

**St. Veronica Parish, a publication of
St. Malachy & St. Margaret Churches
March 22, 2026**

*"I am the resurrection and the life; whoever believes in me,
even if he dies, will live, and everyone who lives and believes
in me will never die. Do you believe this?" John 11:25-26*

*5
Sunday of Lent*

"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,

Today's Gospel reading recounts another miracle: the raising of Lazarus. Today's reading invites us to reflect upon what it means to call Jesus the Resurrection and the life. Even though Easter is still two weeks away, John's Gospel today calls us to acknowledge Jesus' power over death. We see that in the raising of Lazarus. We also anticipate Jesus' conquering of death once and for all in his death and Resurrection at Easter. Catechumens across the Archdiocese and the world are preparing for their Baptism at Easter. Today's Gospel calls us to reflect on Baptism as a dying and rising with Jesus. In Baptism we die to sin's power over us, rising as children of God. In Baptism we join ourselves with Christ, who conquered death so that we may have eternal life. With Martha and Mary, we are called to profess our belief that Jesus is indeed the Resurrection and the life.

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. I know mortal sins must be confessed, but should I also confess the venial sins I'm aware of? The Church strongly recommends that we confess our everyday faults (venial sins) because it can help us "to form our conscience, fight against evil tendencies (patterns of weakness that can lead us to sin) ... be healed by Christ and progress in the life of the Spirit. (CCC 1458; CIC 988). Confession of our venial sins shows our hatred of all sin because even venial sins are against the love of God and neighbor.

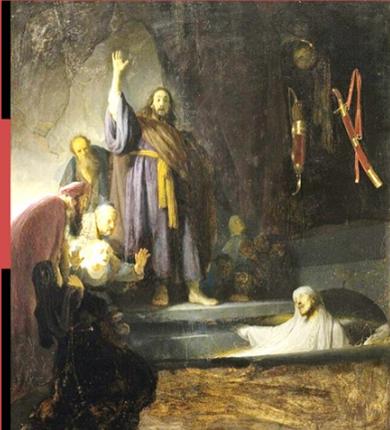
During the Fridays of Lent, at 3:30 p.m. we celebrate Stations of the Cross. We alternate churches each week. This Friday, March 27, will be at St. Margaret. Lenten Practices: Fridays of Lent are days of abstinence.

ABSTINENCE is observed by all 14 years of age and older. On days of abstinence, no meat is allowed. Note that when health or ability to work would be seriously affected, the law does not oblige.

Fasting, almsgiving, and prayer are the three traditional disciplines of Lent. The faithful and catechumens should undertake these practices seriously in a spirit of penance and of preparation for baptism or of renewal of baptism at Easter.

Please continue to keep Fr. Tom Stanton in your prayers! Fr. Tom is recovering well after his Total Hip Replacement 3 weeks ago. He has returned to the Rectory and continues to rehab here in Burlington. It looks like he will be out recovering for a few more weeks. If all goes well, he might have a "Fr. Tom Sighting" around Easter.

Let us pray for each other. God bless,
Father Mahoney



THIS WEEK'S GOSPEL LESSON

JOHN 11:1-45

The Raising of Lazarus
by Rembrandt (1606 - 1669)

“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 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

Monday, March 23, (Communion Service)

9:00 am **St. Malachy**
Karen Trickett Memorial

Tuesday, March 24, (Communion Service)

9:00 am **St. Margaret**
Mary, Clarence, Dick & Christine Westberg and Grace & Santo Patti Memorial
& Dick Patti Mass for The Living

Wednesday, March 25

9:00 am **St Malachy**
Mass for All Parishioner's of St. Veronica Parish

Thursday, March 26

9:00am **St Margaret Church**
Helen Consolazio Month’s Mind

Friday, March 27

9:00 am **St. Malachy**
Sara Russo 38th Anniversary

Saturday, March 28

9:00 am **St Margaret, (Communion Service)**
Marie & Frederic George and Freddie George Memorial

4:00 pm **St. Malachy**
Joseph Fischenich Birthday Memorial

4:30 pm **St. Margaret**
John & Mary Conti Memorial

Sunday, March 29

8:00 am **St. Margaret**
Al Hodgin 6th Anniversary

10:00 am **St. Malachy**
Maureen Butler Maranian 4th Anniversary

12:00 pm **St. Margaret**
Joseph Nacinovich Memorial

READINGS, SAINTS, OBSERVANCES 2026

SUNDAY Mar 22	5th Sunday of Lent 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
MONDAY Mar 23	Saint Turibius of Mogrovejo, Bishop Dn 13:1-9, 15-17, 19-30, 33-62 or 13:41c-62/Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6/Jn 8:1-11
TUESDAY Mar 24	Nm 21:4-9/Ps 102:2-3, 16-18, 19-21/Jn 8:21-30
WEDNESDAY Mar 25	Solemnity of the Annunciation of the Lord Is 7:10-14; 8:10/Ps 40:7-8a, 8b-9, 10, 11/Heb 10:4-10/Lk 1:26-38
THURSDAY Mar 26	Gn 17:3-9/Ps 105:4-5, 6-7, 8-9/Jn 8:51-59
FRIDAY Mar 27	Jer 20:10-13/Ps 18:2-3a, 3bc-4, 5-6, 7/Jn 10:31-42
SATURDAY Mar 28	Ez 37:21-28/Jer 31:10, 11-12abcd, 13/Jn 11:45-56
SUNDAY Mar 29	Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord Mt 21:1-11/Is 50:4-7/Ps 22:8-9, 17-18, 19-20, 23-24/Phil 2:6-11/Mt 26:14—27:66 or 27:11-54



A funeral service was celebrated recently for **Shirley Moreno**. Kindly include her and her family in your prayers. Thank you.

**ST VERONICA PARISH
FINANCIAL SUPPORT**

Weekend of March 15, 2026

Envelopes & In Church: \$8,305
Online: \$3,981
TOTAL: \$12,286

Weekly Budget \$16,153
Income \$12,286
Deficit -\$3,867

Month to Date: \$45,549

St. Veronica Building Fund
Envelopes & In Church: \$4,656
Online: \$634
TOTAL: \$5,290

Easter Flowers
Envelopes & In Church: \$448
Online: \$35
TOTAL: \$483

Lenten Mission with Sister Lisa
TOTAL: \$3,303

Grand Annual Total Amount Pledged
\$186,470



2026 Catholic Appeal

Our community is at its strongest when we come together in our faith to act as one. Your contribution to the Catholic Appeal unifies us in our mission to share the love of Christ and bring hope to thousands of lives in our Archdiocese. Together We are One... in Faith, in Hope, in Christ. Thank you for your generous gift. If you haven't done so already, we invite you to prayerfully consider making a generous gift. To make an online pledge, please visit www.bostoncatholicappeal.org. Thank you for your support of the 2026 Catholic Appeal. Our parish has already reached **\$31,975** which is **33%** of our goal of \$96,000 and, together, we are on our way to greater success. (This does not include the Catholic Appeal Second Collection a couple weeks ago which was mailed to the Appeal Office – it will take a little while for them to update us and all the parishes in the Archdiocese on that.) On behalf of Archbishop Henning and all who benefit from your generosity, Thank you.

PRAYER SHAWLS AVAILABLE

Is there someone special you've been holding in prayer? Perhaps a friend facing illness or surgery, a parishioner who has lost a loved one, or a neighbor who is going through a difficult time or is home bound?

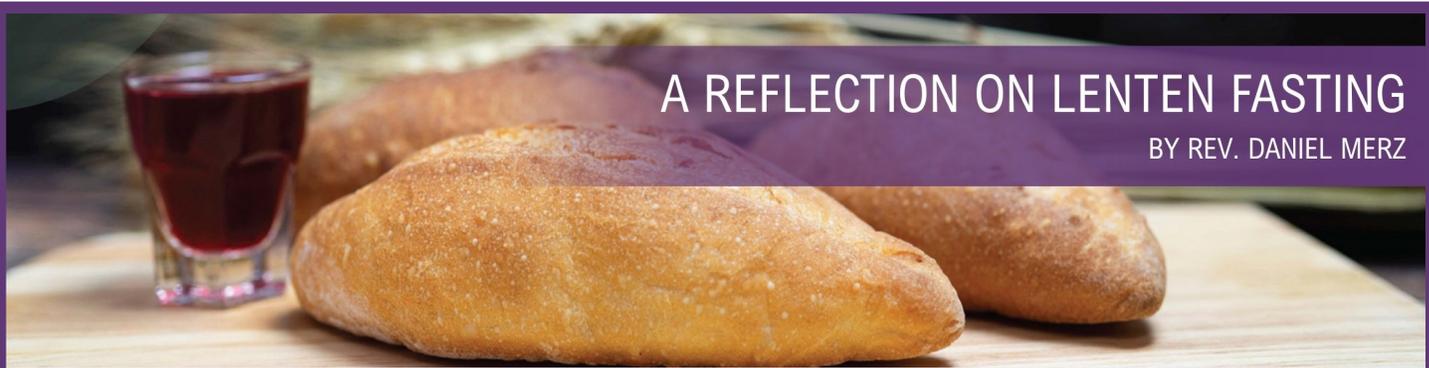
Our ministry knits and crochets beautiful shawls to be given to *anyone* who could use a special reminder of the warmth and comfort of God's love. Every shawl is unique and colorful, stitched with prayers and blessings for the future recipient with following prayer enclosed.

“May the one who receives this shawl be cradled in hope, kept in joy, graced with peace, and wrapped in love.”

Please call either rectory if you have someone you would like to receive this beautiful gift.
 (Donations appreciated.)



Women and Men of Faith... *Everyone (all ages) is invited* to our next gathering on **Thursday, April 16 at 6:30pm** in the church hall at St. Malachy's. Our guest speaker will be our very own **Deacon John Ippolito**. He will soon be ordained as a priest! We are blessed to have him join us. We hope many of you are able to come support Deacon John - bring the whole family! No sign-up is needed - just show up. Any questions, please contact Laurie at 617-680-4448.



A REFLECTION ON LENTEN FASTING

BY REV. DANIEL MERZ

In the early Church and, to a lesser extent still today, there were two fasts. There was the "total fast" that preceded all major feasts or sacramental events. The ancient name for this fast was "statio" from the verb "sto, stare" to stand watch, on guard or in vigil. The second fast was a fast of abstinence from certain foods, e.g., meats or fats. This was more an act of self-discipline and self-control. The *statio* fast was total and a means of watching and waiting ... i.e. *for* something. The fast of abstinence was more general and personal, to help oneself be more disciplined or self-controlled. The total fast is still kept today prior to reception of Holy Communion. Following Holy Communion, the total fast ceases because Jesus had explicitly stated that we don't fast when the bridegroom is here, in other words, what we're keeping vigil for has arrived, the wait is over. On the other hand, the fast of abstinence was allowed on Sundays because the continuity of abstinence can be important for it to be effective.

These initial observations, then, teach us that the Eucharist is always the end of a preparation. It is always the fulfillment of an expectation. In the Orthodox Church during Lent, they have Eucharist only on Saturday and Sunday. But because Wednesdays and Fridays are total fast days, those two days are also days for the Communion service (Liturgy of the

PreSanctified) which are held in the evening, i.e., after the day of preparation. Fasting is always preparatory.

But how did *fasting* become such an important means of preparing for the Eucharist and of learning virtue through self-discipline? Christian fasting is revealed in an interdependence between two events in the Bible: the "breaking of the fast" by Adam and Eve; and the "keeping of the fast" by Christ at the beginning of his ministry.

Humanity's "Fall" away from God and into sin began with eating. God had proclaimed a fast from the fruit of only one tree, the tree of knowledge of good and evil (Gen. 2: 17), and Adam and Eve broke it. Fasting is here connected with the very mystery of life and death, of salvation and damnation. Food perpetuates life in this physical world, which is subject to decay and death. But God "created no death." (Wis. 1:13) Humanity, in Adam and Eve, rejected a life dependent on God alone for one that was dependent rather on "bread alone." (Dt. 8:3; Mt. 4:4; Lk. 4:4)

The whole world was given to man as a kind of food, as a means to life, but "life" is meant as communion with God, not as food. ("Their god is their belly." Phil. 3:19) The tragedy is not so much that Adam ate food, but that he ate the food for its own sake, "apart" from God and to be independent of Him. Believing that food

had life in itself and thus he could be "like God." And he put his faith in food. This kind of existence seems to be built on the principle that man does indeed live "by bread alone."

Christ, however, is the new Adam. At the beginning of his ministry in the Gospel of Matthew, we read, "When He had fasted 40 days and 40 nights, He became hungry." Hunger is that state in which we realize our dependence on something else-when we face the ultimate question: "on what does my life depend?" Satan tempted both Adam and Christ, saying: Eat, for your hunger is proof that you depend entirely on food, that your life is in food. Adam believed and ate. Christ said, "Man does NOT live by bread alone." (Mt. 4:4; Lk. 4:4) This liberates us from total dependence on food, on matter, on the world. Thus, for the Christian, fasting is the only means by which man recovers his true spiritual nature. In order for fasting to be effective, then, the spirit must be a part of it. Christian fasting is not concerned with losing weight. It is a matter of prayer and the spirit. And because of that, because it is truly a place of the spirit, true fasting may well lead to temptation, and weakness and doubt and irritation. In other words, it will be a real fight between good and evil, and very likely we shall fail many times in these battles. But the very discovery of the Christian life as "fight" and "effort" is an essential aspect of fasting.



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

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

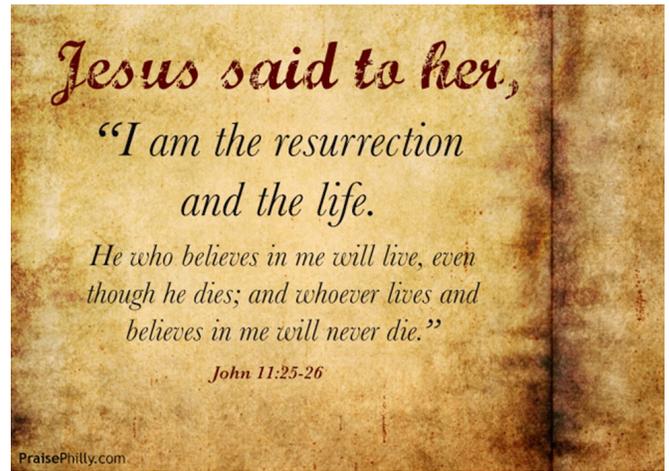
CONFIRMATION WILL BE MAY 19th
AT ST. MARGARET CHURCH

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



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.

LENT and Letting Go



Let go of bitterness. Embrace forgiveness.



Let go of jealousy. Embrace gratitude.



Let go of anger & hate. Embrace charity.



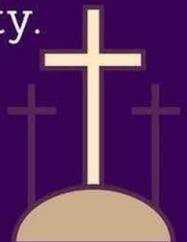
Let go of pride. Embrace humility.



Let go of lust. Embrace purity.



Let go of sins. Embrace GOD.



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

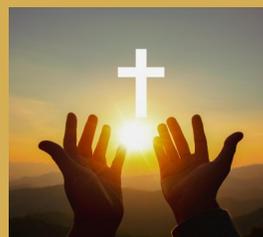


**STATIONS OF THE CROSS AT
ST MARGARET CHURCH
MARCH 27**

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".

April 3rd St Malachy Church
Good Friday Live Stations of the Cross

O God, by whose wonderous grace we are enriched with every blessing, grant us so to pass from former ways to newness of life, that we may



be made ready for the glory of the heavenly Kingdom. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, forever and ever. Amen

**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)



GOOD FRIDAY COLLECTION

Good Friday's collection for the Holy Land is, in the words of Paul VI, "not only for the Holy Places but above all for those pastoral, charitable, educational and social works which the Church supports in the Holy Land for the welfare of their Christian brethren and of the local communities.

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 (from Pope St. John XXIII Seminary)	Transitional Deacon For the Archdiocese of New York

PARISH COUNCIL

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

FINANCE COUNCIL

Marcia Aulenback	Joanne Mackey
William Corrigan	Scott Morency

PARISH STAFF

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Carly Reidy	Administrative Assistant creidy@stveronicaparish.org
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Joanne Mackey	Grades 10, 11 & 12 11-12reled@stveronicaparish.org
William M. Donahue	Director of Music (St. Margaret Church) wdonahue@stveronicaparish.org
Daniel Mainardi	Director of Music (St. Malachy Church) dmainardi@stveronicaparish.org
Gary Dew	Facilities Manager 781-221-0335

OCIA CLASSES contact Deacon Dick Bilotta at:
deaconbilotta@stveronicaparish.org

Saint Malachy Church

99 Bedford Street, Burlington, MA 01803
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)



Like us on Facebook @
St. Veronica Parish!

EMAIL LIST

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