



# St. Oscar Romero Parish

700 Washington Street, Canton, MA 02021 | Website: [www.cantoncatholic.org](http://www.cantoncatholic.org)

Parish Office: 781-828-0090 | Email: [welcome@cantoncatholic.org](mailto:welcome@cantoncatholic.org)



FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

## THEY SHALL NAME HIM EMMANUEL

MATTHEW 1:23



### 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](mailto: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](http://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](mailto: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](mailto:jptjr2@gmail.com) for more information.



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

### *Dear Friends,*

On this fourth and final Sunday of Advent, our thoughts turn toward Christmas. The preparations for our upcoming Christmas Masses are not unlike the efforts of a family preparing for its Christmas gathering. Volunteers and staff have been decorating our church and grounds. Adult and children's choirs have been rehearsing. Lectors, altar servers, and ushers are preparing to accommodate the large congregations. Whether you attend Mass on Christmas Eve or Christmas morning, we hope your participation in the liturgy enhances your sense of joy as we welcome the long-awaited Messiah into our world and hearts.

Thank you for your generosity to last weekend's annual appeal to support the good works of our St. Vincent de Paul Society. As of Monday morning, contributions have surpassed \$10,000. I am pleased to report that four parishioners were sufficiently moved by the previous weekend's witness talks by St. Vincent members and have joined our conference.

Please note the Christmas Eve and Christmas Day Mass schedule in this bulletin. If you plan to attend the 4:00 pm Vigil Mass, please arrive early enough to find parking and seating. It will also enable you to enjoy the pre-Mass Christmas caroling.

Lastly, the Christmas collection taken up across our Archdiocese is for the benefit of the Clergy Trust Funds. They provide for the retirement and health care needs of our priests. I can attest to the degree to which many of these men, now residing at Regina Cleri (Boston's home for retired and disabled priests), remember your generosity in their prayers.

Yours in Christ,  
*Fr. Tom*

### *Christmas Mass Schedule*



**Christmas Eve - 4:00 pm\* (Youth & Junior Choirs)  
6:30 pm\* (Adult Choir)**  
*\* Pre-Mass Christmas Carols*

**Christmas Day - 9:00 am and 11:00 am**

***\*\*Please note there will be no 9:00 am Mass  
on December 26 or 27.***



Our Youth Ministry invites the parish to share Christ's love through the Advent Giving Tree at the church entrance. Take a gift tag, purchase the suggested item, and return it **unwrapped with the tag attached**.

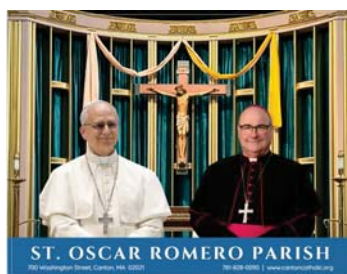
Please place gifts under the tree by **December 22** so they may be delivered in time for Christmas. Thank you for making the light of Christ visible through your generosity.

## The Parish Calendar Has Arrived!

Our 2026 Annual Parish Calendar is here and can be picked up at the entrance of the church.

Each month holds joyful photos of our very active parish: moments of prayer, fellowship, service, and celebration. It's more than dates on a page—it's a reminder of the life we share in Christ and the many ways His light shines through our community.

May this calendar accompany you through the seasons ahead, helping you recall not only parish events but also the blessings of belonging to a family of faith.



## Sacrament of Baptism We Welcome you with great joy!



Left to right Father Jeremy, Rian O'Mahony, Alessia Meehan, Christopher Oettgen, and twin girls Rose and Penelope Cogswell.

## With Gratitude and Joy

As our **Awaken the Heart Advent Series** concludes, we extend heartfelt thanks to all who joined us in prayer, reflection, music, and service. Together, we opened our hearts to God's presence, shared His love with one another, and reached out in compassion to those most in need.

Throughout these evenings, we walked with **Mary on her Advent journey**—awakening our hearts to God's call, learning to see with the heart, and embracing the joy of giving from the heart. Like Mary, who continued to prepare herself to welcome Christ with faith and love, we too remain on the path of readiness, opening our hearts more fully each day as Christmas draws near.

Through Scripture, song, and simple acts of kindness, we discover anew that when we awaken the heart, we find God's love alive among us. May the grace of this journey continue to inspire us as we celebrate the birth of our Savior and carry His presence into the world.



*May Mary's journey of faith guide us to awaken our hearts with hope, see with love, and give with joy—so that Christ's light may shine through us this Christmas!*

Last Saturday evening, the parish choir lifted hearts with **Night of the Father's Love**, a beautiful Christmas Cantata. Children from the parish and school brought the Nativity story to life through traditional tableaux, staged at meaningful moments throughout the presentation. Their reverent performances were a wonderful complement to the music and slide presentation, creating a moving and prayerful experience for all.



## *Nativity Cantata*



Last Sunday morning, our Faith Formation team hosted **Rejoice! An Advent Celebration**. During the Mass, the children presented the infant Jesus from their nativity scene for a special blessing. After Mass, families gathered to share in the fun of gingerbread cookie decorating and a Nativity craft for children, filling the parish hall with laughter, creativity, and the joy of Advent.



## Gingerbreadfest



## 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](mailto:tsrafferty@cantoncatholic.org)

**Rev. Jeremy Wagner, x322**

*Parochial Vicar*

[jwagner@cantoncatholic.org](mailto:jwagner@cantoncatholic.org)

**Deacon Daniel C. Nelson,**

**THM, D. Min. x325**

*Spiritual Director*

[dcn785@aol.com](mailto:dcn785@aol.com)

### NEW QR CODE



ParishSOFT

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](mailto:ncunniff@cantoncatholic.org)

**Lorraine Olsen-Viola x316**

*Offertory, Donations & Online Giving*

[lolsen-viola@cantoncatholic.org](mailto:lolsen-viola@cantoncatholic.org)

**Mike Mahan x304 or 617-460-2800**

*Youth Ministry & Outreach Programs*

[mike@cantoncatholic.org](mailto:mike@cantoncatholic.org)

**Barbara McKenney x311**

*Ministry Coordinator, St. Mary*

*Cemetery & Sacramental Inquiries*

[bmckenney@cantoncatholic.org](mailto:bmckenney@cantoncatholic.org)

**Erin Sullivan x305 781-828-5130**

*First Communion, First Reconciliation*

*& Religious Education 1-6*

[erin@cantoncatholic.org](mailto:erin@cantoncatholic.org)

**Maggie Rubenacker x312**

*Finance, Operations & HR*

[mrubenacker@cantoncatholic.org](mailto:mrubenacker@cantoncatholic.org)

**Maria White x216**

*Music Ministry: Youth, Junior &*

*Adult Choirs*

[mwhite@cantoncatholic.org](mailto:mwhite@cantoncatholic.org)

### PARISH SCHOOL

**Chris Flieger, Ed.D.**

*Principal*

[chris.flieger@sjscanton.org](mailto:chris.flieger@sjscanton.org)

**Anne Guerini x315**

*School Finance Office*

**Dora Foster**

*Administrative Assistant*

[dora.foster@sjscanton.org](mailto:dora.foster@sjscanton.org)

**St. John School**

781-828-2130 [www.sjscanton.org](http://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



*Emmanuel*



### Saturday, December 20

9:00am~Addie Sullivan, Memorial

4:00pm~Warner Lund, Memorial

### Sunday, December 21

8:00am~

10:00am~Giuseppe Guarino, Month's Mind

12:00pm~Jeanne & Ernest Cavanaugh &

Margaret MacDonald, Memorial

5:00pm~Members of the Burgess and

Families, Memorial

### Monday, December 22

9:00am~Alice Ogalin, Memorial

### Tuesday, December 23

9:00am~Robert Lombard, Memorial

### Wednesday, December 24

9:00am~

4:00pm~Christmas Eve

6:30pm~Christmas Eve

### Thursday, December 25

9:00am~Christmas Day

11:00am~Christmas Day

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

### Friday, December 26

9:00am~NO Mass

### Saturday, December 27

9:00am~NO Mass

4:00pm~John Ann & Joseph Hogan,  
Memorial

### Sunday, December 28

8:00am~John Ferrara, Memorial

10:00am~Christine Gallery,

Birthday Remembrance

12:00pm~Michael Counterman, Memorial

5:00pm~

### Prayers and Sympathy

**Joseph Foley, Jr.**

**James Walsh, Jr.**

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](mailto:bulletin@cantoncatholic.org)



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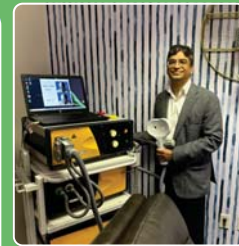
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