope](https://bit.ly/JubileeOfHope).

## The Gallagher Scholarship

Rev. Henry Gallagher was born in Charlestown in 1910 and ordained in 1941. He served as spiritual director of St. Mary's conference of St. Vincent de Paul Society and arranged scholarships for local high school students. Upon his death, Fr. Gallagher left a generous bequest to St. Vincent de Paul Society, which has helped students for more than a decade.

Applicants must be registered members of St. Mary- St. Catherine of Siena or St. Francis de Sales parishes and provide the name of the school they will attend.

Applications are available for pick up at the Parish Office located at 46 Winthrop Street.

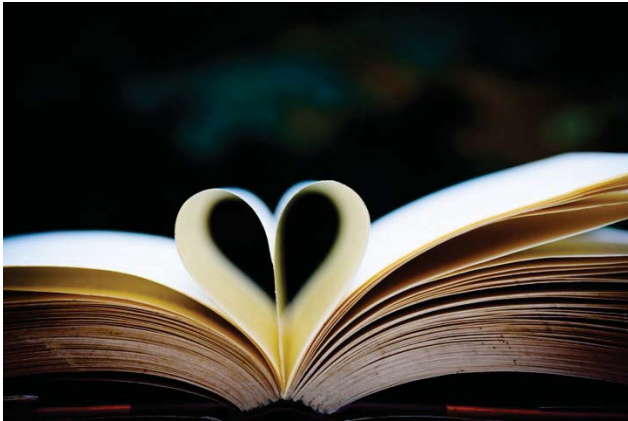
***The deadline for applications is July 31st.***

## Keep in mind

*Fr. John will be out of state July 27- Aug. 3*

### A Special Guest

Next weekend, Fr. John Olenick will be visiting St. Mary- St. Catherine to offer Mass and speak about the Unbound community, a Catholic organization dedicated to ministering to the poor in 19 countries.



### Faith Formation

It's not too early to plan ahead, and we are planning for 2025-26! Registration has begun- just call the Offices at 617-242-4664

or go to [charlestowncatholic.org](http://charlestowncatholic.org)!

We'll begin on **Tuesday, Sept. 23<sup>rd</sup>** at 4 pm with a party at 46 Winthrop Street!

### A new resident is coming to 49 Vine St.

Soon Fr. Patrick Mpete will be moving into the rectory in early August for his studies at BC.

### Summer calls!

In this summer season, please don't forget to donate to our parishes- this time of year can be challenging, as Mass attendance drops with bills to pay all year long.

Please give online or mail in your envelopes so we can keep on planning and building for what's ahead. Call James Santosuosso at the offices and learn how you can give generously and easily. Thank you in advance!

## Symbolon returns

Symbolon will begin again every other Monday starting Sept. 15 at 7 pm at St. Catherine's Chapel. Join us for an hour of learning and discussion!

### Conversations!

On Thursdays this summer at 6:30 pm at 46 Winthrop St, we will have a series of discussions in person and via Zoom on the sacraments of Initiation: Baptism, Eucharist and Confirmation.

Join the conversation and be careful, you might learn something!  
Please let Fr. John know if you can join him!

## Coming soon...



Something very special from Harvest on Vine is coming Thursday, Oct. 16.  
Watch this space for updates!



*We extend a warm welcome to all visitors and those who are new to our parishes of St. Francis de Sales and St. Mary St.- Catherine of Siena.*

*Thank you for joining us!*



St. Mary  
Church

## BAPTISMS—WEEKEND OF July 13th

Welcome into the family, Adonnis, Bridget, Alana and Jackson!



St.  
Francis  
De  
Sales  
Church



LOCATED AT 20 WINTHROP ST.

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 infor-  
mation about the school, please con-  
tact

617-242-8800 or go to

[director@gsscharlestown.org](mailto:director@gsscharlestown.org).

## Saints Joachim and Anne

1ST CENTURY  
FEAST DAY: JULY 26

**N**ot mentioned in the Bible, Joachim and Anne are first named as the parents of Mary in the apocryphal Protoevangelium of James, which may date from the second century. In this story, they are old and childless, like the Old Testament Hannah, mother of Samuel, when angels deliver the news that Anne will conceive a child. Anne was an especially popular saint in medieval England, and her feast was celebrated in the West by 1350; Joachim's feast was authorized or suppressed by various popes, but was joined with Anne's in 1969. They are the patrons of married couples; Anne is also the patron of childless women, expectant mothers, and miners.



“Mary grew up in the home of Joachim and Anne; she was surrounded by their love and faith: in their home she learned to listen to the Lord and to follow his will. Saints Joachim and Anne were part of a long chain of people who had transmitted their faith and love for God, expressed in the warmth and love of family life, down to Mary, who received the Son of God in her womb and who gave him to the world, to us. How precious is the family as the privileged place for transmitting the faith!”

—Pope Francis, Angelus, July 26, 2013



Catholic  
Current

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*St. Mary-St. Catherine of Siena  
Mass Intentions*

Saturday, July 19  
9 am  
4 pm  
Sunday, July 20  
8 am  
11 am  
6 pm  
Monday, July 21  
8 am  
Tuesday, July 22  
8 am  
Wednesday, July 23  
8 am  
Thursday, July 24  
8 am  
Friday, July 25  
8 am  
Saturday July 26  
9 am  
4 pm  
Sunday, July 27  
8 am  
11 am  
6 pm

*St. Francis de Sales  
Mass Intentions*

Saturday, July 19  
4 pm + Colleen Devlin

Sunday, July 20  
9:30 am



Saturday, July 26  
4 pm

Sunday, July 27  
9:30 am

*We are grateful to you!*

# CHARLESTOWN CATHOLIC

## **Faith Formation classes**

Religious Education, also known as Rel Ed or Faith Formation, gives students the information and the tools that they need to realize and respond to God's love for them.

Our program at St. Mary- St. Catherine of Siena and St. Francis de Sales Parishes guides students into a closer relationship with God and our Catholic community by providing them with a solid Catholic education from grades K-10, and preparing them for the Sacraments of First Reconciliation, First Communion, and Confirmation.

We want to teach the children of this worshiping community to come to know God, learn to love God, and to live a life in response to God's love!

Parents' participation in all aspects of our program is essential to its purpose and success. Children learn best by example. We ask that you give your children's religious education the importance the children deserve. By working together, parish and family, our faith will fill the hearts of our children!

**Registration has begun!**

**Classes begin on Tuesday, Sept. 23rd at 4 pm  
Visit our web site to register—[charlestowncatholic.org](http://charlestowncatholic.org)  
or drop by or call the Parish Office at 617.242.4664**

St Mary St Catherine  
Weekend of July 12/13  
Parishioners contributed

\$3,465.74  
to the Weekly collection



St Mary Church  
Sanctuary Lamp  
is lit for

Brenda Vermette

St Francis de Sales  
Weekend of July 12/13  
Parishioners contributed

\$2,334.00  
to the Weekly collection

St Mary—St Catherine of Siena  
7/12

4 pm 47

7/6

8 am 54

11 am 114

6 pm 52

Total 267



St Francis de Sales

Sanctuary Lamp  
is lit for

Colleen Devlin

St Francis de Sales

7/12

4 pm 39

7/13

9:30 am 53

Total 92

St. Mary - St Catherine of Siena  
UPCOMING COLLECTIONS

July 20	Monthly
August 15	Assumption
August 17	Monthly



*Requiescant in  
Pace*

*Vincent D. "Vinny" Kelly*

*Toni-Lea Matson*

St. Francis de Sales  
UPCOMING COLLECTIONS

July 20	Parish
August 3	Capital Improvement

## COMMUNITY NEWS & INFO

**Mass Intentions**—To book a Mass, please call the 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**— Saturdays before the 4 pm Mass.

**Weddings**— All couples please access the wedding form on our website—[charlestowncatholic.org](http://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](mailto:donna.lecam@gmail.com)

**Low Gluten Hosts** -We're happy to provide consecrated, low-gluten 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](mailto:info@charlestowncatholic.org)*

## 16th Sunday of Ordinary Time

Recent polls find that many people think of themselves as less religious, but more spiritual. Religion is judged to be impractical, or not as 'enlightened' as modern people. Those ideas and distinctions have been around for centuries and the only ones who are still going strong are those who practice religion.

Jesus visits Martha and Mary and they each have a different view of what needs to be done and who should do it. Martha is concerned about all the details of hospitality while Mary wants to listen to what Jesus has to say. When Martha objects and wants her sister's help, Jesus reminds her that only one thing is important and since Mary has chosen it, she should not be deprived of it.

The practice of faith often takes second place to many other things that take our time and energy and give very little in return. Our choices leave little time for prayer, works of mercy or religious activity. Yet these are the only things that really count. They express our values and ideals, helping us to be missionaries of faith and witnesses of love. Don't be fooled by the clutter of life and make busyness your excuse. Faith contains the treasure of life, a meaning and purpose that satisfy us. The better portion awaits our choosing.

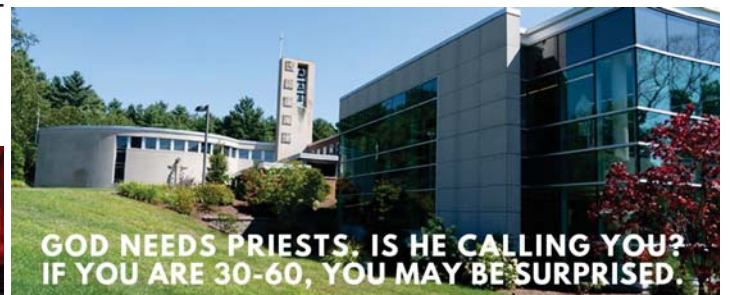
~ James Gaffney © Karides Lic. to Pilot Bulletins

## NFP Week—July 20 - 26,



### Natural Family Planning Awareness Week

Natural Family Planning Awareness Week is a national educational campaign. The dates of Natural Family Planning Awareness Week highlight the anniversary of the papal encyclical *Humanae Vitae* (July 25). The dates also mark the feast of Saints Joachim and Anne (July 26), the parents of the Blessed Mother. See USCCB web site for more info.



### FIRST FRIDAY VISITS 2025

September 5th  
October 3rd  
November 7th  
December 5th

5:00 PM EST

Pope St. John XXIII National Seminary

HOLY HOUR AND EVENING PRAYER

**In-Person Visit:** Includes Dinner with seminarians and tour of the Seminary

**Register:** Contact Msgr. William Fay  
781-899-5500 ext. 134  
firstfriday@psjs.edu

**Virtual Visit:** Live-stream Holy Hour followed by a Zoom visit (Zoom link provided at registration)



POPE ST. JOHN XXIII NATIONAL SEMINARY | 558 SOUTH AVE, WESTON, MA | 781.899.5500

Log onto to the website to see what's new; Find bulletins, and Mass times; view the latest recorded Sunday Mass: [stfrancis-charlestown.org](http://stfrancis-charlestown.org) and [stmarystcatherine.org](http://stmarystcatherine.org)

. I invite you to ponder whether you can assist us in one of these ministries .....

We are inclined to think that serving in ministry is more for someone else and we are not worthy to do that. Well, no one IS worthy! However, many are able to lend a hand and with preparation and support, carry out a much needed and important ministry at the Parish.

Please read below and pray and talk with us — if you feel so called.



### **Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion**

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion are adult Catholics in good standing *who have a love for the Eucharist and wish to serve their fellow parishioners*. Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion are ordinary Christians who model Christian living in faith and conduct in their ministry and in their daily lives.



### **Ministers of the Word (Lectors)**

Lectors are adult Catholics in good standing *who have a love for the Word of God and wish to serve their fellow parishioners* as a Minister of the Word. The Liturgy of the Word is an essential component of the Eucharistic Liturgy. The Ministry of Lector is to proclaim the Word of God in the assembly of the people.



### **Greeters and Ushers**

Greeters and ushers are a group of dedicated men and women of all ages. Greeters faithfully welcome our parishioners and visitors as they arrive for Mass. Ushers are responsible for taking up the collection during the Mass.

For more information, please contact at 617-242-4664 or talk to Fr. Sheridan after the Mass.

## **Talk by Immaculee Ilibagiza**

**Thursday, Sept. 4 6 - 7:30 pm**

**Immaculate Conception Church (11 Prospect St, Marlborough)**

Immaculate Conception Parish of Marlborough is presenting a talk by Immaculee Ilibagiza based on her best-selling book “Left to Tell: Discovering God Amidst the Rwandan Holocaust”. There will be a voluntary \$10/person donation requested.

**[icmarlboro.org/jubilee-2025](http://icmarlboro.org/jubilee-2025)**

## **Annual Wedding Anniversary Mass (10/26)**

All couples celebrating their 10th, 25th, or 50th wedding anniversaries or another special milestone are invited to a celebratory Mass on Sunday, Oct. 26th at 3 PM at the Cathedral of the Holy Cross.

Couples will renew their marriage commitment and receive a special blessing. Family and friends are invited to attend. To register, visit <https://bit.ly/WeddingAnniversaryMass2025>. For more information, please email Emily Elliott at [marriageprep@rcab.org](mailto:marriageprep@rcab.org) or call 617-746-5756.

**Jubilee for Catechists,  
September 27 @ 10 am**

**Save the date!**

**Blessed Andrew Phu Yen  
Parish, Medford**

Calling all catechists in the Archdiocese of Boston! That means you - parents, faith formation leaders, teachers, volunteers, OCIA and youth ministry teams, etc. Join us for a celebration to include Mass and a Catechist Commissioning with Archbishop Henning, lunch and fellowship, a trivia competition hosted by

Fr. Denis Nakkeeran, and free access to Franciscan at Home!

Go to [bit.ly/JubileeCatechists](https://bit.ly/JubileeCatechists) to learn more and sign up!



# 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.

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617-779-3770 // [www.pilotbulletins.net](http://www.pilotbulletins.net)



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lawn's potential.



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lawns are alike, which is why  
we customize our plans to  
your specific region.

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\*Special price is for first Lawn service only. Requires purchase of annual plan, for new residential EasyPay or PrePay customers only. Valid at participating TruGreen locations. Availability of services and/or products may vary by geography. Not to be combined with or used in conjunction with any other offer or discount. Additional restrictions may apply. Consumer responsible for all sales tax.

\*Guarantee applies to annual plan customers only. TruGreen will gladly visit your property as needed between scheduled visits to ensure your satisfaction. BBB accredited since 07/01/2012. In Connecticut, B-0153, B-1380, B-0127, B-0200, B- 0151.



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