



WORLD DAY OF THE SICK: Next Sunday, Feb. 11, the Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes, is the World Day of the Sick. On this occasion we are encouraged to remember in our prayers all persons who are seriously ill. At the 11:30 AM Mass on Feb. 11, helped by our 5th Graders, St. Mary's will offer the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick. Anyone diagnosed with a serious illness is invited to receive this holy sacrament as a source of hope, strength, healing, and also the remission of sin. James 5:13

SAINT BLAISE AND THE BLESSING OF THROATS:

Sickness and suffering are mysteries that confront most Christians at some time in their lives. Believers cherish the stories of Jesus' tender concern for the poor and sick who sought to find relief and meaning in their struggles. The flesh-and-blood example of a long line of Christian witnesses whose faith sustained them in time of trial offers us hope when shadows darken our lives. Saint Blaise was such a person.

St. Blaise (also spelled Blase and Blasius) was a 3rd century physician who became Bishop of Sebaste, Armenia. On one occasion he cured a boy who was choking to death on a fish bone. This was the time of persecution under Licinius, and soon St. Blaise was forced to hide out in a cave on Mt. Argeus. Deprived of human patients, he began tending the wild animals of the surrounding forest. These animals sensed St. Blaise's holiness and would come to him with their injuries. St. Blaise was eventually captured and imprisoned; receiving a gift of candles from the mother of the boy he had saved from choking, with which to light his dark cell. He was beaten, had his flesh torn by wool combs, and was beheaded, martyred along with seven women. Because of the cure of the boy's throat when the boy was choking, St. Blaise is patron against troubles of the throat. St. Blaise is also the patron of veterinarians and against attacks of wild animals. He is represented in art as a Bishop holding a candle, with wool combs, or in a cave surrounded by wild animals. A framed image of St. Blaise with both candle and wool comb (bottom right corner) has been placed in the sanctuary for this weekend.

On or near February 3, the Feast of Saint Blaise, the Church continues its ministry to the sick with the blessing of throats. This blessing invokes God's healing and protection. Two blessed candles, joined in the form of a cross, are placed around the throat of each person seeking a blessing. The minister then prays, "Through the intercession of Saint Blaise, bishop and martyr, may God deliver you from every disease of the throat and from every other illness: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit." The blessing will be offered after all Masses this weekend. Humbled by physical weakness, we acknowledge our faith in God's protective love for all who call upon His name.



St. Mary's Parish



Our Mission:

"To know Christ and to make Him known."

Mass Schedule:

Monday through Saturday
9:00 AM

Saturday Vigils
5:00 PM
7:30 PM

Sunday
7:30 AM
9:30 AM Family Mass
(C.L.O.W. Sept. - May)
11:30 AM Sung Mass

Holy Days: Announced

Adoration Schedule:

First Fridays from
9:30-10:30 AM

8 Church St., Holliston, MA 01746

Website: www.stmarysholliston.com

Email Address: St.marys1870@gmail.com

Rectory Phone: (508) 429 - 4427 or (508) 879 - 2322

Religious Education Phone: (508) 429 - 6076

Fax: (508) 429 - 3324

Dear Visitors: Welcome! We are delighted that you chose to worship with us this day. Please introduce yourself to the priest, and if you are interested in becoming a member of the parish then please call the rectory to register. Please also be aware that for generations it has been the custom at St. Mary's to kneel together for a silent Hail Mary at the end of Mass.

Please join in!

Confession: Saturdays from Noon - 12:45 PM 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.

Baptism: The 2nd & 4th Sunday of each month. To register for Baptism Preparation call 429-4427.

Marriage: Please call at least 6 months in advance of your desired wedding date.

PARISH STAFF:

Rev. Mark J. Coiro, Pastor
 Rev. Jim Flynn, Weekend Assistance
 The Xaverian Fathers, Weekend Assistance
 Deacon John D. Barry, Permanent Deacon
 Deacon Martin Breinlinger, Senior Deacon
 Mrs. Fran Crespi, D.R.E., Grades K-7
 Mr. Matthew Chick, D.R.E., Grades 8-12
 Mr. Juan Mesa, Director of Music
 Mr. Leo Racine, Director of Contemporary Music
 Mrs. Mary Beth Harris, Parish Secretary
 Mrs. Kim Lisbon, Religious Education Secretary
 Ms. Mary Sanning, Business Manager
 Mrs. Najat Whalen, Sacristan
 Mr. James Koval, Parish Facilities
 R & R Landscaping, Cemetery Care

| MUSIC | 5:00 PM | 9:30 AM | 11:30 AM |
|-------------|---------|---------|----------|
| Entrance | #302 | #125 | #125 |
| Offertory | #456 | - | - |
| Communion | #432 | #327 | - |
| Recessional | #431 | - | - |

2018 CORI RENEWAL ALERT: All active volunteers (18 years and older) must complete a 2018 CORI. Forms are being sent out to all volunteers via Constant Contact as an attachment. If you have access to a printer, you may fill them in at home and come to the Religious Education Office for verification and signature. You will need to show a photo ID and place your driver's license number on the form. Bring your completed CORI form to the RE office or to a Staff member. CORI forms are available on the table outside the Religious Education Office.

THE ROSE FOR LIFE: Is sponsored this week by the Murphy Family in memory of Ann Murphy. Please join them in prayer for an unborn child.

LAST SUNDAY'S PARISH OFFERTORY:

Mass Collections: \$ 9,533.50
 Automatic Giving: \$ 2,979.00
 Total Offertory: \$ 12,512.50

Thank you for your faithful support of your parish each week. May God bless you!

SECOND COLLECTION LAST WEEKEND:

Support of the Church around the World ~ \$5,376.00. Thank you.

PRAYERS AND MASS INTENTIONS:

| | |
|------------------|--|
| Saturday | February 3 |
| 9:00 | Rev. Andrew F. Connell |
| 5:00 | Joan Mullen |
| 7:30 | Michael Young |
| Sunday | February 4 |
| 7:30 | People of St. Mary's |
| 9:30 | Boy Scout Sunday |
| 11:30 | John Gatti, 3 rd Anv. |
| Monday | February 5 |
| 9:00 | William Hosmer |
| Tuesday | February 6 |
| 9:00 | Holy Souls |
| Wednesday | February 7 |
| 9:00 | Walter "D" Robbins |
| Thursday | February 8 |
| 9:00 | Rev. Leonard A. Coppenrath |
| Friday | February 9 |
| 9:00 | Robert Fortin, 3 rd Anv. |
| Saturday | February 10 |
| 9:00 | Charlotte Coiro |
| 5:00 | Encarnacion De Guzman, 3 rd Anv. |
| 7:30 | Walter J. Ciampa, Sr. |
| Sunday | February 11 |
| 7:30 | People of St. Mary's |
| 9:30 | Marion Riley & John Hanna, 7 th Anv. |
| 11:30 | Gr. 5 Healing Mass |

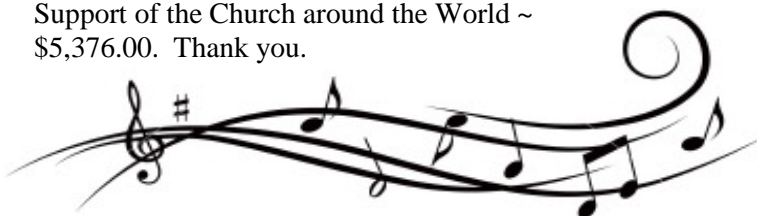


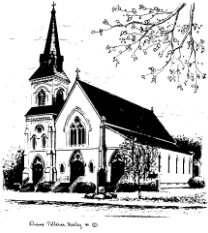
**BOY SCOUT
 PANCAKE
 BREAKFAST
 TODAY!**

Come Join Boy Scout
 Troop #14 for our
 Annual Pancake

Breakfast today, Sunday, February 4, from 8:00 AM - 12:00 noon in Father Haley Hall serving unlimited pancakes and sausages with hot coffee and orange juice. The cost is \$5.00 per person (\$20max/family), and scouts in uniform eat free! This is one of two annual fundraising events for the troop, with proceeds going to support our Scouts.

VESPER SERVICE: Join our talented Youth Choir for Solemn Sung Vespers on Wednesday, February 7 at 7:00 PM. This 30 minute meditative service, which is also known as Evening Prayer, is part of the Liturgy of the Hours, and it aims to give thanks to God before the end of the day through the singing of psalms, intercessions, and prayers. Come experience the beauty of sung prayer!





Saint Mary's Parish

8 Church St. ~ Holliston, MA ~ 01746 ~ (508) 429-4427

February 4, 2018
5th Sunday in Ordinary Time

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

Suffering, both spiritual and physical, leaps out at us from this weekend's scripture readings. First we are confronted by the prophet Job, lamenting "My pain is more than I can bear ... I shall not see happiness again." Then we see Simon's mother in law, struck down by illness until the Lord literally touches her with His healing power. Suffering in all its forms comes from original sin, the broken state of the world in which we dwell. God is not ever the source of suffering, but when invited He enters into our suffering to make it redemptive. He gives us strength to accept the sorrows of this world, and even uses such moments to inspire greater compassion within. Suffering can either close us up into ourselves or inspire us to reach out and try to ease the pain of those who suffer as we have. To quote St. Paul, "Blessed be God, the Father of mercies and the God of all consolation, who consoles us in all our affliction, so that we may be able to console those who are in any affliction with the same consolation with which we ourselves are consoled by God."

There are two particularly powerful ways by which the Lord offers us His consolation and support in suffering – the Sacrament of Reconciliation, and the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick. In Confession God not only forgives our personal sins of the past, He also starts healing the spiritual harm and separations they have caused. He further fortifies us with His grace to resist ongoing and future temptation. As the formula for absolution states, "May God grant you pardon *and* peace." It is important to remember that we can be wounded not only by our own sins, but by the sins of others, or the world, against us. If only Job had had the blest opportunity to make a good Confession, his despair might not have been so great, his sorrow not so overwhelming. Never can suffering long endure before the mercy and love of Jesus Christ.

Even as Reconciliation accomplishes spiritual healing, so does the Lord offer us physical healing through the Anointing of the Sick. This awesome sacrament is founded on the Epistle of James where we are told, "Are there any who are sick among you? Let them send for the priests of the Church, and let the priest pray over them, anointing them with oil in the name of the Lord; and the prayers of faith will save the sick persons, and the lord will raise them up; and if they have committed any sins, their sins will be forgiven them." The experience of physical illness can cause a terrible sense of abandonment and isolation. Sickness is a moment when we need to feel God's presence in a special way, and even as once Jesus reached out His hand to touch Simon's mother in law, so He reaches out to touch all the sick through His holy anointing.

The Anointing of the Sick is NOT a sacrament of the dying. The very day someone we love is diagnosed with cancer, heart trouble, or any other serious or potentially life-threatening illness – THAT is the day to call the priest and ask for the Anointing of the Sick. Just as we would not withhold a potentially life-saving medicine from a sick loved one until their very last gasp of life, neither should we put off the Anointing of the Sick until someone is close to death. Through this sacrament Jesus sometimes accomplishes profound physical healing – and *every* time He offers His love and presence, turning moments of desperation into moments of conversion and grace.

May the Lord of Our Journey continue to bless you and yours.

Under His Mercy,

Rev. Mark J. Coiro
Pastor

MIDDLE SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP FEBRUARY EVENTS:

Friday, Feb. 9: **Celtics vs. Pacers**, Trip is full, departure is 5:00 PM sharp from the Parish Center (arrive 4:45 PM), return to St. Mary's approximately 11 PM (will call from bus).

Tues. Feb. 20: **Sky Zone, Basilica & Quincy Market** (6th & 7th Grade).

Wed. Feb. 21: **Boda Borg & Quincy Market** (8th Grade).

Sunday, February 25: **Monthly Meeting**, 6:30 – 8 PM, Summer Rafting Trip, Presentations & pre-Sign Ups, Sign Ups for Late Night Cosmic Bowling (March 23) and 8th Grade BINGO Service Trip (March 26), plus it's Nacho Night!



EPIC: Our next EPIC nights are Wednesday, February 7 and Sunday, February 11 from 7:30 to 8:45 PM in Fr. Haley Hall. Our next EPIC event is serving the youth at Corpus Christi Parish in Lawrence on Monday, February 19 (President's Day). Details to follow in an email to EPIC members! Please join us for faith, fun and fellowship in 2018. Please contact Matthew Chick at stmarysym1870@gmail.com with questions.

HEALING MASS ~ ANOINTING OF THE SICK: Next Sunday, February 11, St. Mary's will mark the World Day of the Sick. On this day we are encouraged to remember in our prayers all persons who are seriously ill. At the 11:30 AM Mass, helped by our 5th graders, St. Mary's will offer the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick. Anyone diagnosed with a serious illness is invited to receive this holy sacrament as a source of hope, strength and healing (James 5:13-15). Anyone needing a ride to the Healing Mass should contact Religious Education at 429-6076.

COLLECTION OF OLD PALMS FOR BURNING: Next Saturday, February 10 & Sunday, February 11. Bring your old palms to any Mass this weekend. They will be collected and burned to make the ashes for Ash Wednesday a few days later, Wednesday, February 14.

ASH WEDNESDAY:

Wednesday, February 14 ~

6:45 AM Liturgy of the Word

9:00 AM Mass

4:00 PM Liturgy of the Word

5:30 PM Mass

7:00 PM Mass

* *Ashes will be given
at all 5 services*



Abstinence -- Catholics over 14 years of age are bound to the obligation of abstinence. Abstinence is to be observed on **Ash Wednesday** and on all Fridays of Lent. On days of abstinence, meat may not be used at all.

Fasting -- Catholics over 18 and up to the beginning of their 60th year are bound to the obligation of fasting.

Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are the days of fasting. On these days, only one full meal is allowed. Two other meatless meals, sufficient to maintain strength, may be taken according to each one's needs, but together they should not equal another full meal. Eating between meals is not permitted, but liquids, including milk and fruit juices are allowed.

MARRIAGE PREPARATION: The Transformed in Love Marriage Preparation Program will be offered at St. Mary's Parish in Holliston on Saturday, February 10 and Saturday, February 17, from 9 AM - 5 PM. Learn the latest in researched practical skills for great communication, gain a deeper understanding of marriage as a Sacrament and vocation, learn fertility awareness and its application in family planning, consider how differences in personality can be used as a source of strength in your relationship, and more! Register at: www.bostoncatholic.org/marriageministries.

TEACHING MASS: On Saturday, February 17 at 9 AM, the usual daily Mass will be a "Teaching Mass," with commentary and reflection throughout. Although this Mass is part of our Transformed in Love Marriage Program, any parishioners desiring to understand the beauty and meaning of the Mass more deeply are welcome to participate.

BLESSING OF MARRIED COUPLES: In honor of World Marriage Month, St. Mary's will offer a special blessing to all married persons at Masses the weekend of February 17 and 18. As is our custom, the couple at each Mass *present together and married the longest* will be presented with roses, as we honor all our married couples and ask God's grace upon them.



PRE-LENTEN MINI-RETREAT: Next Sunday, February 11 at 3:30 PM in the Church: All are welcome to spend one hour with our Lord in Eucharistic Adoration while meditating on the Sorrowful Mysteries. *"Alas! How few there are, even among Christians, who reflect on the sorrows and ignominies which our Redeemer has endured for our sake. We barely remember in a passing way the Passion of Jesus Christ, during the last days of Holy Week, when the Church renews the remembrance of His death by a mournful chant, by the nakedness of its altars.....by the silence of its bells...."*

- St. Alphonsus

WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER: Worldwide Marriage Encounter is a weekend for married Christian couples who value their relationship and desire a richer, fuller life together. Attend a Marriage Encounter weekend and learn the tools needed to keep your marriage strong. The emphasis of Worldwide Marriage Encounter is on communication between husband and wife, who spend a weekend together away from the distractions and the tensions of everyday life, to concentrate on each other. It's not a retreat, nor a marriage clinic, nor group sensitivity. It's a unique approach aimed at revitalizing Christian Marriage. This is a time for you and your spouse to be alone together. To rediscover each other and together focus on your relationship for an entire weekend. Every marriage deserves that kind of attention! Rediscover the spark that was there on your wedding day! Rediscover the best friend you had when you were first married! Join the millions of couples worldwide who have learned how to keep their marriage vibrant and alive! Visit: <https://www.mema.org/index.php>.

WINGS (Women in God's Spirit): Is a ministry of encouragement and enrichment for women who seek to deepen their faith and grow in relationship with God and one another. Please join us on Wednesday, February 7 from 9:30 - 11:15 AM, Marybeth Harmon will be offering a reflection on "A Chance Meeting" pages 42-51 in "Love Crosses Boundaries" by Kevin Perotta. All women are welcome whether they can just drop in once or attend each week. For additional information about the WINGS ministry, please call Linda Calabrese at (508) 893-7919 or Lisa Dufault at (774)-286-1844.



JESUS CURES PETER'S MOTHER IN LAW

On leaving the synagogue Jesus entered the house of Simon and Andrew with James and John. Simon's mother-in-law lay sick with a fever. They immediately told him about her. He approached, grasped her hand, and helped her up. Then the fever left her and she waited on them.

When it was evening, after sunset, they brought to him all who were ill or possessed by demons. The whole town was gathered at the door. He cured many who were sick with various diseases, and he drove out many demons, not permitting them to speak because they knew him.

Rising very early before dawn, he left and went off to a deserted place, where he prayed. Simon and those who were with him pursued him and on finding him said, "Everyone is looking for you."

He told them, "Let us go on to the nearby villages that I may preach there also. For this purpose have I come." So he went into their synagogues, preaching and driving out demons throughout the whole of Galilee. MK 1:29-39



CLOW- CHILDREN K-6: Today, Sunday, February 4, the children will remain in the church with Fr. Mark and learn what Jesus teaches us in the Gospel reading.

WEEK'S RELIGIOUS EDUCATION SCHEDULE

| DAY | GRADE | GRADE |
|----------------|------------------|------------------|
| Sun., Feb. 04 | Pre-K at 9:15 AM | GR-1 at 8:10 AM |
| | GR-4 at 10:45 AM | GR-5 at 10:45 AM |
| Mon., Feb. 05 | GR-3 at 3:00 PM | GR-5 at 3:00 PM |
| | GR-6 at 6:00 PM | GR-8 at 6:00 PM |
| Tues., Feb. 06 | GR-3 at 4:00 PM | GR-5 at 4:00 PM |
| | GR-6 at 4:30 PM | GR-10 at 6:30 PM |
| Wed., Feb. 07 | GR-2 at 4:15 PM | GR-6 at 4:00 PM |
| | GR-7 at 6:00 PM | GR-8 at 6:00 PM |
| Thu., Feb. 08 | GR-10 at 6:30 PM | |
| Sun., Feb. 11 | GR-2 at 8:10 AM | GR-3 at 7:55 AM |
| | GR-2 at 10:45 AM | GR-3 at 10:45 AM |
| | GR-6 at 1:00 PM | GR-7 at 5:30 PM |

GRADE 5 CHRISTIAN SEXUALITY WORKSHOPS

FOR PARENTS: Parents are required to view the program and sign a "Permission" form or a "Previously Previewed" permission form before their child is allowed to attend the student workshop on Saturday, March 17. If you need to view the program before the student workshop in March please contact Fran by sending an email to: st.marysdre1870@gmail.com.

GRADE 5 SPONSORED HEALING MASS SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 11 AT 11:30 AM. All Grade 5 students are required to attend and witness the Sacrament of Healing as part of their learning experience on Sunday, February 11 at the 11:30 AM Mass. Grade 5 will participate as readers, gift bearers and greeters. Parents need to be aware that their children will remain after the Mass for an extra 15 minutes to witness the Anointing of the Sick.

GRADE 3 - PARENT ROSARY MAKING

WORKSHOP: On Saturday, February 17, parents and teachers are asked to help make Rosary kits for the Grade 3 children. This is a hands on activity requiring lots of patience and good conversation. We will need your help in preparing the kits for the Grade 3 General Session in April. The workshop is from 10 – 11 AM in Room 3 – 4 of the Center.

SPECIAL NEEDS: Tuesday, February 6 from 6:30 to 7:30 PM in the Library.

PERSONAL CARE ATTENDANT (PCA) NEEDED: Call Cathy Disciullo at 508-429-4990 if you can help.

CORI RENEWAL REMINDER: All volunteers 18 years and older must submit a new CORI for 2018.

CONFIRMATION I AND II: Grade 10 meets on Tuesday, February 6 and Thursday, February 8 at 6:30 PM in Fr. Haley Hall.

GRADES 9 - 10 STUDENT VOLUNTEERS ARE

NEEDED: Our Grade 2 program will need volunteers to help with the **Grade 2 Family Retreat** on Sat., April 7 from 12:00 Noon to 5:00 PM. Volunteers are needed to help with the **First Communion Masses** on Saturday, May 5 and May 12. Please contact us at 508-429-6076 or send an email to: st.marysdre1870@gmail.com

ADULT FAITH FORMATION: Session 14 and 15 of the **EPIC** twenty session series on Church History will be shown on Tuesday, February 6 at 10:00 AM in Room 3 – 4. Everyone is welcome to join us.



R.E. CLASS SNOW CANCELLATIONS:

When Holliston public schools are closed due to inclement weather, religious education classes will not be held. See Channel 5 and 7 during the week day for snow cancellations and Channel 4 on Saturday & Sunday only for cancellations. Call the R.E. Office at 508-429-6076 and press ext. 28 for class cancellation notices.

FORMED ~ PICK OF THE WEEK: Have you registered for FORMED yet? Go to www.formed.org to register today: Just enter your email address and follow the directions to subscribe: Password: NW3N3Q.

WHY DOES THE CHURCH CARE SO MUCH ABOUT MARRAGE? "**Beloved**", an Augustan Institute Studios original production, explores the essential realities of marriage. Through Scripture, Tradition, and Church teaching, you'll gain a deeper understanding of this Sacrament and how it connects with God's plan for humanity. As one viewer writes, "*I've been married for 12 years and I've never understood marriage in the way it's presented in Beloved. I want to share this from the rooftops!*" - Marie, Sterline Heights, MI.

