



ST. JOHN  
THE EVANGELIST PARISH  
115 MIDDLESEX STREET  
NORTH CHELMSFORD

ST. MARGARET  
OF SCOTLAND PARISH  
374 STEVENS STREET  
LOWELL

ST. MARY PARISH  
25 NORTH ROAD  
CHELMSFORD

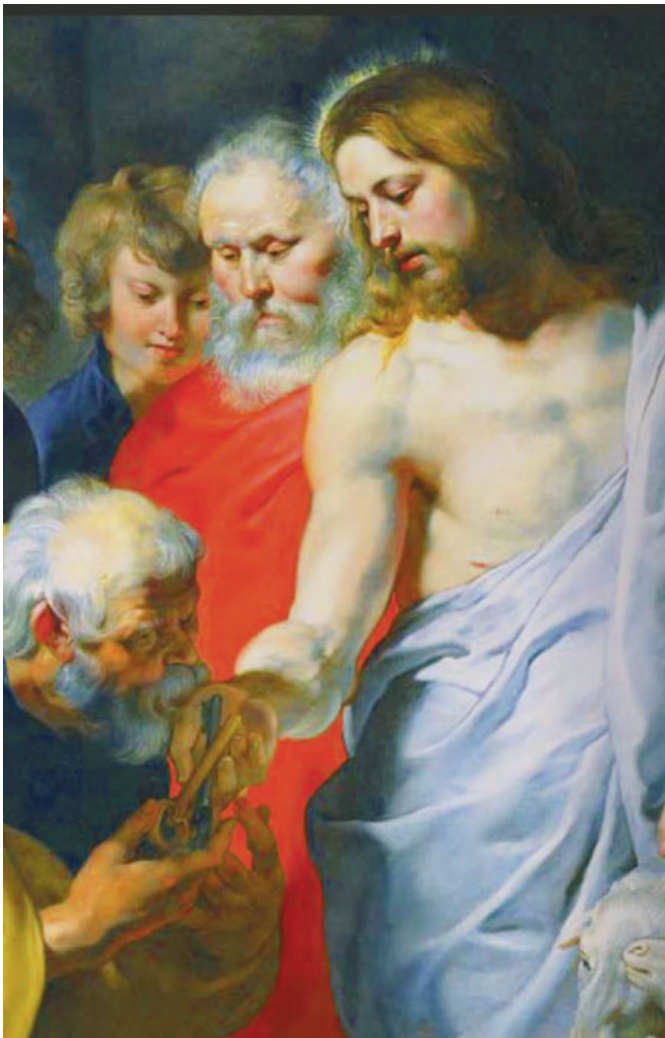


# August 27, 2023

## 21st Sunday in Ordinary Time

"I will give you the keys to the kingdom.  
Whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in  
heaven; and whatever you loose on earth shall  
be loosed in heaven."

-Matthew 16:19



### Parish Office Location and Hours



115 Middlesex Street • North Chelmsford, 01863  
(978) 256-2374 | [www.theholyrood.org](http://www.theholyrood.org)

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday • 9:00 am - 5:00 pm  
Wednesday • 9:30 am - 5:00 pm  
Friday • 9:00 am - 3:00 pm

### Weekend Mass Schedule

St. John • Saturday, 4 pm | Sunday, 9:30 am and 6 pm  
• African Liturgy, Sunday, 12 pm  
St. Margaret • Saturday, 4 pm | Sunday, 7:30 and 10 am  
St. Mary • Saturday, 4 pm | Sunday, 7 and 11 am

### Daily Mass Schedule

Monday - Friday  
7 am at St. Mary • 8 am at St. Margaret • 9 am at St. John

### Sacrament of Reconciliation

Monday • 4:30 - 5:30 pm • St. John  
Tuesday • 4:30 - 5:30 pm • St. Margaret  
Wednesday • 4:30 - 5:30 pm • St. Mary  
Saturday • 11 am - 12 noon at St. Mary  
• 1 pm - 2 pm at St. Margaret  
• 3 pm - 3:45 pm at St. John

### Eucharistic Adoration

Wednesdays (Sep-Jun) • 9 am - 3 pm • St. Margaret OLL Chapel  
Thursdays • 12:00 - 9:00 pm • St. Mary Adoration Chapel  
First Fridays • 3:00 - 9:00 pm • St. John OPC Chapel

### LIVEVIEW Devotions

Monday - Friday  
3 pm • Chaplet of Divine Mercy at St. John  
7 pm • Rosary at St. Mary

### Prayer Line

To have prayers said for yourself or a loved one,  
call the parish office and ask for ext. 223. After hours,  
press 5.

\*Please read entire bulletin for potential schedule changes

# weekly calendar

## Monday, August 28

Chaplet of Divine Mercy • 3 pm • SJE Church and LIVEVIEW  
 Confession • 4:30 - 5:30 pm • SJE Church  
 Rosary • 7 pm • SM Church and LIVEVIEW

## Tuesday, August 29

Chaplet of Divine Mercy • 3 pm • SJE Church and LIVEVIEW  
 Confession • 4:30 - 5:30 pm • SMS Church  
 Rosary • 7 pm • SM Church and LIVEVIEW

## Wednesday, August 30

Chaplet of Divine Mercy • 3 pm • SJE Church and LIVEVIEW  
 Confession • 4:30 - 5:30 pm • SM Church  
 Rosary • 7 pm • SM Church and LIVEVIEW

## Thursday, August 31

Charismatic Prayer Group • 10 - 11 am • ZOOM  
 Rosary Makers • 10:30 am - 12 pm • SM PC Conf Room 2  
 Adoration • 12 - 9 pm • SM PC Adoration Chapel  
 Chaplet of Divine Mercy • 3 pm • SJE Church and LIVEVIEW  
 BINGO • doors open 3:30 pm/ first game 6:45 pm • SJE Hall  
 Women's ACTS Meeting • 6:45 - 8:45 pm • SJE OPC  
 Rosary • 7 pm • SM Church and LIVEVIEW

## Friday, September 1

**\*\* PARISH OFFICES CLOSED \*\***

First Friday Adoration • 3 - 9 pm • SJE Adoration Chapel  
 Knitting and Crocheting • 3 - 5 pm • SM Hall  
 Chaplet of Divine Mercy • **CANCELLED**  
 Rosary • 7 pm • **CANCELLED**

## Saturday, September 2

Confessions • refer to cover  
 St. Mary Bell Choir • 2:30 - 3:30 pm • SM Choir Loft



## St. Margaret of Scotland

Connor McDonough & Jacqueline Burke  
 BANNS III



The Parish Offices will be **closed THIS FRIDAY, September 1 and NEXT MONDAY, September 4** in Honor of the Labor Day Holiday.

God, in your goodness, you have made a home for the worker. Make a place in our hearts for compassion to the men and women who labor tirelessly for basic necessities. Ensure a place for the men and women who are struggling to find work.

Grant us your wisdom to greet and care for those who are unable to work due to illness or circumstances that prevent their participation. Be with the children who are not able to run and play, but instead must put in a hard day's work to help their family afford to eat, to live.

Be with us all, Christ Jesus, as we go about the busyness of our work. Hold us accountable not only for our actions, but most importantly to each of our neighbors. May we continue to work together to bring about your reign!

We ask this in your holy name, through the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

## Eucharistic Adoration

St. Margaret Eucharistic Adoration resumes NEXT Wednesday September 6, and will continue every Wednesday through June of next year. Please join us in the Our Lady of Lourdes Chapel between the hours of 9 am and 3 pm. Questions? Contact Ed at edoliveri@aol.com or (978) 551-2944.

If you would like to submit a notice to be published in the bulletin, please do so no later than 12 noon, **TWO** Fridays prior to the weekend in which you would like it published. Please email your submittals to [christine@theholyrood.org](mailto:christine@theholyrood.org) or mail: Parish Offices at 115 Middlesex Street, North Chelmsford, MA, 01863, ATTN Christine. We will do our best to accommodate your request.



**What is a shark's favorite sandwich?**

(answer on page 3)



## Clergy

Reverend Brian E. Mahoney, PASTOR  
fr.brian@theholyrood.org | (978) 254-0560

Reverend Fernando Ayala, PAROCHIAL VICAR  
frfernando@theholyrood.org | (978) 401-9844

Reverend Patrick Alemayo, PAROCHIAL VICAR  
fr.patrickalemayo@theholyrood.org | (978) 451-6767

Reverend Arnold F. Colletti, SR. PRIEST IN RESIDENCE  
frcolletti@theholyrood.org | ext 116

Reverend Raymond Benoit, SR. PRIEST IN RESIDENCE  
fray@theholyrood.org | ext 115

Deacon John C. Hunt, Jr., PERMANENT DEACON  
deaconjohn@theholyrood.org | (978) 254-2696

Deacon Frank Perez de Alderete, PERMANENT DEACON  
deaconfrank@theholyrood.org | 978-254-0638

Deacon Barry V. Lloyd, SR. PERMANENT DEACON  
deac5@comcast.net | (978) 454-6505

## Outreach & Parish Ministry

Sr. Lori Fleming, SNDdeN, PASTORAL ASSOCIATE  
srlori@theholyrood.org | ext 225

## Business Office

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

Tina Sousa, FINANCE COORDINATOR  
tsousa@theholyrood.org | ext 219

## Family Faith Formation

Heather Hannaway, MA, DIR OF FAITH FORMATION  
hhannaway@theholyrood.org | ext 226

Courtney Callanan, MA, ASST DIR OF FAITH FORMATION  
courtney@theholyrood.org | ext 227

Shaun Bradley, FAITH FORMATION ASSOCIATE  
sbradley@theholyrood.org | ext 232

Elaine Kindler, FAITH FORMATION PROGRAM ADMINISTRATOR  
ekindler@theholyrood.org | ext 216

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

## Office Administration

Sue Beechin, ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT  
sue@theholyrood.org | ext 236

Jamie Brown, PART-TIME SCHEDULING COORDINATOR  
jbrown@theholyrood.org | ext 239

Donna Gambon, PART-TIME ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT  
dgambon@theholyrood.org | ext 248

Rae Russo, PART-TIME FUNERAL COORDINATOR  
rae@theholyrood.org | (978) 306-5882

## Facilities

Chris Goglia, DIRECTOR OF FACILITIES  
chris@theholyrood.org | (978) 341-4203

Dan Heider, FACILITIES PROJECT MANAGER  
dheider@theholyrood.org | ext 213

## Bulletin, Website, Social Media

Christine Trznadel, COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTOR  
christine@theholyrood.org | (978) 254-4406



Join us on September 10 for the celebration of Mass followed by food, fun and fellowship!

The success of this event is in direct correlation to the number of volunteers—**age 13 and over**—who join our team! The more hands on deck...

- the shorter the lines
- the quicker the set up/clean up
- the smoother the road

There are MANY opportunities for which you can volunteer...

- set up/ clean up
- grill team
- running games
- serving popcorn and ice cream

Sign up for any of these 'jobs' TODAY at [www.theholyrood.org/outdoor-mass-and-bbq](http://www.theholyrood.org/outdoor-mass-and-bbq)

If you don't have access to a computer, contact Sue at the parish offices, Monday - Thursday between the hours of 10am - 3pm.

## IMPORTANT TO NOTE:

The St. John 9:30 am, St. Margaret 10 am, St. Mary 11 am, and the St. John 12 noon African Masses are cancelled on this day.



answers: peanut butter and jelly!



Sixth Annual

*Hail Mary*  
challenge

Monday, May 1 - Tuesday, October 31, 2023

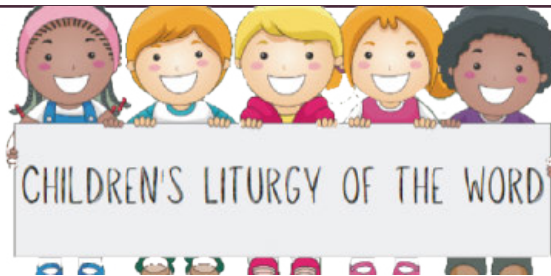
Report your Hail Mary Counts—weekly or monthly—via email to [psidari@ymail.com](mailto:psidari@ymail.com) or call into Christine at (978) 254-4406.

AUGUST 14-20	TOTAL-TO-DATE	%AGE OF GOAL
44,096	668,957	66.8%

# here's what's happening in The Holy



**Hoping for its return this fall!**



## What is CLOW?

Children's Liturgy of the Word (CLOW) is an opportunity for the children of our collaborative—Preschool through Grade 5—to partake in the Liturgy of the Word in a manner that appeals to their age level. At the beginning of Mass they are led to the parish hall, where they will celebrate the Liturgy of the Word including: First Reading, Psalm, Second Reading, Alleluia, Gospel, and Prayer of the Faithful. They then return to the church at the Preparation of the Gifts to join their family in the celebration of the Liturgy of the Eucharist.

## Volunteer Opportunities

1. Ideally, we need a coordinator for each parish or someone willing to coordinate all three parishes.
2. Teams of 2-6 Adults/Confirmed Teens who can rotate serving as Leaders. A Team of 4-6 Adults who can rotate leading the Liturgy of the Word.
3. **Two CLOW Leaders needed per Mass**  
Commitment involves reading over the prepared Lesson and Mass time only. Volunteers receive training and must attend *Protecting God's Children Workshop*. Confirmed teens are welcome to teach with one adult present.
4. **Adult Shepherd**  
Not ready to be a CLOW leader but still want to get involved? Adult shepherds assist the children during the Liturgy and help them get to and from Mass. Volunteers must attend *Protecting God's Children Workshop*.
5. **Teen Shepherd** Teen shepherds assist the children during the liturgy. Volunteers should be in sixth grade or above.

## Time Commitment

Mass time and lesson review (less than one hour)  
approximately once a month.

If interested in volunteering or learning more, please contact Heather Hannaway, Director of Faith Formation at [hhannaway@theholyrood.org](mailto:hhannaway@theholyrood.org).



## facilities update

Chris Goglia, DIR OF FACILITIES  
[chris@theholyrood.org](mailto:chris@theholyrood.org)  
(978)341-4203

If you come across any issues with any of our facilities, please reach out to Chris. If you choose to

email, please write FACILITIES ISSUE in the subject line.

Below, please find this month's update of all our facilities.

**St. Mary** • The church AC lines have been cleaned and are being monitored to be sure that the issue with leaking has been resolved. • The side door between the church and rectory is broken. Until it is replaced, we ask that it only be opened in the event of an emergency. • We continue to address seasonal summer jobs.

## St. Margaret of Scotland

• The sink in the hall is being upgraded to a larger unit in order to better fit the need of parishioners and events. • Repairs to the sound system have been made following issues with the lector mic. • The AC has been working since the last heating fix. • All outdoor work is mostly completed... we continue the season in maintenance mode. • A small break in the irrigation system has been repaired. Some minor work remains, but it is fully functional.

## St. John the Evangelist

• We are beginning preparations for the September 10th outdoor Mass. • Outside clean-up is still ongoing as we continue to address our usual summer work. • The elevator was down for the August 19/20 Masses, and as of this writing, the repair is expected to be made before August 26/27 Masses. • A huge 'shout out' of gratitude to Tongsri for her work in our flower gardens.

# Rood Collaborative community

Join us for the First Night of the Season

**NEXT FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 8th!**



*trivia night*  
Fellowship, Fun and Food for the Brain!

All parishioners of the collaborative are invited to take part in this year's Trivia Season. Form a team of 8, or come by yourself and join up with others! Meet new people, have a few laughs... all while discovering fun facts that are floating around in your brain that you FORGET you ever knew!

Mark these future Fridays in your calendar, because you WILL want to come back!

October 13, 2023      April 19, 2024

November 10, 2023      May 17, 2024

June 14, 2024

As space is limited,  
please notify Lorraine of your intention to attend:

lorron2@comcast.net or (978) 937-8657

## MONDAY Bible MORNING STUDY

Little Rock Scripture Study

In *The Holy Spirit in the Bible*, George Smiga unpacks key Scripture passages, exploring the activity of the Spirit at creation, within Israel, in the ministry of Jesus and the early church, and at the end of time. The role of the Holy Spirit in our personal and spiritual lives is also explored.



- Mondays, 10-11:30 am  
September 18, 25 | October 2, 16, 23, 30
- St. Mary PC Conference Room 1
- **Registration Deadline: Tuesday, Sept 5**
- **Order Course Materials by: Sept 8**

To register and order materials, visit...

[www.theholyrood.org/adult-bible-study-current](http://www.theholyrood.org/adult-bible-study-current)

## BACK PACK ATTACK 2023



The 2023 Backpack Attack experienced another year of success thanks to YOUR tremendous generosity! Together, our Collaborative donated over 8,020 school supplies and \$220 in cash donations!



A special thank you to the 29 volunteers who came together and stuffed 132 backpacks, with plenty of leftover items to stuff even more over the weeks that followed.

To see photos, visit [www.theholyrood.org/back-pack-attack-thankyou](http://www.theholyrood.org/back-pack-attack-thankyou)

**IT IS YOU WHO MADE A DIFFERENCE IN THIS PROJECT:  
ONE GLUE STICK. ONE FOLDER. ONE CRAYON AT A TIME!**

## NATIONAL DAY OF REMEMBRANCE

for Those Precious Lives Lost through Abortion

On the National Day of Remembrance, it is suggested that we visit the burial places of the unborn victims of abortion and other memorial sites dedicated to them.

Our Knights of Columbus will be holding a prayer service—led by Fr. Fernando—at St. Joseph Cemetery at 96 Riverneck Road in Chelmsford.

**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 9 AT 7 PM**

Please arrive by 6:30 pm as the gates lock at 7 pm, which does not affect the ability to leave the cemetery, only to enter.

## SPECIAL COLLECTION TO SUPPORT MAUI: SEPTEMBER 9TH/10TH

The images and news reports coming out of the Island of Maui are heartbreaking. The wildfires have killed more than 100 people, left many injured and missing, and destroyed homes and businesses.

Recognizing the immediate and growing need for assistance, Cardinal Seán has asked that a special collection be taken in all parishes in the Archdiocese of Boston to support Church relief efforts in the Diocese of Honolulu. Funds raised will support the Hawaii Catholic Community Foundation (HCCF) relief efforts for local community members affected by the Maui wildfires. We will be holding this collection on the weekend of September 9th/10th.

Please know that your donations may be mailed in or dropped off at any between now that that date. If after hours, please make use of our drop boxes, which can be found at each of our churches as well as at the entrance of the Parish Offices. If you will be writing a check, please make it payable to the church in which you are registered, noting "Maui Relief" in the memo line.

On behalf of the Cardinal, thank you for your attentiveness to this important collection and expression of our solidarity with those who are suffering.

**Please remember that your generous and consistent giving is needed and greatly appreciated as the offertory is our main source of funds for paying our daily operating expenses.**

ST. MARY WEEKLY OFFERTORY	Weekend of August 19th/20th	Fiscal Year-To-Date August 20th	Fiscal YTD Average/Week
Offertory Required to cover Budgeted Expenses	\$15,000*	\$120,000	\$15,000
Actual Received	\$12,866	\$95,407	\$11,926
Shortfall/ Overage	-\$2,134	-\$24,593	-\$3,074

ST. JOHN WEEKLY OFFERTORY	Weekend of August 19th/20th	Fiscal Year-To-Date August 20th	Fiscal YTD Average/Week
Offertory Required to cover Budgeted Expenses	\$10,300*	\$82,400	\$10,300
Actual Received	\$9,717	\$68,524	\$8,566
Shortfall/ Overage	-\$583	-\$13,876	-\$1,735

ST. MARGARET WEEKLY OFFERTORY	Weekend of August 19th/20th	Fiscal Year-To-Date August 20th	Fiscal YTD Average/Week
Offertory Required to cover Budgeted Expenses	\$4,800*	\$38,400	\$4,800
Actual Received	\$4,313	\$33,590	\$4,199
Shortfall/ Overage	-\$487	-\$4,810	-\$601

\* may change once the FY2024 budget is finalized.

SECOND COLLECTION	St. Mary	St. John	St. Margaret
Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary (August 15)	\$1,765	\$1,309	\$737



# Family Faith Formation

Uniting the Heart of the Church with the Heart of the Home



Heather Hannaway, MA • Director of Faith Formation • [hhannaway@theholyrood.org](mailto:hhannaway@theholyrood.org) • ext 226  
Courtney Callanan, MA • Assistant Director of Faith Formation • [courtney@theholyrood.org](mailto:courtney@theholyrood.org) • ext 227  
Shaun Bradley • Faith Formation Associate • [sbradley@theholyrood.org](mailto:sbradley@theholyrood.org) • ext 232  
Elaine Kindler • Faith Formation Program Administrator • [ekindler@theholyrood.org](mailto:ekindler@theholyrood.org) • ext 216  
Lynn Anne LaDuke • Faith Formation Coordinator • [lynnanne@theholyrood.org](mailto:lynnanne@theholyrood.org) • ext 240

## The Registration Deadline is QUICKLY APPROACHING!

if you haven't already...

**REGISTER NOW**  
at [www.holyrood.org/faith-formation-registration](http://www.holyrood.org/faith-formation-registration)

Register by THIS THURSDAY, August 31!

\$175\* for 1 child  
\$260\* for 2 children  
\$290\* for 3 or more children

*\*Please add \$50 to First Eucharist, Confirmation I and Confirmation II registrations.*



Volunteer  
as a  
Facilitator  
for a  
table of  
students

at any of our grade-levels. Any confirmed adult—with or without children in the program—are welcome! The only requirement is a willingness to share your Catholic faith to foster the growth of the next generation of the Church. You will not be asked to plan any lessons! Confirmed students are very welcome to be Co-Facilitators for Grades 1 – 6.

If you prefer working with adults, consider volunteering as a Mentor to facilitate Discipleship Groups.

These are mostly a once per month commitment.

### Interested?

Visit [www.theholyrood.org/intent-to-volunteer](http://www.theholyrood.org/intent-to-volunteer) to fill out the form, and a staff member will reach out to you.

**Questions?** Contact a Faith Formation staff member!



Tuition Angels  
give their wings  
to others so  
they can be  
lifted in  
their faith  
journey.

They are those generous individuals who make our Scholarship Fund possible... the fund that is used to assist in covering registration costs for those families who cannot do so on their own. Might you consider being one? If so, your donation can be made online via any of our churches giving links that can be found at...

[www.theholyrood.org/on-line-giving](http://www.theholyrood.org/on-line-giving)

If you choose to write a check, please make it payable to the parish in which you wish to donate and note SCHOLARSHIP FUND on the memo line. Your donation can be...

- hand-delivered to the parish offices
- dropped into any of our secure black drop boxes
- mailed to the parish offices, ATTN: FF SCHOLARSHIP FUND

**A huge THANK YOU to those who have already donated generously to this fund!**

# Welcome ★ Back ★ 2023

## supplies needed for classes

- **WASHABLE** Broad-line Markers (packs that include any color of PINK)
- Dry-Erase markers (red, green, purple, black and blue)
- Colored Pencils
- Retractable Pens (blue or black ink)
- Zip-Lock bags (gallon, quart and snack sizes)
- Fragrance-Free Tissues

collection bins:

St. John NPC Lobby  
St. Mary Parish Hall  
St. Margaret Church Entrance



Last week, as we contemplated Mary's role in helping us follow Christ, we finished off our discussion by recognizing that a life of true praise and thanksgiving will lead us to living a life centered in unconditional love.

It is this unconditional love that empowers us to be true servants. Mary remained with Elizabeth for about three months and then returned to her home. Mary was modeling for us the way that Christ would eventually share his life with us. Jesus would teach us by his actions that He came not to be served, but to serve. In fact, He told us that He was modeling the behavior He expected from us, and Mary had already embraced that way of life. We must be people always ready to serve and not be served. That is the life Mary lived and the life Christ lived.

That life of service helps us, in a sense, to give "birth" to Jesus. There is a huge difference between simple service and Christian service. Service is simply about helping others in need, but Christian service is about recognizing the presence of God in the other. Each human being is made in the image and likeness of God, and each one of us was created for a specific purpose. Once a person discovers who they truly are, they can express the divine more fully in their life. Through our service to others, we help to make Christ seen in the world. We serve the other not simply by meeting their needs, but by helping them discover that they are specifically made in the image of God. We help them to hear Christ in their life and help them give birth to a faith—or a deepening of faith—in Christ.

Mary encountered God acting in her life in ways that may well have confused her, such as: the coming of the shepherds, the coming of the Magi, and finding Jesus in the temple. Mary pondered these events in her heart even though she did not understand what it all meant. But Mary did recognize God's hand in her life and desired to understand what was happening. We must become more like Mary and live a life that recognizes when God is acting in our life. In the process of experiencing God and seeking the meaning of his actions, we grow in faith and understanding. It is in this process that we can begin to discern God's plan for us.

Fast-forward to Mary at the wedding feast at Cana. When she asked Jesus to fix the problem with the wine, her advice to the servants speaks to our lives. She simply said in perfect trust, "Do whatever He tells you." There is probably no better advice in all of the New Testament. It is simple and direct—it is the life of obedience. When we begin to understand that God has a plan for our lives, we will come to know that our lives are not our own to do with as we please. Rather, our life is one of discernment that leads to following God's

plan for us. It calls for us to live a life of obedience to God's will. As it is written of Jesus, "He obediently accepted death, even death on a cross." Christ said that, to be his disciple, it is necessary to take up the cross as He took up his. We can only take up the cross when we are willing to live a life of obedience.

And Mary demonstrates to us exactly what that means. When she brought Jesus to the temple, she was told by Simeon that a sword would pierce her heart. I have no doubt that Mary did not understand these words. Their full meaning became clear as she stood at the foot of the cross watching her child die. I believe there is no greater pain possible than the loss of a child. And Mary had to endure watching her son be brutally murdered. In that moment a sword truly did pierce her heart, but Mary did not lose faith. Rather, she united herself with her son and took up the cross with some sense of hope. At some level I believe she trusted in Christ's promise that He would rise from the dead. But at the same time it did not lessen the pain she experienced. We, like Mary, are called to unite ourselves with Christ and take up our cross.

In all that she did, Mary sought to live her life centered in Christ. It was about understanding her role in salvation and living out God's plan as well as she could. It was about discerning the person God created her to be in order to serve Him and therefore truly live out her salvation. We cannot earn, merit, or deserve salvation. It will always be a free gift of God, offered to us through the death and resurrection of Christ. And Christ remains the only means of salvation for all of humanity, as He taught us, "I am the way, the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father except through me." Our part in salvation is simply to live out the great gift Christ has given us, and the best way to do that is to imitate Mary.

Mary lived a life of grace, humility, faith and trust. Her life was one of praise and thanksgiving, service to others, making Christ present, and being open to the presence of God. She contemplated God working in her life, she was obedient, she willingly took up the cross, and so forth. Only when we willingly strive to model our lives after Mary's can we truly open our hearts to God and embrace the salvation He offers us. God wants to save all of humanity but not all of humanity will accept his gift. The best way to discern how well we have chosen to live is to measure our lives against Mary's. Do we mirror her life or not? How we answer that question will tell us what we need to do.

If you have any questions about anything, please do not hesitate to ask me directly, send your questions to me at [fr.brian@theholyrood.org](mailto:fr.brian@theholyrood.org), or call me at (978) 254-0560.

Please keep me in your prayers.



## From our Faith Formation Program Administrator

Elaine Kindler

### God's Very Essence - Love

During a recent study on 'The Mystery of God' from Word on Fire Ministries, my awe grew and grew at the essence of God: *Ipsum Esse* – Being Itself. There is no cause or contingency that brought God into being; he always was and always will be.

"God is love; not just loving but love itself. Love only exists in relation to someone or something else. God is the eternal perfection of love within the communion of persons called the Holy Trinity."

In normal day-to-day living, one doesn't often stop to take the time to think about the full mystery of God. Father, Son and Holy Spirit; one God, three persons: *Ipsum Esse* – Being Itself.

God is love. Love is willing the good of the other. When we surrender to *Ipsum Esse*—to God—we become fully alive.

God created the universe out of love, to love his creation. To share his love with you and me. For us to share his love with others.

At The Holy Rood Collaborative, all staff members, full or part-time, are called to a mission: to bring others into a relationship, or a deeper relationship, with Jesus. This is actually the mission of every Baptized Christian. I hope that this isn't a surprise to you!

"As we Catholic Christians live out our responsibility to spread the Gospel, it is very important to remember that effecting true conversion is the work of the Holy Spirit."

"We as believers are called to aid in the work of the Spirit during our daily conversations with friends and family; however, this aid must be firmly grounded in a close relationship with God."

This study was transforming for me. Bishop Robert Barron cautions us not to domesticate the cross and he paints a vivid image of God sending his Son into humanity to transform it with his presence. Sending his Son all the way down into the abyss, in solidarity with the dead, in order to raise us up. How can we not be willing to share God's love with each other? How can we keep this divine love to ourselves?

We cannot. The deepest meaning of our being is God who is love. Let's pray for each other that we will live in the mystery of God and bring others to grow in his love.

*All quotes are from "The Mystery of God Pocket Guide to Answering Atheists" published by Word on Fire Ministries, 2015.*

## From our Parochial Vicar

Fr. Patrick Alemayo, C.S.SP.

### The Unexamined Life is not Worth Living

This statement, "The unexamined life is not worth living," is famously ascribed to Socrates, the great philosopher. Through this statement, Socrates affirms that any human person who does not examine his or her life regularly would, over time, be deprived of the meaning and purpose of existence. This is also an important exercise in the spiritual life. In this direction, spiritual masters recommend that people interested in growing to spiritual maturity should engage in daily self-examination and meditation. These spiritual exercises help people in spiritual growth to explore areas in their lives that need to be better. Thus, they are able to make resolutions that will aid their striving for holiness of life.

Jesus, in the gospel (Matthew 16:13-20), asked his disciples "Who do people say that I am?" And they answered, "John the Baptist; but others say Elijah. And others say one of the prophets who has risen." It was Peter who answered correctly: "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God." Then, Jesus blessed him and acknowledged that it was the Holy Spirit that revealed it to him. In this text, we see that Jesus entered into the journey of self-introspection from the angle of what the people are saying. This is a paradigm that Jesus shows us so that we too can engage in daily self-examination as a way for growth and maturing in the way of God and holiness. When we practice self-examination and get to know who people say that we are, and we are able to discover the various mirrors about ourselves that affirm, deepen and reflect our self-image, knowledge, beliefs, values and assumptions. This does not mean that what people say about us is always correct, but it will give us the opportunity to discover things that we otherwise might not have known.

Peter, through the Holy Spirit, reveals the true identity of Jesus: Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the living God. With this, we see that there is a part of us that only God knows, and this reflects our true identity as God's children. The Holy Spirit used Peter today to reveal to us who Jesus is—the anointed one, the Son of the living God. God also wants to continue to use us in revealing Christ to others. When we continue to practice self-examination of our lives, we are able to better reflect Christ to others through our personal witnessing. May God continue to bless us and grant us the grace we need as we journey through personal spiritual growth and holiness.

For details on all available ways to remember a loved one, visit us at  
[www.theholyrood.org/remember-a-loved-one](http://www.theholyrood.org/remember-a-loved-one)

## 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 intention is requested when you schedule your intention.

### St. John the Evangelist

<b>SAT, AUG 26</b>	4:00 pm:	Grace M, Martin J Sr and Mary Blanche Steed: Memorial
<b>SUN, AUG 27</b>	9:30 am:	Marie Perry: 1st Anniversary
	6:00 pm:	People of the Parish
<b>MON, AUG 28</b>	9:00 am:	Jack Christianson: Memorial
<b>TUE, AUG 29</b>	9:00 am:	Louise Considine: 2nd Anniversary
<b>WED, AUG 30</b>	9:00 am:	Dcn David Rotterman: Memorial
<b>THU, AUG 31</b>	9:00 am:	Frances M Harrington: 15th Anniversary
<b>FRI, SEP 1</b>	9:00 am:	Lucille Fortier: Memorial
<b>SAT, SEP 2</b>	4:00 pm:	LIVING INTENTION: Lisa Recovery from Surgery Paul T Branon: Memorial
<b>SUN, SEP 3</b>	9:30 am:	Tom Callery: Memorial Mary Jane Dunn: Memorial Mauricio Valencia: Memorial
	6:00 pm:	People of the Parish

### St. Margaret of Scotland

<b>SAT, AUG 26</b>	4:00 pm:	Bonnie Mae Redding: 3rd Anniversary and Louise Deslauriers: 5th Anniversary
<b>SUN, AUG 27</b>	7:30 am:	People of the Parish
	10:00 am:	Michael and Josephine Noone: Memorial
<b>TUE, AUG 29</b>	8:00 am:	Deceased Members of the Lynch Family
<b>THU, AUG 31</b>	8:00 am:	Sylvester Tweneh: Memorial
<b>SAT, SEP 2</b>	4:00 pm:	Daniel M Kent: Memorial Frank LaPan: Memorial
<b>SUN, SEP 3</b>	7:30 am:	People of the Parish

### St. Mary Parish

<b>SAT, AUG 26</b>	4:00 pm:	Matthew Mulkern: 4th Anniversary Florence Mulkern: 12th Anniversary
<b>SUN, AUG 27</b>	7:00 am:	People of the Parish
	11:00 am:	Charles Gallagher: 1st Anniversary
<b>THU, AUG 31</b>	7:00 am:	Christopher L Gambon: Memorial
<b>SAT, SEP 2</b>	4:00 pm:	Louise LaChance: Memorial Alice Martin: 1st Anniversary Ann Marie Rawnsley: 8th Anniversary
<b>SUN, SEP 3</b>	7:00 am:	People of the Parish
	11:00 am:	Salvatore Santo Russo: Memorial Henry Trueworthy Horne III: 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 the dedication will be published in the weekly bulletin. If you would like to donate altar flowers, call the parish office. A 2-week notice is required.



## Lamps

At any of our churches, you can request that the sanctuary lamp burn in memory of a loved one. St. Margaret also has two additional lamps—the Blessed Mother Lamp and the Sacred Heart Lamp. The stipend for any of these lamps is \$25, and your dedication will be published in the bulletin.

## St. Margaret Bells



The steeple bells at St. Margaret toll daily at 12 and 6pm, followed by the ringing of the Angelus bell and 2 hymns. At 3pm, they play 2 hymns, and 15 minutes prior to each weekend Mass, the bells toll a 'call to worship.' If you would like to dedicate the Ringing of the Bells in Memory/In Honor of someone, please contact the parish offices. Your dedication published in the bulletin.

**In Memory of Robert P Phaneuf, Jr.**

## Recent Funerals

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



**David Cossette**

Thursday, August 24 • St. John

Serving St. Margaret of Scotland Parish Since 1939



# Morse-Bayliss

## Funeral Home



122 Princeton Blvd., Lowell • 978-458-6841 • [www.morsebaylissfuneralhome.com](http://www.morsebaylissfuneralhome.com)

**Preplanning Available**

**James F. Dolan**  
Type 3 Funeral Director

**Andrew J. Dolan**  
Type 3 Funeral Director

**Fred Healy**  
Type 6 Funeral Director

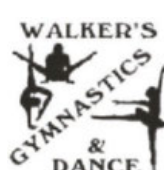
Active Supporters & Parishioners for the Holy Rood Collaborative  
**Helping Families Honor & Celebrate the Life of Their Loved Ones**



**MAHONEY OIL COMPANY, INC.**  
Home Heating Oil & Boiler Services • Automatic Delivery  
Cash Discounts • Free Estimates • Tank Removal • Annual Cleaning  
**978-453-1581**  
120 PLAIN ST. 🍀 LOWELL, MA 🍀 [MAHONEYOILCO.COM](http://MAHONEYOILCO.COM)



**"Multi-Million Dollar Club"**  
**ED OLIVERI, REALTOR / PARISHIONER**  
978-551-2944 | [EdOliveri@aol.com](mailto:EdOliveri@aol.com)  
Servicing the Merrimack Valley  
& surrounding area. MA & NH licensed



~ Since 1978 ~  
(978) 459-4954  
312 Plain Street  
Lowell, MA  
[www.WalkersGymnasticsDance.com](http://www.WalkersGymnasticsDance.com)

Driveways • Sidewalks • Parking Lots  
**BOB MULDOON PAVING SERVICE**  
121-23 Concord Street, Lowell, MA  
(978) 458-4933 • (978) 423-8261 cell  
**OVER 35 YEARS EXPERIENCE**  
Free Estimates - References Available  
New - Stamped Pavement  
Excavating • Drainage • Retaining Walls  
[www.bobmuldoonpaving.com](http://www.bobmuldoonpaving.com)

**TESSIER ELECTRIC**  
FOR ALL YOUR ELECTRICAL NEEDS  
Residential and Commercial  
No Job Too Big or Too Small  
**978-815-8999**



**LET'S GROW YOUR BUSINESS**  
Place Your Ad Here and Support Our Parish!  
**CONTACT ME Gordon Deacon**  
[gdeacon@4LPi.com](mailto:gdeacon@4LPi.com) • (800) 888-4574 x3320

Fuel Oil • Wood Pellets  
Heating Equipment Installation  
**COX FUEL COMPANY**  
316 Plain St.  978-454-7887  
Family Owned & Operated Since 1927  
[www.coxfuel.com](http://www.coxfuel.com)



**DEPENDABLE WINDOW CLEANING**  
We clean all types of building exteriors including vinyl, stucco, brick, aluminum and more...  
• Window Cleaning • Power Washing  
• Soft Washing • Pressure Washing  
• Exterior House Washing  
Window Washing - antique or contemporary windows  
Pressure Washing for house walls, pool sides and decks  
Painting prep to prepare your house or deck for painting  
Gutter cleaning, year-round  
483 Stevens St., Lowell, MA 01863  
**978-967-5657**  
[dependablewindow@gmail.com](mailto:dependablewindow@gmail.com)  
[www.dependable-window.com](http://www.dependable-window.com)

**WE APPRECIATE OUR ADVERTISERS!**  
They allow us to print this bulletin. Thank you!

**David Murphy**  
Plumbing • Heating  
Gas Fitting • Inc.  
EST. 1983  
**978-458-0481**  
MA LIC 9723 • NH LIC 2154



978-459-9000  
Member FDIC  
[Enterprisebanking.com](http://Enterprisebanking.com)



# McDonough Funeral Home

14 Highland Street - Lowell, MA

[www.McDonoughFuneralHome.com](http://www.McDonoughFuneralHome.com)

Family Owned & Operated - 5 Generations

978-458-6816



## ROARK LAW OFFICE P.C.

ANNMARIE ROARK

Concentrating in Estate & Trust Planning,  
Elder Law and Medicaid Planning

36 Years Experience

229 Billerica Rd., Chelmsford, MA

(978) 256-4167

[www.aroarklaw.com](http://www.aroarklaw.com)

## ST. JOSEPH CEMETERY

96 Riverneck Rd. • E. Chelmsford, MA

(978) 458-4851



## O'Donnell

FUNERAL HOME

*"Discover the Difference"*

276 Pawtucket Street • Lowell, MA 01854

**James F. O'Donnell, Jr. Funeral Director**

*A Tradition of Caring*

*Celebrating Over 135 Years of Your Trust*

**Free Pre-planning**

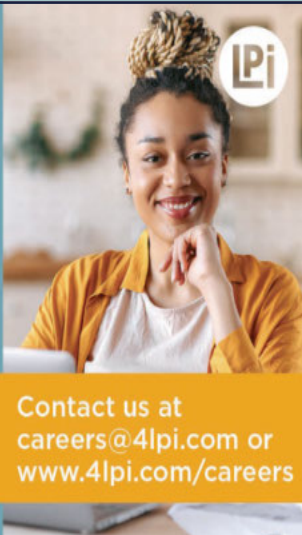
978-458-8768 • [www.ODonnellFuneralHome.com](http://www.ODonnellFuneralHome.com)

## WE'RE HIRING!

AD SALES EXECUTIVES

BE YOURSELF.  
BRING YOUR PASSION.  
WORK WITH PURPOSE.

- Paid training
- Some travel
- Work-life balance
- Full-Time with benefits
- Serve your community



Contact us at  
[careers@4ipi.com](mailto:careers@4ipi.com) or  
[www.4ipi.com/careers](http://www.4ipi.com/careers)

## LUZ GRANITE CORP

Monuments, Markers, Cemetery Lettering

1208 Gorham St., Lowell, MA

978-459-9799

Adrian Luz, Jr. • Artistry in Granite

## NEVER MISS OUR BULLETIN!

SUBSCRIBE

Have our bulletin emailed  
to you every week.



Visit [www.parishesonline.com](http://www.parishesonline.com)

## catholicmatch®

Massachusetts

[CatholicMatch.com/MA](http://CatholicMatch.com/MA)



Place Your Ad Here and Support  
our Parish!

Instantly create and  
purchase an ad with

AD CREATOR STUDIO



[4ipi.com/adcreator](http://4ipi.com/adcreator)



Ad info. 1-800-477-4574 • Publication Support 1-800-888-4574 • [www.4ipi.com](http://www.4ipi.com)

Holy Rood Collaborative

03-1137