

St. Oscar Romero Parish

700 Washington Street, Canton, MA 02021 | Website: <u>www.cantoncatholic.org</u> Parish Office: 781-828-0090 | Email: welcome@cantoncatholic.org



INGDOM OF GOI IS AT HAND FOR YOU

LUKE 10:9

Mass Schedule

Daily Mass ~ Monday-Saturday 9:00am, preceded by Daily Rosary at 8:30am

Weekend Masses ~ Saturdays 4:00pm Sundays 8:00am 10:00am 12:00pm & 5:00pm

~ Church Open for Prayer ~ Monday-Friday 10:00am-3:00pm

Bereavement Support Ministry ~ For support, please Contact Deacon Dan Nelson at <u>dcn785@aol.com</u>

Staff Directory ~ Find our staff directory on page 6.

Parish Prayer Wall ~ Submit your prayer requests on our parish website.

Parish Newsletter ~ Visit parish website to subscribe.

St. Mary's Cemetery ~ For inquiries, please contact Barbara McKenney at 781-828-0090 x 311.

Sacramental and Devotional Life

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Anointing of the Sick ~ Contact the parish office.

Baptism ~ Twice a month, 2nd and 4th Sundays. To register, visit <u>www.cantoncatholic.org</u> and click on Sacraments. Contact: Barbara McKenney (781) 828-0090.

Marriage ~ Arrangements should be made \underline{six} months in advance. Contact the parish office.

 $Reconciliation \sim$ Saturdays at 3:15pm before the 4:00pm Mass

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament ~ Tuesdays 9:30-10:30am

Bible Study ~ Mondays at 9:45am in the Lower church Hall. Contact: <u>wwhite9999@aol.com</u> or 617-699-8032

Catholic Men of Canton ~ 2nd Saturday of the month 8:00-9:30am in the Lower Church Hall or via a zoom link option. Email <u>jptjr2@gmail.com</u> for more information.



"Let us not tire of preaching love; It is the force that will overcome the world."



Dear Friends

I hope everyone enjoyed their 4th of July celebrations. This is a big week for our parish and town. **St. Gerard's Kids' Camp 2025 begins Monday, July 7.** Please pray for another successful year. One of the impressive components of this unique endeavor is the planning and leadership of our Youth Ministry. One would be hard pressed to find an enterprise of this scale led by our community's young men and women.





This summer, we once again have a priest from the Society of African Missions (SMA). His name is Father Patrick Mpete Ebalaling. He is a native of Lakas in the Democratic Republic of Congo. He was ordained in May of 2016. Hopefully, he will be arriving any day. I'm sure he has heard of the warm welcome St. Oscar Romero parishioners have extended to the SMA Fathers who have spent summers with us in recent years.

> Yours in Christ, **Fr. Tom**

Welcome Fr. Patrick!

St. Oscar Romero Parish



"The Harvest Is Abundant" - Living the Mission of the Seventy-Two

In this Sunday's Gospel (Luke 10:1–12, 17–20), Jesus appoints seventy-two disciples and sends them out in pairs to every town and place He intends to visit. This moment is more than a practical mission—it's a powerful image of what it means to be the Church: a people sent, a people entrusted with Christ's message of peace, healing, and salvation.

"The harvest is abundant, but the laborers are few." These words of Jesus speak just as powerfully today. Our world is full of people who are searching—for meaning, connection, healing, and truth. Jesus reminds us that the opportunity to share His love is everywhere, but there is a need for willing hearts to go out and do the work. He is calling *us* to be those laborers.

Notice how Jesus sends the disciples out with simplicity: "Carry no money bag, no sack, no sandals." He wants them to rely not on their own resources or cleverness, but on God's providence and the hospitality of others. They are to bring peace to every household, to stay present in one place, and to proclaim the good news: "The kingdom of God is at hand." This isn't just about traveling from town to town—it's a blueprint for how we are called to live our lives: grounded in trust, focused on relationships, and committed to sharing Christ with whoever crosses our path.

Jesus doesn't promise the mission will be easy. He says He is sending them *"like lambs among wolves."* There will be rejection and resistance. But even so, the disciples return rejoicing! Why? Because they witnessed the power of Christ at work through them. Yet Jesus reminds them that their true joy should not come from power or success, but from this unshakable truth: *"Rejoice because your names are written in heaven."*

Each of us has a role to play in the mission of the Church. We are the seventy-two of today—called, chosen, and sent to prepare the way for Jesus in our homes, our schools, our parishes, and beyond. When we share peace, care for the hurting, offer kindness, and speak about our faith, we participate in that same mission.

This week, let's pray for openness to the Holy Spirit and a renewed sense of mission. May we respond to Jesus' call with courage, faith, and joy—knowing that the kingdom of God is still at hand.

Ordinary Time: Anything but Ordinary

As we turn the page to July, we finally reenter the Season of Ordinary Time in the Church's liturgical calendar. Though its name may suggest otherwise, Ordinary Time is far from mundane. Rather, it is a rich and vital part of our journey as disciples, offering us the opportunity to grow steadily in our relationship with Christ.

You may have noticed that throughout the month of June, we did not celebrate a single "green Sunday." That's because each of the five Sundays in June this year was dedicated to a solemnity—feast days of the highest rank that highlight key truths of our faith.

Because of these sacred celebrations, we haven't observed a Sunday in Ordinary Time since **March 2**! This extended absence reminds us that the liturgical year is not a simple rotation of Sundays but a beautifully woven pattern of seasons, feasts, and mysteries that form our life of worship.

The Church, in her wisdom, helps us encounter the whole mystery of Christ not only through the high points of **the Triduum**, **Christmas**, and Easter, but also through the quieter, steady span of Ordinary Time. This longest season of the year—marked by green, the color of life and growth—offers a space for spiritual deepening. It's a time to reflect on Jesus' public ministry: His teachings, miracles, parables, and the call to discipleship.

> Ordinary Time invites us to embrace holiness in the everyday. It's where we learn that God meets us not only in dramatic moments, but also in the routine, the quiet, and the consistent living out of our faith. Each Sunday in Ordinary Time is like a stepping stone along the path of discipleship, drawing us closer to Christ as we listen to His Word and receive His Body

So as we return to Ordinary Time, let's not see it as a break from the "important" parts of the liturgical year. Rather, let us recognize it as an essential season of *growing in grace*, deepening our faith, and walking with Christ in the ordinariness of daily life.

and Blood.



Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

St. Oscar Romero Parish

Walking with Courage

In today's Gospel, we see Jesus and His disciples continuing their journey from town to town, proclaiming the Kingdom of God. It wasn't an easy path—they faced rejection, uncertainty, and hardship. Yet they kept going. What gave them the strength to press on?

They were living out the virtue of **fortitude**—the spiritual strength that gives us courage to follow Jesus, even when it's difficult. Fortitude doesn't mean we never feel fear or doubt; it means we trust God enough to take the next step anyway.

This virtue is just as important in our lives today. We may not be walking dusty roads like the disciples, but we all face moments when doing the right thing is hard—standing up for someone, making time for prayer, forgiving someone who hurt us, or staying faithful when we feel discouraged.

This week, look for opportunities to practice fortitude. Maybe it's getting through a tough day with patience, speaking the truth with love, or simply showing up when you'd rather give up. Ask the Holy Spirit for the courage to take that step.

Remember: Jesus walks with you, just as He walked with His disciples. You are never alone.



Important Parking Lot Update – Temporary Closure Ahead



We're excited to share that much-needed improvements to our church parking lot are on the way!

Beginning Monday, July 21, George Pickering Inc. will begin paving work on the main parking lot. The lot will be closed to the public from Monday, July 21 through Thursday, July 24. It will reopen on Friday, July 25 for access to the church.

The back lot will be addressed the following week, and while we hope for minimal disruption, Mass schedules and funerals may be affected. We will keep everyone updated as plans develop via the parish website and Facebook page.

As with any outdoor project, **extreme heat or rain could delay progress**, so we kindly ask you to join us in praying for good weather and a smooth process as we "**Pave the Way**" to a safer and more welcoming space for our parish family.

Thank you for your patience and continued support!

Still Time to Donate

You can support this effort by donating in any of the following ways:

- Click the *Pave the Way* button on the homepage of our website
- Write a check with *"Pave the Way"* in the memo line
- Visit our Administrative Office (Mon.-Thurs. 9:00am-4:00pm)
- Scan the QR code provided



Parish Directory

OFFICE (M-TH 9am-4pm) | Phone: 781-828-0090 x311 General Inquiries | Fax: 781-828-2520

CLERGY Rev. Thomas S. Rafferty, x209 Pastor tsrafferty@cantoncatholic.org

Rev. Jeremy Wagner, x322 Parochial Vicar jwagner@cantoncatholic.org

Deacon Daniel C. Nelson, THM, D. Min. x325 Spiritual Director dcn785@aol.com

Your generosity strengthens our parish family and we are grateful for your support. Scan the QR code to give today. *"Freely you have received; freely give."* Matthew 10:8





PARISH STAFF Nancy T. Cunniff x203 781-828-5130

Confirmation, Religious Education 7-10 & Parish Communications ncunniff@cantoncatholic.org

Lorraine Olsen-Viola Offertory, Donations & Online Giving lolsen-viola@cantoncatholic.org

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Barbara McKenney x311 Ministry Coordinator, St. Mary Cemetery & Sacramental Inquiries bmckenney@cantoncatholic.org

Erin Sullivan x305 781-828-5130 First Communion, First Reconciliation & Religious Education 1-6 erin@cantoncatholic.org Maggie Rubenacker x312 Finance, Operations & HR mrubenacker@cantoncatholic.org

Maria White x216 Music Ministry: Youth, Junior & Adult Choirs mwhite@cantoncatholic.org

PARISH SCHOOL

Chris Flieger, Ed.D. Principal chris.flieger@sjscanton.org

Anne Guerini x315 School Finance Office

Dora Foster Administrative Assistant dora.foster@sjscanton.org

St. John School 781-828-2130 <u>www.sjscanton.org</u>

SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL For assistance, call 781-828-0090 and leave your contact information.

Mass Intentions for the Week		
FOURTEENTH SUNDAY	Saturday, July 5 9:00am~	Friday, July 11 9:00am~Maria Berardi, Memorial
IN ORDINARY TIME	IN ORDINARY TIME 4:00pm~Youth of the Parish & Kids' Camp Sunday, July 6	9:00am~
	8:00am~Daniel Rampino, Memo 10:00am~Kids' Camp Mass 12:00pm~Gerald Bagley, Memor 5:00pm~	Sunday, July 13
	Monday, July 7 9:00am~Arthur Izzo	5:00pm~Outreach Intentions Prayers and Sympathy
	Tuesday, July 8 9:00am~Guy & Josephine Barra Memorial	Pauline "Polly" Smith
	Wednesday, July 9 9:00am~Marigold Gborbita, Birt	hday Please remember in your prayers
The Lord appointed seventy-two others whom he sent ahead of him in pairs. Jesus said to them. "The harvest is abundant but the laborers are few;	Thursday, July 10 9:00am~Richard & Marie Daley Memorial	Follow us on Facebook and Instagram <u>Facebook.com/cantoncatholic</u> <u>Instagram.com/cantoncatholic</u>
so ask the master of the harvest to send out laborers for his harvest." Luke 10:1.2	To request a Mass Intention, please call 781-828-0090	Bulletin Submissions are due by noon on Monday bulletin@cantoncatholic.org

Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time



For Advertising call 617-779-3771

Saint Oscar Romero, Canton, MA 4478



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Pilot Bulletins

Saint Oscar Romero, Canton, MA