



May 26, 2024

The Most Holy Trinity

“All power in heaven and on earth has been given to Me. 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.”

- Matthew 28: 18-19



Parish Office Location and Hours



115 Middlesex Street • North Chelmsford, 01863
(978) 256-2374 | www.theholyrood.org

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday • 9 am - 5 pm

Wednesday • 9:30 am - 5:00 pm

Friday • 9 am - 3 pm

Weekend Mass Schedule

St. John • Saturday, 4 pm | Sunday, 9:30 am and 6 pm

• African Liturgy | Sunday, 12 pm

St. Margaret • Saturday, 4 pm | Sunday, 7:30 and 10 am

St. Mary • Saturday, 4 pm | Sunday, 7 and 11 am

Daily Mass Schedule

Monday - Friday

7 am at St. Mary • 8 am at St. Margaret • 9 am at St. John

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Monday • 4:30 - 5:30 pm • St. John

Tuesday • 4:30 - 5:30 pm • St. Margaret

Wednesday • 4:30 - 5:30 pm • St. Mary

Saturday • 11 am - 12 noon at St. Mary

• 1 pm - 2 pm at St. Margaret

• 3 pm - 3:45 pm at St. John

Eucharistic Adoration

Wednesdays (Sep-Jun) • 9 am - 2 pm • St. Margaret OLL Chapel

Thursdays • 12 pm - 9 pm • St. Mary Adoration Chapel

First Fridays at St. John OPC Adoration Chapel

1 pm - 10 pm; continues 6 am - 8 am next morning

Third Sundays • 3:30 - 4:30 pm • St. Mary Church

LIVEVIEW Devotions

3 pm • Chaplet of Divine Mercy at St. John (Tuesday - Friday)

7 pm • Rosary at St. Mary (Monday - Friday)

Prayer Line

(978) 256-2374, ext. 223. After hours, press 5.

*Please read entire bulletin for potential schedule changes

weekly calendar

Monday, May 27

****PARISH OFFICE CLOSED****

Confession • 4:30 - 5:30 pm • SJE Church

Rosary • 7 pm • SM Grotto

Tuesday, May 28

Chaplet of Divine Mercy • 3 pm • SJE Church and LIVEVIEW

Confession • 4:30 - 5:30 pm • SMS Church

St. Mary Corpus Christi Choir Rehearsal 6:30 - 8:30 pm SM Hall

Rosary • 7 pm • SM Church and LIVEVIEW

Rosary • 7 pm • SM Grotto

Wednesday, May 29

Adoration at St. Margaret • 9 am - 2 pm • SMS OLL Chapel

Chaplet of Divine Mercy • 3 pm • SJE Church and LIVEVIEW

Confession • 4:30 - 5:30 pm • SM Church

Troop 77 Scout Meeting • 7 - 8:30 pm • SM Hall

Rosary • 7 pm • SM Church and LIVEVIEW

Rosary • 7 pm • SM Grotto

Beginning at 7 pm on Thursday, May 30 through 6 pm on Saturday, June 1, we will be celebrating the 40 Hours Devotion in honor of the Eucharistic Revival and the Feast of Corpus Christi. The complete schedule can be found on the facing page.

Thursday, May 30

Charismatic Prayer Group • 10 am - 12 pm • SJE OPC

Rosary Makers • 10:30 am - 12 pm • SM PC Conf Room 2

Adoration • 12 - 6 pm • SM PC Adoration Chapel

Chaplet of Divine Mercy • 3 pm • SJE Church and LIVEVIEW

BINGO • doors open 3:30 pm/ first game 6:45 pm • SJE Hall

Charismatic Prayer Group • 7 - 8 pm • SJE OPC

Rosary • 7 pm • SM Grotto

Friday, May 31

Knitting and Crocheting • 2 - 4 pm • SM Hall

Chaplet of Divine Mercy • 3 pm • SJE Church and LIVEVIEW

Rosary • 7 pm • SM Church and LIVEVIEW

Rosary • 7 pm • SM Grotto

Saturday, June 1

Confessions • refer to cover

Our Lady's Prayer Group • 8:00 - 9:30 am • SMS OLL Chapel

SMS Prayer Shawl Ministry • 9:15 am - 12 pm • SMS SVdP Rm

SJE Hospitality Meeting • 9:30 - 11:30 am • SJE Hall

St. Mary Bell Choir • 2:30 - 3:30 pm • SM Choir Loft

Sunday, June 2

Family Mass • 10 am • SMS Church

THE PARISH OFFICES WILL BE CLOSED ON MONDAY, MAY 27TH.



PRAY WE NEVER FORGET

-Kelly Roper

Pray we never forget that
The freedoms we hold dear
Were kept safe for us
With blood, sweat, and tears.

Remember those who made
The ultimate sacrifice.
To preserve our nation,
They laid down their lives.

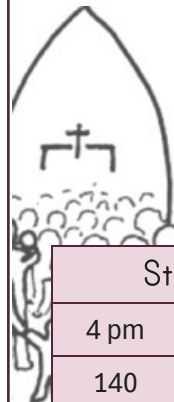
Weekend Mass Attendance

Weekend of May 18th/19th

St. Mary		
4 pm	7 am	11 am
162	102	260

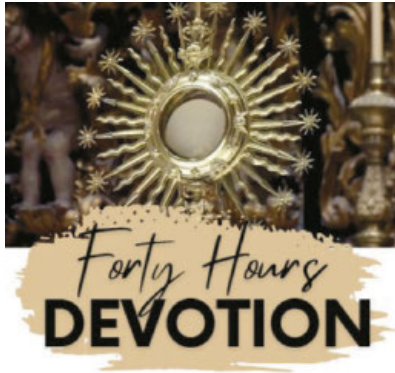
St. Margaret of Scotland		
4 pm	7:30 am	10 am
100	62	205

St. John the Evangelist			
4 pm	9:30 am	12 pm	6 pm
140	296	54	159



Why was the
strawberry so
happy on
Memorial Day?

(answer on page 11)



The National Eucharistic Revival began with the Feast of Corpus Christi, 2022 and will conclude with the NATIONAL EUCHARISTIC CONGRESS* in Indianapolis from July 17 – 21, 2024 (registration details below).

As this past year—June 11, 2023 through July 17, 2024—was dedicated to Parish Revival, we have planned a 40 Hours Devotion beginning Thursday night, May 30th through to Saturday, June 1st as our way to participate.

In the 40 Hours Devotion, the consecrated Eucharist is exposed on the altar in a monstrance for adoration for 40 hours. This devotion is not only a way to observe the National Eucharistic Revival; spending time in Adoration is also a way to observe the Feast of Corpus Christi on June 2nd.

Below, please find the schedule. There will be opportunities for confession throughout the weekend.

Thursday, May 30

7 pm... Opening Mass at St. Mary
followed by Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

9 pm... Night Prayer

11 pm... Rosary at St. Mary
Each decade will be introduced at the 11 pm,
12 am, 1 am, 2 am and 3 am hours, followed by
silent adoration.

Saturday, June 1

6:50 am... Morning Prayer at St. John
Adoration will conclude and move to St. Mary

6:50 am... Morning Prayer at St. Mary
followed by Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

10 am... Rosary w/ Music at St. Mary

12 pm... Daytime Prayer at St. Mary

2 pm... Praise and Worship Music at St. Mary

3 pm... Benediction at St. Mary

4 pm... Mass at St. Mary

5 pm... Eucharistic Procession
through town center, return to St. Mary

6 pm... Fellowship/ Refreshments at St. Mary

Friday, May 31

6:50 am... Morning Prayer at St. Mary
Adoration will conclude and move to St. Margaret

6:50 am... Morning Prayer at St. Margaret
followed by Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

8 am... Daily Mass at St. Margaret

10 am... Rosary at St. Margaret

12 pm... Daytime Prayer at St. Margaret

3 pm... Office of Readings at St. Margaret

6 pm... Youth Music at St. Margaret

6:50 pm... Evening Prayer at St. Margaret
Adoration will conclude and move to St. John

6:50 pm... Evening Prayer at St. John
followed by Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

8 pm... Taize at St. John

9 pm... Night Prayer at St. John

11 pm... Rosary at St. John
Each decade will be introduced at the 11 pm,
12 am, 1 am, 2 am and 3 am hours, followed by
silent adoration.

**Blessed are You, God of all creation;
You are the bread of life.**



NATIONAL EUCHARISTIC CONGRESS

July 17 - 24 2024 | Indianapolis, IN

Register at <https://www.eucharisticcongress.org/register>

here's what's happening in The Holy

A VERY IMPORTANT MESSAGE TO OUR VERY IMPORTANT PARISHIONERS



This is a **VERY IMPORTANT** event in the life of our parish. Just like the annual local town census allows the town to plan for community services, so does our first ever—long overdue—census do for OUR community.

Although important for everyone to complete, it can be argued that the completion of this census may be even more important for those who are long-time parishioners. Over the years, household members may have come and gone, contact information may have changed, and an address change or two may have taken place. This census assures that we have the correct and necessary information to best serve everyone in our community.

Mailings are costly, and with each one we do, we are inundated with returned mail. Each piece is followed up with an attempt to contact. Most often, the phone is out of service and/or the email is undeliverable. The man-hours that go into this follow-up is part of the high cost of mailings.

So that we may streamline our costs—like all of us are trying to do these days—conducting a census makes the most sense in attempting to solve this problem. The more money we save the more money we can invest in parish ministries and services geared towards the needs of our families and facilities. An accurate database provides a huge payoff to all of us!

Next weekend, staff members will be available after all Masses to collect your form and to answer any questions you may have. **PLEASE help us to better serve you!**

Lastly, thank you to those who have completed the census. Next week we will be announcing the winners—one from each parish—of the gift card. Names will be randomly drawn from those who submitted their census by midnight, May 19.

ANNUAL AFRICAN LITURGY SUNDAY, JUNE 16 AT 9:30 AM ST. JOHN CHURCH

ALL are invited to this wonderful, faith-filled celebration of African Culture and Catholic Liturgy.

Following Mass, join us for food and fellowship.

Please Note: Mass may be extended in length by up to 15 minutes, with a possible end time of 10:45 am.

QUESTIONS?

- Fr. Patrick Alemayo at (978) 451-6767
- Dr. Daniel Okyere at (508) 405-6293

MAY IS THE MONTH OF MARY

Join us in praying the Rosary!

- 7 pm in the St. Mary Grotto
- Every Monday - Friday evening throughout May

DON'T FORGET TO TURN IN YOUR HAIL MARY COUNT TO THE ...



Seventh Annual

Hail Mary
challenge

Wednesday, May 1 - Thursday, October 31, 2023

Report your Hail Mary Counts—weekly or monthly—via email to psidari@gmail.com, call into Christine at (978) 254-4406, or simply write on a piece of paper and drop into the offertory basket or any of the black drop boxes located at each of our churches.

MAY 13– 19	TOTAL-TO-DATE	%AGE OF GOAL
30,906	85,023	8.50%

Rood Collaborative community



Deacon John is in the process of forming a new prayer group and you are invited to join him! He is hoping to meet on first Saturday of each month at St. Margaret of Scotland.

It will include praying the Rosary, meditating on the Rosary, reflecting on Our Lady's messages, consecration to the Immaculate Heart of Mary and will conclude with Mass or Adoration/Benediction of the Most Blessed Sacrament.

WE WILL meet on June 1, from 8 - 9:30 am in the St. Margaret Our Lady of Lourdes Chapel

At some point in mid to late June, we will inform you of the future dates. Thank you!

Strawberry FESTIVAL

St. John Church Hall
Saturday, June 8 following 4 pm Mass
Sunday, June 9 following 9:30 am Mass

Strawberry Shortcake | Strawberry Lemonade and Tea | A wine/scratch ticket raffle basket
All proceeds will be donated to the Summer VBF Program!

RAFFLE TICKETS WILL BE SOLD AFTER ALL ST. JOHN MASSES NEXT WEEKEND, JUNE 8th/9th...

"NOT EVERY QUIET MAN IS HUMBLE, BUT EVERY HUMBLE MAN IS QUIET." - ST. ISAAC THE SYRIAN | FEAST DAY JANUARY 28

trivia night



Winners of the May 17th Trivia Night... Irish Crème!

(seated l to r) Mickey McAndrews, Doug Harrison, Julie Harrison, Debbie McAndrews
(standing l to r) Peter McNamara, Brian McNamara

If you've not yet joined us for a Trivial Night, please consider joining us for our next and last one until Fall on Friday, June 14th!

In addition to feeding our brains with knowledge, we fed our souls with joy as we celebrated

Doris Molloy's

upcoming 98th birthday.



Flowers, cake and heartfelt gratitude for the gift of Doris in our community made this month's Trivia Night COMPLETE!

HAPPY *Birthday* Doris!

the Financial Page

Paul Firicano, Business Manager
(978) 256-2374, ext 220

Fiscal Year 2024: July 1, 2023 - June 30, 2024

To view this and ALL past financial reports, visit www.theholyrood.org; click on the stewardship tab

IMPORTANT REMINDER TO DONORS

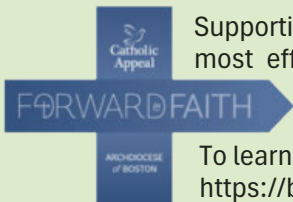
If you make your offertory or any other donation via check, it is extremely important that the check is made payable to the specific parish—St. John the Evangelist, St. Margaret of Scotland, or St. Mary—to which you are making your donation, as each parish maintains their own financial entity. Checks made out to The Holy Rood Collaborative cannot be cashed as The Holy Rood Collaborative is NOT a financial entity. To eliminate your need to re-write a new check, and to allow timely processing of your donation, please be sure to make note of this directive. As always, thank you for your generous financial support of our community!

ST. MARY WEEKLY OFFERTORY	Weekend of May 18th/19th	Fiscal Year-To-Date May 19th	Fiscal YTD Average/Week
Offertory Required to cover Budgeted Expenses	\$14,500	\$667,000	\$14,500
Actual Received	\$11,387	\$639,423	\$13,901
Shortfall/ Overage	-\$3,113	-\$27,577	-\$600

ST. JOHN WEEKLY OFFERTORY	Weekend of May 18th/19th	Fiscal Year-To-Date May 19th	Fiscal YTD Average/Week
Offertory Required to cover Budgeted Expenses	\$10,300	\$473,800	\$10,300
Actual Received	\$20,704	\$426,910	\$9,281
Shortfall/ Overage	\$10,404	-\$46,890	-\$1,019

ST. MARGARET WEEKLY OFFERTORY	Weekend of May 18th/19th	Fiscal Year-To-Date May 19th	Fiscal YTD Average/Week
Offertory Required to cover Budgeted Expenses	\$4,800	\$220,800	\$4,800
Actual Received	\$4,129	\$216,175	\$4,699
Shortfall/ Overage	-\$671	-\$4,625	-\$101

Supporting the Catholic Appeal is the most effective way to carry out the work of the Church, both within and beyond our parish boundaries. To learn more about this year's appeal, visit <https://bostoncatholicappeal.org/> then please prayerfully consider making a gift by mailing back your pledge card or making an online gift at <https://bostoncatholicappeal.org/ways-to-give/>.



CATHOLIC APPEAL AS OF MAY 20

	Goal	Pledged	%age of Goal
St. Mary	\$67,105	\$65,277	97.28%
St. John	\$43,242	\$45,882	106.11%
St. Margaret	\$27,934	\$33,864	121.23%

For details about our Grand Annual, please visit <https://theholyrood.org/grand-annual-campaign>

thank you

GRAND ANNUAL AS OF MAY 19

	Goal	Raised	%age of Goal
St. Mary	\$100,000	\$81,599	81.60%
St. John	\$70,000	\$70,890	101.27%
St. Margaret	\$70,000	\$48,899	69.86%

For those staff members that have extensions listed, the number to call is (978) 256-2374. To send an email, visit our website at <https://theholyrood.org/staff>.

Clergy

Rev Brian E. Mahoney, Pastor | (978) 254-0560
Rev Fernando Ayala, Parochial Vicar | (978) 401-9844
Rev Patrick Alemayo, C.S.Sp., Parochial Vicar | (978) 451-6767
Rev Arnold F. Colletti, Sr. Priest in Residence | ext 116
Rev Raymond Benoit, Sr. Priest in Residence | ext 115
Dcn John C. Hunt, Jr., Permanent Deacon | (978) 254-2696
Dcn Frank Perez de Alderete, Permanent Deacon | (978) 254-0638
Dcn Barry V. Lloyd, Sr. Permanent Deacon | (978) 454-6505

Outreach & Parish Ministry

Sr. Lori Fleming, SNDdeN, Pastoral Associate | ext 225

Business Office

Paul Firicano, Business Manager | ext 220
Tina Sousa, Finance Coordinator | ext 219

Family Faith Formation

Heather Hannaway, MA, Dir of Faith Formation | ext 226
Courtney Callanan, MA, Asst Dir of Faith Formation | ext 227
Shaun Bradley, MA, Faith Formation Associate | ext 232
Elaine Kindler, Faith Formation Program Administrator | ext 216
Lynn Anne LaDuke, Faith Formation Coordinator | ext 240

Office Administration

Sue Beechin, Administrative Assistant | ext 236
Jamie Brown, part-time Scheduling Coordinator | ext 239
Donna Gambon, part-time Administrative Assistant | ext 248
Rae Russo, part-time Funeral Coordinator | (978) 306-5882

Facilities

Chris Goglia, Director of Facilities | (978) 341-4203
Dan Heider, Facilities Project Manager | ext 213

Bulletin, Website, Social Media

Christine Trznadel, Communications Director | (978) 254-4406

If you would like to submit a notice to be published in the bulletin, please do so no later than 12 noon, **two** Fridays prior to the weekend in which you would like it published.

Email submittals to christine@theholyrood.org or mail:

The Holy Rood Collaborative Parish Offices
ATTN Christine Trznadel
115 Middlesex Street, North Chelmsford, MA, 01863

We will do our best to accommodate your request.

Each parish in the Archdiocese of Boston is required to have a parish pastoral council.



The role of the PPC is to assist the pastor in his leadership role of planning, organizing, initiating, promoting, coordinating and reviewing the evangelization, worship, religious education and service activities within the parish. The PPC serves in an advisory role and the pastor takes into serious account their opinions and recommendations. The PPC should be an important means by which the pastor will hear the voice of the parish. Through its deliberations and consultation with the pastor, the PPC helps to unite the pastor and the parishioners. Together they discern the pastoral needs of the parish and ways in which those needs can be addressed.

Collaborative Parish Council

Parish Council matters can be sent to:
collaborativeppc@theholyrood.org

Steve McMillan - Chair

Lorraine Freitas	Lorraine Huard
Drew Jubinville	Dawn King
Alba Kulian-Lambo	Cathy Latina
Justin Leach	Michele Manzelli
Paul Sneeringer	Ray Wagner
Lyle Wheeler	

St. John Finance Council

SJE Finance matters can be sent to:
SJ.FC@theholyrood.org

Jeff Brown - Chair

John Bagni	Paul Brzezinski
Celeste Dunn	Grace Ann Steed

St. Margaret Finance Council

SMS finance matters can be sent to:
SMS.FC@theholyrood.org

Robert Gilman - Chair

Thomas Kirwin	Betty McKiernan
Marc Trudel	

St. Mary Finance Council

SM finance matters can be sent to:
SM.FC@theholyrood.org

Lauren Desforge - Chair

Armand DiLando	Ted Powers
Paul Therrien	Paul Rigazio

CHWC Car Wash Fundraiser

Saturday, June 1 | 9 am - 2 pm
St. Mary Parish Center Parking Lot

between the St. Mary Parish Center and St. Mary Church Main Parking Lot

\$10 per car



TOOLS 4TEENS

A Catholic Heart  Workcamp Fundraiser

From July 14-19, a group of teens and chaperones from the Collaborative will be heading to Wilmington, Delaware to serve the less fortunate in the name of Jesus, while deepening their connection to Christ through daily Mass, Adoration, and Christ-centered fun! Sunday, June 2nd and Saturday, June 8th, some of these youth will be speaking at each of our Masses. One of the things they will address is our annual CHWC Fundraising Campaign: Tools4Teens (back by popular demand)!

Following is a full explanation of how this fundraiser works.

Beginning the weekend of June 1st/2nd, you will find images of toolboxes on the bulletin boards in each of our churches... 1 per camper. On each toolbox is a list of the tools needed to fill it; each assigned a donation amount. Our goal is to fill all toolboxes at each church! **PLEASE NOTE that this is JUST a metaphor—our teens do not need these tools in physical form**, but it is the monetary value assigned each tool that is needed to pay for their transportation to and from Delaware).

To make your donation, pick the tan envelope that has the picture of the tool you wish to 'purchase.' **PLEASE NOTE:** When you decide on a total donation amount, **please choose a tool or tools, that in combination, correspond with that amount.**

for example: \$20 = measuring tape (\$20)
\$80 = paintbrush (\$50) + pliers (\$30)
\$150 = toolbox (\$100), hammer (\$40) + gloves (\$10)

In the envelope, you will find the directions as to how to make your donation.

In addition to financial support, we are also looking to support our campers with prayer. Each toolbox is also asking for 3 Rosaries—i.e. committing to prayer—which is at zero cost; it costs nothing to pray! When you choose the white Prayer envelope (indicated by a rosary), the name of the camper to pray for will be included. With or without a Prayer envelope, prayers are ALWAYS WELCOME!

This information is also be available on our website: www.theholyrood.org/tools-4-teens



Memorial Day Mass

Monday, May 27 at 10 am

Main Celebrant and Homilist
Fr. Daniel Nassaney, OMI

St. Joseph Cemetery • 96 Riverneck Road, Chelmsford

ST. JOHN'S Beautification Offering

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

† Altever Family	† Michael J Greeley
† Danny Calnan	† Elizabeth T Harrington
† Egan Family	† Michael F Harrington
† Patricia Fisher	† Gail Lachs
† Eileen Francoeur	† Betty and Al Sherman

Family Faith Formation

Uniting the Heart of the Church with the Heart of the Home



Heather Hannaway, MA • Director of Faith Formation • hhannaway@theholyrood.org • ext 226
Courtney Callanan, MA • Assistant Director of Faith Formation • courtney@theholyrood.org • ext 227
Shaun Bradley • Faith Formation Associate • sbradley@theholyrood.org • ext 232
Elaine Kindler • Faith Formation Program Administrator • ekindler@theholyrood.org • ext 216
Lynn Anne LaDuke • Faith Formation Coordinator • lynnanne@theholyrood.org • ext 240

Tuition Angels give their wings to others so they can be lifted in their faith journey.

They are those generous individuals who make our Scholarship Fund possible... the fund that is used to assist in covering registration costs for those families who cannot do so on their own. Might you consider being one? If so, your donation can be made online via any of our churches giving links that can be found at...



www.theholyrood.org/on-line-giving

If you choose to write a check, please make it payable to the parish in which you wish to donate and note SCHOLARSHIP FUND on the memo line. Your donation can be...

- hand-delivered to the parish offices
- dropped into any of our secure black drop boxes
- mailed to the parish offices,
ATTN: FF SCHOLARSHIP FUND

A huge THANK YOU to those who have already donated generously to this fund!



EFFECTIVE NEXT SATURDAY, JUNE 1, FEES INCREASE BY \$50!

Register your child(ren) for the 2024/25 faith formation year by midnight, THIS COMING Friday, May 31st and keep some extra cash in your piggy bank

Please DO NOT DELAY registration due to finances. Payment plans can always be arranged, and financial aid may be available. Also, please note that no deposit is required to register!

Visit us at...

<https://theholyrood.org/faith-formation-registration>

When you register your child(ren), it is important that you do so via a computer or laptop! Unfortunately, the registration software does NOT provide full functionality on smartphones and iPads/tablets.

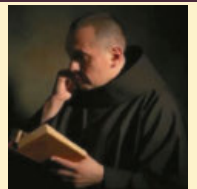


Our program is successful in large part because of volunteers! Please consider being a mentor of parents or a table facilitator of students. To learn more, visit...

www.theholyrood.org/intent-to-volunteer

Dear St. Thomas Aquinas,

Patron saint of scholars and students, please intercede for us and guide us in our pursuit of knowledge and wisdom, so that we may use our learning to serve God and others with humility and love. Amen.



Congratulations!

This weekend, Confirmandi from St. Mary will have their foreheads anointed with Sacred Chrism, in the sign of the Cross, representing the indelible mark of Christ's sacrifice on their souls.

The sacramental grace of Confirmation will help them to live their faith and profess it courageously, as they are called by Christ to preach not only through their words, but their actions as well. Let us pray for them.



Hailey Jane **Anne** Adams
Lilly **Cecilia** Bean
Sydney Mabel **Katharine** Brown
Kevin John **Sebastian** Burns
Madelyne Anna **Cecilia** Callahan
Jonathan Patrick Colpoys
Logan Leonard **Peter** Connors
Abigail Elizabeth **Amelia** Curran
Tasha Lynn **Francis** Espendez
Andrew John **Francis** Gabriel
Julia Elizabeth **Veronica** Haverty
Alexis Anne **Anthony** Linstad
Steven John Majkut
Anthony Jon **Francis** Mauriello
Ananya Mireya **Anna** Mody
Elliot Michael **Francis** Pellegrino
Carson William **Anthony** Petullo
Alyson Sophia **Francis** Roark
Samantha Jean **Anastasia** Schena
Ryan Michael **Francis** Sexton
Isabella Grace **Dymphna** Sleeper
Isabella Kate **Emily** Stagnone
Mia Lynn **Rose** Troncoso
Lillian Marie **Francis** Wheeler

Sarah Jane **Katharine** Bartos
Ayla Colleen **Christina** Brown
Andre Thomas **Jude** Brown
Owen Nicholas **Luigi** Butters
Brooke Faith **Mary** Cannata
William Walker **Vitus** Colucci
Catherine Joyce **Agatha** Craig
Elizabeth Katherine **Emma** Dunlea
Anson Alphonso **Alfonso** Firicano
Nathan Thomas Robert **Thomas** Goodwin
Ryan John **John** Higgins
Nathan Rubens **Thomas** Maisonneuve
Tanya Nadine Majkut
Patrick Thomas **Sebastian** McConnell
Olivia Frances **Rose** Nestor
Nora **Kateri** Petros
Miles Asher **Gregory** Redding Cooper
Ellie Dale **Joan** Scaffidi
Sienna Rae **Valentine** Serpone
Gabriel Silva
Anna Isabel **Theresa** Spugnardi
Christopher James **John** Sullivan
Ava Grace **Mary** Walsh
Bella Faith **Faith** Woisin

So what occurs during a Catholic Confirmation? The Holy Spirit is first introduced to a Catholic the day that (s)he's baptized, because the entire Holy Trinity — Father, Son, and Holy Spirit — are invoked at the ceremony. During Confirmation, God the Holy Spirit comes upon the person, accompanied by God the Father and God the Son, just as he did at *Pentecost*, which we celebrated last weekend.

This sacrament is called *Confirmation* because the faith given in Baptism is now confirmed and made strong. Sometimes, those who benefit from Confirmation are referred to as *soldiers of Christ*. This isn't a military designation but a spiritual duty to fight the war between good and evil, light and darkness.

Confirmation means accepting responsibility for your faith. Childhood is a time when you're told what to do, and you react positively to reward and negatively to punishment. Adulthood—even young adulthood—means that you must do what's right on your own; not for the recognition or reward, but merely because it's the right thing to do. The focus is on the Holy Spirit, who confirmed the apostles on Pentecost (Acts 2:1–4) and gave them courage to practice their faith. Catholics believe that the same Holy Spirit confirms Catholics during the Sacrament of Confirmation and gives them the same gifts and fruits.

Traditionally, the twelve fruits of the Holy Spirit are charity, joy, peace, patience, benignity, goodness, long-suffering, mildness, faith, modesty, continency, and chastity. These are human qualities that can be activated by the Holy Spirit. The seven gifts of the Holy Spirit are wisdom, understanding, counsel, fortitude, knowledge, piety, and fear of the Lord. These gifts are supernatural graces given to the soul.

St. Margaret Prayer Shawl Ministry Update



Last fall, one of my cousins had a stroke. Through God's great providential care, her adult children were home at the time to visit and were able to shepherd her to the medical help she needed. We prayed for her and sent her a Prayer Shawl. She called to thank us and wanted more information so that she could join the ministry in her area in Maine.

Recently, I learned that her daughter was diagnosed with stage 4 aggressive cancer and needed surgery. I called my cousin to get her daughter's address so that we could send her a shawl and the reassurance that we would pray for her. My cousin's response, "I was going to send her my Prayer Shawl, but I use it all the time."

We sent her daughter a shawl, which she received shortly after returning home from surgery. The following excerpt is from her thank you note:

I received the Prayer Shawl and I can't tell you how much I appreciate it. In fact, I had just taken it out of the box and wrapped it around my shoulders when I received the call that my cancer had NOT gone into my lymph nodes and that they were able to remove all of it. I will forever associate that wonderful news with the shawl, so thank you. It is also my favorite color and so beautifully knit.

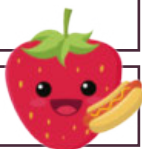
We are so grateful to the Holy Spirit for using the works of our hands for His purposes. What a wonderful God we serve!

If you knit or crochet, don't hesitate to join us—just bring your talent, your humor, and yourself!

Do you know someone who needs a Prayer Shawl or a chemo cap? If so:

- Call Brenda D'Amour at (978) 453-2723
- Call Anna Pratt at (508) 517-7507
- Visit <https://theholyrood.org/request-a-prayer-shawl>

**Please pray for those whom we serve
and for our service.**



answer: it was berry excited to go to the BBQ!

a note from our **MUSIC MINISTRIES**



-Theresa Clawson, Director of St. John Music Ministry

Hello Friends!

Being a part of the Music Ministry at St. John the Evangelist Parish is a profound blessing. We have the opportunity to serve the church by encouraging full and active participation in the Mass through leading the sung worship.

Our hope is to inspire, enrich and engage one another and you, our community, through singing hymns and sacred songs in the celebration of the Holy Eucharist and other liturgical celebrations. Different from a concert performance or musical, where we are encouraged to applaud and cheer in appreciation, at Mass we are called to sing and pray and give all the glory, praise and honor to God.

In concert (pun intended) with some of what Mike Stack and Matt Descoteaux—Music Directors at St. Mary and St. Margaret of Scotland Parishes respectively—expressed in their articles, we are all so humbly grateful for your show of support and encouragement to St. John's Music Ministry. If the music moves you to feel like applauding, we respectfully ask you to sing with us. That's how we know we are serving God well.

As Parishioners of all ages and diverse backgrounds, we join together singing and playing our instruments in love and praise to God. St. Augustine says, "Singing is for one who loves." Many people say that they love to sing, but unless it's in their shower they are reluctant. Good news! We are not singing as soloists or performers, but as a team that makes music to worship God alone. You do not need to be a professional to join us!

**When the whole parish community sings,
it is so inspiring to ALL of us!**

One Saturday, when we were singing the Responsorial Psalm, I took a step back from the lectern microphone to hear the whole congregation singing their hearts out. It was awesome!

Glory be to the Father, Who by His almighty power and love created me, making me in the image and likeness of God. Glory be to the Son, Who by His Precious Blood delivered me from hell, and opened for me the gates of heaven. Glory be to the Holy Spirit, Who has sanctified me in the sacrament of Baptism, and continues to sanctify me by the graces I receive daily from His bounty. Glory be to the Three adorable Persons of the Holy Trinity, now and forever. Amen.

*From the
Pastor*



The bishop has a unique relationship with the priests and deacons under his care. The bishop is the ultimate judge of who Christ is calling to serve in his diocese. And those called to the order of presbyter or deacon are essentially called to fulfill the mission of the

bishop. They are intended to be coworkers in the vineyard assigned to the bishop, and their authority and ministry comes from and through the bishop. Their ministry is truly of the Church and not separate from that which the bishop directly or tacitly approves. The bishop should have a real and true relationship with his priests since he shares the order of priesthood with them. The priest or presbyter (the technical term for priest), like the bishop, shares in the priesthood of Christ so that he is also *in persona Christi*. But presbyters do not receive the fullness of the priesthood; that is reserved for bishops alone.

The bishop should embrace his priests with a true sense of love, compassion, and concern for their welfare. For it is with his priests that he is called to govern, preach/teach, and celebrate the sacraments leading to the sanctification of the people. Hence, with the help of his priests the bishop should strive to promote the whole pastoral work of the entire diocese. In order to work in a deeper sense of unity with his presbyterate, he must be solicitous for the spiritual, intellectual, and material welfare of the priests so that they can live holy and pious lives and fulfill their ministry faithfully and fruitfully. Hence, the mission of Christ can truly be expressed and experienced by the whole Church.

Though the bishop does not share the same order of ministry with deacons, he still has a connection with them. He determines either directly, or through those he assigns, who will be ordained a deacon. And, as with the priests, he must be solicitous of his deacon's spiritual welfare. The deacon's role—like the presbyter—is primarily about ensuring that the ministry of the bishop is fulfilled as the bishop desires. He will do so either in direct ministry of the diocese, such as running various ministries, or in some dioceses, even parishes. Or he may be assigned to serve at a parish as well as another ministry. The ultimate way of living out his ministry, wherever the bishop may assign him, is to be an icon of Christ the Servant. He is a reminder to all that Christ came *not* to be served but to serve. And the deacon seeks to do that by living his life in Christ faithfully—in service to the Church. The work a deacon may do in a parish is determined by the pastor in consultation with the deacon. The pastor and deacon should seek to understand the deacon's particular gifts and how they can be used to better serve the people of God in that community. He can do this in many ways, such as teaching, preaching, and serving at the altar. He can celebrate baptisms and weddings, assist at funeral services, and so forth. But he can also make use of his gifts in ways that make the most sense where he is sent to serve. Ultimately, whatever he

does is about ensuring that the mission of Christ can truly be expressed and experienced by the whole Church.

We come to see that the totality of Holy Orders is really directed to one purpose—to continue the mission of Christ. In simpler terms, it is about helping the people of God to grow in their relationship with Christ and to live out the salvation that Christ has won for us. All of the sacramental, vocational callings are about helping the Church to grow in members, and to serve those members in such a way that they truly experience Christ in their lives and make Him the center of the life that they are living.

It is also important to recognize that the idea of a vocation, or calling from God, is not limited to the sacramental, vocational calling of Matrimony and Holy Orders. Rather, all human beings have a calling from God. And, most powerfully for Christians, whatever that vocation may be, it finds its root in baptism. A lay person who never marries does *not* in any way lack a vocation; rather, they have some of the same challenges that those who are married have. It is about being an instrument of Christ in the lives of others that will lead those they interact with to Christ. They must use their gifts, or talents, for the greater glory of God such that God is seen in and through them. They must faithfully live out the universal call to baptism. They must lead others to God and help them to begin to live out the salvation Christ has won for them. Their life is one that is full of hope and joy in that they discover their calling through their particular gifts and discern how God wants those gifts to be used. In other words, one uses his/her gifts to ensure that the mission of Christ can truly be expressed and experienced by the whole world.

As we look at vocational callings, it is important to recognize that each person will live out their particular calling differently. Many things impact how a vocation will be expressed: one's personal history, unique gifts, gender, age, circumstances of their life in a particular moment, and so forth. All these factors and others make each calling a unique expression of how God chooses to work through his people. But, all of them are directed to one thing—helping the Church to grow. This is accomplished in a sense by creating proper Chords. The Chord in marriage is created between the man, the woman, and God. The Chord in Holy Orders is between the man, the Church, and God. Both Chords can bring forth a fourth note, which is new life in the Church—again, the ultimate purpose of any vocational calling.

If you have any questions about anything, please do not hesitate to call me at (978) 254-0560.

If you prefer to email, please visit...

<https://theholyrood.org/email-fr-brian>.

Please keep me in your prayers.

A handwritten signature in red ink, appearing to read "Brian".

From our Faith Formation Associate

Shaun Bradley

This weekend, 47 high schoolers from our collaborative will “be sealed with the gift of the Holy Spirit” by Bishop Robert Hennessy. While this will be an important day/weekend for these teens and their families, it is worth asking if it will be an impactful one. Will the importance last after the ceremony is over and the parties have concluded? For many of us, this is likely how we view the Sacrament of Confirmation: something that *was* important so we *had* to do it, but stopped being relevant as soon as it was over.

I think this is because of the unique place that Confirmation has among the sacraments, specifically the once-and-done sacraments (also known as character sacraments). At the moment of Baptism, we become Catholic—outwardly a big deal. At the moment of ordination, Holy Orders makes a man a deacon/priest/bishop—again, outwardly a big deal. Confirmation has no outward or worldly change in the moment, and so it is easy to miss or forget this important change in our lives. However, the sacraments are not just about the moment. The sacraments are about the graces (or gifts) that we receive in the moment, but also what we do with those gifts. The three character sacraments specifically leave an indelible mark on the soul, changing us forever, both in this life and the next. So, these sacraments aren’t just for the moment, but affect us for all eternity.

As a result of this, the graces of these sacraments do not end at the moment of reception; they remain with us for the rest of our lives. And so, we are free to call upon these graces at any moment, if we so choose. This is especially true of Confirmation. At any moment, we can draw upon the Spirit of wisdom, counsel, and strength, gifts that we have been given (Isaiah 11:2). At any moment, we can draw upon the love, joy, peace, and patience that the Spirit gives (Galatians 5:22). These are the blessings Our Lord gives us abundantly through the Sacrament of Confirmation, so that we might use them to survive and thrive in this life and enjoy them to their fullest extent in the next life.

Regardless of how long it has been since you last thought about your Confirmation, think about it now. Think about all the blessings Our Lord gave you when you were sealed fully and completely with His Spirit. Think about all those graces, and how much you need them in your own life: in the moments when you don’t know what to say; in those moments when you feel overwhelmed; in those moments when you feel like you can’t love the people you want to love the most. In these moments, draw upon the graces already within you; draw upon the power of the Holy Spirit sealed within you.

From our Parochial Vicar

Fr. Patrick Alemayo, C.S.Sp.

Making Disciples of all Nations in Unity and Love

Our Christian baptism is made in the trinitarian formula: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Christian discipleship, therefore, requires that Christians make more disciples from all nations because all nations belong to God. This means people from every nation, group, and ethnicity on earth are honored to be part of God’s household. Through Jesus, God’s relationship with humanity has moved beyond Israel, to include people from every corner of the world who come to the Father through the Son. This is the implication of what Jesus instructs his disciples in Matthew’s Gospel. He says, “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 (Matthew 28:19).”

As disciples of Christ, our essence is that we maintain, uphold, and stand for unity and love among the body of Christ. In John 17:21, Jesus prays to God the Father that we may all be one as God the Father is in him and he is in the Father. This is in line with the words of the prophet Amos 3:3: “Can two walk together, except they agree?” We need to continue to agree with one another and work in line with the mission of the Trinity, who are united as one God. Unless we live our lives in line with Christ’s calling, prayer, and wishes, we may continue to experience certain levels of conflicts within us and in our interpersonal relationships with others. In unity, we are enabled to promote God’s love.

Our God is a communion of love. This is how Jesus offers himself to us. We learn this also through the sign of the cross, which we trace upon our body each time we pray. We remind ourselves of how much God loves us—to the point of giving his life for us. We tell ourselves that God embraces us from top to bottom, from left to right. God does not abandon us. At the same time, we commit ourselves to witnessing to God as love. Then, let us ask ourselves: do we bear witness to God as love, or has God as love become a concept—something we have already heard so much that it no longer stirs life in us? If God is love, do our communities bear witness to this belief? Do they know how to love? Are they families? Do we keep the door open always? Do we know how to welcome everyone as brothers and sisters? Do we offer everyone the food of God’s forgiveness and the wine of Gospel joy? May Mary intercede for us so that we can continue to make our communities those of unity and love.



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 intention is requested when you schedule your intention. Please note that a 2-week notice is required.

St. John the Evangelist

SAT, MAY 25	4 pm	Grace M Steed, Martin J Steed Sr, and Mary Blanche Steed: Memorial
SUN, MAY 26	9:30 am	People of the Parish
	12 pm	LIVING: Queen Okonkwo: Birthday Thanksgiving
	6 pm	Dennis Nowakowski: Memorial
MON, MAY 27	9 am	Betty Ciampa: 20th Anniversary
TUE, MAY 28	9 am	Aleatha, John and John Anthony Spera: Memorial
WED, MAY 29	9 am	Andonella and Charles Hildreth: Memorial
THU, MAY 30	9 am	Donna Aylward: Birthday Memorial
FRI, MAY 31	9 am	William Henry Munier: Memorial
SAT, JUN 1	4 pm	Michael John Greeley: Month's Mind Theresa F Corkery: 1st Anniversary LIVING INTENTION: People of Ukraine
SUN, JUN 2	9:30 am	MEMORIAL: The Borromee Paradis Family; Rita and Paul Gallagher; Joseph N Ricciardi Sr; Mauricio Valencia
	6 pm	People of the Parish

St. Margaret of Scotland

SAT, MAY 25	4 pm	People of the Parish
SUN, MAY 26	730 am	Leocadia "Laura" Wilson: Memorial
	10 am	Fr Engelbert Kofon: Memorial
MON, MAY 27	8 am	LIVING INTENTION: Queen Okonkwo Birthday Thanksgiving
TUE, MAY 28	8 am	LIVING INTENTION: Mary Anne Simkins
WED, MAY 29	8 am	Mary Kay Gillen: 1st Anniversary
SAT, JUN 1	4 pm	MEMORIAL: Beverly Begley; Jack Kelley LIVING INTENTION: Andy Alvarez, Ana Cano (special intention); Karla Eusebio (special intention)
SUN, JUN 2	730 am	People of the Parish
	10 am	Reginald Walker: Memorial

St. Mary Parish

SAT, MAY 25	4 pm	Evelyn Armstrong: 1st Anniversary
SUN, MAY 26	7 am	People of the Parish
	11 am	Helen and Ed Judge: Memorial
MON, MAY 27	7 am	David P Garrity: 10th Anniversary
TUE, MAY 28	7 am	Barbara Stella: Birthday Memorial
WED, MAY 29	7 am	Raymond and Louise Fuller: Memorial
THU, MAY 30	7 am	Franklin J Boyd: 17th Anniversary
FRI, MAY 31	7 am	Frank Soracco: 7th Anniversary
SAT, JUN 1	4 pm	Anniversary: Francis X Harrison Jr (1st); John Paul Knox (4th); Thomas E Peters (1st)
SUN, JUN 2	7 am	People of the Parish
	11 am	Deceased Members of the Buerger, Swanson and Marquart Families

On this page you will find a number of ways to remember and honor a loved one. To schedule any of these intentions, please contact the Parish Offices at (978) 256-2374. Note that a 2-week notice is required.



Altar Flowers

You 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.

Lamps



At any of our churches, you can request that the sanctuary lamp burn in memory of a loved one. St. Margaret also has two additional lamps—the Blessed Mother Lamp and the Sacred Heart Lamp. The stipend for any of these lamps is \$25.



St. Margaret Bells

The steeple bells at St. Margaret toll daily at 12 and 6 pm, followed by the ringing of the Angelus bell and 2 hymns. At 3 pm, they play 2 hymns, and 15 minutes prior to each weekend Mass, the bells toll a 'call to worship.' We invite you to dedicate the Ringing of the Bells in Memory/In Honor of someone.

In Memory Of Peter Molloy

Recent Funerals

May the souls of the faithful departed through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.



Ralph Markee

Monday, May 20 • St. John

Jennifer MacDonald

Thursday, May 23 • St. John

John LaForme

Thursday, May 23 • St. Margaret

Hannel Pablo Morel

Friday, May 24 • St. Margaret

Benjamin Stack

Saturday, May 25 • St. Mary

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Scan to read Jane's obituary.




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-Mother Teresa

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