

# 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](http://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. Mary Church • 25 North Road • Chelmsford, 01824**  
**St. John the Evangelist Church • 115 Middlesex Street • North Chelmsford, 01863**

## PARISH OFFICE HOURS

The Parish Offices remain closed until further notice.  
Our phones will be answered during the following hours:  
Mondays and Wednesdays • 9 AM - 12 NOON  
Tuesdays and Thursdays • 2 PM - 5 PM  
No phone hours on Fridays. Leave messages in general voice mail.

## WEEKEND MASS SCHEDULE (RESERVATIONS REQUIRED)

St. Mary • Saturday at 4 PM/ Sunday at 7 AM and 11 AM  
St. John • Saturday at 4 PM/ Sunday at 9:30 AM and 6 PM  
All Masses can be livestreamed

## WEEKDAY MASS SCHEDULE (RESERVATIONS NOT REQUIRED)

Monday - Friday • 7 AM at St. Mary/ 9 AM at St. John  
All Masses can be livestreamed

## DAILY DEVOTIONS LIVESTREAM SCHEDULE

Monday - Friday at 3 PM • Chaplet at St. John  
Monday - Friday at 7 PM • Rosary at St. Mary

## SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Mondays • 4:00 - 5:00 PM • St. John  
Wednesdays • 4:30 - 5:30 PM • St. Mary

## EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Fridays • 4:30 - 5:30 PM • St. John Parking Lot

## PRAYER LINE

To have prayers said for yourself or a loved one,  
call the parish office and ask for ext. 223. After hours, press 4.



August 9, 2020  
Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Peter said to Him in reply, "Lord, if it is you, command me to come to You on the water." He said, "Come." Peter got out of the boat and began to walk on the water toward Jesus.

- Matthew 14: 28-29



[facebook.com/ChelmsfordCath](https://facebook.com/ChelmsfordCath)



[Chelmsford Catholic Collaborative](https://www.youtube.com/ChelmsfordCatholicCollaborative)



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

# Collaborative Calendar

St. John Event  
St. Mary Event

RESERVATION REQUIRED for all weekend liturgies

## Sunday, August 9

Weekend Liturgy • 7:00 am • St. Mary

Weekend Liturgy • 9:30 am • St. John

Weekend Liturgy • 11:00 am • St. Mary

Weekend Liturgy • 6:00 pm • St. John

## Monday, August 10

Daily Mass • 7:00 am • St. Mary

Daily Mass • 9:00 am • St. John

LIVEVIEW Chaplet of Divine Mercy • 3:00 pm

Curbside Confessions • 4:00 - 5:00 pm

LIVEVIEW Rosary • 7:00 pm

## Tuesday, August 11

Daily Mass • 7:00 am • St. Mary

Daily Mass • 9:00 am • St. John

LIVEVIEW Chaplet of Divine Mercy • 3:00 pm

LIVEVIEW Rosary • 7:00 pm

## Wednesday, August 12

Daily Mass • 7:00 am • St. Mary

Daily Mass • 9:00 am • St. John

LIVEVIEW Chaplet and Holy Hour • 3:00 pm

Curbside Confessions • 4:30 - 5:30 pm

LIVEVIEW Rosary • 7:00 pm

## Thursday, August 13

Daily Mass • 7:00 am • St. Mary

Daily Mass • 9:00 am • St. John

LIVEVIEW Chaplet of Divine Mercy • 3:00 pm

LIVEVIEW Rosary • 7:00 pm

## Friday, August 14

Daily Mass • 7:00 am • St. Mary

Daily Mass • 9:00 am • St. John

LIVEVIEW Chaplet and Holy Hour • 3:00 pm

Drive-In Eucharistic Adoration • 4:00 - 5:00 pm

LIVEVIEW Rosary • 7:00 pm

## Saturday, August 15

Weekend Liturgy • 4:00 pm Mass • St. Mary

Weekend Liturgy • 4:00 pm Mass • St. John

## Sunday, August 16

Weekend Liturgy • 7:00 am • St. Mary

Weekend Liturgy • 9:30 am • St. John

Weekend Liturgy • 11:00 am • St. Mary

Weekend Liturgy • 6:00 pm • St. John



We know it appears that week after week after week, we are continually asking for volunteers to come forward to assist us with many different tasks... ushers, cleaners, lot attendants...

We now need to add one more to the list due to the coming of fall and the (1) loss of our seminarians and (2) the increased workload of our staff. We are looking for individuals AND families who are willing to assist with our Monday - Friday Chaplet and Rosary devotions (guides will be provided). These devotions are televised via LIVESTREAM as follows:

Chaplet of Divine Mercy: Monday - Friday: St John at 3 pm

Rosary: Monday - Friday: St. Mary at 7pm

If you are willing and able to assist us, please visit

[chelmsfordcatholic.org/re-opening-of-our-churches](http://chelmsfordcatholic.org/re-opening-of-our-churches)

and complete the volunteer form.

Once you submit this form, you will be contacted to be scheduled. Please know that you are NOT COMMITTED for any length of time... this is meant to fit best with your schedule.

If you do not have access to a computer, simply call into the parish office during our phone hours.

Thanks for your consideration!

## The St. Mary Table Ministry



Supplied the Salvation Army with 180 bagged lunches, which they served to their community during the months of June, July and August.

## 3RD ANNUAL HAIL MARY CHALLENGE



1,000,000 Hail Mary's in 6 Months

June 1 - November 30

Email your counts to [psidari@gmail.com](mailto:psidari@gmail.com), call them into (978) 729-1677, OR... drop them off into the black box located at the entrance of the parish offices.

Total for Month of June	73,989
Total for Month of July	124,983
Week ending 8/2/2020	35,712

Total To Date... **234,684** Hail Mary's

## Upcoming Fall Bible Studies!

**Acts of the Apostles: The Spread of the Kingdom** The Acts of the Apostles shows the Church—enlivened by the Holy Spirit—teaching, preaching, healing, and restoring the same way that Jesus did while on earth. This study discusses Christ's Kingdom on earth and its empowerment to carry out His work in the world.

- Begins Monday, September 28: 10 am - 12 noon
- Runs for 21 weeks, with breaks for the holidays
- For the foreseeable future, course delivery will be via the internet

Register by emailing [churches@chelmsfordcatholic.org](mailto:churches@chelmsfordcatholic.org) and writing ACTS BIBLE STORY in the subject line. In the body of the email, include your name and best number to contact you so you can be contacted and given further information and a Zoom link for each Monday morning discussion

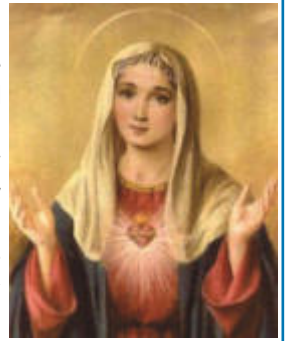
Course materials—Acts: The Spread of the Kingdom Bible Study Program, Workbook—can be purchased directly by visiting [Ascensionpress.com](http://Ascensionpress.com). The Workbook includes background material, presentation outlines, discussion questions and video access to each week's Bible Study Presentation. The cost of the study program is \$39.95 plus tax, shipping and handling.

### **Jesus: The Way, the Truth and the Life**

We will learn how Jesus is God Incarnate, fully divine and fully human. We'll experience his intimacy with the Father, his revelation of the Father's love, and his gift of the Holy Spirit to each of us. Most importantly, our encounter with Christ will empower us to know and love him in a new and life-changing way.

Participants will independently view the video then meet via Zoom (by phone or computer) on ten Tuesday evenings at 7:30 pm for a group discussion. Meetings will start on Tuesday, October 6th. Interested? Contact Tricia at (978) 807-6891 or [plucacio@gmail.com](mailto:plucacio@gmail.com) by Sunday, September 20th.

The month of August is dedicated to The Immaculate Heart of Mary. The entire month falls within the liturgical season of Ordinary Time, which is represented by the liturgical color green. This symbol of hope is the color of the sprouting seed and arouses in the faithful the hope of reaping the eternal harvest of heaven, especially the hope of a glorious resurrection.



Deacon John will be facilitating The Spiritual Exercise of St. Ignatius of Loyola retreat beginning this September. An information/inquiry night will be offered on Thursday evening, August 27th at 7 pm via Zoom. The Link and password can be found on our website. Please RSVP if you will be attending by emailing Deacon John.

Below are the specific dates of this 35-week retreat. All holidays have been taken into account, and since we are meeting via Zoom, weather-related cancellations will not be an issue... :)

If after the inquiry night, you decide to continue, you will want to add the following Thursday evening dates into your calendar. All meetings will begin at 7 pm.

- September 3, 10, 17, 24
- October 1, 8, 15, 29
- November 5, 12, 19
- December 3, 10, 17
- January 7, 14, 21, 28
- February 4, 11, 18, 25
- March 4, 11, 18, 25
- April 8, 15, 22, 29

## Growing in Faith through Reflection on the Readings...

### **FIRST READING: 1 KINGS 19: 9, 11-13**

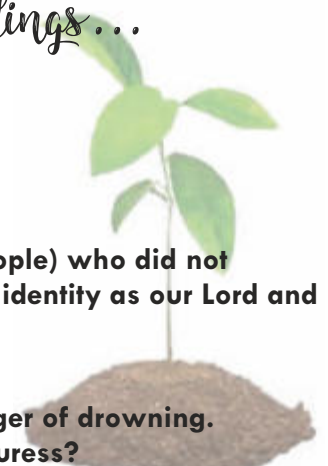
The Lord taught the prophet Elijah not to look for him in the usual places. When have you found God's voice in an unexpected circumstance?

### **SECOND READING: ROMANS 9: 1-5**

Paul was puzzled and deeply saddened over fellow Jews (God's covenantal people) who did not believe that Jesus was the long-awaited Messiah. What convinces you of Jesus' identity as our Lord and Savior?

### **GOSPEL READING: MATTHEW 14: 22-33**

Peter shows himself to be a man of "little faith" when faced with the grave danger of drowning. Who are the people in your life who show a depth of faith in times of extreme duress?





# The Financial Page

Fiscal Year 2021 runs from July 1, 2020 - June 30, 2021

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

Although we have entered into Fiscal Year 2021, due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, we are delayed in finalizing the budget, so please be aware that the below Offertory Budget Number is subject to change. We are also experiencing a delay in getting the Year-End 2020 Finance Reports to you. Thank you for your continued understanding and patience.

<b>St. Mary Weekly Offertory</b>	Weekend of July 25th/26th	Fiscal Year-To-Date July 26th	Fiscal YTD Average/Week
Offertory Required to cover Budgeted Expenses	\$17,140*	\$68,560	\$17,140
Actual Received	\$14,375	\$54,411	\$13,603
Shortfall/ Overage	-\$2,765	-\$14,149	-\$3,537

	Weekend of August 1st/2nd	Fiscal Year-To-Date August 2nd	Fiscal YTD Average/Week
Offertory Required to cover Budgeted Expenses	\$17,140*	\$85,700	\$17,140
Actual Received	\$22,485**	\$76,896	\$15,379
Shortfall/ Overage	\$5,345	-\$8,804	-\$1,761

<b>St. John Weekly Offertory</b>	Weekend of July 25th/26th	Fiscal Year-To-Date July 26th	Fiscal Year-End Average/Week
Offertory Required to cover Budgeted Expenses	\$11,040*	\$44,160	\$11,040
Actual Received	\$7,992	\$32,048	\$8,012
Shortfall/ Overage	-\$3,048	-\$12,112	-\$3,028

	Weekend of August 1st/2nd	Fiscal Year-To-Date August 2nd	Fiscal Year-End Average/Week
Offertory Required to cover Budgeted Expenses	\$11,040*	\$55,200	\$11,040
Actual Received	\$5,691	\$37,739	\$7,548
Shortfall/ Overage	-\$5,349	-\$17,461	-\$3,492

\* due to COVID-19, budget number is subject to change

\*\* due to receipt of 2 offertory gifts totalling \$10,200

## ST. MARY

Online  
Giving



- Visit our website at [www.chelmsfordcatholic.org](http://www.chelmsfordcatholic.org) and click on the Online Giving logo located in the right-hand sidebar on the homepage.  
Or scan the above QR code with your Android or iPhone. Open your camera app. Hold your device so that the QR code appears in the viewfinder and you will see a notification with a link. Click on the notification to open the link. You will be taken to the St. Mary Online Giving site on your phone.
- Click on 'Set up New Account'
- Set up your payment options, withdrawal dates, etc.
- If you prefer, there is a "Quick Give" option to make a one-time donation.

## ST. JOHN

WeShare



- Visit our website at [www.chelmsfordcatholic.org](http://www.chelmsfordcatholic.org) and click on the WeShare logo located in the right-hand sidebar on the homepage.  
Or scan the above QR code with your Android or iPhone. Open your camera app. Hold your device so that the QR code appears in the viewfinder and you will see a notification with a link. Click on the notification to open the link. You will be taken to the St. John's WeShare site on your phone.
- Choose your Giving Opportunity, i.e Weekly Offertory
- Set up your payment options, withdrawal dates, etc.
- If you prefer, there is an option to make a one-time donation.

# Meet Our Staff...

## ~ CLERGY ~

**Reverend Brian Mahoney**, PASTOR  
ext 215... [fr.brian@chelmsfordcatholic.org](mailto:fr.brian@chelmsfordcatholic.org)

**Reverend Corey Bassett-Tirrell**, PAROCHIAL VICAR  
ext 239... [fr.corey@chelmsfordcatholic.org](mailto:fr.corey@chelmsfordcatholic.org)

**Reverend Arnold Colletti**, SR. PRIEST IN RESIDENCE  
ext 221... [fr.colletti@chelmsfordcatholic.org](mailto:fr.colletti@chelmsfordcatholic.org)

**Deacon John Hunt**, PERMANENT DEACON  
ext 224... [deaconjohn@chelmsfordcatholic.org](mailto:deaconjohn@chelmsfordcatholic.org)

## ~ BUSINESS OFFICE ~

**Paul Firicano**, COLLABORATIVE BUSINESS MANAGER  
ext 220... [pfiricano@chelmsfordcatholic.org](mailto:pfiricano@chelmsfordcatholic.org)

**Tina Sousa**, FINANCE & FACILITY SUPPORT  
ext 219... [tsousa@chelmsfordcatholic.org](mailto:tsousa@chelmsfordcatholic.org)

## ~ FAITH FORMATION ~

**Heather Hannaway**, DIRECTOR OF FAMILY FAITH FORMATION  
ext 226... [hhannaway@chelmsfordcatholic.org](mailto:hhannaway@chelmsfordcatholic.org)

**Courtney Callanan**, ASST DIR OF FAITH FORMATION  
ext 227... [ccallanan@chelmsfordcatholic.org](mailto:ccallanan@chelmsfordcatholic.org)

**Lynn Anne LaDuke**, FAITH FORMATION COORDINATOR  
ext 240... [lynnanne@chelmsfordcatholic.org](mailto:lynnanne@chelmsfordcatholic.org)

**Elaine Kindler**, FAITH FORMATION COORDINATOR  
ext 216... [ekindler@chelmsfordcatholic.org](mailto:ekindler@chelmsfordcatholic.org)

## ~ ADMINISTRATIVE ~

**Rae Russo**, SCHEDULING COORDINATOR  
ext 325... [rae@chelmsfordcatholic.org](mailto:rae@chelmsfordcatholic.org)

**Donna Gambon**, PART-TIME ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT  
ext 248... [dgambon@chelmsfordcatholic.org](mailto:dgambon@chelmsfordcatholic.org)

**Sue Beechin**, PART-TIME ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT  
ext 236... [sue@chelmsfordcatholic.org](mailto:sue@chelmsfordcatholic.org)

## ~ FACILITIES ~

**Dan Heider**, FACILITIES MANAGER  
ext 213... [dheider@chelmsfordcatholic.org](mailto:dheider@chelmsfordcatholic.org)

**Bob Webb**, CUSTODIAN  
[bob@chelmsfordcatholic.org](mailto:bob@chelmsfordcatholic.org)

## ~ BULLETIN, WEBSITE, SOCIAL MEDIA ~

**Christine Trznadel**, COMMUNICATIONS COORDINATOR  
ext 214... [christine@chelmsfordcatholic.org](mailto: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](mailto:CollaborativePPC@chelmsfordcatholic.org)

Current Council Members are ...

### St. John Members

Scott Davidson (co-chair)  
Ray Wagner  
Mike Condor  
Katrina Horan  
Beth Jacavano  
Drew Jubinville  
Angela McMaster  
Ellen St. George  
Augustine Tweneh

### St. Mary Members

Peter Lando (co-chair)  
Laura Conte  
Rob Donnelly  
Karen Drake  
Jessica Hägg  
Matthew Kunze (youth)  
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](mailto:SJ.FC@chelmsfordcatholic.org)

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](mailto:SM.FC@chelmsfordcatholic.org)

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 do so no later than 12 NOON, TWO Fridays prior to the weekend in which you would it published. Submittals should be emailed to [christine@chelmsfordcatholic.org](mailto: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 best to accommodate your request.

# Family Faith Formation Program

Heather Hannaway  
Director of Faith Formation  
hhannaway@chelmsfordcatholic.org

Courtney Callanan  
Assistant Director of Faith Formation  
ccallanan@chelmsfordcatholic.org

Elaine Kindler  
Faith Formation Coordinator  
ekindler@chelmsfordcatholic.org

Lynn Anne LaDuke  
Faith Formation Coordinator  
lynnanne@chelmsfordcatholic.org

Visit [www.chelmsfordcatholic.org/faitH-formation-registration](http://www.chelmsfordcatholic.org/faitH-formation-registration). From the left hand side bar, choose the parish at which you are registering. There you will find all the directions needed for an easy online registration! If you do not have access to a computer or have any questions, contact:



**St John's Registration: Lynn Anne LaDuke**  
lynnanne@chelmsfordcatholic.org  
(978) 251-8571, ext 240

**St. Mary Registration: Elaine Kindler**  
ekindler@chelmsfordcatholic.org  
(978) 256-2374, ext 216

Due to the current restrictions and health concerns presented by the pandemic, we have made some temporary adjustments to our adult child protection training requirements. All employees and volunteers who may have contact with children continue to be required to complete Protecting God's Children training. Since we can't gather together for trainings, this requirement can be met through 'attending' two online trainings: VIRTUS online PGC Training and Massachusetts online Mandated Reporter Training.

## ONLINE PGC TRAINING

[www.virtusonline.org](http://www.virtusonline.org)

1. Click on "First Time Registrant"
2. Click on "Begin Registration Process"
3. Select "Boston" from the drop down list

Once registration is complete you will be directed to an online PGC training through VIRTUS. Upon completion of that training, individuals will be directed to a link to an additional online training on mandated reporting in Massachusetts. Both online trainings must be completed to be in compliance with child protection requirements.

## MANDATED REPORTER TRAINING

<http://51a.middlesexcac.org/>

Send a copy of the mandated reported certificates to Michelle Gee at MGee@rcab.org. Please send a copy of your PGC certificate to Heather.

## WELCOME TO THE SEASON OF FIRST HOLY COMMUNIONS

Beginning July 20th, and straight through to September, our 2nd graders will be receiving the Gift of the Eucharist for the very first time. They and their families have been incredibly patient, waiting for the time when this celebration could happen. As we welcome them to the table, let us pray...

**O Jesus,** You have loved us with such exceedingly great love  
as to give us the ineffable gift of the Holy Eucharist.

Inflame us with a burning zeal to promote Your glory by praying for  
(our children/ your child's name) to prepare worthily to approach  
Your holy table for the first time.

Saint John the Baptist, forerunner of the Messiah, prepare the way for  
Jesus in the heart of (these children/your child's name).

Saint Tarcisius,  
keep safe the children who are making their First Holy Communion.

*Congratulations*

to the following group of children  
who received their First Communion  
this past week!

### St. Mary: Monday, August 3rd

Omari Stanley Germain ~ Anthony William Ianuzzi  
Kaitlyn Laughlin Kenney ~ Grace Elizabeth Morasse ~ Josef Patrice Sousa

### St. John: Wednesday, August 5th

Timothy Patrick Earl, Jr ~ Jayden Fotoh-Tambi Mbaka  
Ryan Lamorre Mbaka ~ Erin Bih Nji ~ Gabriel Anthony Souza

### St. Mary: Friday, August 7th

Logan Weldon Benjamin ~ Ryan James Doe  
William David Lovett ~ Jack Ryan Sullivan ~ Sawyer Steven Vitt



## From Our Pastor

It can be interesting, looking back over our lives, to try and see how we have gotten to where we are. Our life's journey can take many twists and turns that impact how we come to see ourselves, and understand the life we are called to live and how we are called to live it. For me, this brings to mind my own vocation. I was ten years old when I first thought of becoming a priest, and it was a desire that never really left me. Over the years, as I struggled to understand the meaning of this call, I was sure of only one thing—that God had a plan for my life.

As a teenager it was sometimes hard to talk about my vocation because when I told people that I was thinking about being a priest, they inevitably started to treat me differently. I was not always sure how to handle their responses, and yet I could not deny that I truly felt a calling from the Lord. So, I would just keep my feelings to myself. When I went off to Boston College, a friend I met there, after knowing me for about six months, asked me if I ever considered becoming a priest. I was honest with her, and that created a chance for me to talk about this calling from the Lord. Her friendship turned out to be a big catalyst for me, to further discern exactly what the Lord wanted me to do.

After I graduated from BC and worked at Digital for five years, I could no longer deny what had become so clear to me. The Lord was calling me to the priesthood. I was happy in my life and yet I knew something was missing: what was missing was the life that the Lord was now calling me to. In my discernment of the priesthood, there was one truth I had to face before I could give myself completely over to this calling from the Lord. I had to realize that I had been asking the wrong question most of my life, which was "What do I want to do?". The right question was "What is God calling me to do?" I could only truly discern my calling when I finally understood that my opinion on this matter was wholly and completely irrelevant. God really did not care about what I thought I wanted to do. God was only concerned with my coming to understand what *He* wanted me to do. That is at the heart of all vocations. A vocation is a calling, and the only question we really need to ask is "What is God's will for my life?" Then we need to work on discerning the answer and seeking the strength to live it out.

As I look back over the years, I must say that I was very fortunate that my family was always supportive of my calling, particularly my Mom. I know in a lot of cases that is not true. Many families actually work actively

against vocations, trying to discourage them. I have witnessed that over my years as a priest. I remember speaking to one mom about her son who wanted to become a priest. He came to her one day and said that he really thought he might want to be a priest. Her reaction was to discourage him from thinking about it. This was a woman who went to daily Mass, and it was clear by how she lived her life that her faith and the Church were very important to her. I asked her why she would try to discourage her son. She responded that she was afraid he would be lonely. I replied, "There are many people who are lonely in marriage." Her response was, "I never thought about it that way—and you are right!" Loneliness is not about *if* you are in relationship with people, but *how* you are in relationship with them. In over twenty-five years as a priest, I really have never felt lonely. That arises out of having good, solid and healthy relationships with different people. But the reality is that there are many people out there—both family and friends—who actively work to discourage vocations, for the wrong reasons and with a lot of misunderstanding.

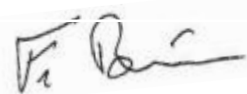
We all have a role in supporting vocations and helping them grow. It is about helping the person to come to terms with what God wants him or her to do in their life. It is about putting aside our own preconceived notions about what makes people happy, or not, and what we might believe is necessary in life.

I must say that I am truly happy in my life as a priest. It has been an incredible blessing in my life. The Lord has opened up to me so many amazing opportunities that would not have been possible if I had chosen *not* to listen to his will in my life. There cannot be a greater sense of peace or joy in life than coming to know what the Lord is calling us to do, and then to answer his call by doing just that.

As a Church we need more shepherds to care for the flock of Christ, and therefore I ask everyone to begin to pray for vocations—daily! But, for vocations to grow we need to grow into an attitude of vocations. Next week I would like to talk about the meaning of vocations in general.

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](mailto:fr.brian@chelmsfordcatholic.org).

Please keep me in your prayers.



## FROM OUR DIRECTOR OF FAITH FORMATION HEATHER HANNAWAY

### I Can't See Where I'm Going Here

How do you follow when you can't see that He's leading you? Or even that He's with you?

I know a lot of you may be frightened and uncertain with all that is happening during these unprecedented times. I know you wonder why God has allowed it, when He will deliver you, how He could possibly work this mess for good.

Those questions are natural, but maybe not the exact questions to ask. When I'm lost or uncertain, I have learned that the question is not "When?" or "How?" or even "Why?" The question is "Who?"

Who is this God we worship? If He is just a puppet master or a strategist, messing with our lives with no regard for our hearts, we owe Him neither trust nor love.

But if He is the God who is love; the God who humbled Himself to become one of us; the God who allowed Himself to be beaten, stripped, and nailed to a cross to die—and then rise again—on the off chance that you'd love him back; we have to learn to say, "The God who loves me is at work in this. I don't know what He's doing. I don't know why, but I know that I am not alone."

There's nothing wrong with wanting to see where God is in your suffering and uncertainty or wondering when there will be a reprieve. The danger is when you're seeking those answers because you don't trust that God is who He said He is—the Lord and Lover of your soul.

When people are suffering, I don't often have answers. But I often can begin to see the way their pain is working to make them holier—ultimately. But in the moment, it doesn't feel like enough. And so I find myself saying, "I don't know. I don't know what God's doing, but I know who He is. I know that He's with you. I know that He loves you more than you can imagine. I know that there's nothing He wouldn't do for you. And so, I have to trust not in what I can see and understand, but in who I know Him to be. He is yours and you are his. There is nothing to fear."

As you struggle to follow Him through whatever situation is trying your soul right now, take this to prayer: Who is God? What has He done in the past to reveal His power, His mercy, His love? What has He done in salvation history and what has He done in my life?

## FROM OUR SENIOR PRIEST IN RESIDENCE Fr. Colletti

In the Old Testament, the chosen people knew that their God was near to them.

*"For what other nation, great or small, has God among them, as the Lord, our God is here among us whenever we call upon Him?" -Deuteronomy 4:7*

*"Jehovah keeps His eye upon you as you come and go, and always guards you." -Psalm 121:8*

In another place, the Scriptures speak of God's closeness to you as your "shade", that is your "shadow".

In the New Testament, God is seen not merely close to us, but within us. Jesus prayed at the Last Supper...

*"My prayer for all of them is that they will be of one heart and mind, just as you and I are, Father—that just as you are in me and I am in you, so they will be in us." -John 17:21*

*"Do you not know you are temples of the Holy Spirit?" -1 Cor. 3:17*

Brother Lawrence (d.1691) wrote a book called The Practice of the Presence of God. A member of the Discalced Carmelites in Paris, he had always been governed by love, without selfish views, resolved to make the love of God the end of all his actions. He wrote...

*"That in order to form a habit of conversing with God continually, and referring all we do to Him; we must at first apply to Him with some diligence: but that after a little care we should find His love inwardly excite us to it without any difficulty."*

Practicing the presence of God is a spiritual exercise that challenges us to remain focused on God during our everyday activities. Lawrence further wrote:

*"I began to live as if there were no one save God and me in the world."*

Together, God and Lawrence cooked meals, ran errands, and scrubbed pots. He learned how to be attentive to God's close presence.

Jesus was, and is, our example of what it looks like to practice the presence of God in this harsh world. It is because of Jesus that we have the unbelievable privilege of being with God. Jesus shows us what it looks like to constantly be practicing the presence of God, for this is where Jesus' strength comes from.

*"For in him we live and have our being." -Acts 7:28*

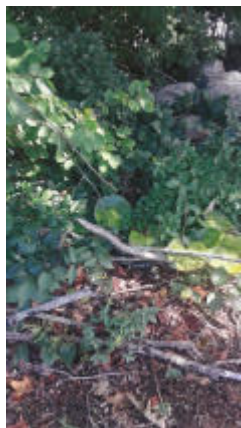


## St. Mary Paradise Garden Club

We have found a ministry leader—a Master Gardener, to be exact—who has volunteered her talents in the building of a team of individuals to make our curbside appeal a little more appealing. With the busy-ness of all that the COVID pandemic has brought to our doorstep, some things have fallen by the wayside and need to be gathered together again. We all feel that the appearance of our grounds should not reflect the disarray of the current world, but rather the never-ending, always present Glory of God.

We are looking for those who possess the gift(s) of growing, manicuring, pruning, mulching, weeding, planting, potting... in short, any gift that will carry us closer to the goal of making St. Mary Church grounds look warm, welcoming and colorful!

If you are able to assist us in this process of grounds beautification, please email [churches@chelmsfordcatholic.org](mailto:churches@chelmsfordcatholic.org) and write SM GARDEN CLUB in the subject



line. Within the email please include your name and phone number, as well as any particular experience, skill or interest you may have. You need NOT be a professional gardener to make your mark in this ministry!

For those who previously volunteered, you will be contacted shortly (if you haven't been already). We were waiting for a solid direction in which this ministry was going to go in. Thanks for your patience!



As we continue to practice social-distancing, is there a 'thought' or reflection that you would like to share with us? If so, please email it to [christine@chelmsfordcatholic.org](mailto:christine@chelmsfordcatholic.org).

In the subject line, please reference **BULLETIN**



**ARTICLE**, and within the body of the email, please let me know if, in addition to publishing it in the bulletin, I have your permission to share it via Flocknote.

Thanks to all who have submitted and share with us! I believe I speak for all when I say that we truly enjoy reading your words. It is one more way that we are bound together in our faith community—a true showing that we are really more alike than we are different. I continue to invite others to come forward, as the Spirit leads... Keep 'em coming!

St. John Parishioner, Ellen St. George, wanted to share the following poem that was penned by her late husband, Deacon John St. George after the retreat that preceded his ordination in 1983. As he took much pride in this writing, Ellen wanted to share it will all of us.

### Who Do You Say That I Am?

King of Might, King of Splendor,  
Creator up on high

I am here and so little,  
If I look on you I'll die

Savior, brother, and our fellow  
Hung on a cross to die,  
I know you walked upon the earth,  
To live, to love, to cry.

Who are you who has such might,  
To rise although you died,  
And yet when faced with grief and pain,  
Just like me you cried?

For you God and yet a man  
And you have loved me so,  
How else can I repay that love  
Unless that love I show.

Not only you must I love  
You loved each one the same,  
I must share with all I meet,  
That same love in your Name.

## St. John's Beautification Offering

This offering funds the beautification of our Altar. Your voluntary donation can be accompanied by the request that it be "In Memory/Appreciation Of", or "For the Intentions Of" someone.

John and Claire Bator ~ Tena and Guinto Bussolari  
Jack Colgan ~ Nick Colgan ~ Lorraine B. Corcoran  
COVID Patients ~ Karen Dearborn  
Eileen Francoeur ~ Elizabeth T. Harrington  
Michael F. Harrington ~ Mary and Edward Mahoney  
Joanne Merwin ~ Presentacion Novales

# **MASS** **INTENTIONS**

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.

## **St. John**

- SAT, AUG 8** 4:00 pm: Matthew Mulkern: 1st Anniversary  
 Florence Mulkern: 9th Anniversary
- SUN, AUG 9** 9:30 am: Thomas and Mary Crowe: Memorial  
 6:00 pm: For the People of the Parish
- TUE, AUG 11** 9:00 am: Nancy Ulrickson: Memorial
- WED, AUG 12** 9:00 am: Bob Jones: Memorial
- SAT, AUG 15** 4:00 pm: For the People of the Parish
- SUN, AUG 16** 9:30 am: Carole McInerney: Memorial  
 6:00 pm: George Lagasse: 1st Anniversary

## **St. Mary**

- SAT, AUG 8** 4:00 pm: Michael McDonald: 4th Anniversary
- SUN, AUG 9** 7:00 am: For the People of the Parish  
 11:00 am: Mary Corrigan: 1st Anniversary
- MON, AUG 10** 7:00 am: Maria Vatalaro: 11th Anniversary
- THUR, AUG 13** 7:00 am: The Souls in Purgatory
- FRI, AUG 14** 7:00 am: LIVING INTENTION: Olivia Buckley
- SAT, AUG 15** 4:00 pm: For the People of the Parish
- SUN, AUG 16** 7:00 am: John J. and Mary T. O'Rourke: Memorial  
 11:00 am: Paul Clark: 13th Anniversary

## **ST. JOHN 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.  
 The suggested offering for a rose is \$5.00.

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

### **MONDAY, AUG 10**

2 Corinthians 9: 6-10  
 Psalm 112  
 John 12: 24-26

### **TUESDAY, AUG 11**

Ezekial 2:8-3:4  
 Psalm 119  
 Matt 18: 1-5, 10, 12-14

### **WEDNESDAY, AUG 12**

Ezekial 9: 1-7, 10: 18-22  
 Psalm 113  
 Matt 18: 15-20

### **THURSDAY, AUG 13**

Ezekial 12: 1-12  
 Psalm 78  
 Matt 18:21-19:1

### **FRIDAY, AUG 14**

Ezekial 165: 1-15, 60, 63  
 [Psalm] Isaiah 12  
 Matthew 19: 3-12

### **SATURDAY, AUG 15**

Rev 11: 19; 12:1-6, 10  
 Psalm 45  
 1 Corinth 15: 20-27  
 Luke 1: 39-56

### **SUNDAY, AUG 16**

Isaiah 56: 1, 6-7  
 Psalm 67  
 Romans 11: 13-15, 29-32  
 Matt 15: 21-28



## **FUNERALS** RECENTLY CELEBRATED

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

*June Alethia Mullin* • August 4 at St. Mary  
*Jeffery Morey* • August 7 at St. John

BLESSED ARE THOSE  
 WHO TRUST IN THE  
 LORD; THE LORD WILL  
 BE THEIR TRUST.

JEREMIAH 17:7



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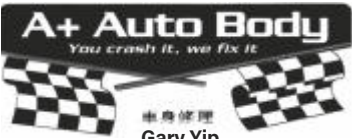
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## Richard Patrick McLarney of Chelmsford, MA

With great sadness, the family of Richard P. McLarney, 91, announces his passing on May 17th at Lowell General Hospital, Lowell, MA. Rich was the son of the late Ethel (Myers) McLarney and Cornelius McLarney.

He was the husband to Judith A. (Hatch) McLarney with whom he would have celebrated their 35th wedding anniversary on June 8, 2020.

Rich is survived by his wife, Judith (Hatch) McLarney, Chelmsford, MA, his sisters, Edith (McLarney) Nahill of Winchester, MA, Sally (McLarney) Healy and her husband Jack, Goffstown, NH, sister-in-law Janice McLarney of Tyngsboro, and his children, Michael McLarney and his wife Cheryl (Kohl) McLarney, Newport, RI; Richard McLarney and his wife Martha (Canfield) McLarney, Lowell, MA; Steven McLarney and his wife Lorraine (Kirk) McLarney, Londonderry, NH; Robert McLarney and his wife Tracy (Elston) McLarney, Lowell, MA; Peter McLarney, Lowell, MA. He also is survived by his stepchildren, Calvin Hatch, Andover, MA; Lisa Hatch Eckelkamp and her husband Gregory, Chelmsford, MA and Tracy (Hatch) Newman and her husband Eric Newman, Chelmsford, MA

Grandchildren: Shaun McLarney and his wife Samantha (Cordaro) McLarney; Tara (McLarney) McGeachey and her husband Joshua; Steven McLarney, Matthew McLarney and his wife Mitra (Daneshevar) McLarney; John McLarney, Robbie McLarney and his wife Rebecca (Alley) McLarney; Brett McLarney, Ryan McLarney, Jane McLarney, Jacob Holmes, Grace McLarney, Timothy McLarney, Connor McLarney, Rebecca Newman, Rachel Newman, Kenneth Eckelkamp, Sarah Eckelkamp, Nick Eckelkamp, Julia Eckelkamp, Sam Eckelkamp

He is survived by 6 great-grandchildren: Makayla, Makenzie, Piper, Macie, Maxwell, and Cameron and 49 nieces and nephews stretching across the US and Canada, and internationally.

He was predeceased by his wife, Noreen McLarney, his siblings; Cornelius McLarney, Mary Lou (McLarney) Corbin, Paul McLarney, Francis McLarney.

Rich was originally from Dracut, MA. After his high school graduation in 1946, he enlisted in the Army and served during the Second World War.

Following his military service, he earned a Mathematics degree from Boston College in 1952.

During College, he worked at the Ford Motor Company, and after graduation, he was subsequently employed by Curtis Wright Aircraft in New Jersey. He was employed by General Electric, RCA, Raytheon, and Mitre Corporation

Rich shared his love of sports with his family, including baseball, golf. In 1993, his family was inducted into the Massachusetts Wrestling High School Hall of Fame. You could always find him in the stands cheering on his sons.

He was a communicant of St. Mary Church in Chelmsford.

Rich as a youth participated in many activities which included Baseball, where many of his baseball stories are particularly vivid. He loved golf and was an avid participant in almost every work affiliated golf league and on weekends getting his boys up for a 5 AM round of golf before anyone else was awake. During the winter for almost 15 years he was an avid Chelmsford High School Wrestling Fan. He and his wife, Judy participated for many years in the Alpine Square Dancers, and Alpine Bowlers of Chelmsford, Massachusetts. In later years he and Judy particularly enjoyed car rides, especially to Plum Island, Seabrook and Hampton beaches, and mini trips with his friends to Inns and to Boothbay Harbor, ME. He loved to play cribbage. He had a great variety of songs that he sung and especially liked to sing "Flow Gently Sweet Afton". Rich was also particularly fond of two pets, that enriched his life, Sarge who he loved to go running with, and Jasper, who knew exactly how to keep Rich's his feet warm while watching tv sports and news.

There will be no visiting hours. A private graveside service was held at St. Joseph Cemetery in Chelmsford, MA. **A Funeral Mass of Christian Burial will be tomorrow, August 10th at 1pm at St. Mary Church, 25 North Rd., Chelmsford.** Memorials may be made in his name to the Disabled American Veterans of Mass, State House, Room 546, Boston, MA 02133. Online guest book is available at [www.dolanfuneralhome.com](http://www.dolanfuneralhome.com). **ARRANGEMENTS BY DOLAN FUNERAL HOME 978-256-4040.**



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