Parish Office Hours
The Parish Offices remain closed until further notice. Our staff will continue to support you via telephone and email. Please leave all messages on the General Voice Mailbox.

Weekend Mass Schedule
St. Mary • Saturday at 4 PM/ Sunday at 7 AM and 11 AM
St. John • Saturday at 4 PM/ Sunday at 9:30 AM and 6 PM

Weekday Mass Schedule
Monday - Friday • 7:00 AM at St. Mary/ 9:00 AM at St. John

Daily Devotions Livestream Schedule
Monday - Friday at 3 PM • Chaplet at St. John
Monday - Friday at 7 PM • Rosary at St. Mary

Sacrament of Reconciliation
Parking Lot Confessions • 4:30 - 5:30 PM • weather permitting
Mondays at St. John • Wednesdays at St. Mary

Eucharistic Adoration
Fridays • 4:30 - 5:30 PM • St. John Parking Lot

Prayer Line
To have prayers said for yourself or a loved one, call the parish office and ask for ext. 223. After hours, press 4.
Visit www.chelmsfordcatholic.org/faith-formation-registration From the left hand side bar, choose the parish at which you are registering.

There you will find all the directions needed for an easy online registration! If you do not have access to a computer or have any questions, contact:

- **St John’s Registration:**
  Lynn Anne LaDuke
  lynnanne@chelmsfordcatholic.org
  (978) 251-857, ext 240

- **St. Mary Registration:**
  Elaine Kindler
  ekindler@chelmsfordcatholic.org
  (978) 256-2374, ext 216

**Dates To Remember…**

- **June 1:** All registrations received by this date will be entered into a drawing for $125 credit to registration fees. One entry per family.

- **June 30:** Early Registration ends. Standard Fees will now apply.

**Vacation Bible Fun**

Due to the unfortunate circumstances we find ourselves in, VBF 2020 is cancelled. We will celebrate the Rocky Railway Theme in 2021!

If you registered, you will be contacted if you haven’t been already.

**3rd Annual Hail Mary Challenge**

Our Collaborative is once again challenged to collectively pray 1,000,000 Rosaries in 6 Months!

The past 2 years, we have exceed 100% of our goal! Over the last 2 years (actually 12 months), we have collectively prayed a total of 2,247,689 Hail Mary’s!

Due to the guidelines as set forth by the Governor, and supported by the Archdiocese, there will be NO COLLECTION CONTAINERS for your weekly Hail Mary counts.

Please email your Hail Mary counts to psidari@ymail.com. For those of you with no access to a computer, please call your counts into Paul at (978) 729-1677. Or you can drop them off into the black drop box as many of you do with your donations.
RESERVE YOUR SEAT AT MASS

A reservation will be REQUIRED in order to attend Mass. This will stand true for as long a social distancing is in effect for houses of worship in Massachusetts. We ask that everyone please carefully read and follow the instructions outlined below for both registering for, and attending Mass. Those in vulnerable populations are highly encouraged to remain at home and join via livestream. Reservations can NOT be made via email or voicemail.

MAKING YOUR ONLINE RESERVATION FOR MASS ATTENDANCE

• Open from 9 am on Monday through 3 pm on the Thursday prior to the weekend Mass you wish to attend.
• Click on the link and enter the access code that you received in your Flocknote.
• Select the parish, date, and time when you will be attending Mass.
• From the drop down menu, select the number of people from your household that will be attending. Children 2 years of age and under do not require a reservation.
• In the comments, list each member of your household for whom you will be reserving a seat.

MAKING YOUR PHONE RESERVATION FOR MASS ATTENDANCE

• This option is available ONLY to those who do not have access to a computer.
• Call the parish offices between 9 am - 12 noon Monday - Thursday prior to the weekend Mass you wish to attend.
• Please do NOT call outside of these hours to make your reservation as we remain lightly staffed.

PROTOCOLS TO BE FOLLOWED UPON ARRIVAL AT CHURCH

• Arrive early in order to be seated. Seating will begin 30 minutes prior, and end 5 minutes prior to the scheduled start of Mass. Doors will be closed and latecomers will NOT be permitted to enter.
• Before exiting your car, please put on your face mask. Children age 5 or under, and those with medical exemptions, are not required to wear a mask.
• Practice social distancing of 6 feet as you approach and wait in line.
• Only necessary items can be brought into the church, such as keys, hand sanitizer, offertory envelope.

PROTOCOLS TO BE FOLLOWED FOR ADMITTANCE INTO THE CHURCH

• If you are exhibiting any COVID-19 symptoms, PLEASE STAY HOME!
• Those without a reservation will NOT be permitted to enter.
• Masks are required (except for those 5 years and under or with medical exemptions) at all times... in line and in church.
• Everyone must enter through the front doors ONLY. One-way traffic minimizes contact with others.
• Ushers will seat all guests, filling church front to back, side to side. You will be unable to choose your seat.
• Pews have been marked for social distancing: 6 feet apart from others in your pew, as well as in front and behind you.
• Members of the same household are permitted to sit together and are not required to follow the 6-foot distancing rule.

PROTOCOLS TO BE FOLLOWED DURING CELEBRATION OF MASS

• The congregation is NOT to sing. FUN FACT: the velocity of air emitted while singing is equal to that of a cough or sneeze!
• Offertory baskets will not be passed. Your may place your offering in a designated receptacle as you enter/exit church.
• There will be NO hand-holding during the Our Father or hand-shaking during the Sign of Peace.

PROTOCOLS TO BE FOLLOWED FOR RECEIVING COMMUNION

• The ushers will direct the communion lines. In needing to keep with the social distancing protocol, even individuals who will not be receiving communion will be required to leave the pew and follow the prescribed traffic flow, allowing everyone to return to their original seat.
• You will approach the Priest/EMHC via the center aisle. Directional tape has been placed.
• The Eucharist will be ‘dropped’ into your hand, avoiding contact.
• Step aside, remove your mask, consume the Eucharist, replace your mask.
• Return to your original row via the side aisle. Directional tape has been placed.

PROTOCOLS TO BE FOLLOWED FOR DISMISSAL

• Pews will be dismissed one at a time, and traffic flow will be directed by the usher(s).
• Please proceed directly to your car, keeping your mask on until to arrive at your car. No congregating, please.
• Handicapped guests (St. John ONLY) will be escorted out last, allowing for safe maneuvering of wheelchairs/walkers.
Since the Suspension of Masses:

**St. Mary Offertory Summary FY 2020**

- Weekend of March 14th/15th: received $7,787 (shortfall of $9,353)
- Weekend of March 22nd/23rd: received $6,390 (shortfall of $10,750)
- Weekend of March 28th/29th: received $11,969 (shortfall of $5,171)
- Weekend of April 4th/5th: received $11,144 (shortfall of $5,996)
- Weekend of April 11th/12th: received $18,384 (average of $1,244)
- Weekend of April 18th/19th: received $15,380 (shortfall of $1,760)
- Weekend of April 25th/26th: received $15,379 (shortfall of $1,761)
- Weekend of May 2nd/3rd: received $17,000 (shortfall of $140)
- Weekend of May 9th/10th: received $17,892 (average of $752)
- Weekend of May 16th/17th: received $12,993 (shortfall of $4,147)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Weekend of May 23rd/24th</th>
<th>Year-To-Date May 24th</th>
<th>Year-To-Date Average/Week</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Offertory Required to cover Budgeted Expenses</td>
<td>$17,140</td>
<td>$788,440</td>
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<tr>
<td>Actual Received</td>
<td>$10,602</td>
<td>$704,578</td>
<td>$15,317</td>
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<td>Shortfall/ Overage</td>
<td>-$6,538</td>
<td>-$83,862</td>
<td>-$1,823</td>
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Since the Suspension of Masses:  

**St. John Offertory Summary FY 2020**

- Weekend of March 14th/15th: received $4,741 (shortfall of $6,299)
- Weekend of March 22nd/23rd: received $6,096 (shortfall of $4,944)
- Weekend of March 28th/29th: received $8,207 (shortfall of $2,833)
- Weekend of April 4th/5th: received $8,272 (shortfall of $2,768)
- Weekend of April 11th/12th: received $13,512 (average of $2,472)
- Weekend of April 18th/19th: received $9,604 (shortfall of $1,436)
- Weekend of April 25th/26th: received $8,526 (shortfall of $2,514)
- Weekend of May 2nd/3rd: received $8,726 (shortfall of $2,313)
- Weekend of May 9th/10th: received $8,449 (shortfall of $2,591)
- Weekend of May 16th/17th: received $10,622 (shortfall of $418)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Weekend of May 23rd/24th</th>
<th>Year-To-Date May 24th</th>
<th>Year-To-Date Average/Week</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Offertory Required to cover Budgeted Expenses</td>
<td>$11,040</td>
<td>$507,840</td>
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<tr>
<td>Actual Received</td>
<td>$9,254</td>
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<td>Shortfall/ Overage</td>
<td>-$1,786</td>
<td>-$48,893</td>
<td>-$1,063</td>
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</table>

As of May 17th, Grand Annual donations are $49,040... up to 98.08% of our goal.

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**ST. MARY Online Giving**

- Visit www.chelmsfordcatholic.org and click on the Online Giving logo located in the right-hand sidebar on the homepage.
- Click on ‘Set up New Account’
- Set up your payment options, withdrawal dates, etc.
- If you prefer, there is a “Quick Give” option to make a one-time donation.

**ST. JOHN WeShare**

- Visit www.chelmsfordcatholic.org and click on the WeShare logo located in the right-hand sidebar on the homepage.
- Choose your Giving Opportunity (Weekly Offertory)
- Set up your payment options, withdrawal dates, etc.
- If you prefer, there is an option to make a one-time donation.
Reverend Brian Mahoney, PASTOR
ext 215… fr.brian@chelmsfordcatholic.org
Reverend Corey Bassett-Tirrell, PAROCHIAL VICAR
ext 239… fr.corey@chelmsfordcatholic.org
Reverend Arnold Colletti, Sr. PRIEST IN RESIDENCE
ext 221… frcolletti@chelmsfordcatholic.org
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ext 228… andrewjohn@chelmsfordcatholic.org
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ext 220… pfiricano@chelmsfordcatholic.org
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Sue Beechin, part-time ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT
ext 236… sue@chelmsfordcatholic.org
Dan Heider, FACILITIES MANAGER
ext 213… dheider@chelmsfordcatholic.org
Christine Trznadel, COMMUNICATIONS COORDINATOR
ext 214… christine@chelmsfordcatholic.org

From Our Senior Priest in Residence
Fr. Arnold Colletti

On this Pentecost Sunday I want to remind you that one of the gifts of the Spirit is Joy. Happiness is realized when we live for God and know some day we will be with Him forever.

• “A merry heart does good like a medicine, but a broken spirit dries the bones.” -Proverbs 17:22
• “The One whose throne is in heaven sits laughing.” -Psalm 2:4
• The Nigerian name for God is Father of Laughter.
• Woman to the pastor: “You don’t know how much your sermons have meant to my husband since he lost his mind.”
• The priest came to the ambo, shuffled his notes, scanned the congregation, and said thoughtfully: “Where to begin? Where to begin?” A voice in the church yelled: “As close to the end as possible.”
• And God said: “My name is not I was. My name is not I will be. My name is I Am.”
• “We are here for a spell. Get all the good laughs you can.” -Will Rogers
• “If you are not allowed to laugh in heaven, I don’t want to go there.” -Martin Luther
• “I am convinced there is only one place where there is no laughter...and that’s hell. I have made arrangements to miss hell. Praise God! I won’t ever have to be anywhere that there is no laughter.” -Jerry Clower
• Abraham Lincoln once said: “Laughter is the joyous universal evergreen of life. Were it not for my little jokes, I could not bear the burdens of this office. With the fearful strain that is on me night and day, if I did not laugh I should die. I believe it is the inalienable right of a man to be happy or miserable and I, for one, choose the former.”
• He is so conceited: Yesterday he picked up the phone, called Dial-a-Prayer and asked: “any messages?”
• When my kids become wild and unruly, I use a nice playpen. When they’re finished, I climb out.
This morning as I was celebrating the 9 am Mass at Saint Mary’s, and as I was about to pray the Collect, I could hear my cat Harry yowling. He wanted to come into the Church because I was there. Lately, Harry has developed a desire to get into the Church whenever I am there. When he realizes that I have gone through the door into the church, he will start yowling to be let in. I, of course, cannot usually accommodate this desire. But, this morning I found it particularly amusing, because when Harry is being ignored he tends to get louder and louder. And that is exactly what he was doing. Eventually he did give up, but it was again pretty funny to listen to his caterwauling at the beginning of Mass.

I realize that many of you probably have felt the same way. You wanted to be inside the church as much as Harry, but it was not really about the building. In the midst of one of the most trying moments of our lives we needed the comfort, the solace, the support, and the familiarity of our community. The building represents so much about what is important and essential in our lives. It is a testament not just to our individual faith, but to those who have gone before us, and to those with whom we gather to celebrate that faith through the sacraments, especially the Eucharist.

To be separated from that most primal connection created a heartache of its own. Yes, we, of course, can pray anywhere, and in one sense we do not need a building to worship God. But the reality is that gathering together as a community of faith is central to our identity: it is essential to us, both as a people of faith and as members of the human family.

We are made in the image and likeness of God. And God, as Trinity (Father, Son and Holy Spirit), is a community within Himself. The reality of God’s very being is not solitary and isolated. Rather, God is a community of being: each person of the Trinity reaches out to the other to be in relationship. And again, it is not one on one, but rather, each relationship supports and gives strength to the other. God’s desire for community is expressed in a direct way through creation itself. God did not need to create; He chose to create, and hence, expanded the sense of community beyond Himself. In his act of creation God chose to create human beings in his image and likeness. We are the image of the invisible God and, as such, we come to know ourselves best when we seek to live our lives in accord with our true nature.

This sense of physical isolation was, and is, difficult for the simple reason that—though very necessary—it contradicts what it means to be human. We are meant to be social beings in the same way that God is. And even for someone like myself, who is very much of an introvert, that disconnect with family, friends, and a community of faith has created its own strains. Our ability to gather once more, though in unexpected ways, is a good thing. We, of course, must still maintain our distance for the safety of others, but at least we are gathered in the same place as a community of faith to enact our most basic need—to praise and worship our God.

We have somewhat experienced what the early Church went through during periods of intense persecution. They were not always able to gather together, for the simple reason that if they did they could be put to death. We might also think of those immigrants who came to a new nation without the support of a community of faith. In 1808 when our diocese was established, it covered all of New England with only one bishop and five priests. They had to cover the diocese on horseback to support the spiritual needs of their people. It could be months before Catholics saw a priest, simply because there was not one around. That sense of isolation and loss could not have been an easy experience for the early Church in America. We now realize in a small way what that sense of spiritual loss must have entailed for them. And yet the Church grew and got stronger. And the same will be true for us.

It simply calls for us to seek and recognize what is truly essential. It calls for us to place a deeper trust in our God. It calls for us to recognize what our priorities and true needs should be. We have a chance to reclaim those parts of our lives that have been lost. We need to be honest with ourselves about how our priorities may not have been what they should be. Sometimes we only realize what we have lost when we can no longer connect with it.

What a blessing it is to be able to gather together once more. Not all of us can be here, yet for very good reasons. But we are once more united together around the Lord’s table. We have been gathered once more by the power of the Holy Spirit. We can once more express what it means to truly be a community of faith—united by the Spirit, drawn to Christ, our one and true mediator, who leads us to the Father.

What we have missed and have been desiring is much more than simply getting into a building. It is about gathering as a family of faith united in and through Christ. 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.

Please keep me in your prayers.

In Christ,
Pray For Our Priests

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Maureen Cobleigh of Billerica, MA

Maureen Elise Cobleigh, 72, of Billerica, MA and formerly of Tyngsboro, died Monday, March 23, 2020 at Lahey Medical Center.

Born in Lowell, MA she was the daughter of the late Frank and Rita (Leblanc) Cobleigh. She graduated from the Winslow School and Lowell High School. Maureen earned her Bachelor’s degree in chemistry from Lowell Technical Institute and her Master’s degree in education from University of Lowell.

She retired from Billerica Public Schools in 1997 where she was a high school math teacher for 25 years.

Maureen was a communicant of St. Theresa Church of Billerica, MA and St. John the Evangelist Parish of North Chelmsford, MA. Compassion was in her nature and donated platelets for 20 years at Dana Farber.

She enjoyed traveling, playing cribbage, and other card games.

She is survived by her sister, Michelle E Healy and her husband James of Naples, FL., a niece Leigh Davis and her husband Thomas of Nanuet, NY., and two grand-nephews Kevin and Stephen Davis of Nanuet, NY, as well as many close friends.

Relatives and friends are respectfully invited to attend her funeral Mass on Monday, June 8th, 2020, at 11:00 AM at St. John the Evangelist Church, 115 Middlesex St. N. Chelmsford. Her burial was privately held in Thompson Cemetery, Tyngsboro. Memorials in her name may be made to the Dana Farber Platelets Center at Dana-Farber Cancer Institute P.O. Box 849168 Boston, MA 02284. Online guest book is available at www.dolanfuneralhome.com

ARRANGEMENTS BY DOLAN FUNERAL HOME 978-256-4040.