

The Parish of St. Agatha

Milton ~ Quincy, MA

March 16-17, 2019

StAgathaParish.org

ST. AGATHA RECTORY

Office Hours

Monday - Friday 9am-4pm

432 Adams Street
Milton, MA 02186

ST. AGATHA SCHOOL

440 Adams Street
Milton, MA 02186

SCHEDULE OF MASSES

Daily Masses:

Monday-Friday:

7:00am & 9:00am

Saturday & Holidays: 8:00am

Reconciliation: 3:45-4:15pm
on Saturdays. Any other time
by appointment

Weekend Masses:

Saturday: 4:30 pm

Sunday: 7:30 am

9:00 am

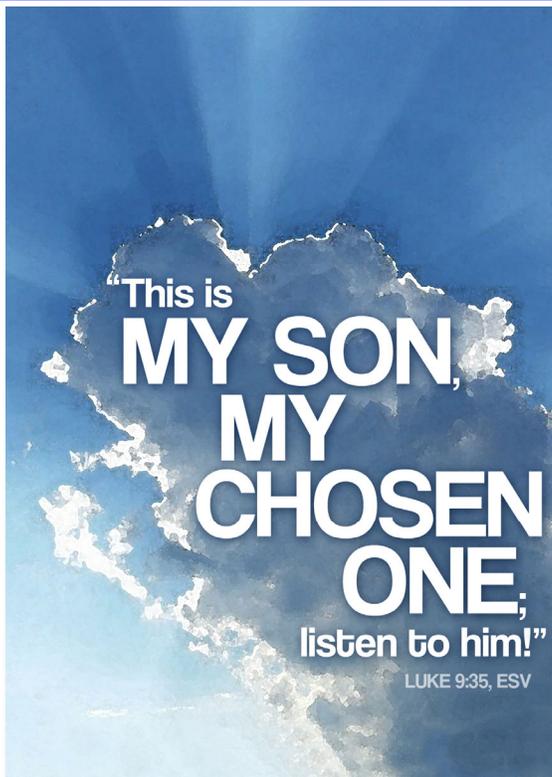
10:30 am

12:00 noon

5:00 pm

Holy Days: As Announced

- There are assistive devices for the hearing impaired available in the Sacristy before all Masses.
- Low gluten hosts are available. Please see priest before Mass if needed.



Upcoming This Week

March 20: Reconciliation-6:30-8:00pm
Group 4: Video Bible Study

Meetings begin 7:00-8:15pm

March 21: Bereavement Group continues

March 22: Stations of the Cross-3:00pm

The rosary is recited every morning before the 9am Mass. Please join us.

MISSION STATEMENT

St. Agatha Parish is a Christian Community of Catholics from Milton, Quincy and beyond, whose Mission is to demonstrate Love by:

- proclaiming and celebrating God's Presence on earth;
- being open and welcoming to all;
- reaching out to our sisters and brothers near and far; providing opportunities for prayer, service, education and recreation.
- In living this Mission, we accept our responsibility for giving witness to the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Lenten Eucharistic Adoration

Every Friday after the 9am Mass in the Chapel until reposition at 2:45pm, followed by Stations of the Cross.

Legion of Mary

meets every Wednesday after the 9am Mass.



Please call Lisa Gulino, our Pastoral Associate at 617-698-2439 X 209 and she will arrange for a minister of communion to bring Eucharist to you.

St. Agatha Parish

Rectory@StAgathaParish.org

Parish Website: StAgathaParish.org

Clergy

Rev. William B. Palardy, Pastor

Rev. Jason M. Makos, Parochial Vicar

Deacon Daniel F. Sullivan

Rev. Patrick McLaughlin, Senior Priest in Residence

Rev. Thomas Powers, Senior Priest in Residence

Deacon Seraphim Wirth, fbp, Seminarian Intern

Pastoral Associate

Dr. Lisa M. Gulino

Parish Administration

Mr. Jack Riley, Finance and Operations Manager

Ms. Dale Blanchard, Operations Assistant

Ms. Kathy Monahan, Administrative Assistant/Bulletin Editor

Ms. Eileen Callahan, Administrative Assistant/Bulletin

Music Ministry

MusicDirector@StAgathaParish.org

Mrs. Julie Fay, Director of Music and Parish Organist

St. Agatha School

School@StAgathaParish.org

School Website: StAgatha.org

Mrs. Nancy Carr, Principal

Mrs. Michelle Tierney, Administrative Assistant

Mrs. Joan Brown, Tuition Coordinator

ST AGATHA FAITH FORMATION 617-696-1388

Grades 1-6 FaithFormation@StAgathaparish.org

Mrs. Beth Peterson, Director

Mrs. Jenn Caputo, Administrative Assistant

Grade 7-10 & Young Church Ministry 617-696-8978

YoungChurchMinistry@StAgathaParish.org

Ms. Helen Bornhorst, Coordinator



A Note from Our Pastor,

This past Sunday evening, the second-year students in our Confirmation Faith Formation Program had a session that our Director Helen Bornhorst had organized on the theme of Vocations.

Present were a Sister of Notre Dame of Namur, a first-year seminarian at St. John's Seminary, 4 married couples of different ages and backgrounds, and Fr. Jay and myself. After all 12 of us spoke, the teens present wrote questions for our response. Because time was running short, we could address only a few of their many and substantive questions. As a result, I want to use my column this week to try to respond to three of the questions they raised.

When you say that you heard God's call to you, what do you mean?

A vocation is indeed a call from God, but it's not generally like physically hearing a voice speaking which one hears with one's eardrums. God usually calls us in less dramatic ways. Speaking for myself, as a youngster I do recall having a dream in which I sensed God calling me to be a priest, and telling me that it wouldn't always be easy. Since I very rarely remember my dreams, I've never forgotten that one! God much more often, though, uses human beings or other earthly means to make Himself known to us. For example, there was my 8th-grade teacher Sister Maureen Lyons who told me she thought I might have a vocation to the priesthood and told me to pray one Hail Mary every day, to help determine if I was being called to be a priest. My sense of a possible call to priesthood came slowly and quietly through participating at Mass regularly, as an altar server, and later as an usher and a lector. It came subtly through getting to know some of the priests in my parish, appreciating them as interesting human beings, very interested in things that I was interested in (like sports), being inspired by the way they celebrated Mass or by some of what they said in their preaching, seeing them in private prayer, feeling the relief of being forgiven by God through their ministry in the Sacrament of Reconciliation, and finding the priestly work they did interesting and appealing. Through my weekly participation at Mass (and daily during most Lents) and through the instruction I received in religion at St. Mary of the Hills School I began to develop a friendship with Jesus Christ. So it was a largely undramatic way that I came to have a sense that God might be calling me to priesthood. Taking my faith seriously and my practice of the faith seriously, praying a little bit every day, being attracted to the sacred activities that priests do, being grateful for the ministry of priests to me and my family, such as the priest who used to bring Holy Communion to my grandmother, but also finding them to be fun and interesting human beings: in these very undramatic ways, God very subtly was making His call known to me. In high school and college I had friends from a variety of backgrounds, and I appreciated even more what a blessing it was to be Christian and Catholic. After learning a bit about seminary life and talking to priests I had come to know and trust, I decided to apply to be a seminarian for the Archdiocese of Boston and was admitted to St. John's Seminary in Brighton. Through the classes, getting to know the other seminarians,

forming new friendships there, receiving the guidance of the priests on the faculty and those folks, clergy and laity, who were my supervisors in my ministerial assignments outside the seminary, getting the "feel" of what it was like to do priestly things, developing a stronger life of prayer, and receiving the affirmation of the seminary faculty, I felt secure in my sense that God wanted me to be a priest, and I both wanted to be a priest and felt confident (though knowing I still had a whole lot to learn) that I could use the gifts God had given me in my life to serve Him and His people effectively as a priest.

Did you ever want to quit being a priest?

Short answer, "No." There have been times when I wanted a change from the particular assignment, the particular place, where the Cardinal had assigned me as a priest. And back in the 1990s when my mom was struggling with dementia, and my dad suddenly broke his hip and was hospitalized, as their only child I seriously considered taking a leave of absence from the priesthood for a brief time so that I could care for my mom. However, I was able to work it out, thanks to some friends, other friends giving me great advice, having a godson who was at that time 11 years old and willing to stay several overnights a week with my mother, and my being able to spend several nights each week with her myself, so that she would never be home alone. I can also point to a couple of years where I found it tough being a priest, but I never seriously considered leaving the priesthood. I firmly believed then and still very much believe now that God has given me this amazing vocation as a priest, has been with me through thick and thin, and has a proven and perfect track record of getting me through any difficulties I have had to face, and I firmly believe God will continue to do so. And many of the friendships and other wonderful relationships that I enjoy in my life would never have been possible if I had not been a priest.

Do you have any advice for us as to how we can follow our faith after Confirmation?

Stay close to God, pray to God, get to Mass every weekend, receive God's forgiveness at least every month or every other month in the Sacrament of Reconciliation, hang out with people who support you in living your life as a loving disciple of Jesus, read more about your faith in reputable books, periodicals, and websites. Get involved in your high school campus ministry and/or at your parish; in college get connected with the campus ministry; read a bit of the Bible every day—your choice of passages, spend time with it and let the words sink into your mind and touch your heart—God is found there; spend time just hanging out with Christ in His presence in the Blessed Sacrament (the Eucharist); get to know and spend time with priests, religious sisters and brothers, deacons, and other Catholics whom you admire and respect. If you're struggling with something, bring it to God in prayer, turn to Mary and other Saints you admire, and by all means turn to someone older and wiser than you whom you trust and whom you have found to be wise and insightful.

Fr. Palardy

FEATURED WEEKLY READING

Read Reflect Respond

THEME: Lent calls us to transform our lives.

As you hear this reading, what words or phrases strike you? What in this reading touches your heart? What lingers in your memory?

Gospel: Luke 9:28b-36

Jesus took Peter, John, and James and went up the mountain to pray. While he was praying his face changed in appearance and his clothing became dazzling white. And behold, two men were conversing with him, Moses and Elijah, who appeared in glory and spoke of his exodus that he was going to accomplish in Jerusalem. Peter and his companions had been overcome by sleep, but becoming fully awake, they saw his glory and the two men standing with him. As they were about to part from him, Peter said to Jesus, "Master, it is good that we are here; let us make three tents, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." But he did not know what he was saying. While he was still speaking, a cloud came and cast a shadow over them, and they became frightened when they entered the cloud. Then from the cloud came a voice that said, "This is my chosen Son; listen to him." After the voice had spoken, Jesus was found alone. They fell silent and did not at that time tell anyone what they had seen.

Pastoral Planning

March 17 ~ Second Sunday of Lent

Luke's account of the Transfiguration is rich with meaning. Peter recognizes this special moment with Jesus: "Master, it is good that we are here." We don't have to go up the mountain to be with Jesus. We can say those very words of Peter every day when we are united with Jesus through sacraments and daily prayer. Listen to what God says, not just to the Apostles, that were on that mountain, but to each of us: "This is my chosen Son, listen to Him." Pray in a special way this Lent to hear Jesus' voice and pray particularly for the courage to share your faith with others. Introduce a friend to Jesus.



St. Michael the Archangel,
 defend us in battle, be our protection against the
 wickedness and snares of the devil.
 May God rebuke him we humbly pray;
 and do thou, O Prince of the Heavenly host,
 by the power of God,
 cast into hell Satan and all the evil spirits
 who prowl about the world seeking the ruin of souls.
 Amen.

THE WEEKLY UPDATE

The operation of a parish the size of St. Agatha's requires a host of "unsung heroes" who quietly and without fanfare do a terrific job in their particular areas. The highlighted "heroes" this week are the people who make reading our weekly Bulletin such a pleasant and informative experience. Kathy Monahan and Eileen Callahan work together to incorporate a very wide spectrum of information and put it in a format that is attractive and readable. As you know, there are many things going on in the parish, especially during special seasons such as Lent. Kathy and Eileen diligently and patiently do this week in and week out. They never miss a beat because of weather, special holiday schedules, or those of us contributors who plaintively give them material at the very last minute and hope they can work a miracle and squeeze our piece in! And they always seem to manage to pull it off. They deserve a heartfelt thanks for what they do. There is also another group without whom the Weekly Bulletin would not be possible: the individuals and businesses who advertise each week on the last page of the Bulletin. Their financial support makes it possible for us to receive 1,500 copies of the Bulletin each week without charge, and also enables the parish to receive a \$10,000 annual rebate from J. S. Paluch, the bulletin publisher. The parish uses a number of the advertisers as the need arises to show our support, and you also can show your appreciation by checking out the advertisements and patronizing them if the occasion presents itself.

In addition to the Weekly Offertory amount below, \$3,279 was contributed to the parish on Ash Wednesday. An additional \$5,042 was donated to the special weekend collection for Catholic Charities. Thanks so much for your generosity.

Jack Riley

Weekly Offertory Report					
Weekly Budget	Mar. 9-10 In-Pew Collection	Electronic Collection	Mar. 9-10 Total Offertory	Weekly Difference	Total Difference YTD
\$13,235	\$8,618	\$2,729	\$11,347	-\$1,888	-\$28,402

Lenten Evenings of Ignatian Spirituality: the Examen

You are invited to two special evenings on Ignatian Spirituality. Both Evenings will be held in the Upper Church.

Sunday, March 24 from 6:00 PM until 6:45 PM

Fr. Bill Neubecker from the Oblates of the Virgin Mary will lead a time of prayer and reflection on how to live Ignatian Spirituality.

Sunday, March 31 from 6:00 PM until 6:45 PM

Fr. Patrick Nolan, S.J. from Boston College High School

The Sacred Pause

Lisa M. Gulino—Pastoral Associate

“Stand firm in the Lord” says our second reading. Yet we are living in a challenging time for faith, but also a marvelous and a wonderful time for a **chosen faith**, for a faith that is held with conviction and commitment in the context of everyday life. Lent is that time to ask, “**is our faith chosen or do we just go about our practices automatically?**” Lent helps us to be intentional in the ways we “stand firm.”

From where I sit (or stand), I see the members of our parish faith community committed to **living chosen faith**. **A few examples** of strong, precious acts of **faith I witness week in and week out in our parish** include:

- **Budding Faith:** the child being taught by their parent how to make the sign of the cross.
- **Practiced Faith:** the family gathered around the holy water font as dad blesses each of the children and lets them bless him.
- **Inquisitive Faith:** the parent pointing out the Eucharist as the Priest elevates the host and the child points and repeats with his mother, “Jesus.”
- **Determined Faith:** the parishioner who, with walker or cane, makes their way up the steep steps of the church to attend Sunday Mass.
- **Devoted Faith:** the week day powerhouse pray-ers gathered praying for the world, holy vocations, faithful priests, and strong families through the Rosary.
- **Reverent Faith:** The faithful who adore the Lord on Fridays during Adoration.
- **Formed Faith:** parents bringing their children to the wonderful Faith Formation programs St. Agatha parish runs under the inspiring leaders: Beth, Jenn, and Helen.
- **Consecrated Faith:** our priests and deacons ministering with attention and pastoral care.

Allow Lent to be our time to examine the strength of our faith, check our intentionality of our faith practices, and accept the invitation to follow Christ. **If our faith is fledging, look to our faith community and see people “standing firm” in the Lord.** The Sacraments of Reconciliation and Eucharist heal us and nourish us for our journey.

MEALS on WHEELS Volunteers Needed

South Shore Elder Services (SSES), the agency that coordinates local support and services for elders (covering Milton and Quincy and other nearby communities) has an immediate, critical need for volunteers for their **Meals on Wheels** program. As a volunteer, you would provide a vital service for those that are homebound. The program delivers a hot and nutritious meal to over 1,200 homebound elders daily in addition to being a safety check for some consumers that may not see anyone else during the day. **Meals on Wheels** are available to anyone who meets the eligibility criteria, regardless of income. SSES currently has opportunities available with delivering meals (Mon-Fri, 10am-noon) or assisting at a local meal site. Volunteers applications are available online at www.sselder.org.



Spiritual Help For Grieving Parents During Lent at St. Anthony Shrine in Downtown Crossing

One-Day Retreat

Saturday, 3/23/19 • 9:30am-7:00pm

Give yourself the gift of getting away to focus on where God is in your life after the death of your child—and how to survive this horrific situation.

Pre-Registration at www.emfgp.org required.

One-Hour Brown Bag Lunch Retreat

Wednesday, 3/27/19 • 12:15pm-1:15pm

Keeping Ashleigh Alive: My Spiritual Journey after the Death of My Beautiful Daughter

Presented by Genevieve Baudin. Bring a lunch; we provide beverages. No cost or pre-registration.

For more information, see www.emfgp.org
or call 617-542-8057



Worldwide Marriage Encounter

Be transformed by Jesus’ love in your marriage by attending a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend. The next Weekends are Apr 13-14, 2019 in Brewster, MA and Jun 8-9, 2019 in Medway, MA. For more information, call Stephen & Michelle O’Leary at 800-710-9963 or visit them at <https://wwmema.org/>.

Volunteers from Saint Agatha School’s Family School Association (FSA) will be selling raffle tickets after the Masses this weekend for the upcoming Auction Gala.

The raffle tickets cost \$50 each for a chance to win \$5,000. This could be your lucky day!

Thank you for supporting Saint Agatha’s School.

FAITH FORMATION UPDATES



Faith Formation

The Grade 2 First Holy Communion Retreats will be held on Sunday, March 24 for Group 1 and Sunday, March 31 for Group 2. The retreat begins with attendance at the 9:00 am Family Mass in the Church followed by a presentation in the Chapel and activities in the School Cafeteria.

CRS (Catholic Relief Services) Rice Bowl is our Faith Formation Lenten almsgiving project. A faith-in-action program that invites us, as the Gospel calls us to do, to support those who carry the crosses of hunger, poverty, war and those who are forced to flee their homes to find safety or better opportunities. **Rice bowls were distributed to the children to take home along with a Lenten Calendar.** We are encouraging the children to offer to do extra chores around the house for a small monetary reward that can be donated to their Rice Bowls. The children will appreciate that even though they are young, there are things they can do to help others in need. Thank you parents for helping to support this wonderful project!



NPH USA is holding their annual Irish **Hearts for Orphans Benefit Dance** on Sunday, April 7 from 2pm-7pm at the Boston Marriott Quincy. This event is fun for the whole family and will feature live Irish music, dancing, raffles, a silent auction, and even an Irish Step lesson for kids! The **Grand Prize Raffle** is round-trip airfare for two to Ireland—only \$10 per ticket! This year will also feature a **10th Anniversary Raffle** with a prize of \$5,000.00! Raffle tickets are \$100 with only 100 are available. After all the Masses next weekend (March 23–24), Committee members will be selling raffle tickets. Stop by a table to enter for a chance to win this great prize—If you don't have time to stop, you can buy raffle tickets anytime via your mobile phone by texting **IrishHearts** to **41444**. Visit nphusa.org/irishhearts to learn more about how you can support this year's event or to register to attend! Thank you for your support.

Traffic Detours on Sunday, March 24, 2019

Charbo's Run, a five mile race in memory of State Trooper, Mark S. Charbonnier who was killed in the line of duty, is taking place on the morning of Sunday, March 24. Traffic detours may affect the 10:30am & noon Masses. The following Milton streets will be closed to ALL TRAFFIC between 10:30am-1pm (MAY OPEN SOONER):

CONFIRMATION & YOUNG CHURCH MINISTRY

FOLLOW THE YOUTH GROUP *St. Agatha Youth Ministry* page or @ *staggiesmilton*



YOUTH GROUP
MARCH 17TH & 31ST
 SUNDAY NIGHT 6-8 PM, GATHERING SPACE

Encounter Confirmation Program
 6-8 pm, Gathering Space

YEAR 1, SESSION 6 - March 24th
YEAR 2, SESSION 7 - April 7th

EDGE PROGRAM
 Thursday's from 6:30-8 PM
 March 28th & April 11th

STATIONS OF THE CROSS
 Friday, March 22 at 7 pm

good friday passion play
FIRST REHEARSAL
SUNDAY MARCH 24TH
sunday at 3:30 pm in the gathering space

To learn more about the CRS Rice Bowl program, please visit csrcicebowl.org. There you'll find stories and videos that illustrate this faith-in-action program that invites us to encounter the needs of the world during Lent.

ADAMS ST (from Dorchester line–Squantum St)
GRANITE AVE (from Squantum St–Hilltop St, Dorchester)
SQUANTUM ST (from Adams St–Granite Ave)

Police Officers will be posted at all detours & along the roads to assist with traffic control. Please plan accordingly to avoid having to enter/exit your neighborhood during the ROAD CLOSURE TIMES.

SAINT AGATHA SCHOOL

MARTIN RICHARD
BRIDGE BUILDERS

Saint Agatha School is proud to announce that Sean and Martin Maginnis, students at Saint Agatha School, have been named a 2019 Martin Richard Foundation Bridge Builder! The Foundation

has awarded them with \$500, which will support our community service project **SOCKS FOR SOLDIERS**. Together with Saint Agatha School and parish families, they will be organizing within our community and collecting and distributing new, warm clean socks for homeless veterans. This project is done with love and gratitude for all the men and women who serve our country, especially their uncle, James Joseph Monahan, USMC, who attended St. Agatha School and passed away in February of 2017.

Grant recipients were selected for their potential to bring people together in service in order to break down barriers and build bridges of understanding in their communities.

The Martin Richard Foundation Bridge Builder Program is a call to action. It challenges young people to stand up and recognize that the time is right to lead an effort in their neighborhoods that brings people together in service and motivates others to do the same. *The Martin Richard Foundation believes that communities will prosper when young people are empowered to take the lead.*

We're excited for our young people to participate in a service opportunity to build relationships while putting their leadership and social entrepreneurship skills into action.

Next Weekend

*St. Agatha School
Auction Gala*

"Light Your World"

Saturday, March 23, 2019
7:00 pm- 11:00pm

TICKETS CAN BE PURCHASED AT
STAGATHA.SCHOOLAUCTION.NET/SASAUCION2019

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday 8:00am 4:30pm	March 16 4th Anniversary 1st Anniversary	Courtney Ann Kelly James O'Leary
Sunday 7:30am 9:00am 10:30am 12:00pm 5:00pm	March 17 1st Anniversary Anniversary 9th Anniversary 6th Anniversary	For the Mary Peltier Parishioners of St. Agatha Patrick Tevenan Robert Scannell Stephen Chiavaroli, Sr.
Monday 7:00am 9:00am	March 18 35th Anniversary	Robert Vuilleumier
Tuesday 7:00am 9:00am	March 19 Memorial Birth. Memorial	Margaret McPhee Jean M. Gulino
Wednesday 7:00am 9:00am	March 20	Special Intention
Thursday 7:00am 9:00am	March 21	
Friday 7:00am 9:00am	March 22	Special Intention
Saturday 8:00am 4:30pm	March 23 10th Anniversary Memorial	Nancy Perella Peter Kott
Sunday 7:30am 9:00am 10:30am 12:00pm 5:00pm	March 24 For the Memorial Anniversary Anniversary 2nd Anniversary	Parishioners of St. Agatha Brian Cummings Doris, Frederick & Maureen McAnulty Evelynn & Joseph Lydon Carole Lawson

SACRAMENTAL CELEBRATIONS

Baptism: 2:00pm on the 2nd/4th Sundays of each month. Please call the Rectory to arrange/ask questions regarding other arrangements.

Reconciliation: 3:45-4:15pm on Saturdays Any other time by appointment

Marriage: Call one of the parish priests or deacon. Arrangements are ordinarily to be made at least 6 months before the proposed marriage.



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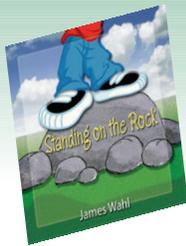
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