



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 † churches@chelmsfordcatholic.org

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

ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST
WWW.SAINTJOHNCHELMSFORD.ORG
115 MIDDLESEX STREET
NORTH CHELMSFORD

ST. MARY
WWW.SAINT-MARY.ORG
25 NORTH ROAD
CHELMSFORD

WEEKEND MASS SCHEDULE

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

WEEKEND MASS SCHEDULE

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

WEEKDAY MASS SCHEDULE

Monday - Friday • 9:00 AM

WEEKDAY MASS SCHEDULE

Monday - Friday • 7:00 AM

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

RECONCILIATION

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

RECONCILIATION

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

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

First Friday of the Month
Beginning Friday, 9:30 AM
Concluding Saturday, 9:00 AM
in the OPC Chapel

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

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

MASSES ARE AVAILABLE VIA LIVE STREAM

St. Mary... visit www.saint-mary.org
and click on "Live View" link at the bottom of page.

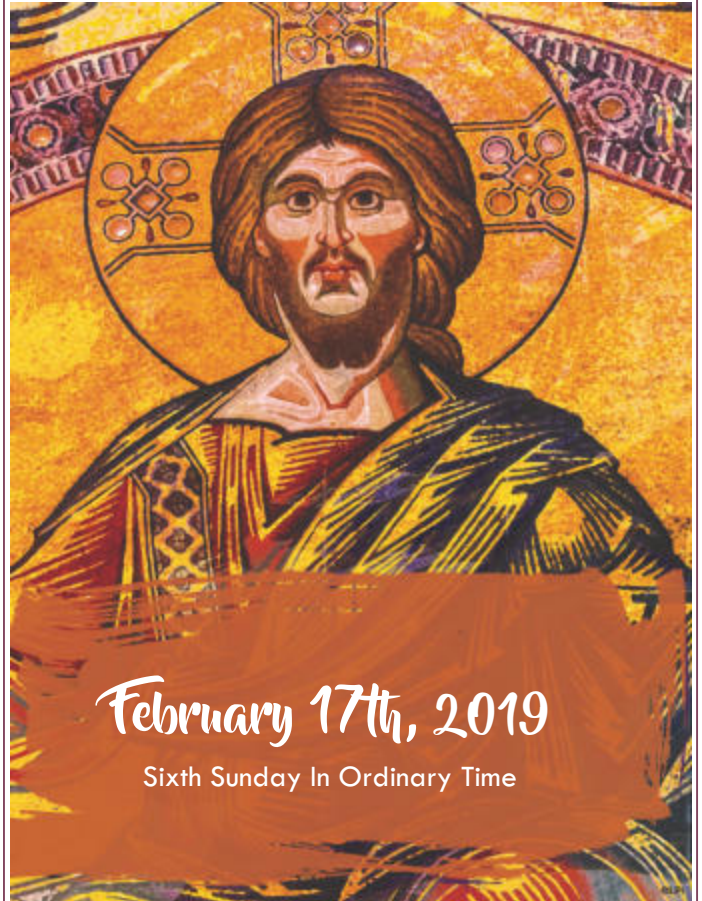
St. John... visit www.saintjohnchelmsford.org
click on LIVESTREAM in upper left of page.

PRAYER LINE

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

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

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



February 17th, 2019

Sixth Sunday In Ordinary Time

Blessed are you when people hate you, and
when they exclude and insult you, and
denounce your name as evil on account
of the Son of Man. Rejoice and leap for joy
on that day! Behold, your reward will be
great in heaven. -Luke 6:22

• at St. Mary's •

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 17TH

Faith Formation Events • See Faith Formation Page 6
Godspell Rehearsal • 12:30 pm • Parish Hall
6 pm Music Ministry Team Rehearsal • 5:00 - 5:45 pm • Church

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 18TH

Bible Study • 10:00 am - 12 noon • PC Conf Room 1
Godspell Rehearsal • 12:00 - 5:00 pm • St. John Church Hall

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 19TH

Bible Study • 7:00 - 8:30 pm • Hall
Godspell Rehearsal • 12:00 - 5:00 pm • St. John Church Hall

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 20TH

Godspell Rehearsal • 7:00 pm • St. John Church Hall
11 am Music Ministry Rehearsal • 7:00 pm • Church
Music Ministry Extra Rehearsal • 6:30 - 7:30 pm • Music Room
Cor Unum • depart St John Parking lot at 3:15 pm

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 21ST

Rosary Makers • 10:30 am - 12:00 pm • PC Conf Room 2
Rosary • 12:00 - 1:00 pm • PC Chapel
Adoration • 3:00 - 9:00 pm • PC Chapel
RCIA • 7:00 - 8:30 pm • PC Conf Room 2

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 22ND

Adoration • 7:00 am - 9:00 pm • PC Chapel
Knitting & Crocheting • 3:00 - 5:00 pm • PC MR 2
Godspell Rehearsal • 7:00 pm • St. John Hall

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 23RD

Adoration • 9:30 am - 3:00 pm • PC Chapel
Reconciliation • 11:00 am - 12:00 noon • Church
Music Rehearsals • 1:00 - 4:00 pm • Music Room
Collaborative Bell Rehearsal • 2:30 - 3:30 pm • Loft
4 pm Music Ministry Team Rehearsal • 2:45 - 3:45 pm • Music Room
String Ensemble/Ministry Rehearsal • 3:00 - 4:00 pm • Church
Anointing of the Sick • following 4:00 pm Mass

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 24TH

Faith Formation Events • See Faith Formation Page 6
Faith Formation Program Launch to Parents • 9:30 am • Hall
Grace Notes Rehearsal • 8:10 - 8:45 am • Church
Children's Liturgy of the Word • 11:00 am Mass
Godspell Rehearsal • 1:30 pm • Church
6 pm Music Ministry Team Rehearsal • 5:00 - 5:45 pm • Church
Catholic Heart Work Camp Meeting • 7:00 - 8:30 pm • St. John Hall

SAVE THE DATE

Vacation Bible Fun 2019

ROAR: Life is Wild 🐾 God is Good

AUGUST 5 - 9



We will begin accepting registrations on March 15th.



New Faith Formation Program Presentation for Parents

Attention all parents of K-6 Faith Formation students... come learn about the **NEW!** Family Faith Formation program to be launched in the Fall of 2019 at **both parishes**. In order to accommodate busy schedules, we are offering this presentation a total of four times. You need only attend one.

Sunday, February 24th: 9:30 - 10:30 am
St. Mary Parish Hall

Monday, February 25th: 7:00 - 8:00 pm
St. Mary Parish Hall

Wednesday, February 27th: 7:00 - 8:00 pm
St. John Parish Hall

Sunday, March 3rd: 12:00 - 1:00 pm
St. John Parish Hall

Surviving Siblings Support Group

St. John's Old Parish Center
NEXT Saturday, February 23rd
10:30 am - 12:00 noon

When a brother or sister dies, everything changes in your family, in your life and in your dreams. Know **YOU ARE NOT ALONE** in your grief and loneliness. A Surviving Sibling Support Group is now being offered on the last Saturday of each month for surviving adult siblings of all ages and for any reason. Join us in a safe place to share your story, find comfort, hope and encouragement as you continue a new path in life.




Registration is not necessary.

St. John Church
Wedding BANNES II
 Alexa Queenan & Matthew Silva




**IN HONOR OF
 PRESIDENT'S DAY,
 THE PARISH OFFICES
 WILL BE CLOSED
 THIS MONDAY,
 FEBRUARY 18TH.**



There are about 20 ordered and pre-paid 125th Anniversary DVDs still waiting to be claimed. If you have not yet picked yours up, please do so by the end of February. They will be available for pickup at the parish office during regular business hours.

WINE, WOMEN & WORD

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

Our reflection this month will be:
"If you have a heart like His"

Tuesday, February 19... 6:30 - 8:00 pm
 St. John's New Parish Center: Mariotti Room
 BRING A FRIEND, OR TWO!

SAVE THE DATE

**SAINT PATRICK'S DAY DINNER
 AND SHAMROCK RAFFLE**

Saturday, March 16th at St. John's
 Appetizers at 5:00 pm/ Dinner at 5:30 pm
 Tickets are \$18 per person

Tickets will be on sale after all Masses at both churches on the weekends of March 2nd/3rd and March 9th/10th.



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

. at St. John's .

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 17TH
 Faith Formation Events • See Faith Formation Page 7
 Children's Liturgy of the Word • 8:30 am Mass
 Coffee and Donuts, following 8:30 am Mass • Hall
 Prayer Shawl Meeting, following 8:30 am Mass • Hall
 African Liturgy • 12:30 pm • Church
 Godspell Rehearsal • 12:30 pm • St. Mary Parish Hall

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 18TH
 Godspell Rehearsal • 12:00 - 5:00 pm • Hall
 Families w/Addiction Support Group • 7:00 pm • Mary Gill

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 19TH
 Godspell Rehearsal • 12:00 - 5:00 pm • Hall
 Wine, Women and Word • 6:30 - 8:00 pm • Mariotti
 Open Music Ministry Rehearsal • 6:30 pm • Church

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 20TH
 Cor Unum • depart Parking lot at 3:15 pm
 Godspell Rehearsal • 7:00 pm • Hall

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 21ST
 Charismatic Prayer Group • 10:00 am • OPC
 BINGO • 6:45 pm (doors open at 3:00 pm) • Hall
 Charismatic Prayer Group • 7:00 pm • OPC

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 22ND
 Godspell Rehearsal • 7:00 pm • Hall

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 23RD
 NO 9:00 am Mass: Mass at St. Mary's this week
 Surviving Sibling Support Group • 10:30 am - 12 noon • OPC
 Reconciliation • 3:00 - 3:45 pm • Church

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 24TH
 Faith Formation Events • See Faith Formation Page 7
 Children's Liturgy of the Word • 8:30 am Mass
 Coffee and Donuts, following 8:30 am Mass • Hall
 Faith Formation Program Launch to Parents • 9:30 am • SM Hall
 African Liturgy • 12:30 pm • Church
 Godspell Rehearsal • 1:30 pm • St. Mary Church
 Catholic Heart Work Camp Meeting • 7:00 - 8:30 pm • Hall

Turn page for *more* →

Preparing for Lent through the 3 Pillars

presented by Fr. Brian

Monday, March 4... 7 - 8:30 pm at St. Mary

Lent is about preparing our hearts and lives more fully for Christ, enabling us to live out our baptismal promises more completely. To help us to do this, we have been given three gifts or pillars... prayer, fasting, and almsgiving. Fr. Brian will show us how we are called to both understand and engage in these three pillars.



welcome to more

Faith

But faith knows where to take them. And the Answer is...

Q. How did Saint Michael get his name? Was Satan a fallen angel in heaven and where exactly did he go from heaven?

A. If an angel is given a name, the name is based on what God is calling the angel to do. In the case of Saint Michael, his name means "Who is like God." His name reflects the fact that Michael led the "armies" of God against Satan, as we are told in the Book of Revelation. We also can call upon him in defense against the snares of the devil, as we pray in the Saint Michael prayer. Therefore, we can see that Saint Michael is like God in his defense of what is truly good and true. His will is to fulfill the will of God perfectly.

Saint Michael and Satan are, in a sense, inexorably linked together because of the battle they fought. The name Satan means adversary. Satan was expelled from heaven because he believed he could/should be the equal of God. Satan rose up against God to take control of heaven and lost the battle to Saint Michael. He was then sent to earth as the Book of Revelation tells us.

As Christians we believe that Satan resides in hell. And as Catholics we must believe that hell truly exists. Part of the reason is simply that Jesus was clear about those who, through their own choice, will cut themselves off from God. But, outside of Satan and the demons, the Church has never declared that any particular human being resides there. Satan is there because he was already face to face with God and rejected him wholly, completely, and forever.

Though Satan resides in hell, he at the same time can tempt us here on earth. We interpret the snake in the Book of Genesis as being a symbol of Satan. The snake represents Satan's influence on us, trying to lead us away from God. He wants us to do the same to God as he did. Another term we use for Satan is 'the devil.' Both the devil and Satan are the same being, though the term devil can also be used for Satan's minions, who do his bidding to lead human beings away from God.

We must realize though, that Satan's power over us is somewhat limited. He cannot force us to do anything against our will. He can tempt us and fool us into doing the wrong thing. But, ultimately we have free will, and the saying "the devil made me do it" is just flat out wrong. If Satan forced us to act against our will, then we could not be held accountable for what we did. And Satan wants us to suffer just as he does, and separate us from knowing God's love. He, therefore, can only influence us to move in a direction away from God; we have to make the choice to act in ways that contravene God's will for us. Fortunately, God has given us the antidote against Satan's poisonous ways: his grace, which we receive through prayer, reading scripture, and the sacraments; and having a true desire, and acting, to grow in virtue.

A RENEWAL TO THE MASS

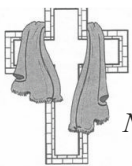
A NOTE FROM JOHN ANTHONY VOLPE
Our Director of St. Mary Music Ministries

St. John's and St. Mary's will be joining forces to refresh our music liturgy with a new Mass Setting!

Currently, the collaborative has been singing/playing the Mass of Glory by Bob Hurd and Ken Canedo from Oregon Catholic Press. This has been a great Mass for us with its jazzy sound and gospel swing. However, rest assured, our new Mass Setting will not leave you disappointed. In fact, during Advent 2018 the Kyrie was taken from the very Mass we will be switching to, the Mass of Renewal.

The Mass of Renewal from Oregon Catholic Press was written by Curtis Stephen for the new translation of the Roman Missal dating all the way back to 2011. Musically, this particular Mass setting is the perfect mix of traditional and contemporary rhythmically catchy harmonies for a large variety of ensembles.

St. Mary will begin with this new Mass setting this weekend. St. John's will begin on the weekend of March 9th/10th.



PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

wrapped up in the comfort of prayer

*Need a hug or know someone who does?
Looking to celebrate a milestone
birthday or anniversary?*

Consider the uplifting gift of a prayer shawl!

Please contact Beth Jacavanco at
stitchesofhope@comcast.net
or Ellen St. George at ecs1846@gmail.com



Do you have any questions that you would like Fr. Brian to answer in his weekly "And The Answer Is" article? A couple weeks ago, Fr. Brian published an answer to a question that a young boy named Kyle had asked. So now we are wondering if there are any other children out there that would like a question answered... because your questions are worth answering. If so, ask mom, dad, or a grandparent to help you write it out (if you can't write it yourself). Then place it in an envelope with Fr. Brian's name on it and drop it into the offertory basket when you come to Mass. Then keep a lookout for the answer in an upcoming bulletin!

of what's happening in our Collaborative!



ALL youth in grade 3 and up, who have received their First Communion, are invited to become Altar Servers in the parish in which they worship. All training will take place at St. John's, will be run by Fr. Brian and are expected to last about an hour. It is mandatory that you attend 3 training sessions. The remaining dates are listed below.

Monday, February 25th at 4 pm
Tuesday, February 26th at 4 pm
Saturday, March 2nd at 11 am

Are you a person of prayer?

Can you spare a few minutes each week?

Would you like to support the young people of our collaborative?

If so, then ...

You Are Cordially Invited
to be a member of our



The purpose of this prayer team is to support our youth ministry efforts by making a weekly commitment to praying for our program, for the youth served by the program, and adults serving in the program. Specific prayer intentions and suggestions will be sent monthly, but any style of prayer is welcome and appreciated.

Why are we forming a Youth Ministry Prayer Team?

- Studies and experience have shown that authentic Christian relationships with parents, with other adult mentors, and with peers are critical to teens becoming Christian adults
- In the upcoming year(s) the collaborative's youth ministry program is going to be shifting towards a focus on assisting those first relationships (with parents) and providing opportunities for the second and third (mentors and peers)
- Studies and experience have also shown that programs supported by intercessory prayer are far more fruitful than those that are not
- As we are in the early stages of this shift, we are looking for parishioners who would be willing to support the program through their prayers

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

Godspell, a show composed of various musical parables from The Gospel According to St. Matthew will be performed by our very own youth!



One weekend...

Three Performances only...

St. John's Parish Hall

Saturday, March 9th

Matinee at 1:30 pm

Evening Performance at 7:00 pm

Sunday, March 10th

Finalé Performance at 2:00 pm

*Admission is free,
but freewill donations will be gladly accepted.*

The Knights Support local Seminarians



THIS weekend, our Knights will conduct it's "Can Drive" in support of local seminarians after each Mass at both parishes. As noted in last weekend's bulletin, all proceeds go directly to seminarians in our area.



On behalf of these seminarians and their families, we thank you, in advance, for your support and generosity.



From Catholic Education to Addiction Recovery Services to Faith Community Nursing for the elderly, more than 50 critical ministries enrich parish life and the lives of those who turn to the Church for assistance. This past week, many of you received a letter from

Cardinal Sean requesting your support of the 2019 Catholic Appeal, which provides nearly half of the funding for these life-changing programs. We hope that you will prayerfully consider pledging your support. Please find more information about this life-changing work at bostoncatholicappeal.org and make sure to view our latest video about the Appeal.

Thank You

Let the little children & COME TO ME, do not hinder them.

St. Mary Faith Formation Program

Heather Hannaway
Director of Faith Formation
hhannaway@chelmsfordcatholic.org

Courtney Callanan
Coordinator of Grades 7-10
ccallanan@chelmsfordcatholic.org

Elaine Kindler
Faith Formation Office Manager
ekindler@chelmsfordcatholic.org

CLASS SCHEDULE

THIS SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 17TH

Due to Winter Vacation,
there will be no classes this week.

Classes will resume Sunday, February 24th.

NEXT SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 24TH

Grade 4 • 9:15 - 10:45 am • Parish Center

Grade 6 • 11:00 am - 12:30 pm • Parish Center

Grade 7 • 2:15 - 3:45 pm • Parish Hall

Confirmation I • 4:00 - 5:45 pm • Parish Hall



Grade 5 Family Gathering Session Soup and Stations of the Cross March 8, 2019

6:00 pm Lenten Meal of soup, bread & salad
7:00 pm Stations of the Cross in the Church

Soup & Stations is hosted by our Confirmation classes

The object of the Stations is to help the faithful make, in spirit, a pilgrimage to the chief scenes of Jesus' sufferings and death on his last day on earth as a man. The Stations of the Cross have become one of the most popular of Catholic devotions. They are carried out by walking from station to station, with prayer at each followed by a short meditation on the various incidents depicted in the stations. They serve as a reminder of the humble manner in which Jesus was willing to suffer for His love of us and to open the gates of heaven to us.

This session is for all grade 5 students, parents, & siblings.

New Faith Formation Program Presentation for Parents of K-6 Students

Come learn about the **NEW!** Family Faith Formation program to be launched in the Fall of 2019 at **BOTH PARISHES**. In order to accommodate busy schedules, we are offering this presentation a total of four times. You need only attend one.

Sunday, February 24th... 9:30 - 10:30 am
St. Mary Parish Hall

Wednesday, February 27th... 7:00 - 8:00 pm
St. John Parish Hall

Monday, February 25th... 7:00 - 8:00 pm
St. Mary Parish Hall

Sunday, March 3rd... 12:00 - 1:00 pm
St. John Parish Hall

Something to ponder.

In today's second reading (JEREMIAH 17: 5-8), the prophet Jeremiah urged his fellow Israelites from Judah to trust in divine providence rather than human wisdom.



Why do you think believers today still trust people more than God?

A Gentle Reminder about Parking Lot Courtesy and Caution

As you arrive to, and depart from Mass at St. Mary's on Sundays, please be aware of adults and children entering and exiting the Parish Hall. Kindly help us to ensure that all who are arriving or departing from Faith Formation classes may do so in a safe manner. Classes run all day on Sundays. We ask that you DO NOT park along the back wall of the church or near the kitchen at ANY TIME. Doing so blocks the visibility of drivers coming around the side of the church. Please use the many available parking spaces in our lot. Your assistance in safe-guarding our parishioners, especially our youngest and most vulnerable, is greatly appreciated.



for the KINGDOM of GOD belongs to such as these. LUKE 18:16

St. John Faith Formation Program

Fran Anderson
Director of Faith Formation
fran@chelmsfordcatholic.org

Courtney Callanan
Confirmation Coordinator
ccallanan@chelmsfordcatholic.org

Lynn Anne LaDuke
Administrative Assistant
lynnanne@chelmsfordcatholic.org

FAITH FORMATION CLASS SCHEDULE

THIS SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 17TH

Due to Winter Vacation,
there will be no classes this week.

THIS WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 20TH

Due to Winter Vacation,
there will be no classes this week.

NEXT SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 24TH

Confirmation (Grade 9) • 11:30 am - 1:00 pm

New Faith Formation Program Presentation for Parents

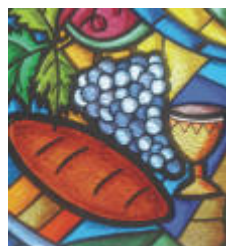
Attention all parents of K-6 Faith Formation students... come learn about the **NEW!** Family Faith Formation program to be launched in the Fall of 2019 at **BOTH PARISHES**. In order to accommodate busy schedules, we are offering this presentation a total of four times. You need only attend one.

Sunday, February 24th... 9:30 - 10:30 am
St. Mary Parish Hall

Monday, February 25th... 7:00 – 8:00 pm
St. Mary Parish Hall

Wednesday, February 27th... 7:00 – 8:00 pm
St. John Parish Hall

Sunday, March 3rd... 12:00 – 1:00 pm
St. John Parish Hall



FIRST COMMUNION BREAKFAST

Sunday, March 24th following 8:30 am Mass

This Mass will be celebrated by Fr. Brian as a Teaching Mass, and along with the breakfast that follows, is a **MANDATORY** event for ALL First Communion students and their parent(s).

If you have not yet turned in your child's baptismal information, please do so at this breakfast. Those children who are still missing this information by this date will be unable to receive their First Communion.



MEETING

Sunday, February 24
7:00 - 8:30 pm
St. John Parish Hall

This meeting is a time to learn a little bit more about Catholic Heart Work Camp. Whether you, as a youth or adult, have already signed up or not, this is a chance to learn a little bit more about Catholic Heart Work Camp... the time to have all your questions asked and answered.

This year's theme is Radiant. This summer, we will be called to be radiant followers of Christ. We will be called to love as He loved, serve as He served, and boldly put our faith into action. By letting our light shine bright and being witnesses for Christ, we recognize that we are designed in His image and, as a result, equipped for greatness.



A cheerful
heart
is good
medicine
Proverbs 17:22

Collaborative Youth Ministry Program

Courtney Callanan, Youth Minister • ccallanan@chelmsfordcatholic.org • ext 227



HOUSE OF HOPE (LOWELL) is dedicated to homeless families in Massachusetts, helping them to gain stable housing. House of Hope is represented by two distinct sister nonprofit organizations: House of Hope Shelter and House of Hope Housing that share a commitment to transitioning homeless families into a stable community life by providing tandem services that (1) respect and nurture families so they can begin to heal from the trauma of homelessness; and (2) support parents by guiding them through opportunities to build economic sufficiency and embrace a stable home life. They are recognized as a leader in the state of Massachusetts relative to their shelter programming, rate of permanent placements in the community, and their housing partnerships. We are looking for volunteer youth/parent teams to spend 2 hours on Thursday evenings (6:00 - 8:00 pm) playing with young children whose parent(s) are receiving Life Skills training. Orientation is required, and will be conducted at St. John's. Please contact Laura at lkzatta@gmail.com.

The scheduled dates are...

THIS THURSDAY, February 21 • March 7 • March 21

COR UNUM MEAL CENTER (LAWRENCE) serves breakfast and dinner 7 days a week to those in need. The center is committed to the truth that no man, woman or child should ever go hungry and should be treated with dignity. On the fourth Friday of each month, we look for 5-7 youth and 1 adult who are



willing and able to volunteer and represent our collaborative. Please sign up **2 WEEKS PRIOR** to your requested date by contacting Barbara at dwsmiths@comcast.net or (978) 649-6745. We meet in St. John's parking lot at 3:15 pm and arrive back to the same location by 7:30 pm.

The scheduled dates are...

THIS WEDNESDAY, February 20 • March 22 • April 26

Don't let anyone look down on you because you are young, but set an example for the believers in speech, in conduct, in love, in faith and in purity.

1 Timothy 4:12

INTENTIONAL DISCIPLESHIP:

— CALLED —

ARCHDIOCESE OF BOSTON'S

2nd Annual International Discipleship Conference

Saturday, March 2, 2019 at Fontbonne Academy in Milton, MA
Check-in at 8:30 am • Mass at 4:00 pm

The Secretariat for Evangelization and Discipleship is excited to present our second annual Intentional Discipleship conference, **CALLED**, for all involved in evangelization and forming disciples. **Keynote speakers** include **Dr. Scott Powell**, Director of the Aquinas Institute for Catholic Thought in Boulder, CO and founder of Camp Wotjyla; **Dr. Hosffman Ospino**, Associate Professor of Hispanic Ministry and Religious Education at Boston College School of Theology and Ministry; and Catholic speaker and teacher, **Gina Bauer**. Keynotes and breakout sessions will be in both English and Spanish. Conference attendees can continue their day with us after Mass for dinner and a talk with special guest **Katie Prejean McGrady**. Details will be forthcoming.

Register online at disciplesinmission.com/conference.

Calling all
high school students!!!

DISCIPLESHIP WEEK 2019 FORMING THE NEXT GENERATION OF SAINTS

Come and be transformed into a leader. Join other teens from all around New England to dig deep into your Catholic faith, learn more about the Gospel, prayer, leadership, and how to live as a disciple of Christ.

Wednesday, June 26
through Sunday, June 30

Assumption College
Worcester, MA

For more information, visit...

[disciplesinmission.com/
discipleshipweek](http://disciplesinmission.com/discipleshipweek)

Clergy

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

Reverend Tom Corcoran, PAROCHIAL VICAR
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Reverend Arnold Colletti, SR. PRIEST IN RESIDENCE
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Rev. Mr. Francis X. Burke, PERMANENT DEACON
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Sue Beechin, ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT
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Bob Webb, WEEKEND CUSTODIAN
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Stephen Webber, CUSTODIAN
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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 Pastoral Council

Parish council matters can be sent to:

CollaborativePPC@chelmsfordcatholic.org
or 978-256-2374/ 978-251-8571, ext 145.

Current Council Members are ...

St. John Members

Angela McMaster (co-chair)

Mike Condor

Scott Davidson

Julie Seitter

Ellen St. George

Beth Jacavano

Augustine Tweneh

Ray Wagner (secretary)

St. Mary Members

Cliff Mann (co-chair)

Laura Conte

Rob Donnelly

Karen Drake

Peter Lando (co-chair)

Lori McDonald

Alma (Chicki) Rigazio

Paul Therrien

St. Mary Youth: Jessica Hagg, Matt Larson

St. John Youth: Delaney Schiefen

St. John Finance Council

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

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

Current Council Members are ...

John Bagni

Celeste Dunn

Jeff Brown

Jerry Wright

Paul Brzezinski

St. Mary Finance Council

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

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

Current Council Members are ...

Armand DiLando

Gerard Jarasitis

Lauren Desforge

Ted Powers

William Donohue

WANT SOMETHING TO APPEAR IN THE BULLETIN?

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

and now... a word from Our Pastor

My friend, Fr. David Darcy, has been living in the rectory with us since October, recovering from open-heart surgery, but since January he has been well enough to get around on his own. Fr. David brought with him a special guest, his boxer Piper, and it has been interesting watching how the dog and my two cats have interacted.

When Piper first got here and my two cats heard the jingle of his collar, they kind of freaked out. Harry and Sally actually hid either in the closet or under the bed. Over the next few days of his presence in the rectory, they slowly got used to him being there. In time, they would go into the room where Piper was staying. And, when Piper came into my room, they would simply look at him and kind of ignore him. Now, they have got to the point where they actually go over to see and smell him. The more interesting thing has been watching how Piper reacts; he is terrified of the cats! When they are all in the same room, he refuses to look directly at them. And, whenever they come near him, he either goes to the other side of the room or tries to get behind Fr. David for protection. It is really one of the funniest things to watch. The cats are curious about the dog, but, at this point, are clearly indifferent to his presence while the dog wants nothing to do with the cats.

How the cats and the dog are dealing with a changing environment really kind of speaks to how we, as humans, many times come to address the changes in our own lives. All three animals at first acted out of fear. They were not really sure how to handle the encounter of something for which they were not prepared. Animals are no different than we are in this respect; generally, change creates anxiety, uncertainty, and some level of fear. It can also create a sense of loss, both of what was, and of the sense of control we had over our lives. We are forced to confront a new reality and to look at our particular situation in a new way. It forces us to ask questions, like: What does this mean? Where do I go from here? What is going to happen moving forward? Where is this ultimately going to lead me? And many more such questions will naturally arise.

How we come to deal with change is really different for each and every one of us. I must admit that change is something pretty constant in my life. It reminds me of the saying that "the only thing that stays the same is change." As I have written before, I have lived in eighteen different places in my life. As a priest, I have been part of ten different parishes—each of them with their own unique set of challenges and responsibilities.

And my daily life is constantly in flux based on the needs of the people I am called to serve, and what I need to address pastorally at any given moment. It is not unusual for me to set up a schedule for a particular day and then to change it based on something that takes greater priority, such as a funeral, a person dying, a person in crisis, or an unexpected parish emergency. Our outlook on life is really based on how we come to terms with change. It is not a question of whether or not we will have to confront change in our life, but how we will choose to react to it.

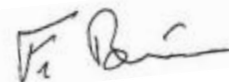
It is not about our initial reactions. I simply look to the cats and how they initially dealt with Piper coming into their space. It was fear and flight—they hid! But over time they adjusted and came to terms with their new situation; it simply became part of their lives. Piper, on the other hand, has remained frightened and refuses to accept that the change is not a big deal. Fear is holding the dog in a place of anxiety and concern. The dog is bigger and stronger than the cats combined, and yet he is the one who is caught in a world that keeps him caged in fear.

Even though change is a constant part of my life, I will admit I do not always appreciate it for what it really is. As with all change in our lives—good or bad—God makes use of it to create an opportunity for us. Now, to be clear, God does not bring about *all* the changes in our lives, but He does make use of all our changes.

Each moment of change is a liminal moment. It is a point where we have to decide how we are going to react. We are, in a sense, at a threshold and how we react will define what that change will bring into our lives. Are we going to react with fear and not move forward? Or... are we going to have courage, which does *not* mean we are *not* afraid, but rather, that we choose to act in spite of our fear? Ultimately, if we can recognize that God is with us—that our God will *never* abandon or forsake us—He will give us the strength, the grace, and whatever else we need to take on the next challenge in life. Change is inevitable, but God is, and will always be, with us. We must realize that whatever changes life may bring, we truly have nothing to fear, for God will get us through it. And, through that moment God will reveal to us something about ourselves. Therefore, embrace the change, take courage, and trust in the Lord!

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.

In Christ,



FROM OUR DIRECTOR OF ST. JOHN MUSIC MINISTRIES

JASON GAUDETTE

As a young boy I was completely obsessed with flight. I loved my kites and toy airplanes, and I would always be looking up to the sky, watching airplanes on approach to Logan Airport. I chased down this obsession when I turned 30 years old, and I enrolled in flight lessons at a small school in Beverly Municipal Airport. This was more enjoyable than I imagined. Flying quickly became a new hobby.

I can vividly recall one lesson in which my instructor had me fly from Beverly Airport to Lawrence Airport. Once we arrived there we were to do a series of "touch and goes" on the active runway. This is a training exercise in which you touch the plane's wheels on a runway and then rev up the engine and take off. Although some refer to this as "bump and grind" training, I find it immensely fun. Up until this particular lesson, I was always flying in a practice area near Ipswich, so this flight to Lawrence felt exotic. We climbed to the highest level I had flown yet—a whopping 5,000 feet—and started out towards Lawrence from Beverly. As I leveled off and was able to relax, I looked at the scenery below my wings. The ocean was huge and blue, stretching off into infinity. The leaves were in full autumnal glory. With clear air and an unlimited ceiling, I could see the mountains of New Hampshire and Maine. I was overcome with emotion at the beauty of these sights. Here was my country, my homeland, robed in sunlight and glistening on a gorgeous fall day. It was like seeing New England for the first time.

This was a big shift in perspective. Once up in the air, I was able to look at things from a whole new height, and a deeper beauty emerged. What a wonderful lesson I learned that day. When it comes to my own life, different ways of looking at things has opened me to more possibilities. My problems and personal difficulties have become smaller and more manageable when viewed from new angles. Perhaps most important of all, I am learning to look at people in different ways, shedding my preconceptions and prejudices, and striving to see them all through the loving eyes of Christ. This experience is what the Apostle Paul was writing about in Romans 12:2...

"Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will."

GOSPEL REFLECTION

Luke 6: 17, 20-26

What an audience Jesus has in today's Gospel! *"A great crowd of his disciples and a large number of people from all over Judea and Jerusalem and the coastal region of Tyre and Sidon."* Disciples, pagans, and devout Jews gathered together to hear Jesus speak in the Sermon on the Mount. All of these people had something in common. God was someone to be bargained with, and if God liked you, you were rewarded with good fortune. This Sunday, Jesus tells us a different story. *"But woe to you who are rich... Woe to you who are filled now... Woe to you who laugh now... Woe to you when all speak well of you..."*

Jesus completely flips the script on what it means to be blessed by God. What He proclaims as "woe" are states of life we often strive for, and "blessed" are the states we work hard to avoid! Jesus is concerned with the kingdom of God and the world to come, not the typical structures of power and privilege.

The word "now" appears often in these statements. Why? If you are well "now," that's beside the point. To be rich in this life has no direct bearing on your immortal soul. If you're struggling "now," that's not an indication that God has forgotten you or that—in light of eternity—you're worse off than someone else. In fact, it could be an indicator that you're enduring something that will bring you to a place of greater, eternal joy in the future.

This Sunday, consider your priorities. Who do we reject as not blessed, and thereby inflict woe upon ourselves? When we encounter difficult situations in our own lives, do we see them as opportunities to remember God and lean on His mercy and grace?



St. Polycarp, Bishop and Martyr (c. 69 – c. 155)
Feast Day: February 23rd • Patron Saint of earaches

In the Asia Minor city of Smyrna, persecution broke out against Christians and some were put to death for their faith. But the agitated mob wanted to cut off the church there by getting rid of their leader, the now 86-year-old Bishop Polycarp. The believers hid Polycarp in a farmhouse, but the authorities soon learned of the farmhouse and came to arrest the old man. He welcomed his captors as if they were old friends and gave them food and drink. He asked for time to pray before being taken to the arena. The officers, overhearing his prayers, began to wonder what they were doing arresting an old man like this.

Polycarp was brought into the arena, and instead of Polycarp begging for his life, we find the proconsul pleading with this aged bishop to "just curse Christ" so he would be released. His reply was loud and clear...

"Eighty and six years have I served Him, and he never did me any injury; how then can I blaspheme my King and my Savior?"

He was tied to a stake to be burned alive. Upon seeing that the flames did not harm him, he was finally killed by a dagger. The Christians present said there was a joyful radiance on Polycarp's face as he died. Churches near and far from Smyrna drew strength from the testimony of this old, old, man who would not deny Christ, no matter what it cost him.

Support of the Church around the World: February 24, 2019

Next week's second collection will be for the Church in underdeveloped areas of the world by supporting Catholic Relief Services (CRS), the Church in Africa and in Central and Eastern Europe, and three important national Catholic missions: the Military Archdiocese, Home Missions, and the Black and Indian Missions. Your generosity will help fund the spiritual, educational and humanitarian needs of the Church around the world.

St. Mary

WEEKLY STEWARDSHIP

Weekend of
February 9th/10th

Weekly Offertory Budget	\$16,500	of the actual, \$3,664 is from electronic giving
Actual Received	\$15,816	
Variance	-\$684	

FY 2019 YEAR-TO-DATE STEWARDSHIP

as of February 10th, 2019

Offertory Budget	Actual	Variance
\$544,500	\$486,613	-\$57,887

St. John

WEEKLY STEWARDSHIP

Weekend of
February 9th/10th

Weekly Offertory Budget	\$11,013	of the actual, \$2,276 is from electronic giving
Actual Received	\$8,450	
Variance	-\$2,563	

FY 2019 YEAR-TO-DATE STEWARDSHIP

as of February 10th, 2019

Offertory Budget	Actual	Variance
\$363,438	\$311,357	-\$52,081

OFFERTORY – YOUR STEWARDSHIP

We are blessed with parishioners who give generously of their time, talent and treasure which helps make St. Mary and St. John the vibrant parishes that they are. Your financial support is required more than ever to help continue the many programs available to you. Please consider helping to reduce our Offertory shortfall by increasing your weekly/monthly donation by 5%. May God continue to bless you and your loved ones.

YEAR-END OFFERTORY COMPARISON

as of Feb 11, 2018	as of Feb 10, 2019	Variance
\$511,826	\$486,613	-\$25,213

YEAR-END OFFERTORY COMPARISON

as of Feb 11, 2018	as of Feb 10, 2019	Variance
\$348,653	\$311,357	-\$37,296

Online Giving Programs



St. Mary

Visit www.saint-mary.org and click on the OnLineGiving Link on the right-hand side of the home page to set up your account.

St. John

Visit www.stjohnchelmsford.org and click on the WeShare Link on the right-hand side of the home page. You will be brought to a page that will allow you to link to an account set-up page.



5th St. John Grand Annual Campaign

We are very grateful for your support of the Grand Annual Campaign. The Grand Annual campaign began in November and is still accepting contributions... no gift is ever too small or unnoticed. Please plan your parish financial contributions to the weekly offertory and the Grand Annual Campaign accordingly, since both are crucial line items in our parish income budget. May God bless your generosity!

... as of February 10th, 2019

Goal	Collected To Date	% of Goal
\$67,000	\$47,230	70.5%

Alleluia, Alleluia! Love one another as I have loved you. Alleluia, Alleluia!

A^{second} Invitation
from Our Youth Minister, Courtney

“The God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob” is a common refrain in Scripture and prayer. It is a phrase that calls to mind great models of faith. Men who were intimate with God; men who were comfortable enough with God to challenge Him; men who were willing to follow God

wherever He led; men who stand as the forefathers of the nation of Israel, the first community of faith. I believe, with my whole being, in the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. Except, in truth, I don't. I don't believe in the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob because I don't know Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. I never sat on Abraham's knee as a child while he told me about God; I never pulled on Isaac's hand, trusting he would answers the questions I had about God; I never walked with Jacob discussing my relationship with God and how I could improve it. It would be far more accurate to say that I believe in the God of Kevin & Kathy; the God of Mrs. Geer & Mrs. Thomas; the God of Erica, Kate, and Sarah.

Kevin and Kathy, aka my parents, introduced me to God. They took me to church every Sunday, starting at so early an age that I do not have any memory of a Sunday without it. Instead, I have a memory of a beautiful, crocheted, purple toddler sweater that was special because I wore it to church to see God. They taught me to pray before meals and bed, making sure that I knew that prayer was how I enacted their more general lessons about “Please,” “Thank you,” and “I'm sorry” with God. They made sure God was a presence in our household, not just in our parish.

Mrs. Geer and Mrs. Thomas, aka my 4th & 5th grade and 6th grade catechists growing up, allowed me to wrestle with what I understood of God. They didn't laugh or brush off my concerns. They gave honest and earnest answers when I presented worries. They took me seriously, even when I asked questions such as, “What if we're wrong? What if the Egyptians were right? I'm just saying, I'm not going to have any of that stuff that you need for the Egyptian afterlife when I die.”

Erica, Kate, and Sarah, aka the ladies in my college Scripture Study, worked with me as I learned to intentionally serve God. They established that it was a choice, that it was work, and that it, more often than not, would involve going against the grain of society. They were trying to serve God too, and shared their struggles and triumphs, even as they called me on and celebrated mine.

All of them—and far too many more to name or count—helped me to know God, to trust God, to love God. They made sure I was familiar with a God that was just and generous, and merciful and caring. They helped me to be in relationship with the God with whom they were in relationship. To be sure, the God they talked about was the very same God that Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob bowed to, but I never would have been able to gain from those men what I gained from them.

Which brings me to two questions...

First, whose God do you believe in? Who are the people who first taught you about God and who are the people who helped your faith in Him mature?

Second, who believes in your God? Who knows, loves, and serves God because of you?

I find the second question is usually much easier to answer than the first. In our faith, we can be quick to give praise to the previous generation, but slower to take responsibility for the next. As a result, many of our young people don't follow God because they don't know (truly know) God, nor are they known by someone who does.

I'd like that to change. I'd like to give our young people examples of faith like Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. But more importantly, I'd like to give them influences in their lives like Kevin and Kathy, Mrs. Geer and Mrs. Thomas, and Erica, Kate, and Sarah. Would you like to be one of those people? Would you like to help our young people know (and know that they are known by) God? Are you willing and able to invest yourself and your time in helping them to do so? Jesus commanded His followers, aka us, to, “Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations...” And there is an entire nation, right here, who could become disciples, if you said, “Yes.” I pray that you will.

In the upcoming months we will be looking for adults who would be willing to show and share with our young people what it means to be a disciple. If you are interested in learning more, please let me know.

I eagerly await your “yes”...



If you would like to request that a Mass be celebrated for a specific intention or person, please call the parish office. A donation of \$10 per Mass intention is requested to be made at the time that you schedule your intention.

St. John

- SAT, FEB 16** 4:00 pm: For the People of the Parish
SUN, FEB 17 8:30 am: Mary Jane Roy: Memorial
 10:30 am: Roland Paradis: Memorial
MON, FEB 18 9:00 am: Jack Dullea: Memorial
TUE, FEB 19 9:00 am: William Mahoney: 15th Anniversary
WED, FEB 20 9:00 am: Frances Myers: Memorial
THUR, FEB 21 9:00 am: John Cullen: Memorial
SAT, FEB 23 4:00 pm: Maurice Pontbriant, Sr.: Memorial
SUN, FEB 24 8:30 am: For the People of the Parish
 10:30 am: Joseph and Dorothy Koyutis: Memorial



St. Mary

- SAT, FEB 16** 4:00 pm: For the People of the Parish
SUN, FEB 17 7:00 am: Marguerite Farley: Memorial
 11:00 am: Ann T. Baraldi: 7th Anniversary
 6:00 pm: Ed MacKinnon: Memorial
TUE, FEB 19 7:00 am: William Mahoney: 15th Anniversary
FRI, FEB 22 7:00 am: Marguerite Farley: Memorial
SUN, FEB 24 7:00 am: Claude Therriault: 6th Anniversary
 9:00 am: For the People of the Parish
 11:00 am: Madeline Maffeo: Memorial
 6:00 pm: Timothy Joseph Ervin: 1st Anniversary

St. Mary Memorial Altar Flowers



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

The Altar Flowers for this weekend are ...

In Memory Of *John & Elvira Baraldi*
 and *Michael & Ellen O'Neill*

A Floral Moment by Juju Buds

ST. JOHN ROSE FOR LIFE

Someone special you'd like to honor?

You can do that by having a rose placed before Our Lady of Fatima's statue for one week. We will publish your intention in the bulletin. To book a Rose for Life, contact the parish office. The suggested offering for a rose is \$5.00.



In Memory Of

Mrs. Frances Myers

To book a Rose For Life, contact the Parish Offices
 Rose Donated by *Mahoney's Garden Center*

FUNERALS recently celebrated

"There is an appointed time for everything" -Ecclesiastes 3:1

Margaret Kijanka: February 11th at St. Mary

Debra Leavis: February 12th at St. John

Carl Marinella: February 14th at St. Mary

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



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

MONDAY, FEB 18
 Genesis 4: 1-15, 25
 Psalm 50
 Mark 8: 11-13

TUESDAY, FEB 19
 Genesis 6: 5-8; 7: 1-5, 10
 Psalm 29
 Mark 8: 14-21

WEDNESDAY, FEB 20
 Genesis 8: 6-13, 20-22
 Psalm 116
 Mark 8: 22-26

THURSDAY, FEB 21
 Genesis 9: 1-13
 Psalm 102
 Mark 8: 27-33

FRIDAY, FEB 22
 1Peter 5: 1-4
 Psalm 23
 Matthew 16: 13-19

SATURDAY, FEB 23
 Hebrews 11: 1-7
 Psalm 145
 Mark 9: 2-13

SUNDAY, FEB 24
 1Samuel 26: 2, 7-9, 12-13, 22-23
 Psalm 103
 1Corinthians 15: 45-49
 Luke 6: 27-38



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PRAYER FOR MY PARISH

Almighty God, my parish is composed of people like me. I help make it what it is. It will be friendly if I am. It will be holy if I am. Its pews will be filled if I help fill them. It will do great work if I work. It will be prayerful if I pray. It will make generous gifts to many causes if I am a generous giver. It will bring other people into its worship if I invite and bring them. It will be a parish family of loyalty and love, of fearlessness and faith, of compassion, charity and mercy if I – who make it what it is – am filled with these same qualities. Therefore with the help of God, I will dedicate myself to the task of being all the things that I want my parish to be. Bless my journey, Lord God, that I might build the Church through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Kathryn A. Lucier
Formerly of Chelmsford

Kathryn Ann Lucier, 77, of Dracut, MA died Sunday, January 20, 2019 at her residence, surrounded by her loving family.

She was married to Robert W. Lucier, with whom she would have celebrated their 54th wedding anniversary on June 26th.

Born in Lowell, Kathy was the daughter of the late John and Elizabeth (Halloran) Crane. She graduated from Chelmsford High School with the class of 1959; she continued her education and graduated from the Lowell State Teachers College with a Bachelors of Arts.

She had been employed as a teacher in the Andover and Dracut Public Schools.

She was a communicant of St. Mary Church of Chelmsford, MA.

Kathy was a member of the Dracut Friendship Luncheon. She loved the beach and summering in Seabrook, and wintering at Treasure Island in Florida. Most of all, she enjoyed spending time with her family.

Besides her husband, she is survived by her sons, Robert W. Lucier, Jr. of Dracut, and John and his wife Kimberly Lucier of Lawrenceville, GA; her daughter Michelle Patten of Raymond, NH; and her three grandchildren Erin, Kiley, and Robert Joseph Lucier; sisters Martha Flaherty of Chelmsford, Joan and her husband Douglas Barnes of Maine, Judith and her husband Dennis McDowell of The Villages, FL; along with her best friend Barbara and Bud Barrelle of Tyngsboro, and many nieces and nephews.

Kathy's visitation was Thursday, January 24th from 9 to 10:30 AM at the DOLAN FUNERAL HOME, 106 MIDDLESEX ST. CHELMSFORD, followed by a Funeral Mass at 11:00 AM at St. Mary Church, 25 North Rd. Chelmsford. Burial in St. Mary Cemetery, Tewksbury. Memorials may be made in her name to the Michael J. Fox Foundation for Parkinson's Research P.O. Box 5014, Hagerstown, MD 21741-5014
<https://www.michaeljfox.org/get-involved/donation2.php>. ARRANGEMENTS BY DOLAN FUNERAL HOME 978-256-4040. Guestbook at www.dolanfuneralhome.com