

# The Parish of St. Agatha

Milton ~ Quincy, MA

December 1-2, 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:

**Saturday:** 4:30 pm  
**Sunday:** 7:30 am  
9:00 am  
10:30 am  
12:00 noon  
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.

*Then they will see  
"the Son of Man  
coming in a cloud"  
with power and  
great glory.*

Luke 21:27, NRSV

**The Immaculate Conception of the  
Blessed Virgin Mary Masses—Dec. 8th**  
7:00pm on Friday evening  
(in addition to the usual morning Masses)  
and 7:00am & 9:00am on Saturday morning

The rosary is recited every morning  
before the 9am Mass. Please join us.

## 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  
Fax: 617-698-1517  
Parish Website: www.stagathaparish.org

### 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  
Deacon Seraphim Wirth, fbp, Seminarian Intern

### 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  
Fax: 617-696-6288  
School Website: www.stagathaparish.org/school

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

### ST AGATHA FAITH FORMATION 617-696-1388

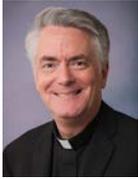
Grades 1-6 FaithFormation@StAgathaparish.org

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,*

Let me be the first to wish you a Happy New Year as this weekend we begin a new Church Year with the Season of Advent! This is a season of hope when we call to mind the glorious future God intends for us when Christ the Lord will return in glory; we recall the most awesome gift the world has ever known when Almighty God sent His only-begotten Son Jesus Christ to come to birth as the Son of Mary; we also pause to consider the variety of ways the Lord continues to enter our lives and touch our hearts, our lives, our world here and now.

The first weeks of Advent are focused on the future coming of Christ as Judge at the end of time. From December 17<sup>th</sup> until the 24<sup>th</sup> we direct our attention to the events immediately preceding Christ's birth and we grow in wonder and expectation as we prepare to celebrate the birth of the Word-made-flesh. Among other Advent practices, having our sins forgiven in the Sacrament of Reconciliation is a wonderful way to prepare our hearts and lives for the coming of Christ. To make the Sacrament more available in this season of Advent, on Wednesdays December 12<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> one of us priests here will be hearing Confessions from 7 to 8 pm in the Reconciliation Room in the lower church (in addition to our regularly scheduled time every Saturday afternoon before the 4:30 pm Mass). We'll also be having the third of our Wednesday Holy Hours on December 12<sup>th</sup> from 7–8 pm in the Chapel.

Thank you to all those who organize and carry out our Giving Tree Project, and to the many of you who will be taking ornaments to bring joy to struggling families this upcoming Christmas season. Ornaments are available for the taking this weekend and next, and can be returned with the appropriate present at any Mass (except the Sunday 5 pm Mass) the weekend of Dec. 15 and 16.

This Tuesday evening December 4<sup>th</sup> from 7 until 8 pm we'll have an hour of nocturnal adoration of the Blessed Sacrament in the Chapel.

After the 7 and 9 am Masses on Wednesday December 5<sup>th</sup> we'll have our monthly coffee, donuts, and conversation in the Gathering Space.

The second session for parents of second-graders—in St. Agatha School and in our Faith Formation Program—in preparation for their reception of the Sacrament of Reconciliation

will take place this Wednesday evening from 7 to 8 pm in the Gathering Space.

Please note below in the bulletin several wonderful events taking place this coming weekend: the celebration of the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of our Blessed Mother (a Holyday of Obligation) with Masses here at 7 on Friday evening, and 7 and 9 on Saturday morning; a private tour of the art treasures in the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum on Saturday at 11:15 am (please RSVP by this Monday); a Parish Movie Night (with popcorn!) on Friday night sponsored by our Outreach Committee, showing the film *Wonder* in the Gathering Space at 7:45 pm on Friday evening; and a LIFT Worship Night in Malden also on Friday night from 7 to 10 pm (please contact Helen Bornhorst for more info, and to sign up).

In our Church Calendar this week, prior to celebrating our Lady's Immaculate Conception on Saturday, we honor on Monday St. Francis Xavier, one of the founding members of the Society of Jesus (the Jesuits) who brought thousands upon thousands of people from the Pacific and parts of Asia to faith in Jesus Christ in the 16<sup>th</sup> century. On Tuesday we remember St. John of Damascus of the 8<sup>th</sup> century. He wrote many profound theological works, and defended vigorously the appropriateness of venerating icons and having religious art decorate churches. Imagine how impoverished our churches would be if St. John's opponents the iconoclasts had won out. Think how barren our own church would be without our beautiful stained glass windows raising our hearts and minds to God.

We give thanks for St. Nicholas of Myra (in current-day Turkey) on Thursday December 6<sup>th</sup> who is the patron saint of all sorts of people and professions, including children, brides, unmarried women, sailors, fishermen, brewers, poets, but NOT (surprisingly) coal miners! But if you read up on him online or in Catholic publications you'll quickly see why this 4<sup>th</sup>-century bishop is the model of gift-giving and charity to the poor which makes him the original Santa Claus!

On Thursday December 7<sup>th</sup> we commemorate St. Ambrose, a 4<sup>th</sup>-century bishop from Milan, who was a great teacher, preacher, poet and composer of hymns. Together with St. Monica, St. Ambrose was very instrumental in converting St. Augustine to Catholic Christianity.

Have a blessed week and a wonderful Advent!

*Fr. Palardy*

### **Private Tour for our Parish ~ Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum ~**

Begin the Advent season at the iconic Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum, 24 Evans Way, Boston! **Meg Kaster, Museum Teacher and parishioner, will lead members of our St. Agatha Parish on a private tour on Saturday, December 8, 2018 at 11:15am.** We will explore one of the greatest private art collections in America. We will discover how Isabella created her remarkable Venetian palace and hear

stories about her incredible life and her passion for art in all forms; paintings, sculpture, horticulture, furniture, and tapestries. We will consider the spiritual nature of Mrs. Gardner, her artworks, and her museum. The Courtyard will have its Christmas display and Mrs. Gardner's holiday table will be set in the Tapestry Room. We hope you can join us.

**Pricing: \$20 per person; \$17 for seniors; \$5 for members. RSVP to Lisa Gulino at [lgulino@stagathaparish.org](mailto:lgulino@stagathaparish.org) by Monday, December 3, 2018 to attend.**

**FEATURED WEEKLY READING**

**Read Reflect Respond**

**THEME:** Be on guard!

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

Reading II : 1 Thessalonians 3:12-4:2

Brothers and sisters:  
 May the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, just as we have for you, so as to strengthen your hearts, to be blameless in holiness before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his holy ones. Amen.

Finally, brothers and sisters, we earnestly ask and exhort you in the Lord Jesus that, as you received from us how you should conduct yourselves to please God and as you are conducting yourselves you do so even more. For you know what instructions we gave you through the Lord Jesus.

*Pastoral Planning*

**December 3 ~ First Sunday of Advent**

The readings for this first Sunday of Advent stress the importance of having a strong and committed relationship with Jesus Christ. When stress and tensions arise, or we feel weighed down and discouragement sets in, these readings remind us to remain hopeful. They tell us again that we have all we need in Christ Jesus—we need to rely on him and follow him faithfully. Pray for the grace to recognize the little signs of hope that God places before you.

2019 Calendars will be available at the entrances of the Church beginning next weekend, December 8th compliments of the Alfred D. Thomas Funeral Home.

**First Sunday of Advent**



**THE WEEKLY UPDATE**

Each year we experience three “new years”. We have the calendar year and the fiscal year, which are important in their own right. Today we celebrate the beginning of the new Church Year as well, which coincides with the First Sunday of Advent. This is a very busy time around St. Agatha Parish. We have all of our regular activities as well as the special Advent activities which prepare us for the celebration of Christmas. One of these is the giving Tree Project which kicks off this weekend and culminates with the tremendous outpouring of support on December 16<sup>th</sup> for the families served by My Brother’s Keeper. It is a special time of year, marked by many traditional and festive celebrations, and it has always been my favorite time of year. However, from an operational point of view, it is also the time of year that we finish our Fall clean-up around the Parish and also complete our preparations for the inevitable arrival of Winter. Now that the leaves have finished falling, we will do our complete clean-up of the property. The snow shovels will be appearing; the ice melt is in place; the heating system is tuned up, and John Driscoll is on alert!

Because of the early print date for the Bulletin due to Thanksgiving, the Offertory Collection and second collection totals for last weekend were not available. In addition to the Weekly Offertory totals below, \$8,712 was contributed to the Special Collection to support Retired Religious. Grand Annual Appeal contributions continue to come in. As of this writing, \$102,955 has been received. This is a great start as we move towards our goal of \$170,000, and we thank those who have already joined in this effort. As with the Weekly Offertory, all of the money received through this important collection is used to meet our annual budget and this enables us to avoid having any additional collections throughout the year for things such as snow removal, maintenance etc. If you have not yet had a chance to contribute, the appeal continues and your support would be most appreciated.

*Jack Riley*



Please join us after the 7am and 9am Masses on: *Wednesday, December 5th* for **Coffee & Conversation**. Come visit with long time friends or reach out and make new friends.

**Weekly Offertory Report**

Weekly Budget	Nov. 17-18 In-Pew Collection	Electronic Collection	Nov. 17-18 Total Offertory	Weekly Difference	Total Difference YTD
\$13,235	\$9,312	\$2,944	\$12,256	-\$979	-\$30,495
Weekly Budget	Nov. 24-25 In-Pew Collection	Electronic Collection	Nov. 24-25 Total Offertory	Weekly Difference	Total Difference YTD
\$13,235	\$8,591	\$2,944	\$11,535	-\$1,700	-\$32,195

## The Sacred Pause

Lisa M. Gulino—Pastoral Associate

Today we enter the liturgical season of Advent. It is a time of waiting, expectation, remembrance, and presence.

The word “advent” expresses our relationship with Jesus Christ. Advent reminds us that God comes to his people to abide (to take up his home) with us. God—in the flesh—is present: first in the womb of Mary, then in the manger in Bethlehem, and now in the tabernacles throughout the world in his Eucharistic presence.

Pope-emeritus Benedict XVI stated, “the essential meaning of the word *adventus* was: **God is here, he has not withdrawn from the world, he has not deserted us.**” Advent reminds us of presence—God’s presence.

The readings and prayers from today until December 16<sup>th</sup> presents an anticipatory longing—Christ’s second coming. Advent is a time we **raise our eyes towards the final destination of our pilgrimage here on earth.** It is a time to discover the hope that is ours as we await the glorious return of the Lord Jesus. In Christ we have a future that is certain. Benedict XVI stated: “Only when the future is certain as a positive reality does it become possible to live the present as well.”

On December 17<sup>th</sup> the emphasis of the season shifts to Jesus’ birth. Advent is a **time to stir up our emotions as we remember Jesus’ first coming.** To recall God became a Child—for love of us—brings a deep abiding joy.

Benedict XVI reflected: “Advent specifically means ‘visit’; in this case it is a question of a visit from God. God enters my life and wishes to speak to me. In our daily lives we all experience having little time for the Lord and also little time for ourselves. We end by being absorbed in ‘doing.’” Let us, as best as we can, **take sacred pauses** to reflect on the themes of Advent: the Lord is present in the passage of our lives, he accompanies us, and he will one day also dry our tears. “One day, not far off, everything will find its fulfilment in the Kingdom of God, a Kingdom of justice and peace.”

Allow Advent to be your moment to reawaken or deepen your relationship with Jesus. Allow Advent to be the impetus for each of us to speak to Jesus, presenting to him the suffering that afflicts us, our impatience, the questions that well up in our hearts. Benedict XVI stated, “We may be sure that he always listens to us! And if Jesus is present, there is no longer any time that lacks meaning or is empty.” Our life has meaning and fulfillment which all points to a glorious destiny begun here and now.



## Nocturnal Adoration

The next Nocturnal Adoration will take place on *Tuesday evening, December 4th* Adoration and Rosary from 7:00-8:00pm  
All are welcome!

## Bereavement Support Group Walking through Grief

The next meeting is on *Tuesday, December 4, 2018 from 6–7:30pm* in the Meeting Room next to the Gathering Space. The group will continue to meet for one more week and discusses ways to cope with grief and to find support in sharing. For more information, please contact Lisa M. Gulino, Pastoral Associate: [lgulino@stagathaparish.org](mailto:lgulino@stagathaparish.org) or 617-698-2439.

Wednesday, December 5, 2018  
in the Chapel

## Reflection on Mary, Model of Advent Hope

Immediately following the 9 am Mass (9:30–10 am)  
Offered by Lisa M. Gulino, Pastoral Associate



## Parish Movie Night & Popcorn Bar Friday, December 7, 2018 starts at 7:45 PM

Please join us at 7:45pm immediately following the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception Mass (Vigil Mass is 7:00pm) in the Gathering Space to view the movie, *Wonder*.

There will be a Popcorn Machine and lots of great toppings such as: mini Reese's, M&M's, Milk Duds, marshmallows, gummy bears, sprinkles, pretzels, dried cranberries, and caramel and chocolate drizzle. Come one, come all to the Movie Night.

## Lessons & Carols

The combined choirs of St. Elizabeth and St. Mary of the Hills parishes will present a *Festival of Lessons & Carols* on **Sunday, Dec. 2 at 3 pm** at St. Elizabeth’s Church, 350 Reedsdale Road in Milton. You are cordially invited to attend.

*Refreshments will be served following the ceremony.*

The next **Holy Hour** to gather for Adoration and Night Prayer will be held on: **Wednesday, December 12th, from 7:00 until 8:00 PM.** Details to follow...

**FAITH FORMATION UPDATES**

*Sacramental Preparation*



**Parents of children in Grade 2 in both Faith Formation and St. Agatha School**, if you have not already done so, please plan to attend the sacramental parent meeting on Wednesday, December 5 at 7:00 pm in the Gathering Space.

**No Sessions will be held in Grades 1–6 this Thursday, December 6** due to the Milton Public School Parent Teacher conferences.

**This week** the Faith Formation children will be making Christmas Cards for children in orphanages throughout Central and Latin America. Molly Theobald, a high school junior and parishioner is organizing this endeavor, promoting how small acts can bring about great joy, not only for those receiving the cards but for those who are making them as well!



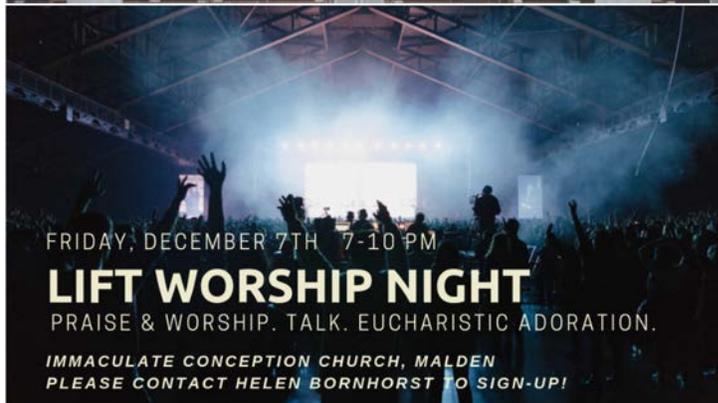
**We are in need of hall monitors on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday afternoons from 3:45–5:00pm.** Hall monitors help to keep everyone safe during session time and aid our Catechists in maintaining order in the hallways as children are escorted to and from class and restroom breaks. Please call/email the Faith Formation Office if you are available to help. 617-696-1388 or faithformation@stagathaparish.org. *Thank you!*

*Grade 5 Faith Formation students hosted Family Mass on November 18.*



**CONFIRMATION & YOUNG CHURCH MINISTRY**

**FOLLOW THE YOUTH GROUP St. Agatha Youth Ministry page or @staggiesmilton**



**2018 Giving Tree Project**



Please consider volunteering to help out with this year's Christmas Giving Tree project which benefits the families supported by My Brother's Keeper. Volunteers are needed in a couple of different areas. We will need assistance before and after the Masses on December 1–2 and 8–9 to hand out instructions to those

who take ornaments and then to replenish the trees as ornaments are selected. We also need many hands on Sunday afternoon December 16<sup>th</sup> at 1:00pm in the school cafeteria to do the final processing of the gifts. If you've done it before, you know how much fun it is and we hope you will be back again this year. If you haven't yet been able to experience this aspect of the project you'll be doing yourself a favor by joining in! If you can help with any of these activities, please contact Mike and Gay O'Hanlon at 617-710-7955 or by e-mail at mohanlonuva@gmail.com.

## SAINT AGATHA SCHOOL



### WINTER WINDFALL CALENDAR

**\$5 per calendar • 31 chances to win  
Great Christmas gifts and stocking stuffers  
100% of the profits benefit Saint Agatha School**

Calendars will be on sale in early December.  
Please call 617-696-3548 if you have any questions.

**Scrip Gift Cards**  
**Just in time for the holidays!**  
**Scrip is an easy way  
to raise money for our school!**



When you make a purchase through Scrip, you are purchasing gift certificates and prepaid cards that are used just like cash (with NO service fees). You can use Scrip to purchase everyday expenses like food, clothing, toys, gasoline, teacher appreciation and other essentials.

Saint Agatha families produce revenue by making regular household purchases that you would make anyway.  
*Example: Buy a Land's End Gift Card for \$100.00 and \$16.00 (16%) will go directly to Saint Agatha School!*

**Please visit our website ([stagathaparish.org/school/](http://stagathaparish.org/school/)) for a list of participating stores and retailers and how to place an order to benefit Saint Agatha School.**

Contact Debbie Schlager at 617 828-9603 or via email [schlager22@comcast.net](mailto:schlager22@comcast.net) with any questions.

### Saint Agatha's School Consignment Drive

Please consider donating any used items that you no longer need to help raise funds for our school and to help yourself get rid of additional clutter. **The following items are accepted:** Men's, women's & children's clothing and shoes. Household items such as towels, sheets, blankets, pillows, curtains and tablecloths. Accessories including hats, mittens, scarfs, ties, wallets, backpacks, purses, and bags. Items must be in good condition. Drop-offs will be accepted on **Mondays and Fridays at 8am** at the garage to the left of the school gym **through December 17.**

**Thank you for helping Saint Agatha School!**

## 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.

## MASS INTENTIONS

<b>Saturday</b> 8:00am 4:30pm	<b>December 1</b> Anniversary Memorial	Anne Drinkwater Alice K. Monahan & Helen G. Dunn
<b>Sunday</b> 7:30am 9:00am 10:30am 12:00pm 5:00pm	<b>December 2</b> Anniversary Memorial For the Birth. Memorial & Anniversary Memorial	Edward & Nora McDonough Richard D. Armstrong Parishioners of St. Agatha Edward Z. Czarniak & Frederick J. Smith, Sr. Joseph P. & Gertrude H. McDonough
<b>Monday</b> 7:00am 9:00am	<b>December 3</b> Birth. Memorial	Kathleen Deering
<b>Tuesday</b> 7:00am 9:00am	<b>December 4</b> Anniversary 5th Anniversary	Albert Oliverio Blanche Coyne
<b>Wednesday</b> 7:00am 9:00am	<b>December 5</b> Memorial 6th Anniversary	Maria Huong Nguyen Mary T. Shields
<b>Thursday</b> 7:00am 9:00am	<b>December 6</b> Anniversary Special Intention	JoAnn F. Muldoon
<b>Friday</b> 7:00am 9:00am 7:00pm	<b>December 7</b> Anniversary School Mass Birth. Memorials	Dr. Kenneth F. Girard Claire & Alfred Hardy & Barbara Truesdale
<b>Saturday</b> 7:00am 9:00am 4:30pm	<b>December 8</b> Anniversary 2nd Anniversary Birth. Memorial	<b>Immaculate Conception</b> Norah Curran Brian J. Griffiths Martin J. DeMatteo Jr.
<b>Sunday</b> 7:30am 9:00am 10:30am 12:00pm 5:00pm	<b>December 9</b> Birth. Memorial Birth. Memorial 19th Anniversary Memorial For the	John F. Demasey Maureen Hartnett Dolan Paul Clasby Cronin Family Parishioners of St. Agatha



**Every Monday • Doors Open @ 4:45pm  
BINGO begins at 6:40pm**

**Come and Play** 

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