



MARY
Queen of the Apostles



MARÍA
Reina de los Apóstoles

March 7, 2021

www.MQOA.org

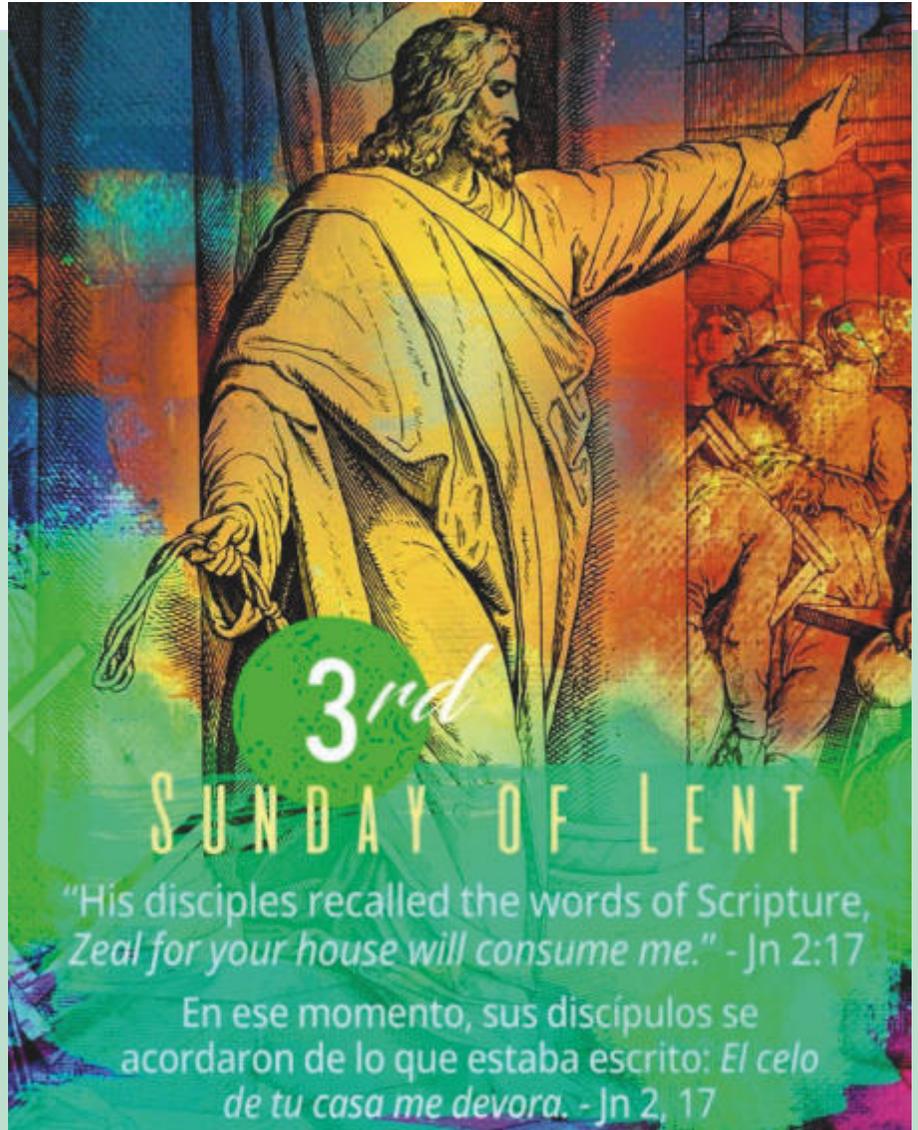
978-745-9060 | info@MQOA.org

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.



THIS WEEK AT MQOA:

02-03

A MESSAGE FROM FR. MURRAY

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THIS WEEK AT MQOA

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NEW! KNIGHT OF COLUMBUS COUNCIL

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CONNECT AND GROW

02 A MESSAGE FROM FR. MURRAY



One of my favorite concept words is *focus*. It is a great word that can be an adjective, noun, or verb, depending on usage and context. During my time in college, my coach used to use this word just about every day at practice, "Gentlemen, today we are focusing on...." or, before a race, "Focus on" Over time, we would slowly grow in our capacity, in whatever we were given to do. If we had lost a race or a competition we would examine what happened and *focus* on fixing the problem. Focusing can bring success to those who are able to bear down and apply themselves in this way. However sometimes, we can pay attention to the wrong thing, at the wrong time.

In the Jewish temple tradition, it was necessary to bring something to sacrifice to God. This was a rule given by God to remind the people to think of God first, and to put every thing in the context of that instruction. As is so typical, the people lost focus on what the rule was meant to accomplish. What started as a rule about giving our best to God as an act of

thanksgiving and show of trust slowly became instead a focus on the value of the animals and the money that was being offered at the temple.

This is what brings Jesus to the temple in today's Gospel reading, and seeing the exchange of money and goods in the temple yard causes this outburst of anger. Jesus is demanding a *refocusing*, on to what is important and what it means to be in a temple of the Spirit and in God's holy presence. The temple is the dwelling place of God and Jesus demands that we focus on the right things here. The Lenten journey is meant to do the same for us, help us to focus on what is important. Hopefully, we can use the same zeal to eradicate, through our own prayer, fasting, and almsgiving, to focus on those parts of ourselves that need clearing out, and we can make ourselves better "temples" of the Holy Spirit.

Speaking of *focus*, during this week we are also asked to consider how we can support the Catholic Appeal. Each year, on the first weekend of March, we are asked to make an appeal to help Archbishop Cardinal O' Malley continue his work and the support we receive from the

Pastoral Center of the Archdiocese. I am grateful to Sean and Julie McCannon for being our ambassadors again this year, and have promised them this is the last time I will ask them. Their talk this year was so well done, I know I will regret my promise. You can see the video of their talk on our website: www.mqoa.org/donate and you can click to give there, too. I hope you will take a little time to pray and ask yourself how you might support the Archbishop this year, especially in light of the past year.

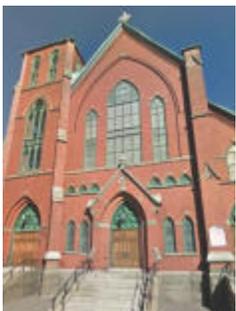
Finally, a brand-new council of the Knights of Columbus is being formed here in Salem. I hope that this new council will bring men of all ages to become part of the parish, and to be part of the service to God we are trying to accomplish here. Our focus is evangelization and healing and they have agreed to help us with our mission. We welcome them and hope that this new council will also help our parish grow. Find out how you can attend an informational meeting on page six of this bulletin.

*Peace,
Father Murray*

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.

Una de mis palabras conceptuales favoritas es "enfoco". Es una gran palabra que puede ser un adjetivo, sustantivo o verbo según el uso y el contexto. Durante mi tiempo en la universidad, mi entrenador solía usar esta palabra casi todos los días en la práctica. "*Señores, hoy nos estamos enfocando en...*" antes de una carrera; "*Enfócate en...*" y así, durante un período de tiempo, creceríamos lentamente en nuestra capacidad para resolver cualquier cosa que se nos diera para hacer. Si hubiésemos perdido una carrera o una competencia, examinaríamos lo que sucedió y nos concentraríamos en solucionar el problema. Esta idea puede traer mucho éxito a aquellos que son capaces de esforzarse y aplicarse de esta manera. Sin embargo, a veces, como en muchos casos puede suceder, también puede hacer que prestemos atención a lo incorrecto en el momento equivocado.

En la tradición del templo judío, era necesario traer algo como sacrificio ante Dios. Esta fue una regla dada por Dios, para recordarle a la gente que deben pensar en Dios primero y poner todo en el contexto de esa instrucción. Como de costumbre, la regla de pensar en el sacrificio y darle cosas a Dios como un acto de acción de gracias y muestra de confianza, (Le ofreceré esto a Dios y aunque no estoy seguro de poder

comer debido a mi ofrenda, igual lo haré.) lentamente perdió su enfoque y se volvió hacia los animales y el dinero, etc. Esto es lo que lleva a Jesús al templo.

El hecho de ver directamente este desenfoque, causa su estallido de ira. Con suerte, lo que sacamos de esto es una reprogramación de lo que realmente es importante, lo que significa estar en un templo y lo que significa ser un templo del Espíritu a imitación de Jesús. El templo es la morada de Dios y Jesús alude a esto no solo en la limpieza del templo comunal, sino también como una referencia a sí mismo y a su pasión y muerte. También nos permite recordar lo que este camino cuaresmal es para nosotros. Quizás, podemos usar el mismo celo para erradicar el desenfoque, a través de nuestra propia oración, ayuno y limosna para enfocarnos en aquellas partes de nosotros mismos que necesitan ser limpiadas y hacernos mejores "templos" del Espíritu Santo.

Hablando de enfoque, durante esta semana también se nos pide que consideremos pensar, al igual que todos los años, en cómo podemos apoyar la Campaña Católica. Cada año, el primer fin de semana de marzo, se nos pide que hagamos un llamado a la comunidad para ayudar al arzobispo, el cardenal O'Malley, a continuar el trabajo que

hace y que vigila desde el Centro Pastoral de la Arquidiócesis. Estoy agradecido con Sean y Julie McCannon por hacer esto nuevamente este año y les he prometido que esta es la última vez. Espero que se tomen un poco de tiempo para orar y preguntarse cómo podrían apoyar al arzobispo este año también, especialmente a la luz del año pasado que tuvimos.

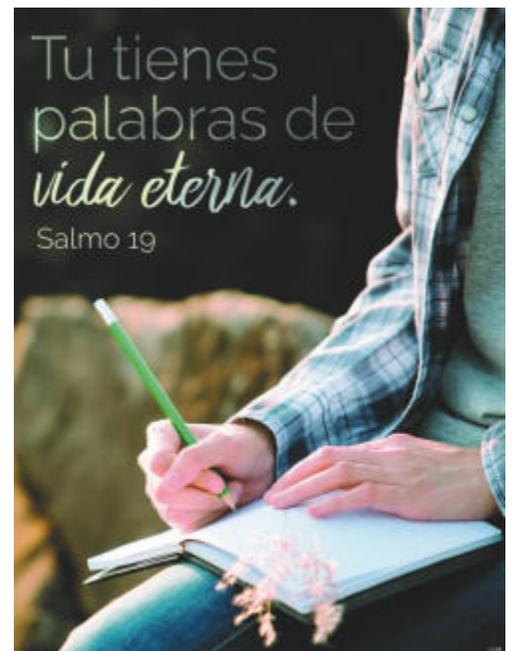
Finalmente, en otra parte del boletín, hay un anuncio del nuevo Consejo que comienzan los Caballeros. Espero que este nuevo consejo atraiga a hombres de todas las edades para que formen parte de la parroquia y sean parte del servicio a Dios que estamos tratando de lograr aquí. Nuestro enfoque es la evangelización y la curación y por eso han acordado ayudarnos. Les damos la bienvenida y esperamos que este nuevo consejo también ayude a nuestra parroquia a crecer.

Paz, Padre Murray

Readings for the week of March 7, 2021

Sunday:	Ex 20:1-17 or 20:1-3, 7-8, 12-17/Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 11 [Jn 6:68c]/1Cor 1:22-25/Jn 2:13-25 or Ex 17:3-7/Ps 95:1-2, 6-7, 8-9 [8]/Rom 5:1-2, 5-8/Jn 4:5-42 or 4:5-15, 19b-26, 39a, 40-42
Monday:	2 Kgs 5:1-15ab/Ps 42:2, 3; 43:3, 4 [cf 42:3]/Lk 4:24-30
Tuesday:	Dn 3:25, 34-43/Ps 25:4-5ab, 6 and 7bc, 8-9 [6a]/Mt 18:21-35
Wednesday:	Dt 4:1, 5-9/Ps 147:12-13, 15-16, 19-20]/Mt 5:17-19
Thursday:	Jer 7:23-28/Ps 95:1-2, 6-7, 8-9 [8]/Lk 11:14-23
Friday:	Hos 14:2-10/Ps 81:6c-8a, 8bc-9, 10-11ab, 14 and 17 [cf. 11 and 9a]/Mk 12:28-34
Saturday:	Hos 6:1-6/Ps 51:3-4, 18-19, 20-21ab [cf. Hos 6:6]/Lk 18:9-14
Next Sunday:	2 Chr 36:14-16, 19-23/Ps 137:1-2, 3, 4-5, 6 [6ab]/Eph 2:4-10]/n 3:14-21 or 1 Sm 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a/Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4m 5, 6 [1]/Eph 5:8-14/Jn 9:1-41 or 9:1, 6-9, 13-17, 34-38

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](https://www.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](https://www.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

Parents Just Don't Understand



Anybody remember the old rap song by the Fresh Prince, aka Will Smith, "Parents Just Don't Understand?" As we grow up, it is sometimes a struggle for us to imagine that our parents understand us. It can seem impossible that Mom and Dad remember the stress of exam week or peer pressure. We never saw them as children; we never saw their disappointed faces when they weren't invited to a party, or their dashed hopes at a bad test grade. We never saw them homesick their first week of college or nervous to ask their crush to Homecoming.

We're often the same way about God. We gripe about what He asks of us. "He doesn't understand sin — he's all-good," we think. "He doesn't understand temptation — He is perfect."

In Scripture, God can be very much a father, telling us what we can and cannot do. And yet, in His divine genius, He is sometimes simply a man at a well, asking for a drink.

For me, it turns out I didn't need to tell my parents anything about what I was going through as a kid — they knew already. What I needed was for them to tell me what to do, and how to do it.

Similarly, we don't need to tell God about human nature. We need God to tell us about His nature. He's good enough to ask us for a drink, to enter into our humanity. But we have to remember, for our own sakes, to have the humility to ask Him for something, too — the water that will quench our eternal thirst.

—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 helping
the needy in Salem.**

Please take the Disciple Maker Index Survey



We are currently 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 by using QR code below, or thru 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 participating!

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 





Catholic Appeal Begins Next Weekend

This weekend, we launch our annual Catholic Appeal, along with all the other parishes throughout the Archdiocese. Each year, the Catholic Appeal provides the faithful with a way to help support the ministries that support our parishes, our schools, and our communities. This is our Church, and every gift makes a difference. Please consider making your gift today by visiting bostoncatholicappeal.org or by scanning the QR code. Your gift has an immediate impact on our parish and the work of our Church. Thank you in advance for your generosity.



Thank you for your support!

March 7 ~ Third Sunday of Lent



In today's Gospel, we have a scene that may make us uncomfortable. Jesus knew that some of the temple practices were rife with social injustices. What made matters worse were that it was done in the name of religion. Jesus' heart ached to think that any Gentile seeking the presence of God would feel unwelcome in

the house of God. If Jesus were to enter this church/parish, would he find an exclusiveness, a coldness, or a place where the "seeking" stranger finds welcome, solace and peace? Lent gives us the opportunity to examine our attitudes and make the necessary change so that every person feels welcome in this house of God. The pandemic restrictions need not hinder becoming a strong evangelizing parish.



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS®

The Knights of Columbus are building a new parish-based council within the MQOA Catholic Community. This council will be located in the parish and will focus on supporting our community, families, and Salem parishes. You only need to give 2 hours a month of your time to express and live your Catholic faith in charity. We'd love for you to join us.

The Knights guiding principles are charity and service. We anchor our service in programs that support faith building, community service, family strengthening, and a commitment to life. We welcome all men over the age of 18. There is a place for you here, whether single, newly married, married with a young family, an empty-nester, or retired.

If you would like to learn more about the Knights of Columbus or would like to become involved in our new council, we would like to invite you to an organizational meeting. Please reach out to Peter Mercier (petermercierrocks@gmail.com) or Peter Brau (peterbrau@yahoo.com) for details or if you have any questions."



In gratitude of the sacrifice, courage, bravery, and selflessness of all our frontline workers in the North Region

**Bishop Mark O'Connell,
Auxiliary Bishop of the North Region
invites you and your family to a
Mass of Thanksgiving
on Wednesday, March 17 at 7:00 PM
at Saint Theresa Church**

The Mass will be live streamed and recorded (www.sttheresanreading.org) for those unable to attend. For those wishing to attend in person, please register at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70A0F4BAFA92CA2F85-mass4> (or the link can easily be accessed thru St. Theresa's website), or if you wish to submit a name of a frontline worker, please email their name to northregion@rcab.org.

Participation in the Mass will include frontline workers from many parishes in the North region. Please pass this invitation to others in your community who have given so much this past year.

The next Healing Prayer Service is **March 9**

HEALING PRAYER

PERSONAL HEALING PRAYER AVAILABLE

SECOND TUESDAY OF THE MONTH | 7PM
VIA ZOOM



God needs priests. Is He calling you?
If you are 30-60, you may be surprised.

“Friday Adoration”

Pope St. John XXIII National Seminary
558 South Ave., Weston, MA

Friday, March 12

Friday, April 9

Friday, May 7

5:00 PM

Join the Seminary community virtually for prayer & fellowship

Holy Hour and Evening Prayer

<https://www.psj.edu/chapel-live-stream>

Zoom meeting with Seminarians

RSVP Msgr. William Fay to msgr.fay@psj.edu

to get Zoom link

www.psj.edu



Have a question? Want to check in for a moment? Need prayer? Just want to say hi? Join Margo for office hours on Mondays during Lent, 10-11AM, on Zoom.

Join our *MQOA Connections* Facebook page (search for this private group on Facebook), and Margo will post the link to Zoom every Monday.

Pray with us this Lent



Eucharist Adoration

Tuesdays, 7 PM | Online

Stations of the Cross

Fridays, 6: 30 PM | Spanish Online

Fridays, 7 PM | English Online



Walk the Stations

Outdoor Stations of the Cross

Self-guided

IC Church side lawn



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

Sunday's at 7 PM,
(Join any Sunday you are able)

Coming Up On March 21

“Ask The Bishop”

Bishop Mark O'Connell, Auxiliary Bishop for the North Region, will join us on Zoom, to answer your questions about the faith, the Church, Catholic practices you always wondered “why?”, or anything you would like to ask.

See our website for more information.

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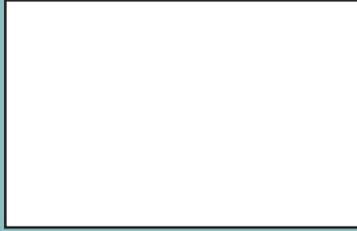
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