

Chelmsford Catholic Collaborative

Home to St. Mary and St. John the Evangelist Parish Families



St. John the Evangelist Church · 115 Middlesex Street, North Chelmsford, 01863

St. Mary Church · 25 North Road, Chelmsford, 01824

Parish Offices · 115 Middlesex Street, North Chelmsford, 01863

(978) 251-8571 · (978) 256-2374 · fax (978) 293-0303 · www.chelmsfordcatholic.org

Just as our Blessed Mother Mary and the Evangelist, called John, came together at the foot of the Cross to serve Christ crucified, so also do the parish families bearing their names come together to serve God by serving each other and all who make up the Body of The Risen Lord.



May 30, 2021
The Holy Trinity

"Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, until the end of the age."

-Matthew 28: 19-20

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

On Tuesday, June 1st, the parish offices will re-open:

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday • 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM

Wednesday • 9:30 AM - 5:00 PM

Friday • 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM

WEEKEND MASS SCHEDULE

St. Mary • Saturday at 4 PM/ Sunday at 7 AM and 11 AM

St. John • Saturday at 4 PM/ Sunday at 9:30 AM and 6 PM

St. John African Mass • 2nd, 3rd, 4th Sunday of the Month • 12 PM

WEEKDAY MASS SCHEDULE

Monday - Friday • 7 AM at St. Mary/ 9 AM at St. John

SUNDAY CURBSIDE COMMUNION

St. John • 3:00 - 3:30 PM / St. Mary • 4:30 - 5:00 PM

*THIS WEEKEND IS THE LAST WEEKEND WE WILL OFFER CURBSIDE COMMUNION

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Monday • 4:30 - 5:30 PM • St. John

Wednesday • 4:30 - 5:30 PM • St. Mary

Saturday • 11 AM-12 NOON at St. Mary/ 3:00 - 4:00 PM at St. John

DAILY DEVOTIONS LIVESTREAM SCHEDULE

Monday - Friday at 3 PM • Chaplet of Divine Mercy at St. John

Monday - Friday at 7 PM • Rosary at St. Mary

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

First Friday • 3:00 - 9:00 PM • St. John OPC Chapel

PRAYER LINE

To have prayers said for yourself or a loved one, call the parish office and ask for ext. 223. After hours, press 5.



facebook.com/ChelmsfordCath



[Chelmsford Catholic Collaborative](https://www.youtube.com/ChelmsfordCatholicCollaborative)



instagram.com/chelmsfordcatholic

This week's *calendar*

St. Mary Parish Events

RESERVATION REQUIRED for all weekend liturgies



Sunday, May 30

Weekend Liturgy • 7 am and 11 am
Curbside Communion • 4:30 - 5:00 pm

Monday, May 31

Memorial Day • Parish Offices Closed
Daily Mass • 7 am
LIVEVIEW Rosary • CANCELLED
Rosary in the Grotto • 7 pm

Tuesday, June 1

Daily Mass • 7 am
Tuesday Night Book Discussion • ZOOM
LIVEVIEW Rosary • 7 pm

Wednesday, June 2

Daily Mass • 7 am
Confessions • 4:30 - 5:30 pm • in Church
LIVEVIEW Rosary • 7 pm

Thursday, June 3

Daily Mass • 7 am
LIVEVIEW Rosary • 7 pm

Friday, June 4

Daily Mass • 7 am
LIVEVIEW Rosary • 7 pm

Saturday, June 5

Confessions • 11 am - 12 noon • in Church
Weekend Liturgy • 4 pm

Sunday, June 6

Weekend Liturgy • 7 am and 11 am
FF Drop-off/ Pick-up • 10 am – 12 noon • PC
Group Baptism • 2:00 pm

~ CLERGY ~

Reverend Brian Mahoney, PASTOR
ext 215... fr.brian@chelmsfordcatholic.org

Reverend Patrick Alemayo, CSSP
ST. JOHN AFRICAN COMMUNITY CHAPLAIN
fr.patrickalemayo@chelmsfordcatholic.org

Reverend Arnold Colletti, SR. PRIEST IN RESIDENCE
ext 221... frcolletti@chelmsfordcatholic.org

Deacon John Hunt, Jr., PERMANENT DEACON
ext 224... deaconjohn@chelmsfordcatholic.org

~ BUSINESS OFFICE ~

Paul Firicano, COLLABORATIVE BUSINESS MANAGER
ext 220... pfiricano@chelmsfordcatholic.org

Tina Sousa, FINANCE & FACILITY SUPPORT
ext 219... tsousa@chelmsfordcatholic.org

~ FAITH FORMATION ~

Heather Hannaway, DIR OF FAMILY FAITH FORMATION
ext 226... hhannaway@chelmsfordcatholic.org

Courtney Callanan, ASST DIR OF FAITH FORMATION
ext 227... ccallanan@chelmsfordcatholic.org

Lynn Anne LaDuke, FAITH FORMATION COORDINATOR
ext 240... lynnanne@chelmsfordcatholic.org

Elaine Kindler, FAITH FORMATION COORDINATOR
ext 216... ekindler@chelmsfordcatholic.org

~ ADMINISTRATIVE ~

Rae Russo, PART-TIME FUNERAL COORDINATOR
ext 325... rae@chelmsfordcatholic.org

Donna Gambon, PART-TIME ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT
ext 248... dgambon@chelmsfordcatholic.org

Sue Beechin, PART-TIME ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT
ext 236... sue@chelmsfordcatholic.org

~ FACILITIES ~

Dan Heider, FACILITIES MANAGER
ext 213... dheider@chelmsfordcatholic.org

Bob Webb, CUSTODIAN
bob@chelmsfordcatholic.org

~ BULLETIN, WEBSITE, SOCIAL MEDIA ~

Christine Trznadel, COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTOR
ext 214... christine@chelmsfordcatholic.org

IN HONOR OF MEMORIAL DAY...

Parish Offices will be closed.

Additionally, the Chaplet, Rosary and St. John Confession will be cancelled.



Welcome to the Table of our Lord

This past week the following group of children received the gift of the Eucharist for the first time. Please keep them and their families in prayer.

Gavin Carl Adams
Mia Marie Bombaci
Jordana Sofia Farrow

Jemma Marie Bombaci
Clair Ruth DeSimone
Alexandra Elizabeth Lydon
Marissa Michelle Marino



St. John's Hospitality Ministry is again sponsoring the raffling off of two gift baskets. All proceeds will be used to purchase clergy vestments.

Each basket—valued at \$250—contains:

- 6 bottles of wine
- Local restaurant and store gift cards
- Lottery scratch tickets
- Chocolates
- and a few other things...

Purchase your tickets online at

www.saintjohnchelmsford.weshareonline.org

There is also a link on the home page of our website.



Each ticket has 2 CHANCES TO WIN, so GET YOUR TICKET(S) TODAY!

\$5 per chance
\$25 per 6 chances

Winning tickets will be drawn on July 1

This week's calendar

St. John the Evangelist Events

RESERVATION REQUIRED for all weekend liturgies



Sunday, May 30

Weekend Liturgy • 9:30 am and 6 pm
Curbside Communion • 3 - 3:30 pm

Monday, May 31

Memorial Day • Parish Offices Closed
Daily Mass • 9 am
LIVEVIEW Chaplet of Divine Mercy • CANCELLED
Confessions • CANCELLED

Tuesday, June 1

Daily Mass • 9 am
LIVEVIEW Chaplet of Divine Mercy • 3 pm
Tuesday Night Book Discussion • ZOOM

Wednesday, June 2

Daily Mass • 9 am
LIVEVIEW Chaplet of Divine Mercy • 3 pm

Thursday, June 3

Daily Mass • 9 am
LIVEVIEW Chaplet of Divine Mercy • 3 pm

Friday, June 4

Daily Mass • 9 am
First Friday Adoration • 3 - 9 pm • OPC Chapel
LIVEVIEW Chaplet of Divine Mercy • 3 pm

Saturday, June 5

Confessions • 3 - 4 pm • In Church
Weekend Liturgy • 4 pm

Sunday, June 6

Weekend Liturgy • 9:30 am and 6 pm
FF Drop-off/ Pick-up • 9 - 11 am • NPC

MANDATORY MASK ORDER LIFTED MAY 29TH

BUT WHAT EXACTLY DOES THAT MEAN FOR OUR PARISH COMMUNITIES?

A year and a month after Governor Baker first issued the Mandatory Mask Order... the order will be lifted! Effective May 29th, the Massachusetts' Mask Mandate is being lifted, but circumstances in which a mask should and must be worn still exist in some places.

PARISH OFFICES

The parish offices will re-open on June 1st, however we may still be required to wear masks and social distance, regardless of vaccination status. Further directives will be communicated, as they become available to us.

The parish office hours will revert to the pre-pandemic schedule:

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday... 9 am - 5 pm / Wednesday... 9:30 am - 5:00 pm / Friday... 9:00 am - 3:00 pm

CHURCH BUILDINGS AND CELEBRATION OF MASSES

As you already know, reservations are no longer required to attend Masses. Here are some additional restrictions that have been lifted.

- Social distancing is no longer required.
- If you are fully vaccinated, you are no longer required to wear a mask. If you are not vaccinated, we ask that you do wear mask. We are relying on the honor system. PLEASE NOTE that there are still a number of people who, whether vaccinated or not, may not feel comfortable being 'mask-free' or in close quarters with their masked or mask-free pew mates. For these individuals, there will be a reserved section in each of the churches so that they may be able to experience a safe and comfortable worship environment. NOTE that both masked and un-masked individuals can mingle according to their own comfortability level.
- You can now exit and enter through all doors in the churches.
- Until we can obtain handled collection baskets, you can continue to drop your weekly offertory into the black drop boxes at the church entrances.
- Whether masked or not, you can sing!
- The dispensation from Sunday Mass has not yet been lifted, so if you are still uncomfortable physically attending Mass, LIVEVIEW remains an option.
- You will no longer be required to sign in for daily Mass.
- Churches will be continue to be cleaned daily.
- Churches will be open to the public Monday - Friday:
St. Mary... 6:30 am - 5:30 pm / St. John... 8:00 am - 5:00 pm (5:30 on Mondays)
- Based on previous discussion and determinations, the Mass schedule will remain as it currently is.

RECEPTION OF HOLY COMMUNION

This weekend, May 29th/30th, will be the LAST weekend that Curbside Communion will be offered.

- All priests and EMEs will be wearing a mask while distributing Holy Communion.
- We remain unable to offer the Precious Blood.
- Reception of the Eucharist on the tongue is allowed.

CONFESSION SCHEDULE

We say goodbye to curbside confession as we revert back to pre-pandemic confession protocols.

Beginning Tuesday, June 1st, the confession schedule and locations will be as follows:

- Monday: 4:30 - 5:30 pm at St. John in the reconciliation room
- Wednesday: 4:30 - 5:30 pm at St. Mary in the priest sacristy until confessionals are soundproofed
- Saturday: 11 am St. Mary / 3 pm at St. John

ALTAR SERVERS

We know many of our weekend altar servers are excited to get back in the sanctuary. Due to some revised protocols, Fr. Brian will be requiring that altar servers be trained in these protocols prior to being allowed back on the scheduled. Keep an eye out for these dates on our website, in our bulletin, and via FLOCKNOTES. This training will be scheduled within the next month.

The Financial Page

Fiscal Year 2021 runs from July 1, 2020 - June 30, 2021

Paul Firicano, Collaborative Business Manager
ext 220 or pfiricano@chelmsfordcatholic.org



The immense suffering and loss of life in India and Brazil due to the pandemic has resulted in hospitals and programs reaching a breaking point. The Catholic Church, through Catholic Relief Services (CRS), is on the ground in these countries to support them in this time of great need. Cardinal Seán is asking that we join with others in the financial support of their work through an **Emergency COVID special collection for the Church in India and Brazil**. For those of you who will be making a donation via a check, please make your check payable to either St. John or St. Mary, noting **INDIA AND BRAZIL RELIEF** in the memo line. Of course, you may make your donation online as well, via both parish online giving programs. Simply click on the appropriate parish link on the home page of our website.

ST. MARY WEEKLY OFFERTORY	Weekend of May 22nd/23rd	Fiscal Year-To-Date May 23rd	Fiscal YTD Average/Week
Offertory Required to cover Budgeted Expenses	\$15,100	\$694,600	\$15,100
Actual Received	\$10,656	\$663,821	\$14,431
Shortfall/ Overage	-\$4,444	-\$30,779	-\$669

ST. JOHN WEEKLY OFFERTORY	Weekend of May 22nd/23rd	Fiscal Year-To-Date May 23rd	Fiscal YTD Average/Week
Offertory Required to cover Budgeted Expenses	\$10,000	\$460,000	\$10,000
Actual Received	\$7,171	\$402,162	\$8,743
Shortfall/ Overage	-\$2,829	-\$57,838	-\$1,257

Second Collection Totals	St. Mary	St. John
Ascension Thursday Collection (May 13)	\$1,059	\$858
St Vincent de Paul Collection (May 16)	\$4,548	\$1,424
Seminarian Collection (May 23)	\$1,240	\$951



Both the St. Mary and St. John SVdP Chapters would like to say thank you for your generous donations during the May 16th Annual Collection. We are grateful for your support and will continue to keep you in our prayers.

-Ray Gatti (St. Mary) and Frank Peabody(St. John)

Catholic Appeal as of May 20			
	2021 Goal	Raised	%age of Goal
St. Mary	\$64,550	\$78,180	121.12%
St. John	\$45,823	\$42,635	93.04%

THANK
you

Grand Annual as of May		
<i>each parish has a goal of \$60,000</i>		
	St. Mary	St. John
Received	\$111,752	\$78,590
%age of Goal	186.25%	130.98%

welcome to the Collaborative Family

Heather Hannaway
Director of Faith Formation
hhannaway@chelmsfordcatholic.org

Courtney Callanan
Asst. Dir. of Faith Formation & Youth Minister
ccallanan@chelmsfordcatholic.org

Summer Fun Pick-up and Tracking Sheet Drop-Off Schedule

It's Time! It's time to pick up your Summer Fun Packet and drop off your April/May Tracking Sheets.
You may drop-off/pick up at either church, regardless of where you are registered.

ST. MARY PARISH CENTER

Sunday, June 6 • 10 am - 12:00 pm

ST. JOHN NPC LOBBY

Sunday, June 6 • 9:00 - 11:00 am

P.L.A.N.S. FOR THE WEEK OF MAY 30th - JUNE 5th

**PREPARE
TO LEARN
AWESOME!
NEW STUFF**

All Families

- Attend/Watch Sunday Mass together as a family
- Refer to the May "Our Prayer Journal - Praying with Mary" booklet
- Focus on Week Five: Mary in Scripture (pages 10-11)
- Pray with Mary in Scripture as a family 15 minutes each day this week
- Track your progress on your May: Family Faith Fundamentals Tracking Page

Grade One and Two Families

- Keep practicing Basic Catholic Prayers
- Complete a Children's Bulletin/ My Holy Mass Worksheet

Grade Seven and Eight Families

- Refer to Altaration: The Mystery of Mass Revealed Syllabus
- Complete Session 5-Part C: Instructions on page 8 of your syllabus
- Complete an Altaration Session Reflection [www.chelmsfordcatholic.org/altaration-session-reflection]

Confirmation I Families

- Refer to Chosen: Your Journey Toward Confirmation Syllabus
- Complete Lesson 12 (pages 105-114)
- Complete a Chosen Lesson Reflection [www.chelmsfordcatholic.org/chosen-session-reflection]

Confirmation II Families

- Refer to Chosen: Your Journey Toward Confirmation Syllabus
- Complete Lessons 23 and 24 (pages 215-233)
- Complete Chosen Lesson Reflections [www.chelmsfordcatholic.org/chosen-lesson-reflection]

St. Margaret Confirmation II Families

- Refer to Chosen: Your Journey Toward Confirmation Syllabus
- Complete Lessons 18 and 24 (pages 165-174 and 225-233)
- Complete Chosen Lesson Reflections [www.chelmsfordcatholic.org/chosen-lesson-reflection]



Faith Formation Program

Lynn Anne LaDuke
Faith Formation Coordinator
lynnanne@chelmsfordcatholic.org

Elaine Kindler
Faith Formation Coordinator
ekindler@chelmsfordcatholic.org



2020/21 Family Faith Formation Registration now open!

Visit www.chelmsfordcatholic.org/faith-formation-registration then choose the parish in which you are registering. There you will find all the directions needed for an easy online registration. No computer access? Contact...

- St John registration: Lynn Anne LaDuke at lynnanne@chelmsfordcatholic.org or ext 240
- St. Mary registration: Elaine Kindler at ekindler@chelmsfordcatholic.org or ext 216

The Early Bird gets the Worm, and some extra cash in pocket!

To qualify for the additional \$125 (on top of the \$50 early registration discount*) you **MUST REGISTER BY MONDAY, May 31st!** There will be one \$125 winner per parish!



- *Early Registration Fees end midnight on June 30, 2021
- Sacramental years—First Eucharist and Confirmation—are 2-year programs regardless of their grade level in either public or Catholic school.
- Parents will be in Discipleship Groups at the same time their children are in class
- Pandemic protocols permitting, we intend to meet in-person for all grade levels

Our Program is successful in large part to our volunteers!

We are, as in past years, looking for those moms, dads, grandparents, aunts, uncles, friends who are able and willing to help us out with the running of our program. This year, we are looking for Mentors and Facilitators.



Discipleship Group Mentors support parents by facilitating meetings; providing best practices, resources, and updates; and, liaising with Faith Formation staff. But what is a Discipleship Group? Discipleship Groups are an important support for families. Depending on family registrations, it may be necessary to have one or two Discipleship Groups which meet via ZOOM, rather than in person. Discipleship Groups meet once a month, ideally at the same time as students are in class.

Facilitators will be responsible for a small group of children/youth, leading them through outlined activities, discussion, and prayers that accompany the large group teaching. In-person classes will be held on Sundays.

If you are interested in helping out in either of these 2 areas, please visit www.chelmsfordcatholic.org/intent to learn more and to complete the INTENT TO MENTOR volunteer form.

4TH ANNUAL HAIL MARY CHALLENGE

1,000,000 Rosaries in 6 Months • May 1 - October 31

Please email your Hail Mary counts to psidari@ymail.com, phone them into him at (978) 729-1677, or drop them off into the black drop boxes located at the entrance of the parish offices, the inside entrances of both churches or handicap entrance at St. Mary.



WEEK ENDING MAY 23	TOTAL-TO-DATE	%AGE OF GOAL
27,780	60,097	6.0%

Vacation Bible Fun 2021

August 2-6 IN PERSON at St. John's

Both FUNSTERS and VOLUNTEERS can sign up by clicking on the VBF link on the home page of our website.

FUNSTERS: Children ages 4 through those entering Grade 6 for the 21/22 school year. The \$60 per FUNSTER fee includes a FUNSTER T-shirt, and all the supplies needed to participate in VBF for the week.

VOLUNTEERS: Children entering Grade 7 for the 21/22 school year, teenagers, and adults.



Last week I spoke about malignant individualism, one of the biggest concerns we need to confront as Christians. And the best way to do that is by truly embracing the natural law, which ultimately puts God in charge of our lives and *not* ourselves. We no longer seek to

create our own narrative of the world, but rather, we try to discern God's purpose for our lives, and seek to be at his service and the service of others.

I also believe that looking at the world in this way should move us away from seeing the other as our enemy. The truth is that we are *all* sinners; we are *all* in need of God's grace and mercy. We are all in the same boat of *not* getting everything right. However, we must also realize that the truth at some level exists in all of us.

The deepest need of every human being is not food, reproduction, sex, or any other of the common factors that people believe we are driven by. Our most inherent need and desire is to be in union with God. Many people do not realize that this is what drives them, and so they inadvertently buck against it by seeking to live life on their own terms. But there is a basic hunger they cannot feed, and this creates a real fracturing in their lives. It is this hunger that leads to malignant individualism, because they need to create a sense of stability in their lives in order to satiate their hunger.

Our role in this situation is to *not* simply tell people they are wrong, and *not* to try to convince them that our way is the best. Rather, it is about discovering where the truth lies within their lives. As Catholics we must believe that the fullness of the truth resides in the Catholic Church and in the Catholic Church alone. It is the Church founded by Christ for the purpose of ensuring that his mission of salvation continues unabated until He returns. He has given the Church the gift of the Holy Spirit to ensure that when it comes to faith and morals, the Church can never teach in error. That does not mean individuals will not go in error—that happens all the time. It means that the deposit of faith which Christ entrusted to the Church will remain undefiled. And again, it has been the Holy Spirit who has ensured that this has remained true throughout the centuries. However, this does not mean that truth does not exist outside of the Church, but what contradicts Church teaching is wrong teaching. Many faiths and tenets uphold the most fundamental and basic truths of life itself. As such, we must be willing to work with others to first find common ground, and then find ways to work together. We must seek to truly communicate with those of other faiths.

Communication is not about convincing the other person about something; rather, it is about coming to understand the other person's position. And that is *not* always an easy task. Many times the first problem we run into is that what the person speaking is implying is *not* what the person listening is concluding. And so, the conversation can go at

cross-purposes. There are many factors that can create this situation. As I say to couples contemplating marriage, "One of you may be a feeler, which means you process situations and events first through your feelings; the other may be a thinker, which means you process situations and events through analyzing the situation. One way is not better than the other: it is simply a different way of processing what is happening. But, many times, it does mean that how you process a conversation is going to impact how you interpret the conversation." There are, of course, many other factors that I will speak to them about (I will not get into them all). Each of them are essential to recognizing that our conversations are affected not simply by what is being said or how it is being said, but also how it is being received and what impacts that reception.

We think we are talking about the same thing and, yet, we are having completely different conversations. We then will usually accuse the other person of not listening because we recognize the conversation is going in a direction that makes no sense to us. 'And the reality is that it could *never* be my fault; the fault must lie with the other.' My advice is simply that when this begins to happen, do not say to the other, "You are not listening." The moment you do that, you have moved away from communication to having a fight, which is never an effective way to communicate. Rather, you need to say to the other, "Can we stop for a moment. I'm not sure I have been clear in what I have been trying to say. Could you tell me what you heard me say?" Or, it could be the other way around. The person listening could say, "I'm not sure I heard you correctly. This is what I heard. Is that what you intended to say?" In this way of engaging the other, you take the responsibility on yourself. And it allows the other to feel like you are taking them seriously. Communicating in this way is hard work and takes a determination to really listen to the other. But, also, you must accept that at the end of the conversation you may not agree; rather, you are seeking to understand the other person's point of view on a situation. Good communication is not a debate; it is about becoming enlightened about the way in which the other is looking at the world.

When we can accept this sense of understanding, we may be able to then discover where some common ground exists. What truth do they truly have, and how can we make use of that truth to create a bridge rather than a divide? It is *not* easy and it takes both sides to be open. But it begins with a willingness to trust and to have a conversation. It is a willingness to recognize the general goodwill of the other. It is not about seeing where they are wrong, but seeking to discover where they are right. Only then can we start to open to a different narrative and grow in the truth together.

If you have any questions about anything, please do not hesitate to ask me directly, or send your questions to me at fr.brian@chelmsfordcatholic.org.

Please keep me in your prayers.

From our Faith Formation Director

Elaine Kindler

Living the Gospel of Life: In the Image of God

You may have realized by now that Catholic Social Doctrine cannot be understood — or effectively carried out — unless we understand that each human being is created in the image of God. With that comes an inherent dignity; a God-given sanctity and unalienable right to human life.

As Christians, this truth blesses us with an unavoidable responsibility: to love our neighbor as ourselves: the Golden Rule.

Pope Paul VI wrote *Apostolicam Actuositatem* (a Decree on the Apostolate of the Laity) in 1965. An extract of this was published in the May 2021 volume of *Magnificat*. The following is taken from that extraction and made a strong impression:

Wherever there are people in need of food and drink, clothing, housing, medicine, employment, education; wherever men lack the facilities necessary for living a truly human life or are afflicted with serious distress or illness or suffer exile or imprisonment, there Christian charity should seek them out and find them, console them and help them with appropriate relief ... It is altogether necessary that one should consider in one's neighbor the image of God in which he has been created, and also Christ the Lord to whom is really offered whatever is given to a needy person.

We cannot turn a blind eye. Nor can we ignore the sanctity of human life. All we do must be done out of love for God and his truth.

We may not be able to join a mission, create a huge foundation or go on a crusade, but we can each do what we can where we are: bloom where you are planted! Let's pray for each other that our motives will be pure and our efforts, a pleasing sacrifice to God.

Of all the mysteries of our faith, the Trinity is the deepest and richest. We

From our Senior Priest

Fr. Colletti

would never have known the Trinity if it were not revealed to us. The Old Testament has nothing explicit to say about it. There might be a hint of it when we read in Genesis: "Let us make man in our image." In the course of sacred history, God the Father was revealed to us, then His Son, and lastly the Holy Spirit. Nowhere in the Bible is the word "Trinity" mentioned.

The second and third readings in this Mass simply name the Persons of the Trinity. They give us a basis for our belief and yet it will always remain a mystery.

We humans are confronted with God's power and dominion. We feel ourselves small and weak in comparison. We are creatures dependent upon God the Creator. As one among many creatures, we are the only ones who are conscious of this dependence. All other creatures are given to us to use and superintend. We consider them things, not persons. These are for our possession and use.

But in our encounter with divine power, strangely enough, we do not look upon God as a thing. God can't become a thing (although many people now think of God as a "Force"). God can't fall into man's power. God reveals himself as a Person desirous of a personal relationship with people, especially to a people he calls his own after making a covenant with them. Through further revelation we are led to believe that God is more than a single Person. God is three Persons equally sharing in the divine attributes.

One of the lessons God shares with us by revealing the Trinity to us is the value of self-giving. The Father expends himself for the Son, the Son for the Father, and the Holy Spirit is the Gift of Love they mutually share. Vatican Council II, in *The Church in the Modern World*, wrote "Christ implied a certain likeness between the union of the Divine Persons, and in the union of God's sons and daughters in truth and charity. This likeness reveals that man, who is the only creature on earth which God willed for himself, cannot fully find himself except through a sincere gift of himself" (24).

We have not fully realized that the person is still a mystery reflecting the mystery of the Trinity itself. We humans need to be drawn out of ourselves to become a full person. Without a spirit of self-giving such as the Father, Son and Holy Spirit, we remain alone, solitary, self-centered. Christ tells us "Anyone who tries to preserve his life will lose it; and anyone who loses it will keep it safe" (Lk 17:33). This bit of wisdom about self-giving is implied by the doctrine of the Holy Trinity.

The wisdom of self-giving which makes us full persons comes from the Holy Spirit, "because the love of God has been poured into our hearts by the Holy Spirit which has been given to us." We ourselves, when self-giving, are the richest symbols of the Trinity.



Mass INTENTIONS

If you would like to request that a Mass be celebrated for a specific intention or person, please call the parish office. A donation of \$10 per Mass Intention is requested to be made at the time you schedule your intention.

Due to the new Collaborative Proposal currently being considered, the 2022 Mass Intentions will open no sooner than July 15th

St. John

SAT, MAY 29	4:00 pm:	For the People of the Parish
SUN, MAY 30	9:30 am:	Bryan Paul Lyons: 1st Anniversary
	6:00 pm:	Albert Ntangri and Pamela Usanase Memorial
MON, MAY 31	9:00 am:	Daniel Sullivan: 5th Anniversary
TUE, JUNE 1	9:00 am:	Pat and Betty Ciampa: Memorial
WED, JUNE 2	9:00 am:	John Gardiner: Memorial
THU, JUNE 3	9:00 am:	Michael Gerard Lyons: 4th Anniversary
SAT, JUNE 5	4:00 pm:	Cole Family: Memorial William and Paul Fadden: Memorial
SUN, JUNE 6	9:30 am:	Gertrude M. Bailey: Memorial Janice McDermott: Memorial
	6:00 pm:	For the People of the Parish

St. Mary

SAT, MAY 29	4:00 pm:	For the People of the Parish
SUN, MAY 30	11:00 am:	Frank Soracco: 4th Anniversary
MON, MAY 31	7:00 am:	Franklin J. Boyd: 14th Anniversary
TUE, JUNE 1	7:00 am:	LIVING INTENTION: Anne Hannaway
WED, JUNE 2	7:00 am:	For a Special Intention
THUR, JUNE 3	7:00 am:	For a Special Intention
SAT, JUNE 5	4:00 pm:	Mary Conti: 2nd Anniversary John Paul Knox: 1st Anniversary Roland Lapierre: Memorial
SUN, JUNE 6	7:00 am:	For the People of the Parish

Rose for Life

Is there someone special you'd like to honor? You can do that by having a Rose signifying your intention placed in either church, as well as having your intention published in the bulletin.

To book a Rose for Life, contact the parish office. The suggested offering is \$5.

This week's St. John Rose for Life:

**In Memory of Brian Paul
and Michael Gerard Lyons**

St. John Rose provided by Blossoms Florist

St. Mary Memorial Altar Flowers



Parishioners are invited to donate a floral arrangement, to be displayed on the altar in memory of, or in honor of, a loved one. The requested donation for an arrangement is \$40. If you would like to donate altar flowers, call the parish office. Please note that we require a 2-week notice for your order.

ST. JOHN'S Beautification Offering

This offering funds the beautification of our Altar. Your voluntary donation can be accompanied by the request that it be "In Memory/Appreciation Of", or "For the Intentions Of" someone.

Lillian Brule
Danny Calnan
Mrs and Mrs W. Chase Jr.
Elizabeth T. Harrington
Lucille Fortier
Eileen Francoeur
Lucille Landry
Michal F. Harrington
Mamei Ndola
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Alexander W. "Jigger" Gervais 89, a lifelong resident of Chelmsford

Alexander W. "Jigger" Gervais 89, a lifelong resident of Chelmsford MA entered eternal life on Thursday, April 22, 2021.

He is reunited with his wife of 60 years, the late Ann Louise (Pickard) Gervais. His spirit is carried on by his three children, seven grandchildren, eleven great-grandchildren, a surviving sibling, and an extended family of relations and friends.

Born in Westford, MA. The son of the late Alexander A. and Winifred (Pivrotto) Gervais.

He was a communicant of St. John the Evangelist Parish in North Chelmsford.

He was a graduate of Chelmsford High School with the class of 1950. He was certified in Electronics at Lowell Technological Institute. He had a Radio Amateur License and a Massachusetts Real Estate Brokers license. He made the Dean's list at MCC with a degree in Computer and Telecommunications Technology in 2001.

Al served in the U.S. Navy as a MN3c during the Korean conflict until his honorable discharge on August 16th 1954.

Al worked throughout New England as a Central Office Specialist for New England Telephone, Nynex, Bell Atlantic and Verizon for 44 years before he retired in 1998. He also served as Chief Steward for I.B.E.W. 2321 representing telephone workers in the Merrimack Valley. He taught courses in Analog switching systems in addition to managing the conversion of Central Offices to Step-by-Step analog systems in Chelmsford and throughout New England.

He was a member of the American Legion Post 313 North Chelmsford, MA, as well as a member of the Stony Brook Fish & Game Assn, Inc. in Westford MA where he served as Treasurer since 1985. The Stony Brook Al Gervais Function Hall was dedicated in his name to commemorate his generosity of service through the years.

He was a Town Delegate to the State Convention, member of the Chelmsford Town Committee and he was elected to represent precinct 8 at the Chelmsford Town Meetings since 1986.

He was a talented trumpet player, an avid sportsman, enjoyed real estate, ham radio, political science, camping, and working on his home and yard.

Al loved spending time with his family and friends and especially enjoyed his "summer home" in Cape Neddick, ME.

He is survived by his children: Steven, Kevin (wife Kelley); Donna (husband Jack); sibling Robert (wife Pauline); grandchildren and great-grandchildren; and many in-laws, nieces, nephews, friends and family too numerous to list but not forgotten.

Family and friends celebrated Al's life and visited with his family at the DOLAN FUNERAL HOME, 106 Middlesex Street, Chelmsford, MA on Thursday, April 29, 2021 from 3 until 7 PM. Mass was celebrated at St John Evangelist Church in North Chelmsford, on Friday, April 30th, at 11 AM. Burial in Fairview Cemetery, Chelmsford, MA. Online guest book is available at www.dolanfuneralhome.com. **ARRANGEMENTS BY DOLAN FUNERAL HOME 978-256-4040.**

