



*Diocese of Fall River*  
*Office of the Bishop*  
*Most Reverend Edgar M. da Cunha, S.D.V., D.D.*

March 2026

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

During Holy Week, the Church gathers for one of the most meaningful liturgies of the year: the **Chrism Mass**. I warmly invite the faithful of our Diocese to make a special effort to join us for this sacred celebration on **Tuesday, March 31, 2026, at 4:00 pm at St. Mary's Cathedral in Fall River.**

At this Mass, the priests of our Diocese will renew the promises they made at their ordination, and the holy oils used throughout the coming year in the Sacraments will be solemnly blessed.

This year's Chrism Mass carries particular meaning as we continue **Year Two of our diocesan initiative: *Stronger Priests, Stronger Parishes, Stronger Church***. In this second year, we focus on the relationships that sustain the ministry of our priests—especially the many collaborators who serve alongside them in parish life and diocesan ministry.

The Church's mission is never carried out by priests alone. Parish staff, deacons, religious, and countless faithful men and women share in the work of building up the Body of Christ. The Chrism Mass offers a beautiful opportunity for us to gather as one diocesan family and pray for those who serve the Church in these many ways.

I hope you will consider joining us for this sacred celebration of unity and prayer.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Most Reverend Edgar M. da Cunha, S.D.V., D.D.  
Bishop of Fall River



The Stronger Priests,  
Stronger Parishes,  
Stronger Church Initiative  
2025-2027



*A Time for Fortitude*