

7th Sunday in Ordinary Time
February 19, 2023

OUR LADY STAR OF THE SEA

Marblehead, Massachusetts

85 Atlantic Ave., Marblehead, Massachusetts 01945
781-631-0086 † website: www.sosmarblehead.org † email: sosrectory@verizon.net
The Church is open daily from 7:00am - 7:00pm. ~ Sunday, January 29, 2023
Sunday Mass: Saturday 4:00 pm, Sunday 7:30, 9:00, and 11:00am
Daily Mass: 9:00am Monday - Saturday



Photo Credit: Fr. Lawrence Lew, O.P.

“Love your enemies, and pray for those who persecute you,
that you may be children of your heavenly Father.”

Matthew 5:44-45

OUR LADY STAR OF THE SEA



We see our community as one moved by Faith, led by Hope and united in Charity, seeking, as a caring family, to walk in the footsteps of Jesus Christ by reaching out in welcome to all: the young, the old, the stranger, and the neighbor. We commit ourselves to helping and healing, to feeding the hungry, to visiting the sick, and to consoling the bereaved as Jesus commanded in the gospels.

PARISH STAFF

Monsignor Timothy Moran, Pastor
Senior Deacon John E. "Joe" Whipple
Reverend Philip Des Rosiers, Weekend Assistant
Reverend Timothy Kelleher, Weekend Assistant
Robert "Mitch" Mitchell, Facilities Manager
Matthew Arnold, Director of Music

Jean Ranger, Office Manager
Yvonne Verrette, Receptionist
Elaine Leahy, Religious Education Assistant
Linda Poehler, Business Manager / Accountant
Katherine Tanner, Church Bulletin Editor / Website & Graphics Designer

RECTORY OFFICE:

(781)631-0086 ~ Fax: 1(781)631-5668 ~ 85 Atlantic Ave.
Mon-Thu 9:00am-3:00pm / Fri 9:00am-12:00pm
sosrectory@verizon.net

PARISH CENTER / RELIGIOUS ED. OFFICE:

(781)631-8340 ~ 80 Atlantic Ave.
Mon-Wed 9:00am-2:00pm
sosreligued@staroftheseamarblehead.org

CONFESSIONS: Saturdays at 2:30–3:30pm. Also upon request, at any reasonable time. Please contact the Rectory to make an appointment.

FUNERALS: To make arrangements for a Funeral, please contact the Rectory Mon-Thu 9am-3pm.

BAPTISM: For Baptism and Baptismal Catechesis, please contact the Rectory Mon - Thu 9am-3pm.

SICK & SHUT-INS: Priests are available to bring Holy Communion to the home. Please contact the Rectory.

WEDDINGS: By personal appointment with a priest, six to eight months prior to the date desired.

NEW PARISHIONERS ARE MOST WELCOME: Please make yourself known to us at the Rectory. We want to know you.

BULLETIN DEADLINE: In writing, at the Rectory by Mon 10am.

THE LITTLE BLACK BOOKS

We want to do all we can to enhance your Lenten experience by opening your minds and hearts through prayer, meditation and storytelling. We have purchased 200 Little Black Books, which contain 6-minute meditations. Beginning on Ash Wednesday, February 22, these books will be available at the rear entrance to the Church for all who are interested. If you choose to take a book, we will gladly accept a donation, but it's not mandatory.



The Ash Wednesday collection on February 22 supports Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Boston.



This collection benefits Catholic Charities of Boston, one of the largest social service providers in Massachusetts. It offers more than 70 programs and services in 23 locations in Eastern Massachusetts, and provides services to nearly 200,000 families and individuals annually, helping them towards a path to self-sustainability. On behalf of those we serve, thank you in advance for your generosity. To give online, please visit <https://www.ccab.org>.

Sunday, February 12

Offertory Collection Total: \$7,702.00
(Online: \$2,109.00 • Collected/Mailed-in: \$5,593.00)
Fuel Collection Total: \$2,310.00
(Online: \$598.00 • Collected/Mailed-in: \$1,712.00)

Ash Wednesday, February 22

SCHEDULE

9:00AM: Mass and Ashes
12:00PM: Prayer Service and Ashes (*No Mass*)
7:00PM: Mass and Ashes

Lenten Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturdays: 2:30—3:30PM*
Wednesdays (*beginning Mar. 1*): 6:00—7:00PM



* With the exception of Holy Saturday. Reconciliation on Holy Saturday (April 8) will be at 11:00AM—12Noon.

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday February 18
 4:00 PM Dr. Paul McNeil

Sunday February 19
 7:30 AM Pro populo
 9:00 AM Gerard Mascuch
 11:00 AM Irene and Paul Nagle

Monday February 20
 9:00 AM Thomas R. Mahoney, M.D.

Tuesday February 21
 9:00 AM Jack Kelly

Wednesday February 22
 9:00 AM Adrian Van Dorpe

Thursday February 23
 9:00 AM Edna Belleau

Friday February 24
 9:00 AM For the Intentions of the Clancy
 Family of Duxbury

Saturday February 25
 9:00 AM Richard Agostini
 4:00 PM John McCarthy 4th Anniversary

Sunday February 26
 7:30 AM Lori Marino 5th Anniversary
 9:00 AM Pro populo
 11:00 AM Bradley Sheridan

UPCOMING SUNDAY MASSES

Saturday February 25
 4:00 PM Monsignor Moran

Sunday February 26
 7:30 AM Father Des Rosiers
 9:00 AM Monsignor Moran
 11:00 AM Monsignor Moran

Altar Server Training

We have a training session for Altar Servers on:

Monday, February 27 at 3:00pm

This training session is for new and seasoned Altar Servers. We welcome all ages (grade 3+) into this ministry. Children assigned Monday Religious Education classes will be excused from class if attending this training. Training will be held in the Church.

If you have any questions about serving, please contact Deacon Joe at jewhipple@comcast.net.



Religious Education



There will be **no** Religious Education classes this week, the week of Sunday, February 19, due to school vacation week. Classes resume next week, on Sunday, February 26.

Have a Safe and Happy Winter Vacation!



2nd Grade Parents

If you were unable to attend the 2nd grade parent meetings, please reach out to us as soon as possible to obtain the materials for your child's First Communion. Call Religious Education at **781-631-8340**, or email Elaine at sosreligioused@staroftheseamarblehead.org.

Parochial School Students

If you have a 10th grader who attends Catholic School, please make sure to register your child for Religious Education as soon as possible, to prepare them for Confirmation in the Fall of 2023. Please reach out to Religious Education at 781-631-8340 or email Elaine at sosreligioused@staroftheseamarblehead.org

Inclement Weather Plan

In alignment with the Marblehead Public School system, and to ensure the safety of all, Religious Education Classes will not be held on days when the public schools are closed due to inclement weather, or when after school programs have been cancelled due to hazardous conditions.



SAVE THE DATES!

Vacation Bible School 2023

June 26-30

STELLAR
SHINE JESUS' LIGHT

9:30am — 12:30pm Grades **K — 6**

Our Lady Star of the Sea Parish Center, Marblehead, MA

COFFEE

We will gathering this Sunday in the Parish Center for Coffee & Donuts following the 9:00AM Mass in the Church.



ALL ARE INVITED!

OUR LADY STAR OF THE SEA

Marblehead, Massachusetts

February 19, 2023
Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

Dear Parishioner of Our Lady Star of the Sea,

The Sermon of the Mount continues as the source of our prayer this weekend (see Matthew 5:38-48). It proffers a particularly high, seemingly impossible, command: "So be perfect, just as your heavenly Father is perfect." This teaching echoes what we hear in the First Reading (see Leviticus 19:1-2,17-18): "Be holy, for I, the LORD, your God, am holy." We who take the teaching of Jesus seriously, as we certainly strive to do, know that we are neither perfect nor perfectly holy. I know that I cannot make myself perfect by my own doings. And I also know that my holiness is not on the level of that of God. In the midst of such an impasse, we turn to the wisdom of St. Paul (see 1 Corinthians 3:16-23). The perfection that the Gospel calls us to realize, and the holiness that we are invited to live, are not our wisdom nor our accomplishment. Indeed, even the greatest wisdom of this world, Paul says, "is foolishness in the eyes of God." Our perfection, our holiness is not our own; it is the perfection and holiness of God's love over us. It is, as St. Paul says, the fact that "you belong to Christ, and Christ to God." When we hear the command of Christ to "be perfect," he is inviting us to be perfected in a love greater than ourselves, God's love. When the Law of Moses commanded the people to "be holy," it was an invitation to be made holy by the saving love of God. The perfect love that is in God has been poured forth on us through Christ Jesus. The perfection in us is the perfect love in which God holds us. We are remade in the pattern of that love.

And yet, we are not mere recipients in all this. Jesus tells us: "offer no resistance to one who is evil." Jesus tells us: "love your enemies." Jesus tells us about strikes on the cheek, theft of our tunic, imposed service over the miles. These images all are presented in anticipation of the Lord's passion and death in which he showed what perfect love, what the holiness of God's love, truly looks and sounds like. We, then, are invited by Jesus to take up our cross and follow him, echoing his words and ways of perfect love. If we were to return evil for evil, or were to seek revenge for hurts suffered, what good would we have accomplished? We would be slaves of the evil one who harms us, being motivated, guided and ensnared by his misdeeds. Draw strength from the perfect love of God in us. Freely choose to pray, to forgive, to love without the other deserving it. So do we achieve true perfection and true freedom of love and life in lived communion with Jesus.

Many of you have recently received a letter or email from Cardinal O'Malley requesting your early support of the 2023 Catholic Appeal. The ministries supported by this yearly Appeal not only help our parish, but they help the greater community in a variety of important ways. If you would like more information, or to make an early gift online, please visit the Catholic Appeal website at bostoncatholicappeal.org.

This weekend we are collecting old palms that you may have at home from previous Palm Sunday celebrations. These old palms are burned to produce the ashes that will be imposed on Wednesday, February 22nd. You may bring whatever you may have at home and leave them in the baskets at the doors of the Church.

WEDNESDAY THIS WEEK IS ASH WEDNESDAY! Masses are at 9 in the morning and 7:00 in the evening. A Service of the Word with Ashes will also take place noon in the Church. All are welcome!

Asking God's blessing on you and yours, I am

Yours in the Lord's service

Msgr. Timothy J. Moran

Lenten Disciplines

Fasting & Abstinence:

Catholics aged 14 and older abstain from meat on Ash Wednesday, Good Friday and all Fridays during Lent. In addition, on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday, Catholics from ages 18 to 59 fast, limiting themselves to one full meal and two smaller meals each day.

Prayer:

Catholics are encouraged to pray more during Lent, especially with Scripture. Lent is also an ideal time to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation in preparation for the celebration of Christ's Passion, Death and Resurrection.

Almsgiving:

Moved by the sacrifice of Christ, many Christians combine almsgiving with fasting, giving to the poor the money they saved by eating, drinking or buying less as they rely more on God's abundant grace.



MUSIC News

OUR LADY STAR OF THE SEA CONCERT SERIES

We are excited to announce that our second concert in our Concert Series will be **Sunday, March 26th at 5:00pm** in the Church for a Lenten Musical Offering featuring the grand choral masterwork,

'The Seven Last Words of Christ' by Theodore Dubois.

The Adult Choir, under the direction of guest conductor **Mark Nemeskal** will be joined by renowned Organist **Rosalind Mohnsen**, choristers from across the Archdiocese as well as featured soloists: **Holly Cameron**, our very own Music Director **Matthew Arnold**, and **Benjamin Hansberry**.

All are invited!

If you are interested in joining the choir, or if you have any questions about the choir, please see our Music Director, Matt Arnold, after weekend Mass in the Church, or you can send him an email at sosmusicdirector@aol.com. The Choir meets in the organ loft every week for rehearsals. The Adult Choir meets on Thursday at 7:00pm. The Children's Choir meets on Sunday at 8:15am. *New members are welcome!*

The Mass Parts can be found on Page 14 of the Heritage Missal.



Creation Care Table

Our Creation Care Table offers fantastic resources for the taking!

The Creation Care Team has recently updated its resource table in the Parish Center. Please stop by and discover the myriad of updated fact sheets and information espousing the benefits of living the seven goals, which are outlined by Pope Francis in his encyclical letter, *Laudato Si'*.

Let's make this a Greener Lent!

In the spirit of integral ecology, we can make small sacrifices with our individual actions. Our relationship between God, humans, and the Earth is connected in how we care for the natural environment and all the people.

What are the Seven Laudato Si' Goals?



laudatosiactionplatform.org

catholicclimatecovenant.org



Greener Lent is a Lenten program that focuses on justice for the poor who are most affected by degradation of our climate. By increasing the rigor of our traditional Lenten fast, we can substantially reduce our individual impact on the environment. This, in addition to our commitment to prayer and almsgiving, helps us turn our hearts to Christ as we prepare for his resurrection at Easter.

In the words of Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI:
The way humanity treats the environment influences the way it treats itself and vice versa.
(*Caritas in Veritate*, 51)

Learn how you can make a difference and sign up now at <https://greenerlent.org>, or for more info, email Holly Willsey-Walker, our Greener Lent Coordinator, at hwillseywalker@gmail.com.



SPRING CAMPAIGN
"40 DAYS FOR LIFE"
FEBRUARY 22 –
APRIL 2

You are warmly invited to join **40 Days for Life** with other Christians in the community, by fasting and praying peaceful solidarity for an end to abortion.

OPENING CEREMONY:

ASH WEDNESDAY, FEB. 22 AT 3:15PM
Ashes will be available to anyone who wishes to receive them at 3:15pm.

This peaceful vigil runs from Ash Wednesday to Palm Sunday, and is held on the public sidewalk in front of the Beverly Cummings Center (Route 62/Elliott Street). We assemble for this educational, life-saving outreach on any one of the 4 corners available on Elliott Street. Parking is available at the Stop & Shop across from the Cummings Center. To learn more about 40 Days for Life, visit www.40daysforlife.com, or contact the Beverly Campaign Coordinator, John Kwiatek, at 508-932-7311 / awacinpi@comcast.net.

HELP SAVE LIVES DURING LENT!

OUR LADY STAR OF THE SEA
FEBRUARY FOOD DRIVE

Our Parish supplies the Marblehead Food Pantry every February. Similar to last year, no bags are being handed out; instead, we have provided a list of requested food pantry items in each bulletin. Please consider picking up a few extra grocery items for donation while shopping for your own. You can return your food donations to the front foyer of the Church, back porch of the Rectory, or to the Parish Center (M-W, 9a-2p) before **Monday, February 27**. *Checks or gift cards are also very much appreciated, and may be placed in the mail slot at the Rectory, located at the front inner door.*

We thank you for your generosity!



Next week's second collection will support the Church in many areas of the world that are underdeveloped. Catholic Relief Services (CRS), the Church in Africa and in Central and

Eastern Europe, and three important national Catholic missions: The Military Archdiocese, Home Missions, and the Black and Indian Missions.

Your generosity will help fund the spiritual, educational and humanitarian need of the Church around the world. For more information about each of these organizations, please visit their websites:

1. CRS: www.usccb.org/catholic-relief
2. Church in Africa: www.usccb.org/africa
3. Church in Central and Eastern Europe: www.usccb.org/cee
4. Military Archdiocese: www.milarch.org
5. Catholic Home Missions: www.usccb.org/home-missions
6. Black and Indian Missions: <https://blackandindianmission.org/>

Comments from Deacon Joe

Victims' Rights

A couple of weeks ago I saw a news story about a proposal to change the law in Florida because a jury had not imposed the death penalty on the Parkland High School murderer. The proposal was to reduce the number of jurors who would be needed to vote for the penalty. The concept of victims' fights was invoked in favor of the change.

Regardless of how you feel in general about whether victims of crimes should have a say in the sentence, and regardless of what the law allows, it strikes me that asking for heavy sentences is not something Christians should do. In today's gospel Jesus tells us, "Turn the other cheek," and, "Love your enemies."

This seems to me to be the opposite of using the workings of the criminal justice system to get our personal revenge for evils we have suffered. Certainly, criminals should receive a just sentence for their crimes, but if we are the victims, asking the courts to impose a heavier sentence than they might otherwise doesn't strike me as turning the other cheek. Giving a victim's impact statement so the court knows how serious the crime was can be useful for civil justice, but that seems different from going a step further and directly asking for a heavy sentence.

Lent begins on Wednesday. There's still time to decide what you will do for extra prayer (paying attention to God), fasting (giving up something), and almsgiving (helping people in need).



This week The Feast of the Chair of the Apostle Peter, which is February 22, is not celebrated this year because it's Ash Wednesday, which takes precedence. Thursday, February 23, is the Memorial of the martyr St. Polycarp. He was bishop of Smyrna (now called Izmir in Turkey), one of the generation who received the gospel from the apostles. He was martyred at the age of 86 in the year 155. <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Polycarp>

Have a good Lent.

~Deacon Joe Whipple
 February 19, 2023

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