

SAINT GREGORY PARISH

2223 Dorchester Avenue, Dorchester Lower Mills, Massachusetts 02124

Tel: 617-298-2460, 617-298-0478 † Fax: 617-298-9232 † Office Hours: Monday-Friday, 9am-3pm

Email: stgregoryparish@gmail.com † Website: www.stgregoryparish.com

WELCOME, WE'RE GLAD YOU ARE HERE! We extend a warm welcome to all guests and parishioners. *We are delighted that you have come to worship with us, and we very much hope that you feel at home here! Newcomers are encouraged to register as members of the Parish. Registration forms are available in the entryways of the Church and in the Parish Office and can be placed in the offertory basket or mailed to the Parish Office.*



PASTOR: Fr. Jack Ahern

Email: bowdoin9043@gmail.com

IN RESIDENCE: Fr. Brian F. McMahon

BUSINESS MANAGER: Julie A. Hayes

MUSIC DIRECTOR: James Busby

SUNDAY MASSES: Saturday: 4:00 PM

Sunday: 7:00 AM, 10:00 AM and 5:00 PM

DAILY MASSES: Monday - Friday: 6:45 AM

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM: Second Sunday of every month at 11:00 AM, in the upper Church. Please call rectory in advance to register.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION: Saturday: Noon—1:00 pm on Saturdays to allow both the celebration of the Sacrament weekly and to schedule funerals.

SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE: Couples planning to be married should contact Fr. Jack at least six months prior to the date requested.

SACRAMENT OF THE SICK: Anytime by request.

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION: First Saturday of the month from Noon—1:00 pm.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION: Classes begin in October each year. Please contact the rectory for more information.

ST. JOHN PAUL II CATHOLIC ACADEMY - LOWER MILLS

Lisa Warshafsky, Principal

Tel: 617-265-0019, Website: www.sjp2ca.org

BULLETIN DEADLINE: Monday morning.

Please turn off cell phones and pagers upon entering the church.

**SATURDAY, APRIL 24**

4:00 PM Edna Fuge (43rd Anniversary)

SUNDAY, APRIL 25

7:00 AM Elaine Barry (1st Anniversary)

10:00 AM Mary Frank (Memorial)

5:00 PM Sandra Caggiano (Anniversary)

MONDAY, APRIL 26

6:45 AM Jeannot Akpabie (Memorial)

TUESDAY, APRIL 27

6:45 AM Mariio Goncalves (Memorial)

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 28

6:45 AM Souls in Purgatory

THURSDAY, APRIL 29

6:45 AM Fr. Robert Bryson (Anniversary)

FRIDAY, APRIL 30

6:45 AM Edmund, Margaret & Mary Holmes (Mem.)

SATURDAY, MAY 1

4:00 PM Joseph Duffy, Sr. (1st Anniversary)

SUNDAY, MAY 2

7:00 AM Martin Conroy (12th Anniversary)

10:00 AM John & Nonie Henderson (Memorial)

5:00 PM Mary McGaugh (Memorial)

The Holy Father's Prayer Intention for April:

We pray for those who risk their lives while fighting for fundamental rights under dictatorships, authoritarian regimes, and even in democracies in crisis.

**Please keep in your prayers**

Please pray for Benjamin Spagnuolo, Doris Marr and all those who have died recently that they may rest in God's peace. Please also remember their families and friends that they might know the gift of God's loving consolation.

Offertory Collection—Sunday, April 18, 2021**\$4,700.00 (includes online and mailed in giving).**

To give online go to stgregoryparish.com and click on the green button "Get Started". For help, call Julie at the rectory.

**2021 Catholic Appeal Update**

I am pleased to share that even during these difficult times, St. Gregory Parish has raised \$16,815.00 toward our 2021 Catholic Appeal goal of \$30,035. Our heartfelt thanks to all who have helped make our campaign a success so far. Whether you are attending Mass in person or watching from home, I invite you to join me in supporting the Catholic Appeal. If you have not received a Catholic Appeal letter or email request, donations can be made online at www.bostoncatholicappeal.org Every gift, regardless of the size, is meaningful and can make an impact.

Covid Precautions

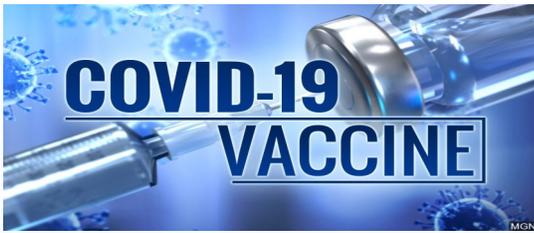
As states like Massachusetts are opening up and vaccines keep getting into more arms, it can feel like the end of the pandemic is here. Here's what you need to know this morning: Covid Precautions: With the arrival of Spring and its beautiful weather and more and more individuals receiving their vaccinations, I am seeing more life and energy in our neighborhood and in the Church.

But health officials want to remind us that it's not over yet, and to "please, hold on a little while longer." Let us continue to exercise caution and remember that for many it is still too early to be venturing out to Mass. Please remember that the dispensation from the obligation for Sunday Mass continues and that the Cardinal and I encourage people to be safe. I look forward to the day where all of us can again gather, but now is not the right time for many individuals.

"In the midst of the contradictions and perplexities we must confront each day, the din of so many words and opinions, there is the quiet voice of the Risen Lord who keeps saying to us:

"Peace be with you!"

Pope Francis



For many differing reasons, a number of people are reluctant to receive the Covid-19 Vaccination. The CDC and FDA pause to vaccinations using the Johnson and Johnson Vaccine has only served to heighten the sense of hesitancy. As mentioned before, I have been vaccinated with no side effects and I continue to urge as many individuals as possible to be vaccinated.

Some have asked me if it is morally acceptable to receive a vaccine. To this question Cardinal Sean said, "that the Church has looked very carefully at the ethical implications of this vaccine and wants to assure all of us that the decision to be vaccinated is an ethical decision, and we want to encourage people to make use of this very important weapon in fighting the pandemic." He also spoke about Pope Francis, who has consistently taught in his pontificate "that God has put us on this earth to take care of one another." "The Holy Father wants us all to be very aware that although taking the vaccination is a personal choice, it has consequences that affect not only the individual but also more broadly affects our susceptible neighbors. There are people who cannot take the vaccine or do not yet have access to it that can still be affected by those who refuse to take the vaccine. The general principle of the common good comes down to benevolence, love, care for others, laying down personal priorities for the service of others.

Fr. Jack

Update on Msgr. Paul Ryan

Very often someone will ask me if I know how Msgr. Ryan is doing. Recently the Covid restriction in place at Regina Cleri were lifted and visits (though limited) allowed. I was able to visit with him last week. Msgr. is in good spirits but has some memory and mobility issues. Please keep him in your prayers.

If you wish to send a note please send it care of Regina Cleri Residence; 60 William Cardinal O'Connell Way, Boston, MA 02114-2729



Excerpts from
**"A Message from Pope Francis on
 World Day of Prayer
 for Vocations 2021"**

St. Joseph—The Dream of Vocation

"Saint Joseph suggests to us *three key words* for each individual's vocation. The first is *dream*. Everyone dreams of finding fulfilment in life. We rightly nurture great hopes, lofty aspirations that ephemeral goals – like success, money and entertainment – cannot satisfy. If we were to ask people to express in one word their life's dream, it would not be difficult to imagine the answer: "to be loved". It is love that gives meaning to life, because it reveals life's mystery. Indeed, we only *have* life if we *give* it; we truly possess it only if we generously give it away. Saint Joseph has much to tell us in this regard, because, through the dreams that God inspired in him, he made of his life a gift.

Each time he was willing to face new circumstances without complaining, ever ready to give a hand to help resolve situations. We could say that this was the *outstretched hand* of our heavenly Father reaching out to his Son on earth. Joseph cannot fail to be a model for all vocations, called to be the *ever-active hands of the Father*, outstretched to his children.

I like to think, then, of Saint Joseph, the protector of Jesus and of the Church, as the *protector of vocations*. In fact, from his willingness to serve comes his *concern to protect*. The Gospel tells us that "Joseph got up, took the child and his mother by night" (Mt 2:14), thus revealing his prompt concern for the good of his family. He wasted no time fretting over things he could not control, in order to give full attention to those entrusted to his care. Such thoughtful concern is the sign of a true vocation, the testimony of a life touched by the love of God. What a beautiful example of Christian life we give when we refuse to pursue our ambitions or indulge in our illusions, but instead care for what the Lord has entrusted to us through the Church! God then pours out his Spirit and creativity upon us; he works wonders in us, as he did in Joseph."

"Pray the Lord of the harvest to send laborers into his harvest" (Mt 9:38; Lk 10:2). Please pray that young men and women hear and respond generously to the Lord's call to the priesthood, diaconate, religious life, societies of apostolic life or secular institutes.