

SEPTEMBER 5, 2021



Parish of the

TRANSFIGURATION

ST. THOMAS OF VILLANOVA CHURCH | ST. DOROTHY OF THE CAPPADOCIA CHURCH

23RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 5, 2021

OPEN



“Be opened!”

MARK 7:34

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

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WELCOME!

HOW TO REGISTER?

Please contact the Parish Office. We will be happy to answer questions or help you register. You can also register by going to our parish website.

Reminder Tax Letters can only be sent to registered parishioners who donate on line or by using the Parish Envelopes.

PASTORAL SERVICE TEAM

Fr. Ron Coyne, Administrator

Joe Fagan, Deacon, Finance & Operations Manager

deaconfagan@parishofthetransfiguration.org

Cliff King, Sr. Deacon

Tom Griffin, Pastoral Associate

tomg@parishofthetransfiguration.org

Patty Worthington, Parish Secretary

parishsecretary@parishofthetransfiguration.org

Deb Casey, Dir. of Faith Formation & Outreach

debc@parishofthetransfiguration.org

Dawn Horak, Grade 7-10 Coordinator

dawnh@parishofthetransfiguration.org

Pat Pelosi, Grade 1-6 Assistant Coordinator

patp@parishofthetransfiguration.org

Jeanie Pettengill, Gr. 1-6 Assistant Coordinator

jeaniep@parishofthetransfiguration.org

Barbara Doherty, Administrative Support

barbarad@parishofthetransfiguration.org

Kathy Lonergan Troiano, St. Dorothy Music Dir.

musicregistryboston@gmail.com

Lora Tamagini, St. Thomas Music Dir.

losuta@aol.com



Eucharistic Adoration
2pm to 5pm
St. Dorothy Church
First Friday of the Month



Saturday

4:00 PM at St. Dorothy's Church

Sunday

8:00 AM at St. Thomas Church

10:00 AM at St. Dorothy's Church

12 NOON at St. Thomas Church.

Daily Mass

Monday, Thursday and Friday Mass

Tuesday and Wednesday Communions Service

9:00 am St. Dorothy Church

SACRAMENT OF THE RECONCILIATION

Saturday, before the 4pm Mass 3:15 to 3:45pm at St. Dorothy Church or by appointment

PARISH OFFICE

11 Harnden Street, Wilmington, MA 01887

P: 978-658-4665 F: 978-658-2008

FAITH FORMATION OFFICE

126 Middlesex Avenue, Wilmington, MA 01887

P: 978-658-6040



Congratulations on the birth of your child! Please contact the Parish Office to schedule a Baptism. The instruction for families is offered in St. Thomas Church the last Sunday of the month at 1:30 PM. Baptisms are held in St. Thomas Church the first Sunday at 1:30 PM and at St. Dorothy Church on the third Sunday of the month at 1:30 PM.

A Note from Fr. Coyne

Friends,

I write this weekend to introduce myself to the people of both St. Thomas and St. Dorothy (Parish of the Transfiguration). I know how challenging it is for parishes to go through leadership transitions and I am privileged to provide some stability while you await the appointment of a new pastor. I am aware of the wonderful history of both parishes prior to collaboration and merger. I also realize the dedication of your pastor, priests, deacons and staff as they prepared both faith communities for the process of becoming one.

My name is Fr. Ron Coyne and I was brought up in Roslindale/West Roxbury (Holy Name Parish). I am a middle child. I have an older sister and younger brother. My father was Irish, my mother was Italian. During my priesthood in the Archdiocese of Boston I have served in St. Angela (Mattapan) < St. Margaret (Dorchester), Sacred Heart (Roslindale), St. Catherine (Charlestown), St. Brendan (Dorchester), St. Albert the Great (Weymouth), St. Mary (Randolph) and most recently in Hyde Park in a three parish collaborative (Most Precious Blood, St. Anne and St. Pius X).

When I left Hyde Park I asked to go on the Emergency Response Team for the Archdiocese. Right now I believe I am the only member of the ERT. I am willing to fill in at parishes when there is a vacancy. Most priests live alone now, so if a priest dies, gets sick, goes on sabbatical, or leaves a parish suddenly, the Archdiocese needs to find someone to replace them temporarily. The Emergency Response assignments (I like to call them opportunities) can be as short as a few weeks or sometimes up to a year. I will be called the Administrator of the Parish of the Transfiguration during this time.

In the past at times I served in this role and had the privilege of serving in parts of the Archdiocese that I probably would never have seen otherwise. For example, I don't believe I have ever been in Wilmington before. I look forward to meeting many families and celebrating our faith together. I like the unknown and am very excited about serving among you.

Fr. Kevin Hickey has met with me and given me some background as we toured the facilities. He also introduced me to some of the parish staff. It is evident to me that they love their ministry and they have truly been a consistent presence during your time of transition.

I believe people will choose to celebrate their faith at a certain church for three reasons: 1. **Hospitality** (everyone wants to feel welcomed), 2. **Music** (we all want to be uplifted by song) and 3. **Good Preaching** (we need to be educated and challenged by the gospel message).

I know many of our parishioners are still hesitant to return to church because of COVID-19 and join us virtually or keep up to date by the website. I respect everyone's decision regarding how they celebrate their faith. Thank you for being the faithful and faith filled parishioners of Wilmington, Tewksbury and beyond. I look forward to meeting you!

Enjoy Life

Mass Intentions	
Saturday, September 4	
4:00pm	Giuseppe & Angela Depasquale
Sunday, September 5	
8:00 am	Healing of Aden Bernabei Kevin M. McIntire
10:00 am	Earl Martin Aldo & Laura Caira Biagio & Susan Farese
Noon	For the People of the Parish
Monday, September 6	
9:00 am	Special Intentions
Thursday, September 9	
9:00 am	Healing for Aden Bernabei
Friday, September 10	
9:00 am	Anthony J. Visconti
Saturday, September 11	
4:00 pm	Rosaleen & Daniel Coakley Phyllis Berg William Gullemette
Sunday, September 12	
8:00 am	John DeMarco Joseph Callahan
10:00 am	Paul & Lisa Pereira John & Mary Rose Gigante Agnes Romano
Noon	Thelma Lois Gardner Ceili Kinneen

LITURGY AS SOURCE AND SUMMIT OF CHRISTIAN LIFE

The Parish of The Transfiguration strives to offer parishioners the very best from our liturgical celebrations. Lectors, Eucharistic Ministers, Altar Servers, Music Ministers, Celebrants and Deacons are of one mind – to offer the Holy Sacrifice of The Mass with grace, dignity and beauty. The Mass remains the single most important work of the parish each day and in particular on weekends – **what we do as we leave church** to serve our brothers and sisters in Christ is our response to the prayers, to the Word and Sacrament, the homily, the music, etc. Mass truly begins as we go into the world to serve God and others in the name of Christ.

All our liturgical ministers have been trained and formed, practically and spiritually, to help them proclaim the Word and distribute the Sacrament to our parishioners. Altar Servers are trained because of the important role they play assisting with the celebration of Word and Sacrament each weekend. Music Ministers, too, tirelessly work to prepare choirs and cantors for our weekend Masses offering spiritually uplifting music engaging parishioners throughout Mass. Our celebrants and deacons, too, prepare for their roles as we witness their dedication to their ministry of service in our liturgical celebrations. We give thanks, too, to the dedicated cleaning personnel who keep our two churches clean daily after Masses, Baptisms, Funerals, Weddings, and other Sacramental celebrations throughout the year – **it takes a village!**

As you can see, it takes a lot of people to prepare for and celebrate these Sacred Mysteries. You, too, have an important role to play at Mass which begins with the decision to attend Mass. Once you arrive, there is an expectation to arrive at a clean church, to be welcomed by friendly greeters and staff members, to find a place to sit and pray and prepare for Mass, and to enter into the liturgy as it begins. So many moving parts to our liturgies and **we all have a role to play.**

An aspect of liturgy we'd like to enhance when the new liturgical season of Advent arrives at the end of November is the missal that we're currently using at both churches. We have heard your opinions about the book – such as the difficulty finding the Sunday readings, music that is unfamiliar to many, and some other issues. At the time we introduced the St. Augustine Hymnal they were donated to us thus avoiding a sizeable yearly bill for church missals. We're hopeful you'll consider **a one-time pledge** which will enhance our music programs at both churches thus avoiding adding to current financial struggles – much like we did with our two beautiful Paschal Candles raising enough money to cover costs. The more familiar hymnal, **Breaking Bread**, is a more popular missal used widely by parishes throughout the Catholic world. The yearly book includes all of the Readings for weekends, all of the Mass Parts & Common Prayers – now on a separate card in the pews – and a full array of music already known to many of us.

We fully acknowledge that the parish cannot simply buy this new hymnal because of budget issues. A harsh reminder from the COVID-19 virus, for all types of businesses, is that revenue has been lost. Small and medium sized businesses have closed. Some churches have lost significant income, including our parish, that force us to examine each day how your money and generosity is being spent. We have cut corners in a variety of ways, but the liturgical celebrations must continue to be of the highest quality requiring us to examine how best to use our resources going forward.

The suggestion was made recently, when talking about the possibility of enhancing our music for weekend liturgies, to reach out to the parish to seek the necessary funds to purchase the **Breaking Bread** missals for the next year. Whenever the parish has had a financial need of any kind, parishioners have always stepped forward to assist us with our overall mission – **to bring Word and Sacrament to the people of God with style and grace.**

We are proposing a few different levels of a **one-time giving** in the hope to collect enough funds to purchase **Breaking Bread** for the start of Advent – Sunday, November 28, 2021. The new missal will be good for one full year – until Advent 2022. Below are the suggested levels of giving for your consideration. Please consider a one-time gift of any amount to help us further enhance our liturgical celebrations each weekend with this new missal. You can drop off your donation to the Parish Office or place the donation in a separate envelope clearly marked “**new missal donation.**” We will NOT make this purchase until all necessary funds are collected – we will not add to the current parish financial struggle.

SOPRANO LEVEL: \$1,000.00

ALTO LEVEL: \$500.00

TENOR LEVEL: \$250.00

BASS LEVEL: \$100.00

It's always difficult to ask for money – especially during these challenging times post-COVID when many face health and job insecurity. Declining church attendance will level off at some point as people will become more comfortable returning to Mass. We hope our fiscal woes will make a recovery in the coming weeks and months. With your active participation we know we'll turn that corner soon!

For all your **time, talent and treasure** you already offer to your parish, we are forever grateful for your generosity each week and when we call upon you during challenging times. We invite you to pray about this enhancement to our liturgical celebrations and then decide if you'd like to contribute an amount. Again, **we will not go forward with such a purchase unless the necessary funds are realized.**

MANY BLESSINGS!

Tom Griffin



Please join us **Next Sunday, Sept 12th, after the 10am Mass** at St. Dorothy Church, the Ladies Sodality will host a **Coffee Hour downstairs. All are welcome**

WOMEN'S CLUB will meet on **MONDAY, SEPT. 13TH in Villanova Hall at 7:00pm.**

So we know how many will be attending please call Diane at 978.658.5697 or Kathy at 978.658.9789

All women of the parish are Welcome



If you love to knit or crochet and would like to join our ministry please call Sharon Keefe @ 978.697.1909

PARISH VOLUNTEERS A CORI FORM must be completed every year by all parish volunteers. The new year began July 1, 2021 and will continue through June 30, 2022. The new (FY) 22 CORI Forms are available in the sacristy of both churches and at the Parish Office. A New Code of Conduct will be given to you when the Cori is returned to be verified.

CATHOLIC APPEAL UPDATE

Thank you! Thank you! Thank you! The parish has reached their assessment thanks to your unfailing generosity. Our assessment was \$56,370 and to date we have \$57,911 pledged. Once again **THANK YOU!**

LITURGICAL LIFE

RESPONDING *to the Call*

EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP Recognize God In Your Ordinary Moments Choosing Deafness

If you're a parent, you know that hearing evaluations are usually done at a child's annual physical exam starting around age four. The little person gets hoisted up onto the exam table, fitted with a pair of special headphones, and then they need raise their hand when they hear a sound.

I bet all of us parents who have sat through one of these tests with a preschooler — especially a particularly strong-willed one — have experienced a moment where we ask ourselves: I wonder if there's something wrong with her hearing. Is that why she doesn't listen to me? 'Come here, put on your shoes, pick up your toys, finish your carrots, don't touch that' — she isn't being naughty, she just can't hear it!

And then that moment, for those of us whose kids passed the hearing test with flying colors, comes crashing down into a realization that, yep, they can hear just fine. They're just choosing deafness.

But how can we really get mad when we remember that we do the same thing to God day in and day out? I often wonder if God, sitting in His Heaven, tires of calling to us in the same way young parents tire of calling out unheeded directions to their small children. Help that person. Hear My voice. Open your heart. Give of yourself here. Talk to Me.

What is the call He wishes you to hear today? Can you hear it? Are you listening?

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

PLEASE CONSIDER ONLINE GIVING Our parish is grateful for your continued support. Thank you!



WHY DO WE DO THAT? Catholic Life Explained:

Question:

As we celebrate Labor Day, can you tell me about Catholic teaching regarding labor?

Answer:

One of the most important principles of Catholic social teaching is the dignity of work and the rights of workers. Four encyclicals address this foundational social teaching: *Rerum Novarum* (1891) by Leo XIII, *Quadragesimo Anno* (1931) by Pius XI, *Laborem Exercens* (1981), and *Centesimus Annus* (1991) by John Paul II. They address both the theology and dignity of work. In Genesis, God takes the initiative in creating the world, calling forth human beings to be faithful stewards of creation. We are thus formed to share in God's continuing creative activity by partnering with God in finishing the world and helping bring it to completion and fulfillment. From this perspective, work can be spiritually understood in terms of sharing in God's ongoing activity to build, create, and transform the world. Human beings are co-creators with God. This vocation demands self-discipline.

Besides an exercise in self-discipline, work is also the means by which we develop and fulfill ourselves. In work, we shape the world and our environment. Through work, we also shape ourselves. Pope John Paul II summarized this point in *Laborem Exercens* #6, "the value of work is not primarily the kind of work being done, but the fact that the one who is doing it is a person."

Labor Day offers an excellent opportunity to reflect on how we view work in light of our Catholic social teaching.

Zaltman - Fagan

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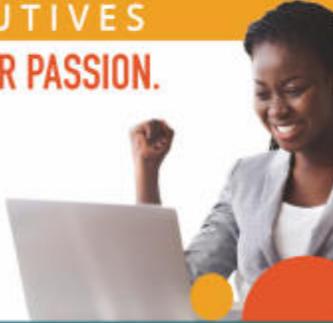
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