

St. Veronica Parish, a publication of
St. Malachy & St. Margaret Churches
September 7, 2025



23RD

SUNDAY
IN ORDINARY TIME

"Whoever does not carry his own cross and
come after me cannot be my disciple."
Luke 14:27

The following Mission Statement was created by the Parish Council of St. Veronica Parish.

"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 is a collection of sayings which focus on the total dedication necessary for the disciple of Jesus. No attachment to family or possessions can stand in the way of the total commitment demanded of the disciple. Also, acceptance of the call to be a disciple demands readiness to accept persecution and suffering and a realistic assessment of the hardships and costs. This is a challenge for all of us in this day and age. Jesus explains that, when it comes to making a choice for the Kingdom of God, nothing can get in the way. When Jesus describes "hating" one's father and mother, he is not talking about feelings. Rather, he is emphasizing very strongly that choosing to be a disciple means that everything else—family, money, your own life—must come second. In Matthew's version of this story (Matthew 10:37), Jesus refers not to "hating" father or mother, but to *loving them more* than Jesus. Jesus makes it very clear that being a disciple is not easy. It means to bear one's own cross. These difficult sayings of Jesus are followed by two brief parables (a person constructing a tower and a king marching into battle) that make an obvious point—don't start what you cannot finish. Discipleship is difficult and is something we can commit to only if we are prepared to put the Kingdom of God before everything else. May we pray for the courage and strength to follow the Lord completely and without reservation.

I have been a Supervisor for the "Deacon Class" for Pope St. John XXIII National Seminary in Weston for over 15 years. The Seminary has now begun their first semester this week. The 4th Year Men (i.e., the Deacons) will start their parish assignments NEXT weekend. Please join me in welcoming **Deacon John Ippolito** from the Archdiocese of New York. Please keep him and all Seminarians in prayer. **Prayer for Seminarians:** O Lord Jesus Christ, great High Priest, I pray that You call many worthy souls to Your holy priesthood. Enlighten the Bishop in the choice of candidates, the Spiritual Director in molding them, and the professors in instructing them. Lead the seminarians daily in Your unerring footsteps; so that they may become priests who are models of purity, possessors of wisdom and heroes of sacrifice; steeped in humility and aflame

with love for God and man; apostles of Your glory and sanctifiers of souls. Amen. *Mary, Queen of the Clergy, pray for us.*

The start of School. Most of our kids have finished their first week of School. In your kindness, continue to pray for them. "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 - the way, the truth and the life, forever and ever. Amen."

Please keep Fr. Tom Stanton in your prayers as he begins his recovery from a Left Total Knee Replacement. The plan is that he will rehab for about a week at Regina Cleri (same residence where Fr. Conroy now lives) and then return to St. Margaret Rectory this week to fully recover. His surgeon said he will be out of work for about 6 weeks. Please pray that he has no complications from the surgery.

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



MASS Intentions

Saturday, September 6

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

4:00 pm **St. Malachy**
Gina Driscoll Memorial

4:30 pm **St. Margaret**
Ann, George & Steven Martin
and The Melino Family Memorial

Sunday, September 7

8:00 am **St. Margaret**
Connie and Margaret Hanafin & Sons Memorial

10:00 am **St. Malachy**
Carol L Kane Anniversary

12:00 pm **St. Margaret**
The Hojlo Family Memorial

Monday, September 8

9:00am **St. Malachy**
The Gaudreau Family Memorial

Tuesday, September 9

9:00 am **St. Margaret**
Maria Angelina Costa Memorial

Wednesday, September 10

9:00 am **St. Malachy Church**
Mary Cullinane Birthday Memorial

Thursday, September 11

9:00 am **St Margaret**
Anthony & Phyllis Caprio Memorial

Friday, September 12

9:00 am **St. Malachy**
Bridget Reilly Birthday Memorial
& William Reilly Memorial

Saturday, September 13

9:00 am **St Margaret**
Donald & Polly Glasser Memorial

4:00 pm **St. Malachy**
Ellen Enos 3rd Anniversary

4:30 pm **St. Margaret**
Pasquale & Angelina Grifoni Anniversary

Sunday, September 14

8:00 am **St. Margaret**
Mary, Clarence, Dick & Christine Westberg
and Grace & Santo Patti Memorial

10:00 am **St. Malachy**
Marion Marrocco Memorial

12:00 pm **St. Margaret**
Gerado & Jerry Caruso
John & Lillian Mossali
and Vito & Evelyn Lepore Memorial

READINGS & OBSERVANCES 2025 YEAR C

23RD SUNDAY ORDINARY TIME Sept 7	Wis 9:13-18b/Ps 90:3-4, 5-6, 12-13, 14+17/Phlm 9-10, 12-17/Lk 14:25-33
MONDAY Sept 8	The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary Mi 5:1-4a or Rom 8:28-30/Ps 13:6ab, 6c/Mt 1:1-16, 18-23 or 1:18-23
TUESDAY Sept 9	<i>Saint Peter Claver, Priest</i> Col 2:6-15/Ps 145:1b-2, 8-9, 10-11/Lk 6:12-19
WEDNESDAY Sept 10	Col 3:1-11/Ps 145:2-3, 10-11, 12-13ab/Lk 6:20-26
THURSDAY Sept 11	Col 3:12-17/Ps 150:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6/Lk 6:27-38
FRIDAY Sept 12	<i>The Most Holy Name of Mary</i> 1 Tm 1:1-2, 12-14/Ps 16:1b-2a and 5, 7-8, 11/Lk 6:39-42
SATURDAY Sept 13	<i>Saint John Chrysostom, Bishop and Doctor of the Church</i> 1 Tm 1:15-17/Ps 113:1b-2, 3-4, 5+6-7/Lk 6:43-49
24TH SUNDAY ORDINARY TIME Sept 14	Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross Nm 21:4b-9/Ps 78:1bc-2, 34-35, 36-37, 38/Phil 2:6-11/Jn 3:13-17

Pilot Bulletins

Funeral services were celebrated recently for
Florence Masci & Joanne O'Keeffe
Kindly include them and their families
in your prayers.
Thank you.



The weekend of September 6 & 7

The Altar Bread and Wine at
St. Veronica Parish is given in the
Glory of God and in memory of:
Carol Kane

ST VERONICA PARISH FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Weekend of August 31, 2025

Envelopes & In Church: \$9,585

Online: \$4,229

TOTAL: \$13,814

Weekly Budget \$16,153

Income \$13,814

Deficit - \$2,339

Month to Date: \$66,209

St. Veronica Building Fund

Envelopes & In Church: \$205

Online: \$298

TOTAL: \$503



We had a great group who gathered together in August - and two new people joined us! We gather again on **Thursday, September 18 at 6:30pm in the parish hall of St. Malachy's**. Hope to see you then! All are welcomed - no sign-up needed. Any questions, text or call Laurie at 617-680-4448.

SEASONS OF HOPE: A GROUP FOR THOSE WHO ARE GRIEVING....

COME AND BE COMFORTED

If you have experienced the death of a loved one and are searching for meaning and consolation, we invite you to join our “*Seasons of Hope*” group, which will begin on Wednesday evening, September 17, in the Parish Center. “*Seasons of Hope*” is a Christ-centered group where we will be able to share and learn from each other as we walk together in faith on our own unique journey of grief. We will meet in the Parish Hall, 90 Concord Rd., Bedford, MA 01730 from 6:00-7:30pm on the following six Wednesdays: September 17, September 24, October 1, October 8, October 15, and October 22. For more information or to sign up, please e-mail pat@bedfordcatholic.org or call her at 781-275-6318 X230.

Luke 14:25-33

“...And whoever does not bear his cross and come after Me cannot be My disciple. For which of you, intending to build a tower, does not sit down first and count the cost, whether he has enough to finish it...”

PRAYER SHAWLS AVAILABLE

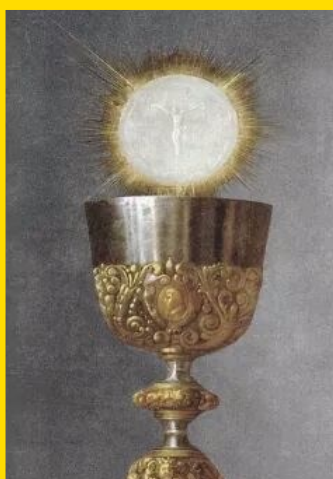
Is there someone special you’ve been holding in prayer? Perhaps a friend facing illness or surgery, a parishioner who has lost a loved one, or a neighbor who is going through a difficult time or is home bound?

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.)



Act of Spiritual Communion

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.

**You're invited to join in another
parish Jubilee Pilgrimage on
Wednesday, September 24 to The
National Shrine of The Divine Mercy
in Stockbridge, Massachusetts**



**Reserved Your Spot
THIS WEEK! Extending
to other parishes next
week.**

Situated on 375 acres known as Eden Hill, the Shrine is owned and administered by the Marian Fathers of the Immaculate Conception. The artwork and relics throughout the Shrine express two key elements of the identity and mission of the Marians - The Immaculate Conception and Divine Mercy.

At the Shrine, you can walk the grounds, pray the Stations of the Cross, and visit the Lourdes Grotto, the Shrine of the Holy Innocents, and the many other memorials and shrines. You are also encouraged to experience Jesus' mercy in the daily prayer activities: Confession, Mass, Eucharistic Adoration, the Rosary, and the Chaplet of Divine Mercy.

Our bus will be departing St. Malachy parking lot at 8:00am and will arrive at the Shrine at 10:30. We will spend the entire day on site. Parishioners invited to bring along a sack lunch or purchase lunch on site. Participants will be encouraged to come together for Mass at 2:00pm and The Chaplet of the Divine Mercy and Benediction at 3:00. Bus will depart for home around 4:00pm.

Cost for the trip is \$75 per person. **Each participant is asked to contribute \$40** towards this fee with the additional cost covered by the parish, however **financial assistance is available** for anyone upon request. No one will miss this opportunity due to financial burden.

To reserve your spot please call 781-272-3111 for the trip. Seats will be assigned on a first come, first served basis. The deadline for our parish to respond is Monday, September 8. If there are remaining seats available we will extend the invitation to surrounding parishes.

**EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION
SEPTEMBER 11th**

Eucharistic Adoration will take place on Thursday, September 11th 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.

Chaplet of Divine Mercy

Led by Cantor Chuck Carnell, the Chaplet of Divine Mercy will be sung at 3:00 pm.

Benediction

The evening will close with Benediction.

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.



Registration is now open for the 2025-2026 Academic Year. You can find a detailed description of all of our programs in the attached document.

Use this link to register: <https://forms.office.com/r/Ei4NiLK3ay>

Tell all of your friends!!

There are two main changes to note this year:

Family of Faith: Grades 1, 3-5

Once a month, children in grades 1, 3-5 will gather for a Family of Faith gathering beginning with the 10am Mass, followed by donuts and a teaching. At these sessions, children will gather in age-level groups for a lesson/activity related to the month's topic. Parents should attend Mass with their children, and will have the option to stay and enjoy a cup of coffee with other parents during the teaching.

Confirmation

We will be Confirming students in grades 8th and 9th this year. 8th and 9th graders will have the option of attending a Monday night session or a Wednesday afternoon session.

We are always looking for people to volunteer with our programs in various ways. We need help particularly with Wednesday afternoons (2-3:30) and Monday nights (7-8:15). There are a lot of kids in the school building during these times and we need adults present for crowd control, hall monitoring, as well as adults to teach lessons. If this is something you are interested in at all, please prayerfully consider it and let me know.

As summer continues to unfold, I will be publishing schedules for next year's programs.

Please reach out if you have any questions.

In Christ,

Camille Mainardi

cmainardi@stveroniciaparish.org

OCIA Classes starting in October

The Order of the Christian Initiation for Adults (OCIA) is the process which the Church uses for bringing new adult members into the Church. It may also be used to help already Baptized Catholics receive sacraments of First Holy Communion and Confirmation. The next class is forming now. Instruction will begin in October. If you, or someone you know, is interested in becoming a Catholic or receiving missed sacraments, please contact Deacon Dick Bilotta at: deaconbilotta@stveroniciaparish.org



We will have our annual Back to School BBQ on September 21st at 12:30pm at the St. Margaret's upper parking lot. This BBQ is for all families in our parish. I hope that you all can come

to enjoy the company of our faith community. If you have not met me in person, please do introduce yourself to me at the BBQ. I pray for you all constantly and would love to have faces associated with your names! Join us for food, fun, community, a bouncy house, and book pickup!

HIGH SCHOOL PROGRAM FOR GRADES 10-12

Having received the Sacrament of Confirmation, this program will be an opportunity for students to continue to grow in their faith and live a Christian life. The foundation and cornerstone of this program, like the others, is attendance of Mass on Sundays and all other Holy Days of Obligation, which will be encouraged through the QR Code System. Classes will meet once a month. There will be group discussions reflecting on key questions of meaning and truth such as the origins of life, life after death, good and evil, beliefs about God and values such as justice, honesty, and truth. We will discuss lessons taught by Jesus and how the students can use those lessons today. "Parents have the first responsibility for the education of their children..." (CCC 2223). May God give us all the strength to create homes where the Truth can thrive and mold our hearts and minds!

- 10/19/2025 Program Overview. Who is God?
- 11/16/2025 Love and Two Great Commandments
- 12/7/2025 Holy Eucharist
- 12/21/2025 **Christmas Carols** – Senior Center (6PM)
- 1/11/2026 Our Father/Nicene Creed
- 2/8/2026 Mary, Blessed Mother
- 3/8/2026 Lenten Mission - St. Malachy Church (7 PM)
- 4/12/2026 Marian Apparitions

Topics may change, but class dates won't. Class runs from 5-6 PM.

CONTINUING RELIGIOUS EDUCATION FOR HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

St. Veronica's is unique among most parishes in that it offers continuing religious education through the 12th grade. As you may know, the Archdiocese of Boston is in the process of transitioning the Sacrament of Confirmation from the 10th grade to the 8th grade. So, starting this year, we are revising our continuing education program to encompass all four high school grades. (Note: The 25/26 school year will include only Sophomore through Senior; Freshman will be added in the 26/27 school year). The purpose of our high School program is to cover issues that require a higher level of maturity than can be discussed with younger students. It seeks to tie together some of the concepts learned in earlier grades, focusing on developing a common sense, practical understanding of what our faith teaches and how it should be applied as we live our lives. It looks at the teachings of our faith in light of current cultural norms, comparing and contrasting them in an effort to help the students make better life's choices than they otherwise might have made.

We address such issues as:

- Why is organized religion important; does it really make a difference which religion you belong to; why?
- Where does Roman Catholicism fit into the panoply of the world's religions? Why is it correct to understand that our Church is the institution founded by God, Himself, for the salvation of the world? What should that mean for your life?
- Why should we understand and believe in the Real Presence of Jesus Christ in the Holy Eucharist?
- What is morality and where does it come from? How do we make good, moral decisions in our life?
- The Church teaches the primacy of a properly formed conscience. But, what does that really mean?
- Why does God allow suffering? Why do bad things happen to good people?
- What is a human being – really – in the eyes of God? How does God see us? How should we see ourselves?
- How do we gain our salvation? Many people think the answer to that is just be a good person and live a good life. But, at best, that is an incomplete understanding that's not exactly correct. Worse, that understanding can lead a person to make some poor choices in life which could endanger their salvation.

These are just a few of the issues that we cover in the High School program. There are many more. And, of course, those who attend are free to ask any question or discuss any issue of a religious nature that may concern them.

It is an unfortunate truth that most students in our religious education programs see Confirmation as a sort of graduation. But, that's a mistake. A person who leaves religious education after Confirmation is really being short-changed. There is so much more to learn and understand that can be really helpful in life.

If you are a high school student, we encourage you to continue your education by attending our continuing education program. It doesn't involve a lot of time. Classes are only once a month, meeting on a Sunday evening at 5:00 pm and running for about an hour.

If you are a parent or guardian, please encourage your student to attend our program. For a lot of reasons, raising children in our society is more difficult than it ever has been in previous generations. The teachings of our faith will help all of us, especially your children, to make good, moral decisions and choices in life when you're not around to guide them. The reality is that an 8th grade religious education, as good as it may be, does not give your children a strong enough religious background to enable them to deal with the uncertainties of life in the 21st century. Your student's attendance at our program will benefit them greatly for only a small investment of their time.

Those who regularly attend our classes will be eligible, as graduating Seniors, to apply for a scholarship to assist in their secondary education after they graduate from high school.

PARISH COUNCIL

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

Marcia Aulenback
William Corrigan

Joanne Mackey
Scott Morency

Saint Malachy Church

www.stveronicama.org
stveronica@stveronicaparish.org

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

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

Monday, Wednesday & Friday: 9:00 am

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

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

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Sunday: 8:00 am; and 12:00 pm

Tuesday, Thursday & Saturday: 9:00 am

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

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