

1st
Sunday
of Advent

**St. Veronica Parish, a publication of
St. Malachy & St. Margaret Churches
November 30, 2025**



Therefore, stay awake! For you do not know on
which day your Lord will come. *Matthew 24:42*

"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,

I wrote this message on Sunday, November 23 on the feast of Christ of the King. By the time you read this, Thanksgiving will have already passed and we are now in our first Sunday of Advent.

I hope and pray everyone's Thanksgiving was filled with joy and gratitude to the Lord for his many gifts. I am a firm believer that gratefulness is the heart of all prayer. So I wanted to offer this moment of gratitude to all of you who have supported me during my time at Guest House this month.

The lectures, workshops, groups, meetings, and counseling are all going very well at Guest House.

They take a holistic approach to healing - mind, body, and soul. Often times people don't take care of themselves with regular appointments concerning their health. Since I have been here, I have already seen the eye doctor and got a prescription for bifocals. That's a first for me. It takes time getting used to. I was able to have my teeth cleaned and I saw a podiatrist a couple weeks ago to take a look at my foot after I fractured it a couple months ago. They started me up again with physical therapy for my surgical knee: it is going very well. I even got a haircut the other day.

Thank you to all the people who have sent cards to me. 60+ cards have already arrived. Your support has given me so much encouragement and I am so grateful to you, more than you will ever know. Please know of my continued prayers and gratitude for you all. Canon Law (church law) states that a Pastor offer a Mass each week for his parish and parishioners. I have always done that in the past. Please know that I am offering multiple Masses each week for all of you while I am here.

I am also humbled to learn from some of your letters how alcohol has been a part of so many of your families' and friends' lives, so I appreciate your honesty, love, concern, and best wishes and prayers. They are an inspiration to me.

God bless and thank you again. Let us pray for each other.

Fr. Mahoney.



CHRISTMAS EVE WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 24th

St Malachy Church
4:00pm & 6:00pm

St Margaret Church
4:30pm upper church
4:30pm lower church

CHRISTMAS DAY THURSDAY, DECEMBER 25th

St Margaret Church
8:00am
St Malachy Church
10:00am

FR. MAHONEY

For those wishing to send Fr. Mahoney a card, the address is: **Fr. James Mahoney, Guest House, 1601 Jocelyn Rd., Lake Orion, MI. 48360**

Please do not send any food to Fr. Mahoney due to food allergies of others.

This week Deacon Jack Minch will share a bit about his ministry and his reflection on Advent. If you see him, you can thank him for his input into the bulletin. Thanks Father Tom

Happy New Year ! May God bless St. Veronica's parishioners in the coming year. May it be our best year yet.

Here it comes. The buildup to Christmas. Maybe it's already started for some of us. It seems to start earlier and earlier every year. But first, there is the craziness that mirrors Mary's 70-mile trip south from Nazareth to Bethlehem to meet all of Joseph's extended family. While pregnant. She had the planning, packing, gathering of food for the trip; and camping equipment, since the travel time for a very pregnant woman and her husband would have been anywhere from four to seven days. After a trip that could have rivaled the mayhem of Logan Airport on the day before Thanksgiving, there was the arrival; greeting family and friends.

Then the further stress of discovering that things have gone awry : "What do you mean you don't have a bed for us?? Can't you see I'm pregnant here ?? Followed by the disappointment of being sent outside with the excuse that she should have "privacy" while giving birth. Historians are divided over whether it was a courtyard, a barn, or a cave; one thing it certainly wasn't, was luxurious.

And don't we have the same stress as we prepare to host for Christmas or to visit others? Planning, cooking, decorating (arguing over whether white lights or colored lights this year; do we spend \$200 or \$300 on inflatable yard decorations), struggling to meet our self-imposed timetables. Disappointment that the stores are out of the gift we want to get for our favorite aunt; or, Amazon and Etsy can't get it to us before New Year's Day?

But things will fall into place, or we'll adjust to circumstances. We will calm down. Sometimes not until the day after Christmas, but we'll calm down.

Running parallel to all that activity is the preparation for Christ. The reason for the season (sorry for the cliché). It's also a time to welcome Christ into our hearts. The Church offers us a tool to fight the secularism of the world. It offers us a timeout to reorient ourselves.

Advent. A time to think about Christ's incarnation. That wild, crazy idea that God would become a human. The realization that Jesus isn't a remote being in outer space but a guy like us. It's a time to remember that God offers us hope, peace, joy, and eternal salvation; bliss for eternity.

Each week of Advent has a theme, as it were. Hope, peace, joy, and love. The advent wreath has a corresponding number of four candles to mark each week. Today is focused on the hope that Christ brings.

If hope is the trust in God that reaches into the future, then we can all feel good about the Church's future. I'm helping out as a teacher for the confirmation program led by Camille Mainardi here at St. Veronica for the second year. It's been heart-warming to see how engaged the eighth- and ninth-grade students are as they prepare for the sacrament of confirmation. Sometimes teenagers get a rap for being too cool for things like religion, but our students are fantastic. They are younger confirmation candidates than the Church has seen in many years but they are up to the challenge.

Classes regularly feature videos for the students to watch before they answer a couple of review questions. I'm happy to report that they routinely score 100 on the little quizzes.

They are building their faith, learning why they can trust their faith to lead them toward God.

It's sort of like building an Advent wreath.

First, build a solid base for the wreath, then add foliage from spruce, fir or pine trees. Next, add four candleholders and candles, including a pink candle for Gaudette Sunday. Finally, add decorations such as pinecones, berries, ribbons, or whatever you like.

One candle is lit every Sunday during Advent, representing hope, peace, joy and love. As Advent goes along, the wreath burns brighter and brighter as each candle is lit, just as the faith of our youth burns brighter as they learn more and draw closer to God.

I'm humbled and honored to be a part of the program. Our Church will be in good hands going forward.

May God bless our students' journeys as they build on their faith and walk the path in the Light of Christ. That's fine; it's even good. The world needs the hope and joy that comes with Christmas; with the birth of our Savior.

Deacon John Minch

"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, November 29

9:00 am **St. Margaret, (Communion Service)**
Special Intention
4:00 pm **St. Malachy**
Michael & Diana Lavey Memorial
4:30 pm **St. Margaret**
Joan Bennett 3rd Anniversary

Sunday, November 30

8:00 am **St. Margaret**
Willard Wyman 2nd Anniversary
10:00 am **St. Malachy**
Rocco Bumbaca Birthday Memorial
12:00 pm **St. Margaret**
Anna Miele 1st Anniversary

Monday, December 1

9:00 am **St. Malachy**
Donald & Polly Glasser Memorial

Tuesday, December 2

9:00 am **St. Margaret**
Robert & Mary Laffin
& Eleanor Ackerman Memorial

Wednesday, December 3, (Communion Service)

9:00 am **St. Malachy**
Special Prayers for heart health
for a Parishioner

Thursday, December 4, (Communion Service)

9:00 am **St. Margaret**
Paul Meaney 10th Anniversary

Friday, December 5

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

Saturday, December 6

9:00 am **St. Margaret, (Communion Service)**
Paul, Alice & Paul J. Mackey Memorial
4:00 pm **St. Malachy**
Rosa Hernandez Month's Mind
Robert Castellano 13th Anniversary
John & Josephine Bober Memorial
Carol Capadolupo
& Joan Fiato Memorial
4:30 pm **St. Margaret**
Joseph & Arlene Lefebvre Memorial
Donald & Polly Glasser Memorial
Patricia & Brennan Walsh
1st Anniversary
The McMakin & Rock Families
Memorial
Noel J. Holland 2nd Anniversary
Mary, Clarence, Dick & Christine Westberg
and Grace & Santo Patti Memorial
Josephine Preble Anniversary
Elizabeth Melanson 2nd Anniversary
Joseph Mathi 8th Anniversary
Charlie & Rose Hanafin Memorial

Sunday, December 7

8:00 am **St. Margaret**
Mary M. Christiano Birthday Memorial
& Ralph T. Christiano 28th Anniversary
10:00 am **St. Malachy**
Angela DiPietro 3rd Anniversary
12:00 pm **St. Margaret**
Robert O'Keefe, Sr. & Robert O'Keefe, Jr.
Memorial
and Carolyn O'Keefe 5th Anniversary



Funeral services were celebrated recently for
James Glynn & Judith Hurley
Kindly include them and their families
in your prayers.
Thank you.

ST VERONICA PARISH FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Weekend of November 23, 2025

Envelopes & In Church: \$8,533

Online: \$4,481

TOTAL: \$13,014

Weekly Budget \$16,153

Income \$13,014

Deficit -\$3,139

Month to Date: \$57,646

St. Veronica Building Fund

Envelopes & In Church: \$140

Online: \$486

TOTAL: \$626

Retired Religious Sisters

Envelopes & In Church: \$2940

Online: \$738

TOTAL: \$3,678

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**.

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

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

DECEMBER 11TH

Eucharistic Adoration will take place on Thursday, December 11th in the chapel at St. Malachy 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.

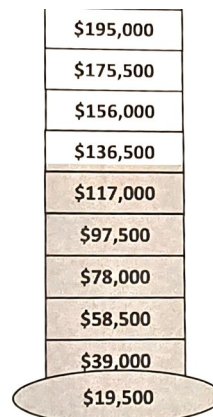
Benediction

The evening will close with Benediction.

GRAND ANNUAL COLLECTION

Campaign Statistics as of 11/24/2025

Total # Pledged:	328
Total # of Households:	2,650
Total Amount Pledged	\$128,664.00
Total Amount Paid:	\$123,214.00
Average Pledge:	\$392.27
% of Pledges Collected:	95.76%
% of Participation:	12.38%



◀ To date 328 of our 2,650 families (12.34%) have pledged \$128,664.00
THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!



LIFT YOUR VOICE AND SHARE THE JOY OF THE SEASON.

Open to all! No music-reading required—just a love of Christmas music and a joyful spirit! Either join the adult choir or the seasonal children's choir for Christmas! Just a few rehearsals and plan to sing at the 4:30pm Mass on Christmas Eve at St Margaret's Church.

If you or your child are interested, please contact:
Bill Donahue, Director of Music – St. Margaret Church
✉ wdonahue@stveronicaparish.org | 508-451-8083
Or simply speak with him after any Mass!



Christmas Giving Tree



For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also. [Matthew 6:21](#)

For many years, our neighbors in need have enjoyed a happier holiday season due to the generosity of St. Veronica's parishioners. Both churches will combine efforts again this year for the Christmas Giving Tree program to support local charitable organizations. St Veronica's Parish is excited to support:

St. Veronica's Parishioners
Heartbeat

People Helping People of Burlington
Society of St. Vincent de Paul of Lynn

Lowell Shelter
Tewksbury Hospital

There are a couple of way to help support our effort:

Sign-Up Genius: We have over 300 specific gift requests to fill for both children and adults. These are special wish list items. This is a great opportunity to pick that special gift for someone. The link is: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050D48AEA823A1FC1-59879588-stveronica>

Christmas Trees located in each Church: The tags on these trees will contain requests for gift cards to local supermarkets, clothing stores, restaurants as well as basic needs for the Lowell Shelter (socks, t-shirts, toiletries)

If you sign up online or take a tag from the Giving Tree, please commit to following through.

Make note of the person you have chosen and, if applicable, the age, size and desired request.

Your gift should be a **newly purchased item that matches the request.**

Each request specifies whether a gift should be wrapped or unwrapped. It is important you follow these instructions.

The Gift code should be clearly marked on the gift and the tag properly secured.

Please do not include additional gifts in the same package as your purchased gift. If you wish to give additional gifts, please put them into a separate gift bag and indicate "additional gifts". We will distribute them to the children or other family members as needed. Due to allergies that a child may have, we request that you do not include any candy or other food items.

Gift Cards & Cash Donations – We are looking for Gift Cards to the following:

Market Basket, Shaw's, Stop & Shop, Wegmans, Target, Papa Gino's, DSW Shoes, Kohl's, Dunkin Donuts

Please clearly **mark the \$ amount on the gift card** and deposit them into the decorated box located at the entryway of St. Margaret's & St. Malachy's. Please do not wrap the gift cards.

If for any reason, you are not able to access online or physically get to the church, please call one of the names below to get a Giving Tree tag.

FINAL RETURN DATE: SUNDAY, DECEMBER 7th

Please bring in gifts early to avoid bad weather, forgetfulness, etc.

Place all gifts at the front of the church by the tree.

Any questions, contact:

Joanne Mackey: 978-439-0017
Kathleen Keady: 781-272-5111

Marcia Aulenback: 617-538-1970
Michelle Campbell: 781-272-3111

God Bless and Thank You!

Religious Education Programs

All Students are expected to attend Mass every weekend. The Mass Schedule is as follows:

St. Margaret Church: Saturday 4:30pm, Sunday 8:00am and 12:00pm

St. Malachy Church: Saturday 4:00pm and Sunday 10:00am (Coffee and Donuts after Mass)

GRADES 1, 3-5 SCHEDULE

Lessons are completed at home or in a small family groups on a monthly basis. Below are dates for special events families will attend monthly: Family of Faith Gatherings.

12/14 - Christmas Nativity Play and cookie decorating after 10:00am Mass at St. Malachy Church hall.

1/25 & 2/8 - After 10:00am Mass at St. Malachy Church hall.

3/22 - Penance Service at 6:00pm at St. Malachy Church

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

GRADE 2

Grade 2 students will receive the Sacraments of Reconciliation in February and Holy Communion in May. Lessons are completed at home or in a small family group. Grade 2 students are invited to the same special events listed for the Grade 1, 3-5 students. In addition, there are some additional dates to keep in mind:

First Reconciliation Retreat: 1/25 1:30pm - 4:00pm at St. Margaret School Building

First Reconciliation Ceremonies:

1/31 - at 12:00 at St. Margaret Church

2/7 - at 12:00pm at St. Malachy Church

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

MIDDLE SCHOOL (GRADES 6 & 7)

will meet at St Margaret School building

MONDAY

7:00pm – 8:00pm

12/1 & 15

1/12 & 26

2/2 & 9

3/2

WEDNESDAY

2:00pm - 3:30pm

12/3 & 17

1/14 & 28

2/4 & 11

3/4

Christmas Festivities: 12/14 at 11:00am at St Malachy Church Hall

Lenten Penance Service: 3/22 at 6:00pm at St. Malachy Church

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

CONFIRMATION: GRADES 8 & 9

Grades 8 and 9 will both receive the sacrament of Confirmation. Classes will meet at St. Margaret School building either Monday (7 - 8pm) or Wednesday (2 - 2:30pm).

MONDAY

7:00pm – 8:00pm

12/1 & 15

1/12 & 26

2/2 & 9

3/2

WEDNESDAY

2:00pm - 3:30pm

12/3 & 17

1/14 & 28

2/4 & 11

3/4

**CONFIRMATION WILL BE MAY 19, 2026
AT ST. MARGARET CHURCH
GRADE 8 AT 5:00PM
GRADE 9 AT 7:00PM**

HIGH SCHOOL PROGRAM FOR GRADES 10-12

12/7/2025	Holy Eucharist
12/14/2025	Christmas Carols – Senior Center 6PM
1/11/2026	Our Father/Nicene Creed
2/1/2026	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.

PARISH CLERGY

Rev. James M Mahoney Pastor
(Guest House, 1601 Jocelyn Rd., Lake Orion, MI. 48360)
Rev Thomas J. Stanton Pastoral Administrator
Deacon Dick Bilotta Senior Deacon
Deacon Jack Minch Deacon
Deacon John Ippolito Transitional Deacon
(from Pope St. John XXIII Seminary)
Fr. Jiwon Yoon Lahey Chaplain
(in residence only)

PARISH COUNCIL

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

FINANCE COUNCIL

Marcia Aulenback
William Corrigan
Joanne Mackey
Scott Morency

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 cmainardi@stveronicaparish.org
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 grade2@stveronicaparish.org
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 you would like to receive St. Veronica emails please
 send your name and email address to:
stveronica@stveronicaparish.org