

CHARLESTOWN CATHOLIC COLLABORATIVE

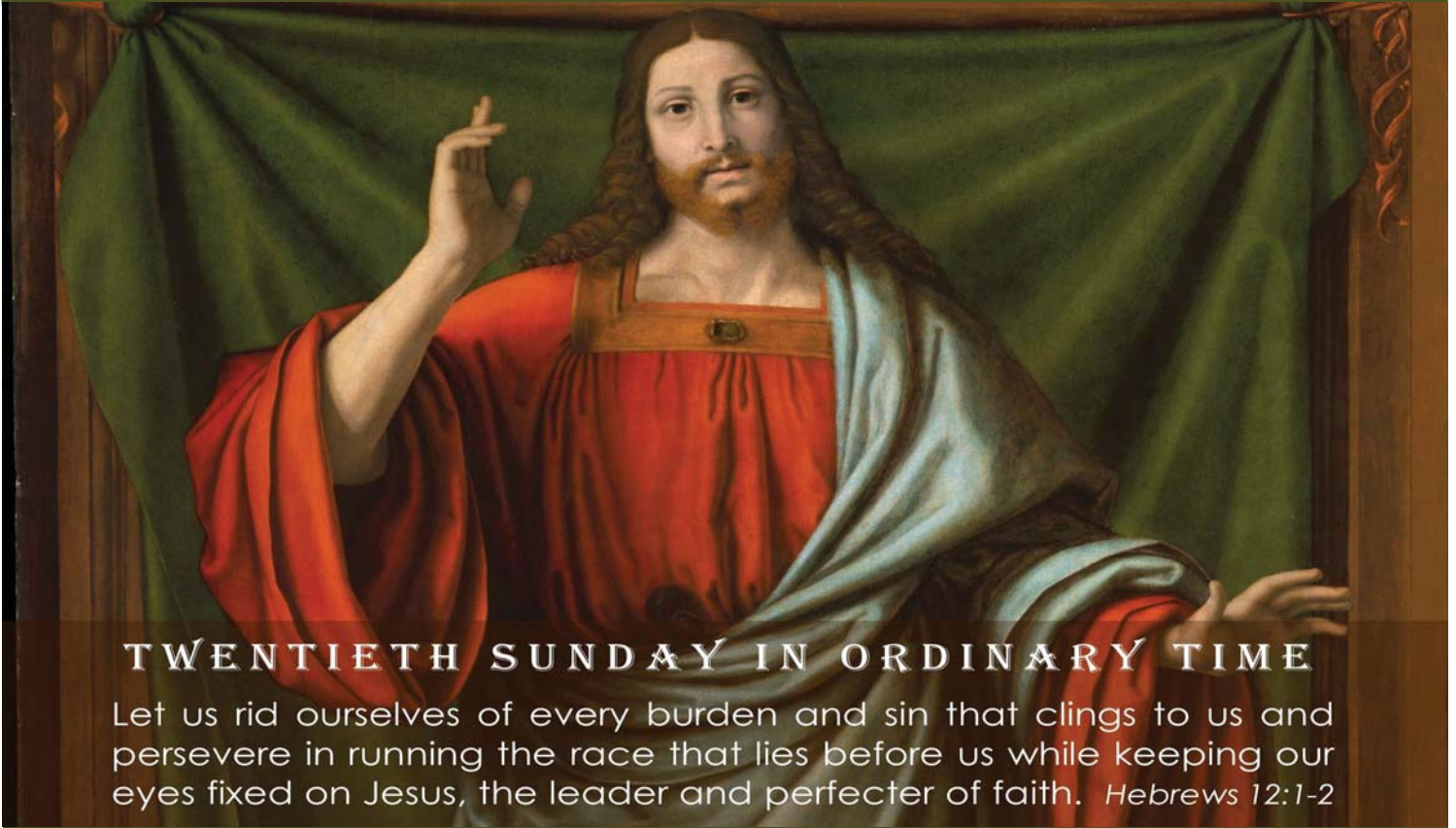
Saint Mary–Saint Catherine of Siena and Saint Francis de Sales Parishes

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

August 17, 2025



TWENTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Let us rid ourselves of every burden and sin that clings to us and persevere in running the race that lies before us while keeping our eyes fixed on Jesus, the leader and perfecter of faith. *Hebrews 12:1-2*

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

stfrancischarlestown.org

stmarystcatherine.org

CODE - BREAKER!

The sentence below is
to be found in one of
today's readings. Can you
break the code and
write in the sentence?
Here are two clues:
D = I, and Z = E.

Crossword solution from
last week

F	O	E	S		S	T	A	R	S
A			E		E				O
I	S	A	A	C		N			O
T		L		R	E	T	U	R	N
H	O	L	Y			S			
	P				L		T		K
S	E	A	T		A	P	R	O	N
O	N		H		M		U		E
N		H	E	L	P		S		W
			M		S		T		

D CVQZ XJHZ OJ NZO

OCZ ZVMOC JI ADMZ,

VIY CJR D RDNC DO

RZMZ VGMZVYT WGVUDIB.

ANSWER

I have come to set the earth on fire, and
how I wish it were already blazing.

Sunday Funday © Pilot Bulletins

Preach the Gospel at all times

When necessary use words

~St. Francis of Assisi~

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 disability-accessible on Soley Street.
St. Catherine's Chapel is disability-accessible on Winthrop Street.



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!

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. It is a 7 day candle.

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— 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, 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



Project Rachel Post-Abortion Healing Retreats (9/27, 10/18)

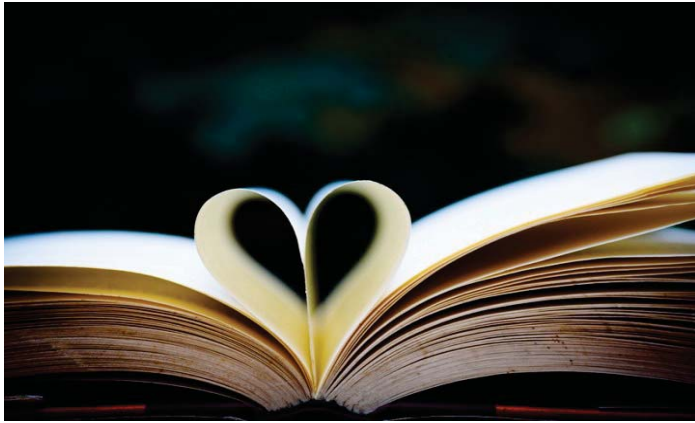
Are you – or someone you know – seeking peace after an abortion? The Project Rachel ministry of the Archdiocese of Boston extends a special invitation to women experiencing regret from a past abortion to attend a *Come to the Waters of Healing* one-day retreat. Fall dates are Saturday, September 27 and Saturday, October 18. Locations are confidential. For more information on the retreats or other services, contact Project Rachel at 508.651.3100 or help@projectrachelboston.com.

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 3:00 PM at the Cathedral of the Holy Cross, Boston. 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 or call 617-746-5756.

Log onto to our websites to see what's new; find bulletins and Mass times; view the latest recorded Sunday Mass: stfrancischarlestown.org and stmarystcatherine.org



Faith Formation

We are planning for 2025-26!

Registration has begun-
just call the Offices at 617-242-4664
or go to charlestowncatholic.org!

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

Summertime

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!

Coming Soon



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



CHARLESTOWN LOVES SCOUTING!

Open to Boys and Girls, K-5th Grade

Meet Us September 8th at 5:30 PM

St. Mary's Community Room

46 Winthrop Street in Charlestown

Questions? - email thesantamarias2015@gmail.com

Confirmation Update

Change is in the air for our Confirmation program- the Archdiocese has directed that the Sacrament will be administered to 8th graders starting in 2027.

Our Confirmation director Cynthia Markey & Katy Fleming are working to bring it together for us.

Parents of students in grades 7-10 will soon receive an email with information, and how we all can help to make these changes smoothly.

Labor Day Weekend

Please note that the collaborative offices will be closed Aug. 29- Sept. 1. Mass that Friday (the 29th) and Monday (the 1st) will be offered at 9 am.

Baptisms at Saint Mary - St Catherine Parish

Please welcome (names listed in alphabetical order)

Callahan Cabot Cotreau, Vivian Querci & Riley Jay Santana



Baptisms at St Francis de Sales Parish

Please welcome

Kylen Cole Campbell

& Francis Timothy Nelson



Cursillo

Is a crash course in Christianity. If you would like to know more about your faith, consider a Cursillo retreat. Nancy Higgins is our parish coordinator. Please call the Parish Center if you are interested in learning about Cursillo retreats at 617-242-4664

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

Saturday, August 16

9 am

4 pm + Margaret & Emmett Pulliam Sr.; Helen Irvin;
Rita Sullivan & Eleanor Connors

Sunday, August 17

8 am

11 am + David Latta, Jr & Meaghan Brady

6 pm

Monday, August 18 through Friday, August 22

8 am

Saturday August 23

9 am

4 pm + Daniel McKillop & William McKillop

Sunday, August 24

8 am

11 am

6 pm

*St. Francis de Sales
Mass Intentions*

Saturday, August 16

4 pm

Sunday, August 17

9:30 am



Saturday, August 23

4 pm

Sunday, August 24

9:30 am

CHARLESTOWN CATHOLIC



Pictures from Harvest on Vine distribution, Saturday, August 9 and some pics of a few of our volunteers!

Your donations at work. We would like to thank all those who participated in the cereal drive this summer and for the much needed continued support of our Harvest on Vine Food Pantry, which serves about 5 to 6 hundred families per month.

St Mary St Catherine
Weekend of Aug 2/10

Parishioners contributed
\$3,414.28
to the Weekly collection

St Mary St Catherine
8/9

4 pm 58

8/10

8 am 40

11 am 107

6 pm 52

Total 257

**St. Mary - St Catherine of Siena
UPCOMING COLLECTIONS**

August 17	Monthly
September 14	Monthly
September 21	Clergy Benefit

GET INVOLVED !
LITURGICAL MINISTRIES

Altar Servers
Eucharistic Ministers
Lectors
Music Ministry
Worship Committee

FAITH FORMATION

Adult Confirmation/RCIA
Baptism Prep
Confirmation
Religious Ed K - 6
Spiritual Committee
Wedding Committee

SOCIAL MINISTRIES

Family Ministry
Social Ministry
St. Francis Hall Committee

St Francis de Sales
Weekend of Aug 2/10

Parishioners contributed
\$1,322.00
to the Weekly collection

St Francis de Sales

8/9

4 pm 36

8/10

9:30 am 38

Total 74

**St. Francis de Sales
UPCOMING COLLECTIONS**

August 17	Parish Deficit
August 31	Mission Appeal
September 14	Capital Improvement
September 21	Clergy Benefit

We are grateful to you!

COMMUNITY NEWS & INFO



**Nutritious and Easy to Prepare Cooking
Class**

**Thursday August 28
4:00 pm
at the Food Pantry
Cooking Demonstration
Easy Summer Meal**

FRANCES G.
&
JOSEPH F. BOYCE



COMMUNITY
KITCHEN

August 17 ~ Twentieth Sunday of Ordinary Time

Later today, pause for a few minutes to read again today's readings. Who comes to mind when you hear that you are surrounded by "so great a cloud of witnesses"? Is it people from your own life that are/were pillars of faith, or someone who strived to be "Christ-like" and persevered even when faced with hardships? St. Paul urges us to be like those witnesses who persevered in faith and ran the race to eternal life by "...keeping ... eyes fixed on Jesus." The baton has been passed on to us – let's fix our eyes on Jesus as we stay the course with the hope to be counted among that cloud of witnesses.

Jubilee Year 2025: Pilgrims of Hope

Why is Jesus our hope?

Because God never gives up on us. He extends his love and mercy to those who want it, even at the eleventh hour. "At times we have the impression that we cannot find meaning for our lives: we feel useless, inadequate, just like the labourers who wait in the marketplace, waiting for someone to hire them to work." The parable of the laborers in the vineyard (Mt 20) "is a parable that gives hope, because it tells us that this landowner goes out several times to go and look for those who are waiting to give meaning to their lives ... God wants to give his Kingdom, that is, full, eternal and happy life, to everyone. And this is what Jesus does with us: he does not establish rankings, he gives all of himself to those who open their hearts to him" (Pope Leo 6/4/25 Audience).

17 de agosto ~ Vigésimo Domingo del Tiempo Ordinario

Más tarde hoy, haga una pausa de unos minutos para leer nuevamente las lecturas de hoy. ¿Quién te viene a la mente cuando escuchas que estás rodeado de "una nube tan grande de testigos"? ¿Son personas de tu propia vida que son/fueron pilares de fe, o alguien que se esforzó por ser "como Cristo" y perseveró incluso cuando se enfrentó a dificultades? San Pablo nos insta a ser como aquellos testigos que perseveraron en la fe y corrieron la carrera hacia la vida eterna al "... guarda... ojos fijos en Jesús". La batuta nos ha sido entregada: fijemos nuestros ojos en Jesús mientras mantenemos el rumbo con la esperanza de ser contados entre esa nube de testigos.

Año Jubilar 2025: Peregrinos de la esperanza

¿Por qué Jesús es nuestra esperanza? Porque Dios nunca se da por vencido con nosotros. Extiende su amor y misericordia a quienes lo desean, incluso en la hora undécima. "A veces tenemos la impresión de que no podemos encontrar sentido a nuestras vidas: nos sentimos inútiles, inadecuados, como los trabajadores que esperan en el mercado, esperando que alguien los contrate para trabajar". La parábola de los obreros de la viña (Mt 20) "es una parábola que da esperanza, porque nos dice que este terrateniente sale varias veces a buscar a los que esperan para dar sentido a su vida... Dios quiere dar a todos su Reino, es decir, vida plena, eterna y feliz. Y esto es lo que Jesús hace con nosotros: no establece rankings, se entrega por completo a quienes le abren su corazón" (Papa León 6/4/25 Audiencia).

Talk by Immaculee Ilibagiza

Thursday, September 4, 2025 6pm - 7:30pm

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.

<https://www.icmarlboro.org/jubilee-2025>

Jubilee for Catechists, September 27 @ 10 am 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.

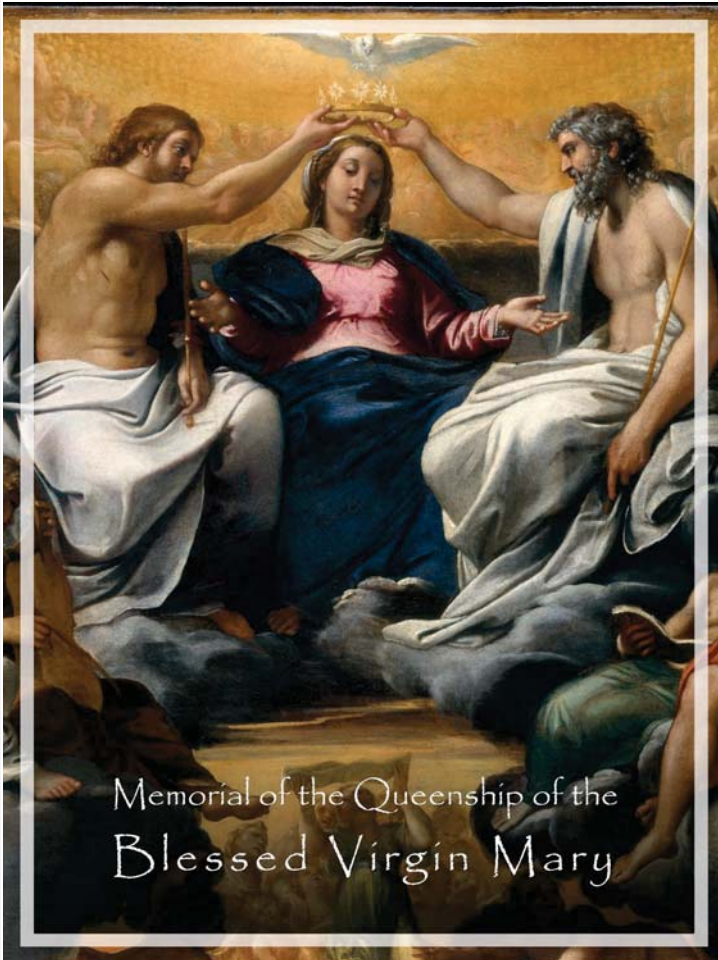
Join us for a celebration to include Mass and a Catechist Commissioning with Archbishop Henning, lunch and fellowship, a trivia competition hosted by Fr. Denis Nakkeeran, and free access to Franciscan at Home!

Go to bit.ly/JubileeCatechists to learn more and sign up!

QUEENSHIP OF MARY—August 22

Quote:

A great sign appeared in the sky, a woman clothed with the sun, with the moon under her feet, and on her head a crown of twelve stars. ~[Revelation 12:1](#)



Early Church Fathers used what is referred to as “typology” to clearly establish the continuity between the Old and New Testaments. For example, though King Solomon sinned, he is also a prefigurement, or “type” of Christ because he was a peacemaker, filled with wisdom, and built the Temple. Saint Augustine, in his commentary on Psalm 127, states that our Lord is “the true Solomon” and that “Solomon was the figure of this Peacemaker.” The true Peacemaker is Christ, and just as Solomon built the Temple, so our Lord built the true Temple of His Body, the Church.

Following this form of typology, the Book of 1 Kings states, “Then Bathsheba went to King Solomon to speak to him for Adonijah, and the king stood up to meet her and paid her homage. Then he sat down upon his throne, and a throne was provided for the king’s mother, who sat at his right. She said, ‘There is one small favor I would ask of you. Do not refuse me.’ The king said to her, ‘Ask it, my mother, for I will not refuse you’” ([1 Kings 2:19–20](#)). If King Solomon, an Old Testament type of Christ, honored his Queen Mother’s requests and sat her on a throne next to his, then so much more does our Lord, the true King of Kings, do so with His mother. Therefore, today’s memorial celebrates the fact that, in Heaven, Jesus’ mother is seated on a throne next to His, and like Solomon, Jesus says with certainty to her, “Ask it, my mother, for I will not refuse you.”

It is for these reasons, that on October 11, 1954, four years after the proclamation of the Assumption, Pope Pius XII instituted the Memorial of the Queenship of Mary with his encyclical letter, *Ad Caeli Reginam* (The Queen of Heaven). (*excerpt*)

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ADULT CONFIRMATION CLASSES - PLEASE SPREAD THE WORD



Full adult membership in the Roman Catholic Church is achieved with the reception of the sacraments of Baptism, Eucharist, and Confirmation. Most Catholics born into our faith receive Baptism as infants and Eucharist in the second grade. Usually, Confirmation is received in the tenth Grade. Due to circumstances of all kinds, a significant number of adults have never received the Sacrament of Confirmation.

Maybe... It's Time:

To deepen your relationship with God who loves and cares about you.

To re-engage your world again as a Catholic more informed about your faith and its impact in your life.

To re-new yourself and others through the unique power of the Holy Spirit who guides us in Love and Truth.

Candidates 18 years of age or older will attend seven classes. 617-242-4664. for additional details and to register for the program.



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