

# The Parish of St. Agatha

Milton ~ Quincy, MA

December 28-29, 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.



There is **no Coffee & Conversation** on January 1st due to the Holy Day. It will be on Wednesday, January 8th instead.

## Upcoming This Week

**Jan. 4:** Spirituality Group for Those in Recovery, 8:45 am

## MISSION STATEMENT

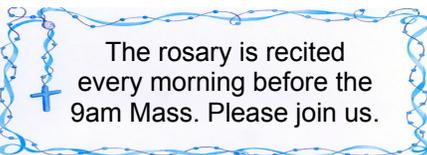
St. Agatha Parish is a Christian Community of Catholics from Milton, Quincy and beyond, whose Mission is to demonstrate Love by:

- 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.

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



**For New Year's Day, January 1<sup>st</sup>, there is a vigil Mass at 4pm on Tuesday, December 31<sup>st</sup> and the Wednesday Masses will be at 8am and noon.**

**St. Agatha Parish** Phone: 617-698-2439  
**Rectory@StAgathaParish.org** Fax: 617-698-1517  
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, Igulino@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

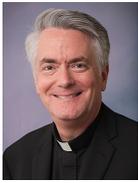
**St. Agatha School** Phone: 617-696-3548  
**School@StAgathaParish.org** Fax: 617-696-6288  
School Website: StAgatha.org

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,***

Inasmuch as our bulletin company requires the submission of our material several weeks prior to the actual bulletin date, given the Christmas and New Year’s holidays, for my column this week I am sharing with you excerpts from a Christmas homily by Saint Basil the Great (whose feast day is January 2<sup>nd</sup>—shared with his good friend St. Gregory Nazianzen). St. Basil lived in the 4<sup>th</sup> century in current-day Turkey and spoke in Greek. The following English translation comes from his second homily on Christ’s birth, located in: Christ Our Light: Patristic Readings on Gospel Themes I: Advent–Pentecost, translated and edited by Friends of Henry Ashworth (Riverdale, MD: Exordium Books, 1981), pp. 40-41:

God is on earth, God is among us, not now as law-giver—there is no fire, trumpet blast, smoke-wreathed mountain, dense cloud, or storm to terrify whoever hears him—but as one gently and kindly conversing in a human body with his fellow men and women. God is in the flesh. Now he is not acting intermittently as he did through the prophets. He is bringing back to himself the whole human race, which he has taken possession of and united to himself. By his flesh he has made the human race his own kin.

Let us strive to comprehend the mystery. The reason God is in the flesh is to kill the death that lurks there.

As diseases are cured by medicines and assimilated by the body, and as darkness in a house is dispelled by the coming of light, so death, which held sway over human nature, is done away with by the coming of God. And as ice formed on water covers its surface as long as night and darkness last but melts under the warmth of the sun, so death reigned until the coming of Christ; but when the grace of God our Savior appeared and the Sun of Justice rose, death was swallowed up in victory, unable to bear the presence of true life. How great is God’s goodness, how deep his love for us!

Let us join the shepherds in giving glory to God, let us dance with the angels and sing: “Today a savior has been born to us. He is Christ the Lord. The Lord is God and he has appeared to us,” not as God, which would have been terrifying for our weakness, but as a slave so as to free those who live in slavery. Who could be so lacking in sensibility and so ungrateful as not to join all here present in our gladness, exultation, and radiant joy? This feast belongs to the whole of creation. Let everyone contribute and be grateful. Let our voices too ring out in songs of jubilation.

Continue having a blessed and JOYFUL Christmas Season and have a healthy 2020!

*Fr. Palardy*



This month’s Coffee & Conversation will be on *Wednesday, January 8th due to the Holy Day*. Please join us after the 7am and 9am Masses—come visit with long time friends or reach out and make new friends.

**Celebration of all those who have been Baptized during this past year**

Parents, Grandparents, and Godparents, are invited to attend the 9:00 AM Mass on **Sunday, January 12<sup>th</sup>**—The Feast of the Baptism of the Lord. We will have a light coffee and donuts immediately following Mass in the Gathering Space to mingle and meet the newest members of St. Agatha Parish and their families.



**When a parishioner is hospitalized....**

St. Agatha is a wonderful family of faith. It is important to our priests and pastoral staff that we do all we can to stay in touch with parishioners who may not be able to attend Mass due to illness and/or are hospitalized. Due to HIPPA (privacy) laws, the parish is not informed of parishioners who are in the hospital or in nursing homes. The local hospitals have a priest chaplain on call who attends to emergency needs and celebrates the sacraments of Reconciliation and/or the Anointing of the Sick as requested.

Since every parishioner is an integral part of our worship and our parish community, please consider letting our pastoral associate, Lisa M. Gulino, know if you or a family member is ill. Lisa can be reached by phone at 617-698-2439 x209 or email: [lgulino@stagathaparish.org](mailto:lgulino@stagathaparish.org).

***Feast of the Holy Family—Dec 28–29—Year A***  
This Week’s Readings can be found at # **1007** in the *Gather* books



**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!

FEATURED WEEKLY READING

Read Reflect Respond

**THEME:** We honor the relationships of parents and children.

As you listen to this familiar story again today, what one word or thought really struck you? What image do you take away from this reading?

**Reading II :** Col 3:12-21

Brothers and sisters:

Put on, as God’s chosen ones, holy and beloved, heartfelt compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience, bearing with one another and forgiving one another, if one has a grievance against another; as the Lord has forgiven you, so must you also do. And over all these put on love, that is, the bond of perfection. And let the peace of Christ control your hearts, the peace into which you were also called in one body. And be thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, as in all wisdom you teach and admonish one another, singing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs with gratitude in your hearts to God. And whatever you do, in word or in deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

*Pastoral Planning*

**December 29 ~ The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph**

The example of the Holy Family can be summed up in the words of today’s second reading. They were clothed in “heartfelt compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience, bearing with one another and forgiving one another...” This feast offers all families the inspiration and encouragement to make these values an essential part of each relationship, conversation and interaction with one another. Pray in a special way today for all parents, grandparents, and guardians as they strive to make their families holy.



THE WEEKLY UPDATE

The parade of early Bulletin deadlines given to us by the Bulletin publisher continues, so this note is actually being written the Thursday before Christmas! So I can’t say how wonderful Christmas at St. Agatha Parish was (although I know it will have been great!) because it hasn’t happened yet. And I have to wish everyone a Happy New Year almost two weeks early! But I do sincerely wish everyone in the Parish a wonderful New Year and pray that 2020 will be a year of much happiness and good health. Time has a way of slipping through our fingers and before we know it decades have passed by. Many of us remember the turn of the 21<sup>st</sup> century when there were dire warnings of the calamities that were going to occur when the clock struck midnight on December 31, 1999. It’s hard to imagine that some people frantically prepared for disasters that never materialized. But what is even harder to imagine is that those events occurred TWENTY YEARS AGO! So in addition to health and happiness, may all be given the gifts of perspective, patience, trust and the confidence to live in and enjoy the present, and the faith to leave the future in God’s hands.

The Offertory Collection for the weekend of December 21-22 had not occurred as of this writing, so the results will be in next week’s Bulletin. The Grand Annual Appeal continues to do well as we near our budgeted goal of \$170,000. As of December 19<sup>th</sup>, 348 households have contributed \$159,462.

*Jack Riley*

**A Morning of Prayer**, sponsored by the Sisters of St. Joseph, at the Motherhouse Chapel, 637 Cambridge St., Brighton, MA. **Linda Boothroyd, CSJ Agrégée and Joanne Mauldin, CSJ Agrégée**, are the presenters for **“Give Me a Drink: John 4:7”** on **Monday, January 13** from 9:45 AM to 12 Noon. Jesus’ conversation with the Woman at the Well in John’s Gospel provides the basis for **our** conversation. The morning begins with refreshments. A \$20 donation is suggested. To RSVP, call 781-227-4730; e-mail: [spiritual.ministries@CSJBoston.org](mailto:spiritual.ministries@CSJBoston.org).

Weekly Offertory Report

Weekly Budget	Dec.14-15 In-Pew Collection	Electronic Collection	Dec.14-15 Total Offertory	Weekly Difference	Total Difference YTD
\$12,745	\$9,966	\$2,851	\$12,817	\$72	-\$23,775



## The Sacred Pause

Lisa M. Gulino—Pastoral Associate

### The Mass – Part 7 – The Liturgy of the Word

I hope people are not getting bored with this general overview of the Mass. **Recap:** The Mass is divided into “parts:” Entrance Rite, Liturgy of the Word, Preparation of the Gifts, Liturgy of the Eucharist, and Dismissal. Recall the

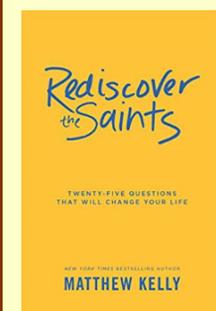
- **Entrance Rite:** unites us, helps us set aside the busy, crazy lives we have and re-center ourselves on the God who loves us and interacts with us as we journey through life—primarily in the Liturgy and the Sacraments. The Penitential Rite forgives those sins of ours that do not separate us from God. Any grave sins, we are called to repent of through the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Our mind and heart are now prepared to hear the Word of God
- **The Liturgy of the Word:** we hear the Word of God and are prepared to receive Christ in the Eucharist.

This segment of the Mass also has several aspects:

1. **1<sup>st</sup> Reading:** usually from the Old Testament which recounts God’s revelation (*revelar* = “to unveil”). God unveils himself and his plan of salvation.
2. **2<sup>nd</sup> Reading:** the New Testament, often from the Letters of St. Paul who gives us rich theology and practical ways of living as a disciple of Jesus Christ.
3. **Gospel Reading:** The life and events of Jesus who is truly the Son of God.

4. **Homily:** the priest or deacon breaks open the Word of God and helps us make connections to our everyday life.
5. **Creed:** We stand and profess our faith in the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, we recall Jesus comes to us through the young Jewish virgin, Mary, we remember that we are caught up in the life and communion of the saints—in Heaven and on Earth. We restate week after week that *we believe*
  - a. *God is so in love with us that he comes to save us,*
  - b. *he restores us back to spiritual health, and*
  - c. *gives us life everlasting*—death has no power over us in Christ!
6. **General Intercessions:** The Church which Jesus founded has the awesome responsibility to pray for those:
  - a. present and for those not present in our assemblies,
  - b. who believe and those who do not;
  - c. who are healthy and sound in body, mind, and spirit and those who are not.

These intercessions **are an act of charity** we, as the Body of Christ, **perform each week.** We are also the recipients of the graces given because two thousand years of prayers have preceded us. *God loves you* and your participation at Mass *is your response to this very personal love* for you. *Thank you for being here!*



Please join us for a three week Book Discussion on the book we received at Christmas, **Rediscover the Saints** by Matthew Kelly. We will discuss the highlights of the book and pick three saints to examine their life and virtues a bit closer. Enjoy this casual discussion on this book. Let’s get to know a few of our heavenly Saints and how they lived the Gospel.

Immediately following the 9:00 AM Morning Mass (9:45–10:45 AM) with coffee & fellowship. **Starting Tuesday, January 21st.**



### Worldwide Marriage Encounter

“Put on, as God’s chosen ones, holy and beloved, heartfelt compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience, bearing with one another and forgiving one another.”

Work to live in your marriage as God desires by attending a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend. The next Weekends are Mar 13–15, 2020 in DUXBURY, MA and Apr 18–19, 2020 in BREWSTER, MA. For more information, call Stephen & Michelle O’Leary at 800-710-9963 or visit them at <https://wwmema.org/>.



If you think you may have left something behind while at St. Agatha’s, please check the table near the entrance to the Gathering Space. Items are donated to charity after a month of being unclaimed. Thanks!

**2020 Calendars are available at the entrances of the Church compliments of the Alfred D. Thomas Funeral Home.**



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.

FAITH FORMATION UPDATES



Thank you to the Grade 5 children who hosted the 9:00 am Family Mass Sunday December 15, such a wonderful job they did! Thanks to: Nora Conti, Olivia Femino, Avery Gaffney, Jacob Gratch, Natasha Howard, Adriana Hraibe, Paulina Lydon, Elizabeth Miller, Elizabeth Orenberg and Sarah Wrightington.

We look forward to the Grade 4 children who host the 9:00 am Family Mass on January 5.

There will be no sessions this week, sessions resume on Tuesday, January 7.

The Sacrament of First Reconciliation will be celebrated on Saturday, January 25. Group 1 will receive the Sacrament at 11:00 am and Group 2 at 1:00 pm.



2019 Giving Tree Project

Thank you for the outpouring of support. St. Agatha Parish is second to none in responding to the cry of the poor. The amount of gifts that was delivered to My Brother's Keeper for distribution before Christmas demonstrated the on-going commitment that our parishioners have to this worthwhile project.



CONFIRMATION & YOUNG CHURCH MINISTRY

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



PIZZA & PRAYER

Monday's 7-8 pm, starting Jan. 13th

EDGE PROGRAM

Thursdays from 6:30-8 PM  
Jan. 23 & Feb. 6

Encounter Confirmation Program  
6-8 pm, Gathering Space

YEAR 1, SESSION 3 - February 9th  
YEAR 2, SESSION 5 - January 26th

FEBRUARY BREAK 2019

YOUTH GROUPS  
FEB 16TH & 23RD

ASP 2019 TRIP

THIS SUMMER WE WILL BE TAKING A GROUP OF HIGH SCHOOL TEENS FROM OUR PARISH TO THE APPALACHIA AREA TO HELP REPAIR HOMES OF FAMILIES IN NEED. WE ARE LOOKING FOR ADULTS (AGE 19+) TO JOIN US ON THIS AMAZING SERVICE TRIP!

IF INTERESTED, PLEASE EMAIL  
HBORNHORST@STAGATHAPARISH.ORG



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

## SAINT AGATHA SCHOOL



*Our school community is so caring and generous! Over \$450 dollars was raised for My Brother's Keeper by the Bake Sale on Pajama Day!*

*Over \$300 was raised for St. Jude Children's Hospital on Crazy Hat Day.*



*The annual Christmas Concert was a fun way to celebrate the season.*



### WINTER WINDFALL CALENDAR

**\$5 per calendar • 31 chances to win  
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Calendars are currently on sale.  
Please call 617-696-3548 if you have any questions.

## MASS INTENTIONS

<b>Saturday</b> 8:00am 4:30pm	<b>December 28</b> 1st Anniversary Memorial	Timothy Mullen Charles & Rachel Seminatore & Charlene Mulhern
<b>Sunday</b> 7:30am 9:00am 10:30am 12:00pm 5:00pm	<b>December 29</b> Memorial Memorial Memorial	Bridget & James Ed. O'Connor Maggy & Rita Leonard For the Parishioners of St. Agatha Elizabeth McVeigh
<b>Monday</b> 7:00am 9:00am	<b>December 30</b>	
<b>Tuesday</b> 7:00am 9:00am 4:00pm	<b>December 31</b> Memorial	<b>New Year's Eve</b> Marion H. Keenan
<b>Wednesday</b> 8:00am 12:00pm	<b>January 1</b>	<b>New Year's Day</b>
<b>Thursday</b> 7:00am 9:00am	<b>January 2</b>	
<b>Friday</b> 7:00am 9:00am	<b>January 3</b> 6th Anniversary School Mass	Julia A. Dempsey
<b>Saturday</b> 8:00am 4:30pm	<b>January 4</b> 12th Anniversary	Catherine Higgins
<b>Sunday</b> 7:30am 9:00am 10:30am 12:00pm 5:00pm	<b>January 5</b> Memorial 3rd Anniversary 19th Anniversary 1st Anniversary	For the Parishioners of St. Agatha Edna & Harry McDonnell William T. Rehm Margaret M. Welch John Gallahue

## 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**

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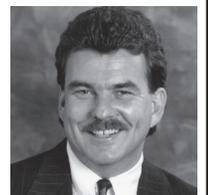
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