

# Saint Charles Borromeo

February 22, 2015

First Sunday  
of Lent



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**Pastor:** Rev. Gerald F. Finnegan, S. J.

**Parish Secretary:** Lucille Hannon

**Bookkeeper:** Jennifer Collins  
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**Religious Education Director:** Donna Zannelli  
(401) 766-2890

**Music Ministry:** Wayne and Becky Kilcline

**Office of Community Services & Advocacy**  
**Woon. Satellite:** Antonio Andreu Galvan  
(401) 762-2849

**Cemetery Care:** Jack Marzini, Superintendent  
Bob Millette, Assistant  
(508) 883-6838

## Weekend Masses

Saturday Vigil: 4:00 PM

Sunday: 9:00 AM

**Brazilian Mass** 12:00 noon

Rev. Adriano Lessa

## Weekday Masses

(in the lower-level Chapel)

Tuesday - Friday: 9:00 AM

**Confessions:** Saturdays 3: - 3:30 PM  
or by appointment

## Adult Religious Education

Wednesday: 9:30 - 10:15 AM

## Holy Days

9:00 AM and 7:00 PM

## If you are new to the parish, WELCOME!

Please introduce yourself. We want to know you and to serve you. We hope you will favor your parish with your prayers, your presence, your talents and your financial assistance - according to your means.

## This Week's Mass Intentions



Saturday, February 21	4PM - James Egan by the Family
Sunday, February 22	9AM - Parishioners of St. Charles
Tuesday, February 24	9AM - Mass of the Day
Wednesday, February 25	9AM - Mass of the Day
Thursday, February 26	9AM - Mass of the Day
Friday, February 27	9AM - Aldo F. Rossi & family by his sisters
Saturday, February 28	4PM - Rev. Arthur King, O.M.I. by the Egan Family
Sunday, February 29	9AM - Mary & Louis Zannelli by the family

### Last Weekend's Offertory

Offertory Envelopes	\$
Loose Money	\$
(Figures unavailable because of snowstorm).	

*Thank you*



### Scripture for the week of February 22, 2015

Sunday:	Gn 9:8-15/1 Pt 3:18-22/Mk 1:12-15
Monday:	Lv 19:1-2, 11-18/Mt 25:31-46
Tuesday:	Is 55:10-11/Mt 6:7-15
Wednesday:	Jon 3:1-10/Lk 11:29-32
Thursday:	Est C:12, 14-16, 23-25/Mt 7:7-12
Friday:	Ez 18:21-28/Mt 5:20-26
Saturday:	Dt 26:16-19/Mt 5:43-48
Next Sunday:	Gn 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18/Rom 8:31b-34/Mk 9:2-10

"The Church is a perpetual construction site."

~Cardinal Henri de Lubac

A John Allen, a journalist, writes in his book The Global War on Christians: "From Iraq and Egypt to Sudan and Nigeria, from Indonesia to the Indian subcontinent, Christians in the early twenty-first century are the world's most persecuted religious group." That is hard to believe, is it not? We here in the United States feel so safe practicing our religion, even though some warn us that our religious freedom is being chipped away by government and society with respect to marriage and birth control. Nevertheless, as the Scriptures say, we have not yet resisted to the shedding of our blood. Please God, it will not come to that for us in the near or distant future. But it would be horrible for us not to do what we can for our sisters and brothers in the faith who are resisting unto blood. This past week twenty-five men were beheaded by ISIS simply because they were Christians, members of the ancient Coptic Church in Egypt. We pray for them and their families, and we resolve to bring the plight of persecuted Christians everywhere in the world to the attention of government leaders.

Lent has begun. We have Stations of the Cross on Fridays at 3:30 P.M., and we are also meeting with other Christian churches of our city on Thursday nights to pray. The first of such meetings will be in our church on Thursday, the 26<sup>th</sup> of February, at 7 P.M. The following Thursday (3/5) we will be at St. Mark's Lutheran Church. Then on 3/12 at St. James Baptist Church, 3/19 the Polish National Church, and 3/26 Christ Community Church in Blackstone. Please come. Fr. St-Godard at Holy Family is also offering a Lenten program on Monday evenings at 7 P.M. Therefore, you have no reason "to sit alone in your room" on Monday and Thursday evenings of this Lent. Come pray with others.

Fr. Finnegan, S.J.



# Announcements



**LENT IS BEGINNING THIS WEEK!** - Dynamic Catholic is launching a bold new email program for Lent 2015, titled "**Best Lent Ever,**" led by America's best-selling Catholic author, Matthew Kelly, who states " When Catholicism is actually lived, it elevates every human activity and every human environment it touches". "That is what this program will inspire. We want Catholics to do more than give up chocolate for Lent. Let's step it up a notch. Instead, let's do something bold."

The program is simple. Each week, participants will receive powerful, short videos and inspiration from Matthew via email.

**All you need to do is sign up online at: [BestLentEver.com](http://BestLentEver.com)**

**RICE BOWLS ARE AVAILABLE** - Our Lenten gifts to Catholic Relief Services changes lives.

\$1 a day for 40 days of Lent means 1 month of food for a family; 2 years of seed for a farmer; 3 months of clean water for 4 families.

Please pick up your rice bowl in box on right of parish hall as you exit.

**FISH & CHIPS** - St. Theresa of the Child Jesus Parish, 35 Dion Drive, Harrisville will be offering Fish and Chips and/or baked fish every Friday beginning February 20 through March 27 from noon until 7 PM. Ticket price to be announced.

Keep shoes out of landfills and donate to those in need! Help us reach our local goal of 25,000 pairs of shoes to change 25,000 lives. Did you know that 46.5 million people living in poverty right here in the United States? Did you know that 16.1million of them are children? Did you know that 400million children worldwide live in extreme poverty? Did you know many of them never owned a pair of shoes? Without shoes many won't be able to: work, attend school or

avoid disease. Donate new or gently used shoes at our Shoe Drive now going on. All shoes collected will be sent by Deacon John Dowd who is sponsoring this program through his tax and financial services business, directly to **SOLES4SOULS** for distribution. He is working with other financial professionals in an effort to collect 25,000 pairs of shoes. Visit [www.soles4souls.org](http://www.soles4souls.org) or [www.dowdassociates.net](http://www.dowdassociates.net) for additional information. We thank you in advance for your generous support of this very worthwhile cause.

The following **mini-retreat** will be held at Sacred Hearts Retreat Center in Wareham, MA this winter and spring on the second Wednesdays of the month. All are welcome - men and women, Catholics and non-Catholics.

**Time:** 10:00am to 12:30pm

**Cost:** \$20

**Registration:** In order to prepare seating and materials, please pre-register at least two days in advance by contacting Peggy at 508-548-9149 or [timeoutretreats@comcast.net](mailto:timeoutretreats@comcast.net). The fee can be paid on arrival.

**Mass:** When available, Fr. Stan Kolasa, director of Sacred Hearts, will celebrate Mass at 9:00am.

**March 11: *What to Do in the Darkness***

Each of us goes through periods of darkness in our lives – times which can be fraught with fear, confusion, doubt and even anger. Though darkness can overwhelm us, we are not helpless. With loving support, faith in God and our own inner resources, we can find the strength to make it to the other side. Easter assures us that new life will be ours as we go through our personal Good Fridays.



## THE RAINBOW AND THE GOODNESS OF GOD

In the First Reading, God gives Noah the rainbow as a reassuring sign of his goodness: God will never again do what he has just done. God will never again destroy everything with a flood.

But why isn't it bad enough that God did it once? God brought it about that every human being, except for Noah and his small family, died by drowning in one great natural catastrophe. Where is the goodness of God in the story of the flood?

Well, here is one way to think about God's action.

Consider the medical treatment for certain fatal cancers. For those deadly diseases, doctors can try to save the patient with an autologous bone marrow transplant. The doctor takes bone marrow from the patient and hunts for any cells that are not cancerous. He saves those healthy cells, but he kills the cancerous ones. Then he clones the healthy cells and puts them back into the patient. By this painful measure, there is a chance that the doctor can save the life of his patient.

In the story of the flood, God tries the analogue of this same procedure on the human race, doomed to die because of sin. God takes a few morally healthy human beings and puts them into a new world, to reproduce there. The morally sick and destructive population of the old world dies in God's flood.

But, you might think, what dies in the treatment for cancer is only cells. What died in the flood is human beings!

True, but notice this other difference between the medical treatment and the flood. In the flood, the selection between the sick and the healthy people is made by the people themselves. Those who aren't on Noah's boat don't want to be on it. To get on the boat, they would have to acknowledge their sins and accept God's means to safety. They would be among the healthy, the righteous invited on the boat, if they repented. But this is what they refuse to do. The boat is there for those who don't refuse it. And, as the Gospel reading makes plain, that boat is always there, in Christ, who saves all those who do not reject him.

And so the rainbow is a sign of the goodness of God, who calls everyone to salvation.

Eleonore Stump, Professor of Philosophy, St. Louis University

### **Sacrament of Baptism**

Please call the rectory after your baby's birth to prepare for this initial Sacrament of spiritual life.

### **Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick (and Communion Calls)**

Please notify us if anyone is ill, in the hospital or homebound and may wish to receive Holy Communion at home.



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