

St. Veronica Parish, a publication of
St. Malachy & St. Margaret Churches
August 30, 2026

22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

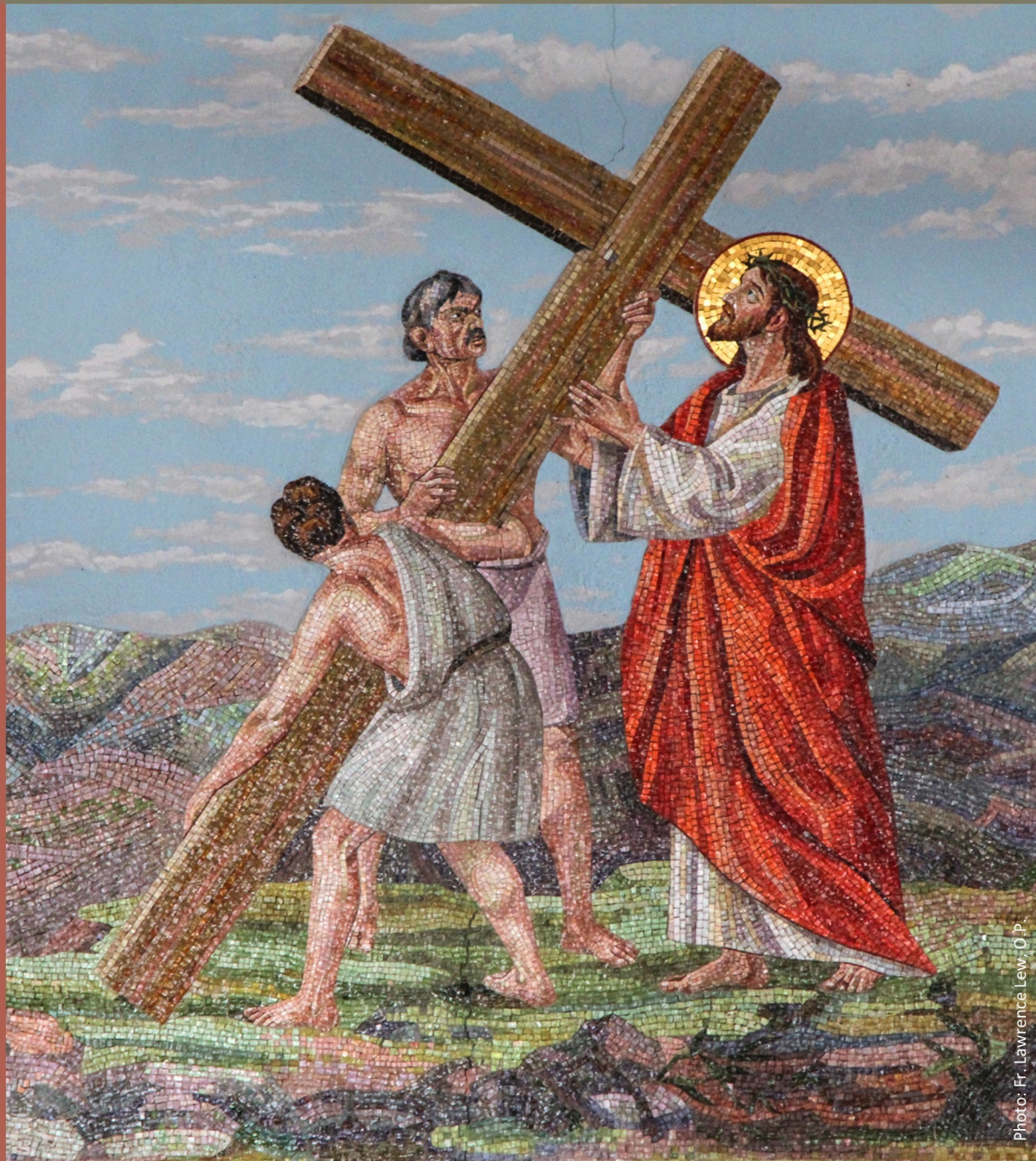


Photo: Fr. Lawrence Lew, O.P.

Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself,
take up his cross, and follow me. Matthew 16:25

"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 can sound a bit negative, more like bad news than good news. We have to "deny ourselves and take up our cross." "Whoever wishes to save their life will lose it." And so on. Actually, this is a very hopeful Gospel. There's a truth we have to come to terms with, because it's one of those "laws of life." It is this: On this earth, everything that blossoms, dies. The child in the womb doesn't want to leave there, and has to "die" to that comfortable life in order to be born into infancy. But infancy too will "die," and the infant is born into childhood. Then childhood dies and a person is born into adulthood. And that dies as you move into old age. And finally, you die, and you are born into the life that never dies. All the good things in life, even though they die, are signs of the life that never dies – the new life in Christ. Sometimes along the way we have to die to our dreams, our urges, our wants, our preferences, our inclinations, even our sinfulness. But we believe that in dying, something good is born. So here we are approaching Labor Day next weekend. The Summer will "die", so to speak, and the kids have or are returning school. The summer is giving way to Fall with its colorful trees... and Fall will give way to Winter with those same trees beautifully covered with snow... and Winter will give way to Spring with new life everywhere... and on it goes. Everything that blossoms dies, and gives birth to something new. Like Peter in today's Gospel we, too, will falter and fail from time to time. We never give up hope. Like Peter, through the grace of God, we shall become new again with greater fervor in our faith and the way we live it.

There is a prayer to Saint Peter that goes back to the Carolingian era, perhaps as far back as the Ninth Century. I found this prayer on Fr. Conroy's desk, who lived by the sentiments within it. "Most holy Peter, prince of the Apostles, my shepherd and provider, to whom power to bind and to loose has been given by your Master, loose me, I pray, from all the bonds of my iniquities, and intercede for me, that the Lord, your Master, may look on me, as he looked on you; and may save me from the deep waters of wickedness, who saved you from the waters of Galilee; and that he may drive out of me all that he hates, and gives me all that pleases him forever. Amen." It is a beautiful prayer that

changes us. We need to be changed first before trying to change or harness evil around us.

School starts THIS Week here in Burlington. It is so hard to believe that the kids will be back to school. Where has the time gone? In your kindness, pray these prayers from *Catholic Household Blessings and Prayers* on your own or with your children/grandchildren as they begin a new semester.

Prayers to Begin a School Year: *God of wisdom and might, we praise you for the wonder of our being, for mind, body and spirit. Be with our children as they begin a new school year. Bless them and their teachers and staff. Give the strength and grace as their bodies grow; wisdom and knowledge to their minds as they search for understanding; and peace and zeal to their hearts. We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

Prayer for Students: *Lord our God, in your wisdom and love you surround us with the mysteries of the universe. Send your spirit upon these students and fill them with your wisdom and blessings. Grant that they may devote themselves to their studies and draw ever closer to you, the source of all knowledge. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.*

Prayer for Teachers: *Lord God, your spirit of wisdom fills the earth and teaches us in your ways. Look upon these teachers. Let them strive to share their knowledge with gentle patience and endeavor always to bring the truth to eager minds. Grant that we may follow Jesus Christ, the way, the truth and the life, forever and ever. Amen.*

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, August 29

9:00 am **St. Margaret**
Rev. Mario Orrigo Memorial

4:00 pm **St. Malachy**
Jack McDonough 15th Anniversary

4:30 pm **St. Margaret**
Mary, Clarence, Dick & Christine Westberg
and Dick, Grace & Santo Patti Memorial

Sunday, August 30

8:00 am **St. Margaret**
Virginia Jeffries
Mass for The Living

10:00 am **St. Malachy**
Helen & George Consolazio Memorial

12:00 pm **St. Margaret**
Maria Rabazzi Memorial

Monday, August 31

9:00 am **St. Malachy**
Elaine Cipolla McKenna
Birthday Memorial

Tuesday, September 1

9:00 am **St. Margaret**
Dr. Joseph & Mary Stanton
Memorial

Wednesday, September 2

9:00 am **St. Malachy**
Jack Casey Memorial

Thursday, September 3

9:00 am **St. Margaret Church**
John & Jeannine Mahoney Memorial

Friday, September 4

9:00 am **St. Malachy Church**
For All of The Souls in Purgatory

Saturday, September 5

9:00 am **St. Margaret**
Antoinette Surabian 3rd Anniversary

4:00 pm **St. Malachy**
Elizabeth Sacco 1st Anniversary

4:30 pm **St. Margaret**
Joe Silva Month's Mind

Sunday, September 6

8:00 am **St. Margaret**
Robert & Joseph Sullivan
16th Anniversary

10:00 am **St. Malachy**
Elizabeth Davis Memorial

12:00 pm **St. Margaret**
Bernard Vient Memorial



Funeral Masses were celebrated recently for
Carl Christiansen & Edmund Grammer
Kindly include them and their families
in your prayers.
Thank you.

READINGS, SAINTS, OBSERVANCES 2026

SUNDAY Aug 30	<i>Twenty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time</i> Jer 20:7-9/Ps 63:2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9/Rom 12:1-2/Mt 16:21-27
MONDAY Aug 31	1 Cor 2:1-5/Lk 4:16-30
TUESDAY Sep 1	1 Cor 2:10b-16/Lk 4:31-37
WEDNESDAY Sep 2	1 Cor 3:1-9/Lk 4:38-44
THURSDAY Sep 3	<i>Saint Gregory the Great, Pope and Doctor of the Church</i> 1 Cor 3:18-23/Lk 5:1-11
FRIDAY Sep 4	1 Cor 4:1-5/Lk 5:33-39
SATURDAY Sep 5	<i>Saint Teresa of Calcutta, Virgin</i> 1 Cor 4:6b-15/Lk 6:1-5
SUNDAY Sep 6	<i>Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time</i> Ez 33:7-9/Rom 13:8-10/Mt 18:15-20

ST VERONICA PARISH FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Weekend of August 23, 2026

Envelopes & In Church: \$8,798

Online: \$3,471

TOTAL: \$12,269

Weekly Budget \$16,153

Income \$12,269

Deficit -\$3,884

Month to Date: \$51,998

Building Fund

Envelopes & In Church: \$80

Online: \$486

TOTAL: \$566

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)

45th Annual Lawn Party to Benefit Seminarians

Wednesday, September 23, 2026 | 6:00 PM

Mary Courtyard | Pope St. John XXIII National Seminary | Weston

Join us for an evening of fellowship featuring a cocktail reception, dinner, and music as we come together to support Pope St. John XXIII National Seminary and its unique mission of forming men who have answered God's call to the priesthood later in life.

Hosted by

Most Rev. Richard G. Henning
Archbishop of Boston

Chaired by

Michele and Chris Wickles

Presentation of the Pacem in Terris Award

Most Rev. Robert J. McManus
Gail and Terry Murphy

Help support the men preparing to serve the Church as priests.

Tickets & Sponsorship Information:

781-899-5500 | www.psjs.edu/lawn-party

USCCB COMMITTEE ON PRO-LIFE ACTIVITIES

WASHINGTON - Aug. 18, 2026 - The U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops' (USCCB) Committee on Pro-Life Activities is inviting Catholics to join a focused effort of prayer and action to stop the spread of abortion pills. The initiative will take place August 18 through October 31, which includes the month-long commemoration of *Respect Life Month* observed each October by the Catholic Church in the United States.

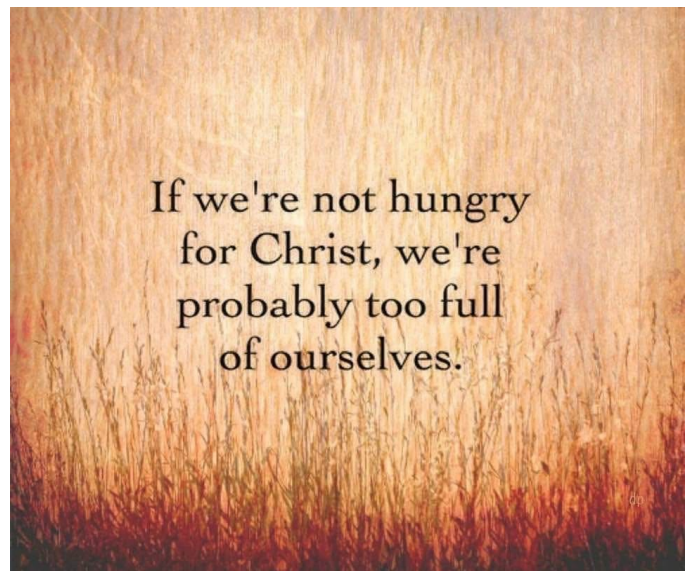
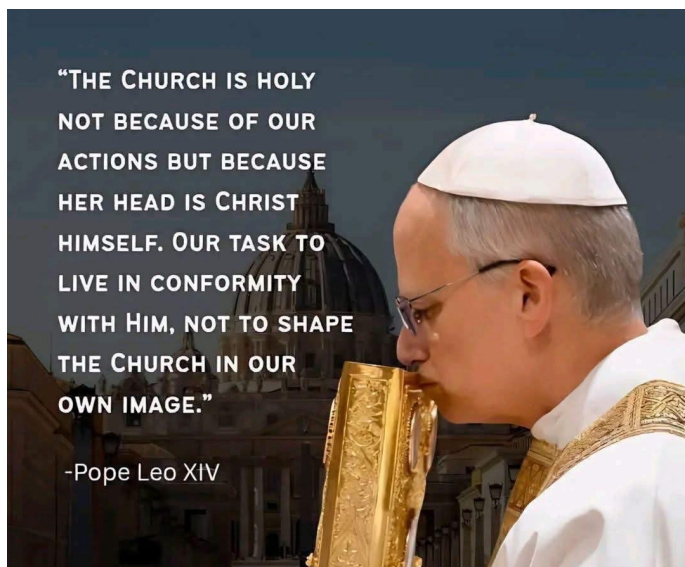
"Every abortion involves the death of a child and harm to the mother," said Archbishop Paul S. Coakley, president of the USCCB, and Bishop Daniel E. Thomas, chairman of the USCCB's Committee on Pro-Life Activities, in a joint invitation announcing the initiative. "Now with easier access to abortion pills, the abortion rate is tragically climbing, along with increased health risks."

In addition to invoking the intercession of *St. Joseph, Defender of Life* (respectlife.org/prayer-to-st-joseph), participants can learn about the danger of abortion pills which have become accessible through telehealth appointments and at pharmacies, leading to increased risks to women, and the abortion rate tragically climbing. Participants of the initiative are encouraged to share information about the dangers of abortion pills, and sign up to send messages to pharmacies, distributors, and pharmaceutical companies at *Respect Life Prayer and Action*. (respectlife.org).

CHILD PROTECTION TRAINING

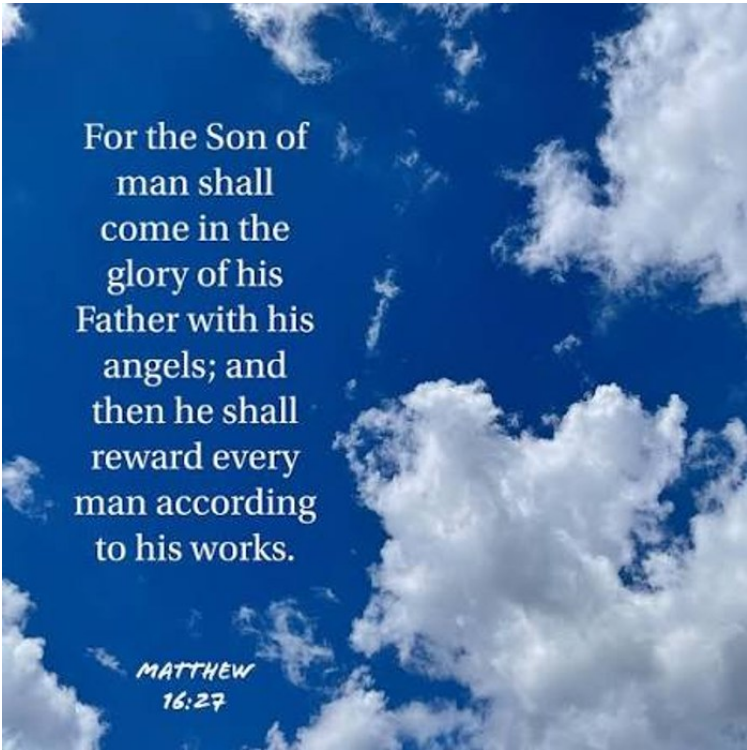
All adult volunteers are required to complete Protecting God's Children (PGC), the child protection training program utilized by the Archdiocese of Boston. The training consists of videos and discussions about how to recognize indicators of abuse or grooming, how to create safe spaces for children and youth, and how to address concerns. It is a three-hour training session held in person at various locations throughout the Archdiocese. Sessions are run by trained facilitators and take place on various days and times throughout the year, including evenings and weekends. Most weeks there are between 5 and 15 sessions scheduled around the Archdiocese. With minor exceptions, sessions are open to everyone.

Go to www.VIRTUSonline.org. On the left of the page click on "First Time Registrant." Click on "Begin Registration." Select "Boston, MA (Archdiocese)" when asked to select your diocese. When asked if you have ever registered before, click "no". (If you have previously registered, call 617-746-5985 for help.) Complete the registration process. When asked for your specific location, select your specific parish or school. You can enter more than one. Once you have completed the registration process the system will guide you to a list of all the upcoming training sessions. Select the one that works for you. If the training is in a language other than English, it will be noted. Be careful not to select a training session that is in a language you cannot understand. All training sessions are 3 hours long, even if the registration website states otherwise.



Prayer (poem) for our week...*Gardener God**Forgive us for the times we have kept our seeds in the packet**For the times we've been too scared to risk, too selfish to love, too embarrassed to try**Gardener God, have mercy on us**Forgive us for where we have let weeds grow in the soil of our lives**For the times we have forgotten to pray,**for the days when we don't bother to listen,**for the moments when we neglect the stirring of your spirit**Gardener God, have mercy on us**Forgive us for when we have trampled on the seedlings of others**Through careless words or outright criticism,**through envy or feeling threatened,**through being insensitive or wrapped up in ourselves**Gardener God, have mercy on us**Forgive us for when we think it's all down to us**When we forget that to grow we need the earth of our community,**The water of other people's contribution,**The sunshine of your favour,**The nutrients that come through conversation and challenge**Gardener God, have mercy on us**Amen***MASS OF REMEMBRANCE**
Saturday, October 10th at 11 am

St. Michael Parish (90 Concord Rd, Bedford) will be hosting a Mass of Remembrance for parents and families who endured the tragic loss of a child due to miscarriage or stillbirth on Saturday, October 10 at 11 am. Anyone who has suffered such a loss—whether recently or years ago—is invited and encouraged to join us as we honor these little souls through the liturgy and pray for the moms, dads, siblings, and grandparents they left behind. A time of fellowship with light refreshments will be held immediately following the Mass at our Parish Hall. If you're able, please let us know if you plan on attending by emailing Michelle at thebedfordcolasantes@gmail.com with your first and last name, and number of family members joining us. Thank you.



For the Son of
man shall
come in the
glory of his
Father with his
angels; and
then he shall
reward every
man according
to his works.

MATTHEW
16:27



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

IN SERVICE TO ONE. IN SERVICE TO ALL.

Special Membership Opportunity for the men of
St. Veronica Parish!

Step 1 – sign up for FREE on line. Visit <https://www.kofc.org/get-involved/join-kofc/> Enter Council # 4978 and use promo code **BLESSEDMCGIVNEY**

Step 2 – confirm your info with the Council at council4978@gmail.com by September 9th

Step 3 – Join us on September 16th at 6:20 pm for an in-person Exemplification and earn all three Degrees of Knighthood

Be A Knight
Its as easy as 1-2-3!

PROCEDURE FOR RECEIVING LOW GLUTEN EUCHARIST

Congregants requesting low gluten hosts are NO LONGER required to stop into the Sacristy before Mass. Instead, you are invited to come to the altar during the Lamb of God and are asked to stand on the opposite side of the altar from the Eucharistic Ministers to receive the low gluten eucharist before common distribution begins.



Mark your calendars for gatherings the remainder of 2026: **Thursdays: 9/17, 10/15, 11/19, and 12/17 at 6:30pm.** In August, we had a nice gathering and learned about various prayer practices including ACTS, PRAY, Lectio Divina and Ignatian prayer, opening our minds and hearts to less-known methods of prayer to help us grow in our faith. We'll meet again on **Thu, Sept. 17 at 6:30pm at St. Malachy's church hall** (enter through the Chapel, proceed downstairs via the stairs or elevator). In *October*, we'll welcome back guest speaker, *Kent Niebuhr*. More information to follow. All are welcomed - no sign-up is ever needed. Any questions, feel free to reach out to Laurie at 617-680-4448.

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION SEPTEMBER 10th

Eucharistic Adoration will take place on Thursday, September 10th in the chapel at St. Malachy's Church from 2:00 pm – 8:00 pm. No advance sign up will be necessary; spend as little or as much time as you want. Please park in the back parking lot and access the chapel by the rear door of the church.

What to do during Eucharistic Adoration

The primary purpose of Adoration is right there in the name of the act: to adore the One present to us in the Eucharist. Remember that you don't actually have to *do* anything. The greatest gift God gives us is himself, and Adoration is another way for us to recognize that gift outside of receiving the Eucharist at Mass. So, don't overthink it. Just receive the gift. Here are a few suggestions:

- Small prayer booklets which can be used to help during your meditation will be available. These may be picked up as you enter the chapel.
- Pray in any way that's meaningful to you.
- Pray the rosary. To contemplate the mysteries of Jesus' life in the rosary is to contemplate the mystery of the Eucharist given to us and the Blessed Sacrament we praise in Adoration. So, pairing these prayers is a great habit to get into.
- Read from Holy Scripture.
- Just sit there - receive the gift of Christ in the Eucharist and be at peace in the presence of Our Lord.

Guidelines for Adoration

- Adoration is a time for quiet meditation and prayer. Please remain silent while in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament.
- Genuflect when entering or leaving a pew and if crossing in front of the Blessed Sacrament.

We plan to have Adoration on the second Thursday of every month, although, in some cases, it may be on a different day.

Please join us in this most important devotion to Our Lord. Rest for a while in the presence of Jesus. Let him fill you with his peace, grace, and love.

PARISH CLERGY

Rev. James M Mahoney	Pastor
Rev Thomas J. Stanton	Parochial Vicar
Deacon Dick Bilotta	Senior Deacon
Deacon Jack Minch	Deacon
Rev. Kingsley Chima Mbam	Weekend Assistant
Rev. Paul Sullivan	Weekend Assistant
Rev. John Rowan	Weekend Assistant
Father Stan Ogu	Priest in Residence

(The Catholic Diocese of Okigwe in Imo State, Nigeria)

PARISH COUNCIL

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

FINANCE COUNCIL

Marcia Aulenback	Joanne Mackey
William Corrigan	Scott Morency

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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****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