

The Parish of St. Agatha

Milton ~ Quincy, MA

March 6-7, 2021

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

PUBLIC MASSES

Public Daily Masses:

Daily: 9:00 am
Also livestreamed on our website

Public Sunday Masses

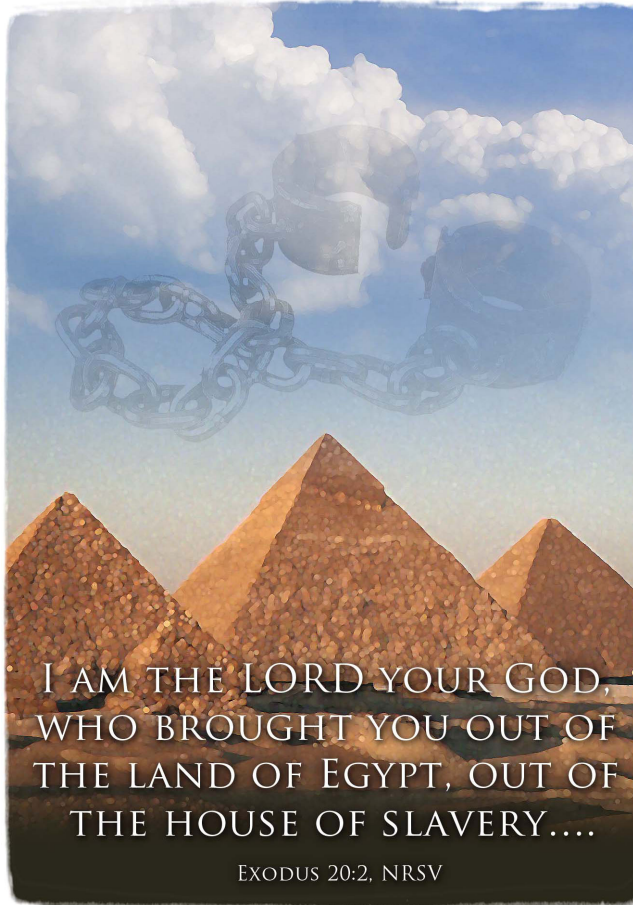
Saturday: 4:30 pm
Sunday: 7:30 am
9:30 am
11:30 am
5:00 pm

Please allow extra time to enter the Upper Church to allow for required social distancing. Doors open 20 min. before Mass is to start and will be closed 5 min. prior to Mass.

Sunday Livestreamed Masses

are available on our website
Saturday at 4:30pm
Sunday at 9:30am

Holy Days: Any additional Masses will be announced in the bulletin prior to the day.



Third Sunday of Lent March 6-7—Year B

This Week's Readings can be found at
<https://bible.usccb.org/bible/readings/030721.cfm>

Catholic Appeal envelopes insert found inside

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.

When Visiting St. Agatha Parish for Public Mass

Before attending, please familiarize yourself with the restrictions detailed on the **Welcome Home** page on our website. If you are attending a funeral here please wait in the parking lot adjacent to the church until you are instructed by the funeral home staff to enter and be seated.

St. Agatha Parish

Rectory@StAgathaParish.org Phone: 617-698-2439
Parish Website: StAgathaParish.org Fax: 617-698-1517

Clergy

Rev. William B. Palardy, Pastor
Rev. Jason M. Makos, Parochial Vicar
Deacon Daniel F. Sullivan
Deacon Kevin P. Martin Jr.
Deacon Stephen Ondrey, Seminarian Intern
Rev. Patrick McLaughlin, Senior Priest in Residence
Rev. Thomas Powers, Senior Priest in Residence

Parish Administration

Mr. Jack Riley, Finance and Operations Manager
Ms. Dale Blanchard, Operations Assistant
Ms. Kathy Monahan, Administrative Assistant/Bulletin
Ms. Eileen Callahan, Administrative Assistant/Bulletin Editor

Music Ministry

MusicDirector@StAgathaParish.org
Mrs. Julie Fay, Director of Music and Parish Organist

St. Agatha School

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

Mrs. Nancy Carr, Principal
Ms. Jacqueline Miller, 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

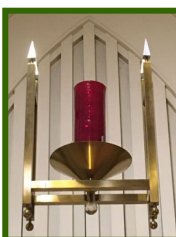
YoungChurchMinistry@StAgathaParish.org
Mrs. Helen Waring, Coordinator



A Note from Our Pastor,

Because our bulletin has to go to press earlier than usual this week, in order for us to receive them back in time to place Catholic Appeal envelopes in them, my column will be a bit briefer than usual. First, I am very grateful to Mr. Stephen Wessling for once again this year being our parish's Catholic Appeal Coordinator and for speaking at all our Masses last weekend. I want to reiterate what I said following Steve's remarks at the two Masses I celebrated last Sunday. The Archdiocese has been very helpful to us during this pandemic. I'll mention three examples: first, the Archdiocese tipped us off as to an excellent sanitizing product that we have been using throughout the pandemic to cleanse the church building; second, when we had one incident a number of months ago of a churchgoer informing us that he tested positive for COVID, we received excellent instructions about how to proceed so as to help ensure everyone's continued good health and safety; and, third, we were greatly helped by the Archdiocese in order for us to make our payroll both for the parish and the school in the early months of the pandemic last year. I intend to contribute to the Appeal myself again this year; I thank the sizable number of parishioners who have already contributed to this year's Appeal; and I urge those of you who have the financial means available to you to make your contribution as well. The Appeal funds the central ministries of our Archdiocese, and these central ministries have been exceedingly helpful to us through the years, and especially during this period of COVID-19. If you would like to make an online contribution to the Appeal, information can be found immediately after my column here in this bulletin.

Please attend also to the notice and registration link in this week's bulletin about the Archdiocesan Justice Convocation that will be held virtually next Saturday March 13th



For the two week period of February 28 –March 13, the Vigil Candle above the Tabernacle will be lit in memory of Frank Foley, May the light of God's love surround you.

from 11am-12:30pm. This year's focus is certainly a very timely one: Racial Justice from a Catholic perspective with a presentation by Danielle M. Brown, Esq., who is Associate Director of the US Bishops' Ad Hoc Committee Against Racism.

Finally, in our efforts to provide presentations on spiritual topics and adult faith formation this Lent, we have on our parish website a presentation I did this past week in our Church about "Lent as a Season to Strengthen our Bond together as a Community Rooted in Christ: Insights from the Early Church." It was a live presentation, as will be evident when you see and hear me become tongue-twisted in speaking about St. John Chrysostom's ideas about fasting when we're not fasting, and not fasting when we are fasting!

Have a healthy and safe week, and continue to have a blessed Lent!

Fr. Palardy

This weekend, we launch our annual Catholic Appeal, along with all the other parishes throughout the Archdiocese. Each year, the Catholic Appeal provides the faithful with a way to help support the ministries that support our parishes, our schools, and our communities. This is



our Church, and every gift makes a difference. Please consider making your gift today by visiting **bostoncatholicappeal.org** or by scanning the QR code above. Your gift has an immediate impact on our parish and the work of our Church. Thank you in advance for your generosity.



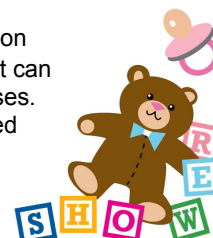
During Lent, we will be having **Holy Hour from 6:30-8pm on Wednesdays in the Chapel.**

There will also be opportunity for **Reconciliation from 6:30-8pm** on Wednesday evenings in the Meeting Room next to the Gathering Space.



This year, the **St. Agatha Parish "Baby Shower"** for the unborn will take place on **March 20-21**. Due to Covid restrictions, we will be accepting new baby clothing that can be dropped off at a table staffed by volunteers in the Gathering Space after the Masses. We will be adding a special second collection at all of the Masses that weekend called **"Collection for Life"** that will go strictly to supporting the lives of unborn children and their mothers.

Thank you so much for your support!



FEATURED WEEKLY READING

Read Reflect Respond

THEME: We must do what God wants.

What in this reading touches you? What line or word in this reading caught your ear?

Reading I : Exodus 20:1-3, 7-8, 12-17

In those days, God delivered all these commandments:

"I, the LORD am your God,
who brought you out of the land of Egypt,
that place of slavery.

You shall not have other gods besides me.

"You shall not take the name of the LORD,
your God, in vain.

For the LORD will not leave unpunished
the one who takes his name in vain.

"Remember to keep holy the sabbath day.

Honor your father and your mother,
that you may have a long life in the land
which the Lord, your God, is giving you.

You shall not kill.

You shall not commit adultery.

You shall not steal.

You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.

You shall not covet your neighbor's house.

You shall not covet your neighbor's wife,
nor his male or female slave, nor his ox or ass,
nor anything else that belongs to him."

Pastoral Planning

March 7 ~ Third Sunday of Lent

In today's Gospel, we have a scene that may make us uncomfortable. Jesus knew that some of the temple practices were rife with social injustices. What made matters worse were that it was done in the name of religion. Jesus' heart ached to think that any Gentile seeking the presence of God would feel unwelcome in the house of God. If Jesus were to enter this church/parish, would he find an exclusiveness, a coldness, or a place where the "seeking" stranger finds welcome, solace and peace? Lent gives us the opportunity to examine our attitudes and make the necessary change so that every person feels welcome in this house of God. The pandemic restrictions need not hinder becoming a strong evangelizing parish.

THE WEEKLY UPDATE

As we enter the final fiscal quarter of FY 2021 it is time to look towards FY 2022 and plan the budgets for both the Parish and School. We are all hopeful that things will begin to return to some sense of normality by the time the new fiscal year starts in July, but there are certainly no guarantees. This makes the budgeting process a bit tenuous and clearly the budgets will both be the best projections possible given what we know, but also may need to be revised if circumstances do not improve. As one would expect, the School budget is very much driven by the enrollment. At this time the numbers appear to be strong for next year, and we are anticipating at least as many students next year as we have this year. In fact, we have already received over 100 new applications. The School began accepting new students last week, so we should have a fairly reliable enrollment number by the end of this month. The Parish is much different in that it is much more difficult to forecast revenue. We have held our own this year with the help of the Payroll Protection Program, but FY 2022 will be a much different year. The Finance Council met last week, so more on this in future Operations Notes.

This column usually focuses on dollars and cents and bricks and mortar. But those things are only important in that they enable us to fulfill our Mission as a Catholic Christian community. On the weekend of March 20-21 we have the opportunity to make a strong statement of affirmation of our commitment to help our most vulnerable brothers and sisters: pre-born children. Their right to life has been under increasing assault both nationally and within our own state, so our support is more important than ever. On that weekend we will have our annual Pro-Life Baby Shower. Volunteers will be in the Gathering Space to accept gifts of new baby clothes, and we will be having a second collection that weekend for agencies that provide critical support to pre-born children and their mothers. Please do whatever you can to send a message that life—all life—is a precious gift from God.

In addition to the Weekly Offertory reported below, \$1,480 was contributed to the Special Collection for The Church around the World. Thank you for your support.

Jack Riley

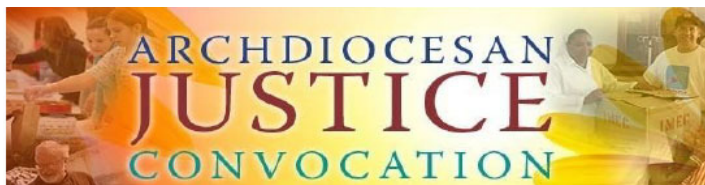
Weekly Offertory Report

Weekly Budget	Feb. 27-28 In-Pew Collection	Feb. 27-28 Mail in Drop off	Electronic Collection	Feb. 27-28 Total Offertory	Weekly Difference	Total Difference YTD
\$11,000	\$4,178	\$1,140	\$4,210	\$9,528	-\$1,472	-\$22,788

Racial Justice Workshop (Virtual)

March 13, 2021 • 11:00am–12:30pm

A Journey Through “Open Wide Our Hearts” “Call to Love & Action”



Opening Prayer & Remarks by Cardinal Seán O'Malley



Keynote Speaker, Danielle M. Brown, Esq.

Danielle, Assoc. Dir. of the USCCB Ad Hoc Committee Against Racism, has worked with the Bishops and her team to build a vast reservoir of knowledge and resources to guide us in our journey against racism. This workshop will also provide some of the training programs already engaged in by the parishes and collaboratives in the Archdiocese of Boston.

Register here: <https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/1130093856297199117>

Reflection on Action—

Finding Meaning and Purpose in Your Life

Do you want to gather with other young adults in their 20s and 30s who are searching for meaning and purpose in their lives?

Do you desire to take a little time out once or twice a month to reflect on the action/inaction/interaction of your life with others in order to deepen your faith?

If you answered YES to these two questions, then fill out this form:

<https://forms.gle/AUTZHdcH1RukH3J57>

You will then be sent a link to our next gathering (currently we are planning to meet on one Sunday and one Tuesday each month). *Online sessions coordinated by Sr. Jeanne Gribaudo, CSJ and Sr. Betsy Conway, CSJ.*



St. Agatha Parish has resumed praying the rosary on Monday through Saturday mornings starting at 8:30am (before the 9:00am Mass) in the Upper Church. Bring your rosary and join us.

SAINT AGATHA SCHOOL

Early Childhood through Grade 8
SAINT AGATHA SCHOOL

Now accepting online applications for for the 2021-2022 school year. To apply go to: StAgatha.org/admissions.



Organ Restoration Update

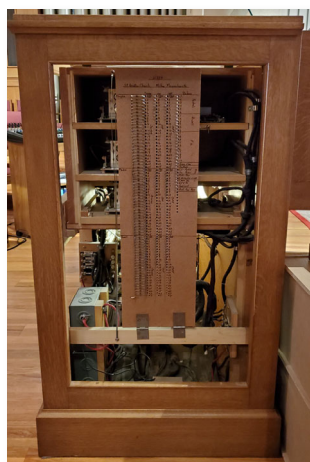
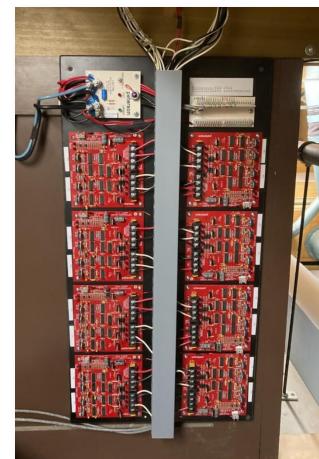
Restoring the pipes of our pipe organ has been a major focus of the organ work done thus far.

There was also an upgrade to the main power supply, about which I wrote in January. Additional electrical work was completed in February to increase reliability and improve the communication between the console and the pipes.

As Timothy Smith wrote in his proposal to restore the organ, “The console is the organist’s only hope of turning this machinery into music, so the console has to be made reliable.” Smith was referring to the tendency of the console to behave in surprising ways at times—meaning that sometimes when a combination setting was created or used, the electronic memory did not always retain or act on that setting. This meant that sometimes when I was expecting one sound out of the organ, I got quite another, or nothing at all! Obviously, this was not ideal, especially during a liturgy. So, on February 19, the internal components of the organ console underwent enhanced maintenance, to restore functionality and consistency.

In addition, a new **stop-action relay** was installed in the Great chamber. This circuit board receives electrical signals from the console and amplifies them. The boosted electrical signal is relayed to the motors that control the moving parts that in turn control wind to the pipes. With this improvement, we now have increased reliability that the wind will get to the organ ranks controlled by individual drawknobs on the console.

Below: A new stop-action relay was installed in the Great chamber.



The combined console electrical work and new stop-action relay provide improved electronic reliability for the organ. This means that the sound we expect is the sound we will hear from the organ—a great and happy improvement.

In Christ,
Julie Fay,
Music Director

Left: Enhanced maintenance was completed on the console’s internal electronics.



Through your generosity to the Catholic Appeal, you help provide a team of expert professionals who support our parishes, our schools, and our communities.



Our Parishes & Our Faith

Helping our 280 parishes safely serve their parishioners once the pandemic struck was truly a team effort.

Our risk management team, health care ethicist, and support staff provided comprehensive guidance and expert advice and best practices to enable parishes to offer remote and in-person services.

In addition, your contribution to the Catholic Appeal helps provide programs such as *Transformed in Love*, a program for couples preparing for marriage. Converting these in-person programs to internet-based programs enabled 1079 couples to continue their preparations for the sacrament of marriage.



Our Schools

Our teams developed in-school safety protocols and remote learning best practices so that students in our 100 schools did not fall behind during the pandemic.

Our schools have been able to maintain in-person learning throughout most of the current school year and have been cited as a model for public school systems across the state.

With the support of the Appeal, the Catholic Schools Office also provides operational assistance, faith-based guidance, and professional development programs for all diocesan schools.



Our Communities

Our Central Ministries provide services that benefit our 144 communities in numerous ways.

In addition to our Pro-life ministries and support for addiction recovery, we advocate for social justice and respect for the inherent dignity of every person through a yearly Social Justice Convocation and educational programs.




We also provide materials, virtual resources, and support to families and persons with disabilities so that they can stay connected to their Church and continue their collective journey of faith.

This is our Church, and when you support the Catholic Appeal, you support all of us.

To see more about these stories please visit bostoncatholicappeal.org to watch this year's Catholic Appeal video.



Through the generosity of donors like you, last year's Catholic Appeal raised \$14M to help the ministries of the Archdiocese of Boston support our faith, our parishes, and our communities. We are so thankful for the dedication of our extended family of faith, as together we can impact the lives of others far beyond the change we could affect on our own. Below is a breakdown of how Catholic Appeal funds were allocated to Central Ministries in 2020. **Thank you for helping these ministries continue to change lives, share our faith, and bring the presence of Christ to the world around us.**

	MINISTRIES	% of CM Budget
	Supporting Our Faith: Catholic Schools Office, Cultural Diversity & Persons with Disabilities, Deaf Apostolate, Ecumenical Affairs, Family Life, Healthcare Ethics, Palliative Care, Pro-Life Ministries, Health & Social Services, Chaplaincy Programs, and Addiction Recovery.	43%
	Supporting Our Parishes: Youth & Young Adult Ministry, Lifelong Faith Formation, Worship & Spiritual Life, Evangelization & Discipleship, Benefits, Finance, Human Resources, IT, Parish Financial Services, Property Management, and Risk Management.	36%
	Supporting Our Communities: Catholic Schools Office, Cultural Diversity & Persons with Disabilities, Deaf Apostolate, Ecumenical Affairs, Family Life, Healthcare Ethics, Palliative Care, Pro-Life Ministries, Health & Social Services, Chaplaincy Programs, and Addiction Recovery.	21%

Note: The Catholic Appeal does not provide financial support for priests on administrative leave, or the financial settlements and counseling/medication costs for victims of clergy abuse.

bostoncatholicappeal.org • Follow us on social media.



FAITH FORMATION UPDATES



Our Lenten Reconciliation Services are this Wednesday, March 10th at 3:00pm and 5:30pm. If you registered for Easter materials they will be at the Church for you.

Easter material pickup and First Holy Communion retreat material pickup is Wednesday, March 10th from 11:30am–12:00pm, 2:30–3:30pm and from 4:30–5:30pm at the white garages behind the rectory.

First Holy Communion Mass dates are: Saturday, May 1st at 11:00am and 1:00pm, Sunday, May 2nd at 1:30pm, Saturday, May 8th at 11:00am and at 1:00pm. A link for families with children who will be receiving their First Communion was emailed on Monday, March 1st to register for the Mass of their choice. Please make your selection by Monday, March 15th.

SACRAMENTAL CELEBRATIONS

Baptism: 2:00pm on the 2nd/ 4th Sundays of each month. If you have already scheduled your child's Baptism and need to reschedule (or to ask any other questions), please call or email the Rectory.

Reconciliation: Wednesday evening from 6:30-8:00pm in the Meeting Room adjacent to the Gathering Space in the lower church. **Masks required.** Also available by appointment with one of our priests.

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

CONFIRMATION & YOUNG CHURCH MINISTRY

Please check out Youth Ministry resources on Email, Instagram (@staggiesmilton) and Facebook (St. Agatha Youth Ministry).



St. Agatha Parish and the Visitation Collaborative are working to give our youth the opportunity to pack lunches for Fr. Bill's in Quincy & Brockton on a monthly basis. With your help, we continue to provide meals to those in need while educating and engaging our youth in making the lunches. *Thank you to all the families who have already donated. We really appreciate your support!*



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

THIS WEEK'S READINGS

MON	Mar 8:	2 KGS 5:1-15ab / LK 4:24-30
TUE	Mar 9:	DN 3:25, 34-43 / MT 18:21-35
WED	Mar 10:	DT 4:1, 5-9 / MT 5:17-19
THUR	Mar 11:	JER 7:23-28 / LK 11:14-23
FRI	Mar 12:	HOS 14:2-10 / MK 12:28-34
SAT	Mar 13:	HOS 6:1-6 / LK 18:9-14



Fr. Jay and Deacon Dan celebrated their birthdays a few weeks ago. Deacon Dan, awaiting Senior Deacon designation, good-naturedly enjoyed the suggestion that he could "ride in style" now.

WELCOME HOME to St. Agatha Parish

- ✓ **WEAR A MASK AT ALL TIMES**
- ✓ **MAINTAIN 6 FT OF PHYSICAL DISTANCE**
- ✓ **FOLLOW ARROWS FOR TRAFFIC FLOW**
- ✗ **NO CONGREGATIONAL SINGING**

Please allow extra time when arriving for Mass. The doors will open 20 minutes before Mass begins. Due to capacity constraints, the doors will close 5 minutes before Mass. Thank you for your patience.

SAINT AGATHA SCHOOL

The **2020-2021 Archdiocese Excellence in Education Awards** nomination period is now open (February 17–March 17). This award “honors elementary and secondary school teachers’ commitment to developing saints and scholars in Catholic schools in the Archdiocese of Boston.”

To nominate an excellent educator visit: <https://www.csoboston.org/excellence>.



Trivia night

Congratulations to our Trivia Night winners!

1st Place

Team Quaran-Team: Sheila Taylor, Sue & Paul Lydon and Joanne & Jim Fox

2nd Place

Team K1: Meagan Moran, Kathleen Bergan, Kim Carr, Diane Meuse and Chase Burke

3rd Place

Team Saints in the Making: Robert & Katie O'Brien

4th Place

Team Maskerminds: Jasmine Sahady, Jonathan Sahady, Angela Avellani-Oddia and Trish & Sean Hurley

Thanks to Rubicon Real Estate, Montilio's and The Fruit Center for providing the prizes and to Coleen Burgess for organizing!



CONTACT INFORMATION IS REQUIRED FOR MASS

WEEKEND MASS CONTACT INFORMATION FORM

TO SUBMIT YOUR CONTACT INFORMATION FOR THE MASS YOU PLAN TO ATTEND THIS WEEKEND

In addition to the protocols currently in place for in-person Mass attendance, we continue to collect contact tracing information for Mass attendees on our website ([here](#)). If you do not have access to our website, you may give that information to the parish ambassador at the entrance to the church upon arrival. **To save time, please have your contact information written out to hand to the ambassador before entering the church.**

If we were to discover that someone at any given Mass tests positive for COVID-19 in the following weeks, we want to be able to inform all of you so that, in consultation with your physician, you can take the appropriate steps. Please note that any notice will keep the name of the person who tested positive confidential and only include the Mass (date and time) which they attended and any other relevant non-personal information. Please give yourself extra time when arriving for Mass to be seated. Thank you.

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday	March 6	
9:00am	Anniversary	Frank Foley
4:30pm	2nd Anniversary	Catherine Darcy
Sunday	March 7	
7:30am	Memorial	John & Mary Staunton
9:30am	Memorial	Margaret M. Cronin & Albert E. Cronin, Jr.
11:30am	Anniversary	Francis McDermott
5:00pm	For the	Parishioners of St. Agatha
Monday	March 8	
9:00am	Month's Mind	Gilbert C. Eshom
Tuesday	March 9	
9:00am	Birth. Memorial	Dorothea Riley
Wednesday	March 10	
9:00am	Memorial	Janice & Joseph McLean III
Thursday	March 11	
9:00am	27th Anniversary	Gerald F. Muldoon
Friday	March 12	
9:00am	Memorial	Noreen Cummings
Saturday	March 13	
9:00am	Birth. Memorial	William Sullivan
4:30pm	51st Anniversary	John Pascarella
Sunday	March 14	
7:30am	28th Anniversary	William M. Swanson Jr.
9:30am	Anniversary	Peter & Rita O'Connor
11:30am	For the	Parishioners of St. Agatha
5:00pm	Anniversary	Stephen Chiavaroli, Sr.



Adoration at St. Agatha Parish

There will be opportunity for Adoration following the 9:00am Mass on Fridays. It will take place from approximately 9:30am-noon. Unless there is a funeral scheduled, then it will conclude at 10:30am.

Public Masses are celebrated weekday and Saturday mornings at 9:00am and on Saturday at 4:30pm and Sunday at 7:30am, 9:30am 11:30am and 5:00pm.

Please familiarize yourself with the restrictions in place for public Masses on the [Welcome Home page of our website](#). Masses are livestreamed on our [website](#) as well: Sunday Mass on **Saturday at 4:30pm** and **Sunday (Family Mass) at 9:30am** and **weekdays/Saturday at 9:00am**.

The scheduled Mass intentions are being announced at these Masses and remembered in prayer.

Reconciliation is available on Wednesday evenings from 6:30-8:00pm in the Meeting Room next to the Gathering Space. **Masks are required.**

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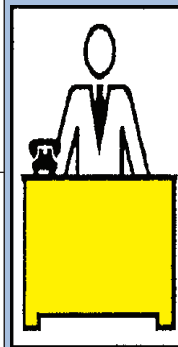
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