



St. Oscar Romero Parish

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

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



A Three-week Parish Advent Series

Awaken the Heart

Come, Let Us Prepare Him Room

WEEK ONE: Listening with the Heart
Thursday, December 4 · 7:00PM

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 requests on 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.

Hearing Assistance: ListenWIFI App (StOscars)

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,

The root of the term parish is *paroikia*, which means, "those living nearby" or "neighbor." Organizationally, a parish operates more like a family than a corporation. We are blessed to be part of a vibrant and active parish community. On almost any day or night of the week one or more groups are present exercising their respective ministry. An army of volunteers keeps our enterprise afloat. In addition to being part of a worshipping community, bonds of friendship are formed through these activities and occasional social events.

In recent weeks, two of our most devoted and active parishioners died. **Don Novak** on October 10 and **Alice Ogalin** on November 6. Coincidentally, each sang in the choir. Don was also a lector and served at Masses. His talent, and extensive tool collection, produced or repaired many projects. Despite everything else she did in the parish, each year Alice, a gifted seamstress, designed and adjusted the children's costumes for our Christmas Cantata.

Like any family, we mourn their passing. We are grateful for all they did. Let us remember them in our prayers.

Yours in Christ,
Fr. Tom



Advent Series Week One—Thursday, December 4

St. Oscar Romero Parish invites you to journey with us this Advent!
700 Washington Street, Canton, MA 02021

Awaken the Heart
Come, Let Us Prepare Him Room

A THREE-WEEK PARISH ADVENT SERIES
Thursdays at 7:00 pm in the Church

Prepare your heart this Advent as we journey together in prayer, music, and reflection. Each week invites us to listen, see, and give from the heart — awakening to God's presence and sharing His love with others.

- ★ December 4 - Listening with the Heart
- ★ December 11 - Seeing with the Heart
- ★ December 18 - Giving from the Heart

All are welcome — come for one night or for the full journey!
"Be still and know that I am God." — Psalm 46:10

Awaken the Heart: Listening with the Heart

As we begin the holy season of Advent, our parish invites you to pause amid the busyness and enter into a sacred time of prayer and reflection. *Awaken the Heart* is a three-week series designed to help us prepare for Christ's coming by opening ourselves to God's gentle presence.

On this first evening, we will reflect on Mary's example of listening and saying "yes" to God. In the quiet of prayer and Scripture, we, too, are invited to make room for His presence and allow His word to awaken peace within us.

Following the brief prayer service, all are welcome to gather in the Lower Church Hall for light refreshments and our Advent activity, *Bethlehem Stars: Prayers of Hope*. Parishioners are invited to write prayers or hopes on star-shaped ornaments, which will later shine on our parish Christmas tree as a constellation of faith and love—a visible reminder of the light we carry within and the prayers we lift to heaven.

Come begin your Advent journey with us, opening your heart to God's voice and preparing to welcome Christ anew at Christmas.

Walking Through Advent Together



This Advent, we invite you to walk with us as we share daily reflections to inspire hope, joy, and peace as we prepare for Christ's coming. Follow our Facebook page for simple moments of light—prayers, Scripture, and reflections to guide your Advent journey. We also hope to grow our online parish community. By following and inviting others to join us, you help spread Christ's light to more hearts this season.

Find us on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/cantonicatholic/>

"The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light." — Isaiah 9:2

Blessing of New White Vestments



At last weekend's 4:00 p.m. Mass, new white vestments were blessed for use in our parish liturgies. They were given in loving memory of Vincenzo and Maria Di Munno, a gift of devotion and generosity from Joe and Dora Saia.

The Advent Giving Tree

During this holy season of Advent, our **Youth Ministry** group invites the parish to share Christ's love through the **Advent Giving Tree**, located at the church's main entrance.



- **Gift tags** are displayed on the tree throughout the Advent Season, each representing someone in need of a little extra joy.
- Parishioners are encouraged to take a tag, purchase the suggested gift, and return it unwrapped with the gift tag attached.
- Please place your gifts **under the tree by December 22nd**, so they may be delivered in time for Christmas.

This tradition is a beautiful way for our community to come together, offering hope and kindness to those who need it most. Thank you for helping make the light of Christ visible through your generosity.



Special Collection St. Vincent de Paul

On the weekend of **December 13–14**, our parish will hold a special second collection in support of the **St. Vincent de Paul Society's Annual Needs Fund**. This fund allows our Vincentians to continue their vital ministry of serving neighbors in Canton who are struggling and in need.

Members of the St. Vincent de Paul Society will share a brief message at all Masses the weekend of **December 6–7**, offering us a glimpse into the good work your generosity makes possible.

To give please make checks payable to *St. Vincent de Paul* or mark your donation envelopes accordingly. We are deeply grateful for the kindness you have shown in the past, and we thank you in advance for once again extending Christ's love to those who need it most.

May God bless you for your compassion and care.



As we prepare to celebrate the joy of Christmas, you are invited to share in the beauty of our parish worship by donating toward the Christmas flowers. These gifts not only adorn our church but also honor the memory of loved ones in a special way. If you receive offertory envelopes, please use the one marked *Christmas Flowers*. If not, you may still participate by placing your donation in an envelope labeled *Christmas Flowers*. Kindly include your name and the names of those you wish to remember.

Donations may be:

- Dropped in the collection basket at Mass on the weekend of **December 6/7**
- Placed in the mailbox outside the parish administrative office
- Emailed to **Nancy Cunniff** at ncunniff@cantoncatholic.org

To ensure names are included in the bulletin for the **Feast of the Holy Family (December 27/28)**, please submit them by **December 12**.

A Christmas Concert



Christmas Concert – *Joy To Your World*

St. Oscar Romero Parish welcomes the **Labyrinth Choir** on **Sunday, December 7, 2025 at 7:30 pm** for a free Christmas concert.



Usher Ministry Update

If you are currently serving as an usher or regularly assisting in this ministry, we kindly ask that you complete the **Usher Contact Sheet** located on the table in the ushers' room in the narthex. This will help us keep our records up to date and ensure smooth communication. Completed forms will be collected and maintained in the parish staff office.

If you feel called to join this ministry of hospitality, we warmly welcome you! Please reach out to **Barbara McKenney** at 781-828-0090 x311 or bmckenney@cantoncatholic.org for more information.

Our usher ministry plays an important role in creating a prayerful and welcoming environment at every Mass. We extend heartfelt thanks to all our ushers for their faithful service and ongoing commitment to **St. Oscar Romero Parish**. May God bless you for the gift of your presence and care.

Canton Catholic Women's Tea

Last week, the Canton Catholic Women gathered in the lower church hall for a delightful morning of tea and fellowship. The highlight of the day was parishioner Ruth Pinkus, who shared how the life and faith of Rose Kennedy deeply touched her heart and guided her own journey into Catholicism. It was a beautiful time of reflection, gratitude, and community—celebrating the witness of faith that continues to inspire and strengthen us all.



Annual Nativity Christmas Cantata



Annual Christmas Cantata & Children’s Nativity Pageant. Join us **Saturday, December 13 at 7:00 pm** in the church for *Night of the Father’s Love*. Parish children, choirs, and orchestra present narrated Nativity tableaus with stunning visuals, a sing-along, followed by light refreshments. A beautiful celebration of Christ’s birth for all ages!

St. John School Calendar

12 DAYS OF Christmas Cash							
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	
				Merry Christmas!	Dec 26 \$500	Dec 27 \$100	
Dec 28 \$100	Dec 29 \$100	Dec 30 \$100	Dec 31 \$200	Happy New Year! \$500	Jan 2 \$100	Jan 3 \$100	
Jan 4 \$100	Jan 5 \$100	Jan 6 \$500					

Our St. John the Evangelist School students are excited to announce their annual cash calendar fundraiser, featuring 12 chances to win for the 12 Days of Christmas from December 26 to January 6. There are 3 chances to win \$500! Calendars are \$10 each and can be purchased through cash, check, Venmo ([@SJScanton](#)) or credit card through this link: <https://stjohnevangelist.ejoinme.org/MyEvents/CashCalendars/tabid/1566854/Default.aspx> Calendars are located at the front entrance of the church.

All proceeds directly benefit the students at SJS. Your support makes a difference and is appreciated!

Family Advent Day

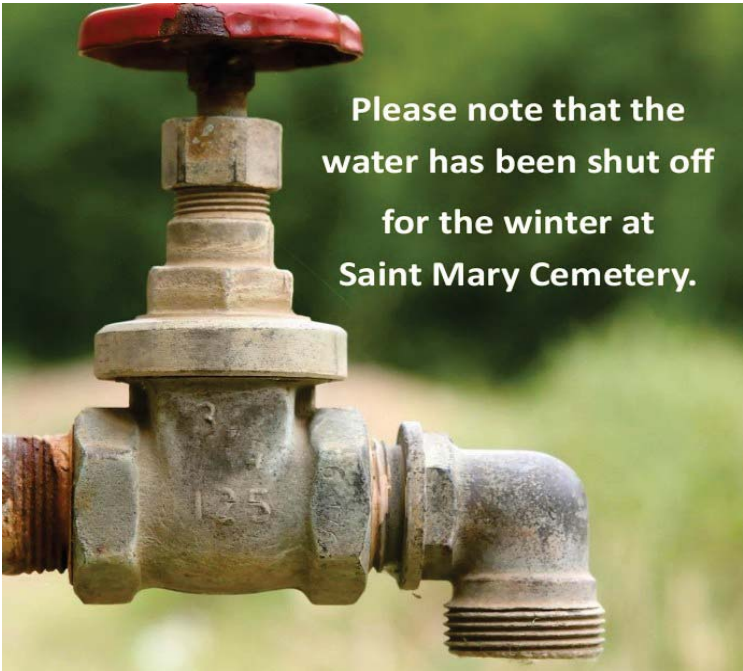
Saturday, December 6, 2025
11:00 am - 2:00 pm

- A special visit from ST. NICHOLAS (11:00 am - 12:30 pm)
- Christmas Carol family sing-along
- Kids' activities, lunch, cocoa, cookies

Invite your family and friends!

Register Here:

Family Rosary
HOLY CROSS
FAMILY MINISTRIES



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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"Freely you have
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Matthew 10:8

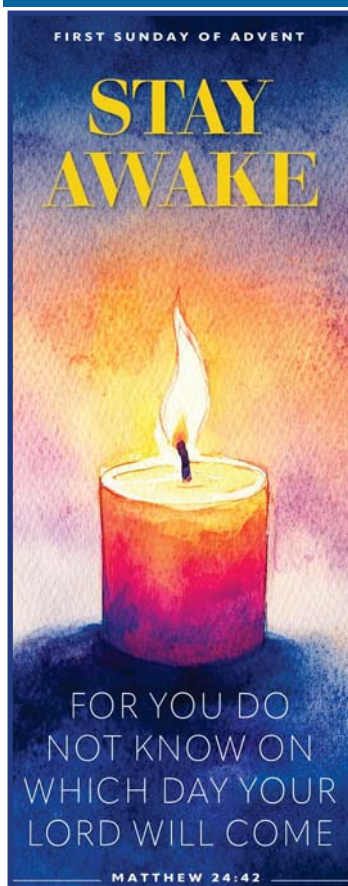
PARISH STAFF

Nancy T. Cunniff x203 781-828-5130*Confirmation, Religious Education**7-10 & Parish Communications*ncunniff@cantoncatholic.org**Lorraine Olsen-Viola 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, November 29**

9:00am~ Leona & Frank Bianski,

Memorial

4:00pm~ Warner Lund, Memorial

Sunday, November 30

8:00am~

10:00am~ Krystina & Boleslaw Kedra,

Memorial

12:00pm~ Nicholas Nastasi, Memorial

5:00pm~ Gloria & Fernando Iglesias,

Memorial

Monday, December 1

9:00am~

Tuesday, December 2

9:00am~

Wednesday, December 3

9:00am~

Thursday, December 4

9:00am~ Mabel & John Miller, Memorial

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

Friday, December 5

9:00am~ SJS School Families

Saturday, December 6

9:00am~ Gardner Lakin, Jr. Memorial

4:00pm~ Neil & Edna MacDonald, Memorial

Sunday, December 7

8:00am~ James C. Sherlock, III, Memorial

10:00am~ Francisco Andrade, Memorial

12:00pm~ Michael McCarthy, Memorial

5:00pm~

Prayers and Sympathy



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

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



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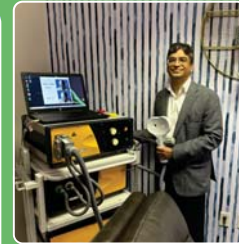


"Jesus Wept." John 11:35

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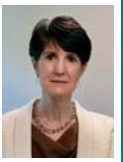
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