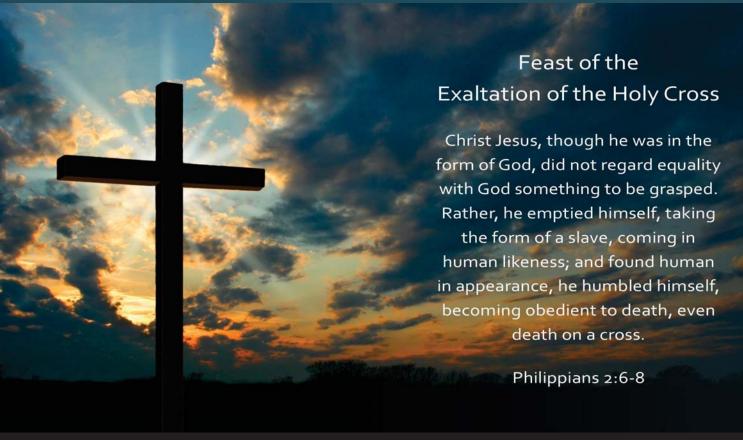
CHARLESTOWN CATHOLIC COLLABORATIVE

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

Parish Center & Eucharistic Center, 46 Winthrop Street, 617-242-4664, charlestowncatholc.org St. Francis Rectory, 303 Bunker Hill Street, 617-242-0147, info@charlestowncatholic.org September 14, 2025 Charlestown, MA 02129



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 vard 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



44th Annual Lawn Party to benefit Seminarians

Pope St. John XXIII National Seminary in Weston is hosting its
44th Annual Lawn Party on

Wednesday, September 24th, at 6:00 P.M,

on the grounds of the seminary. This premiere fundraising event is hosted by His Excellency, Most Rev. Richard G. Henning, Archbishop of Boston, along with Mary Anne and Dan Lagan as Chairpersons.

The Pacem in Terris Award will be presented to Bishop Peter J. Uglietto, and Gretchen and John LaRossa, MD –true champions of peace and service. Their lives are a compelling reminder of what is possible when love inspires action and faith guides every step.

The evening will include a reception and dinner with music. The proceeds from the Lawn Party help to keep tuition costs affordable. For ticket information, please call the Pope St. John XXIII Development Office at 781-899-5500, or visit https://psjs.edu/lawn-party. You can make a difference and encourage the vocations of these men through your support of the Lawn Party.

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



Blessing of the Animals

Saturday, Oct. 4 at noon at the statue of our Blessed Mother across from St Francis Church 303 Bunker Hill Street

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

St. Francis de Sales Church 313 Bunker Hill St. 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

Charlestown Catholic Collaborative

Handicapped Access

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

SEPTEMBER IS SUICIDE PREVENTION MONTH



STATEMENT: "Suicide is a leading cause of *preventable* deaths in the United States. Today our knowledge about suicide has evolved, as have conversations about mental health. We know that we save lives when we work to #EndTheStigma around seeking help. In September and always, we stand together in strength, dignity hope and purpose."

Most people associate September with returning to school, the beginning of fall, and especially the short-lived season of the pumpkin latte. However, in 2008, September was declared National Suicide Prevention Awareness Month. This is not my usual upbeat bulletin article, but rather one meant to spread awareness of an issue that affects many, not only in our community butacross the world.

Each Saturday morning, I spend time at a local diner in Chelmsford, Mass., called Doty's Diner with my parents and one of our beloved servers, Shelly Massucco. Shelly shared her story of how she lost her son to suicide. She is truly one of the strongest and most amazing individuals, dedicating her life to raising awareness about the high costs of suicide. It always strikes me howcandidly Shelly speaks about her son's death and how it has affected her and her family. Her strength in being so open is something wecan all learn from. She mentioned that her son Derek always seemed so happy, and she was completely blindsided when she learned the news of his death. When I think about suicide, I often feel the need to shove the topic under the rug as though it's taboo, omething not to be discussed. But that's exactly the opposite of what we should do. This is the very behavior we as a community must avoid if we are ever to try, even in the smallest way, to stop suicide and the loss of so many precious lives.

Each of us is fighting an internal struggle that we are reluctant to let the world see, and sometimes — just sometimes — the world does see it and sadly looks the other way. In a world that feels increasingly divided, with violence on the rise, takea moment to say hello to the person sitting on the Mayor Menino bench in front of the old St. Mary's School, or maybe let someone go ahead of you in line at Tatte. These small acts of kindness go a long way when people are struggling. While kindness alone will not stop the grave issue of suicide, it is at least a start. We have the power to do so much and to help so many in this world. More importantly, we can learn to recognize the warning signs of suicide— and if you see something, say something. Signs such as withdrawing from friends and family, extreme mood swings, increased alcohol or drug use, talking or even joking about death, and engaging in tisky behaviors are just a few to take notice of when someone may be considering ending their life.

Let people like Shelly and her son Derek serve as a catalyst for us to do better and to spread awareness of suicide. We only have one God-given life, and while it may prove difficult at times, we must come together to support one another in times of trouble and despair.

Individual Impact:

- 1 in 20 U.S. adults (5%) have serious thoughts of suicide each year.
- About 1 person dies by suicide in the U.S. every 11 minutes.
- 79% of all people who die by suicide in the U.S. are male.
- Although more women than men attempt suicide, men are 4x more likely to die by suicide.
- In the U.S., suicide is the 2nd leading cause of death among people ages 10-14 and among people ages 15-24, and the 11th leading cause of death overall (Resource—NAMI)

Here are some resources if you, or someone you know, is struggling:

In a crisis? Call/text 988 to reach the Suicide & Crisis Lifeline 24/7

Crisis Text Line (text HELLO to 741741 to be connected with a trained crisis counselor)

The Trevor Project (text START to 678678 or call 1-866-488-7386) $^{\sim}$ John Volpe

We pray that those living with a mental illness, depression and suicidal thoughts may find the help and support that they need and for families and friends experiencing the loss of a loved one by suicide may find healing and comfort. We pray to the Lord.



Harvest on Vine Food Pantry Fundraiser

Thursday, October 16th 6-9 pm

Tradesman Restaurant 50 Hood Park Drive, Charlestown

Join us for an evening of fun while supporting your community. Tickets and details:



Harvest on Vine Food Pantry

The heart of the Charlestown Catholic Collatorative

The community needs your support more than ever

stmarystcatherine.org/harvest-on-vine



LITURGICAL MINISTRIES

Altar Servers
Eucharistic Ministers
Lectors
Music Ministry
Worship Committee

FAITH FORMATION

Adult Confirmation/RCIA
Baptism Prep
Confirmation
Youth Group Grades 5 - 6
Religious Ed Grades K - 4
Spiritual Committee
Wedding Committee

SOCIAL MINISTRIES

Family Ministry
Social Ministry
St. Francis Hall Committee

PARISH MINISTRIES

Harvest of Vine St Vincent de Paul

The Season of Creation spans five weeks between the World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation

(September 1) and the Feast Day of St. Francis of Assisi (October 4).

This "time for creation" offers, in the words of Pope Francis, "individual believers and communities a fitting opportunity to reaffirm their personal vocation to be stewards of creation, to thank God for the wonderful handiwork which he has entrusted to our care, and to implore his help for the protection of creation as well as his pardon for the sins committed against the world in which we live." 1 Below are some ways to live out these three dimensions of Pope Francis' call, both as individuals and as a community.

The Hope for Life Conference

The Hope for Life Conference will be held on Saturday, Oct.

4th at the Track at New Balance in Brighton from 8 AM-4 PM. All are invited to this special event featuring The Chosen's Jonathan Roumie, Mother Olga of the Sacred Heart, Mass by Archbishop Henning, music by the Vigil Project, and much more.

The event is a collaboration of the Archdiocesan Pro-Life Office, the Daughters of Mary of Nazareth, and the Men of Divine Mercy Prayer Group. Please join us in honoring the sanctity and beauty of life.

For more information and tickets, visit hopeforlifeboston.com.

Confirmation & Youth Group Updates

Change is in the air for our Confirmation programthe 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 realign the classes for us. Youth group for grades 5 & 6 and prep for grades 6-10 begins Sunday, Oct. 5.

Look up. Look ahead.

Grade 1- 4 classes at 46 Winthrop St. will be held on Tuesdays 4 - 5 pm and will meet on Oct. 7 & 21,

Nov. 4 & 18, Dec. 2 & 16, Jan. 6 & 20,

Feb. 10 & 24, Mar. 10 & 24, Apr. 14 & 28

1st Communion May 2 & 3

September 23 @ 4 pm -

Cookout

Kick Off event at Parish Center for Faith Formation Tuesday students (grades 1 through 4) and families



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 discussion!

RCIA

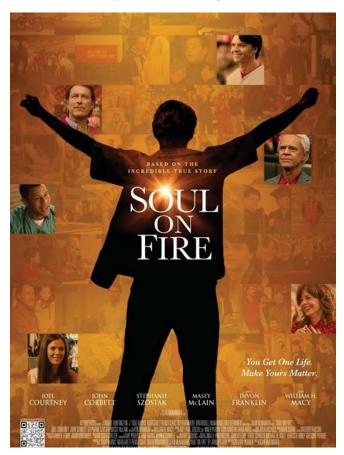
We will have RCIA/Adult Confirmation prep classes every other Monday beginning Sept. 22 at 6:30 pm at 46 Winthrop.

Coming Friday, Sept. 19th at 7 pm to 46 Winthrop



The true story of an extraordinary man.

Coming in October with a special showing for us...



Watch this space.

CHARLESTOWN CATHOLIC

St. Francis de Sales Mass Intentions

Saturday, September 13

4 pm + Richard E. & Ann M. O'Brien

Sunday, September 14

9:30 am +Marty & Catherine O'Brien

+ James & Roy O'Brien

+ Ann & Bridget Carrier



Saturday, September 20

4 pm + Bill & Agnes O'Connell

Sunday, September 21

9:30 am + Helen "Hunna" Gillen

St. Mary-St. Catherine of Siena Mass Intentions

Saturday September 13

4 pm

Sunday, September 14

8 am

11 am + Dorothy Cheney Collins & Mary Smith Cheney

6 pm

Monday, September 15 through Friday, September 19

8am

Saturday September 20

9 am

4 pm + Mary, John, Michael & Kathleen Devlin

Sunday, September 21

8 am + John "Jack" Costello

11 am + Joseph Mullen

6 pm



Requiescant in Pace

Miranda Lee Rodriguez John Joseph Alves, Jr. Joseph Roy Jackson



St Francis de Sales Sanctuary Lamp is lit for

Richard E. & Ann M. O'Brien

St Francis de Sales Weekend of Sept 6/7 Parishioners contributed

\$2,171.00 to the Weekly collection

9/6
4 pm 47
9/7
9:30 am 56

Total 103



St Mary Church Sanctuary Lamp is lit for

John "Jack" Costello

St Mary St Catherine Weekend of Sept 6/7

Parishioners contributed \$5,397.84 to the Weekly collection 9/6
4 pm 61
9/7
8 am 46
11 am 109
6 pm 55
Total 271



III. Joseph Chartier

& Chloe Dyke

COMMUNITY NEWS & INFO

St. Francis de Sales
UPCOMING COLLECTIONS

Sept 14 Capital Improvement

Sept 21 Clergy Benefit

Oct 5 Holy Fr Apostolic Work

Oct 12 Capital Improvement

Oct 19 Mission Sunday

St. Mary - St Catherine of Siena UPCOMING COLLECTIONS

Sept 14 Monthly

Sept 21 Clergy Benefit

Oct. 5 Holy Father Apostolic Work

Oct. 12 Monthly

Oct. 19 Mission Sunday

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.

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.

RCIA—interested in becoming Catholic? Homebound and would like a to receive Sacraments? Call 617.242.4664

Dear Parents & Families of 5th & 6th graders,

Faith Formation for Youth Group (grades 5th & 6th) is quickly approaching! We are excited to announce that the Youth Group will meet on the first Sunday of the month at 5:00 pm, leading to the 6:00 pm mass. Please note the time change (5:00 pm) and new grade levels (5th & 6th).

Classes will take place once a month on the first Sunday of the month with the exception of January and April when class will be held on the 2nd Sunday. Youth Group will meet on the following dates: October 5th, November 2nd, December 7th, January 11th, February 1st, March 1st, April 12th, and May 3rd.

Classes will be held at St. Mary's Hall, the large hall below St. Mary's/St. Catherine's Church. This is the same location as in past years.

The first class will take place on Sunday, October 5th at 5:00 pm. Light snacks and/or pizza will be available. A Parent Sign-up Genius will be available to volunteer for food and beverages. If you still need to register your child, please go to charlestowncatholic.org. Once you are on the site, please go to faith formation/education and scroll to the registration page.

We're looking forward to a great year!

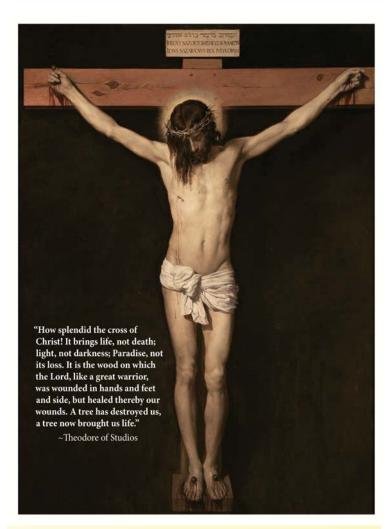
Fr. John, Cynthia Markey & Katy Fleming



Don't forget the poor



We are grateful to you!



"Remember that when your heart feels restless, when your heart feels hurt, when your heart feels like breaking... 'I am precious to Him. He has called me by name. I am His. He loves me.' And to prove that love He died on the cross." St. Teresa of Calcutta

A note from our Music Director St Mary-St Catherine Siena Parish

St. Augustine is often quoted as saying "he who sings, prays twice. I would like to invite any and all parishioners to share their talents with the music ministry here at St. Mary St. Catherine of Siena. We as Christians are called to make a joyful noise in song and praise - what better way to do just that than by joining us at the Mass? No prior singing ability or instrumental musical training is needed. All I ask is that you come with an eager mind and an open heart. Please see me after the Mass and let me know if you are interested.

Be a part of our choir this Fall!

September 14 ~ Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross

Today's feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross is celebrated in Catholic and Orthodox Churches alike, with the cross being the universal image of our Christian belief. It is not the cruelty of the Cross that is exalted, but the Love that God manifested for all people by accepting death on the Cross. Our Gospel reminds us that God wants to enter a relationship of love with us, a love that is offered in His Son Jesus, lifted up on the Cross. As we gaze upon the cross today, may it be an invitation to accept the love that is given and remain in His love. We adore you, Lord Jesus Christ, here, and in all your churches throughout the whole world, and we bless you, for by your holy cross you have redeemed the world. (Saint Francis of Assisi)

14 de septiembre ~ Fiesta de la Exaltación de la Santa Cruz

La fiesta de hoy de la Exaltación de la Santa Cruz se celebra tanto en la Iglesia Católica como en la Ortodoxa, siendo la cruz la imagen universal de nuestra creencia cristiana. No es la crueldad de la Cruz lo que se exalta, sino el Amor que Dios manifestó por todas las personas al aceptar la muerte en la Cruz. Nuestro Evangelio nos recuerda que Dios quiere entrar en una relación de amor con nosotros, un amor que se ofrece en su Hijo Jesús, levantado en la cruz. Al contemplar la cruz hoy, que sea una invitación a aceptar el amor que se da y permanecer en Su amor. Te adoramos, Señor Jesucristo, aquí, y en todas tus iglesias en todo el mundo, y te bendecimos, porque por tu santa cruz has redimido al mundo. (San Francisco de Asís)

HYMNS THAT MAKE YOU GO Hmmmm

Is there a hymn that you haven't heard in a while? Is a Mass being said in memory of a loved one at which you would like a certain hymn to be sung?

Please contact our Director of Music, John Anthony Volpe, by phone 978-729-4226 or by email Jvolpe@stmarystcatherine.org and let him know of your hymn requests!

Morning Prayer and Reflection for All
Involved in Music Ministry
November 22, 2025
8:30 am - 12:00 pm
Our Lady, Help of Christians, Newton
573 Washington Street Newton, 02458



ORACIÓN PARA CUIDAR DE NUESTRA CASA COMÚN

Padre de todos, creador y gobemante del universo, nos confiaste tu mundo a nosotros como un don. Ayúdanos a cuidar de él y de todas las personas, para que vivamos en relación correcta: contigo, con nosotros mismos, entre nosotros, y con la creación.

Cristo nuestro Señor, tanto divino como humano, viviste entre nosotros y moriste por nuestros pecados. Ayúdanos a imitar tu amor por la familia humana reconociendo que todos estamos conectados, a nuestros hermanos y hermanas de todo el mundo, a los que viven en pobreza impactados por la devastación ambiental, y a las eneraciones futuras.

Espíritu Santo, dador de sabiduría y de amor, infundes vida en nosotros y nos guías. Ayúdanos a vivir de acuerdo a tu visión, moviendo a la acción los corazones de todos, individuos y familias, omunidades de fe, y líderes civiles y políticos.

Dios Uno y Trino, ayúdanos a escuchar el clamor de los que viven en pobreza, y el clamor de la tierra, para que juntos cuidemos de nuestra casa común.

Amén.

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SUPPORT OUR PRIESTS THIS SEPTEMBER!



Project Rachel Post-Abortion Healing Retreats

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

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, Sept. 27 and Saturday, Oct. 18. Locations are confidential. For more information on the retreats or other services, contact *Project Rachel* at 508.651.3100 or help@projectrachelboston.com. Fr. John is a Project Rachel priest.

Our Lady of Sorrows Feast Day Masses (9/15)

The Archdiocese of Boston, in collaboration with the Emmaus Ministry for Grieving Parents, will celebrate 21 Masses for those grieving the loss of a child on Sept. 15, the feast of Our Lady of Sorrows.

For an updated list of Mass locations, see bit.ly/OLSorrowsMass. This event is hosted by the Emmaus Ministry for Grieving Parents.

For more information, visit https://www.emfgp.org/events/2025-be-a-pilgrim-of-hope/ or contact Diane Monaghan.



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

FREE EACH WEEK

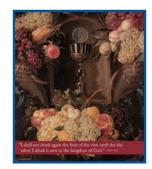
Enjoy the full color bulletin that will change weekly and may feature images to reflect the Gospel of the week or a meaningful Parish event.

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

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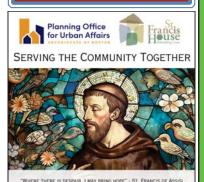
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SEPTEMBER 19 & 20



Join us in honoring Archbishop of Boston Most Rev. Richard G. Henning

for his work with Catholic Charities and supporting Immigrants at this years

Charitable Irish Society

Silver Key Awards

Wednesday, October 29th 2025 at 6PM UMASS Club, 1 Beacon Street, Boston MA 02108



Charitable Irish Society is the nation's oldest Irish organization



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