

ST. MARY OF THE ANNUNCIATION PARISH



15th Sunday IN ORDINARY TIME

“Some seed fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked it. But some seed fell on rich soil, and produced fruit, a hundred or sixty or thirtyfold.” - Mt 13:7-8

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

READINGS for JULY 12, 2020

First Reading Isaiah 55:10-11

Thus says the LORD:

Just as from the heavens the rain and snow come down and do not return there till they have watered the earth, making it fertile and fruitful, giving seed to the one who sows and bread to the one who eats, so shall my word be that goes forth from my mouth; my word shall not return to me void, but shall do my will, achieving the end for which I sent it.

Responsorial Psalm 65:10, 11, 12-13, 14

R. The seed that falls on good ground will yield a fruitful harvest.

You have visited the land and watered it; greatly have you enriched it.

God's watercourses are filled; you have prepared the grain.

R. The seed that falls on good ground will yield a fruitful harvest.

Thus have you prepared the land: drenching its furrows, breaking up its clods, Softening it with showers, blessing its yield.

R. The seed that falls on good ground will yield a fruitful harvest.

You have crowned the year with your bounty, and your paths overflow with a rich harvest;

The untilled meadows overflow with it, and rejoicing clothes the hills.

R. The seed that falls on good ground will yield a fruitful harvest.

The fields are garmented with flocks and the valleys blanketed with grain. They shout and sing for joy.

R. The seed that falls on good ground will yield a fruitful harvest.

Second Reading Romans 8:18-23

Brothers and sisters:

I consider that the sufferings of this present time are as nothing compared with the glory to be revealed for us.

For creation awaits with eager expectation the revelation of the children of God; for creation was made subject to futility, not of its own accord but because of the one who subjected it, in hope that creation itself would be set free from slavery to corruption and share in the glorious freedom of the children of God. We know that all creation is groaning in labor pains even until now; and not only that, but we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, we also groan within ourselves as we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies.

Gospel Matthew 13:1-23

On that day, Jesus went out of the house and sat down by the sea. Such large crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat down, and the whole crowd stood along the shore. And he spoke to them at length in parables, saying: “A sower went out to sow. And as he sowed, some seed fell on the path, and birds came and ate it up. Some fell on rocky ground, where it had little soil. It sprang up at once because the soil was not deep, and when the sun rose it was scorched, and it withered for lack of roots. Some seed fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked it. But some seed fell on rich soil, and produced fruit, a hundred or sixty or thirtyfold. Whoever has ears ought to hear.” The disciples approached him and said, “Why do you speak to them in parables?” He said to them in reply, “Because knowledge of the mysteries of the kingdom of heaven has been granted to you, but to them it has not been granted. To anyone who has, more will be given and he will grow rich; from anyone who has not, even what he has will be taken away. This is why I speak to them in parables, because *they look but do not see and hear but do not listen or understand*. Isaiah's prophecy is fulfilled in them, which says: *You shall indeed hear but not understand, you shall indeed look but never see. Gross is the heart of this people, they will hardly hear with their ears, they have closed their eyes, lest they see with their eyes and hear with their ears and understand with their hearts and be converted, and I heal them.*

“But blessed are your eyes, because they see, and your ears, because they hear. Amen, I say to you, many prophets and righteous people longed to see what you see but did not see it, and to hear what you hear but did not hear it. “Hear then the parable of the sower. The seed sown on the path is the one who hears the word of the kingdom without understanding it, and the evil one comes and steals away what was sown in his heart. The seed sown on rocky ground is the one who hears the word and receives it at once with joy. But he has no root and lasts only for a time. When some tribulation or persecution comes because of the word, he immediately falls away. The seed sown among thorns is the one who hears the word, but then worldly anxiety and the lure of riches choke the word and it bears no fruit. But the seed sown on rich soil is the one who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and yields a hundred or sixty or thirtyfold.”

PROTOCOLS IN PLACE TO ATTEND THE 4:00pm or 9:30am MASS DURING THE PANDEMIC

- **Sign-up for Mass must be done ahead of time on the web-site: stmarysmelrose.org** or by calling the Rectory of-fice. When we reach our limited seating capacity, sign-up will be cut off. You will be required to check in as you enter the church.
- **All congregants must wear a mask**, except for children under the age of 2 and those who have medical issues that may be compromised by wearing a mask. **Please bring and use your own hand sanitizer.**
- **A volunteer usher will lead you to your seat**, beginning at the front of the church. Some pews will be blocked off to allow for social distancing and seating will be designated. **You may not be able to sit where you usually sit.**
- Missalettes and music books have been removed from the pews. You may bring your own personal worship aids but must take them with you when you leave. **Please take the modified bulletin with you as well.**
- **Singing by congregants is not permitted.** Only the musicians will sing.
- **No hand-shaking or hand-holding is permitted** at the Sign of Peace or Our Father or at any time.
- **Offertory baskets will be in place as you enter church for your donations.** There will be no collection taken. We encourage you to consider giving online or through your bank.
- **Ushers will lead the congregants out of pews at Communion time from the back of the Church.** If you are not receiving Communion, please step out of the pew so others won't have to cross in front of you.
- **Communion will only be distributed in the hand.** Please approach the priest wearing your mask, receive Communion in the hand and step to the side, remove your mask and consume the Blessed Sacrament. Your mask must be put back on before you start walking up the side aisles.
- **Exiting the church will be done aisle by aisle from the back of the Church. Ushers will guide you.** Social gathering outside the church is not permitted. We ask that you head to your cars quickly so the church can be sanitized and prepared for the next Mass.



5-Week Virtual Grief Support Group Wednesday Evenings,

July 22 – August 12, & 26 via Zoom,
6:00 pm – 7:30 pm

Grieving during this time of pandemic can be a very challenging and painful experience. If you have lost a loved one, whether due to COVID-19 or another cause, you may feel isolated and alone in your grief during this time of social distancing. Connecting with others who share a similar experience of mourning can provide comfort and support.

Please join our Grief Support Group to connect with others *virtually* on Wednesday evenings, July 22, 29, and August 5, 12, and 26. Together, we will explore the grieving process and consider the spiritual elements of grief and healing grounded in Christian hope. For more information, **call Patrice Fitzpatrick** at Saint Patrick Parish, Stoneham: **781-438-0200 to register by Wed., July 15.** You will need a computer, tablet, or smart phone with a camera in order to participate.. This technology is easy to use and we can assist you in getting started. If you are not comfortable using this technology, our *Virtual* Grief Drop-In Meetings on the *second* Monday of each month offer phone-in attendance. Please call Patrice for more information. Participation in these groups is free. They are sponsored by the *McDonald-Finnegan* Funeral Home, 322 Main Street, Stoneham.

2020 CATHOLIC APPEAL—

WE ARE SO CLOSE! Can you help?

THANK YOU! THANK YOU! to our Parishioners who have already pledged to Saint Mary Parish! Saint Mary's assessment this year is \$49,517. **Today's update indicates we are at 78% of the assessment.**

Just a reminder that if we do not reach our assessment for our parish we must make up the difference. Please prayerfully consider a contribution to the Catholic Appeal. The many charities supported by the Appeal are working harder than ever to assist the families, schools and causes funded by the Appeal.

For those of you who have not yet contributed, please visit the website at bostoncatholicappeal.org



Please pray that God will watch over and safeguard our men and women serving in the military.

We thank you for your service.

Sgt Paul Consoli, US Army
Major Martin Forrest, USMC
LtCol Steven Gerardi, US Army
Cpl Matthew Gregorio, USMC
Pvt Michael Butler, USMC
L/Cpl Daniel Morelli, USMC
Sgt Brian Crawford, US Army
LtCol Bernard Banks, US Army
H.C. Evan Carroll, USN
Sgt Patrick Briatico, USMC
E3 James E. Wilson, US Army
AB Dan Munday, USAF
SR Patrick Casey, USCG
Cpl Kevin J. Doherty, USMC
Cpl Cam DeCroteau, USMC
SPC Bradford Saunders, US Army
Major Eric DiNoto, US Army
Aft Devon Emery, USAF

Lt Patrick Forrest, USMC
Cpl Mark Gregorio, USMC
L/Cpl Jare Wimberly, USMC
LtCol McGregor, USMC
SPC James LaCroix, US Army
WO James Pappa, US Army
SS Jessica Rainwater, USAF
S/F Justin E. O'Brien, US Army
Lt J/G Quincy King II, USAF
Lt John R Moreschi Jr., USN
Cpt Daniel J. Parker, USAF
Sgt Mickhail Jean, US Army
Sgt Jacob Pezzini, US Army
Cpl Michael Igo, USMC
Sgt Sean D. Mooney, ARNG
L/Cpl Michael Baker, USMC
Pfc Matthew Hanley, US Army

In an effort to update our military list, we ask that you notify us if someone on the above list no longer serves in the military or if their rank has changed. Please email marjk50@comcast.net or call the rectory with any changes, deletions or additions.

MASS INTENTIONS Beginning next weekend, we will designate either the 4 pm Saturday or 9:30 am Sunday as an intention Mass. Please call the rectory to arrange. You may also request the sanctuary lamp as a memorial.

REMEMBER in your prayers

Please pray for those who are ill and especially for
Ellie & Paul Pistorino

Please pray for our deceased loved ones.
Elaine Socha
Anthony Contarino, Jr.

Our Sanctuary Lamp is lit in memory of
Saint Mary Parishioners

We pray in a special way for whatever reason. We pray for those who are lonely, for those who have no one to pray for them, and we pray for one another.



SUMMER RECTORY HOURS

Until Labor Day, the Rectory office hours will be Monday-Thursday from 9-4. The Office will be closed on Fridays. If you need assistance in making a reservation