



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	Saturday • 4:00 PM
Sunday • 8:30 AM, 10:30 AM & 5:00 PM	Sunday • 7:00 AM, 9:00 AM, 11:00 AM, 6:00 PM

WEEKDAY MASS SCHEDULE

Monday - Friday • 9:00 AM	Monday - Friday • 7:00 AM
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Saturday 9:00 am Mass alternates between parishes. Refer to calendars.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturday • 3:00 - 3:45 PM or by appointment	Saturday • 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM or by appointment
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EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

First Friday of the Month •	Thursday • 3:00 - 9:00 PM
Monday - Wednesday •	Friday • 7:30 AM - 9:00 PM
9:30 - 11:30 am in OPC Chapel	Saturday • 9:30 AM - 3:00 PM
Last 3 Wednesdays of month •	in the Parish Center Chapel
6:30 - 8:30 pm in OPC Chapel	

MASSES ARE AVAILABLE VIA LIVE STREAM

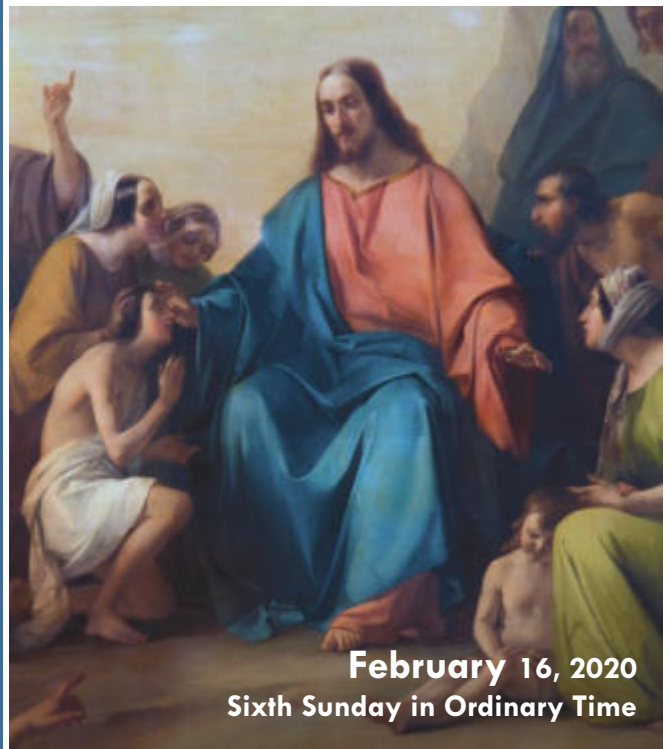
Visit www.chelmsfordcatholic.org
LIVEVIEW resides on the right-hand sidebar of the home page

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



February 16, 2020
Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

**Again you have heard
that it was said to your ancestors;
Do not make a false oath,
but make good to the Lord
all that you vow.”** -Matt 5:33



facebook.com/ChelmsfordCath



twitter.com/ChelmsfordCath



instagram.com/chelmsfordcatholic

"Blessed are they who follow the law of the Lord." Responsorial Psalm 119

St. Mary Calendar

• Sunday, February 16 •

Faith Formation Events • Refer to Page 6

11 am Choir Ministry Rehearsal • 9:45 - 10:50 am • Choir Loft
Children's Liturgy of the Word • 11 am Mass • PC Chapel
6 pm Music Ministry Rehearsal • 5:00 - 5:45 pm • Church

• Monday, February 17 •

PARISH OFFICES CLOSED due to PRESIDENTS DAY

Matthew Bible Study • 10:00 am - 12 noon • PC Conf Room 1
KOC Movie Presentation • 6:30 pm • Parish Hall

• Tuesday, February 18 •

Epic Bible Study • 7:00 - 8:30 pm • Parish Hall
Blood Pressure Clinic • 9:45 - 11:00 am • SJ Hall

• Wednesday, February 19 •

FF Deep Dive Event • 6:30 - 8:00 pm • Parish Hall

• Thursday, February 20 •

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

• Friday, February 21 •

Adoration • 7:30 am - 9:00 pm • PC Chapel
Knitting and Crocheting • 2:00 - 4:00 pm • Parish Hall

• Saturday, February 22 •

Daily Mass at 9:00 am

Adoration • 9:30 am - 3:00 pm • PC Chapel
Reconciliation • 11:00 am - 12 noon • Church
Confirmation Retreat • 1:00 - 9:00 pm • SJ Hall
Music Ministry Rehearsals • 2:30 - 4:00 pm • Conf Room B
Anointing of the Sick, following 4 pm Mass • Church

• Sunday, February 23 •

Faith Formation Events • Refer to Page 6

Grace Notes Choir Rehearsal • 8:10 - 8:35 am • Church
11 am Choir Ministry Rehearsal • 9:45 - 10:50 am • Choir Loft
Children's Liturgy of the Word • 11 am Mass • PC Chapel
6 pm Music Ministry Rehearsal • 5:00 - 5:45 pm • Church



St. Mary Church

Wedding BANNERS II

Sarah Snow and John Bergstrom

!! ATTENTION !!

St. Mary 4 pm MASS GOERS



Please be aware that the duration of the 4:00 pm Mass next Saturday, February 22nd will be slightly extended due to our welcoming of a child into the family through the Sacrament of Baptism.

We do hope you will decide to celebrate this joyous occasion with us.



SAVE THE DATE



SAINT PATRICK'S DAY DINNER AND SHAMROCK RAFFLE

Saturday, March 14th at St. John's
Appetizers at 5:00 pm
Dinner at 5:30 pm
\$20 per person



Tickets will be on sale
February 29th!

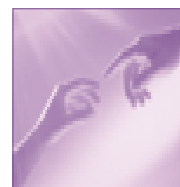
Join us for the traditional Corned Beef and Cabbage, Irish soda bread, hot/cold beverages and dessert... and live entertainment, door prize, and photo booth selfies! BYO beer and wine!

ONE-DAY RETREAT FOR GRIEVING PARENTS

SATURDAY, APRIL 25

9:00 am - 6:30 pm

St John Old Parish Center



This retreat offers spiritual support for grieving parents who have experienced the death of a child, no matter the age or reason.

For more information, or to register,
contact phasset99@gmail.com.



In honor of **Presidents Day**,
the **parish offices** will be closed
on **Monday, February 17th**.



THIS TUESDAY, February 18th
9:45 - 11:00 am in St. John Parish Hall

New Mass Schedule

This **PERMANENT** change in schedule takes
effect on the weekend of June 6th/7th, 2020



St. Mary Mass Schedule

Saturday 4:00 pm
Sunday 7:00 am, 11:00 am

St. John Mass Schedule

Saturday 4:00 pm
Sunday 9:30 am, 6:00 pm

The two 4:00 pm Masses will remain for as long as we have 2 full-time priests officially assigned to the Collaborative. As soon as that status changes, and we are reduced to only 1 full-time, assigned priest, the St. Mary 4:00 pm Mass will be changed to 5:30 pm.

WINE, WOMEN & WORD

All women of the Chelmsford Collaborative and beyond are welcome to join us for our monthly meeting.

Our reflection will be...

*Your One Act of Kindness
Can and Does Make a Lasting Difference*

Tuesday, February 18 • 6:30 - 8:00 pm
St. John's New Parish Center: Mariotti Room
BRING A FRIEND, OR TWO!

St. John Calendar

• Sunday, February 16 •

Faith Formation Events • Refer to Page 7
Children's Liturgy of the Word • 8:30 am Mass
Coffee and Donuts, following 8:30 am Mass • Mariotti
Prayer Shawl Meeting, following 8:30 am Mass • Linehan
Men's ACTS Return Mass • 10:30 am • Church
African Community Mass • 12:30 pm • Church

• Monday, February 17 •

PARISH OFFICES CLOSED due to PRESIDENTS DAY
Adoration • 9:30 - 11:30 am • OPC Chapel
Families with Addiction Support Group • CANCELLED

• Tuesday, February 18 •

Adoration • 9:30 - 11:30 am • OPC Chapel
Coffee and Fellowship, following 9 am Mass • Hall
Blood Pressure Clinic • 9:45 - 11:00 am • Hall
Wine, Women and Word 6:30 - 8:00 pm • Mariotti
Open Music Rehearsal • 6:30 pm • Church

• Wednesday, February 19 •

Adoration • 9:30 - 11:30 am • OPC Chapel
Adoration • 6:30 - 8:30 pm • OPC Chapel

• Thursday, February 20 •

Charismatic Prayer Group • 10:00 am - 12 noon • OPC
BINGO • 6:45 pm (doors open at 3:00 pm) • Hall

• Friday, February 21 •

African Community Rosary • 6:30 pm • OPC Library

• Saturday, February 22 •

9:00 am daily Mass at St. Mary
Confirmation Retreat • 1:00 - 9:00 pm • Hall
Reconciliation • 3:00 - 3:45 pm • Church

• Sunday, February 23 •

Faith Formation Events • Refer to Page 7
Children's Liturgy of the Word • 8:30 am Mass
Coffee and Donuts, following 8:30 am Mass • Mariotti
African Community Mass • 12:30 pm • Church

Turn page for more —————>

FAREWELL MASS & RECEPTION

In honor of Jason Gaudette

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 29TH
4:00 PM MASS

fellowship following Mass in the hall

the wait is over!



2020 Mass Intentions

Beginning Tuesday, 2/18, we are now accepting the scheduling of Mass Intentions through December 2020. We will inform you as soon as the 2021 calendar is ready. We thank you for your continued patience.

Holy Land Pilgrimage Travelers



For those who will be traveling with Fr. Brian to the Holy Land next month, Fr. Brian is inviting you to attend a Prayer Service, followed by a meeting that will outline all the necessary details for this travel.

Wednesday, February 19th at 7:00 pm
St. John Church Hall

Although you may not be able to travel to the Holy Land, your prayer intentions can!

At the front of each church, you will find a book into which you can write the intentions that you would like Fr. Brian to carry with him to the Holy Land. At each Mass he celebrates, including one at the Church of the Holy Sepulchre, these intentions will be offered up.



This book is available until Sunday, February 23rd

welcome to more



The Meaning of The Mass

time we come to Mass, and if we are not really paying attention we can easily miss it.

What happens at Mass? And I do not mean the ritual part. Even though we come each week, do we really think about what is happening at Mass? Sure, people might say, "Well, we hear something from the Bible. The priest or deacon preaches a homily. And, of course, we receive the Eucharist." All of this is true, but such understandings stay at the surface of what is happening at Mass. The reality is that something very powerful is occurring each

Every time we enter into the Mass, we are guaranteed that four things will occur: 1) God will speak directly to us and will reveal something about Himself. He will share his very life with us. 2) We will experience the very presence of God. 3) We will remember how Jesus saved us, and 4) we will experience and participate directly in our salvation. These four things will happen whether or not we recognize them. At each celebration God wants to give us the opportunity to come into a deeper relationship with Him. He recognizes that it can only happen based on what He does. The foundation of our relationship with God is not about what we do, but how God calls us into relationship. One of the most powerful gifts that He gives us for growing in that relationship is the Mass itself.

The Mass reminds us of a simple truth: we cannot manage our lives without God. Hence, God makes it possible at every celebration for us to both know Him better and to experience what it takes to live our lives each day with Him. The whole point of Christian life is *not* to be a "good" person, but rather, to be a person saved in Jesus Christ. The good we seek to do is determined by one criterion alone—what God's will is for us in any given situation. If we act in accord with God's will, we do good. If we act contrary to God's will, we do evil. It's that simple. By doing God's will, we live out the salvation Christ won for us. And what is salvation? It is living a life in union with God. It is about living a life in which we express our true nature—that of being made in the image and likeness of God. Mass helps us to do just that as we experience both the reality of God and our salvation.

As we seek to find Christ in our lives, we should be drawn to the story of Emmaus. Two disciples walk along the road in despair because they believe they have lost Christ. And in their deepest grief they discover a stranger. This stranger breaks open the word of God for them, and in the breaking of the bread, they discover who He truly is—the One they have been seeking. The story of Emmaus is the story of Christian life as it is lived daily. But, it is also the story of the celebration of Mass. *Think* about this story. Two are gathered in the name of Christ and as He promised He is in their midst. The word of God is then proclaimed and explained, as in the Mass, to help us break open God's saving work in our own lives. Through this experience they are led into the celebration of a meal where bread is offered, blessed, broken, and given, and *then* Christ is recognized. The story of Emmaus is the story of how we celebrate the Eucharist.

The Mass is ultimately about finding the One we are seeking and desiring in the deepest level of our hearts.

of what's happening in our Collaborative!

Lent is Fast Approaching!



MARK YOUR CALENDARS
FOR THE FOLLOWING
EVENTS

Lenten Scripture and Song

Tuesday Evenings | March 3, 10, 24
7:00 at St. John Church

Fr. Brian Presentations

The Three Temptations of Christ

Monday, February 24 | 7:00 pm at St. John

Fr. Brian will explore how we are faced with these temptations in our daily living and what we can learn from Christ in how to resist them.

The Four Ways of Love

Wednesday Evenings: March 25, April 1
7:00 pm at St. John

The season of Lent calls us to love better, and by better understanding the four ways of love—Storge (empathy), Philia (friend), Eros (romantic) and Agape (unconditional 'God' love) — Fr. Brian will walk us through these, one by one, in the hopes that we are better able to give — and receive — love from family, friend, neighbor, and God.

Lenten Retreat

Fr. Marcos Enrique
Monday, March 16 - Wednesday, March 18
7:00 - 8:30 pm at St. Mary

Details to follow soon....

Ash Wednesday: February 26

St. Mary Masses | 7:00 am, 4:00 pm and 7:00 pm
St. John Masses | 9:00 am and 6:00 pm;
12 noon: Liturgy of the Word

Sacrament of Reconciliation 6:30 - 8:00 pm

Monday Evenings St. Mary | March 9, 23; April 6
St. John | March 2, 16, 30; April 13

Wednesday Evenings at both Parishes
March 4, 11, 18, 25; April 1, 8

Soup and Stations Fridays of Lent at both Parishes



Soup at 6:00 pm/ Stations at 7:00 pm
February 28; March 6, 13, 20, 27; April

St. John's is looking for donations of meatless soups that will feed ten people. If you are able to assist us in this way, sign-up sheets can be found at the church entrance!

Due to construction of St. Mary LIFT, the Palm Sunday Pancake Breakfast will be cancelled this year. See you next year!

Holy Week and Easter Sunday

Wednesday of Holy Week

Tenebrae Service | 7:00 pm at St. John

Holy Thursday

Morning Prayer | 9:00 am at St. Mary
Mass of the Lords Supper | 7:00 pm at St. John

Good Friday

Morning Prayer | 9:00 am at St. Mary
Teen Stations of the Cross | 3:00 pm at St Mary
Passion of Our Lord | 7:00 pm at St. John

Holy Saturday

Morning Prayer | 9:00 am at St. John
The Great Easter Vigil | 8:30 pm at St. Mary

Easter Sunday

St. Mary Masses | 7:00, 9:00 and 11:00 am
St. John Masses | 8:30 and 10:30 am
Easter Egg Hunt after 8:30 am Mass

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 FAITH FORMATION SCHEDULE and EVENTS •

Upcoming Deep Dive Events



Mardi Gras (RSVP IS REQUIRED)

THIS Wednesday, February 19th • 6:30 - 8:00 pm
St. Mary Parish Hall



This event is held one week prior to Lent. Come join us for some festivities before this somber season begins. Many cultures have a day (or a whole season) focusing on fun and food in the days and weeks

leading up to Lent. This year, we will be taking advantage of February school break to celebrate. We hope that you and your family will join us and make our celebration complete! To RSVP (required), please visit the website...

www.chelmsfordcatholic.org/mardi-gras

Ash Wednesday

NEXT Wednesday, February 26th

Mass Schedule is as follows:

St. Mary at 7 am | 4 pm | 7 pm

St. John at 9 am | 12 pm (Liturgy of the Word) | 6 pm



Soup and Stations

Fridays of Lent: Feb 28; Mar 6, 13, 20, 27; Apr 3
5 pm Service* | 6 pm Soup | 7 pm Stations

Attendance at Stations is Deep Dive Event for all families

* Service is a Confirmation Only Deep Dive Event and is available only at St. Mary. RSVP (sign-up) is REQUIRED. To do so, visit the website...
www.chelmsfordcatholic.org/soup-stations

All of these 'events' are also Confirmation Deep Dive opportunities for Confirmation I and II students.

Completion of a reflection sheet is REQUIRED for ALL deep dives. Downloadable or online reflection sheets can be found on our website as part of the specific deep dive page.

February 16th Class Schedule

No Classes due to Presidents Day holiday.

February 22nd Confirmation Retreat

1:00 - 9:00 pm in St. John Parish Hall

February 23rd Class Schedule

GRADE 1 CLASS

9:00 - 10:30 am
Parish Hall

GRADE 2 CLASS

11:00 am - 12:30 pm
Parish Hall

GRADES 3 - 6 CLASS GROUPS A & C

9:00 - 10:30 am
Parish Center

GRADES 3 - 6 CLASS GROUPS B & D

11:00 am - 12:30 pm
Parish Center

GRADE 7 & 8 CLASS: 4:15 - 5:45 pm in Parish Hall

CAUTION
**AREA UNDER
CONSTRUCTION**

Because the normally used "Handicap Use" door will be out of service—due to construction of the new LIFT—students will be dismissed from the rear door of the parish hall. For safety purposes, the gate will be closed in order to keep traffic from driving through. For those picking up a student prior to the 6 pm Mass, please enter the rear lot from the Fletcher Street side.

For those attending the 6 pm Mass, please enter from the North Street side if you require the use of a handicapped parking space. For all other parking (rear and parish center lot), please enter from the Fletcher Street side. Thank you for your assistance in keeping our students safe!

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 FAITH FORMATION SCHEDULE AND EVENTS •

Upcoming Deep Dive Events



Mardi Gras (RSVP IS REQUIRED)

THIS Wednesday, February 19 • 6:30 - 8:00 pm
St. Mary Parish Hall



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Ash Wednesday

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February 16 Class Schedule

No Classes due to Presidents Day holiday.

February 22nd Confirmation Retreat

1:00 - 9:00 pm in St. John Parish Hall

February 23rd Class Schedule

GRADE K-3 CLASS

9:45 - 11:15 am
New Parish Center

GRADES 4-6 CLASS

9:45 - 11:15 am
Old Parish Center

GRADES 7-8 CLASS

9:45 - 11:15 am in Parish Hall

follow us on



Instagram

[instagram.com/chelmsfordcatholic](https://www.instagram.com/chelmsfordcatholic)

*Upcoming Deep Dives
can be found on our Instagram page!*

PRAY BIG.
EVEN WHEN YOU FEEL SMALL.



Youth Ministry

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

"You, dear young people, are not the future but the now of God."
~Pope Francis, World Youth Day Homily, Panama

The Chelmsford Catholic Collaborative's Youth Ministry program seeks to ensure that the young people of the Collaborative feel known, valued, and loved by God and by their parish community. By providing opportunities for youth to encounter Christ in their lives and connecting them with mature Christian mentors, youth ministry strives to equip and empower our young people to be lifelong disciples of Jesus.

Catholic Heart Workcamp 2020



"I am"

July 19-24, 2020
North Haledon, NJ

I AM. These words can be found in the Bible hundreds of times. They refer to God, who is the Great I AM. Through all space and time, God continues to declare "I AM who I AM." God is not dead; He is not only the God of long ago. He is the God who will always live forever and ever, who is alive today and beckons us into relationship by reassuring us, "I AM who I AM." He is the God we meet in the Eucharist, in prayer, and in our service to His kingdom. We are pulled in an overwhelming number of directions when trying to discover our identity. We seek belonging and purpose in so many places. Still, the fullness of our worth can only be found in one place. Our truest identity is being children of the Great I AM. This summer, CHWC invites you to ask yourself the question: "Who am I?" Join us as we discover the answer to this question by encountering the great I AM through love, service, and connection to His people.

\$500 per person
\$100 non-refundable deposit
due at registration
Online Sign-ups available...
<https://chelmsfordcatholic.org/catholic-heart-work-camp>

Steubenville East 2020 Theme: RESTORED

July 10-12, 2020 in Kingston, Rhode Island



Andrew Laubacker
Worship Leader



Fr. Mike Schmitz
Priest



Jason Evert
Speaker



Joel Stepanek
Speaker



Katie Prejean McGrady
Speaker



Kris Frank
Worship Leader

"Restore us, O God; Let thy face shine,
that we may be saved."

Can you remember a time when you weren't anxious about something? The chaos of our lives can overwhelm we've forgotten who we are—and, more importantly, who God is. We have a good, loving Father in heaven who created us to share in His glory, to see everything and everyone with His eyes. His greatest desire is to raise us up out of our fear and anxiety and restore us to the hope and abundant life that only He can give. This summer, over 50,000 Catholic teens across North America will attend one of 25 Steubenville Youth Conferences to encounter the God who calls us out of darkness and into His marvelous light. Will you be one of those teens? Lift your eyes to the glory of God. Be restored.



\$275 per person
\$50 non-refundable deposit due at registration
Online Sign-ups available...
<https://chelmsfordcatholic.org/steubenville-east>

DEADLINE TO SIGN UP FOR THESE EVENTS IS MARCH 1, 2020

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 Rondelli, SEMINARIAN
ext 228... andrewjohn@chelmsfordcatholic.org

BUSINESS OFFICE

Paul Firicano, COLLABORATIVE BUSINESS MANAGER
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Tina Sousa, FINANCE & FACILITY SUPPORT
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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

John Anthony Volpe, INTERIM DIRECTOR OF 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
Katrina Horan
Beth Jacavano
Drew Jubinville
Ellen St. George
Augustine Tweneh
Ray Wagner (secretary)

St. Mary Members

Peter Lando (co-chair)
Laura Conte
Rob Donnelly
Karen Drake
Jessica Hägg
Cathy Latina
Lori McDonald
Steve McMillan
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
Grace Ann Steed

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
Jack Parsons
Paul Rigazio

Lauren Desforge
Ted Powers
Paul Therrien

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

Over the last 25 years, I figure I have preached close to 8,000 homilies.

This number would include Sundays, weekdays, funerals, weddings, baptisms, and the like. For the most part each of them is unique, as I do not generally write out my homilies; hence, I cannot go back to reuse them, although I do repeat stories. Also, I will admit that I do use a couple of different variants of a homily for baptisms. But, for the most part, each homily is something new.

When I first started preaching, I found it rather nerve-wracking. I was pretty nervous when it was time to preach. For the first few months I wrote out an outline which helped me stay focused and keep the ideas flowing in the right direction. After a few months my nerves settled down and the outline was simply kept in my head. But the idea of preaching still was a time for me to be quite nervous. I would—and at times still do wonder—if I got my point across. Was I clear enough? Was the preaching relevant to what people needed to hear? Was it presented in a way that was engaging enough for the people? Was it really the point God wanted me to make? These and so many questions race through my head.

Even after all these years, when it comes to preaching, in certain ways it has not gotten any easier. There have been times, after sitting down, it seemed to me that my homily was one the best I ever delivered. But then, after Mass people would say to me, “Father, your homily didn’t really seem to make sense.” Or, at other times, I would think that my homily was terrible, and yet, people would say to me, “Father, that was the best thing for me. What you said was exactly what I needed to hear.” And so, I have to simply chalk that up to the power of the Holy Spirit.

To be honest, at many Masses, particularly funerals, there is always a certain amount of dread I feel until the homily is finished. At many funerals I do not always know the families or the deceased, and there is always a concern about creating a moment that can bring some consolation, hope, and a modicum of healing. The biggest concern is that no harm be done as the people in this moment are hurting and usually very vulnerable. It can be very easy to say the wrong thing. But what is true at a funeral is also true when preaching on a Sunday. It is not possible to know where everyone is in their faith journey and how they will interpret what you are trying to say. When people take your words to mean something different than what you want to imply, that is all they will hear no matter what you say after that.

For me, once preaching is over it’s clear sailing; from that

point forward it is about what the Church wants me to say, which is much simpler. The reality is that preaching will always be a part of my life and I am honestly okay with that. Even though there is some level of anxiety when preaching, it is still a powerful moment for me. God uses me as his instrument to speak his message. Sometimes I am successful being that instrument but other times I recognize that I get in the way. And even though I might dread the moment, I am at the same time excited to be God’s instrument.

Often in our lives we have these moments when we experience two competing reactions that almost appear to be oxymoronic. And yet, on further analysis they make perfect sense being together. I think of one such moment in my life. When my dad died, I was very sad to lose him as part of my life, but at the same time I was joyful with the knowledge that he was in the hands of our loving Father. I felt both sadness and joy at the same time. We see such a moment as Christ faces the cross. In the Garden Jesus prays that this cup pass from Him, but at the same time He says, “Not my will but your will.”

These moments in our lives when we seem to have feelings that contradict each other are really just an experience of grace. Yes, preaching for me is a difficult experience for many different reasons, and yet, each time I preach there is a sense of contentment when finished. Why? It is because there is little doubt in my mind that if a homily is effective, it is not because of me: I am but an instrument of the Lord. The homily works because of the power of the Holy Spirit working through me. The dread I feel comes from my human weakness; it is a sign of looking *only* to myself. The contentment comes from recognizing Who is actually in charge, and allowing myself to be that instrument He calls me to be.

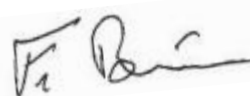
How we come to be transformed in our lives and to grow into the person we have been created to be can best be found in these kind of moments. They help us to better understand where we continue to see ourselves in charge, and they also help us to more fully appreciate how God works through our weakness to build us up.

We need not fear such contradictions in our life; rather, we should embrace them in order to allow God’s grace to transform our weakness into his strength.

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,



FROM OUR INTERIM DIRECTOR OF MUSIC MINISTRIES JOHN ANTHONY VOLPE



The Chelmsford Catholic Collaborative
Music Ministries Needs You!
Yes, You!

Every year one aspect of Holy Week that is always a favorite and, quite honestly, that I am partial to, is the music liturgy. As a team we put in countless hours to bring faith-through-song to the collaborative, to further help us reflect upon Christ's sacrifice for us.

Whether your God-given gifts are vocal, instrumental, or organizational, we could use your help! No job is too big or too small, and so, if you have considered joining the music ministry in some capacity, why not give it a trial run for Holy Week?!

The rehearsal schedule is as follows:

March 4th, 11th, 25th; April 1st
6:30 - 8:00 pm at St. John

Sheet Music and recordings will be distributed through email to make for easy access right from your living room sofa!

Like a Planet Fitness franchise, we are a judgment-free zone and do our very best to support each other to grow the ministry. The only thing missing, quite frankly, is you on the team! Please do not hesitate to call or email me directly for more information, or even just to discuss how you would like to be involved.

Thank you for your continued support within the ministry, or singing loudly from the pews for all to hear!

Making Music

PRAYING TWICE

FROM OUR SENIOR PRIEST IN RESIDENCE

Fr. Colletti

In the Book of Proverbs (15:10) we read: "He who hates correction will die." Listening to the wisdom and guidance of others is a life and death matter.

Practicing accountability is one way parishioners and priests become more Christ-like. Thinking back on the times when I've been held accountable, I realize that these difficult moments helped me to be a better priest and a better Christian. I developed the capacity to listen to parishioners, respecting the awkwardness they might have felt, or accepting the presence of anger in their voice. I learned how to be more faithful to our community, and my relationship with parishioners improved.

Again, in Proverbs (13:24) and Hebrews (12:6-11), these passages suggest that the failure to hold one accountable is a failure to love. Saint Augustine told the same thing when he wrote: "A brotherly person rejoices on my account when he approves me, but when disapproves (i.e. holds me accountable) he is loving me."

One day, according to legend, a neighbor observed Michelangelo rolling a jagged boulder up the street and onto his front step. When the sculptor took out his hammer and chisel and began to strike the boulder, the neighbor overcome by curiosity, crossed the street and asked: "What are you doing hammering on that boulder?" Michelangelo responded, "There's an angel inside and I'm trying to let it out."

When we make each other accountable—claiming our role as spiritual guides for each other—it is a matter of seeing God's presence and then encouraging its emergence within the community. In a time of challenge, limitations, and frequent polarizations, such spiritual vision is the result of a commitment to nurturing awareness of God's presence in ourselves and others.

This mutual accountability helps each one to be their true selves. Thomas Merton wrote: "The search for true identity requires an honest self-love. Love of self is not selfishness but a humble recognition of our lives as true, good and beautiful. Without real love of self, all other loves are distorted." St. Bonaventure once wrote, "Lack of self-knowledge makes for faulty knowledge of all other matters. Each human person already has what they are looking for within. Let us help each other find it."

THE KNIGHTS MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

After all Masses at both Parishes
NEXT WEEKEND February 22nd/23rd



The Knights of Columbus is an international Order of Catholic men who are called to lead with faith, protect our families, serve others and defend values in a busy changing world.

Whether you become an individual member, or a member of our council, you will find that KOC membership brings Catholic men together in a powerful way. If you would like to join today, visit

www.KofC.org/joinus and enter council #9275.

SPECIAL OLYMPICS POLAR PLUNGE

Saturday, April 4 . 10 am - 12 noon
Long Lake Beach . 18 Town Road . Littleton

The KOC Council 9275 is participating in the Special Olympics Polar Plunge. If you would like to join our team or would like to donate on behalf of our team, please visit...

<http://specialolympicsma.donordrive.com/team/5515>

Please help us to reach our goal of being in the top 3 teams! Thank you for your support!

Come to the Waters of Healing

A Retreat for Hope and Healing After Abortion

"My spirit was broken, and as far as I knew, beyond repair. I was living a decision that I will regret for the rest of my life. I was haunted by the choice, and consumed with feelings of remorse. During the retreat, I realized the lasting impact of forgiveness. I knew God had forgiven me, and now I needed to forgive myself."

- Project Rachel Retreat Participant

The Project Rachel Ministry of the Archdiocese of Boston extends a special invitation to women suffering from the pain of a past abortion to attend a one-day retreat. Spring retreat dates are:

Saturdays, April 4th and May 30th
9 am - 5 pm at a Confidential Location

Because the retreat is limited to 10 participants, pre-registration is required.

To register, or for more information, contact Project Rachel via telephone at (508) 651-3100 or visit their website at help@projectrachelboston.com



Breaking Bread and Building Relationships

Thursday, February 27th
7:00 pm in St. Mary Parish Hall

Imagine living in a war-ravaged country where the destruction of hospitals, homes, historic landmarks, schools, and once bustling downtown centers is a daily occurrence. You live in constant fear that your home could be the next target of arbitrary shelling. And then the unthinkable happens – your home is nearly leveled in a fiery explosion. You and your family survive, but you realize that it's no longer possible to make a life in the only country you have ever known. You must leave behind your friends, all of your possessions, your school, and your native language. You wait two years while working tirelessly to obtain the necessary paperwork to come to the United States with the hope of a better life. This is the story twenty three year-old Syrian refugee Zainab Abdo courageously shared with our community last November.

Through Zainab, we learned firsthand the tremendous courage, resilience, and hope that it takes to come to the United States and start a new life. We learned how difficult it is to learn a new language, start over in a new school, and obtain work. We also learned that immigrants and refugees cannot do this on their own. Every immigrant and refugee needs the support of their new community to survive and thrive.

Engelie Blomberg, an immigrant herself, shared with us how her immigration experience led her to help others who are also facing such a life-changing transition. She spoke about her work helping refugees through outreach and relationship building. She also spoke about a "Conversation Room" program that teaches English to recent immigrants and refugees.

Many of you were excited about starting a program like this in our Collaborative. As a first step, the Collaborative Social Justice Committee is hosting this meeting specifically to explore what our community might do to support refugees. Refreshments will generously be provided by Nawal and Raedha, two Iraqi refugees who will also join us.

We hope you join us too!

Boy Scout Troop 77 : 3rd ANNUAL Cake Auction

Wednesday, March 18th . 7:00 - 8:30 pm
Byam School . 25 Maple Road Chelmsford

Monies raised from this event will be used to send Scouts to Leadership Camp!

Questions? Kristi at walshdavid@comcast.net



The Financial Page

Fiscal Year 2020 runs from July 1, 2019 - June 30, 2020

Paul Firicano, Collaborative Business Manager
ext 220 or pfiricano@chelmsfordcatholic.org



Next week's second collection will support the Church in underdeveloped areas of the world... Catholic Relief Services (CRS), the Church in Africa and in Central and Eastern Europe and three important National Catholic Missions: The Military Archdiocese, Home Missions and the Black and Indian Missions. Your generosity will help fund the spiritual, educational and humanitarian needs of the Church around the world. To learn more about these organizations, please visit www.chelmsfordcatholic.org/2020-second-collection-schedule and click on the links that can be found among the text.

St. Mary

WEEKLY OFFERTORY

Weekend of
February 8th/9th

Offertory Needed to Cover Budgeted Expenses	\$17,140	of the actual, \$4,794 is from electronic giving
Actual Received	\$16,539	
Variance	-\$ 601	

FY 2020 YEAR-TO-DATE STEWARDSHIP

Offertory Goal	Actual	Variance
\$548,480	\$496,952	-\$51,528

St. John

WEEKLY OFFERTORY

Weekend of
February 8th/9th

Offertory Needed to Cover Budgeted Expenses	\$11,040	of the actual, \$2,023 is from electronic giving
Actual Received	\$11,707	
Variance	\$ 667	

FY 2020 YEAR-TO-DATE STEWARDSHIP

Offertory Goal	Actual	Variance
\$353,280	\$322,114	-\$31,166



Online Giving Programs: visit www.chelmsfordcatholic.org.

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



St. John Evangelist's 6th Grand Annual Campaign

*"Each man should give what he has decided in his heart to give,
not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver"*
-2Corinthians 9:7

We are eternally grateful for your ongoing and faithful support of this campaign. Your generosity has helped us to REACH 58.47% OF OUR GOAL! Please know that NO gift is ever too

small or unnoticed. Pledge cards can be found at the church entrances, or you may make your donation online at www.saintjohnchelmsford.weshareonline.org. Thank you for helping us get closer to our goal with every passing week.

Thank you for your faithful generosity.

Goal	Raised	%age of Goal
\$50,000	\$29,235	58.47%

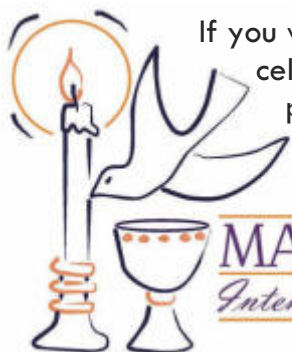
ST. MARY LIFT CONSTRUCTION

This entire project is estimated to take 9-10 weeks, but with the usual and expected construction delays, that may change. During this time, there will be **NO access in and out of the exterior hall handicap door and interior hall kitchen door.**

This construction WILL effect the dismissal of Sunday evening Faith Formation Students!

Because the normally used "Handicapped Use" door will be out of service, students will be dismissed from the rear door of the parish hall. For safety purposes, the gate will be closed in order to keep traffic from driving through.

For those picking up a student prior to the 6 pm Mass, please enter the rear lot from the Fletcher Street side. For those attending the 6 pm Mass, please enter from the North Street side if you require the use of a handicapped parking space. For all other parking (rear and parish center lot), please enter from the Fletcher Street side. Thank you for your assistance in keeping our students safe!



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 you schedule your intention.

MASS
Intentions

St. John

- SAT, FEB 15** 4:00 pm: Maurice Pontbriant, Sr.: Memorial
SUN, FEB 16 8:30 am: For the People of the Parish
 10:30 am: For the Special Intentions of those men who attended the ACTS Retreat
MON, FEB 17 9:00 am: Fredrick J. Annis III: Memorial
TUE, FEB 18 9:00 am: Brian Muscato: Memorial
WED, FEB 19 9:00 am: William Mahoney: 16th Anniversary
FRI, FEB 21 9:00 am: Daniel O'Neill: Memorial
SAT, FEB 22 4:00 pm: Paul W. Myers: 27th Anniversary
SUN, FEB 23 8:30 am: John DaSilva: 2nd Anniversary
 10:30 am: For the People of the Parish
 5:00 pm: John Cullen: Memorial



St. Mary

- SAT, FEB 15** 4:00 pm: Lynda Hague: 1st Anniversary
SUN, FEB 16 9:00 am: People of the Parish
 11:00 am: Fr. Kenneth Loftus, S.J.: Memorial
 6:00 pm: Sebastian Poondikulam: Anniversary
THU, FEB 20 7:00 am: Marguerite Foley: Memorial
SAT, FEB 22 4:00 pm: Mildred LaRock: 3rd Anniversary
SUN, FEB 23 9:00 am: John, Betty and Mark Leary: Memorial
 11:00 am: For the People of the Parish

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.

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. Mary Rose for Life:

Norah Periera

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

MONDAY, FEB 10

James 1: 1-11
Psalm 119
Mark 8: 11-13

TUESDAY, FEB 11

James 1: 12-18
Psalm 94
Mark 8: 14-21

WEDNESDAY, FEB 12

James 1: 19-27
Psalm 15
Mark 8: 22-26

THURSDAY, FEB 13

James 2: 1-9
Psalm 34
Mark 8: 27-33

FRIDAY, FEB 14

James 2: 14-24, 26
Psalm 112
Mark 8:34-9:1

SATURDAY, FEB 15

1 Peter 5: 1-4
Psalm 23
Matthew 16: 13-19

SUNDAY, FEB 16

Leviticus 19: 1-2, 17-18
Psalm 103
1 Corinth 3: 16-23
Matthew 5: 38-48



FUNERALS RECENTLY CELEBRATED

*May the souls of the faithful departed,
through the mercy of God,
rest in peace. Amen.*

Dorothy T. Law February 10 at St. Mary
Joseph William Chretien February 10 at St. John

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**106 MIDDLESEX ST.
CHELMSFORD, MA**



Anne Marie (Aldrich) Roy-Blanchet of Tyngsboro

Mrs. Anne Marie (Aldrich) Roy – Blanchet, 54, of Tyngsboro passed away unexpectedly at her home on December 26, 2019.

She was married to Kevin Blanchet with whom she celebrated their 11 year anniversary on December 12, 2019.

Born in Lynn, MA on January 5, 1965 she was the daughter of the late Boyd F. Aldrich and Barbara M. (Keirnan) Aldrich.

Mrs. Roy-Blanchet was educated in the Tyngsboro school system and graduated from Tyngsboro High School with the class of 1983 and attended Middlesex Community College.

She was previously employed at the Dunkin Donuts at Lowell General Hospital's Main Campus, Alan Mello Dodge of Nashua, NH, was a spiritual bereavement counselor and owned and operated Fantasia Hair Salon of Hudson, NH.

Mrs. Roy-Blanchet was a member of the Harbor of Hope in Chelmsford.

Anne enjoyed traveling especially to Disney World, was

an animal lover and above all else, she enjoyed spending time with her children.

Besides her husband, she is survived by her children, Matthew Blanchet of Haverhill, MA, Kevin Deibert of Dracut, MA, Nathan Blanchet of Haverhill, MA, Harrison Roy of Tyngsboro, MA, Amberley Deibert of Tyngsboro, Aubreyanna Roy of Leominster, MA, her parents-in-law Charles and Frances Blanchet of Venice, FL, her siblings, Barbara Aldrich and her fiancé Charles Harting of Tyngsboro, Boyd Aldrich and his wife Diane of Lunenburg, MA, Brad Aldrich and his wife Michelle of Hudson, NH., and Arline Shea of Tyngsboro, MA, as well as many aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews, and cousins.

Relatives and friends were respectfully invited to attend her visitation from 3PM to 7PM on Thursday, January 2, 2020 at the DOLAN FUNERAL HOME, 106 MIDDLESEX ST. CHELMSFORD, MA. Her funeral was Friday, January 3, 2020 starting at 10:00AM from the funeral home with a funeral Mass at 11:00AM at St. John the Evangelist Church, Chelmsford. Interment in Memorial Cemetery, Tyngsboro. Memorials may be made in her name to Autism Speaks. Online guest book is available at www.dolanfuneralhome.com.

ARRANGEMENTS BY DOLAN FUNERAL HOME
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Chelmsford Catholic Collaborative 03-0756