



Chelmsford Catholic Collaborative

Home to St. Mary and St. John the Evangelist Parish Families

Parish Offices located at 115 Middlesex Street, North Chelmsford, Massachusetts, 01863
(978) 251-8571 • (978) 256-2374 • fax (978) 293-0303 † www.chelmsfordcatholic.org

Just as our Blessed Mother Mary and the Evangelist, called John, came together at the foot of the cross to serve Christ crucified, so also do the parish families bearing their names come together to serve God by serving each other and all who make up the body of The Risen Lord.

ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST
115 MIDDLESEX STREET
NORTH CHELMSFORD

ST. MARY
25 NORTH ROAD
CHELMSFORD

WEEKEND MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday • 4:00 PM
Sunday • 8:30 AM, 10:30 AM
& 5:00 PM

WEEKDAY MASS SCHEDULE

Monday - Friday • 9:00 AM

Saturday 9:00 am Mass alternates between parishes. Refer to calendars.

RECONCILIATION

Saturday • 3:00 - 3:45 PM
or by appointment

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

First Friday of the Month •
Monday - Wednesday •
9:30 - 11:30 am
in the OPC Chapel

WEEKEND MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday • 4:00 PM
Sunday • 7:00 AM, 9:00 AM,
11:00 AM, 6:00 PM

WEEKDAY MASS SCHEDULE

Monday - Friday • 7:00 AM

RECONCILIATION

Saturday • 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM
or by appointment

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Thursday • 3:00 - 9:00 PM
Friday • 7:30 AM - 9:00 PM
Saturday • 9:30 AM - 3:00 PM
in the Parish Center Chapel

MASSES ARE AVAILABLE VIA LIVE STREAM

Visit www.chelmsfordcatholic.org
LIVEVIEW resides on the right-hand sidebar of the home page

PRAYER LINE

To have prayers said for yourself or a loved one,
call the parish office and ask for ext 223.

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

MONDAY, TUESDAY, THURSDAY • 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM
WEDNESDAY • 9:30 AM - 5:00 PM
FRIDAY • 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM
SUNDAY • 8:00 AM - 12:00 PM



September 22, 2019
Twenty-Fifth Sunday
in Ordinary Time

If, therefore, you are not trustworthy with
dishonest wealth, who will trust you with
true wealth.

-Luke 16:11

St. Mary Calendar

• Sunday, September 22 •

Grade 3 - 6 Parent Gathering 12:00 pm • Parish Hall
Grade 7 - 8 Parent Gathering 1:00 pm • Parish Hall

• Monday, September 23 •

Matthew Bible Study • 10 am - 12 pm • PC Conf Room 1
Fr. Brian Presentation • 7:00 pm • Church

• Wednesday, September 25 •

Parish Offices Closed

Boy Scout Troop 77 • 7:00 - 8:30 pm • Parish Hall
Sports Information Night • 7:00 - 9:00 pm • PC Conf Room 1

• Thursday, September 26 •

Rosary Makers • 10:30 am • PC Conf Room 2
Rosary • 12:00 - 1:00 pm • PC Adoration Chapel
Adoration • 3:00 - 9:00 pm • PC Adoration Chapel

• Friday, September 27 •

Adoration • 7:30 am - 9:00 pm • PC Adoration Chapel
Knitting and Crocheting • 3:00 - 5:00 pm • Parish Hall

• Saturday, September 28 •

Knights of Columbus Tootsie Roll Drive after 4 pm Mass
Catechists Retreat • 9:00 am - 12:30 pm • Hall
Adoration • 9:30 am - 3:00 pm • PC Chapel
Reconciliation • 11:00 am - 12:00 noon • Church
Anointing of the Sick, following 4 pm Mass • Church

• Sunday, September 29 •

Faith Formation Events • Refer to Page 6



St. Mary Church

Wedding BANNES III

Sarah Buckley and Jason Stuart



**If you knit or crochet,
we could really use your help!**

Every year, mittens, hats and scarves are made by, and given to, local agencies served by the "Spirit of Christmas" program for distribution to those in need. Here's how you can help...

We are in need of donations of these items, made with acrylic yarn, in sizes from toddler to adult. There are no meetings to attend and you decide which items to craft, what size and how many!

Items will be collected in late November so they can be sorted in time for inclusion with the Spirit of Christmas gifts.

For more information, contact Cathy Latina at (978) 256-0721.

Thank you for sharing the love and knowledge of your craft with those in need!

2ND ANNUAL Hail Mary Challenge

1,000,000 Hail Mary's in Six Months (ending Oct 31)

Turn your weekly count into the containers that are located in:

- ~ St. Mary and St. John vestibules
- ~ St. John NPC Bulletin Board
- ~ St. Mary Parish Center Entrance

The September Petition

"For parishioners and their families to grow together in their faith and to strengthen their bonds and relationships with each other through Jesus Christ, His Blessed Mother, and the Holy Catholic Church."



NEW TO THE COLLABORATIVE?



We warmly welcome all new parishioners to our family!

Please complete a registration form by contacting us in the parish office, or by visiting www.chelmsfordcatholic.org /I Would Like To.

Week Ending September 15	53,749
Grand Total To Date	730,399
%age of Goal	70.03%

The Parish Offices will be closed on Wednesday, September 25th

Charity Tootsie Roll Drive



Members of the Knights of Columbus will be outside collecting donations following all Masses at both St. John and St. Mary on, September 28th/29th. This annual Tootsie

Roll Drive raises funds for special needs children in our community, for purchases such as wheel chairs, ramps and computer speech boards, that will improve their lives.

We greatly appreciate your support of this worthy cause. If you would like more information about this fund or the Knights of Columbus, please see one of the members after Mass, or visit www.kofc9275.org

St. Mary St. John Family CONNECTION STRENGTHENING families IN DEALING WITH ADDICTION

Do you have a loved one who is struggling with addiction? Do you feel helpless and/or hopeless? You are NOT alone! For over two years, our group has gathered together weekly, proving that no one needs to be on this journey alone. Through education and sharing, our Family to Family Connection offers support to those, like you, who are coping with the addiction of a loved one. Whether it be your child, your spouse, your grandchild, or a close friend, the pain of watching their suffering is the same.

Join us at **7:00 on Monday evenings in the St. John New Parish Center** as we gain a better understanding of the disease of addiction through reading materials, videos and first-hand sharing from men and women who actively practice a 12-step program and live a healthy lifestyle free of alcohol and drugs.

St. John Calendar

• Sunday, September 22 •

Children's Liturgy of the Word, during 8:30 am Mass
Coffee and Donuts, following 8:30 am Mass • Mariotti
Hospitality Meeting • 9:30 am • Linehan
Grade K-2 Parent Gathering • 9:30 am • Hall
Grade 3-6 Parent Gathering • 10:30 am • Hall
Grade 7-8 Parent Gathering • 11:30 am • Hall
African Community Harvest Mass • 12:30 pm • Church

• Monday, September 23 •

Adoration, following 9:00 am Mass • OPC Chapel
Chelmsford Quilting Guild • 6:00 - 9:00 pm • Hall
Families with Addiction Support Group • 7:00 - 8:30 pm • NPC
Fr. Brian Presentation • 7:00 pm • St. Mary Church

• Tuesday, September 24 •

Adoration, following 9:00 am Mass • OPC Chapel
Open Music Ministry Rehearsal • 6:30 pm • Church

• Wednesday, September 25 •

Parish Offices Closed
Adoration, following 9:00 am Mass • OPC Chapel

• Thursday, September 26 •

Charismatic Prayer Group • 10:00 am • OPC
BINGO • 6:45 pm (doors open at 3:00 pm) • Hall
Charismatic Prayer Group • 7:00 pm • OPC

• Friday, September 27 •

African Community Rosary • 6:30 pm • Library

• Saturday, September 28 •

NO 9:00 am Mass: Mass at St. Mary this week
Catechists Retreat • 9:00 am - 12:30 pm • SM Hall
Surviving Sibling Group • 10:00 am - 12:30 pm • OPC
Reconciliation • 3:00 - 3:45 pm • Church
Knights of Columbus Tootsie Roll Drive after 4 pm Mass

• Sunday, September 29 •

Faith Formation Events • Refer to Page 7
Coffee and Donuts, following 8:30 am Mass • Mariotti
Children's Liturgy of the Word, during 8:30 am Mass
African Liturgy • 12:30 pm • Church
Knights of Columbus Tootsie Roll Drive after 4 pm Mass

The Chelmsford Catholic Collaborative CYO proudly announces their upcoming

SPORTS INFORMATION NIGHT WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 25TH

We will gather in the St. Mary Parish Center Conference Room 1 and provide information on the following programs:



**7:00 - 7:30 pm
Presentation on
Bowling**

**7:30 - 8:00 pm
Presentation on
Archery**



**8:00 - 8:30 pm
Presentation on
Basketball**

All our CYO sports teams are co-ed and open to those in grades 5-8. ANYONE interested in CYO sports is welcome to attend this evening.
See you there!

ATTENTION ALL VOLUNTEERS! 2020 CORI PACKETS!

As you know, all volunteers are required to complete an annual CORI form.

For your convenience, Rae will be available after all Masses in the St. Mary Parish Hall on the weekend of October 5th/6th.

Please note that you can print the forms ahead of time, **BUT PLEASE DO NOT SIGN AT THAT TIME.** Your signature requires the presence of a parish staff member to serve as your witness.



welcome to *more*



Q. Why can't you get married or be married as a priest?

A. The answer to this question is not simple because there *are* married priests in the Church. First, we need to recognize that the Catholic Church is made up of many different Churches. Most of us in the United States belong to what is called the Roman Rite, and then there are twenty-three Eastern Rite Catholic Churches. The Eastern Rite Churches have their own way of celebrating the sacraments which is different from how we celebrate them. They also have their own discipline on many issues, such as married priests. The Eastern Rite Churches are Catholic just as we are because they are in union with the pope. However, in their traditions they have always allowed married men to be ordained priests, but once they are ordained they cannot marry.

In the Roman Rite, from about the fourth century, living life as a celibate priest became the norm. But, this was not always lived out in practice. We see, in the eleventh century, a lot of Church laws trying to address the issue of priests *not* living a celibate life. But, over time the norm of celibate priests came to be lived out more and more. Today, it is expected that a man entering the clerical state as a priest or bishop will not be married or get married, with some exceptions. The biggest exception is married ministers—particularly Anglican/Episcopal or Lutheran—who come into full communion with the Catholic Church. If both these ministers and the Church feel they are called to be priests, then the Church will ordain them. Most are put into special ministries in order to ensure they can support their families.

So, let's now get to the question of why priests can't get married or be married as a priest? The hope of the Church is that the priest will give his entire life over to the needs of the Church. As a priest my life should no longer be my own. All decisions need to be made according to what is in the best interest of the diocese or religious order we are ordained to serve. If a priest needs to be moved, then he should move. If he needs to go back to school to prepare for a particular need of the Church, then he does it. However, if the priest is married, then he is rightfully encumbered by looking after the needs of his family. The whole point of celibacy is that the priest dies to himself and, therefore, can become all things to all people. It is also hoped that, in his assignment, the priest can devote his life to the needs of his parish family. The Church feels that the pull of family life can, in certain ways, take away from the wholesale gift of his life that intended to be given to the people of God.

Q. If you get married and then decided to become a priest, can you get divorced and then become a priest?

A. The answer is simply 'no' because for the Church, once you are married you are married, unless an annulment can be granted. So, the person who divorces cannot become a priest because the Church still considers him married.

of what's happening in our Collaborative!

Our Pets are a Blessing to us!



Let us share
in the celebration of
St. Francis of Assisi

Blessing of the Animals

**Friday, October 4th
6:00 pm on St. John Great Lawn**

Please bring any and all pets.. Dogs (on leash), cats (in carrier), hamsters and birds (in cage), fish (in bowl), snakes, lizards and turtles (in terrarium)... did we miss any?

*"All creatures, great and small...
The Lord God made them all"*



To A Church Hall Near You!

Annual Ham Dinner

**Saturday, October 19th at 5 pm
St. John's Church Hall**



\$15 per adult

Ham Dinner w/ beverage & dessert

\$5 per child (12 and under)

Hot dog, chips, beverage & dessert

Tickets will be available for purchase following all St. John Masses on the weekend of October 5th/6th and 11th/12th, or by visiting the parish office BEGINNING October 5th. To purchase online, visit WeShare on the home page of our website.

The **DEADLINE**
to purchase tickets is October 14th

Weeding the Garden

Clearing the Path to a Relationship with God, self and others!
a presentation by Fr. Brian

Monday evenings...

September 23~September 30~October 7

7:00 - 8:30 pm at St. Mary Church



Baby Bottles to support the
Pregnancy Care Center of
the Merrimack Valley & Southern New Hampshire

**THIS COLLABORATIVE EVENT WILL
BEGIN ON THE WEEKEND OF OCTOBER 5th/6th
AND END THE 12th/13th!**

We ask that you pick up a bottle and as a family, fill it with coins, bills or a check (made payable to PCC), and return it to church on the weekend of October 12th/13th. **Please**

**note the Baby Bottle Drive is for this one
week only!** The PPC is a Christ-centered

organization that offers free and confidential
life-affirming services designed to empower
women and

men in making informed decisions about an
unexpected pregnancy, abstinence education, and recovery from
post-abortion trauma.

The PCC has four locations, including one in Lowell. We are
pleased to support such a worthwhile cause in respect for the
sanctity of all human life. Because October is Respect Life Month,
what a wonderful opportunity to respect life as a family. To receive
more information about the PCC, call 978-373-5700.



Both the RCIA (Rite of the Christian Initiation
of Adults) and Adult Confirmation Programs
will be offered in October.

Details are forthcoming....

If you would like to learn more about
either of the programs, please email
Fr. Corey at fr.corey@chelmsfordcatholic.org.



*"The Lord's call is not an intrusion of God in our freedom; it is not a "cage" or a burden to be borne.
On the contrary, it is the loving initiative whereby God encounters us and invites us to be part of a great
undertaking. He opens before our eyes the horizon of a greater sea and an abundant catch."*

-His Holiness, Pope Francis

welcome to the Collaborative Family

Heather Hannaway
Director of Faith Formation
hhannaway@chelmsfordcatholic.org

Courtney Callanan
Asst. Dir. of Faith Formation & Youth Minister
ccallanan@chelmsfordcatholic.org

• St. Mary First Class and Parent Meeting Schedule •

CLASSES BEGIN SOON!

• All Classes are on Sundays •

Full Class schedules can be found on our website
www.chelmsfordcatholic.org
Calendars & Schedules under the Faith Formation Tab

GRADES 1, 3, 4, 5, 6 GROUP A

First Class: October 6
9:00 - 10:30 am Hall

GRADES 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 GROUP B

First Class: October 6
11:00 am - 12:30 pm Hall

GRADES 1, 3, 4, 5, 6 GROUP C

First Class: October 20
9:00 - 10:30 am Hall

GRADES 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 GROUP D

First Class: October 20
11:00 am - 12:30 pm Hall

GRADE 7

First Class: September 29th
4:15 - 5:45 pm Hall

GRADE 8

First Class: September 29th
4:15 - 5:45 pm Hall

CONFIRMATION I

First Class: October 20th
4:15 - 5:45 pm Hall

CONFIRMATION II

First Class: October 6th
4:15 - 5:45 pm Hall

PARENT GATHERINGS HAVE BEGUN!

GRADE 1,2

September 29th
10:00 am in Parish Hall

GRADE 3, 4, 5, 6

September 22nd
12:00 pm in Parish Hall

GRADE 7

September 22nd
1:00 pm in Parish Hall

GRADE 8

September 22nd
1:00 pm in Parish Hall

CONFIRMATION I

October 20th
4:15 pm in Parish Hall

CONFIRMATION II

October 6th
5:15 pm in Parish Hall

Registration Continues

Visit: www.chelmsfordcatholic.org
select faith formation
select family faith formation
select registration
choose the church you are registering in

Easy-to-follow directions and guidelines are
provided to make your registration
quick and easy!

Please do not let finances hinder your child's faith
formation. Both parishes offer financial assistance.

Catechist Team Retreat

"Give Me Jesus"

A morning of collaborative team building,
formation and fellowship.

Saturday, September 28

9:00 am - 12:00 noon • St. Mary Parish Hall

We will review....

- Family Gathering Sessions
- Child-only Classes
- Grade 7-10 Curriculum
- Class Structure
- AND MORE!

IT IS IMPORTANT THAT ALL
TEACHING VOLUNTEERS ATTEND THIS RETREAT

Protecting God's Children Workshop

Saturday, October 5th • 9:00 am—12:30 pm
St. Mary Parish Center, Conf Room 1

Register online today by visiting our website
www.chelmsfordcatholic.org
Faith Formation/ Protecting God's Children

Faith Formation Program

Alana Buckley
Faith Formation Specialist
alana@chelmsfordcatholic.org

Lynn Anne LaDuke
Faith Formation Coordinator
lynnanne@chelmsfordcatholic.org

Elaine Kindler
Faith Formation Coordinator
ekindler@chelmsfordcatholic.org

• St. John First Class and Parent Meeting Schedule •

CLASSES BEGIN SOON!

• All Classes are on Sundays •

Full Class schedules can be found on our website
www.chelmsfordcatholic.org
Calendars & Schedules under the Faith Formation Tab

GRADES K, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 GROUP A

First Class: October 6
9:45 - 11:15 am Hall

GRADES K, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 GROUP B

First Class: October 20
9:45 - 11:15 am Hall

GRADE 7

First Class: September 29th
9:45 - 11:15 am Hall

GRADE 8

First Class: September 29th
9:45 - 11:15 am Hall

CONFIRMATION I

First Class: October 20th
11:30 am - 1:00 pm Hall

CONFIRMATION II

First Class: October 6th
11:30 am - 1:00 pm Hall

PARENT GATHERINGS HAVE BEGUN!

GRADE K, 1, 2

September 22nd
9:30 am in Parish Hall

GRADE 3, 4, 5, 6

September 22nd
10:30 am in Parish Hall

GRADE 7

September 22nd
11:30 am in Parish Hall

GRADE 8

September 22nd
11:30 am in Parish Hall

CONFIRMATION I

October 20th
11:30 am in Parish Hall

CONFIRMATION II

October 6th
12:30 pm in Parish Hall

St. John Confirmation Retreat & Rehearsal

for Candidates and Sponsors
Saturday, October 5... 10:00 am - 2:00 pm

St. John Confirmation Mass

Sunday, October 6th... 5:00 pm
Celebrated by Most Rev. Robert Francis Hennessey



Registration Continues

Visit: www.chelmsfordcatholic.org
select faith formation
select family faith formation
select registration
choose the church you are registering in

Easy-to-follow directions and guidelines are
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quick and easy!

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- AND MORE!

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Saturday, October 5th • 9:00 am—12:30 pm
St. Mary Parish Center, Conf Room 1

Register online today by visiting our website
www.chelmsfordcatholic.org
Faith Formation/ Protecting God's Children

Youth Ministry

Courtney Callanan
Asst. Dir. of Faith Formation & Youth Minister
ccallanan@chelmsfordcatholic.org

MASS ON A MOUNTAIN

The youth of both St. John's and St. Mary's are invited to join us on Columbus Day—Monday, October 14th—for a hike up Mt. Chocorua!

This moderate hike will offer beautiful views, and more importantly, the opportunity to pray as a community. The 'high point' of our hike will be Mass celebrated by Fr. Brian at the peak. We will depart from St. Mary's parking lot at 7:30 am. If you would like to join us, email Courtney by October 7th.



The purpose of this prayer team is to support our youth ministry efforts by making a weekly commitment to praying for our program, for the youth served by the program, and adults serving in the program.

Specific prayer intentions and suggestions will be sent monthly, but any style of prayer is welcome and appreciated.

If you would like to be part of this rewarding ministry team, email Courtney or phone her at (978) 256-2374/ 251-8571, ext 227. In your message, please include your name, phone, email, mailing address and your communication preference (email or phone).



The RCIA process begins with a period of inquiry and discovery, followed by a time of preparation in order to receive the sacraments of initiation (Baptism, First Eucharist and Confirmation), and culminating in a formal welcome into the faith at the Easter Vigil. Interested in learning more? Contact Fr. Corey Bassett-Tirrell at fr.corey@chelmsfordcatholic.org



ADULT CONFIRMATION

If you are a baptized Roman Catholic who has received your First Communion, but was never confirmed,

then this program is one that will be of interest to you. If interested in learning more about this process, contact Heather Hannaway at hhannaway@chelmsfordcatholic.org

ATTENTION VOLUNTEERS!

We will be offering a
PROTECTING GOD'S CHILDREN WORKSHOP
Saturday, October 5th ~ 9:00 am - 12:30 pm
Sign up is **REQUIRED**

To register, visit www.chelmsfordcatholic.org.
Click on Faith Formation/ Protecting Gods Children
Scroll down to 'To Register for a Workshop'

This workshop educates you in recognizing potential abuse and/or abusers. Please know that **ALL** volunteers who have access to our youth are **REQUIRED** to be certified in this curriculum.

If you are not sure whether or not you have been certified, contact the parish office.

Join Fr. Brian on a Pilgrimage to the Holy Land March 1—10, 2020

Pilgrims have been traveling to the Holy Land for hundreds of years, and as part of your pilgrimage, we include many of the rich traditions that have evolved over time. Each day of your pilgrimage will allow for time to renew and affirm your faith, to pray and reflect. The Scriptures will come alive as you visit our Lord's homeland, while being inspired by the natural beauty of the landscape and rich historical heritage. It is an encounter that has changed the lives of many pilgrims. It is an act of faith and prayer.

Visit our website... www.chelmsfordcatholic.org for a link to all the tour information including the daily itinerary, reservation application, inclusions and cost. Additionally, brochures can be found in the St. Mary church entrance and parish center, the St. John new parish center, and the parish offices.



CLERGY

Reverend Brian Mahoney, PASTOR
ext 215... fr.brian@chelmsfordcatholic.org

Reverend Corey Bassett-Tirrell, PAROCHIAL VICAR
ext 239... fr.corey@chelmsfordcatholic.org

Reverend Arnold Colletti, SR. PRIEST IN RESIDENCE
ext 221... frcolletti@chelmsfordcatholic.org

Andrew John Rondeili, SEMINARIAN
ext 224... andrewjohn@chelmsfordcatholic.org

BUSINESS OFFICE

Paul Firicano, COLLABORATIVE BUSINESS MANAGER
ext 220... pfiricano@chelmsfordcatholic.org

Tina Sousa, FINANCE & FACILITY SUPPORT
ext 219... tsousa@chelmsfordcatholic.org

FAMILY FAITH FORMATION

Heather Hannaway, DIRECTOR OF FAMILY FAITH FORMATION
ext 226... hhannaway@chelmsfordcatholic.org

Courtney Callanan, ASST DIR OF FAITH FORMATION/ YOUTH MINISTER
ext 227... ccallanan@chelmsfordcatholic.org

Alana Buckley, part-time FAITH FORMATION SPECIALIST
ext 212, alana@chelmsfordcatholic.org

Lynn Anne LaDuke, FAITH FORMATION COORDINATOR
ext 240... lynnanne@chelmsfordcatholic.org

Elaine Kindler, FAITH FORMATION COORDINATOR
ext 216... ekindler@chelmsfordcatholic.org

MUSIC MINISTRIES

Jason Gaudette, DIRECTOR OF ST. JOHN MUSIC MINISTRIES
ext 234... jay@chelmsfordcatholic.org

John Anthony Volpe, DIRECTOR OF ST. MARY MUSIC MINISTRIES
ext 222... jvolpe@chelmsfordcatholic.org

ADMINISTRATIVE

Rae Russo, SCHEDULING COORDINATOR
ext 325... rae@chelmsfordcatholic.org

Donna Gambon, part-time ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT
ext 248... dgambon@chelmsfordcatholic.org

Sue Beechin, part-time ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT
ext 236... sue@chelmsfordcatholic.org

FACILITIES

Dan Heider, FACILITIES MANAGER
ext 213... dheider@chelmsfordcatholic.org

Stephen Webber, CUSTODIAN
ext 231... steve@chelmsfordcatholic.org

BULLETIN, WEBSITE, SOCIAL MEDIA

Christine Trznadel, COMMUNICATIONS COORDINATOR
ext 214... christine@chelmsfordcatholic.org

In order to promote communication and transparency throughout the Chelmsford Catholic Collaborative, you are encouraged to forward any comments and concerns you may have directly to the Parish Pastoral and Finance Councils.

COLLABORATIVE PARISH COUNCIL

Parish council matters can be sent to:
CollaborativePPC@chelmsfordcatholic.org
or 978-256-2374/ 978-251-8571, ext 145
Current Council Members are ...

St. John Members

Angela McMaster (co-chair)

Mike Condor

Scott Davidson

Beth Jacavano

Ellen St. George

Julie Seitter

Augustine Tweneh

Ray Wagner (secretary)

St. Mary Members

Peter Lando (co-chair)

Laura Conte

Rob Donnelly

Karen Drake

Jessica Hägg

Cliff Mann

Lori McDonald

Alma (Chicki) Rigazio

Paul Therrien

ST. JOHN FINANCE COUNCIL

Finance matters concerning St. John's can be sent to:

SJ.FC@chelmsfordcatholic.org
or 978-251-8571, ext 146

Current Council Members are ...

John Bagni

Paul Brzezinski

Jeff Brown

Celeste Dunn

Jerry Wright

ST. MARY FINANCE COUNCIL

Finance matters concerning St. Mary's can be sent to:

SM.FC@chelmsfordcatholic.org
or 978-256-2374 ext 147

Current Council Members are ...

Armand DiLando

William Donohue

Lauren Desforge

Gerard Jarasitis

Ted Powers

If you would like to submit a notice for the bulletin, please submit it no later than 12 NOON, TWO Fridays prior to the weekend in which you would like to have it published. Submittals should be emailed to christine@chelmsfordcatholic.org or via US Mail to the Parish Offices at 115 Middlesex Street, North Chelmsford, MA, 01863, ATTN Christine. We will do our very best to accommodate your request.

From Our Pastor

I remember, when I was sixteen years old, there was a shirt I wanted and so I asked my Mom to buy it for me. Her response was quick and quite simple, "You are now old enough to get a job and buy whatever shirt you want. We will buy your school clothes and some at Christmas and Easter. Anything else, at this point, has to come from you." My Dad helped me get a job at the local department store as a maintenance person. When I received my first paycheck, I did *not* buy the shirt that I thought I had to have. It's kind of funny about what you think you must have when someone else is paying for it, as opposed to when you have to pay for it yourself.

How do we determine what we really need in our life? In many ways that is the most important question we can ask ourselves. And to discern the answer, we must understand what we most treasure. As Jesus tells us, "Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and decay destroy, and thieves break in and steal. But store up treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor decay destroys, nor thieves break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there also will your heart be." How do we determine what we treasure in life? That is really simple: what do you put your biggest effort into achieving, and why do you do it?

For example, you could have two people who work in the same job and make the same money. They both work extremely hard in what they do, and they put in long hours in order to maximize their pay. The time and effort that they expend leads to both realizing that they want to make as much money as possible. But their reasons are very different. Person A is trying simply to make as much money as possible to buy the things he/she considers important, such as a nice car, a big-screen TV, a large home, and so forth. Their entire focus is on what they can own here and now. Person B is trying to earn the money in order to support his/her family, such as getting a home that meets their particular needs, saving for the children's college, buying clothes and food that are necessary, etc. Person A is concerned simply about what he/she can buy with the money they earn. Person B is concerned about the needs of others. Person A's treasure is about self. Person B's treasure is the other people in his/her life.

The most important decisions we make in our lives are highly influenced by what we treasure. Simply look at what is clearly most difficult for people to give to others—their time. How often do we hear people tell us they are multi-tasking to be more efficient? How often do we see people struggling to get done all the things they need to do, simply because they do not have the time they need? Most people are feeling more and more stretched by the various demands placed on them. And when that one more thing is asked of them, they come to feel overwhelmed—and rightfully so. How we make use of our time tells us what is truly most important to us.

We simply need to look at sports in our culture. Now, I love watching sports. But, at the same time, it and other such activities have taken an overblown importance in our society. How many of our kids play in multiple leagues of the same sport throughout the year? And doctors have made it clear that this is not good or healthy for kids. It can and does lead to repetitive injuries such as stress fractures, ligament strains, or worse. They occur because stress is being put on their young bodies which are not yet done growing. They are in stages of growth and, as such, are more prone to harm when their bodies are used in same way over and over again. And still we, as a society, see nothing wrong with what is happening. Why?

It is about what we have decided that our treasures should be. Many parents have this insane idea that their child will be the next great 'whatever.' We put them into sports so they can get into college. We put them into sports to ensure they have something to do—or whatever the choice might be. But the question is, what is the cost that our kids will pay in the long term for what we are doing? It comes back to asking ourselves what is it we are really trying to gain by our decisions? What is it that we want to achieve? And does it make sense based on what we are doing?

As we look at the world around us, we see that people have many different ideas as to what is their most important need in life. As a Christian the most important thing we should want is to get to heaven. As a spouse your primary responsibility is to get your spouse to heaven. As a parent your primary responsibility is to get your child to heaven. As a Christian your most important responsibility is to get another person to heaven. Our greatest need then as a Christian is to live a life that allows us to do just that. How then do we achieve that? We look simply to the life of Christ and see what He did to get us to heaven. And for Jesus it came down to living his life by one simple principle, "Not my will but God's will." May we come to do the same and find the only treasure that matters.

If you have any questions about anything, please do not hesitate to ask me directly, or send your questions to me at fr.brian@chelmsfordcatholic.org. Please keep me in your prayers.

In Christ,



St. Padre Pio was born Francesco Forgione, on May 25, 1887, in Pietrelcina, Italy to peasant farmers. He had an older brother and three younger sisters. As a child, he possessed a peculiar ability—he could see guardian angels and spoke with Jesus and the Virgin Mary. This occurred so naturally that he simply assumed other people could see them too. By the age of five, he had made the decision to dedicate his life to God. As a boy, he served as an altar boy at his local parish, and he was known for taking on penances. His mother, even though very religious herself, once scolded him for sleeping on a stone floor.



Francisco's family was very poor, which required that he work tending to a small flock of sheep owned by his family. Unfortunately, work meant he was unable to regularly attend school, so he quickly fell behind other kids his age. In 1897, after three years of schooling, Francisco expressed that he wanted to become a friar, so his parents asked a nearby community of monks if Francesco could join them. He was told he needed more education before he could join, so his parents hired a private tutor to help prepare him. In order to pay, his father traveled to America, found work, and sent money home.

At age 15, Francisco entered the novitiate of the Capuchin friars at Morcone. He took the name of "Pio" in honor of Pope Pius I, whose relic he often saw at his local chapel. At age 17, Brother Pio became extremely ill and was sent home. Amidst his ailments, he continued to study for the priesthood, which led to his ordination in 1910, but because of his poor health, he was permitted to remain at home. In 1915, with World War I afflicting the world, Padre Pio was drafted into medical service for the military, and in March 1916, was dismissed, due to continued poor health.

In September of that same year, as Padre Pio was hearing confessions, he felt pain in his hands and feet. He noticed the stigmata—the wounds of Christ—appearing on his hands and feet. The wounds smelled of roses, and although they continued to weep, they never became infected. Doctors who examined the stigmata were amazed at their perfectly round shape, and a Church investigation concluded that his condition was not faked. By 1919, word began to spread about Padre Pio's stigmata and people came from far away to examine him.

Padre Pio became popular with the people he encountered and supernatural occurrences were soon attributed to him. He was said to levitate and perform miracles. His popularity became a source of concern for the Church and the Vatican began to restrict his activities to minimize public interaction. Even Padre Pio himself was uncomfortable with his newfound popularity and the attention he was receiving. He was known for his piety, charity and the quality of his preaching. He famously advised, "Pray, hope and don't worry."

Padre Pio died on September 23, 1968. His funeral was attended by over 100,000 people. On July 16, 2002, Pope John Paul II recognized Padre Pio as a saint. His feast day is September 23. He is the patron of civil defense volunteers, adolescents, and the village of Pietrelcina.

FROM OUR SENIOR PRIEST IN RESIDENCE Fr. Arnold Colletti

Cletus Wessels, in his book *Jesus in the New Universe Story*, interestingly divides the human story into three stages.

- 1) The childhood of the human and physical development. This stage is characterized by dependence on the earth for food, clothing, and shelter, and an experience of harmony with nature and within the community of species, with a relatively non-violent relationship with other humans and nature. There was a highly developed, artistic sense based on a spiritual consciousness, and life focused on the life-giving role of women and worship of The Mother Earth Goddess.
- 2) The adolescence of the human-ego and mental development. During its adolescence, the human species, at least in Western culture, has been infected with a patriarchal poison that is a powerful obstacle to our ability to choose life. "This ended up in a separateness, pitting one against another and putting one above the other—human over nature, heaven over earth, divine over human, supernatural over natural, soul over body, spirit over matter, master over slave, ruler over subject, and male over female. Such separateness is the source of the threat to our ongoing existence" writes Wessels.
- 3) Adulthood—spiritual development. The transition to this phase comes when we understand that we live with a distorted myth—the myth of progress. "According to this myth, progress will give us a life of plenty and a life of ease, it will give us health and prosperity beyond our imagining, and it will enable us to worship daily at the 'Mall of America,' the cathedral of conspicuous consumerism." We need to move from this kind of power of domination. As humans and as adults we seek the inner power within us and the ability to develop our gifts to the fullest. But beyond that, our power is a power to serve.

"There is no mistaking the two quite different ways in which power and authority are understood and exercised. It is the difference between *domination* and *service*", Alfred Nolan writes in *Jesus before Christianity*. In the adult stage we will have to learn, more profoundly, what Jesus tells us in today's gospel, "No servant can serve two masters. Either he will hate the one and love the other, or be attentive to the one and despise the other. You cannot give yourself to God and money" (Luke 16:1-13).

Collection to Benefit those affected by Hurricane Dorian

THIS weekend, September 21/22, we will be taking up a special collection for the (arch)dioceses of the Bahamas and the United States that have been ravaged by the destruction of Hurricane Dorian. We have all seen the devastation caused by this severe storm. The emergency needs of the local church in these areas will be great.

Checks should be made out to the 'Archdiocese of Boston,' with 'Hurricane Dorian Relief' clearly marked on the memo line. As information about the destruction and needs becomes known we will work in collaboration with Catholic Relief Services for the Bahamas and Catholic Charities USA for any U.S. diocese that has emergency needs.

Let us keep all of our brothers and sisters impacted by the hurricane in our prayers.



A VERY IMPORTANT UPDATE...

The \$55,000 quote assigned to this project expires in just under 2 weeks on October 4th. Of this amount, we need only to raise half — \$27,500—as some very generous families have committed to donating the other half. We have just passed the 60% mark, raising a to-date total of \$17,333. Financial assistance is not something we enjoy asking for, but the need for an elevator is crucial to our community, and if we are unable to raise these funds, we may have to put this project on hold. As we thank those who have donated thus far, we again ask those who have not yet had the chance, to help us to meet this goal.

If, after prayerful consideration, you decide to donate towards this cause, please contact Paul Firicano. All checks should be made payable to St. Mary Parish, with "new elevator (LIFT)" listed in the memo section. If you choose to donate via Online Giving, please visit our website, www.chelmsfordcatholic.org, and click on the Online Giving link where you can choose the fund, New Elevator (LIFT).

St. Mary

WEEKLY OFFERTORY

Weekend of
Sept 14th/15th

Offertory Needed to Cover Budgeted Expenses	\$17,140	of the actual, \$4,314 is from electronic giving
Actual Received	\$15,395	
Variance	-\$1,745	

Clergy Benefit Trust	\$4,263
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St. John

WEEKLY OFFERTORY

Weekend of
Sept 14th/15th

Offertory Needed to Cover Budgeted Expenses	\$11,040	of the actual, \$3,531 is from electronic giving
Actual Received	\$10,165	
Variance	-\$875	

Clergy Benefit Trust	\$3,343
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Looking for Volunteers to Serve on our Finance Councils

Both St. Mary and St. John parishes are looking for volunteers to serve on their Finance Councils. If selected, the council term is one year with possible annual reappointments for up to five years. Each committee meets quarterly during the year, with special meetings held if needed. In order to best serve the Council and the Parish, we are looking for individuals with professional experience in fields such as, but not limited to, Finance, Accounting, Real Estate, or Financial Planning. If you possess any of these skills and are interested, please contact Paul Firicano at the parish offices or by email: pfiricano@chelmsfordcatholic.org.



Online Giving Programs: visit www.chelmsfordcatholic.org.

Links to both programs can be found on the right-hand side of home page.





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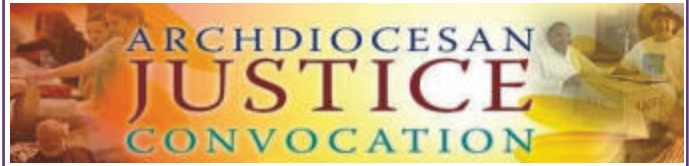
A Catholic Conference focused on **MERCY**

SATURDAY, October 5th ~ 8:30 am - 6:00 pm
Lowell Memorial Auditorium (doors open at 8:00 am)
Tickets: \$40/per person

Geared toward adult men and women (ages 20 - 120) who wish to learn about and experience the ENDLESS love of God, this Powerful Day of Grace features five extraordinary speakers, Music, Holy Mass, Confession and Adoration. For tickets or information, visit www.hopeconferences.com or email info@hopeconferences.com

Speakers: Jessie Romero, Alexis Walkenstein,
Allison Gingras, and Fr. Willy Raymond, CSC
Music: Delmore Worship

Holy Mass will be celebrated by Bishop Robert Hennessey



11th Annual Archdiocesan Justice Convocation

Catholic Social Teaching Do Justice. Love Mercy. Walk Humbly with God.

Saturday, October 5th... 8:00 am - 3:00 pm
Boston College High School
150 Morrissey Boulevard, Boston

Registration Fee of \$25 includes lunch
PLENTY of FREE parking!

Come join us to renew your commitment to eradicating the root causes of injustice and inequality. Topics include immigration, worker rights, environmental justice, homelessness, global and local poverty, prison reform, and racial justice. We will focus on concrete ACTIONS that you and your parish can take to give witness to Gospel Justice.

For details and to register:
visit <https://www.bostoncatholic.org/justice> or contact
Suzanne Gaul at socialjustice@rcab.org or
(617) 746-5738.

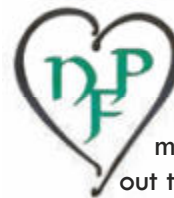
October is RESPECT LIFE MONTH

Archdiocesan Respect Life Mass

11:00 am • Sunday, October 6th
St. Camillus Church • 1185 Concord Turnpike • Arlington

Most Reverend Peter J. Uglietto, Vicar General and
Moderator of the Curia will be the Celebrant
and Homilist at this Mass.

All are welcome to join in prayer to
Christ Our Hope in Every Season of Life



Natural Family Planning

In an effort to give practical help to married and engaged couples to live out the teaching of the Church, a short course on Natural Family Planning is being offered locally...

Saint Kathryn's • 4 Dracut Road, Hudson NH
7:00 pm in Room 1
September 21 • October 26 • November 16

Pre-registration is required to study materials:
www.ccli.org and select the onsite course NH

For information, contact Paul and Barbara Donovan
at (603) 463-7456 or bjdonovan@metrocast.net

Advantages of Natural Family Planning (NFP)

- Medically safe
- Increased health awareness
- 99.6% effective in postponing pregnancy
- Helpful for achieving pregnancy
- More satisfying marriages
- No cost for practicing this method





If you would like to request that a Mass be celebrated for a specific intention or person, please call the parish office.

A donation of \$10 per Mass intention is requested to be made at the time that you schedule your intention.

St. John

- SAT, SEP 21** 4:00 pm: Arlene Steeves: 20th Anniversary
SUN, SEP 22 8:30 am: For the People of the Parish
 10:30 am: Mary Jane Dunn: 2nd Anniversary
 5:00 pm: Arpad Nagy: Memorial
MON, SEP 23 9:00 am: Maura Dolan: Memorial
TUE, SEP 24 9:00 am: Iris Garcia-Barragan: Month's Mind
SAT, SEP 28 4:00 pm: Parker, Annamarie & Gary Thomas and Simone Dion: Memorial
SUN, SEP 29 8:30 am: Lost Siblings Support Group
 10:30 am: For the People of the Parish
 12:30 pm: Charity Nyamor: Memorial
 5:00 pm: Sean Caron, Germaine Caron, and Gregory Saunders: Memorial

St. Mary

- SUN, SEP 22** 7:00 am: Henry and Katherine Horne: Memorial
 9:00 am: For the People of the Parish
 11:00 am: Hugh and Norma Underhill: Memorial
WED, SEP 25 7:00 am: Iris Garcia-Barragan: Memorial
THU, SEP 26 7:00 am: Margaret Winifred Cole: Memorial
FRI, SEP 27 7:00 am: Cindy LaPorte: Memorial
SAT, SEP 28 4:00 pm: Coleen Cody: Memorial
SUN, SEP 29 9:00 am: Cheryl Ducharme: 6 Month Mind
 11:00 am: For the People of the Parish

*There is an appointed time for everything,
and a time for every affair under the heavens.*

A time to give birth, and a time to die;
a time to plant, and a time to uproot the plant.
A time to kill, and a time to heal;
a time to tear down, and a time to build up.
A time to weep, and a time to laugh;
a time to mourn, and a time to dance.
A time to scatter stones, and a time to gather them;
a time to embrace, and a time to be far from embraces.
A time to seek, and a time to lose;
a time to keep, and a time to cast away.
A time to rend, and a time to sew;
a time to be silent, and a time to speak.
A time to love, and a time to hate;
a time of war, and a time of peace.

-Ecclesiastes 3:1-8

ST. MARY MEMORIAL ALTAR FLOWERS



Parishioners are invited to donate a floral arrangement, to be displayed on the altar in memory of, or in honor of, a loved one. The requested donation for an arrangement is \$40, and includes an acknowledgement in the bulletin. If you would like to donate altar flowers, please call the parish office

In Memory of Leo & Yvette Lemire

A Floral Moment by Juju Buds

ROSE FOR LIFE



Someone special you'd like to honor? You can do that by having a rose signifying your intention placed in the church, as well as having your intention published in the bulletin. To book a Rose for Life, contact the parish office. Be sure to let them know at which parish you would like the rose placed. The suggested offering for a rose is \$5.00.

This week's St. John Rose for Life:

In Memory of Agnes Burns

Roses Provided by Mahoney's Garden Center



**"YOUR WORD IS A
LAMP UNTO MY FEET
AND A LIGHT UNTO
MY PATH"**
-PSALM 119:105

MONDAY, SEP 23
Ezra 1: 1-6
Psalm 126
Luke 8: 16-18

TUESDAY, SEP 24
Ezra 6: 7-8, 12, 14-20
Psalm 122
Luke 8: 19-22

WEDNESDAY, SEP 25
Ezra 9: 5-9
Tobit (psalm) 13
Luke 9: 1-6

THURSDAY, SEP 26
Haggai 1: 1-8
Psalm 149
Luke 9: 7-9

FRIDAY, SEP 27
Haggai 2: 1-9
Psalm 43
Luke 9: 18-22

SATURDAY, SEP 28
Zechariah 2: 5-9, 14-15
Jeremiah (psalm) 31
Luke 9: 43-45

SUNDAY, SEP 29
Amos 6: 1, 4-7
Psalm 146
1 Timothy 6: 11-16
Luke 16: 19-31

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Gary Yip
President



Robert Anderson of Bedford

Robert "Bob" Anderson of Bedford, former resident of Lexington for over 53 years, age 89, died peacefully after a 7-week battle with heart failure on Friday August 30, 2019 in the prayerful presence of his family.

He was married to Eleanor M. Anderson with whom he celebrated their 62nd wedding anniversary on February 23, 2019.

Born in Boston, MA he was the son of the late Charles William Anderson and Elizabeth (Foy) Anderson. Raised in Franklin, MA, he graduated from Franklin High School. Bob attended Tufts College in Medford, MA majoring in Math under an NROTC scholarship. Following graduation, he was commissioned as an officer and served three years in the US Navy on an Aircraft Carrier and an Experimental Task Force Command Ship.

Bob entered the computer industry in 1956 which remained his focus for 57 years. He established his own consulting firm, Anderson Associates of Lexington in 1970, and retired as the owner and operator of that firm in 2013.

Besides his wife, he is survived by his sons, Christopher and his wife Catherine Anderson of Westford, Scott



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**106 MIDDLESEX ST.
CHELMSFORD, MA**

Anderson of Biloxi, MS, and Jeffrey and his wife Candace Anderson of Mystic, CT; a brother, Charles and his wife Amelia Anderson of Wells, ME; a sister, Patricia Klos of Republic, MO; sister in law Priscilla Sarno of Waltham, MA; eight grandchildren, Carly Anderson and her husband Joshua Revkin, Jack, Sarah, Laurel, Sophia, Claire, Lily and Emmett Anderson.

Bob was a communicant of St. Malachy Church in Burlington, and formerly an active communicant of St. Bridget Church in Lexington.

Bob's daily presence, along with the dedicated and skilled staff at Carlton Willard in Bedford, MA, have been instrumental to his wife Ellie's continuing and peaceful 9-year journey with Alzheimer's. In Bob's memory, contributions can be directed to the 2019 Walk to End Alzheimer's fundraising effort by his grandchildren. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the family's fundraising page for team Red Blankets, Red Cars, and Running from the Guards here.

His visiting hours were Thurs., Sept. 5, 2019 at 10 AM at St. Mary Church, 25 North Rd. Chelmsford, MA followed by a Funeral Mass at 11 AM. Burial at Westview Cemetery, Lexington. Online guest book is available at www.dolanfuneralhome.com **ARRANGEMENTS BY DOLAN FUNERAL HOME 978-256-4040.**



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