

The Parish of St. Agatha

Milton ~ Quincy, MA

August 25-26, 2018

StAgathaParish.org

ST. AGATHA RECTORY

Office Hours

Monday - Friday 9am-4pm

432 Adams Street
Milton, MA 02186

ST. AGATHA SCHOOL

440 Adams Street
Milton, MA 02186

SCHEDULE OF MASSES

Daily Masses:

Monday-Friday:

7:00am & 9:00am

Saturday & Holidays: 8:00am

Reconciliation: 3:45-4:15pm
on Saturdays. Any other time
by appointment

Weekend Masses

Through Labor Day:

Saturday: 4:30 pm

Sunday: 7:30 am

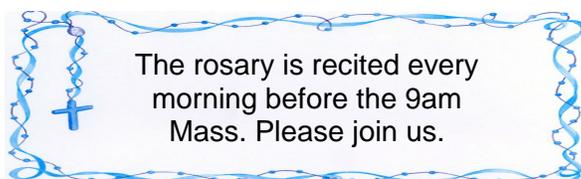
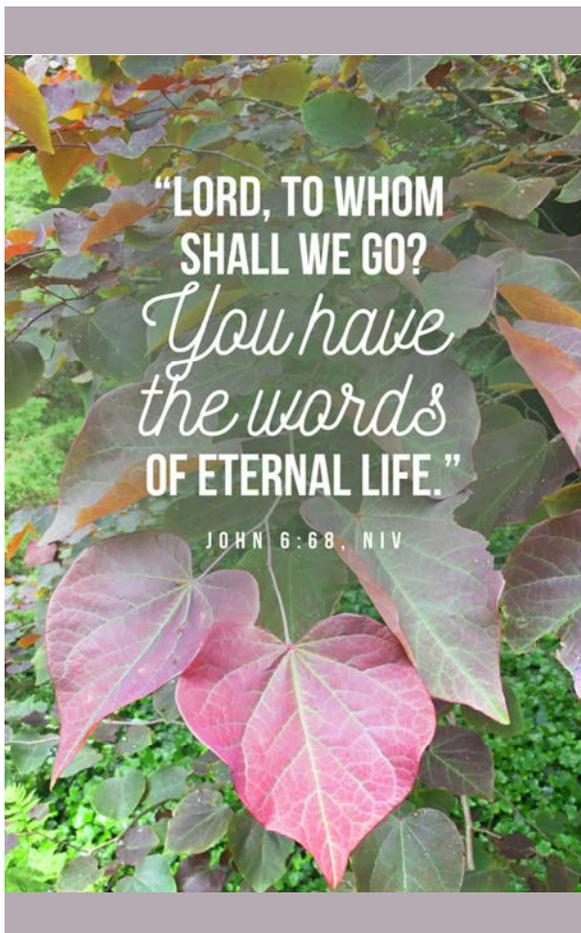
9:00 am

11:00 am

5:00 pm

Holy Days: As Announced

- There are assistive devices for the hearing impaired available in the Sacristy before all Masses.
- Low gluten hosts are available. Please see priest before Mass if needed.



MISSION STATEMENT

St. Agatha Parish is a Christian Community of Catholics from Milton, Quincy and beyond, whose Mission is to demonstrate Love by:

- proclaiming and celebrating God's Presence on earth;
- being open and welcoming to all;
- reaching out to our sisters and brothers near and far; providing opportunities for prayer, service, education and recreation.
- In living this Mission, we accept our responsibility for giving witness to the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Eucharistic Adoration

Every Friday after the 9am Mass in the Chapel until reposition at 1pm.

Legion of Mary

meets every Wednesday after the 9am Mass.



Please call Lisa Gulino, our Pastoral Associate at 617-698-2439 x 209 and she will arrange for a minister of communion to bring Eucharist to you.

St. Agatha Parish

Rectory@StAgathaParish.org Phone: 617-698-2439
Parish Website: www.stagathaparish.org Fax: 617-698-1517

Clergy

Rev. William B. Palardy, Pastor
Rev. Jason M. Makos, Parochial Vicar
Deacon Daniel F. Sullivan
Rev. Patrick McLaughlin, Senior Priest in Residence
Rev. Thomas Powers, Senior Priest in Residence

Pastoral Associate

Dr. Lisa M. Gulino

Parish Administration

Mr. Jack Riley, Finance and Operations Manager
Ms. Kathy Monahan, Administrative Assistant and Bulletin Editor

Music Ministry

MusicDirector@StAgathaParish.org
Ms. Agata Orzechowska, Director of Music

St. Agatha School

School@StAgathaParish.org Phone: 617-696-3548
School Website: www.stagathaparish.org/school Fax: 617-696-6288

Mrs. Nancy Carr, Principal
Mrs. Michelle Tierney, Administrative Assistant
Mrs. Joan Brown, Tuition Coordinator

ST AGATHA FAITH FORMATION 617-696-1388

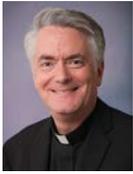
Grades 1-6 FaithFormation@StAgathaparish.org

Mrs. Beth Peterson, Director
Mrs. Jenn Caputo, Administrative Assistant

Grade 7-10 & Young Church Ministry 617-696-8978

YoungChurchMinistry@StAgathaParish.org

Ms. Helen Bornhorst, Coordinator



A Note from Our Pastor,

In light of the horrific accounts in the Pennsylvania Attorney General's recent report of clergy sexual abuse of minors and the failure of bishops to stop it, the scandalous behavior reported concerning Cardinal McCarrick conduct of priests, and the questions raised because of the investigation of allegations made concerning St. John Seminary here in Boston, I find it important to dedicate my column this week and next to these recent news items. (Next week's column will be about the screening and evaluation of seminarians for priesthood, based on my experience from 2005 until 2016 at Pope St. John XXIII National Seminary).

In 2002 when news of the clergy sexual abuse crisis here in Boston erupted, I experienced diverse emotions. The primary emotion, however, was anger. While I am an only child and obviously don't have nieces and nephews, I have been blessed to be part of 4 different families, only one of which is a blood relationship (distant cousins). Two of these families are related to me by water—I'm privileged to have two godsons. In 2002 the 14 children in these 4 families ranged in age from 4 to 18. It took me only a couple of days at that time to personalize the issue of abuse. That is, how would I feel if such unspeakable crimes had been perpetrated against any of these 14 children? My first impulse would be to take vengeance on the perpetrators and those who could have prevented or stopped their crimes but did not.

That, I think, needed to be mentioned first, because our first concern has to be the victim-survivors of such sexual abuse and their families and loved ones. The physical violence they have suffered, the subsequent emotional strain, and the spiritual pain they've endured, in most cases most of us can probably only vaguely imagine. I am truly sorry for what they have suffered, but also sorry for the opening of old wounds that these recent reports have I'm sure occasioned in many other abuse survivors, regardless of who their perpetrators were. All the survivors and their families should be foremost in our prayers these days.

My heart also goes out to people in our parish and elsewhere who have roots in Pennsylvania, especially if they were in parishes served by priests whose names appeared in the Attorney General's report. I can only imagine the heartache and sense of betrayal they are feeling right now. Let's be sure to remember in prayer the Pennsylvania transplants in our community and all our sisters and brothers in faith in Pennsylvania.

It is a tribute to the parishioners and prior priests (and Fr. Pat McLaughlin) at St. Agatha Parish that our parish has a seminarian, David Campo, who is currently beginning the second half of his priestly formation at St. John Seminary. Please pray also for David and his brother seminarians and all asso-

ciated with St. John's as an investigation of allegations posted on social media will be undertaken by 4 very reputable and competent individuals.

As I've said before, on the local parish and school level, CO-RI checks and VIRTUS (Protecting God's Children) training are key measures for all those who have some contact with minors and other vulnerable people, so as to ensure the safety of all concerned.

Anger, profound sadness, and shame are what I am feeling about the revelations of the past couple of weeks. Bishops who were so grossly negligent in their duties by knowingly permitting predator priests to exploit children and teens to engage in such evil and perverse behavior must be removed from their ministry. And frankly, qualified laity need to be the major part of the investigatory and judicial process in the Church, because otherwise there will be a question of credibility if it's just bishops deciding about fellow bishops. Bishop Scharfenberger of Albany has publicly proposed this concerning investigating the McCarrick matter, and he ought to be heeded.

As I walk toward the sacristy in the chapel here, I pass by the statue of St. Agatha. I wonder what she is thinking. I imagine her saying to the bishops who enabled the atrocities we've been hearing about, "Look, I suffered extreme tortures to preserve my chastity, to be faithful to the Lord, to bear witness to Christ, to show that my love for Him was more important than escaping such suffering and more important even than my very earthly life itself. The Lord helped me give such an example to the people of my own time, especially to the impressionable young people, and to all later generations of Christians. And this is what you do! You let predator priests steal the soul of these precious children and teens! You inflict untold pain on their families and loved ones. You, perhaps without even considering it, make Satan very happy by tarnishing, dividing, diminishing, and bringing shame and disgrace upon the Church, the Bride of Christ, for whom my beloved Jesus shed His blood and offered His life."

It's a sign of God's providence, I think, that this weekend's Gospel has many would-be disciples leaving Jesus because they just can't accept the idea of eating His flesh and drinking His blood in the Holy Eucharist. And so, Jesus turns to his closest followers and asks them if they intend to abandon Him too. St. Peter had no doubts, "Lord," he said, "to whom shall we go? You have the words of everlasting life." Shouldn't St. Peter's answer be our answer too? Our Church is far greater than predator priests and bishop-enablers. It's where God's word is preached, God's life is lavished upon us in the sacraments, the sacrifice of Christ's very Body and Blood is celebrated, received, and shared. That Eucharist empowers us to be the presence of Christ to the hurting, the poor, the hospitalized, the homebound, and to truly be the Church. Christ is

active here, my sisters and brothers. A young woman spoke to me last Sunday (imagine, last Sunday!) about wanting to become a Catholic, after a powerful experience in her life and after joining us for Mass frequently. When I think of the Church, right now I think of the members of this our parish: the person patiently awaiting an annulment verdict that was taking way too long, yet every week coming with her children to Sunday Mass; the people who put in many hours of serious work on 4 committees here which resulted in our 4 newest members of our parish staff; the teens and their chaperones who spent a week in West Virginia rebuilding homes of poor families; the folks who hand on our precious faith as teachers and catechists in our school and faith formation programs; the folks who bring Holy Communion to the homebound; the women who step into situations of deep grief and assist grieving families prepare to celebrate the funerals of their dearly departed loved ones; the men and women making a Holy Hour for the purification and strengthening of our Church; the people who sent cards, emails, made phone calls, or pledged their prayers to support Fr. Jay, Fr. Tom, or myself these past days. Friends, Christ is alive, and the Church is alive. May we pray for and support one another at this critical time. Know that Fr. Jay, Fr. Tom, Fr. Pat, Deacon Dan, Lisa Gulino, and I love you and thank you. Please know that each one of us is ready and willing to listen and to empathize with you. May Almighty God, may Mary our Blessed Mother, and may St. Agatha help all of us together to be the Church that God, Mary, and St. Agatha expect us to be.

Fr. Palardy

FEATURED WEEKLY READING

Read Reflect Respond

THEME: Jesus—the Bread of Life Eternal

As you hear this reading, what words or phrases strike you? What in this reading touches your heart?

Gospel: John 6: 60-69

Pastoral Planning

August 26 ~ Twenty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time

Some who heard Jesus’ teaching returned to their former way of life and no longer accompanied him. The demands of being a follower of Christ were too much for them. When you are tired and being a disciple of Jesus feels too hard, how will you respond to the question Jesus asks in today’s gospel, “Do you also want to leave?” Pray for the grace to respond like Peter did, “Lord, to who shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. We are convinced that you are the holy one of God.”

THE WEEKLY UPDATE

As summer winds down, we are also nearing the end of our nostalgic look at some of the interesting history of St. Agatha Parish as we look back at the 75th Anniversary in 1997. Much had changed in the 25 years since the 50th Anniversary which we looked at last week. One of the big changes involved the addition of the crucial position of Pastoral Associate. The first person to take on this position was the much beloved and respected Sr. Rita MacDonald who assumed that role in 1986 and formalized the Outreach Program which continues to this day. Sr. Rita served for many years and established this position as a vital part of the Ministry Team at St. Agatha’s.

Over the years the parish community has been served so well by each of the outstanding women who succeeded Sr. Rita: Sr. Helen Lyons, Mary Q. Gallagher, Sr. Jeanne Gribaudo and now Lisa Gulino. What this also serves to highlight is the crucial role that women have played in the history of the parish. At the time of the anniversary in 1997, Sr. Rita was joined by her own sister, the legendary Sr. Corona MacDonald who was Director of Music and Liturgy. Sr. Esther Plefka – who is still active in the Parish - had served as the Director of Religious Education for many years, and had been succeeded by Sr. Catherine Corbett. There were still six Women Religious in the School including Sr. Roberta Ristuccia who was the Principal. The program booklet actually list the names of 69 living Sisters from 3 different religious orders who had served in the School, and another 39 who had served but were deceased. What an amazing legacy all of these women have left for us. We owe them a huge debt of gratitude.

Next week – the last week of the summer – we will take a look at the actual celebration of the 75th Anniversary and the people who put it all together.

In addition to the Offertory contributions below, an additional \$2,653 was contributed on the Feast of the Assumption. Thank you for your support.

Jack Riley



Weekly Offertory Report

Weekly Budget	Aug. 18-19 In-Pew Collection	Electronic Collection	Aug. 18-19 Total Offertory	Weekly Difference	Total Difference YTD
\$13,235	\$7,821	\$2,820	\$10,641	-\$2,594	-\$10,990

The Sacred Pause

Lisa M. Gulino—Pastoral Associate

When stress overwhelms it is often advised to take a deep breath in and exhale slowly. Scientific research shows that deep breathing increases the supply of oxygen to your brain and stimulates the parasympathetic nervous system, which promotes a state of calmness. The American Institute of Stress states, “breathing techniques help you feel connected to your body—it brings your awareness away from the worries in your head and quiets your mind.”

This week’s Sacred Pause is going to be a deep breathing exercise—a deep breathing technique of the spiritual kind that is! **The Holy Spirit is considered the “breath of God.”** Jesus said “peace be with you” and he “breathed on” the frightened, anxious apostles saying “receive the Holy Spirit.” **What air is for biological life, the Holy Spirit is for spiritual life. Deep breath in**—“Come Holy Spirit!”

Often we are challenged by so many activities and duties, worries and problems. There is a temptation to fill all of the spaces of the day, without leaving a moment to pause, to nourish our spiritual life or to take time to **breathe deeply of the presence of God. Deep breath in**—“fill the hearts of your faithful with the fire of your love.”

St Paul teaches us that in our prayer we must open ourselves to the presence of the Holy Spirit, “who prays in us with **sighs too deep for words**, to lead us to adhere to God with all our heart and with all our being.”¹ St. Augustine prays, “**Breath on me Holy Spirit..**” **Deep breath in**—“Send forth your Spirit and they shall be created... renewed.”

Deep breath in—“Let everything that has breath Praise the Lord” (Psalm 150). Jesus promised the coming of the Holy Spirit and calls him the “Paraclete,” literally, “he who is called to one’s side,” *ad-vocatus* (CCC 692). “Prayer animated by the Holy Spirit leads us too to live every day a journey of life with its trials and sufferings, with the fullness of hope, with trust in God who answers us as he answered the Son”² and to trust “**in the certainty of not being alone.**” We are never alone. **Deep exhale.**

(Footnote 1 & 2 see Benedict XVI, General Audience, May 16, 2012.)



WEEKEND RETREAT

Nourish Your Relationship with God

Sept. 28-30th • Cost: \$175.00

Notre Dame Spirituality Center

30 Jeffreys Neck Road

Ipswich, MA 01938

notredamesc.org



Are you a spiritual seeker and looking for answers to the important questions of life? What is the meaning of life? What is my purpose in life? Why do I feel a restlessness in my heart for something more in life? Are you or someone you know being called to inquire about the Catholic Faith?

On Monday, **September 24**, session/conversations will be held where you can explore your questions, take time to consider how God is moving in your life, and consider becoming Catholic. You are always welcome to attend our Inquiry Sessions held in the Gathering Space beginning at 7:00 PM. If you, or a friend you know, might be interested please speak to one of our priests, or contact Ann Louise Sullivan or Tabettha O’Connor at RCIA@Stagathaparish.org.



READ THROUGH THE BIBLE

SAVE THE DATES!

**Study, Pray, and Share Faith Together:
The Gospel of St. Mark**

Lisa Gulino, Pastoral Associate, will offer a six-week faith formation opportunity to study the Gospel of Mark, practice *lectio divina* (an ancient form of praying with the Word of God), and to discuss the Scriptures.

Morning Session is from 9:30–10:45 AM:
Mondays, Sept 24; Oct. 1; 15; 22, 29, Nov. 5.

Evening Session is from 7:00–8:15 PM:
Tuesdays, Sept 25, Oct. 2; 9; 16; 23; 30.

“God speaks through the Bible.

It is not a book designed for the shelves,
but for the hands.” (Pope Francis)



NEED HELP? The “Caring Circle” dares to care... Call [617-337-3225](tel:617-337-3225) for short-term non-financial help or visit www.mcccaringcircle.org.

FAITH FORMATION UPDATES



Catechists in grades 1–6 please mark your calendars for Catechetical Sunday, September 16. Please plan to attend the 9:00 am Family Mass and immediately following Mass, the annual Catechist Breakfast will be held in the Gathering Space. We will be discussing the upcoming Faith Formation Year and passing out your teaching materials. Please bring your government issued picture ID (driver’s license) with you to fill out the annual CORI (background check). It would be much appreciated if you would kindly RSVP to the Faith Formation Office at 617-696-1388 or email faithformation@stagathaparish.org, thank you!

Faith Formation Sessions for grades 1-6 begin on Tuesday September 25, Wednesday September 26 and Thursday September 27 at 3:45 in the upper church. Parents or guardians please accompany your child/children to the opening session.

An email was sent to families in grades 1–6 who have registered for the upcoming Faith Formation Year. If you have previously registered your child and did not receive an email please call the Faith Formation Office at 617-696-1388.

If you know of a child entering grade 1 in September, please invite them to register for Faith Formation which starts in grade 1. Sacramental preparation for First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion, is a two-year process, usually in Grades 1 & 2.

Our current Faith Formation needs are; Catechists for Wednesday–grade 3 and 5, Thursday–a co-catechist for grade 4, and a catechist for grade 6. **Door/Hall Monitors** for Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday afternoons. Please contact the Faith Formation Office. *Thank you!*

Pope St. John XXIII National Seminary

POPE ST. JOHN XXIII NATIONAL SEMINARY
Save the Date
 37TH ANNUAL LAWN PARTY
 WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 2018

CONFIRMATION & YOUNG CHURCH MINISTRY

FOLLOW THE YOUTH GROUP ON @ *staggieslifeteen* or *St. Agatha’s youth group* **YouTube channel at StaggiesLT**



HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP:

SAVE THE DATE: Youth Group Kick-Off of fun and fellowship from 6-8 pm September 16th after the 5 pm Mass!

Youth Group is welcome to all teenagers in Grades 9–12. Stay tuned for a full schedule for the year!

CONFIRMATION:

Confirmation Parent Meeting September 30th at 3:30 pm in the Gathering Space. It is mandatory that at least 1 parent attends.

Confirmation Sessions this year will occur on specified Sundays from 6-8 pm (7 sessions in total). In order to provide a deeper spiritual experience and supplement the Confirmation Curriculum, a mandatory retreat in Spring of 2019 will be held (a day retreat for year 1 and a weekend retreat for year 2).

- Year 1 Program begins Oct. 21
- Year 2 Program begins Oct. 14

EDGE (MIDDLE SCHOOL PROGRAM):

EDGE will meet various Thursday Evenings from 6:30-8 pm in the Gathering Space!

EDGE Parent Meeting will be Thursday, September 27th at 7 pm.



FAMILY HEALING MASS
Healing Begins with Prayer

HEAL YOUR FAMILY – All families face challenges. Come pray with your family about these trials and seek strength and healing. A prayerful afternoon starting at 2:00 with Adoration, Reconciliation, Rosary, ending with Mass and an Anointing will unify your family. We hope to see you on Sunday, **September 16** for this prayerful event. Join us at St. Joseph Chapel near The **Father Peyton Center**, 500 Washington Street, North Easton, MA 02356. Event is free, family-friendly, handicap accessible and open to the public. For more information, call Family Rosary at 508-238-4095.

Schedule of Events:

- 2PM: Adoration & Rosary • 3PM: Mass & Anointing • Reconciliation available from 2PM until Mass begins.

SACRAMENTAL CELEBRATIONS

Baptism: 2:00pm on the 2nd/4th Sundays of each month. Please call the Rectory to arrange/ask questions regarding other arrangements.

Reconciliation: 3:45-4:15pm on Saturdays. Any other time by appointment.

Marriage: Call one of the parish priests or deacon. Arrangements are ordinarily to be made at least 6 months before the proposed marriage.

SAINT AGATHA SCHOOL



Saint Agatha School
Milton ~ Quincy
Currently accepting applications
for the 2018-2019 academic year.

Pre-school ages 3 & 4 and Kindergarten-Gr 8

*For more information or to schedule a visit
please call 617-696-3548*

Celebrate Christian Values • Excel in Education



Popsicles with the Principal

*What better way to cool down
on a hot August evening than
having a popsicle with students,
parents and our new principal,
Mrs. Nancy Carr.*



MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday	August 25	
8:00am	1st Anniversary	Joaquim Barbosa
4:30pm	25th Anniversary	Robert Weddleton
Sunday	August 26	
7:30am	13th Anniversary	John T. Berry
9:00am	Anniversary	Coleman Joyce
11:00am	4th Anniversary	Marilyn Caldwell
5:00pm	22nd Anniversary	John Fee Teehan
Monday	August 27	
7:00am	Anniversary	Msgr. Francis X. Turke
9:00am		For the Parishioners of St. Agatha
Tuesday	August 28	
7:00am		
9:00am	9th Anniversary	Marcelino Delarosa
Wednesday	August 29	
7:00am		
9:00am	6th Anniversary	Patrick J. O'Donnell
Thursday	August 30	
7:00am		
9:00am		
Friday	August 31	
7:00am	Special Intention	Marisa
9:00am		
Saturday	September 1	
8:00am	Health & Healing	Fred Morahan
4:30pm	Memorial	Mary & Patrick Conneely
Sunday	September 2	
7:30am	Memorial	George Gazza
9:00am		
11:00am		For the Parishioners of St. Agatha
5:00pm		



Every Monday • Doors Open @ 4:30pm
BINGO begins at 6:40pm

Come and Play

School Parents, your help is needed. Thank You Volunteers!!!

