

SAINT CLEMENT PARISH

Offices: 579 Boston Ave., Medford, MA 02155
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www.saintclementcatholicparish.org



Detail from *Creation of Adam* - Michelangelo, c.1512

Parish Administrator

Fr. Phong Pham

Parish Secretaries

Mrs. Mary Daley

Mrs. Diane Abramson

Ms. Jacquelyn Hazle

secretarystclement@outlook.com

Parish Office Hours

Monday - Friday:

9:00 AM - 1:00 PM

Rosary Prayers:

Monday and Saturday

7:00 AM

Daily Mass:

Tuesday - Friday

7:00 AM

Saturday Vigil:

4:00 PM

Sunday Mass:

7:00, 9:00, 11:00 AM

TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

“For who has known the mind of the Lord or who has been his counselor? Or who has given the Lord anything that he may be repaid? For from him and through him and for him are all things.”

(Romans 11: 34-36)

MASS INTENTIONS

Daily Mass: Tuesday ~ Friday at 7:00 AM -- Saturday Vigil: 4:00 PM -- Sunday: 7:00, 9:00 & 11:00 AM

This week’s Eucharist Celebrations are for:

- Sunday, August 23 - 9:00 AM: George & Margaret Garofalo
- 11:00 AM: Andrew Bottari and Phillip Harrington, Sr. & Jr.
- Tuesday, August 25 - 7:00 AM: Laetita Pierre-Louis
- Thursday, August 27 - 7:00 AM: In memory of Mildred & William Fleming
- Friday, August 28 - 7:00 AM: Holy Souls of Purgatory
- Saturday, August 29 - 4:00 PM: The Anniversary of Attilio Cercone

Please pray for repose for the soul of **Eleanor Healy**, who was buried from St. Clement this week.

Rosary Prayers are on Monday & Saturday at 7:00 AM.

The Sacrament of Reconciliation is available on Saturday’s from 3:00 ~ 4:00 PM.

Baptisms may be scheduled by emailing secretarystclement@outlook.com.



For the month of August, the **Sanctuary Candle** will burn in loving memory of **Joseph H. Evans**, given by his wife, Gertrude Evans.

Weekly Prayer Column

This week, please pray for the strength and well being of **Charlotte Zachery, Jim Macri, Jessica Benton, Mary Ackerly, Fred & Eleanor Hunter, Graziella Iacovino and Dora DelGizzi.**

FROM FR. PHONG

On Monday afternoon I drove down to Dorchester. I had volunteered to prepare dinner for a good friend’s family. Once I broke free from the highway traffic and entered the city, I headed over to Lambert’s. Needed a big fat piece of steak and some shrimp. As I pulled into the parking lot, the phone rang. A priest. Important stuffs. So I had to be attentive although I was running behind schedule. That is why as soon as we bid good-bye, I clicked off the phone, pushed the door lock button, jumped out of the jeep, slammed the door shut (you really have to slam the jeep doors to close them properly), and rushed inside the store and quickly made my purchase. I hurried back to the jeep only to realize that I had left my keys in the ignition with the engine still running. My first time ever getting locked outside of my car in all my years of driving! I called the police station and since it was not an emergency the plea for assistance was denied. I called a former parishioner who is a Quincy policeman and came up blank. So I had to swallow my pride and reached out to a friend who drove over to the parking lot, met me with a huge grin all over her face, and dialed her AAA. Thirty minutes later, I was back inside my jeep with humiliation, embarrassment and utter stupidity splashed all over my existence.

But the dinner was gleefully consumed. The steak was a little on the done side - but that’s how my friends like theirs. The shrimp was a big hit. At the end of the evening, everyone had forgotten about the jeep incident. Except me.

Why are we at times so dysfunctionally and obsessively attached to our past, especially to mistakes and missteps?

Why are we at times so emotionally clinging on to our yesterday’s hurt and pain? This truth I experience weekly in the Sacrament of Reconciliation, that regardless of the declaration of absolution from God and the Church it is still very difficult to forgive ourselves of our sins and failures. We can often be our harshest critics, most unforgiving partners, and the worst judge of our own heart.

Some scholars and sages have postulated that there is an intimate correlation between how we see and define ourselves, our relationships with others, and our perception of God. A person with a healthy self-image tends to cultivate good relationships with fellow beings and, quintessentially, a profound and completely fearless love with God...

How are you doing? I pray that your patience and perseverance will outlast this Covid-19. Taking care of oneself and looking out for others should never be seen, perceived or construed as a political stance. Put your mask on if you have to go out. Keep a good social distance. Wash your hands often. Avoid listening to language of violence, divisiveness or anyone who advocates fears and hatred. Say your prayers. Pray for peace. Pray for hope. Pray for compassion. And above all, pray for the grace of forgiveness - to let go of our past failures and to have the humility to embrace - through the Sacrament of Reconciliation - God’s mercy and absolution, for I am convinced that the inability to accept God’s absolution in some way is the rejection of God’s unconditional love. Shalom, Fr. Phong



“But who do you say I am?” Simon Peter said in reply, ‘You are the Christ, the Son of the Living God.’ Jesus said to him in reply, Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah. For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my heavenly Father.” (Matthew 16:15-17)

Virtual Adoration

No matter the chaos and fear that surrounds us, our desire to be near to our Lord always prevails. If you are searching for more options to spend time in quiet prayer before the Holy Eucharist, there are now online resources available for Virtual Adoration. You can find a list of scheduled and perpetual Adoration streaming resources on the Archdiocese’s website:

www.bostoncatholic.org/virtual-adoration

As we keep one another safe while staying home, we can offer our time and attention to Christ, whose loving presence is so deeply needed in these times. Let’s remember, after all, this is the Year of the Eucharist!

Volunteers Needed!!

As mandated by the Archdiocese, ALL volunteers, Lectors and musicians must have their temperature taken at each Mass before they begin serving. We still **urgently need non-risk volunteers to help usher** at each Mass. All of masses are currently understaffed for ushers and we are happy to have your help for any mass time you are able to come! We also need more people to remain after Mass to help **clean and disinfect the church** before the next Mass. To start volunteering, contact Allison Fillo: **(860) 227-6429** or allison.ahern@gmail.com. Indicate what role you will volunteer for and which masses you can help with.

Emergency Support for Catholic Schools

Back in April, Cardinal Sean asked us to help Catholic schools and sign the petition asking Governor Baker to help support our schools with emergency financial aid through the federal CARES Act. You can find this petition and the Cardinal’s original statement at www.bostoncatholic.org/catholic-schools-petition. As they begin a new year facing unparalleled challenges, it’s even more important that we continue to remember and support our schools, teachers, students, family and staff who are working hard to continue providing education and community.

Faith Formation Programs (CCD)

Due to the pandemic, we are still discussing what the CCD programming will be in the near future. However, we would like to know if you have a child/children who are of age to prepare for First Communion (grades 1-2), or Confirmation (grades 9-10). If so, please email the Parish Office or call us Monday-Friday, between 9:00 AM and 1:00 PM, so we can receive your information, or if you have questions. Thank you for your support of our parish!

Safety Reminders for Attending Mass

- Please follow the blue tape and sit within the blue tape indicators for social distancing.
- Lower the kneeler in front of you before leaving, so our volunteers know they need to disinfect the area.
- Please be respectful to all staff, ushers and volunteers and follow their instructions: the Archdiocese requires we have volunteers and we don’t get to celebrate Mass without them!
- Face masks must be worn over mouth AND nose
- Please keep 6ft distance from everyone who doesn’t live in your household. Ask people to speak louder if you can’t hear them.

The coronavirus has not gone away. Following these instructions provided by the Archdiocese of Boston and the State of Massachusetts is how we keep one another safe and remain permitted to celebrate public Mass.

COLLECTION DASHBOARD

Weekly Collection Goal: \$4,000.00

Last Week’s Collection: \$1,304.00

This weekend there is no second collection.

Next weekend there is no second collection.

