



MARY
Queen of the Apostles



MARÍA
Reina de los Apóstoles

February 21, 2021

www.MQOA.org

978-745-9060 | info@MQOA.org

WELCOME

**Be welcomed.
Be healed.
Belong.**

We hope that you find us to be Holy Spirit-filled disciples of Jesus Christ, centered in the Eucharist.

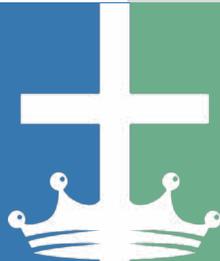
Contact us soon to find out how you can be a part of what MQOA is doing to offer welcome and healing to all.



1ST SUNDAY OF LENT

After John had been arrested, Jesus came to Galilee proclaiming the gospel of God: "This is the time of fulfillment. The kingdom of God is at hand. Repent, and believe in the gospel." - Mk 1:14-15

Después de que arrestaron a Juan el Bautista, Jesús se fue a Galilea para predicar el Evangelio de Dios y decía: "Se ha cumplido el tiempo y el Reino de Dios ya está cerca. Arrepiéntanse y crean en el Evangelio". - Mc 1, 14-15



THIS WEEK AT MQOA:

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CONNECT AND GROW

02 A MESSAGE FROM FR. MURRAY



I once heard someone say that sometimes life can feel like one long Lent. This year as we begin our Lenten journey, it may be a challenge to

enter into this period of “new normal” with the same vigor and prayerfulness as in years prior. The term “new normal” is an overused phrase (much like “unprecedented,” one of the words I am giving up for Lent. There are other overused qualifying adjectives that I cannot print.) It has been a long and challenging year for so many and in so many ways. Last year, Lent had just begun when we were tacking up signs on the doors to close down in cooperation with the city, state, country and Church to help stop the spread of COVID.

It feels like we are turning a corner, and I desperately hope we are. Either way, another Lent is beginning with some new practices to help keep us safe. I hope you can join us online or in person for the Lenten practices we have ready, and that it will be a fruitful season for your faith.

This year has been a test for all of us to continue to build our community and serve those in need or who wish to come to our Church for sacraments, including Baptism, First Reconciliation, First

Communion, Confirmation, and marriage. I have met many people at the door of the church at IC to hear confessions throughout this time. We have lovingly and carefully celebrated funerals and all the Easter sacraments for a number of new parishioners who have joined us, first through the Alpha program, and now are part of the Church.

We also have been blessed with a wonderful grant and a number of generous bequests that have enabled us to continue to work on the churches, and which complement the regular and ongoing generosity of all of you. As we continue with the work of our parish to bring Jesus to others, and bring healing to all those in need that we can, I hope that you will continue to see the ongoing proclamation of the Gospel and the slow steady growth of our parish.

As our Lenten journey begins, I would like everyone to consider going to our parish website and participate in the Disciple Maker Index. As I stated before, we are one of five parishes in this Archdiocese to be chosen to help gather information about the state of the Church in the United States. The more people who respond, the easier it will be to see where we are as Church. The survey is anonymous, in that we will not directly receive back any specific information about who takes the survey, but we will receive data as to

the trends and basic demographic information and their attitudes toward our Church. I hope that many will be willing to take some time to do this. It could be a good way of checking our own attitudes and presumptions, and perhaps give us fodder for Lent. Please check the website for the link and for more details.

*Peace,
Father Murray*

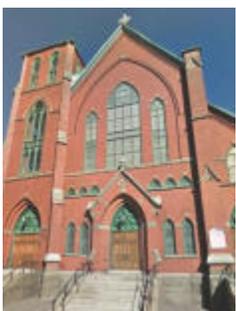
As I write this, final plans are being made to transfer the fire safety hood from the kitchen at Immaculate Conception school and, after being fine-tuned to new safety standards, it will be installed in the kitchen at St. James. We are completing installation of the rugs in the entrance way at St. James this weekend and hope to soon begin the repainting of the sanctuary at Immaculate Conception Church. Thanks to generous donors and benefactors who make all this possible.



PARISH INFORMATION

Parish Offices: 158 Federal St. Salem, MA 01970 | 978-745-9060 |

The office is not open at this time. Please call to make an appointment.



ST. JAMES CHURCH

156 Federal St. Salem, MA 01970

Conference Room:

158 Federal St.

Rear Hall: enter from rear parking



IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CHURCH

15 Hawthorne Blvd. Salem, MA 01970

Rectory: 30 Union St.

Me he olvidado el nombre del obispo o sacerdote que dijo esto por primera vez, pero estoy de acuerdo en que "... a veces la vida puede parecer una larga Cuaresma ...". Este año, al comenzar nuestro viaje de Cuaresma, tenemos el desafío de entrar en este período de "nueva normalidad" con el mismo vigor y oración de siempre. El término "nueva normalidad" es a la vez una frase usada en exceso (muy parecida a "sin precedentes", una de las expresiones a las que renuncio para la Cuaresma. Este mundo está acorde con algunos adjetivos calificativos que no puedo imprimir). Ha sido un año largo y desafiante para muchos y de muchas maneras. El año pasado, la Cuaresma acababa de comenzar cuando colocamos letreros en la puerta para cerrarla en cooperación con la ciudad, el estado, el país y la iglesia, para ayudar a detener la propagación del COVID.

Se siente como si estuviéramos dando vuelta en una esquina y espero desesperadamente que así sea; sin embargo, otra Cuaresma está comenzando con algunas prácticas nuevas para ayudar a mantenernos a salvo. Espero que muchos puedan unirse a nosotros en línea y vivir según lo permitido, para las prácticas de Cuaresma que tenemos listas y que serán lo más fructíferas posible. Este año ha sido una prueba para todos nosotros, para continuar construyendo nuestra comunidad y servir a los necesitados o a los que

desean venir a nuestra iglesia para recibir los sacramentos, incluido el Bautismo, la Primera Reconciliación, la Primera Comunión, la Confirmación y el matrimonio. He conocido a mucha gente en la puerta de la iglesia en IC para escuchar confesiones durante todo este tiempo. Hemos celebrado con amor y cuidado funerales y todos los sacramentos de Pascua para varios feligreses nuevos que se han unido a nosotros primeramente a través del programa Alpha y ahora son parte de la iglesia.

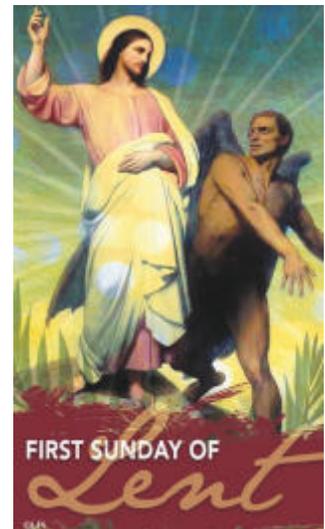
También hemos sido bendecidos por la recepción de una subvención y una serie de diferentes legados que nos han permitido continuar trabajando en la iglesia y complementar la generosidad regular y continua de todos ustedes. A medida que continuamos con el trabajo de nuestra parroquia para llevar a Jesús a otros y brindar sanación a todos los necesitados que podamos, espero que continúen viendo la proclamación continua del Evangelio y el lento crecimiento, pero constante, de nuestra parroquia.

Al comenzar nuestro viaje de Cuaresma, me gustaría que todos consideren ir al sitio web de nuestra parroquia y respondan al Índice de Creadores de Discípulos. Como dije antes, somos una de las cinco parroquias de esta Arquidiócesis elegidas para ayudar a recopilar información sobre el estado de la Iglesia

en los Estados Unidos. Cuanta más gente responda, más fácil será ver dónde estamos como iglesia. La encuesta es anónima en el sentido de que no recibiremos directamente ninguna información específica sobre quién realiza la encuesta, solo cuáles son las tendencias y la información biográfica básica, es decir, quién asiste a la iglesia, edades, etc. y luego sus actitudes hacia nuestra iglesia. Una vez más, espero que muchos estén dispuestos a tomarse un tiempo para hacer esto. Podría ser una buena forma de comprobar nuestras propias actitudes y presunciones y quizás darnos algo de alimento para la Cuaresma. Consulte el sitio web para ver el botón y más detalles.

Paz, Padre Murray

Mientras escribo esto, se están haciendo los planes finales para remover la campana de seguridad contra incendios de la cocina y la escuela de la Inmaculada Concepción y, después de ajustarla a las nuevas normas de seguridad, se volverá a instalar en St. James. También estamos terminando las alfombras en la entrada este fin de semana y esperamos comenzar a pintar el santuario en la iglesia Inmaculada. Gracias a los generosos donantes y benefactores.



Daily Readings can also be found at
www.usccb.org

04 THIS WEEK AT MQOA

MQOA THIS WEEK

SATURDAY

Mass, 4:00 PM

A recording of the Mass will be posted on our Facebook page and on our website. This can be viewed anytime at your convenience.

SUNDAY

Mass, 8:30 AM**
St. James Hall
In-Person

Spanish Mass, 11:30 AM **
Immaculate Church
In-Person

Also at 11:30 AM

A recording of the Mass, en español, will be posted on our Facebook page and on our website. This can be viewed anytime at your convenience.

Mass, 6:00 PM **
Immaculate Church
In-Person

****Listen in your car**
from the church parking lot on
88.1 FM

TUESDAY

Weekday Mass
9 :00 AM

A recording of the Mass will be posted on our Facebook page and on our website. This can be viewed anytime at your convenience.

DAILY

Updates and inspiration on
our Facebook page:
facebook.com/MQOASalem

ONLINE MASSES

A recording of the Mass will be posted on our website and Facebook page on **Saturdays at 4 PM (English)** and **Sundays at 11:30 AM (en español)**. After they are posted you can view the Mass anytime at your convenience by going to: facebook.com/mqoasalem OR www.mqoa.com/worship

IN-PERSON MASS

Sunday Masses indoors: **PRE-REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED** before attending one of our indoor Masses. Sign up, up to four weeks in advance. Please only sign up for the Sunday you plan to go indoors to celebrate Mass. Please wear masks and maintain social distancing.

YOU MAY ALSO REMAIN IN YOUR CAR. Mass will be broadcast on 88.1 FM and online. Communion will be brought to your car following Mass. If you plan to remain in your car, registration is not needed.

Sign up at: mqoa.org/worship Or, call the office.

FOLLOW ALONG WITH MASS

If you are celebrating Mass in-person or watching Mass online, use this Mass Guide to follow along. Updated weekly with Sunday's readings. mqoa.org/worship



EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP - RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS The Unlikely Suspects

Have you ever taken a nature walk? Have you leisurely strolled through a forest or field, with no real destination in mind and your only objective being receptivity to and observation of all God's creation?

Sometimes, Scripture readings can feel like a nature walk. All of salvation history plays out against the backdrop of the natural world, with all elements of God's creation — plants and animals and the dust of the earth itself — turning in a supporting performance. How about Jesus in the hot and dusty desert, tempted, living "among the wild beasts?" Noah departed from his ark with the animals he rescued, observing God's sign in the very clouds of the sky. Even God Himself, offering us salvation from original sin through the waters of baptism.

How often do we remember that God speaks to us through all of His creation, even in the unlikeliest suspects?

Let's go back to the nature walk. It sounds like a lovely way to pass an afternoon, amongst wildflowers and butterflies, but don't forget the beating hot sun, mosquitos, and threat of rain on the horizon. Remember, we're not in heaven yet. Here on earth, God may be present in His creation, but that doesn't mean it's always easy to endure.

Lent is, essentially, a time to listen for the voice of God in places we may not expect: the mild irritations you experience when you're craving the chocolate you gave up, or the dull pangs of hunger during the Ash Wednesday fast. It's a golden opportunity to see the divine hand in all of creation, even those unlikely suspects.

—Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS ©LPi



SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

Please consider donating to the Society of St. Vincent de Paul. Your contributions are greatly appreciated during this pandemic, when so many people who have not needed help in the past are in need now due to COVID-related job loss or a reduction in work hours.

While we can't be at the church doors for our regular collections, you may place your donation in one of the **collection boxes at St. Anne's, St. James, or Immaculate Conception**. Or, you may also **mail checks** made out to St. Vincent de Paul to:

**Society of St. Vincent de Paul
158 Federal St.
Salem, MA. 01970**

Thank you for your continued generosity to help the needy in Salem.

The Disciple Maker Index Survey Opens this Week! Please Read and Help!

We will be participating in a parish survey about discipleship conducted by the Catholic Leadership Institute! We are one of five parishes in the archdiocese selected to participate.

Please help us by participating in a 10-15 minute survey online. The survey can be accessed on our website at:

www.mqoa.org/lent

It will ask you to reflect on your own spiritual growth and enable you to provide feedback on our parish's efforts to help you grow. All responses will be confidential and the parish will only receive information about the community as whole.

We are trying to get the highest response rate possible. This information will be invaluable to our various ministries as we plan for the future and strive to be the best disciples we can be. We will receive the results this spring/summer at which time we will share what we have learned with the entire parish.

Thank you for helping with this important project!

YOUR WEEKLY FINANCIAL SUPPORT MAKES EVERYTHING HAPPEN

Everything we do at Mary, Queen of the Apostles Parish is supported by your prayerful and financial support.

Your regular weekly contribution makes online ministries like Alpha, our streamed Adoration times, and recorded Masses happen, and supports our efforts to keep in touch, minister to, and serve our parishioners and beyond.

*If you have envelopes, please mail them to our office at **158 Federal Street**. You can also drop them in our secure mailbox at the office door.*

You can give online via **Venmo, Apple Pay, or PayPal** with **Givebutter**; it's quick and easy! Visit **www.givebutter.com/mqoa**



Become a sustaining giver, learn how you can support the parish with your Amazon purchases, and more at **www.mqoa.org/donate**

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROUS SUPPORT



SCAN HERE TO VISIT OUR DONATION PAGE 



06 INFORMATION BOARD

JOB POSTING: HISPANIC MINISTRIES COORDINATOR

MQOA parish, comprised of two historic churches and located in the center of beautiful Salem, MA, is dedicated to being a place of hospitality and healing to all. Candidate must be a practicing Catholic, possess a deep sense of the evangelizing and healing mission of our parish, the importance of outreach in the Church with immigrants of first- and second- generation, and experience in attending to the pastoral and social needs of Hispanics in the US.

MQOA serves a large population of Hispanics, primarily from the Dominican Republic.

This position is part-time, 12-15 hours/week.
Compensation: \$15,000.00/year.

Responsibilities:

- Coordinate Spanish-language liturgies; online and in person.
- Recruit, train, and manage volunteers (greeting, Eucharistic Ministry, lectors, prayer writing/translation, announcements, recordings for online Masses etc.)
- Coordinate database of parishioner information for Hispanic families Faith Formation Liaison
- Promote and connect Hispanic adults and families to parish faith formation programs (sacramental prep., Alpha, Beta Groups, RCIA, etc.) Translate and assist families as needed
- Manage publicity, promotion and communication of parish programming.

Assist with publication of the parish Bulletin, Social Media (What's App, etc.), and website.

Works collaboratively with pastoral staff. Present on Sundays (8 hours— including attending the 11:30 AM Mass in Spanish) and for some evening programs (online and in person) on weeknights.

Candidates must be fully bilingual in Spanish – English. Fluency in English and Spanish conversation, reading, and writing is required.

Competency with social media and computer skills required.

Public speaking, presentation (online, video) skills preferred.

Bachelor's Degree preferred.

To learn more about MQOA: www.MQOA.org

If you are interested in the position, please contact Margo Morin at mmorin@mqoa.org

February 21 ~ First Sunday of Lent



As this year's Lenten journey begins, take some time to reflect on those areas of life that keep you from being fully committed to

Christ. Perhaps you are tempted to keep Jesus at a distance lest he ask something difficult of you or perhaps you find it easier to ignore the call to conversion than to take the steps needed to make a change of heart. Seek out the Sacrament of Penance as a way to overcome the temptations you face. Rely on Christ's healing presence in this sacrament to accompany and assist you in times of doubt and temptation.



As we begin the Lenten season, we are reminded of the importance of our parish communities that allow us to fully live out our faith. The support of the ministries at the

Archdiocese of Boston help our parish continue serving the faithful in this community. Consider making an early gift to this year's Catholic Appeal to help ensure these ministries can continue helping our parish, and all parishes, schools, and communities throughout our Archdiocese of Boston.

Visit bostoncatholicappeal.org to learn more or make a donation. To give now, scan the QR code above.



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Mass of Thanksgiving

For our frontline workers

In the North Region

If you or a loved one has been part of the network of essential workers during the pandemic

Bishop Mark O'Connell

Auxiliary Bishop of the North Region

invites you and your family to a Mass of thanksgiving for your courage, bravery, and selflessness

**Wednesday, March 17, 2021
 7:00 PM**

at St. Theresa Parish, North Reading

The Mass will also be live streamed, and can be viewed at: www.sttheresanreading.org

Due to COVID-19, there is limited seating in the Church.

To attend the Mass in person, please sign up at:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70A0F4BAFA92CA2F85-massa>

You can also scan the QR Code to go to the sign up.



To just submit your name or that of someone you know who is an essential worker, email the names to: northregion@rcab.org. The names of essential workers from the North Region will be listed on the St. Theresa website.

North Region Office of the Archdiocese of Boston
 978-531-1013



Lenten Disciplines of Fasting & Abstinence

Catholics in good health ages 18 to 59 are required to fast and to abstain from meat on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday.

Fasting consists of eating only one meal, with the possibility of two smaller snacks that do not add up to a single full meal.

Catholics age 14 and older are to abstain from meat on all Fridays in Lent.



CONGRATULATIONS ON YOUR ENGAGEMENT

If you are newly engaged and want to be married at one of our churches, reach out to Father Murray at pastor@mqa.org. We will walk you through your engagement and help you prepare for this most important sacrament. Weddings are scheduled at least nine months in advance, and our churches are popular wedding venues, so email or call soon: 978-745-9060. We are following all COVID-19 safety protocols established by the State of Massachusetts, the Archdiocese of Boston, and the City of Salem.

Lent at MQOA

"Lent is a time of going very deeply into ourselves... What is it that stands between us and God? Between us and our brothers and sisters? Between us and life, the life of the Spirit? Whatever it is, let us relentlessly tear it out, without a moment's hesitation." -Catherine Doherty, servant of God



Stations of the Cross
Fridays 7PM | English Online



Eucharist Adoration
Wednesdays 7PM | Online

Station of the Cross
Fridays 6:30PM | Spanish Online

Walk the Stations
Outdoor Stations of the Cross | IC Church Side Lawn



A six-week series covering the Catholic Faith with talks and discussions.

**Sunday's at 7 PM
 (Begins this Sunday, Feb. 21)**

See our website for more information.

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