

3rd
Sunday
of Advent

**St. Veronica Parish, a publication of
St. Malachy
& St. Margaret Churches
December 14, 2025**



*Behold, I am sending my messenger ahead of you; he
will prepare your way before you. Matthew 11:10*

"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."

For a New Beginning

**In out-of-the-way places of the heart,
Where your thoughts never think to wander,
This beginning has been quietly forming,
Waiting until you were ready to emerge.**

**For a long time it has watched your desire,
Feeling the emptiness growing inside you,
Noticing how you willed yourself on,
Still unable to leave what you had outgrown.**

**It watched you play with the seduction of
safety
And the gray promises that sameness
whispered,
Heard the waves of turmoil rise and relent,
Wondered would you always live like this.**

**Then the delight, when your courage
kindled,
And out you stepped onto new ground,
Your eyes young again with energy and
dream,
A path of plenitude opening before you.**

**Though your destination is not yet clear
You can trust the promise of this opening;
Unfurl yourself into the grace of beginning
That is at one with your life's desire.**

**Awaken your spirit to adventure;
Hold nothing back, learn to find ease in
risk;
Soon you will be home in a new rhythm,
For your soul senses the world that awaits
you.**

~ John O'Donohue ~

Many people associate this poem with Advent. Actually it could apply to many circumstances of newness, and consolation as well. Today this third Sunday of Advent is called Gaudate Sunday. Gaudate means rejoice. The poem implies old life vs. new life and delight "a path of plenitude opening before you" the Oxford dictionary describes plenitude as "the condition of being full or complete." It seems to me many advertisements try to tell us what we are lacking, as people of faith we should realize God is the ultimate provider for us. We will still have another Sunday of Advent next weekend but this weekend as we rejoice we remember back to when John last weekend was saying he was preparing the way of the Lord. And we are invited to prepare the way of the Lord. But he also comes to us at Baptism, in the Eucharist, all the sacraments of the Church tell us of what God has done, and is doing. May we rejoice and be a people of His Love.

Our parish, as you probably know, have hosted several chaplains who have worked at Lahey Hospital. Lahey chaplains have also resided in other local parishes as well. Currently Father Jiwon Yoon is finishing up his assignment at Lahey and will be starting the New Year in Marshfield at a two parish collaborative. We very much appreciate his willingness to celebrate a Mass on the weekend. Having lived at the parish he was assigned to when he was newly ordained, while Chaplain at Lahey this year he lived in his 'old rooms.' We offer Father Jiwon our prayer-filled best wishes as he begins his new assignment. We also pray the Diocese is able to send another chaplain.

Please keep Christ at the center of your Christmas. Please continue to pray for Father Mahoney, and Bless Father Jiwon during his time of transition

Blessing to all this Advent,

Father Tom

"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, December 13

9:00 am **St Margaret, (Communion Service)**
Bernard Vient Memorial

4:00 pm **St. Malachy**
Christiane Romano O'Brien Memorial

4:30 pm **St. Margaret**
Frank J. Cassidy 16th Anniversary

Sunday, December 14

8:00 am **St. Margaret**
Alice Vigneau 9th Anniversary

10:00 am **St. Malachy**
Mary McCarthy & Eileen Callahan Memorial

12:00 pm **St. Margaret**
Martin & Nora Kelly Memorial

Monday, December 15

9:00 am **St. Malachy**
Grace & Baumy Beaumister Memorial

Tuesday, December 16

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

Wednesday, December 17, (Communion Service)

9:00 am **St. Malachy**
Claire Putnicki Memorial

Thursday, December 18, (Communion Service)

9:00 am **St Margaret**
Andrew Cortese Birthday Memorial

Friday, December 19

9:00 am **St. Malachy**
Joseph & Ed MacKinnon Memorial

Saturday, December 20

9:00 am **St Margaret, (Communion Service)**

4:00 pm **St. Malachy**
George & Mary Dykas and Theresa Mollo Memorial

4:30 pm **St. Margaret**
Moya Walsh 14th Anniversary

Sunday, December 21

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

10:00 am **St. Malachy**
David H. Alden Birthday Memorial

12:00 pm **St. Margaret**
Tina Braceland & Cindy Durney Memorial

READINGS, SAINTS, OBSERVANCES 2025

SUNDAY Dec 14	<i>Third Sunday of Advent</i> Is 35:1-6a, 10/Ps 146:6-7, 8-9, 9-10./Jas 5:7-10/Mt 11:2-11
MONDAY Dec 15	Nm 24:2-7, 15-17a/Ps 25:4-5ab, 6 and 7bc, 8-9/Mt 21:23-27
TUESDAY Dec 16	Zep 3:1-2, 9-13/Ps 34:2-3, 6-7, 17-18, 19+23/Mt 21:28-32
WEDNESDAY Dec 17	Gn 49:2, 8-10/Ps 72:1-2, 3-4ab, 7-8, 17/Mt 1:1-17
THURSDAY Dec 18	Jer 23:5-8/Ps 72:1-2, 12-13, 18-19/Mt 1:18-25
FRIDAY Dec 19	Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a/Ps 71:3-4a, 5-6ab, 16-17/Lk 1:5-25
SATURDAY Dec 20	Is 7:10-14/Ps 24:1-2, 3-4ab, 5-6/Lk 1:26-38
SUNDAY Dec 21	<i>Fourth Sunday of Advent</i> Is 7:10-14/Ps 24:1-2, 3-4, 5-6./Rom 1:1-7/Mt 1:18-24

Pilot Bulletins



ST VERONICA PARISH FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Weekend of December 7, 2025
Envelopes & In Church: \$11,213
Online: \$5,462
TOTAL: \$16,675

Income \$16,675
Weekly Budget \$16,153
Surplus \$522

Month to Date: \$16,675

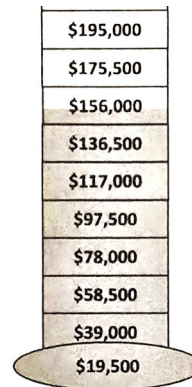
St. Veronica Building Fund
Envelopes & In Church: \$430
Online: \$401
TOTAL: \$831

Christmas Flowers
Envelopes: \$1,624
Online: \$249
TOTAL: \$1,873

GRAND ANNUAL COLLECTION

Campaign Statistics as of 12/9/2025

Total # of Households:	2,658
Total # Pledged:	394
Total Amount Pledged	\$154,992.00
Total Amount Paid:	\$150,507.00
Average Pledge:	\$393.38
% of Pledges Collected:	97.11%
% of Participation:	14.82%



← To date 394 of our 2,658 families
 (14.82%) have pledged
\$154,992.00
 THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!

BUILDING FUND COLLECTION

This weekend, **December 13/14** there will be a second collection for the Building Fund. This fund is vital in keeping our buildings and surrounding grounds clean and up to date. Please consider either donating in church or go to our web site www.stveronicama.org and donate online. Thank you in advance.

**Please make your checks out to
 St Veronica Parish.**

Women of Faith

Thank you to all who joined us in November. We did a lot of soul-searching and learned much about soul-saving. It was a great gathering. Mark your calendars - **all** are invited - **males and females of all ages - bring your families and friends - Thursday, December 18 at 6:30pm** at St. Malachy's Parish Hall (downstairs from the Chapel). We welcome as guest speaker our own parishioner - **David Hanafin**. We will start with the Rosary and prayer shawl giveaway, and then **David** will share about the rich religious meanings and traditions behind some of the more popular Christmas symbols we are so very used to (for example, Christmas trees, candy canes, bells, the gingerbread man, etc.). He's got some great stories, too! Since Christmas is right around the corner, you're welcome to bring a dessert-style baked good to share (totally optional!). And if enough folks bring a fun, wrapped gift (new, around up to \$10), we'll have a Yankee Swap! It's always fun - whether you join in or just enjoy watching. Please join us. No sign-up is ever needed - just show up! Any questions, reach out to Laurie at 617-680-4448.

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.

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

12/15

1/12 & 26

2/2 & 9

3/2

WEDNESDAY

2:00pm - 3:30pm

12/17

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

12/15

1/12 & 26

2/2 & 9

3/2

WEDNESDAY

2:00pm - 3:30pm

12/17

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

12/14/2025	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.



ST. VERONICA GIVING TREE



This Christmas season will be much happier and more cheerful for so many people due to the **extraordinary generosity** of the people of St. Veronica Parish! Our annual **Christmas Giving Tree** project was a tremendous success. This year, we fulfilled **350 specific gifts requests for individuals** and collected numerous **gift cards** donations. These gifts and gift cards will benefit individuals in our own parish, as well as Heartbeat, People Helping People, Tewksbury Hospital and St. Vincent de Paul Society. In addition, more than 1,000 personal items and toiletries were collected that will benefit the residents of the Lowell Transitional Living Center. We are blessed to be surrounded by such a generous community.

DISCOVER THE IMPERIAL CITIES!



Looking for some exciting travel plans to undertake next year? Consider setting out on a grand cultural adventure through the **Imperial Cities of Central Europe**. Father Frank Silva, a faculty member at St. John's Seminary in Brighton and who previously served as pastor in Burlington, invites you to join him on a **tour of Prague, Vienna, and Budapest from June 1-11, 2026**. For information about the trip, go to: <https://gateway.gocollette.com/link/1362952> or call Father Silva at 617-746-5425.



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

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.)



IT'S TIME FOR BINGO!!

On December 21st,
January 4th & 18th
St. Vincent de Paul
of Woburn is hosting BINGO at The Moose Lodge,
4 Federal Street, Woburn. Doors open at 12:30pm.



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.

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)*

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**

PRAY for VOCATIONS

Jesus commanded us to pray for vocations with
his words, "Pray, therefore, the Lord of the
harvest to send out laborers into his
harvest" (Mt. 9:38). Take on prayer for
vocations as your personal effort
to increase the number of priests,
sisters, brothers, and lay ministers.

*Serra for priestly and religious vocations
<https://serraus.org>*

Gaudete Sunday

This Sunday, in the advent wreath we light the
rose colored candle of joy (gaudete). Joy is
persistent, compassionate, and defiant in the
presence of adversity, penitence, and longing. It
does not dismiss difficulty but rather names
that in the presence of a loving God no difficulty
is unassailable by God's power. Joy is strength.

This Sunday we remember that in Christ
we are always Gaudete Strong!



**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!

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

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William Corrigan
Joanne Mackey
Scott Morency

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 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