

4th

SUNDAY OF LENT

“Brothers and sisters: You were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Live as children of light, for light produces every kind of goodness and righteousness and truth. Try to learn what is pleasing to the Lord.”

(Eph 5:8-10)



**St. Veronica Parish, a publication of
St. Malachy & St. Margaret Churches
March 15, 2026**

"As a Roman Catholic faith community, we seek to follow the example of St. Veronica who carried the image of Christ always with her. Through fellowship, service and acts of mercy we walk as disciples in Christ's mission together seeking an ever-deeper relationship with God through prayer, education, sacraments, and the celebration of the Eucharist."

Dear Saint Veronica Parishioners,

Last Sunday, this Sunday and next Sunday, the gospel passages are from St. John and they develop three central themes of our experience of Jesus that are particularly important for the catechumens – those adults who are preparing to be baptized during Easter: Last Sunday - Jesus, the Living Water (the Samaritan woman), this Sunday – Jesus, the Light of the World (the man born blind), and next Sunday – Jesus, the New Life (raising of Lazarus). In today's Gospel we see two types of blindness - Physical blindness with the man born blind and Spiritual blindness with the Pharisees. The second is far worse than the first. The Pharisees actually have a double blindness! Not only are they spiritually blind, but they are also blind to the fact of their blindness. Their blindness prevents them from seeing Jesus as Lord and Shepherd: as one who "looks into the heart". Jesus IS the Light of the World. He opens our eyes to see the greatness of our God. As we continue our journey of Lent, let us ask the Lord to heal whatever blindness we may have so we will live as true Disciples In Mission.

Lent is a Penitential Season. We will continue to offer Confessions on Friday evenings from 6:00 – 7:00 at St. Malachy and on Saturday afternoons from 2:30 to 3:30 p.m. at St. Margaret. Open yourself to God's loving forgiveness. Sister Lisa spoke about that so beautifully last week during our Parish Lenten Mission. **What are the qualities of a good confession?** A good confession is humble, sincere and complete. It's humble when we accuse ourselves of our sins with a deep sorrow for having offended the Lord while imploring his loving mercy. It's sincere when we tell all of our sins honestly and truthfully, without exaggerating or excusing them. It's complete when we confess all of our mortal sins. **How do I grow in contrition?** There are two types of contrition: sorrow over hurting ones we love (called perfect contrition) and sorrow over getting caught or over the punishment that comes because of sin (imperfect contrition). We should ask God to help us achieve that perfect contrition in which we are sorry for having wounded the God who loves us and whom we should love in return. Meditation on the consequence of our sins - Christ's brutal death on

the Cross - often helps us to grow toward perfect contrition.

During the Fridays of Lent, at 3:30 p.m. we celebrate Stations of the Cross. We alternate churches each week. This Friday will be at St. Malachy.

Please keep Fr. Tom Stanton in your prayers! Fr. Tom had a Total Hip Replacement 2 weeks ago. It looks like he will be out recovering for at least 4 more weeks or longer. He is rehabbing at Regina Cleri in Boston which our retirement home for Boston Priests. He is hoping to return to Burlington very soon to finish his recovery.

Thank you so much to all who came to our Lenten Parish Mission this past week. Sister Lisa Valentini was our Leader. She is a dynamic speaker and encouraged each of us to experience God's love in a new way this Lent. She was well received by so many during the three evenings and the two mornings when she spoke after the daily Masses. Her message was simple and very much needed to be heard by all of us - God loves you, God loves you, God REALLY loves you! There were a number of people who asked me for her address to write to her and some wanted to support her mission trips. She can be reached at: Sister Lisa Valentini, MSC. Chevalier House. 43 Seminary Avenue. Reading, PA 19605. Email: sisterlisa1@hotmail.com. Website: mscreading.org She is a member of "The Missionary Sisters of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus" (MSC). She asks that all pray for Vocations.

Videos of the 3 day Lenten Mission are now available on our YouTube Channel. If you go to our website and click on the YouTube Live Stream link it will bring to our channel. If you would like any of the materials from the 3 day mission please email apye@stveronicaparish.org or call 781-272-5111 and we will mail you the materials.

Let us pray for each other. God bless,

Father Mahoney

“Welcome to St Veronica Parish. Here we are all invited to grow in our relationship with God and to know God’s presence through faith, hope, love and ministry.”

MASS Intentions

Saturday, March 14

9:00 am **St Margaret, (Communion Service)**
All Dignan, Hanafin & Blood Families
Memorial

4:00 pm **St. Malachy**
Jack Krueger 3rd Anniversary

4:30 pm **St. Margaret**
Paul J. Mackey 13th Anniversary

Sunday, March 15

8:00 am **St. Margaret**
Ed. MacPhail Memorial

10:00 am **St. Malachy**
Eileen Bakey 5th Anniversary

12:00 pm **St. Margaret**
Joseph Stanowicz Birthday Memorial
& Mary Stanowicz 3rd Anniversary

Monday, March 16, (Communion Service)

9:00 am **St. Malachy**
Nancy Saia & Deceased Members of
The Saia & Grassi Families Memorial

Tuesday, March 17, (Communion Service)

9:00 am **St. Margaret**
Paul O’Meara Memorial

Wednesday, March 18

9:00 am **St Malachy**
Maria, Alice & Francisco Soares
Memorial

Thursday, March 19

9:00am **St Margaret Church**
Bernard Vient Memorial

Friday, March 20

9:00 am **St. Malachy**
Mercedes Rey 4th Anniversary
& Pedro Rey Memorial

Saturday, March 21

9:00 am **St Margaret, (Communion Service)**
Janice O’Malley 5th Anniversary

4:00 pm **St. Malachy**
Mario Amodeo 43rd Anniversary

4:30 pm **St. Margaret**
Donald Glasser Birthday Memorial
& Polly Glasser Memorial

Sunday, March 22

8:00 am **St. Margaret**
Maria Angelina Costa Memorial

10:00 am **St. Malachy**
Charlene & Raymond York
Memorial

12:00 pm **St. Margaret**
Claire Putnicki Memorial

READINGS, SAINTS, OBSERVANCES 2026

	<i>4th Sunday of Lent</i>
SUNDAY Mar 15	1 Sm 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a/Ps 23: 1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6/Eph 5:8-14/Jn 9:1-41 or 9:1, 6-9, 13-17, 34-38
MONDAY Mar 16	Is 65:17-21/Ps 30:2+4, 5-6, 11-12a+13b/Jn 4:43-54
TUESDAY Mar 17	<i>Saint Patrick, Bishop</i> Ez 47:1-9, 12/Ps 46:2-3, 5-6, 8-9/Jn 5:1-16
WEDNESDAY Mar 18	<i>Saint Cyril of Jerusalem, Bishop and Doctor of the Church</i> Is 49:8-15/Ps 145:8-9, 13cd-14, 17-18/Jn 5:17-30
THURSDAY Mar 19	<i>Saint Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary</i> 2 Sm 7:4-5a, 12-14a, 16/Ps 89:2-3, 4-5, 27+29/Rom 4:13, 16-18, 22/Mt 1:16, 18-21, 24 or Lk 2:41-51a
FRIDAY Mar 20	Wis 2:1a, 12-22/Ps 34:17-18, 19-20, 21+23/Jn 7:1-2, 10, 25-30
SATURDAY Mar 21	Jer 11:18-20/Ps 7:2-3, 9bc-10, 11-12/Jn 7:40-53
	<i>5th Sunday of Lent</i>
SUNDAY Mar 22	Ez 37:12-14/Ps 130:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8/Rom 8:8-11/Jn 11:1-45 or 11:3-7, 17, 20-27, 33b-45



Funeral Services were celebrated recently for
**David Dragon, Stella Salvato
& Barbara Meehan**
Kindly include them and their families
in your prayers.
Thank you.

ST VERONICA PARISH FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Weekend of March 8, 2026
Envelopes & In Church: \$11,999
Online: \$5,627
TOTAL: \$17,626

Weekly Budget \$16,153
Income \$17,626
Surplus \$1,473

Month to Date: \$33,263

St. Veronica Building Fund
Envelopes & In Church: \$475
Online: \$348
TOTAL: \$823

Catholic Appeal
Envelopes & In Church: \$2,590
Online: \$754
TOTAL: \$3,344

Easter Flowers
Envelopes & In Church: \$1,180
Online: \$156
TOTAL: \$1,336

Grand Annual Total Amount Pledged
\$186,370

LOWELL TRANSITIONAL CENTER



On Wednesday, **March 18th** we will be supplying meals at the Lowell Transitional Center. Bakers are needed to bring homemade desserts to St. Malachy Church by 12:00pm. on Wednesday.



Our next gathering will be on **Thursday, March 19 at 6:30pm** in the parish hall of St. Malachy's (downstairs from the Chapel of the main church). Last month we were blessed with a handful of new attendees! We have a wonderful community and the growing dedication to this group is truly a blessing. For more information, feel free to reach out to Laurie at 617-680-4448.



Each year, The Catholic Appeal provides the faithful with a way to help support the ministries that support our parishes, our schools, and our communities. This is our Church, and every gift makes a difference. Please consider making your gift today by visiting bostoncatholicappeal.org. Your gift has an immediate impact on our parish and the work of our Church. Thank you in advance for your generosity Our Financial Goal for St. Veronica is: **\$96,000** we have raised **\$21,295** and we are at **23%** of our Financial Goal.

“ *Being a guardian is the distinctive trait of Joseph: Being the guardian is his great mission . . . We look to Joseph as the model educator, who watches over and accompanies Jesus as he grows ‘in wisdom, age and grace,’ as the Gospel says. He was not Jesus’ father: the father of Jesus was God, but he was a father to Jesus, he was a father to Jesus in order to help him grow. And how did he help him grow? In wisdom, age and grace.* ”

—Pope Francis, March 19, 2014





Lent

GIVING THINGS UP FOR LENT

BY FR. LARRY RICE

Ask nearly anyone who grew up Catholic what they're doing for Lent, and they'll probably tell you what they're "giving up" for Lent. The notion of giving up some pleasure for the 40 days of Lent is very much in keeping with the penitential character of the season. Of course, the primary pillars of Lent are prayer, fasting, and almsgiving. All of these are intended to turn our hearts back to God, to purify us, and prepare us for the celebration of Christ's resurrection at Easter. One of the things that the whole Church gives up for Lent is the acclamation "Alleluia", before the proclamation of the Gospel.

Of course, when it comes to giving things up for Lent, people often get into trouble by taking on too much, or by working from the wrong motivation. To take on too much is to set oneself up for failure. Several years ago, I decided to give up both meat and chocolate for Lent. Instead of turning my heart back to God, this only served to make me

irritable, as every bacon cheeseburger or peanut butter cup I encountered began to take on demonic proportions. The following year, I decided that perhaps the spiritual discipline of Lent was what I needed to help me lose 10 pounds by Easter. This was obviously the wrong motivation, because it made my Lenten practice all about me. This discipline is supposed to get us out of ourselves, and back to God. Needless to say, by Easter I still had those 10 pounds, and felt like a failure besides. The gift of humility comes from all sorts of interesting places.

So this year, I'm trying a different tack. For Lent, I'm giving up complaining. I'm also trying to give up a grudge that I've been quietly carrying around since Christmas. I've also given up elevators, as an occasional reminder of my tendency to take the easy path. Time will tell, but I think I might make it all the way to Easter this year.

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GRADES 1, 3-5 SCHEDULE
Family of Faith Gatherings.

4/3 - Live Stations of The Cross at 3:30pm at St. Malachy Church

GRADE 2

First Communion Retreat: 4/12 - 1:30pm - 4:00pm at St. Margaret School Building

First Holy Communion Rehearsal: 5/1 - 7:00pm at St. Margaret Church

First Holy Communion Mass: 5/2 - 12:00pm at St. Margaret Church

First Holy Communion Rehearsal: 5/15 - 7:00pm at St. Malachy Church

First Holy Communion Mass: 5/16 - 12:00pm at St. Malachy Church

GRADES 6 & 7

Live Stations of The Cross: Good Friday, 4/3 at 3:30pm at St. Malachy Church

CONFIRMATION: GRADES 8 & 9

CONFIRMATION RETREAT:
MAY 9th 9am - 5pm
AT ST. MARGARET SCHOOL

CONFIRMATION WILL BE MAY 19th
AT ST. MARGARET CHURCH

Grade 8 at 5:00pm
Grade 9 at 7:00pm

HIGH SCHOOL PROGRAM FOR GRADES 10-12
Class runs from 5-6 PM.

Grade 12 please see scholarship applications on our website.

4/12/2026 Marian Apparitions

LAETARE SUNDAY

The Fourth Sunday of Lent is the midpoint and known as Laetare Sunday. Laetare means “rejoice” and the Church expresses hope and joy in the middle of our penitential Lenten practices. Rose is the color of rejoicing, so you might see your priest wearing rose colored vestments this Sunday!



Ministries

Interested in helping out? Please look to our Ministry page on our website: www.stveronicama.org. We have plenty of ways for you to get involved, meet new friends and help build a better and stronger parish community.



Helping Hands Highlight



Each week, we celebrate the people and partners who make our mission possible. Today, we are shining a light on: **St. Veronica Parish.**

St. Veronica Parish most recently held a successful food drive during their weekend Masses. Not only did they collect food, they also raised over \$1,000 for PHP.

The generosity of the St. Veronica Parish community continues to make a meaningful impact for Burlington neighbors who rely on PHP. We are incredibly grateful for their ongoing support and kindness.

We are grateful for community partners who support our mission: *To establish and sustain a community-wide effort to help meet the basic needs of residents of Burlington, Massachusetts.*



Holy Thursday ~ April 2

No 9:00 am Mass

7:00 pm - Mass of the Lord's Supper at St. Malachy Church

Good Friday ~ April 3

No 9:00 am Mass

3:30 pm Live Stations of The Cross at St. Malachy Church

{NOTE: There are NO confessions Friday evening at St. Malachy Church}

7:00 pm - Commemoration of The Lord's Passion at St. Malachy Church

Holy Saturday ~ April 4

No 9:00 am Mass

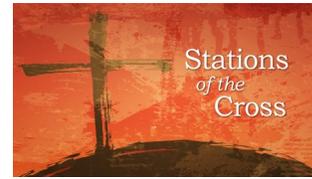
{NOTE: There are NO confessions Saturday afternoon at St. Margaret Church} NO 4:00 or 4:30 pm Vigil Masses

7:30 pm Easter Vigil Mass at St. Malachy Church

EASTER ~ April 5
Sunday Masses

St. Margaret Church
8:00 am & 12:00 pm

St. Malachy Church
10:00 am



STATIONS OF THE CROSS AT ST MALACHY CHURCH MARCH 20

During the season of Lent we will celebrate the Stations of the Cross every Friday at 3:30pm. For those wishing to pray the stations on Friday evenings go to our website and click on the link for "Stations of The Cross".

March 27th St Margaret Church
April 3rd St Malachy Church
Good Friday Live Stations of the Cross

**THE PRAYER HOPE LINE:
781-273-HOPE (4673)**

Are you or someone you know in need of a prayer? Do you know someone who is ill or perhaps suffering with an emotional problem? Give a call to the **Prayer Hope Line at 781-273-4673**. When you call, listen to the prayer and then state your personal request, for example: 'Kindly pray for John who has cancer' or 'Pray for Mary who is having surgery', etc. Please do not leave full names or phone numbers on the Prayer Hope Line. Members of the Catholic parish communities in Burlington will be honored to include your intentions in their prayers.

Devote yourselves to prayer, being watchful and thankful. (Colossians 4:2)



PARISH CLERGY

Rev. James M Mahoney Pastor
Rev Thomas J. Stanton Parochial Vicar
Deacon Dick Bilotta Senior Deacon
Deacon Jack Minch Deacon
Deacon John Ippolito Transitional Deacon
 (from Pope St. John XXIII Seminary)

PARISH COUNCIL

Bernard Arokiaraj **Helen Lanagan**
Peter Dutton **Andrea Lamb**
Rose Hackett **Cynthia McNamara**
Diane Reale **Jim Shannon**

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Marcia Aulenback **Joanne Mackey**
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deaconbilotta@stveronicaparish.org

Saint Malachy Church

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Tel: 781-272-5111
Fax: 781-270-9407

www.stveronicama.org
stveronica@stveronicaparish.org

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Thursday 9:30 am - 2:30 pm

MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday Vigil: 4:00 pm
 Sunday 10:00 am

Monday, Wednesday & Friday: 9:00 am

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION (CONFESSIONS)

Friday: 6:00 - 7:00 pm (chapel)

Saint Margaret Church

111 Winn Street, Burlington, MA 01803
Tel: 781-272-3111

www.stveronicama.org
stveronica@stveronicaparish.org

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Friday 10:00 am - 3:00 pm

MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday Vigil: 4:30 pm
 Sunday: 8:00 am; and 12:00 pm

Tuesday, Thursday & Saturday: 9:00 am

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION (CONFESSIONS)

Saturday: 2:30 - 3:30 pm (lower church)

THE PRAYER HOPE LINE:
781-273-HOPE (4673)

EMAIL LIST

If would like to receive St. Veronica emails please
 send your name and email address to:
stveronica@stveronicaparish.org



Like us on Facebook @
 St. Veronica Parish!