

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. 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

* SUNDAY CURBSIDE COMMUNION

St. John • 3:00 - 3:30 PM / St. Mary • 4:30 - 5:00 PM

* 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 (CURBSIDE CONFESSION)

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.

* please read entire bulletin for potential schedule changes



October 11, 2020

Twenty-Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Come to the Feast!

-Matthew 22:4



facebook.com/ChelmsfordCath



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



instagram.com/chelmsfordcatholic

COLLABORATIVE CALENDAR

at St John at St. Mary

RESERVATION REQUIRED for all weekend liturgies

Sunday, October 11

Weekend Liturgy • 7:00 and 11 am • St. Mary

Weekend Liturgy • 9:30 am and 6 pm • St. John

Curbside Communion • 3:00 - 3:30 pm

Curbside Communion • 4:30 - 5:00 pm

Monday, October 12

Daily Mass • 7:00 am • St. Mary

Daily Mass • 9:00 am • St. John

LIVEVIEW Chaplet of Divine Mercy • 3:00 pm

Curbside Confessions • CANCELLED

Rosary in the Grotto • 7:00 pm

LIVEVIEW Rosary • 7:00 pm

Tuesday, October 13

Daily Mass • 7:00 am • St. Mary

Daily Mass • 9:00 am • St. John

LIVEVIEW Chaplet of Divine Mercy • 3:00 pm

Rosary in the Grotto • 7:00 pm

LIVEVIEW Rosary • 7:00 pm

Wednesday, October 14

Daily Mass • 7:00 am • St. Mary

Daily Mass • 9:00 am • St. John

LIVEVIEW Chaplet of Divine Mercy • 3:00 pm

Curbside Confessions • 4:30 - 5:30 pm

Rosary in the Grotto • 7:00 pm

LIVEVIEW Rosary • 7:00 pm

Thursday, October 15

Daily Mass • 7:00 am • St. Mary

Daily Mass • 9:00 am • St. John

LIVEVIEW Chaplet of Divine Mercy • 3:00 pm

Rosary in the Grotto • 7:00 pm

LIVEVIEW Rosary • 7:00 pm

Friday, October 16

Daily Mass • 7:00 am • St. Mary

Daily Mass • 9:00 am • St. John

LIVEVIEW Chaplet of Divine Mercy • 3:00 pm

Parking Lot Adoration • 4:00 - 5:00 pm

Rosary in the Grotto • 7:00 pm

LIVEVIEW Rosary • 7:00 pm

Saturday, October 17

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

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

Sunday, October 18

Weekend Liturgy • 7:00 and 11 am • St. Mary

Weekend Liturgy • 9:30 am and 6 pm • St. John

Curbside Communion • 3:00 - 3:30 pm

Curbside Communion • 4:30 - 5:00 pm



Due to the Columbus Day holiday...

- Phones will not be staffed
- St. John Curbside Confessions will be cancelled

parking lot adoration

Adoration resumes this Friday, October 16th, under the new schedule of 4-5 pm.



St. Mary Church

Caroline Gagnon & John Krieger

Wedding
BANNS III

Wedding
BANNS II

Alexandra Hamilton & Douglas Calenda

Evening Rosary at St. Mary Grotto

St. Mary's is blessed with the patronage of our Mother Mary and a beautiful Marian Grotto. During the month of October, the Month of The Most Holy Rosary, we will gather Monday - Friday at 7:00 pm to pray this beautiful prayer together as a community. As The Rosary is a Family Prayer, we encourage families to come and pray with us! In the event of inclement weather, the recitation of the Rosary will be cancelled. **DON'T FORGET** to turn in your Hail Mary counts—53 per each Rosary prayed—to the Hail Mary Challenge (see below).



3RD ANNUAL HAIL MARY CHALLENGE

1,000,000 Hail Mary's in 6 Months • June 1 - November 30



Email counts to psidari@ymail.com, call them into (978) 729-1677, or drop them off into the black box located parish office entrance.

Total for Month of June	73,989
Total for Month of July	124,983
Total for Month of August	182,035
Weeks of 9/6 and 9/13	69,479
Week of September 20	46,985
Weeks Sep 27/ Oct 4	133,497

Total To Date... **630,968** Hail Mary's



St. John's African Community
invites you
to celebrate The Mass

Mass is celebrated at St. John's
by this community 3 times a month—2nd, 3rd and
4th Sunday— at 12 noon.

All are welcome to the Lord's table!

The Eucharist

a 7-week presentation
by Fr. Brian in honor of
the Year of the Eucharist

Each Monday evening presentation will begin at 7
pm and will be available to watch via ZOOM and
St. Mary LIVESTREAM.

October 19, 26 • November 2, 9, 16, 23, 30

It is impossible to say all
that can be said about the
Eucharist. If we are being
honest, it would take an
eternity to fully speak
about the mystery, and
even then, we still would
never be able to fully
comprehend the totality of
its meaning. The word—Eucharist—comes from the
Greek word *eucharistia*, which means
thanksgiving. That simple definition begins to touch
upon the reality that the Eucharist is not simply about
the presence of Christ, but speaks also to an attitude
we are called to have in regards to God's saving
mission in our lives.



The very idea of thanksgiving which this great
sacrament calls FROM self-centeredness TO the
desire to center our lives in communion with God. It
seeks to drive from us desires rooted in sin and
un-thankfulness, to one of true love of God.
Therefore, the Eucharist is at the heart of God's plan
of salvation.

It can be helpful to unpack how we come to grow in
this attitude by looking at certain themes or
paradigms. These paradigms do not in any way
exhaust all that we could say on the Eucharist, but
can help us to understand in how we grow in that
attitude of gratitude and deepen on our communion
in Christ, which leads us to the Father. Each week we
will cover a different theme or paradigm as we
explore Eucharist as noun, verb, meal, sacrifice,
memorial and covenant.

baby bottle drive

October is 'Respect Life Month.' Due to COVID, we will be
holding our annual Baby Bottle Drive virtually to support
our local Pregnancy Care Center in Lowell.

The Pregnancy Care Center (PCC) offers loving, free, and
confidential support to those facing an unplanned
pregnancy. The goal of the PCC is to journey alongside
women to let them know they are not alone. Additionally,
we provide sexual integrity education, post-abortion
counseling, and material assistance (baby items/food).
Our services are free, thanks to support from individuals
and local churches. The PCC also has locations in Haverhill
and Lawrence. Thank you once again for supporting us in
our efforts to help these women and their unborn children.

You can make an online donation by visiting PCC at
www.pccfriends.org/events/baby-bottle-campaign. If you
prefer to send a check, please make it payable to PCC,
and mail to: Pregnancy Care Center
158 Mammoth Road, Lowell, MA 01854

Knights of Columbus Youth Essay Contest



All Catholic students in grades 8 through 12 are invited to
participate in the 2020-21 KofC Catholic Citizenship
Essay Contest. Students are encouraged to write a
500-750 word essay on the theme of **"discuss how
trusting in God during a difficult time has helped you or
someone you know find the strength and hope to
endure it."** The contest is open to students from St. Anne,
St. Catherine, St. John, and St. Mary Parishes, and
children / grandchildren of council members.

First-place winners at each grade level will receive a
monetary award from Bishop Ruocco Council, as well as
having their essays submitted to the KofC State Council
for additional judging and awards.

Must Submit: Entry Form with Parental Consent
Written Essay

Deadline: **Post Marked by November 2, 2020**
NO electronic submittal

Mail To: KofC Bishop Rocco Council 9275
P.O. Box 65
Chelmsford, MA 01824-0065

To obtain an Entry Form, contact Knights of Columbus
member Gene Bartos at gene.bartos@verizon.net

For more information about the essay topic, please refer
to the council website—knights9275.com—and click on
Catholic Essay Contest.

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

Next week's second collection supports Catholic World Missions. By Baptism, all Catholics are called to participate in the mission of the Church and share their faith as missionaries. World Missions Sunday gathers support for the pastoral and evangelization programs and needs of more than 1,150 mission dioceses in Africa, Asia, the Pacific Islands, and remote regions of Latin America. The funds gathered on World Mission Sunday be distributed in the pope's name by the Society of the Propagation of the Faith—a Pontifical Mission Society. Please visit www.propfaithboston.org for more information.

St. Mary Weekly Offertory	Weekend of October 3rd/4th	Fiscal Year-To-Date October 4th	Fiscal YTD Average/Week
Offertory Required to cover Budgeted Expenses	\$17,140 *	\$239,960	\$17,140
Actual Received	\$21,303	\$198,195	\$14,157
Shortfall/ Overage	\$4,163	-\$41,765	-\$2,983

St. John Weekly Offertory	Weekend of October 3rd/4th	Fiscal Year-To-Date October 4th	Fiscal YTD Average/Week
Offertory Required to cover Budgeted Expenses	\$11,040 *	\$154,560	\$11,040
Actual Received	\$6,869	\$110,830	\$7,916
Shortfall/ Overage	-\$4,171	-\$43,730	-\$3,124

* due to COVID-19, budget number is not final and subject to change

ST. MARY Online Giving



- Visit our website at 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



- Visit our website at 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.

Join Deacon John, Bishop Hennessey and Fr. Corey on a

Deluxe Pilgrimage to the Holy Land

April 3 - 13, 2022 • \$5,299 per person/ double occupancy



- First Class Hotel Accommodation
- Visit to a Market in Nazareth
- Wine Tasting at the American Colony Hotel courtyard
- Visit to the Western Wall and Jewish Quarters
- Dinners at Satya Restaurant & Wine & Cheese
- Restaurant on rooftop of Notre Dame

A flyer with ALL details can be found on our website!

Family Faith Formation Program

Heather Hannaway
Director of Faith Formation
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Courtney Callanan
Asst. Director of Faith Formation
ccallanan@chelmsfordcatholic.org

Faith Formation Coordinators

Elaine Kindler
ekindler@chelmsfordcatholic.org

Lynn Anne LaDuke
lynnanne@chelmsfordcatholic.org

If you have not yet picked up your Pizza Box—AKA Faith Formation Program Materials—please contact Elaine [if you are a St. Mary family] or Lynn [if you are a St. John Family] to make arrangements to do so as soon as possible, as events and study began October 4th!

P.L.A.N.S. FOR THE WEEK OF OCTOBER 11-17

**PREPARE
TO LEARN
AWESOME!
NEW STUFF**

ALL FAMILIES

- Read the "Our Prayer Journal - Praying with the Holy Rosary" booklet
- Focus on Week One: Learn the Rhythm
- Practice the rhythm of The Rosary with your family for 15 minutes each day
- Track your progress on your October tracking sheets

GRADE ONE and TWO FAMILIES

- Continue to work on understanding and learning Basic Catholic Prayers

GRADE SEVEN and EIGHT FAMILIES

- Focus on the components of daily family prayer
- Attend/watch the Sunday Mass together during the month of October

CONFIRMATION I FAMILIES

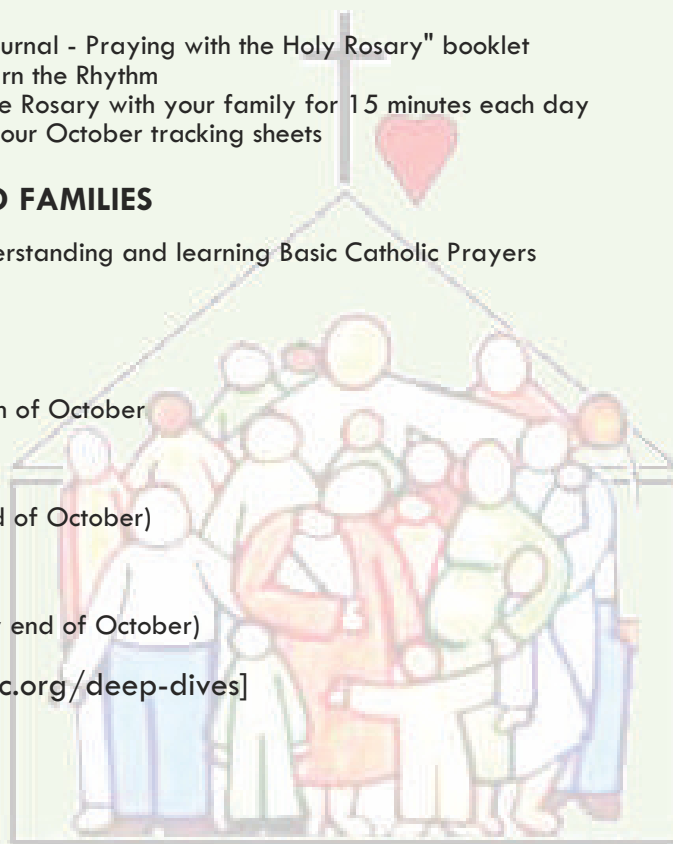
- Continue working on Lessons 1&2 (ideally finished by end of October)

CONFIRMATION II FAMILIES

- Continue working on Lessons 13 & 14 (ideally finished by end of October)

UPCOMING DEEP DIVES [www.chelmsfordcatholic.org/deep-dives]

- Oct 18th St. John Church Tour
- Oct 18th Good News! Jesus Call His Disciples
- Oct 24th Rosary
- Oct 25th Facts with Father



40 Days for Life is a grass-roots pro-life campaign with a vision to access God's power through prayer, fasting, and peaceful vigil to end abortion. Over 17,226 babies have been confirmed saved since 2007 by people offering help to women in crisis pregnancies.

From September 23 to November 1, the Boston campaign will be keeping vigil daily from 7 am - 7 pm on the sidewalk in front of Planned Parenthood, 1055 Commonwealth Ave.

To participate, visit 40daysforlife.com or contact Rita Russo at 40daysforlifeboston@gmail.com or 781-762-4391. It has never been more important to be a witness for life.

From Our Pastor

One of the things I often hear from people when it comes to making choices, such as voting, is “I need to vote my conscience.” I would not disagree with this sentiment at all. In fact, the Church herself agrees that one’s conscience must be taken seriously in making decisions. But, the Church also says that it is not simply about your conscience, but that it must be a well-formed conscience.

A person may ask what makes a well-formed conscience for the Church. It begins with, of course, some of the issues I discussed in last week’s column: the truth that God created all that exists, gave it a purpose, end or order, and we must not act in a way with God’s creation that contravenes his will. This primary principle must be at the heart of making a well-informed decision.

Equally important in making good decisions is knowing that God has a plan and we must seek to understand that plan. Again, to act in ways that are not in accord with God’s will, concerning one’s personal journey and the greater plan He has for humanity, can be a grievous act and rise to the level of mortal sin. We must realize, even though we live in a democracy and cannot force our faith on others, there are issues that are so primary to God’s plan that we must work to ensure they are upheld. One such issue is the inherent dignity of all human life from the moment of conception to the moment of natural death. Life is *never* a biological accident or choice: it is a gift granted by God. And each life He brings forth is part of his plan of salvation. We are each called to cooperate with God’s plan for each and every life. In doing so, we must recognize when God’s plan is being attacked by such issues as systematic racism or policies that help support inequality. God’s plan is *always* for the good of all. Anything that does not uphold the essential sacredness of all life—that, by definition, does not work towards such a reality—is contravening God’s will and plan of salvation.

Once we accept the reality of what has just been said, we must realize that for Catholics truth is objective and unchangeable. Our understanding of truth is *not* simply a set of ideas and principles to be followed. (We simply need to check off the boxes and we’re all set. No!) The truth for us is *not* something, but someone. Jesus told us, “I am the way, the truth and the life.” When we seek to live in accord with truth, it can mean only one thing—we must have a real, personal and intimate relationship with Christ. Christ is the *only* truth! A person can only come to the fullness of truth by engaging in this kind of relationship with Christ. The truth is not about what makes me happy, fulfilled and self-actualized. The truth is only found by embracing the cross and following Christ. And at times that means going against what appears to make me happy, fulfilled, self-actualized. Only when we truly die to ourselves and empty ourselves of what the world believes can we begin to open to the truth of Christ. And the reality open to the truth of Christ. And the reality is that the truth of Christ is generally counter-cultural. The teaching of

Christ over the ages has always confronted the social and cultural wrongs of every period and situation. The truth cannot change to conform to the ideas of the times. Rather, the truth of Christ confronts the ideas of the times to show what is good and right, and what is wrong. The teachings of Christ will never ‘update’ themselves to match how the world thinks. The relevance of the truth is found *not* in catering to people’s perceived understanding: it is in discovering what God has taught throughout salvation history.

It is important to have this relationship with Christ to both know who He is and what He expects of us. God has revealed this through the scriptures and the teachings of the Church. If we want to know Christ, we must know his scriptures. As Saint Jerome wrote, “Ignorance of the scriptures is ignorance of Christ.” It is impossible to have a real relationship with Christ if we do not know what he actually taught. As Catholics we must believe that when it comes to faith and morals, the scriptures are inerrant. They cannot be wrong. The scriptures teach us what we must believe (our faith) and how to live out what we believe (our morals). If we hold to something that contradicts the scriptures, then, simply put, we are wrong since the Bible cannot be wrong when it comes to faith and morals. God also realizes that it may be difficult at times to understand what has been written. Therefore, He has ensured that his Church cannot go into error when it comes to faith and morals. The Holy Spirit has guarded the deposit of faith for over 2,000 years to protect it from going into error. This does not mean that individual bishops, priests, deacons, or religious have not acted contrary to what is right and good. The protection is about the teaching itself, *not* about those bound to profess it. Much harm has been done over the millennia by those who should have known better, but did not live their lives in accord with the truth. Unfortunately, it has generally given people the idea that they can do the same and ignore what God has revealed.

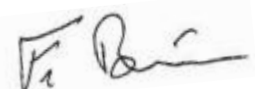
One of the great gifts we receive, when we open to life in this way, is that we discover ourselves. We are made in the image and likeness of God, and we can only discover the truth of ourselves by coming to know God. When a person opens to the truth of the Creator and his plan, he/she will discover their need for God—that they have been created to be in union with God. And God’s plan will reveal to them the truth of who they are. Only then will we begin to form a true conscience.

Next week I will talk about how we come to have well-formed conscience.

If you have any questions about anything, please do not hesitate to ask me directly, or email me at fr.brian@chelmsfordcatholic.org.

Please keep me in your prayers.

In Christ,
Fr. Brian



FROM OUR ASST DIRECTOR OF FAITH FORMATION
COURTNEY CALLANAN

Translation is a tricky task for many reasons, but one of the reasons is that often a particular word in one language will have no direct translation in another. Instead, a sentence (or two!) must be used to convey a concept to speakers of one language that speakers of another can concisely express with a single word. I like to collect such words from other languages, particularly ones that signify things of which I am already fond. For example, the Japanese have a word 木漏れ日, *komorebi*, which refers to the “sort of scattered dappled light effect that happens when sunlight shines in through trees.” There is also the Spanish word *sobremesa*, for “the period after eating a meal when the food is gone but the conversation is still flowing at the table.” Finally, there is the German word *fernweh*, which is “a feeling of homesickness for a place you have never been.”

I particularly like the word *fernweh* because I think being homesick for a place you’ve never been is part and parcel of being a Christian. In fact, I think *fernweh* could apply to the Christian experience in at least two ways. This first, and most obvious, is the desire for Heaven, the yearning to be fully and forever in the presence of God. As St. Augustine put it, “You have made us for Yourself, O Lord, and our hearts are restless until they rest in You.” We may not, yet, have been to Heaven but it is our home in the truest sense of the word. The second way I see *fernweh* describing an experience of the Christian life is the longing to experience the Kingdom of God more strongly here on Earth.

Certainly, as Christians, we believe that God is present and active in our world, but we also acknowledge that things still have quite a ways to go before the world is what God would have it be. There can definitely be a tinge (or perhaps more than a tinge) of homesickness when we imagine what our lives and society could be like if we were all (ourselves included) more Christ-like. So, what are we to do with this feeling of *fernweh* for a Christ-centered world?

Well, I think the simplest thing might be to approach it the same way we would the normal kind of homesickness. Those who live far from the people and places they love, find ways to stay connected from afar and to make home present where they are. We can do this with Heaven; we can stay connected to God through prayer and the sacraments. We can do this with the Kingdom of God; we can make it present by choosing to do as Christ would do in our day-to-day lives, and encouraging others to do the same. We can remember that the longing we feel for God is also an invitation from the Lord to bring Him into our here and now.

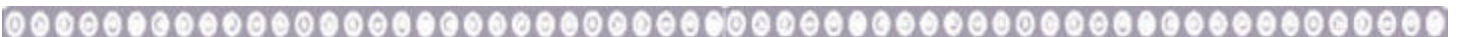
FROM OUR SENIOR PRIEST IN RESIDENCE
Fr. Colletti

For some time now, even before the pandemic, people were not joining civic or social groups or clubs. People were becoming isolates. Church attendance dropped from 14% to 11% throughout the diocese of parishioners who attended church each week. Fewer and fewer people went to confession. They said that they could go to confession directly to God at home. Soon after that, I am sure, they stopped examining their conscience and forgot the laws of God. I asked the wedding party at the rehearsal if they wanted to go to confession because we will celebrate the wedding at a Mass. They all said, “We will be here all night.” I asked them why they were carrying so much baggage.

When the pandemic hit us, people could not go to church for worship. Overnight, people who attended church made an easy shift to transfer their time of prayer to their homes. Some people watched Mass over live stream, but not many. When people could come to Mass by reservation on weekends, and without reservations on weekdays, not many did so.

This smooth shift into the home, necessitated by the public health crisis, confirmed the creed that prayer, for all its public features, is fundamentally an affair between God and man and woman. The fact that we continue to express our commitment to God, to praise and petition and to thank Him in private may present the thought, “Who needs the Church?” As I said in the beginning—people have become isolates. Let us hope this is not the case when the pandemic is over.

From the hymn Hosea: “Come back to me with all your heart. Don’t let fear keep us apart. Long have I waited for your coming home to me and living deeply our new life.”



Meet Our Staff

~ CLERGY ~

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

Reverend Corey Bassett-Tirrell, PAROCHIAL VICAR
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Reverend Arnold Colletti, SR. PRIEST IN RESIDENCE
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Brannon Lepak, TRANSITIONAL DEACON
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~ BUSINESS OFFICE ~

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~ FAITH FORMATION ~

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Elaine Kindler, FAITH FORMATION COORDINATOR
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~ ADMINISTRATIVE ~

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

Donna Gambon, PART-TIME ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT
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Sue Beechin, PART-TIME ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT
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~ FACILITIES ~

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

Bob Webb, CUSTODIAN
bob@chelmsfordcatholic.org

Sam O'Neill, PART-TIME CUSTODIAN

~ 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

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

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

Current Council Members are ...

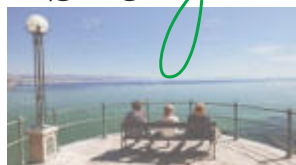
Lauren Desforge
Ted Powers
Paul Therrien

Jack Parsons
Paul Rigazio

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 like 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 best to accommodate your request.

Aging gracefully

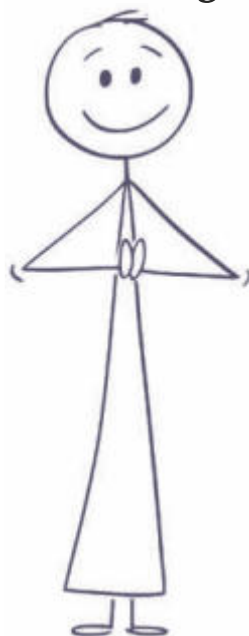
The Wisdom of Years



This half-day retreat, originally scheduled for this past May, was cancelled due to the pandemic. The twelve women registered for this half day retreat gathered together on September 22 for an outdoor, socially-distanced retreat on the extra-large, lake-side deck of St. John parishioner, Pat Chevalier with Peggy Hassett and Marilyn Peabody—also St. John parishioners—facilitating. The warmth of the stories and experiences shared that morning dramatically contrasted the chilly temperature.



Share Your Favorite Prayer



It appears we may have exhausted the article sharing. Which got me to thinking, because selfishly, I really miss hearing from and being inspired by you all. So... how about sharing a favorite prayer?

This idea came about because I have been sending daily prayers to a loved one who is away from family for a bit. As I have been on the search for prayers each night as I lay in bed (my deadline to send is 7 am), it got me asking friends and co-workers what THEIR favorite prayer was. Fast Forward to this moment... What is **YOUR** go-to prayer? What prayer speaks to you? What prayer has been that 'rock' as you struggle in a stormy situation? What prayer has been the anchor to the faith fact that

God has never left you on your own? What prayer has brought you peace in the midst of doubt, chaos or confusion? If you are willing to share what it is, and why it is your favorite, let me know [you do NOT need to share your 'why' if you don't want to]. Who knows... your 'go-to' prayer could end up being a powerful reminder to someone else of God's never-ending presence in their life!

Annual Blessing of the Animals

Last Sunday, October 4th
St. John Great Lawn





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, OCT 10** 4:00 pm: For the People of the Parish
SUN, OCT 11 9:30 am: J. Edward Clancy: Memorial
 6:00 pm: Larry Johnson: 1st Anniversary
SAT, OCT 17 4:00 pm: Michael and Johanna O'Neill: Memorial
SUN, OCT 18 9:30 am: Michael Desrochers: Memorial
 6:00 pm: For the People of the Parish

St. Mary

- SAT, OCT 10** 4:00 pm: David Gorham: 20th Anniversary
SUN, OCT 11 7:00 am: David Dillon and Donna Luebbers
 11:00 am: For the People of the Parish
MON, OCT 12 7:00 am: LIVING INTENTION: Natassia LaFauci
TUE, OCT 13 7:00 am: Marguerite Farley: Memorial
WED, OCT 14 7:00 am: 40 Days Life Initiative
THUR, OCT 15 7:00 am: Helen C. McGovern: Memorial
FRI, OCT 16 7:00 am: LIVING INTENTION: Marianne Dickerson
SAT, OCT 17 4:00 pm: Joe Camacho: 8th Anniversary
SUN, OCT 18 7:00 am: For the People of the Parish
 11:00 am: Melissa Boyd: 8th Anniversary

"The souls of the just are in the hand of God and no torment shall touch them. They seemed, in the view of the foolish, to be dead; and their passing away was thought an affliction and their going forth from us, utter destruction. But they are in peace."
 - Wisdom 3: 1-3



FUNERALS RECENTLY CELEBRATED

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

Sandy Donovan • October 5 at St. Mary

Rose for Life



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

This week's St. Mary Rose for Life:
For the Protection of the Unborn!
 St. Mary Rose provided by JuJu Buds

This week's St. John Rose for Life:
In Memory Of Joan Roy
From the Tuesday Morning Coffee Group
 St. John Rose provided by Blossoms Florist

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, call the parish office. Please note that we require a 2-week notice for your flower order.

This Week's Altar Flowers:
John and Mary Myers Family

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

MONDAY, OCT 12

Galatians 4: 22-24, 26-27,
 31—5:1
 Psalm 113
 Luke 11: 29-32

TUESDAY, OCT 13

Galatians 5: 1-6
 Psalm 119
 Luke 11: 37-41

WEDNESDAY, OCT 14

Galatians 5: 18-25
 Psalm 1
 Luke 11: 42-46

THURSDAY, OCT 15

Ephesians 1: 1-10
 Psalm 98
 Luke 11: 47-54

FRIDAY, OCT 16

Ephesians 1: 11-14
 Psalm 33
 Luke 12: 1-7

SATURDAY, OCT 17

Ephesians 1: 15-23
 Psalm 8
 Luke 12: 8-12

SUNDAY, OCT 18

Isaiah 24: 1, 4-6
 Psalm 96
 1Thess 1: 1-5
 Matthew 22: 15-21

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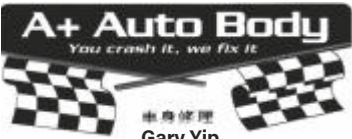
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CHELMSFORD, MA**



Irene Bernadette Cooke of North Chelmsford

Mrs. Irene Bernadette Cooke, 93, of N. Chelmsford, MA passed away August 16, 2020 at Lowell General Hospital.

She was married to the late Nelson H. Cooke.

Born in Boston, MA on March 8, 1927 the daughter of the late George William Swales and Alice Gertrude (Carney) Swales. She graduated from the High School of Practical Arts in Roxbury with the class of 1945.

Irene retired as a home health aid for the Lowell VNA and Respite Care in Chelmsford in 1993. Previously she worked at White Towers Restaurant in Park Square in Boston, and Sun Spot Restaurant in Lechmere Square. She worked at J.M. Fields Department Store in Chelmsford, Pollard's Department Store in Lowell.

Irene was a member of AARP, Guild Member of the Poor Claire Nuns in Tewksbury, Chelmsford Senior Citizens Club, and a past member of Coffee Klatchers Bowling League, and Holiday Fitness

Center. Mrs. Cooke was an avid swimmer.

She was a communicant of St. John the Evangelist Church and a member of the Blessed Virgin Sodality.

Irene is survived by her daughters, Irene B. Knox of Chelmsford, and Elizabeth Jean and her husband Bradley Ryan of Billerica; sons, Nelson H.C. Cooke and his wife Juliana Cooke of Hayward, CA, David S. Cooke and his wife Lillian of Gig Harbor, WA, Philip R. Cooke and his wife Tracy of Raleigh, NC; eleven grandchildren, many great grandchildren, one great-great grandchild and many nieces, nephews and friends.

She was the sister of the late George W. Swales, Alice G. Copithorn, Midred L. Joyce and Mother in law of the late John Paul Knox.

Her visiting hours were Thurs., Aug. 20th from 4 to 6 P.M. Funeral was Fri., Aug. 21st at 10am from the DOLAN FUNERAL HOME, 106 MIDDLESEX ST. CHELMSFORD, with a funeral Mass at 11am at St. John the Evangelist. Online guest book is available at www.dolanfuneralhome.com. **ARRANGEMENTS BY DOLAN FUNERAL HOME 978-256-4040.**

