



Bartolomé Estéban Murillo, c. 1660



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April 26, 2015 4th Sunday of Easter

Sunday Mass:

Vigil 4pm; 9am, 11am

Daily Mass:

Mon - Fri: 9am

Morning Prayer 8:45am

Eucharistic Adoration

Thursdays 6:30 - 7:30pm

Confessions Available

First Saturday Mass: 9am

St. Athanasius Church
300 Haverhill St, Reading, 01867
Mon-Fri 9am-4pm
www.StAthanasiusReading.org
StAthanasius@parishmail.com
Facebook: [http://www.facebook.com/
StAthanasiusReading](http://www.facebook.com/StAthanasiusReading)
Phone: 781-944-0330
Fax: 781-944-1266

Reconciliation: Saturdays 3:15-3:45pm and during Eucharistic Adoration.

Baptism: Celebrated the 3rd Sunday at 1pm. Call to register for Baptism Prep.

Anointing of the Sick: Notify the office when a person is seriously ill. Extraordinary Ministers are available to bring the Eucharist to the homebound.

Marriage: Call at least 6 months in advance of your wedding.





Saturday, April 25

4pm John Gillespie

Sunday, April 26

9am Mass for the People of St. Athanasius

11am Richard J. McNeil, Jr. Birthday Memorial

Monday, April 27

9am Rev. Msgr. Alfonso Palladino

Tuesday, April 28

9am Robert Patienus

Wednesday, April 29

9am Josephine Marotta Anniversary Memorial

Thursday, April 30

9am Mass

Friday, May 1

9am Deceased Members of the Kevorkian & Willenborg Families

Saturday, May 2

9am First Saturday Mass

4pm Mass for the People of St. Athanasius

Sunday, May 3

9am Madeline DeAntonis

11am Deceased Members of the Catholic Associations of Foresters

High Altar Candles Donation by Anonymous

SCRIPTURE FOR THE WEEK OF APRIL 26

- 26 SUN Acts 4:8-12/1 Jn 3:1-2/Jn 10:11-18
- 27 Mon Acts 11:1-18/Jn 10:1-10
- 28 Tue Acts 11:19-26/Jn 10:22-30
- 29 Wed Acts 12:24-13:5a/Jn 12:44-50
- 30 Thu Acts 13:13-25/Jn 13:16-20
- 1 Fri Acts 13:26-33/Jn 14:1-6
- 2 Sat Acts 13:44-52/Jn 14:7-14
- 3 SUN Acts 9:26-31/1 Jn 3:18-24/Jn 15:1-8

WEEKLY OFFERTORY

Mass Attendance:466

First Collection: \$5651

This Week's Collection: Home Missions

Please pray for our military and civilians who defend our freedom, especially:

The 26th "Yankee" Brigade, and 1st Lt. Ryan Johnson, US Army, Patrick Cavanaugh, and PFC Kyle Lepore



Remember those in need of prayers, especially:

Maryann Lucerto, Stephanie Lombardo-Saulnier, Gina Campagna, Margaret Sumner, John Cadigan, Mary Lou, Dianne, Bill, Joan D., Scott, Dan Hallidy, David S. Attachi Family, Olga Calautti, Stephen O'Neill, Kathy Oliveira, The Haines Family, Cindy O'Connell, Paula, Joanne Curran, Jimmy, Charles Morrison, Frank F., Frank DelGrecco, Barbara Coffin, Ken Hodgson, John F. O'Brien, Ruthie, Richard Rossi, Robert D, Thomas D, Andrew D, Richard D, Phil T, Jen M, Fran P, Bryan M, Marion M, Anna Windels, Mary McNerney, Richard M, Larry Y, Denise S., John, Annemarie, Mary G., Shirley N, Mary O'C., Carol & Frank, Deborah, Patricia Maines, Justin L., Paula, Mike, David, Bubba Toussaint, Joan D, Nana K.

These names will stay in the Prayer Corner until Sunday, May 3rd. Call the office or email Stathanasiusbulletin@parishmail.com to add or renew your loved ones on the list.

MEETINGS & EVENTS

Tuesday, Apr 27	Adult Faith Formation	6:30-8:30 PAC
Wednesday, Apr 28	Grade 2 First Communion Rehearsal	4:00-5:30 pm
Saturday, May 2	First Saturday Mass First Communion Retrouvaille Post Session	9am 11:00 am 3:30-9 PAC
Sunday, May 3	Walk for Hunger Youth Commission Meeting	Morning 7-8pm PAC

FROM THE PASTOR

The Gospel readings at Mass during the Easter Season often review very important teachings from Our Lord (such as His Real Presence in the Eucharist) while the other New Testament readings mainly come from the Acts of the Apostles. The Acts readings demonstrate that the very early Church acted in the name of Our Lord and with his same power. Last week's Patriots' Day readings were no different. In fact, the reading from Acts explicitly states that St. Stephen, the Church's first martyr, was working signs and wonders in Jerusalem as Jesus did *and* was falsely accused of blasphemy and other sins to have him arrested no differently than the Lord.

That Patriots' Day reading caused me to recall a 90 second video I had seen featuring Dr. Clay Christensen who is a Harvard Business School professor. The short video merely shows Dr. Christensen sharing the observation of a colleague from China who was studying business practices in America. Interestingly, the colleague's observation had to do with the role of faith in democracy rather than capitalism. Coming from an officially atheist, non-democratic country, he noted how critical the role of faith is in keeping the American democracy afloat, because the laws and, more importantly, the impetus for citizens to *follow those laws*, flow from the idea that these are good things that God would expect of us. The Chinese man's caution was also part of his observation: the diminishment in faith in the United States would be a very bad thing for the functioning of a free democracy.

The Gospel passage this past Patriots' Day was also very instructive in that light. The Lord, after correcting the people for self-interestedly seeking him for the signs and healing miracles that He did on their behalf, was asked: "What can we do to accomplish the works of God?" He responded, "This is the work of God, that you believe in the one He sent."

We do not follow our Faith merely as a private opinion or for its personal benefit. It is meant to be lived in every aspect of our life even if it requires us to witness the Gospel in a world that no longer appreciates it. We are meant to be joyful in this witness, as St. Stephen during his martyrdom, but it may also help to realize that we are the ones being patriotic when we fight to keep faith as part of our culture.

Join the Community of St. Gregory The Great for a solemn High Mass for the Feast of the English Martyrs on Monday May 4th at 7 pm. St Patrick's Church, 9 Pomeworth Street, Stoneham. Reception to follow
For more information:
office@saintgregoryordinariate.org or visit
www.saintgregoryordinariate.org

We are looking for someone to take on the Leadership role in the Family Mass. Please think about stepping up to volunteer. A Special Thank You to Mary Ferguson who has done this wonderfully for many years. Please contact the office if you have any questions concerning this role. We will be having a brief meeting on May 3rd after the 9:00 am Mass at the Parish Center for further details.

YOUTH MINISTRY: MIDDLE SCHOOLERS, HIGH SCHOOLERS, AND PARENTS

HAPPY EASTER! Continue to enrich your faith this Easter season by joining us for any of our upcoming youth ministry activities.

If you'd like to volunteer to organize and sort bottles and cans at 8am-12pm in the St. Athanasius parking lot on Saturday, May 2nd please send me an email. We're looking for four or five youth to help out.

We'll be attending Project Bread's Walk for Hunger in Boston on the morning of May 3rd. As a team (St. A's Youth) we will have a middle school group and a high school group with at least two adults in each (including myself). Please email me if you'd like to join the team and find our team on <http://www.projectbread.org/walk-for-hunger/>.

Our next Youth Commission leadership meeting is Sunday, May 3rd at 7-8pm in the St. Athanasius Parish Center. Anyone who would like to take a leadership role in Catholic youth ministry here in Reading are welcome to attend, including parents and youth. Dessert will be provided.

To raise money for our youth ministry program, we'll be selling flowers before and after Mass at St. Athanasius on Mother's Day weekend. We need several middle or high schoolers to volunteer to sell at our table. Email me if you're interested. More information will come soon.

We need parent volunteers for any and all events and activities so please contact me if you'd like to get involved. If you have any questions or interest in any of these offerings please feel free to contact me at [585-200-2831](tel:585-200-2831) or bagostinelli@parishmail.com.

Peace,
Brad Agostinelli
St. Athanasius and St. Agnes Youth Ministry
Follow us and stay updated with social media!
-Instagram @saintasyouth (#ReadingCatholicYM)
-St. Athanasius and St. Agnes Youth Ministry Facebook page (#ReadingCatholicYM)

Easter Season Adult Faith Formation with Fr. Patrick!

This Easter Season, join Fr. Patrick as we journey through the Acts of the Apostles! We will meet for five one-hour sessions to discuss the following:

April 28, Acts 10:1-15:35 - the inauguration of the Gentile mission

May 5, Acts 15:36-28:31 - the mission of Paul to the ends of the Earth

Each session begins at 7:00 pm. Feel free to join us in the PAC for one, some or all of these sessions!

St. Athanasius Parish Outreach

We are expanding our outreach efforts so that we may better assist those in our community who may need a helping hand in a variety of ways. We are looking for volunteers who would be willing to assist in the following ways:

- ◆ Drive parishioners to church
- ◆ Prepare meals
- ◆ Visit parishioners who may be unable to attend church
- ◆ Bake desserts for the Sawtelle Hospice House

Please let us know if you can provide any of these important services. If you are already on the Hospice House dessert list, you **do not** need to volunteer for that effort again since we already have your contact information. Please contact Ellen Terry at eterry18@yahoo.com or 781-944-5431 to volunteer for any of these programs. THANK YOU!

**First Communion Rehearsal date
and time change:
Wednesday April 29th from 4:00-
5:30 pm**

Save the date: May 30, 2015

St. Athanasius 2nd Annual Wine Tasting
Watch the bulletin for upcoming information

St. Athanasius is at 85% of goal for the Boston Catholic Appeal! Thank You!



We would like to express our deep appreciation for those who have been able to respond to the Boston Catholic Appeal. We are closing in on our parish assessment.

We would also like to ask if you have not yet made a pledge if you would prayerfully consider doing so and help our parish reach its goal. Pledges may be made online or with the Catholic Appeal envelopes.

Fr. Colarusso & Maria Blewitt,
Catholic Appeal Coordinator for St. Athanasius

Ladies' Prize Bingo!

Friday, May 15th

6:30pm in the PAC

Please bring food, dessert or wine to share.

Coffee and tea provided

\$20/\$15 for students

Ladies of any age are welcome to play!
Prizes include jewelry, make up, with grand prize purses from:

Michael Kors and Coach

Contact Cindy Canavan for tickets:

Cindy.Canavan@comcast.net or 781-872-0042

Coming in the Fall of 2015 – Save the Date

Pilgrimage to Medjugorje

September 27 – October 8, 2015

Spiritual Director: Fr. Tom Reilly

\$2,449 p/p from Boston (based on dbl occupancy)

For more information or to register contact:

Stefanie at 800-206-8687 ext 114 or

Stefanie@206tours.com

Attention All Religious Ed Families

Religious Education Registration is now open for the 2015-2016 school year.

Registration forms were emailed to all Religious Education families last week.

If you did not receive an email, please call the office at 781-944-0330.

Forms are also available on the St. Athanasius website www.stathanasiusreading.org and in the back of the Church.

Please return your registration forms as soon as possible so that we may plan accordingly. Thank you!

Winter 2015 8-week Daytime Bereavement Support Group

Offered by the VNA of Middlesex East

*For adults who have lost a loved one
The death of a loved one is hard to bear.
You can find empathy and understanding
at our bereavement support group.
Looking forward to meeting you...*

The group will meet on the following Tuesday afternoons:

April 28th, May 5th, 19th, 26th, June 2nd, 9th, 16th, & 23rd

TIME: 4:00 pm - 5:30 pm

Open to the community

GROUPS ARE FREE OF CHARGE

REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED

Space is Limited

Please call for information & to reserve a space:

**Suzie Yoffe, Bereavement Coordinator
VNA of Middlesex East & Visiting Nurse
Hospice
781-224-3399**



Family Mass and
Crowning of Mary
Sunday, May
10th at 9am

Grade 2 First Communicants, please join us in your communion attire.

25th and 50th Wedding Anniversary Mass

His Eminence, Sean Cardinal O'Malley, OFM invites all couple celebrating their 25th or 50th wedding anniversary in 2015 to the Silver and Golden Wedding Anniversary Mass at the Cathedral of the Holy Cross. The Mass will be celebrated on June 14th at 11:30 and will include a renewal of vows. Family members and friends are welcome to attend. For more information and to register, please visit bostoncatholic.org/WeddingAnniversaryMass or call the parish office at 781-944-0330. Please register by June 1 to have your name included in the printed list of anniversary couples. A formal invitation and more information will be mailed to each registered couple in May.

Eucharistic Healing Service



Tuesday, April 28th

St. Theresa Parish 978-664-3412

63 Winter Street, North Reading, MA

Celebrant: Fr. Thomas Reilly - Teaching & Prayer with Frank Kelly

6:00 Adoration, Gregorian Rosary, Confessions

7:00 Holy Sacrifice of the Mass

8:15 Teaching & opportunity for personal prayer with Frank

Malden Catholic High School Spring Admissions

Malden Catholic High School is offering Spring Tours, HSPT Testing and Shadow Days to current 8th grade students. Interested applicants may come see the school on and meet with the Admissions staff to learn more about opportunities available for the Class of 2019! Spring date for the High School Placement Test (HSPT) is May 1st. Please contact the Admission office at www.maldencatholic.org/admissions or call 781-475-5293 to schedule an appointment.

Parish Staff

- Pastor **Reverend Darin V. Colarusso**
frcolarusso@parishmail.com
- Parochial Vicar.....**Reverend Patrick Armano**
frarmano@parishmail.com
- Permanent Deacon.....**Deacon Neil Sumner**
nsumner@parishmail.com
- Permanent Deacon.....**Deacon Matt Baltier**
mbaltier@parishmail.com
- Administrative Office Manager..... **Nancy Sieger**
nsieger@parishmail.com
- Coordinator of Religious Ed..... **Jo-Ann Rossi**
jrossi@parishmail.com
- Music Director.....**John Donovan**
jdonovan@parishmail.com
- Business Manager.....**Janine Castro**
jcastro@parishmail.com
- Administrative Assistant **Luann Barretto**
lbarretto@parishmail.com
- Youth Ministry.....**Brad Agostinelli**
bagostinelli@parishmail.com

Bulletin Submissions
stathanasiusbulletin@parishmail.com
By Monday 9 am

Coffee Hour

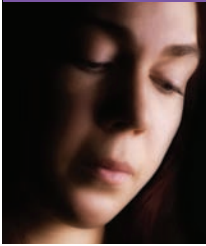
We need hosts for
April & May
Contact Sophie at 781-944-9085
or sign up in the Parish Center .



Reading Food Pantry

April donation suggestions:
Shampoo, toothpaste, toothbrushes, shaving cream,
razors, deodorant

Rachel mourns her children; She refuses to be consoled, because her children are no more. Thus says the Lord: "Cease from your cries of mourning. Wipe the tears from your eyes... There is hope for your future."
Jeremiah 31:15-17



Project Rachel is a confidential Catholic outreach ministry offering hope and healing to women and men hurting from past abortions. **Trust in the tender embrace of God's merciful love.**

www.ProjectRachelBoston.com
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~Pope Francis



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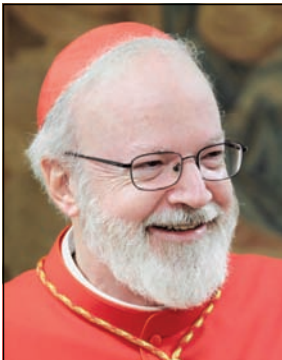


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~Cardinal Sean O'Malley

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