



MARY
Queen of the Apostles



MARÍA
Reina de los Apóstoles

May 2, 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.



5th SUNDAY OF EASTER

"I am the true vine, and my Father is the vine grower. He takes away every branch in me that does not bear fruit, and everyone that does he prunes so that it bears more fruit." - Jn 15:1-2

5^o DOMINGO DE PASCUA

"Yo soy la verdadera vid y mi Padre es el viñador. Al sarmiento que no da fruto en mí, él lo arranca, y al que da fruto lo poda para que dé más fruto". - Jn 15, 1-2

Excerpt from the Lectionary for Mass © 2001, 1988, 1970 OCL | Leccionario E © 1987 Conferencia Episcopal de Pastoral Litúrgica de la Conferencia del Episcopado Mexicano. © LPI



THIS WEEK AT MQOA:

02-03

A MESSAGE FROM FR. MURRAY

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CONNECT AND GROW

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UPCOMING PROGRAMS

02 A MESSAGE FROM FR. MURRAY



Welcome to the great outdoors! We continue to keep everyone feeling safe as we offer worship and celebrate and proclaim the saving mission of the Church. I hope that our outdoor worship will, along with being as safe as possible, empower us to evangelize and share our faith as we worship together. We have come a long way together and have a little further to go before we are finally able to gather without worrying about bringing or receiving any of this terrible virus.

I was on a call this past week with priests from around the country, Canada, and Ireland and heard that there are still shutdowns everywhere. The vaccines are helping, of course, but even after receiving the vaccine, we still need to do our part and wear our masks, social distance, and continue to be careful about washing and cleaning.

Way back when this all started, I remember that worldwide, it was forecasted that it would be 18 months before it really felt normal. I am beginning to think that that was the closest to a good projection that I have seen in a

long time. In the meantime, our task is to continue to celebrate as well as we can within our situation. In truth, I have seen how God has used even this time to help us to understand how we can be a Church that cares for every member, that goes out to the margins to help those in need, and that can offer our beautiful prayer of the Mass, regardless of where we are.

A number of years ago, I was in a parish that helped to build and rebuild a number of churches in Africa and South America. Part of one fundraiser was a picture of a tree in the middle of a large plain. At the bottom of the picture, we placed the question "what if this were your church roof?" I see now that while having a tree for a roof is not optimal, it is possible. In the early Church, as we have been learning about this Easter season, the focus was on the message of evangelization and not so much on the setting of the celebration. The temple of the Lord is also us, and so we are gathering in a way that leads us to appreciate what it is that we have.

We have seen that we are not lost, are still the Church, and can celebrate our sacraments while being temporarily displaced. At the same time, this has been a great time to reevaluate what we

are doing, to ask how we can do it better, and to prepare to welcome the future while treasuring the best of the past. Jesus spoke of this in His parable about the business owner who brought articles from his storage, both the old and new, to use. In our great faith, we are so blessed to have a wonderful heritage and the knowledge that God is always leading us into His future and His Church.

As we get ready for the fall, we hope you will go online and take a quick survey to ask about the Mass times. Please take this two-minute survey by going to: www.tinyurl.com/MQOASurvey

Thanks to all those who continue to work and volunteer to help our parish grow. Thanks to all those who serve, both publicly in all the different ways that are available and needed and to those whose anonymous work continues to serve so many.

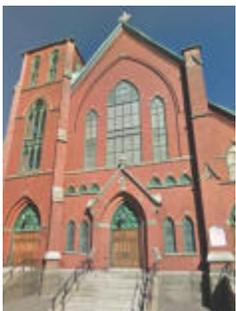
In this Easter season, I hope you feel the Good News of the Resurrection in your life and in our parish.

*Peace,
Father Murray*

PARISH INFORMATION

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

The office is not open for visitors 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.

UN MENSAJE DEL PADRE MURRAY 03

Bienvenidos a los grandes exteriores. Continuamos tratando de que todos se sientan seguros mientras ofrecemos adoración y la oportunidad de celebrar y proclamar la misión salvadora de la iglesia. Espero que nuestra adoración al aire libre funcione para mantener a todos a salvo y para permitirnos ser personas que evangelizamos y que compartimos nuestra fe mientras adoramos juntos. Hemos recorrido un largo camino juntos, pero nos queda un poco más por recorrer, antes de que finalmente podamos reunirnos sin preocuparnos de ser portadores o receptores de este terrible virus.

La semana pasada estuve en una reunión virtual con sacerdotes de todo el país, Canadá e Irlanda y escuché que todavía hay cierres en todas partes. Si bien las vacunas están ayudando, todavía tenemos que hacer nuestra parte y ser buenos ciudadanos, incluso después de recibir la vacuna -si hemos tenido la suerte de recibirlas- debemos usar nuestras mascarillas, mantener el distanciamiento social y seguir teniendo cuidado con el lavado de manos, la limpieza y la desinfección.

Hace mucho tiempo, cuando todo esto comenzó, recuerdo que en todo el mundo se pronosticó que pasarían 18 meses antes de que realmente se sintiera normal. Empiezo a pensar que esa ha sido la proyección más acertada que he visto en mucho tiempo. Mientras tanto, nuestra tarea es seguir celebrando lo mejor que

podamos dentro de nuestra situación. En verdad, he visto cómo Dios ha usado este tiempo para ayudarnos a comprender la manera de construir una iglesia que se preocupe por cada miembro, que salga hacia las áreas marginadas para ayudar a los que están allí y a otros necesitados, y que pueda ofrecer la oración dentro de la belleza de nuestra misa sin importar dónde estemos.

Hace algunos años, estuve en una parroquia que ayudó a construir y reconstruir varias iglesias en África y América del Sur. Parte de una recaudación de fondos fue una imagen de un árbol en medio de una gran llanura (es una imagen famosa). En la parte inferior de la imagen colocamos una pregunta. "¿Y si este fuera el techo de tu iglesia? Ahora veo que, si bien no es lo óptimo, es posible. También creo que, en la iglesia primitiva, como hemos estado aprendiendo en esta temporada de Pascua, el enfoque estaba en el mensaje de evangelización y no tanto en ingresar inmediatamente a un local. El templo del Señor también somos nosotros y por eso nos estamos reuniendo de una manera, que nos prepara para apreciar lo que tenemos. Hemos visto que no estamos perdidos.

Todavía somos la iglesia y podemos celebrar nuestros sacramentos mientras estamos temporalmente desplazados. Al mismo tiempo, este ha sido un buen momento para reevaluar lo que estamos haciendo y

preguntarnos cómo podemos hacerlo mejor. De igual forma, podemos estar preparados para recibir el futuro mientras atesoramos lo mejor del pasado. Jesús habló de esto en su parábola sobre el dueño del negocio que traía de su almacén artículos para usar, tanto viejos como nuevos. En nuestra gran fe, somos muy bendecidos por tener una herencia maravillosa y el conocimiento de que Dios siempre nos está guiando hacia su futuro y su iglesia.

Mientras continuamos preparándonos para el otoño, esperamos que usted se conecte y responda una encuesta rápida sobre los horarios de las misas. Hay tres opciones, pero le pedimos que elija las dos mejores. www.tinyurl.com/MQOASurvey

Gracias a todos aquellos que continúan trabajando y se ofrecen como voluntarios para ayudar en el crecimiento de nuestra parroquia. Gracias a todos los que sirven, tanto públicamente en todas las diferentes formas que están disponibles y son necesarias, como a aquellos cuyo trabajo anónimo continúa sirviendo a tantos.

Es nuestra temporada de Pascua y espero que todos vean y sientan que la resurrección de Jesús es también nuestra resurrección individual y comunitaria.

Paz, Padre Murray

Readings for the week of May 2, 2021

Sunday: Acts 9:26-31/Ps 22:26-27, 28, 30, 31-32 [26a]/
1 Jn 3:18-24/Jn 15:1-8
Monday: 1 Cor 15:1-8/Ps 19:2-3, 4-5 [5]/Jn 14:6-14
Tuesday: Acts 14:19-28/Ps 145:10-11, 12-13ab, 21 [cf. 12]/
Jn 14:27-31a
Wednesday: Acts 15:1-6/Ps 122:1-2, 3-4ab, 4cd-5 [cf. 1]/Jn 15:1-8
Thursday: Acts 15:7-21/Ps 96:1-2a, 2b-3, 10 [3]/Jn 15:9-11
Friday: Acts 15:22-31/Ps 57:8-9, 10 and 12 [10a]/
Jn 15:12-17
Saturday: Acts 16:1-10/Ps 100:1b-2, 3, 5/Jn 15:18-21
Next Sunday: Acts 10:25-26, 34-35, 44-48/Ps 98:1, 2-3, 3-4
[cf. 2b]/1 Jn 4:7-10/Jn 15:9-17

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



**MQOA is on
What'sApp!**

Join the MQOA
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04 THIS WEEK AT MQOA

Welcome Back to Outdoor Mass



We will use the stage at St. James Church and the side lawn at Immaculate Conception Church. At both churches, you can bring your own chair or remain in your car. **Rain or shine, Mass will be broadcast to 88.1 FM.**

Sundays

- 8:30 AM | St. James Parking Lot - English
- 11:30 AM | Immaculate Conception Side Lawn - Spanish
- 6:00 PM | Immaculate Conception Side Lawn - English

Online: 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

FOLLOW ALONG WITH THE 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.

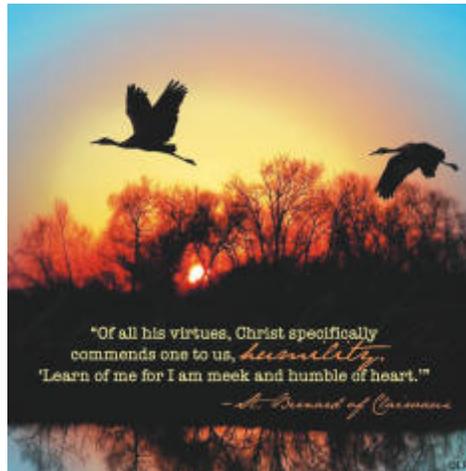
mqoa.org/worship



Why should you "like" and "follow" us on Facebook?

- A go-to place to receive daily inspiration and prayer,
- Get updated program information and reminders.

www.facebook.com/MQOASalem



Fall Mass Times Survey

As we begin planning for the fall, we want your input on Mass times. Please take our short, one-minute survey.

The form can be found;

- On our website: mqoa.org/worship
- At: www.tinyurl.com/MQOASurvey
- Via this QR code



Catholic Appeal Help us reach our goal

We recognize that many of you may be navigating your own financial challenges but ask for your prayerful consideration of a gift to the 2021 Catholic Appeal at whatever level is comfortable for you. Every gift, regardless of the size, is meaningful and can make an impact. We are hoping to make it to our goal and we are almost there. If you have not received a Catholic Appeal letter or email request, donations can be made on line at www.bostoncatholicappeal.org, or scan the QR code, or mail to: The Catholic Appeal, RCAB Pastoral Center, 66 Brooks Drive, Braintree, MA 02184. (In memo line: MQOA #504)

Our heartfelt thanks to all who have participated, especially during this difficult year. Together, we have raised **\$24,985** toward our parish goal of **\$36,632 (68% or our goal)**. Your generosity will benefit hundreds of pastoral, charitable, and educational programs at work within the Archdiocese of Boston, and at MQOA.

This is our Church and when you support the Appeal, you support us! Thank you!



06 CONNECT AND GROW

EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP - RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS



Branching Out Isn't Always What It's Cracked Up to Be

"That's a really beautiful tree branch. Man, would you look at the bark on that thing? The others are real duds, but that low-hanging branch has really got it all together."

I've never heard anyone say this. Maybe I just need to hang out with more arborists, but I can't recall ever hearing someone admire the particular beauty of a single branch. When someone comments on a tree, it's usually the whole tree — perhaps a visual element of it, like the color of the leaves or its height. But people don't usually zero in on one branch.

Maybe that's because usually, if one branch is looking a little weak, chances are every other branch is, too.

The Bible tells us that when we bear fruit as good everyday stewards, it is for the Father's glory. We are the branch on His magnificent tree. What we have is from Him, and what we do likewise points back to Him. We also tend to reflect how well the other branches around us are incorporating the nutrients coming their way. That's all fine and good in theory. In practice, it can be an arduous exercise in humility.

When I do something virtuous or charitable or kind, there is a part of me that wants to stand out for it. I think that's true for all of us. We've given of ourselves in some way or overcome some human temptation to accomplish a little bit of good in this world, and even though we know God sees us, we'd really love for everyone else to see it, too.

It's a struggle, for sure. But we need to remember that our fruit belongs to the whole tree.
— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS ©LPi

BE HEALED



Visit our website to learn about how MQOA can help you find healing, through prayer, our Five Keys process, or the sacraments of reconciliation and the anointing of the sick.

HEALING SERVICE

TUESDAY, MAY 11, AT 7 PM VIA ZOOM

As Catholic Christians, we believe that God still heals in practical and visible ways today. Join us for this bilingual online Healing Prayer Service. Our Healing Team consists of trained priests and lay ministers who guide prayers of healing for physical, spiritual, and emotional needs.

RECONCILIATION



Many shy away from this beautiful sacrament, often noting that they express their sorrow directly to God. It can be difficult to admit one's faults to someone else. But those who do get the sacramental grace of Jesus' mercy expressed directly through another human being, the priest, and get to hear the beautiful words of forgiveness that close the sacrament.

If you or a family member would like to receive Reconciliation please call or email the office to arrange a time with Father Murray at 978-745-9060 or at info@mgoa.org

Scholarship Available

REGISTRATION OPEN for Summer Courses

Learn more about our Lay Formation Programs at www.sjs.edu/layformation

Saint John's Seminary is a graduate school of theology and offers two fully accredited graduate degree programs in Catholic theology for laity, religious and deacons in addition to forming future priests.

Degree Programs

Master of Arts in Ministry (MAM): For those who wish to deepen their knowledge of the Catholic faith and serve the local church — usually in an official ministerial capacity. (Field Education)

Master of Theological Studies (MTS): For those who wish to deepen their knowledge of the Catholic faith and evangelize the fields of culture, work, politics and family.

www.sjs.edu

Volunteers Needed!



WE NEED YOUR HELP!

Our outdoor Masses require many hands to create a welcoming and safe Mass for all. We need your help! Please consider helping in one of the follow

positions:

- Lectors
- Eucharist Ministers
- Greeters. Welcome our parishioners and guests in their cars at the gates and hand them the bulletin.
- Parking attendants. Direct cars to parking spots.
- Set-up/Clean-up helpers. Vital to help the Mass run smoothly and allow our ministers to prepare for their roles.
- Prayers. We realize not everyone is ready to return to Mass. Maybe you would be willing to pray for us at a Mass. There are two prayer slots available for each Mass.

Thank you for your consideration. If you can help, please contact Margo at mmorin@mqa.org.

COMING UP | SAVE THE DATE | ONLINE EVENTS

SUNDAYS, THRU JUNE 6

At 7:30 PM (Join us when you can.)

The Prayer Course | 8-week Series



An eight-week journey through the Lord's Prayer with host Margo Morin.

The series is offered online so you can experience it from the comfort of your own home.

Contact Margo at mmorin@mqa.org if you have questions.

ONGOING



20|30 is focused on young adults in their 20s and 30s who are seeking purpose, worth, community, or faith. We want to get to know you better, meet you both online and in-person (safely). This group is **open to everyone**, no matter your

background, history, or belief.

Contact Steven at santonio@mqa.org for more information.

Visit our website of Facebook page for more information or to register.

www.facebook.com/mqaosalem

www.mqa.org



May 2 ~ Fifth Sunday of Easter

Companioning others is part of being a disciple. In our first reading, we hear that Saul, having encountered Christ, is companioned by Barnabas to meet with the disciples in Jerusalem. In the gospel, Jesus assures us that he is guiding and

companioning us. "Whoever remains in me and I in him will bear much fruit, because without you can do nothing." With Christ, we have the ability to be his disciples. During this Easter season, we have many examples of disciples accompanied by Christ doing the work of evangelization. Whom Christ be inviting you to companion on their faith journey? What is holding you back?



National Day of Prayer

May 6

MANY GIFTS, ONE SPIRIT

DISCERNING YOUR CHARISMS FOR MISSIONARY DISCIPLESHIP

Date: Thursday, May 27, 2021 Time: 6:00pm-8:30pm

Did you know that one way the Holy Spirit builds up the Body of Christ is through charisms, or special graces that equip us to live out our discipleship and mission? What a gift!

Join us for a prayerful virtual workshop during which we'll learn more about individual charisms and the importance of discerning and exercising our charisms to fully live out our discipleship, become the people we were made out of love to be, and bear fruit for His mission!

Register at <http://bit.ly/charismsworkshop21> This is a virtual gathering.



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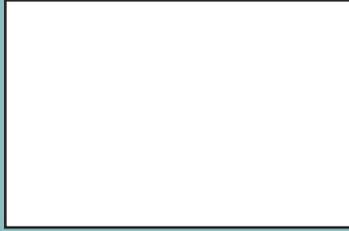

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