

The Parish of St. Agatha

Milton ~ Quincy, MA

November 30-December 1, 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

Dec. 2: RCIA Meeting, 7:00 pm

Dec. 3: Nocturnal Adoration, 7:00-8:00 pm

Dec. 4: Coffee & Conversation

Dec. 6: Movie Night, 6:00 pm

Dec. 7: Spirituality Group for
Those in Recovery, 8:45 am

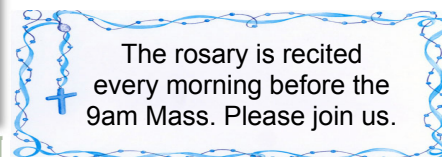
MISSION STATEMENT

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.

Eucharistic Adoration

Every Friday after the 9am Mass in the Chapel until reposition at 1pm.



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 Shawn Simchock, Seminarian Intern

Pastoral Associate

Dr. Lisa M. Gulino, lgulino@StAgathaParish.org

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

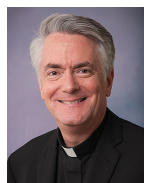
Mrs. Jenn Caputo, Administrative Assistant

Grade 7-10 & Young Church Ministry

617-696-8978

YoungChurchMinistry@StAgathaParish.org

Ms. Helen Bornhorst, Coordinator



A Note from Our Pastor,

I hope you and your loved ones had a wonderful Thanksgiving. It was great to see so many folks at our 2 Thanksgiving Masses, and I am very grateful for the generosity you showed in the many contributions you made to the St. Matthew Food Pantry in Dorchester.

Many thanks to those working with Mike and Gay O'Hanlon this weekend in setting up the Giving Trees and ornaments. We hope that a good number of folks will help before and after the Masses this weekend to hand out instructions to those parishioners who take ornaments and then to restock ornaments on the trees. Please contact Mike and Gay at the phone number or email address later in this bulletin if you can assist in our parish's outreach to families assisted by My Brother's Keeper.

After all the Masses this weekend (except the 5pm on Sunday) Sisters from the Daughters of St. Paul will be selling books and other religious goods in the Gathering Space.

Please note in this week's bulletin reminders about Nocturnal Adoration from 7 to 8pm in the Chapel on Tuesday, and our monthly coffee, doughnuts, and conversation after our 2 morning Masses on Wednesday.

On Friday December 6th at 6pm in the Gathering Space our St. Agatha Parish Outreach Committee is holding a Movie Night—and showing "The Star: The Story of the First Christmas" where both the movie and the popcorn bar are free of charge! I hope that there will be a good number of folks, as there were last year, to enjoy this fun and inspiring film which should help get us into the Advent and Christmas spirit.

Blessings to you and your loved ones for a Happy New Year as this weekend we begin a new Church Year with the Season of Advent! This is a season of hope when we call to mind the glorious future God intends for us when Christ the Lord will return in glory; we recall the most awesome gift the world has ever known when Almighty God sent His only-begotten Son Jesus Christ to come to birth as the Son of Mary; we also pause to consider the variety of ways the Lord continues to enter our lives and touch our hearts, our lives, our world here and now.

The first weeks of Advent are focused on the future coming of Christ as Judge at the end of time. From December 17th until the 24th we direct our attention to the events immediately preceding Christ's birth and we grow in wonder and expectation as we prepare to celebrate the birth of the Word-made-flesh.

A week from Wednesday December 11th we'll have another Parish Holy Hour from 7 to 8pm in the Chapel for Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, Benediction, music pro-

vided by our choir, and the opportunity for quiet, personal prayer. A reflection will be given about the role of the Holy Spirit in the events surrounding Jesus' birth and in our own lives here and now. There will also be the opportunity for the Sacrament of Reconciliation that evening. In addition, on Wednesday December 18th the Sacrament of Reconciliation will be available from 6:30 to 8pm in the Reconciliation Room in the lower church (in addition to our regularly scheduled time every Saturday afternoon before the 4:30pm Mass).

Have a blessed week and a hope-filled Advent!

Fr. Palardy



—SAVE THE DATE—

Parish Holy Hour

Wednesday, December 11, 2019

7:00–8:00 PM in the Chapel

Make your Spiritual Preparation for Christmas by joining us for the "Advent Parish Holy Hour"

The Sacrament of Reconciliation will also be celebrated.

DEC
06
2019

THE STAR
THE STORY OF THE FIRST CHRISTMAS

JOIN ST. AGATHA PARISH'S OUTREACH COMMITTEE

FEAT. THE FAMOUS POPCORN BAR

BLOCKBUSTER MOVIE NIGHT
The Gathering Space
6:00PM



NEED HELP? The "Caring Circle" dares to care... Call 617-337-3225 for short-term non-financial help or visit www.mcccaringcircle.org

FEATURED WEEKLY READING

Read Reflect Respond

THEME: Waiting, hoping, and preparing.

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

Reading I: Isaiah 2: 1-5

This is what Isaiah, son of Amoz,
saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem.
In days to come,
the mountain of the LORD's house
shall be established as the highest mountain
and raised above the hills.
All nations shall stream toward it;
many peoples shall come and say:
"Come, let us climb the LORD's mountain,
to the house of the God of Jacob,
that he may instruct us in his ways,
and we may walk in his paths."
For from Zion shall go forth instruction,
and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem.
He shall judge between the nations,
and impose terms on many peoples.
They shall beat their swords into plowshares
and their spears into pruning hooks;
one nation shall not raise the sword against another,
nor shall they train for war again.
O house of Jacob, come,
let us walk in the light of the Lord!

Pastoral Planning

December 1 ~ First Sunday of Advent

The message is clear on this first Sunday of Advent: "Walk in the light of the Lord"; "Stay awake..."; "You must be prepared..."; "Put on the Lord Jesus Christ." The Church gives us this holy season as a time for us to re-order our lives and our priorities. While our culture will try to distract us from the importance of Christ's birth, take a few minutes each day in prayer to extend a personal invitation to Jesus to come into your life. Your prayer will produce gratitude and your gratitude will foster hope in the Lord.



**2020 Calendars will be available
at the entrances of the Church
beginning this weekend,
November 30th–December 1st,
compliments of the Alfred D.
Thomas Funeral Home.**



Nocturnal Adoration

The next Nocturnal Adoration
will take place on
Tuesday evening, December 3th
Adoration and Rosary from
7:00-8:00pm
All are welcome!

THE WEEKLY UPDATE

Each year we experience three "new years". We have the calendar year and the fiscal year, which are important in their own right. Today we celebrate the beginning of the new Church Year as well, which coincides with the First Sunday of Advent. This is a very busy time around St. Agatha Parish. We have all of our regular activities as well as the special Advent activities which prepare us for the celebration of Christmas. One of these is the giving Tree Project which kicks off this weekend and culminates with the tremendous outpouring of support on December 15th for the families served by My Brother's Keeper. It is a special time of year, marked by many traditional and festive celebrations, and it has always been my favorite time of year. However, from an operational point of view, it is also the time of year that we finish our Fall clean-up around the Parish and also complete our preparations for the inevitable arrival of Winter. Now that the leaves have almost finished falling, we will do our complete clean-up of the property. The snow shovels will be appearing; the ice melt is in place; the heating system is tuned up, and John Driscoll is on alert!

Because of the early print date for the Bulletin due to Thanksgiving, the Offertory Collection and second collection totals for last weekend were not available. They will be included in next week's Bulletin. Grand Annual Appeal contributions continue to come in steadily. As of this writing, 244 households have contributed, and \$97,510 has been received. This is very close to last year's pace which means that we are off to a great start as we move towards our goal of \$170,000. Heartfelt thanks go out to those who have already joined in this effort. As with the Weekly Offertory, all of the money received through this important collection is used to meet our annual budget and this enables us to avoid having any additional collections throughout the year for things such as snow removal, maintenance, etc. If you have not yet had a chance to contribute, the appeal continues and your support would be most appreciated.

Jack Riley



The Daughters of St. Paul, who run a Publishing House in Jamaica Plain & a Dedham bookstore, will be here after all the Masses this weekend (except the 5pm on Sunday). Be sure to stop by downstairs and peruse their display following the Mass. Additionally you can check out their website: www.pauline.org.



The Sacred Pause

Lisa M. Gulino—Pastoral Associate

Part 5 – The Mass – Introductory Rites

The Introductory Rites have the character of a **beginning, introduction, and preparation**. We looked at the **Entrance**, the **Reverencing of the Altar**, and the **Greeting**. These three “movements” remind us of the great truth: **God is among us!** The following are the last three movements of the Introductory Rites.

1. **The Penitential Act and Kyrie Eleison.** We prepare to hear the Word of God and to receive the Eucharist—to participate in God’s saving Mystery, his dying, rising, and his coming again! We recall our constant need for God’s unconditional mercy and love. A word about the prayer: **“I Confess” (Confiteor)**.
 - **It is not about self-hatred.** It is instead an act of praise in which I acknowledge before God that I am not the creator of the world and then we
 - **ask the help of God, the angels, saints, and one another** in responding to Jesus’ offer of fullness of life.
 - When we acknowledge our faults, **we invite God to act—to heal wounds within us.***
2. **The Gloria**—“Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to people of good will” (from Luke) is the hymn the angels sung when Christ was born. As we sing this hymn of praise each week in Mass (except during Advent and Lent) let us recall that:
 - **“God’s glory appears** in the reading of Scripture, in the body of Christ assembled (you and me), in the priest’s ministry, and most of all in the Eucharist.”*
 - We praise the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. **Jesus**, the Word made flesh, is central to this hymn and **reveals the splendor and mercy** of God’s reign on earth.
 - We **join our voices** with the heavenly hosts.
3. **“Let us pray”**—opening prayer. As Catholics, we are steeped in Jewish heritage. The Opening Prayer borrows the structure of traditional Jewish prayer.
 - We address God, “almighty God”
 - we make a petition, “grant us”
 - we give a reason for the petition or express a desired result, and
 - we conclude calling again on God

Living the Introductory Rites in our daily life: remember God is always with us, he loves us even when we forget that we are loved, he gives us one another and the Church to become our best selves—**graced**, and we see the glory of God in nature and in our many blessings.

*Timothy O’Malley, *Bored Again Catholic*



Please join us after the 7am and 9am Masses on **Wednesday, December 4th** for Coffee & Conversation. Come visit with long time friends or reach out and make new friends.

This year: Shop with a purpose!

SERRV Advent Fair Trade Sale
Saturday, December 7, 1:00-5:00 pm
St. Mary of the Hills Lower Church

SERRV’s fair trade mission is dedicated not only to paying the artisans fair wages and ensuring safe working conditions, but to creating opportunity for individuals, communities and environments to thrive and grow. More than a business philosophy, fair trade is the development of relationships built on respect, honesty, freedom and dignity.

Proceeds to Catholic Relief Services and the Visitation Collaborative.

Beautiful handcrafted goods, foods & Equal Exchange
Coffees & chocolate
Cash • Checks
Credit Cards accepted



Christmas Benefit Concerts

The Daughters of St. Paul (Jamaica Plain) will hold Christmas Benefit Concerts on **Saturday, Dec. 7th at 7pm** and on **Sunday, Dec. 8th at 3pm** at Fontbonne Academy, Milton. The proceeds will enable the sisters to continue their unique media ministry and provide for their elderly & infirmed sisters. Tickets: \$20 (Children under 12: free) Group rates available. For information & tickets call: Sr. Christine at 617-276-4467 or go online: pauline.org/bosconcert.



Worldwide Marriage Encounter

“So too, you also must be prepared, for at an hour you do not expect, the Son of Man will come.” Enrich and renew your marriage by attending a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend. The next Weekends are Dec 13–15, 2019 in Duxbury, MA and Mar 13–15, 2020 in Duxbury, MA. For more information, call Stephen & Michelle O’Leary at 800-710-9963 or visit them at <https://www.mema.org/>.



GIFT CARD DONATIONS REQUESTED

Part of St. Agatha’s ongoing outreach is to offer assistance to those in need around the holiday season. Local supermarket food gift cards in 15, 20, and 25 dollar amounts allow individuals to buy turkeys, ethnic meats, desserts and traditional foods for their holiday.

Clients of St. Matthew’s Food Pantry in Dorchester who have received these gift cards are always greatly appreciative. Please place any gift card donation in the Offertory basket. Thank you for your generosity.



COAT DRIVE through Jan 10th
Please donate a gently used Adult/Youth Coat
Donation boxes are in the rear vestibule of the church & in St. Agatha School
Help us help others!

FAITH FORMATION UPDATES



Thanks to the creative talents of Mrs. Jennifer Caputo and our terrific group of volunteers, the children in Faith Formation enjoyed making Christmas Ornaments over the past two weeks of sessions. The children in grades 3–6 donated their ornaments to decorate the Christmas trees in the Church and in the Gathering Space that you will be able to admire next week. The children in grades 1 & 2 along with some extra help from their parents decorated ornaments to take home. It's always a wonderful tradition the children (and adults) look forward to!

Grade 5 children will host the 9:00 am Family Mass on December 15.

December 3-4-5 Grades 5 and 6 will receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Please have your **Grade 5 and 6 child go directly to the Church instead of the cafeteria for their session.** The Reconciliation Service will start promptly at 4:00 pm. Dismissal will be as usual from the St. Agatha School Cafeteria.

No sessions on Thursday, December 12, due to the Milton Public School half day for Grades 1–5 parent/teacher conferences.



CONFIRMATION & YOUNG CHURCH MINISTRY

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



EDGE PROGRAM

Thursday's from 6:30–8 PM
Dec. 5 & Dec. 12

Encounter Confirmation Program
6–8 pm, Gathering Space

YEAR 1, SESSION 3 – February 9th

YEAR 2, SESSION 4 – December 8th

JOIN US IN THE
GATHERING
SPACE FROM
6–8 PM

OCTOBER 13TH

OCTOBER 27TH

NOVEMBER 10TH

DECEMBER 1ST

DECEMBER 15TH

FALL YOUTH GROUPS

Open to all High School Students



2019 Giving Tree Project

As we prepare to help our neighbors in greatest need this Advent, please consider volunteering to help out with this year's **Christmas Giving Tree** project which benefits the families of Southeastern Massachusetts supported by My Brother's Keeper. Volunteers are needed in several

different areas. We will need assistance before and after the Masses on November 30–December 1 and December 7–8 to hand out instructions to those who take ornaments and then to replenish the trees as ornaments are selected. Finally, we need many hands on Sunday afternoon, December 15th at 1:00pm in the school cafeteria to do the final processing of the gifts. If you can help with any of these activities, please contact Mike and Gay O'Hanlon at 617-710-7955 or by e-mail at mohanlonuva@gmail.com.



SAINT AGATHA SCHOOL

Our Second Grade students had a visit from Jen, the dental hygienist. They know how to take care of their teeth and keep them healthy and clean.



Scrip Gift Cards
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Saint Agatha families produce revenue by making regular household purchases that you would make anyway.

Example: Buy a Land's End Gift Card for \$100.00 and \$16.00 (16%) will go directly to Saint Agatha School!

To place an order, please return your Family Order Form to the school office before noon on Fridays, now through December 13 with a check made payable to St. Agatha School. Contact Debbie Schlager at 617 828-9603 or via email schlager22@comcast.net with any questions.



Grades 4-8 Cross Country runners competed against Saint Pope John Paul School last week at Pope John Paul Park.

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday 8:00am 4:30pm	November 30 Memorial	Deceased Members of the Devine & Williams Family
Sunday 7:30am 9:00am	December 1 For the Birth. Memorial & Anniversary	Parishioners of St. Agatha Maureen Hartnett Dolan
10:30am 12:00pm	6th Anniversary Memorial	Blanche Coyne Alice K. Monahan & Helen G. Dunn
5:00pm	25th Anniversary	Daniel Flynn
Monday 7:00am 9:00am	December 2 9th Anniversary Anniversary	Gerry McCarthy Richard D. Armstrong
Tuesday 7:00am 9:00am	December 3	
Wednesday 7:00am 9:00am	December 4	
Thursday 7:00am 9:00am	December 5 Anniversary Birth. Memorial	Mary T. Shields James Albert
Friday 7:00am 9:00am	December 6 Memorial	Jo-Ann F. Muldoon School Mass
Saturday 8:00am 4:30pm	December 7 Memorial Anniversary	Dr. Kenneth F. Girard Nora Curran
Sunday 7:30am 9:00am 10:30am 12:00pm	December 8 Birth. Memorial Memorial 19th Anniversary 1st Anniversary 4th Anniversary	John F. Dempsey Brian Cummings & Andy Gillis Peggy Higgins Eleanor M. Bryan & Charles F. Mahoney
5:00pm	For the	Parishioners of St. Agatha

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.



Every Monday • Doors Open @ 4:45pm
BINGO begins at 6:40pm

Come and Play

School Parents, your help is needed. Thank You Volunteers!!!



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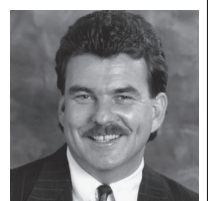


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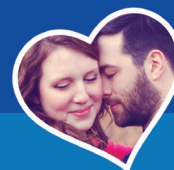


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2019 Giving Tree Project

St. Agatha Parish and My Brother's Keeper are joining hands for our 28th Annual Giving Tree Project to help families in need throughout the South Shore and beyond. Last year was the most successful yet, as My Brother's Keeper helped 2,760 families in 76 cities and towns. St. Agatha Parish is second to none in responding to the cry of the poor, and last year alone your extraordinary generosity aided over 100 families. In the last 27 years, you have contributed greatly to the exciting expansion of the ministry of My Brother's Keeper by helping over 2,550 families experience the warmth of friendship and the renewal of hope. With so many families struggling, we hope that this will be the best year ever!

We will again have an opportunity to join our "Helping Hands" with those of My Brother's Keeper as we kick off this year's effort on November 30th. Many parishioners have made this a family tradition, and you and your family can join in this rewarding project in a number of ways:

1. If you would like to sponsor an entire family—My Brother's Keeper asks that you send an e-mail to sponsor@mybrotherskeeper.org. By doing this, you can request a family whose size and make-up fits your budget and interests. Generally a Sponsor Card is sent to you the same day as your request is received.

2. If you would prefer to help by buying an individual gift, "Giving Trees" will be set up before and after each Mass on the weekends of Nov 30–Dec 1 and Dec 7–8 so that you may select an ornament with a child's or parent's name. On each ornament will be the name, age, sex, clothing size, and a suggested gift for the child or parent you will be touching with your generosity. You then purchase and wrap the gift, write on the back of the original ornament what you purchased, and attach it to the package. Then bring the gift with you to any Mass (except the 5:00 PM) on Dec. 14th or 15th. If you would prefer to buy an unwrapped generic gift to help families who make last minute appeals, those are most welcome as well. After the 12:00 Mass on December 15th, volunteers from the parish will help group each family's gifts together for delivery, and the gifts will then be brought to My Brother's Keeper for distribution. If you would like to volunteer to help with the gift sorting and preparation on Dec 15 at 1pm, please email Mike and Gay O'Hanlon at mohanlonuva@gmail.com.

3. You can also select a "turkey" ornament which gives instructions for contributing \$10 towards purchasing a turkey or, if your means allow, \$35 to purchase a complete dinner.

A special way of expressing our gratitude to God for giving us the gift of His Son is to share some of our blessings with those who are less fortunate. After all, He has no hands but ours. For those who are unable to afford a gift this year, your prayers for the success of this mission of linking St. Agatha Parish with the poor served by My Brother's Keeper will be more than enough in the way of support.

The St. Agatha Parish Community has been blessed in many ways, and has always responded by sharing of its treasure to help others. We thank you so much for your past support and hope that you will help make this year's effort—our 28th—the best yet!