

**ST. MARY'S PARISH
8 CHURCH ST.
HOLLISTON, MA 01746**

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**NEWSLETTER
APRIL, 2018**

- Easter Joy!
- May Sneak Peek
- WINGS & K of C
- Marriage Fellowship
- Mankus Family Cross Walk
- Boy Scout Troop 14
- Middle School Youth Group
- EPIC High School Youth Ministry
- Adult Faith Resources
- **Register for Vacation Bible School, Filling Fast!**



**GET READY FOR
"SHIPWRECKED ~
RESCUED BY JESUS,"
ST. MARY'S 12th ANNUAL
VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL!
COMING JULY 23-27, 2018.**



Enjoy Castaway Sing and Play, Explore true adventures from the Bible with hands on adventures in Bible Discovery, and Dive into the Imagination Station. Ship-Rec Games will make a connection to each day's Bible point, as we run, laugh, plan and play together. Enjoy Tropical Treats, the Kid Vid Cinema, and then wrap up each day with the Sail Away Send Off!

VBS Registration is now open, with forms online at stmarysholliston.com, under Registration, Parish Forms. Space is limited to 150 children so register now!

We provide child care for children under age 5 whose parents are volunteering the entire week at VBS. Teen volunteers must be in Grade 7 or above.



St. Mary's Parish Newsletter

April, 2018 ~ Volume 43, Number 8



St. Mary's Parish
8 Church Street
Holliston, MA 01746

Rectory: 429-4427, 879-2322
Religious Education Center: 429-6076
Fax: 429-3324 ~ Music: 429-4427
Religious Education Email: st.marysre1870@gmail.com
Parish Email Address: st.marys1870@gmail.com
Website: www.stmarysholliston.com

Mission ~ "To Know Christ and to make Him Known."

Parish Clergy

Rev. Mark J. Coiro, Pastor
The Xaverian Fathers, Weekend Assistance
Rev. James Flynn, Weekend Assistance
Deacon John Barry, Permanent Deacon
Deacon Martin Breinlinger, Senior Deacon

Newly Baptized ~

Three older children, all in Second Grade, were Baptized by Deacon John Barry on Sunday, March 11, 2018. Shown below from left to right are: William O'Brien, Patricia Osborne and Matthew Grey. The children will receive their First Holy Communions here at St. Mary's in May. Congratulations and Welcome!

At all Easter Masses God's people renewed their Baptismal Promises and were sprinkled with Holy Water. The Renewal began with the priest offering this beautiful prayer:
"Dear brothers and sisters, through the paschal mystery we have been buried with Christ in baptism, so that we may walk with him in newness of life. And so, now that our Lenten observance is concluded, let us renew the promises of Holy Baptism, by which we once renounced Satan and his works and promised to serve God in the holy Catholic Church."

May we serve Him well and with new vigor and purpose!



ST. MARY'S HOLY WEEK 2018 IN PICTURES



Photo Left: At the Holy Thursday Mass of the Lord's Supper, Fr. Mark washes the feet of parishioner Aaron Pyman. This ritual commemorates Jesus' washing of the Apostles' feet at the Last Supper. It reminds us all of the call to humble service in imitation of Jesus. Three Knights of Columbus, three WINGS Members, and three boys and three girls from St. Mary's Middle School Youth Group represented the people of our parish by having their feet washed.

Photo Right: At the Good Friday Children's Stations, Parishioner Thomas Quinn plays the role of Jesus. Other children played Roman Soldiers, Pilate, Mary, Veronica, Simon, and the people of Jerusalem. This day faithful Catholics honored the death of Jesus to save us, a perfect sacrifice of love.



Photo Left: At the Great Easter Vigil on Holy Saturday, four individuals received Sacraments of Initiation to the Catholic Faith. Shown from left to right they are Holly McCarter (Eucharist), Steven Lantz (Eucharist & Confirmation), Jake Haas (Baptism, Eucharist and Confirmation), and Josie McCarter (Eucharist). St. Mary's warmly welcomes our new brothers and sisters in Christ!

The Easter Vigil began with the blessing of the new Easter Candle, which was processed into the darkened church as a symbol of the light of Jesus' Resurrection dispelling the shadows of sin and death. May Easter bring us all much new hope and many new beginnings in the Lord!



From the Pastor's Desk

April 11, 2018, Feast of St. Stanislaus

Dear Members of the St. Mary's Parish Family,

Awhile back I received a confusing email from a parishioner. She was upset that *"the weekend following the February 14 Parkland School shooting St. Mary's did not acknowledge it in any way."* This was confusing because in fact the shooting was a major part of all the priests' sermons that weekend, and at every Mass we read one by one, slowly, the names and ages of each of the seventeen victims. We also prayed for the wounded, and for those who had suffered the loss of loved ones. I reached out to the parishioner and explained all this. She said in reply, *"Oh. Well I just read the bulletin online, I don't go to Mass."* Because Parkland did not appear in the bulletin, she assumed that we had not acknowledged it at all.

Reflecting on this, I am reminded once again how dangerous and empty it is to think we really "know" the Church, or to judge the Church – if we are not experiencing Church life firsthand. No bulletin, no matter how well crafted, is a substitute for actually participating in the Sunday Mass. No Religious Education Class, no matter how well taught, can replace the experience of meeting Jesus in the Scriptures, the Eucharist, and the community gathered to worship in His name. Without participation in the Sunday Mass, our Catholic faith becomes a pale reflection of the reality God intends. It reduces the river of His sacramental grace to a trickle. It leaves us vulnerable to misleading reports and more likely to be taken in by those who resent the Church and the Gospel message.

As we are now in the very midst of the Easter Season, let us be open to many resurrections – including the resurrection of our Sunday Worship life, if it has sickened or even died. If you are unhappy with something about the Catholic Church, first come on Sundays to experience what the Church is really about firsthand – not once, but regularly, so as to get a clearer picture instead of just a glimpse. Possibly, like the lady who sent me that email, your vision of the Church is way off. But if after long and open-hearted participation you still have issues, then do your part to help and purify and raise up the Church Family into which you were Baptized.

In the words of St. Boniface, *"The Church is like a great ship being pounded by the waves of life's different stresses. Our duty is not to abandon ship, but to keep her on her course."*

God bless you!

Rev. Mark J. Coiro
Pastor

MAY SNEAK PEEK ...

MAY 10, Ascension Thursday, A Holy Day of Obligation ~

Vigil Mass, Wednesday, May 9, at 6:30 PM,

Feast Day Mass, Thurs., May 10, at 9:00 AM & 7:00 PM



The Feast of the Ascension of Jesus Christ is celebrated each year on the fortieth day after the Feast of Pascha (Easter). Since the date of Pascha changes each year, the date of the Feast of the Ascension also changes. The Feast is always celebrated on a Thursday and marks an event of such importance that it is a Holy Day of Obligation. This means that Catholics attend Mass this day as on a Sunday. The Feast itself commemorates when, on the fortieth day after His Resurrection, Jesus led His disciples to the Mount of Olives, and after blessing them and asking them to wait for the fulfillment of the promise of the Holy Spirit, He ascended into heaven. Where He has gone, we hope one day to follow.



MAY 12, Spring Barbecue! ~ Again this May the K. of C. will be hosting the annual St. Mary's Spring BBQ. The date is: Sat., May 12, from 6 - 8:00 PM in Father Haley Hall. Join us as Tennessee BBQ fires up the grill for BBQ chicken, pulled pork, cheeseburgers, hotdogs, corn on the cob, delicious desserts and much more. Bring the kids and experience a fun filled evening of good food, friendship and live musical entertainment. Come meet your neighbors! Tickets: \$7 for kids 12 and under, \$10 for adults. Tickets go on sale after all Masses April 28/29, & May 5/6, and may also be purchased through the Religious Education Office starting May 1. There are no tickets at the door.

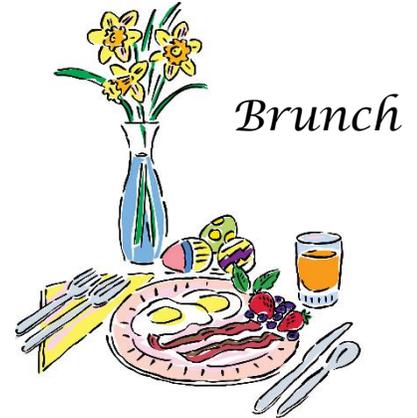


WINGS (Women in God's Spirit)

WINGS (Women in God's Spirit) is a ministry of encouragement and enrichment for women of all ages who seek to deepen their faith and grow in relationship with God and one another. As we conclude another year of WINGS, we give thanks to God that the ministry fulfills the need that women have for Lifelong Faith Formation and Community Rooted in Christ. WINGS continues to recognize that Catholic women today have a deep need to grow in and deepen their faith. By understanding our Catholic faith more fully, WINGS helps women to know Christ better, to see how valued they are by Christ, and live out her Christian vocation with His grace. Through the ministry women have come to appreciate the power of God's love, and have been strengthened to share that love with their families, Church, neighbors, and the world in which they live and work.

Please join us on **Wednesday, May 2** when we welcome *Rev. Oscar J. Pratt, II*, Administrator of St. Katharine Drexel Parish in Dorchester, MA. He will be speaking on the topic "Ministry in the Church! A Duty and Privilege to be Shared by All". Participants will be invited to consider these simple, but profound questions: What do I do? Why do I do what I do? During the conversation which follows, participants will have an opportunity to share their responses as they relate to their ministry in the church.

All are invited to the **WINGS Closing Brunch, Wednesday, May 9 at 9:30 AM**. We will pray, share food and friendship, and celebrate a wonderful WINGS year!! Reminder: All of our WINGS sessions are now recorded. DVDs can be signed out, and are located in the Saint Mary's library.



ST. MARY'S MARRIAGE FELLOWSHIP

The St. Mary's Marriage Fellowship provides married couples a chance to connect, network, and grow together spiritually. Whether you are newly married, engaged, or have been together for many years we would love to meet you! The next Fellowship meeting is **this Thursday, April 19 at 6:30 PM in the Parish Annex**. Please join us for an evening of faith, family, and fellowship in a kid-friendly environment. For information on this and other events, please email stmarysmarriagefellowship@gmail.com.



MULCHING

HELP US HELP OTHERS BY LETTING US SPREAD YOUR MULCH!

St. Mary's Mission Trip teams will be traveling to Houston this summer to help communities still trying to recover from the devastating effects of Hurricane Harvey. By letting us spread mulch at your home, you can help too. Money you spend on our labor will help fund our trips this year – bringing the mission of St. Mary's to families who need it most. **WHEN:** Saturdays, April 14 - May 26, and school break April 16 - 20. **HOW MUCH:** \$35 per yard of mulch (labor only). **WHAT YOU NEED TO DO:** Buy the mulch, have it delivered, do your spring clean up & prep the beds. **CONTACT:** Ellen Kennedy at 508.498.4285, gebmkennedy@comcast.net. Clients are on a first come, first served basis. Spots fill up quickly.



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

St. Mary's Council #14224 April, 2018

MONTHLY ROSARY:
The next Rosary will be Wednesday, April 18. The Council recites the Rosary every third Wednesday of the month in St. Mary's Church at 7:00 PM. ALL parishioners are invited.

Grand Knight: Albert Scaramella
Deputy Grand Knight: Aaron Pyman

TENTH ANNUAL CHARITY RAFFLE: Council members are selling raffle tickets for our Annual Charity Raffle. Proceeds from this fund raiser have benefitted local charities and veteran's groups totaling over \$157,000 for the past nine years. Among those charities receiving donations from our Council are the Holliston Pantry Shelf, Holliston Senior Center, Homes for our Troops, and Habitat for Humanity. One chance sells for \$5 and a book of five chances sells for \$20. Contact any Council member to purchase tickets. First prize is \$1000! Our Council sold raffle tickets after all Masses on April 14 & 15. We will also be selling chances on weekends in the spring at downtown Holliston stores and grocery stores in Medway, Ashland, Bellingham, and Milford. Finally, this year's chairmen are Thomas Anguish, Bill Heuer, Aaron Pyman, and Al Scaramella.



K of C YOUTH BASKETBALL FREE THROW CHALLENGE RESULTS: The annual Free Throw Contest was held at Holliston High School on February 3. Girls and boys shot fifteen free throws and whoever made the most baskets won their age group (from 9 years old to 14 years old.) Local winners were: 9 years-Keira Lucas and Allesio Pinci; 10 years-Sophia Lynch and Tyler Mottor; 11 years-Erin Kampersal and Anthony Badar; 12 years-Makayla McHugh and Joseph Gentile; 13 years-Emma Shields and T.J. Kiley; 14 years-Eva Bergloff. These local winners proceeded to the regionals at Nichols College on March 10. Tyler Mottor and Makaya McHugh were also regional winners and will be competing in the state championship on April 14. Our local winners were honored by our Council on March 21 (photo left). Donald Marden is the coordinator.

K OF C BERTUCCI'S FUNDRAISER: April 24 & 25. Come to Bertucci's in Holliston for lunch or dinner on Tuesday, April 24 or Wednesday, April 25 from 11 AM – 9 PM, and Bertucci's will donate up to 25% of your purchase to the Holliston Knights of Columbus when you present this coupon whether you Dine In or Carry Out.

 HollistonCares 	
ENJOY A DELICIOUS MEAL AND GIVE TO A GREAT CAUSE	
Bertucci's of Holliston Tuesday, April 24, 2018 (11:00am - 9 pm) and Wednesday, April 25, 2018 (11:00am - 9 pm)	
<small>When you present this flyer, Bertucci's of Holliston will donate up to 25% of what you spend to the Holliston Knights of Columbus. Dine In, or Carry Out</small>	
	414 Washington Street Holliston, MA 01746 (508) 429-4571



A Cross Walk with Ted and Jim Mankus

by Cathy Stenquist

“Do your best. You may not get what you want... but you will get what you need.” Quote from Ted Mankus



“Excuse me, is this seat taken?” a firm, familiar voice asked. Glancing up, I saw Ted, ever the gentleman, cane in hand. I immediately recognized his kind, mustached smile and his signature cloud white hair combed back just so. “Ted,” I replied, reaching out a friendly

hand, “So good to see you!”

It had been 10 years since our ARISE Bible study had gathered for coffee and conversation. Ted had been a welcome late addition to our group, impressing all with his kindness and deep faith. I recall him looking me right in the eye, taking in every word, then shyly smiling and offering up some deep and thoughtful insight. There was no doubt that I wanted to take my next Cross Walk with Ted. I was sure that such a faith-filled man would have a great many stories to tell. After Mass, we exchanged emails with a promise to meet the following week, expressing how much we looked forward to talking.

A couple days later, I added “*Email Ted*” to my to-do list and continued onto my next task. After a few minutes browsing through an on-line newspaper, I was stopped in my tracks. In big bold, Times New Roman font, “**Theodore Mankus at 90-Chesmore Funeral Home.**” My heart sank... before Ted and I could meet, God had lovingly called him home.

And so, on a chilly evening in February, instead of a walk with Ted, I knelt at his casket. His cloud white hair, once again, combed back just so. He looked peaceful, hands cradling both a rosary and an AL-Anon Book. His leather Navy bomber jacket hung on the corner above his head. The many photos propped on the tables near him, hinted at a life fully-lived with many stories to tell. I looked around as I made my way to the door, seeing no overt sadness or weeping. Family and friends gathered in groups of three or four, all with smiles, remembering.

The next day, waiting for Ted’s funeral Mass to begin, Sandy Liro slid into the pew next to me. I told her how I had just last week, invited Ted to take a Cross Walk with me and felt so sad I had missed the opportunity. With her encouragement, I began thinking that there might still be a way to hear Ted’s story, posthumously. She introduced me to Ted’s son Jim. After a couple conversations, we had plans to meet.

I thumbed through some books in the library till Jim arrived, extending his hand with the same smile I had seen on Ted’s face only few days earlier. “My Dad would have loved this,” Jim began, “But he was very humble and ironically, probably wouldn’t have fully shared who he was with you.” Hesitating, to catch his breath, Jim’s eyes welled up. The pain of his father’s loss just below the surface.

“In a world of ‘I’s’, my dad preferred ‘we’ and ‘you’. He had no interest in talking about himself. It was never, ‘Look at me... Look what I have.’ Instead he wanted to hear your story.” I thanked Jim so much for providing me the chance, I never thought I would have, to get to know his Dad. With my eyes welling up to, I ran to get us both a box of Kleenex. Feeling the need for prayer, I reached my hand over and bowed my head in thanksgiving for this opportunity, asking God to bless our talk and thanking Him for the gift Ted was to all who knew him.

Jim began, “My father was very proud of his Lithuanian heritage. His parents survived the German Nazi occupation in WWII, eventually making their way to the United States. Ted was born in Cambridge, Mass., growing up during the Great Depression. His family moved to a farm in Mendon, where his mother looked forward to building their life and growing their own food. Ted had many warm memories of his life there. My dad talked about his mother as the most kind and loving person, “Jim reminisced, “And at the end of his life, said he was ready to see his mom again.”

When WWII began, Ted enlisted in the Navy. After a year, the War ended and he was sent home. Back at home, he realized he was goofing off and not being very productive. His mother said, “Don’t be stupid like me, get an education!” Because he held her in such high regard, this statement had a massive impact on him. Ted decided to go to college using the GI Bill. He attended Boston College and Georgetown University where he earned his law degree. He contracted for the U.S. Government as an attorney and also worked with Tip O’Neill at the White House. Ted’s strong love of country was instilled in his son Jim, who is a member of the U.S. Coast Guard. Ted used to say, “You write a check out to the government saying, ‘I promise to give my life for my country.’ They can cash it in any time. “

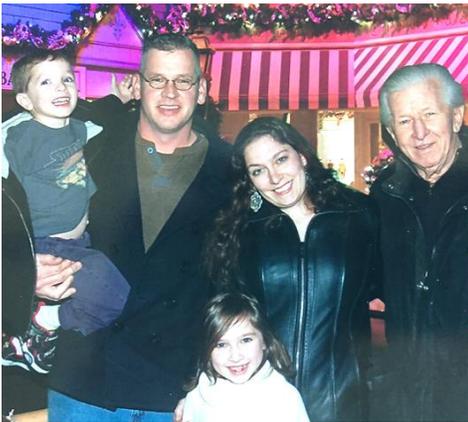


When asked about ‘God moments’, Jim smiled and pulled out his phone and shared a beautiful photo. “I love to watch the sunset off of P. Allerton Station in Hull, where I work. One evening I was outside on break, sipping my coffee and having a cigarette when the clouds began moving. I watched as they slowly came together, on their own, to form a cross.

There was not a plane in sight. It was amazing!” “I think we have found our cross, Jim,” I answered, “Perfect!”

Ted loved nature. He enjoyed going to the butterfly museum, watching birds and even taught his grandson Logan all the bird names. He often said, "Respect all life, son..." then added with a twinkle in his eye, "everything but the squirrels, that is!"

In the 1970's, Ted and his wife divorced. "There was quite a stigma back then in his local community," Jim explained, "So he decided to move to the north shore and commute down to see his nine children. He lived extremely simply, only having the most basic furniture. My father never missed a weekend, and not once called to say he could not make it. I would meet my father at the Paulist Center on Boston Common to go to church with him. As a kid, I spent a lot of weekends with my dad and saw how much he believed in God and his faith. "My Dad always had some great religious, moral insight, asking 'What have we learned from this?' He believed that whatever you put out into the universe, you would get back, so he worked very hard to do good. He supported many who struggled with addiction through Alanon."



(L-R: Logan, Jim, Alyssa, Jim's wife Cynthia and Ted)

About ten years ago, Ted moved in with Jim and his family. Ted liked to refer to the family as 'the four upstairs and him downstairs.' Jim was always quick to clarify, "No, Dad, It's the five of us!"

Jim told a cute story of how his Dad felt like a kid again being able to choose his own furniture. "My dad, who never asked for anything, felt that louvered doors on the closet were very important to let his clothes breathe. At Home Depot, they were much more expensive than ordinary closet doors, but I couldn't deny him. He was so surprised."

The gift of humor was passed down through the family from Jim's grandfather. "Making puns in our family using the word 'pun' in many ways is like a reflex for us. My Dad was known for his many sayings like:

"Get amnesia. Let's forget about it and move forward."

"When Ted had a stroke." Jim recalled, "He felt like he got a second chance at life. Issues that seemed important, were no longer a problem. Communication was better, too. He never was angry after that, the stroke put things in perspective for him. The attorney in him, who was so particular in everything, was now able to finally relax and find peace." "Ted's faith in God was a thread that was woven through everything in his life," Jim observed, "He saw God's hand everywhere, but

mostly in how things seemed to work out for the best. During his own life, Ted had many challenges, but in the end, he saw how with some patience and faith, things turned out the way they were supposed to be." "My Dad prayed the rosary every day." Jim said, "He did not just say it rote, but put his whole self into it. Every bead was a new moment to create a connection with God."

Jim told a charming story about Ted saying grace before dinner, "He would lead grace, solemnly counting their blessings and what they were really grateful for. There would be a quiet pause in the prayer. Then just as Jim was about to say "Amen" and get to that steak that was getting cold, Ted would lift his head and continue "...and let's bless so and so and let's pray for this intention etc." His prayer would go on and on.

Jim feels very blessed to have had these years with his father. During Ted's last days, he had one-on-one time in the hospital with each of his nine children. Jim and his family are particularly grateful that Father Mark, though he was not on duty, showed up at the hospital giving Ted the Anointing of the Sick. "You know what this means, don't you Ted?" Fr. Mark asked. "It means you have a clean slate. You're all set." "When he said that," Jim confided, "we saw my Dad physically relax as if a big weight had been taken off his shoulders. Ted's gift to us was to share this "clean slate" with the rest of the family. The grace and peace from that anointing spread over everyone and was very healing."

Jim continued, "My Dad had a very special relationship with my wife Cynthia. After the anointing, I was afraid that time was running out. Because Cynthia was out of town, I shared Cynthia's words with him. He took it all in, smiled, and kept pounding his heart saying, "The five of us... So, grateful, so grateful."

After his father's passing, Jim began going through his Dad's belongings. He came across a box of treasures: birthday cards, a car wash ticket, letters from family, a box of matches, brochures, etc. that his Dad had saved. Although he was very accomplished, Ted was at heart, a humble man. To him, nothing meant more than enjoying the simpler things in life and time with those he loved most.

As my Cross Walk with Jim came to a close, I was so grateful for our time together, and that this devoted son would share stories with me about the father he loved so much. I thought that the death of Ted was the final word, but our God is a God of surprises. Not only did I come away with a deeper understanding of Ted, but in the process met his caring son, Jim. God is so good! Two Cross Walks, when I thought I would have none. Rest in peace, Ted.

Check in next month to see who I will be walking with next!
Walking in His Name, Cathy

*(Read this online to see the cloud cross photo clearly:
<http://stmarysholliston.com/monthly-newsletters/>)*



Troop 14 Holliston

Boy Scouts of America
St. Mary's Parish * April, 2018

Meetings: Monday Nights 7:00 - 8:30 PM
Lower Church Hall

Contact: Charlie Paradie, Scoutmaster
617.697.8200

Email: Troop14Holliston@yahoo.com
Website: www.Troop14Holliston.com

If interested in joining or supporting Troop 14, come to any of our meetings on Monday nights. Boy Scouts is an ideal organization for boys 11-17 years old.

Eagle Scouts Stop By: On March 12, three of Troop 14's Eagle Scouts, Mike Bozyczko, Ben Cappello, and Jeremy Paradie stopped by the Scout Meeting (on their Spring Break from college). Taking advantage of the impromptu moment, Scoutmaster Charlie Paradie asked the three Eagle Scouts to talk to the Scouts about their transition to college, what they are studying and what they do with their free time. It was an inspiration to the younger Scouts to hear from the older Eagle Scouts about their college experiences.

Deer Lake Scout Reservation Campout: On April 7 & 8, Troop 14 with 20 Scouts and Leaders set out to Killingworth, CT. Upon arriving, the Scouts used maps and compasses and backpacked three miles through Forster Pond State Forest to their campsite at the north end of Deer Lake Scout Reservation. After setting up camp and cooking lunch, the Scouts hiked to Camp Headquarters, signed-in, replenished water and hiked to "Fat Man's Squeeze" to explore the natural rock formation with its cliffs, caves and splits in the rock to crawl through and climb. Taking a bearing off the map, the Scouts then bushed-wacked through the forest and landed back at their campsite for dinner, a campfire and a hike out the next morning. It was nice to be camping without snow, once again. (Photo Below).

New Scouts Joining: Troop 14 is looking forward to late April when several 2nd Year Webelos will be crossing over to Boys Scouts and joining the Troop. Many Webelos have been visiting the Scout Troop over the past couple months as they make their final decision on which Holliston Troop to join. Troop 14 is a very active Troop with campouts scheduled every month, year-round. In addition, the Troop meets weekly on Monday nights and is involved in a number of service projects and other activities throughout the year.



UPCOMING EVENTS:

- May campout at the Boston Harbor Islands.
- Memorial Day Parade.
- June Cape Cod Bike trip and Campout at Nickerson State Park.

SCOUTING FUN FACTS:

The Eagle Scout rank has been earned by more than 2 million Boy Scouts since 1911.

181 NASA astronauts have been involved with Scouting, including Neil Armstrong.

According to the World Organization of the Scouting Movement, all but six countries make Scouting available to their youthful citizenry.



St. Mary's Parish Middle School Youth Group

Open to all 6th, 7th, & 8th Graders ~ Next Meeting, Sunday, May 20!



*Whoever has a bountiful eye will be blessed,
for he shares his bread with the poor.
Proverbs 22:9*



SANDWICHES FOR LAZARUS!

At their February Meeting, the teens of St. Mary's Middle School Youth Group voted to forgo snacks at their March Lenten Meeting, and to use that month's dues money instead to buy food for the homeless. Because of this, Sunday, March 11 found Fr. Haley Hall turned into a giant sandwich making assembly line. The evening started with a Bible Study on Jesus' Parable of the Rich Man and Lazarus. Teens shared insights about their favorite verses, then watched a video of the story. You can see it at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=R-rY5XnFn1k>. The rich man, though greatly blessed by material things, fails to assist the poor, suffering Lazarus at his gate. Jesus used the parable to underscore our responsibility before God to the poor – a responsibility beautifully fulfilled by our St. Mary's youth as they then made more than 400 sandwiches for the homeless. Baggies of chips and cookies were also assembled by the group, and the sandwich bags were then decorated with uplifting messages for the homeless men and women who received them in Boston, Framingham, and Worcester the following night. May the blessings promised to the compassionate be yours in abundance!

ST. MARY'S

EPIC +

Endless Possibilities In Christ



"The King will reply, 'Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.' This was the attitude of the teens and adults of EPIC who brought in hundreds of items to put into "blessing bags" for the homeless. Items such as: deodorant, razors, soap, toothbrush, toothpaste, sunblock, socks, granola bars, prayer cards, etc. Kelly McPherson who is the DRE at Good Shepherd Parish in Wayland came and shared her faith testimony and how she got involved with the ministry of the Boston Sock Exchange. Little things to us mean big things to someone in need. Kelly told us that "when we hand these out to people they immediately light up like they just received a Christmas present." So grateful to all the teens and adults who contributed to this effort to lend a hand to our brothers and sisters in need during Lent.

A little background on the Boston Sock Exchange: For one Burlington priest, a winter subway ride over 25 years ago spawned an entire ministry. On a snowy and slushy day in 1983, Father John Capuci, then a college freshman, happened to be on a Boston subway with a barefooted homeless male passenger. "His feet were all red and raw," Father Capuci recalled. "It really bothered me that mine were warm and his were like that." Concerned, he gave the man his socks. "I started the Sock Exchange and have been doing it ever since," he said. On occasion we are lucky enough to have blessing bags and the folks there just light up. Their very own things to carry with them from place to place. Some small luxury of things we seem to have plenty of. It is through efforts like this and lots of prayer that this ministry is a success.

Next Meeting: Sunday April 29th - 7:30 PM to 8:45 PM

ADULT FAITH RESOURCES APRIL 2018

got faith?



“FAITH SPEAKING” VOLUMES: This month’s feature was prepared by our parish librarian, Betty Febo. In addition to a variety of books available for checkout (both adult and children), St. Mary’s Library has reference works on hand for quick consultation or for background information on all topics pertaining to the Catholic faith. Here are a few of the most useful. *The Catholic Encyclopedia* is the authoritative source for all things Catholic. The set is about 20 volumes long and can be found in the library on the bottom shelves by the window. New Advent has the Catholic Encyclopedia online at www.newadvent.org/cathen; beware, however, this is the 1917 edition and some information may no longer be correct. The *Jerome Biblical Commentary* (220.7 Bro) provides in-depth comments about specific biblical texts you may be reading. The *Nelson’s Complete Concordance of the New American Bible* (220.9) has an alphabetical index to the major words in the bible. You can use the concordance to find all the occasions where words such as forgiveness, Judas, apostles, desert, are located in the Bible. This book is useful if you want a bible quote to illustrate an idea. Finally, the *Tyndale Handbook of Bible Charts and Maps* (220.9 Wil) and *Nelson’s Complete Book of Bible Maps and Charts* (220.9 Nel) are also in our parish library. Maps and charts suitable for children are also available online at <https://www.knowingthebible.net/bible-studies/maps-and-charts>.

SEASONS AND READINGS: We celebrate the Easter Season during this month of April. The Fourth Sunday of Easter, April 22 this year, always has as its focus Jesus the Good Shepherd. For a reflection on this gospel, go to the Carmelite website at <http://ocarm.org/en/content/lectio/lectio-divina-john-1011-18>. For a video presentation of Marty Haugen’s setting of Psalm 23, the great shepherd psalm, you can go to <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AmFM4jZasvs>. You will find reflections on the upcoming Sunday readings at <http://www.thefiveoaves.com/>.

CARE OF THE ENVIRONMENT: Earth Day 2018 will be celebrated on Sunday, April 22. This year, Earth Day is dedicated to ending plastic pollution. For more information, go to Earth Day’s official website at <https://www.earthday.org/>. Framingham has an Earth Day festival on April 28. See the info about this local celebration at <http://www.framinghamearthday.org>. National Screen-free week is April 30 to May 6, 2018. On the screen-free website, <http://www.screenfree.org/>, you can find resources to help children and their families unplug from their digital devices and enjoy the natural environment...and each other.

JUST WONDERING: April is Child Abuse Prevention Month. On the US Bishops’ website you’ll find resources to focus your thoughts and prayers on the absolute need of children for safety from abuse; go to <http://www.usccb.org/issues-and-action/child-and-youth-protection/index.cfm>. The US Children’s Bureau publishes a resource guide on how to prevent child abuse and neglect; chapter five is written specifically for families and is found at https://www.childwelfare.gov/pubPDFs/prevention_ch5_2018.pdf.

SACRAMENTS: The sacrament of Marriage is the focus of our attention this month. In his book *The Sacraments: How Catholics Pray*, Fr. Thomas Richstätter, OFM, talks about the sacrament of Marriage as a New Life Project, a decision on the part of a husband and wife to put “the life, the happiness and the holiness of this other person” first on their agenda (p. 112). He talks further about how all sacraments reveal something about God; for its part, Marriage tells us of the faithfulness of God to the people who are in a covenant relationship with him (pgs. 112, 116). A husband and wife, who are the ministers of the sacrament to each other, are called to faithfulness to each other (“until death do us part”) and they receive grace to carry out this commitment. Chapter 21 of the US Bishops’ Catechism is about the sacrament of Marriage; this chapter begins at <http://ccc.usccb.org/flipbooks/uscca/#304>.

--Leo Racine

Parish Ministry Contacts

Ministry	Contact	Phone #'s (508)
A.A.	Staff	(617) 426-9444
Al-Anon	Staff	366-0556
Altar Servers	Tina Hein	429-9853
Art & Environment	Rectory	429-4427
Adult Faith Formation	Leo Racine	429-7476
Compassionate Friends	Ed Motuzas	473-4239
C.L.O.W.	Pat LeBlanc	(508) 533-6714
Eucharistic Ministers	Joe DeMarkey	429-5401
Food Pantry	Sylvia Stickney	429-5392
Give A Gift	Tony Alexander	429-5405
Greeting Ministry	Bob Whiting	893-8007
H.S. Youth Ministry	Matt Chick	429-6076
Homebound Ministry	Marty Breinlinger	429-4427
Hospitality	Joanne Davenport	533-7948
Hospital Ministry	Henry Woods	429-1037
Knights of Columbus	Mike Kerrigan	429-8696
Lectors	Ron Turcotte	429-5396
Marriage Prep	Ken/Mary Hammond	533-5258
M.S. Youth Group	Fr. Mark Coiro	429-4427
Music Ministry	Juan Mesa	429-4427
Newsletter	Marilyn Lourandos	429-4032
Parish Council	Diane Collins	435-9246
Pine Street Inn	Laura Kozial	429-7174
Project Just Because	Cherylann Walsh	435-6511
Religious Education	Fran Crespi	429-6076
Respect Life	Rosemary Rainsford	429-1527
S.M.C.W.G.	Patricia Strozzi	654-2723
Vacation Bible School	Kristin Roberto	429-4716
Wings	Linda Calabrese	893-7919

Mass Schedule

Monday through Saturday: 9:00 a.m.
 Saturday Vigils: 5:00 p.m. & 7:30 p.m.
 Sunday: 7:30 a.m., 9:30 a.m., & 11:30 a.m.

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday, 12 Noon to 12:45 p.m. in the church or anytime by appointment.

Anointing of the Sick

Any time by appointment. Please call as soon as you are aware of a serious illness or upcoming surgery.

Marriage

Please contact a priest at least six months in advance to allow for Pre-Marriage program and arrangements.

Baptism

Baptisms are celebrated the Second and Fourth Sunday of each month at 2:00 p.m., please register by calling the rectory. Baptism Instruction must take place prior to the Baptism itself. Please contact the Rectory to register for Baptism Instruction. Please note that universal practice in the Catholic Church is that one man and one woman (other than the parents) serve as Godparents. Godparents must be at least 16 years old, Confirmed, regularly attending Sunday Mass, and otherwise living a life in harmony with the Catholic faith. They are to serve as Catholic role models for the child being baptized.

RCIA

The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) is an engaging program for individuals who desire to learn more about the Catholic faith. The program is a gradual process paced at the needs of the individual. RCIA welcomes anyone who seeks to be baptized into the Catholic Church. Also, anyone baptized in Christian tradition other than Roman Catholic who would like to be received into full communion with the Catholic Church is invited to attend. In addition, RCIA welcomes individuals who are baptized Catholics and have never received First Communion, First Reconciliation, or Confirmation. If you or someone you may know is interested, please contact the rectory at 508-429-4427. Meeting times are set up as needed by each year's participant schedules. Welcome!

C.L.O.W.

The Children's Liturgy of the Word is a special celebration of the scriptures with readings from the Children's Lectionary. These readings are brought alive for the children using methods that include drama, props, and an interactive homily style. At St. Mary's, the C.L.O.W. is celebrated from mid-September through May every Sunday at the 9:30 AM Mass.

On most of these Sundays, the parish children are invited to process down to the lower church following the Opening Prayer. The exception is on the First Sunday of each month, when the children remain upstairs at the 9:30 a.m. Mass for a special Children's homily with the priest and the main assembly.

