



St. Oscar Romero Parish

700 Washington Street, Canton, MA 02021 | Website: www.cantoncatholic.org

Parish Office: 781-828-0090 | Email: welcome@cantoncatholic.org



29TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

THE WORD OF GOD

is living and effective, discerning reflections and thoughts of the heart.

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

*Family Mass

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

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

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

Anointing of the Sick ~ Contact the parish office.

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

Marriage ~ Arrangements should be made six months
in advance. Contact the parish office.

Reconciliation ~ 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: wwhite9999@aol.com 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 jptjr2@gmail.com for more information.



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

Dear Friends,

This Saturday is a busy day in our parish. We welcome our South Region Episcopal Vicar, Father Robert Connors, who will administer the Sacrament of Confirmation to seventy-five young men and women. To accommodate the candidates and their families there will be two services, one at 10:30am and another at 1:00pm.

Also on Saturday, at the 4:00pm Vigil Mass, the Sacrament of the Sick will be offered to anyone who wishes to receive it. At this semi-annual event, the priests will go through the congregation and anoint those who request it.

In your prayers this weekend, please remember those who will be receiving these sacraments. May the gifts of the Holy Spirit bear fruit in the lives of the newly confirmed, and may those anointed find healing.

Yours in Christ,
Fr. Tom

Autumn Seaside Festival—Nov. 1



Tickets will be on sale beginning this weekend through October 26 after most Masses. They may also be purchased by contacting Barbara McKenney via email at bmckenney@cantoncatholic.org or by phone at 781-828-0090 x311. Additionally, tickets are available at the parish business office on Wednesdays and Thursdays from 9:00am to 4:00pm.

Please note: tickets are limited. The event will take place in the lower church hall.

Mass of Remembrance ~ November 2



You are warmly invited to a special Mass in remembrance of our loved ones who were laid to rest from St. Oscar Romero Parish over the past year. Let us come together in prayer and support as we honor their lives and lift them to God.

*And may all the souls of the faithfully departed,
through the mercy of God, rest in peace.*



Make a Difference Day – Saturday, October 25

Each small act of kindness has the power to change a life. On Make a Difference Day, let's share God's love in simple, meaningful ways—help a neighbor, visit someone lonely, offer a smile or a prayer. When we serve others, we make Christ's presence known in the world.

Challenge yourself to do one unexpected act of love that day—something that lifts someone's spirit or brings a little light where it's needed most. You might be surprised how much of a difference one person—**you**—can make!

It's More Than a Tootsie Roll!

Father John J. Flatley Council No. 2095 of the Knights of Columbus extends heartfelt thanks to the people of St. Oscar Romero Parish for your generous support of this year's annual *"Tootsie Roll" Drive*. Through your kindness, the Massachusetts State Council Charity Fund will receive a donation of **\$1,776**—including an extra gift from one of our historically-minded members!

Your donations directly help individuals with intellectual and physical disabilities live happier, more fulfilling lives. Each contribution—whether a few coins dropped in a bucket or a larger offering—helps bring hope, dignity, and joy to those who need it most.

To learn more about how this cherished annual event transforms lives across our state, please visit MassKofC.org/Charity-Balls and scroll down to **"It's More Than a Tootsie Roll."**

Confirmation Classes Begin Soon!



Confirmation Preparation Program

Confirmation preparation classes will begin on **Sunday, October 26**, from 11:00am to 12:00pm in the Parish Center.

All students in **Grade 9 and above**, whether attending public or Catholic schools, are invited to begin their journey toward receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation in the **Spring of 2026**.

The Sacrament of Confirmation is a beautiful moment of grace — a time when the Holy Spirit strengthens us to live our faith with courage, conviction, and love. It is not the end of faith formation, but the beginning of a deeper relationship with Christ and His Church.

To register: visit cantoncatholic.org

Questions: contact Nancy Cunniff at

ncunniff@cantoncatholic.org

Thank you

Spirituality without a prayer life is no spirituality at all, and it will not last beyond the first defeats. Prayer is an opening of the self so that the Word of God can break in and make us new. Prayer ***unmasks***. Prayer ***converts***. Prayer ***impels***. Prayer ***sustains*** us on the way. Pray for the grace it will take to continue what you would like to quit. ~ Joan Chittister

Hold Fast to the Word

Reflection on 2 Timothy 3:14–4:2

In this Sunday's reading, St. Paul offers Timothy—and each of us—a heartfelt reminder: *“Continue in what you have learned and firmly believed.”* Paul knows that faith must be nourished, rooted in the Word of God, and lived with conviction. Scripture, he tells us, is *“God-breathed”*—alive and powerful, shaping and equipping us for every good work.

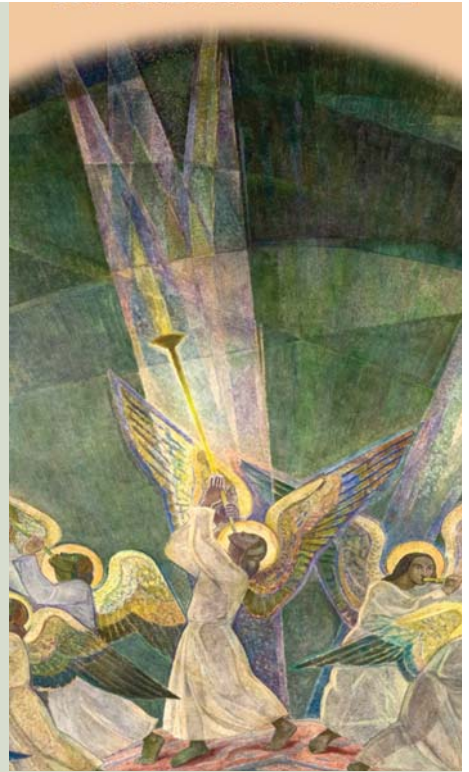
We, too, live in times when it can feel inconvenient to live out our faith. The voices of the world often pull us toward comfort, distraction, or doubt. Yet Paul's charge is clear: *“Proclaim the Word—whether it is convenient or inconvenient.”* The Gospel is not meant to stay silent within church walls. It is meant to be spoken in kindness, lived with courage, and shared through love.

When we stay close to Scripture, the Holy Spirit uses it to form our hearts—to teach, to encourage, to correct, and to strengthen us. God's Word becomes a steady light when life feels uncertain and a sure compass when truth seems blurred.

Like Timothy, we are called to be faithful messengers—to live what we believe and to pass it on. Whether we teach a child, comfort a friend, or stand up for what is right, we proclaim Christ by the way we live.

May we hold fast to the truth we have received, confident that the Word of God is still alive and at work among us—calling, shaping, and sending us forth.

*Lord, fill us with your Spirit and your Word.
Give us courage to proclaim your truth with patience, love, and joy. Amen.*



Liturgy and Life: The Grace of Perseverance

In this Sunday's Gospel, the widow's unwavering persistence invites us to reflect on our own call to perseverance. Her faith did not waver, even when justice seemed distant. She reminds us that true perseverance is not born from stubbornness, but from trust — a quiet, steady confidence that God is at work even when results are slow to appear.



Luke 18:1-8

This week, consider where in your life you are being asked to persist — in your family, your workplace, your parish, or your community. Are there causes that call you to speak up for what is right, even when it's difficult? Are there relationships or responsibilities that require patient faithfulness?

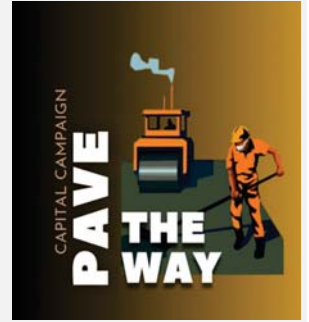
Let your perseverance be guided by prudence — the virtue that helps us act not out of pride or self-interest, but from a sincere desire for the common good. Like the widow, may we remain steadfast in faith, trusting that God's justice and mercy are always at hand.

Pave the Way — Thank You for Making It Happen!

What a blessing it is to see our newly renewed parking lot—a visible sign of our parish family's care for God's house! This project was a true collaboration between our school and parish. With the help of an \$80,000 school grant and your generous support, we've already raised **\$67,630** toward our parish goal of **\$87,000**—just **\$20,000** to go!

If you haven't had a chance to contribute, it's not too late. Every gift, large or small, brings us closer to the finish line. Our hope is to reach our goal by Christmas—a wonderful gift to our parish family and to all who gather here.

Thank you for your continued generosity and care for our parish!



Annual Financial Report Now Available



Parish Annual Financial Report

The St. Oscar Romero Parish Annual Financial Report is now available for parishioner review at www.cantoncatholic.org. Printed copies are available upon request at the Business Office.

We are grateful to share that our parish—Church/Rectory, St. Mary's Cemetery, and St. John the Evangelist School—each experienced a strong financial year with positive investment growth.

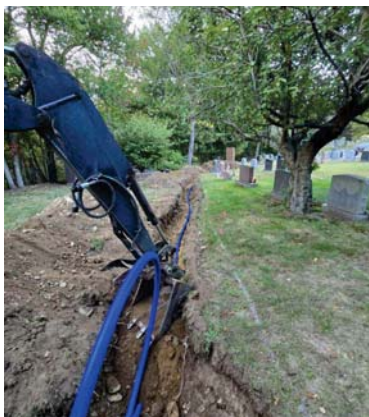
Our heartfelt thanks to Finance Council members Jim Damico, Tom Morrissey, and Roxana Perry for their leadership and commitment to our parish's financial health.

St. Mary Cemetery Water System Repair Completed

As mentioned in a previous bulletin, our cemetery recently faced a significant challenge with a major underground water pipe break. Because the pipes run alongside underground electrical wiring, the repair required careful planning and precise execution.

We are deeply grateful to our cemetery maintenance staff, who managed this complex project from start to finish. Their hard work ensured the repair was completed safely and efficiently, while also providing a temporary water alternative throughout the maintenance period.

The photos included highlight the full extent and effort involved in this labor-intensive project. We are deeply grateful for your patience and understanding as this important work was brought to completion.



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

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parish family and we
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received; freely give."
Matthew 10:8

NEW QR CODE



ParishSOFT

PARISH STAFF

Nancy T. Cunniff x203 781-828-5130

Confirmation, Religious Education

7-10 & Parish Communications

ncunniff@cantoncatholic.org

Lorraine Olsen-Viola x316

Offertory, Donations & Online Giving

lolsen-viola@cantoncatholic.org

Mike Mahan x304 or 617-460-2800

Youth Ministry & Outreach Programs

mike@cantoncatholic.org

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 www.sjscanton.org

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

Mass Intentions for the Week

Saturday, October 18

9:00am~

4:00pm~Mass of Healing

Sunday, October 19

8:00am~

10:00am~Ida, Frank, Mark & Andrew
Zmiejko, Memorial

12:00pm~Ann Casey, Memorial

5:00pm~Lorenzo Facchini, Memorial

Monday, October 20

9:00am~

Tuesday, October 21

9:00am~Renato C. Mendoza, MD,
Memorial

Wednesday, October 22

9:00am~

Thursday, October 23

9:00am~

Friday, October 24

9:00am~

Saturday, October 25

9:00am~

4:00pm~William & Gertrude Noonan,
Memorial

Sunday, October 26

8:00am~Gerardo LoPilato, Memorial

10:00am~Darnuta & Ignacy Macina,
Memorial

12:00pm~People of the Parish

5:00pm~Edmond Caruso, Memorial



Pray always
without becoming
weary.

Luke 18:1

Prayers and Sympathy

Maureen Morgan

Charles Ayer

Please remember in your prayers
all those who have entered into eternal life.



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To request a Mass Intention,
please call 781-828-0090

Bulletin Submissions are due by noon on Monday
bulletin@cantoncatholic.org



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