

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.



Saint Mary's Parish

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

March 4, 2018
3rd Sunday of Lent

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

“Contemptus Mundi.” This spiritual phrase means not “contempt” for the world – but rather “detachment” from the world. The world is a blessed thing, created good by God, then corrupted, but still the place in which God calls each of us to serve Him. The trick is to live in the world while not being “of” the world. The world is fine – “worldliness,” can become a deadly distraction.

Jesus makes this very clear in today's Gospel by His reaction to the money changers and purveyors of livestock in the great temple of Jerusalem. Both were necessary to the Jewish worship of that day – money changers were needed to change the Roman coins with their graven images of the emperor into coins acceptable as temple offerings. Similarly, the animals were necessary to purchase as sacrifices to God.

But these things which in and of themselves were innocuous, had become corrupted. The money changers charged extortion rates. The livestock for sacrifice had to be purchased from the temple flocks so you had to pay a lot more for them. Even worse, all this commercial activity had moved from the outer courtyard to the inside of the temple itself. It was a distraction from prayer, as merchants winked at godly values in order to make quick cash.

And so Jesus drives forth those who had desecrated His Father's house, showing us by His actions never to let the things of this world get too strong a hold over us. Money, clothes, houses, cars, popularity, position - anything that we find ourselves valuing more than a holy relationship with God and neighbor, needs to be returned to its proper priority.

In a sense, the purification of the temple by Jesus is a model for what you and I are to accomplish during these 40 Days of Lent. Contemptus Mundi – detachment, from the things of this world. We do it by fasting – not just on the 2 required days of Ash Wednesday and Good Friday – but frequently, as our health allows. We do it by giving to the poor, not just out of our surplus, but sacrificially – in ways that have a real impact on the way we live. We do it by turning our eyes away from our possessions, and the riches of our neighbors – in order to raise our eyes to heaven in prayer. Heaven, our true home, and final destination.

Jesus used a whip fashioned of chords to purify the temple. And in the same way we take up the Lenten chords of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving – to drive away this world's influence over us. To remind ourselves that we are not citizens of this world trying to make our way to heaven, but rather that we are citizens of heaven trying to make our way through this world.

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

Under His Mercy,

Rev. Mark J. Coiro
Pastor

ALMSGIVING: Thank you in advance to all for your participation in the 2018 Catholic Appeal. It is extremely important that you return your pledge envelope at Mass next weekend. If enough families turn them in at Mass on Appeal Weekend, then St. Mary's will receive a rebate back. If not enough people turn them in next weekend, then St. Mary's will not receive a rebate. Remember that nothing is required up front – just your pledge. So in addition to helping support the good works of the Church through the Catholic Appeal, please support your own parish in this way. Thank you!

STAFF TRANSITION: It is with gratitude for a job well done, but also with sadness, that I make you aware of the retirement of our Music Director Mr. Juan Mesa at the end of this Choir Season. Juan was originally hired on a three-year contract, and we were delighted that he ended up ministering at St. Mary's for six years instead. As he moves on now to other endeavors, including the pursuit of a Doctorate in Music Theory from the University of Indiana, we wish Juan the very best. His work here has been exceptional, and his friendship will be missed by many – especially our choir families. Juan's final Mass will be on Sunday, June 3, at 9:30 AM. There will be opportunity to wish him well after that Mass at Donuts, Juice & Coffee in Fr. Haley Hall. Good luck Juan!

NEXT WEEKEND - 2018 CATHOLIC APPEAL

Please bring your completed, blue C.A. Pledge Envelope to Mass next weekend.

Through the Appeal St. Mary's joins with all parishes in the Archdiocese of Boston in supporting the 50 ministries that benefit hundreds of pastoral, charitable and educational programs. Your generous support and participation is critical to the success of the 2018 Catholic Appeal at St. Mary's and helps move us forward in hope as we seek to better embody the Gospel message in our lives. For more information on the 2018 Catholic Appeal, please visit BostonCatholicAppeal.org. Thank you for your prayers and support as we all help further the Church's mission. To join with St. Mary's in our goal to raise \$87,486, please pledge your support. Envelopes are in this weekend's bulletin. Online pledges may be made at www.BostonCatholicAppeal.org. Please be sure to identify St. Mary's, Holliston as your parish. Thank you for your support of this important annual effort!



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

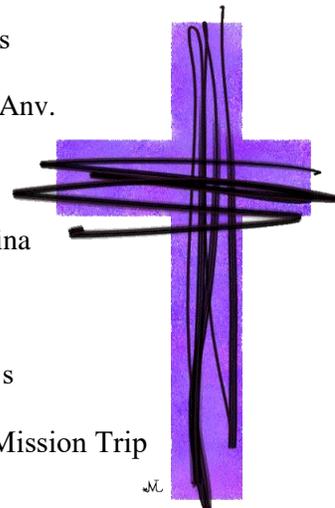
THE ROSE FOR LIFE: Is sponsored this week by John & Joanne Dalton. Please join them in prayer for an unborn child.

LAST SUNDAY'S PARISH OFFERTORY:

Mass Collections: \$ 10,690.00
 Automatic Giving: \$ 1,663.00
 Total Offertory: \$12,353.00
 St. Mary's thanks all those who support their parish so faithfully each week. May God bless you.

PRAYERS AND MASS INTENTIONS

- Saturday March 3**
5:00 Kenneth Schneeloch
7:30 Bill Ring
- Sunday March 4**
7:30 People of St. Mary's
9:30 Leslie Ann Higgins
11:30 40 Hours Devotion ~ **Opening Mass**
- Monday March 5**
9:00 40 Hours Devotion ~ Fr. Haley Hall
- Tuesday March 6**
9:00 40 Hours Devotion ~ Closing, Church
- Wednesday March 7**
9:00 Walter "D" Robbins
- Thursday March 8**
9:00 James Gleason, 3rd Anv.
- Friday March 9**
9:00 Adrienne Garrido
- Saturday March 10**
9:00 Rev. Richard Messina
5:00 Shirley Blair
7:30 Dorothy McQuade
- Sunday March 11**
7:30 People of St. Mary's
9:30 Girl Scout Sunday
11:30 St. Mary's Texas Mission Trip (Hurricane Relief)



DONUTS, JUICE AND COFFEE: Please join us today, Sunday, March 4, after the 9:30 AM Mass in Fr. Haley Hall for refreshments and camaraderie. DJ&C is also a great chance to welcome new families who have joined our parish. As always, members of the Parish Council will be available to hear your ideas and thoughts about the parish.

MUSIC	5:00 PM	9:30 AM	11:30 AM
Entrance	#311	#463	#463
Offertory	#99	-	-
Communion	#490	#658	-
Recessional	#532	#118	-

How you can help

The success of the Catholic Appeal depends on the participation of the whole community. The Appeal represents the largest single source of funding for the Central Ministries' operating budget of \$32.3 million, supporting Archdiocesan total operations of approximately \$349 million. Pope Francis reminds us, "I, you, we all are part of the Church....We are all called to collaborate for the birth of new Christians in the faith, we are all called to be educators in the faith, to proclaim the Gospel."

- 1 Remember to:
Pray for the success of the Appeal:
God, Our Father, You offered your only begotten Son, Jesus, as Savior of the world; grant we pray, that inspired by your example and guided by your Holy Spirit, each of us will use the gifts You entrust to us generously in service of others. Bless the Catholic Appeal, especially those served by its ministries, and help us build a civilization of love. We ask this through the name of your Son, Jesus. Amen.
- 2 Consider a donation through the invitation of Cardinal Seán on behalf of the ministries funded by people like you.
- 3 **Participate in Commitment Weekend (March 10-11)** by completing an in-pew envelope at mass. This supports your parish in their goal and expresses solidarity with our brothers and sisters.
- 4 Follow the work of the Catholic Appeal on social media and share our video. Visit bostoncatholicappeal.org for more information. Follow the Cardinal on Twitter @CardinalSean or at cardinalseansblog.org.

Next weekend you will be invited to support the 2018 Catholic Appeal at Mass. Please prayerfully consider making a pledge.

Annual Family Income	2% Pledge	10 Monthly Payments	1% Pledge	10 Monthly Payments
\$15,000	\$300	\$30	\$150	\$15
\$30,000	\$600	\$60	\$300	\$30
\$50,000	\$1,000	\$100	\$500	\$50
\$75,000	\$1,500	\$150	\$750	\$75
\$100,000	\$2,000	\$200	\$1,000	\$100
\$125,000	\$2,500	\$250	\$1,250	\$125
\$150,000	\$3,000	\$300	\$1,500	\$150
\$200,000	\$4,000	\$400	\$2,000	\$200

To make a gift online or for more information, please visit bostoncatholicappeal.org.

The Appeal does not fund the individual operating budgets of parishes, schools, or affiliated organizations. It also does not provide financial support for priests on administrative leave, or the financial settlements and counseling/medication costs for victims of clergy abuse.

Archdiocese of Boston
66 Brooks Drive
Braintree, MA 02184
bostoncatholicappeal.org

2018
Catholic Appeal
Living Our Faith Together

WE THE MANY SERVING AS ONE

2018 CATHOLIC APPEAL



A Message from Cardinal Seán

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Welcome to the launch of the 2018 Catholic Appeal! Your participation in the life of the Church means a great deal to me and to all those served by our ministries. Each of us plays an important role in the larger work to advance the mission of the Church. This work of evangelization begins in our parishes and becomes whole when we bind together in the service of others.

At this important time, when so many turn to our community of faith for assistance, I invite you to consider making a gift to the Catholic Appeal. Your generosity enables extraordinary people to build up our community of faith.

Every day, our collective support of those working in ministry transforms lives. The bereaved, the sick, the elderly, the afflicted, the youth and countless others depend on all of us to share the good news that in Christ, we are never alone.

Thank you in advance for your consideration of support for this important work. I invite you to take this home, explore the wonderful work of the Catholic Appeal in our parishes and consider making a gift next weekend, March 10-11.

With profound gratitude and the promise of my ongoing prayers,

+Seán, OFM Cap

Archbishop of Boston

We The Many

1.8M
Catholics
Living in 144
Cities & Towns

Worshiping
in **288**
Parishes

Served by
2,416
**Clergy &
Religious**

Supported by
39,315
Volunteers
like YOU!

Serving as One

- Inspiring more than **65,000** middle school students with the *Created for Love* curriculum which teaches God's plan for Life, Love, Relationships and Marriage.
- Inviting college students on **16** secular campuses into the life of the Church through **12** missionaries and **24** campus ministers.
- **24** chaplains visited **66,361** patients and their families within **23** medical facilities to provide for their spiritual needs.
- The *Care with Compassion: Opioid Overdose Prevention Program* facilitated **6** parish trainings, providing pastoral support to the opioid epidemic in Massachusetts.
- *The Initiative for Palliative Care and Advance Care Planning* hosted **50** programs to facilitate conversations about patient-centered and family-oriented care of the seriously ill. They empower individuals to make the best end-of-life care decisions.

Because of You

Parishes grow with the next generation

A force of energy in Townsend, Shannon volunteers as a religious education teacher and Eucharistic minister. Her experience on World Youth Day pilgrimages inspired her to serve at her home parish. The central ministries team organizes programming throughout the year to engage young people.

"When you get to World Youth Day, everything is in place for you to focus on why you're there, to encounter Christ in this unique and dramatic way. There's nothing I want more than to share that."

– Shannon Murphy



Families begin with a stronger foundation

Meghan and Collin prepared for marriage through the *Pre-Cana Program*. The program equips 2,500 couples annually to live as strong Catholic families. After the birth of their daughter, Grace, they became instructors in the program, helping prepare others for the early challenges of life together.

"We're focused on teaching our daughter, Grace, to grow and love. Our goal is to make our family a beautiful school of love." – Meghan and Collin McBride



Women in crisis move forward

As a case worker at *Pregnancy Help*, pregnant women rely on Tina and the pro-life office to navigate the complex healthcare system and learn important child care skills. After childbirth, they continue to support new mothers and their newborns.

"Women of every faith feel comfortable coming to a program that is part of the Catholic Church. They have a peace knowing they're going to get the help they need." – Leontina "Tina" Green





THIS WEEKEND BETHLEHEM CHRISTIANS: 100 Christian families in Bethlehem support themselves by the carving of olive wood. The religious objects so carved have a unique beauty and quality. The Al-Sahouri family will have their olive wood carvings available for purchase after all Masses this weekend, March 3 and 4. Your purchase helps preserve the presence of Christians in the land of Our Savior’s birth. Olive wood items from the Holy Land may be viewed and purchased in the Parish Center Lobby.

SUNG CHORAL VESPERS ~ TONIGHT: Join our talented Youth Choir for Solemn Sung Vespers today, Sunday, March 4 at 6:00 PM. This 30-minute meditative service will be presented in the context of St. Mary's 40-hour devotion. Vespers 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 and adoration!



LENTEN EVENING PRAYER: Come enjoy Lenten Evening Prayer at 7 PM in the Church, (15-20 minutes) on Tuesday, March 6, 13 and 27. This is the daily prayer of the Catholic Church consisting of psalms, hymns, and intercessions. Come find peace at day’s end.

LENTEN SOUP SUPPERS: Bring the whole family and friends to enjoy a homemade meal, prayer and friendship every Friday during Lent (except March 16 due to the Requiem Mass that night), from 6 to 7 PM. Come meet other families in the parish as we seek the Lord anew. Start a new tradition or continue with an old one by helping to prepare a soup, salad or delicious cheesy pasta. Don’t like to cook? Bring a savory bread or just help out with setting up or breaking down. It’s easy to volunteer, just visit: <https://tinyurl.com/StMary2018SoupSupper> and sign up or email mlorandos@verizon.net. Have a blessed Lent!

LENTEN PENANCE SERVICE: Monday, March 12 at 6:30 PM. Additionally, Confessions will be heard every Saturday from Noon -12:45 PM, excepting Holy Saturday on which sacraments are not celebrated before the Great Easter Vigil that night. In this beautiful Sacrament we experience the fullness of God’s mercy, healing and peace.

PRAYING PSALM 51, THE MISERERE ~ Sunday, March 18, at 6:30 PM in the Church. Join us as our Pastor Fr. Mark Coiro, offers a reflection on Psalm 51. Known as the “Miserere,” this Psalm is prayed every Friday morning as part of the Church’s Liturgy of the Hours. Attributed to King David, it is one of the most eloquent expressions of human repentance and the awesome, healing mercy of God. Join us as we dig deeper into the history and meaning of this Psalm, reflecting together on the forgiveness of God available to all who long for His pardon. If ever you have had trouble believing that you can be forgiven, then this night is for you.



LENTEN RESOURCE FROM THE CREATION CARE TEAM: The Global Catholic Climate Movement has created a calendar for a Lenten Fast for Creation. With themes for each week (waste, food, energy, water, appreciating nature) and daily action steps, the calendar will challenge you to enhance your Lenten Experience by fasting from harm to the environment. You will find the calendar at <http://catholicclimatemovement.global/lent-calendar/>. Each of the pictures of a person represents a different date in the season of Lent, going up to March 24. Check it out!

TAIZÉ SERVICE: Friday, March 9, 7:30-8:30 PM. Join us for an hour of musical prayer following the tradition of the Taizé community. This service incorporates the singing of easy and memorable refrains, which are repeated to create an atmosphere of prayer and contemplative meditation. Modeled after the practice of the Taizé community in France, the goal of this repetitive singing is to help us contemplate a single aspect of God.

WISDOM FROM THE SAINTS: *“When someone steals another's clothes, we call them a thief. Should we not give the same name to one who could clothe the naked and does not? The bread in your cupboard belongs to the hungry; the coat unused in your closet belongs to the one who needs it; the shoes rotting in your closet belong to the one who has no shoes; the money which you hoard up belongs to the poor.” - St. Basil*



FAURE REQUIEM MASS: Friday, March 16 at 7:00 PM in St. Mary's Church. This Lent, St. Mary's Adult Choir will perform the Requiem Mass by Gabriel Fauré. The Requiem by the French composer Gabriel Fauré (1845-1924) is perhaps one of the best known musical settings of the Requiem Mass, and the best-known work by the composer. The term “Requiem” designates a musical setting of the Catholic Mass of the Dead. “Requiem” in this sense is used as an abbreviation for the words that comprise the opening of the Introit for the Mass of the Dead, “Requiem aeternam dona eis, Domine,” which means: “Grant them eternal rest, O Lord.” Composed in seven movements, Fauré's Requiem provides a musical setting for every one of the sung portions of the ordinary of the Latin Mass (Introit and Kyrie, Offertory, Sanctus, Agnus Dei) and, in addition, for two texts which are exclusive to the Mass of the Dead: Libera me, and In Paradisum. Fauré composed this work between 1887-1888 and premiered it at the church of the Madeleine in Paris in 1888 for a Funeral Mass. It was not until 1931, however, that the work was first performed in the U.S., quickly gaining popularity after its North-American premiere.

Just as it was first performed in France, we will offer this work in the context of the celebration of Mass, accompanied by the beautiful St. Mary's organ. The Mass and music are in honor of our beloved friend Patrick D. McDonald (1944-2017), who was an active parishioner at St. Mary's Church for 43 years. Patrick, an avid lover of music and choral singer, wished that the Fauré Requiem could be performed for his Funeral Mass, which took place in August 14, 2017. Unable to fulfill his request at that time, we decided to remember him by performing the work in the context of a Mass on the eve of St. Patrick's Day, March 16, 2018. All are invited to this moment of sacred music and prayer.

FRIDAY ABSTINENCE: Catholics over 14 years of age are bound to the obligation of abstinence. Abstinence is to be observed on all Fridays of Lent. On days of abstinence, meat may not be used at all.

MIDDLE SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP NEXT SUNDAY: Our next MSYG meeting is next Sunday, March 11, from 6:30 – 8 PM in Fr. Haley Hall. There will be Lenten sandwich making for the homeless and signups & payments for both this summer's Whitewater Rafting Trips. There will also be a presentation on the 8th Grade Spelunking Trip this summer. All 6th, 7th & 8th Graders are invited for faith, friendship and fun. Bring a friend! Next Events: Cosmic Bowling, March 23 and the 8th Grade BINGO service trip to St. Patrick Manor on Monday, March 26.

EPIC: Next EPIC nights are Wednesday, March 14 & Sunday, March 18. Next EPIC event is assembling “blessing bags” for the homeless on Wednesday, March 28 at 7:30 PM. Paperwork will be emailed out to members. Please join us for faith, fun and fellowship in 2018. Please contact Matt Chick at stmarysym1870@gmail.com with questions.

BLESSED MOTHER SCHOLARSHIP: Scholarship Applications are now available in the Religious Education Office. This scholarship is granted in recognition of exceptional service to the St. Mary's Parish Family. Applicants must meet the following criteria: Graduating from High School in the Spring of 2018; Accepted to a four-year college or university to commence classes in the Fall of 2018; Family registered at St. Mary's Parish for at least two full years; Completed Religious Education and received the Sacrament of Confirmation; Attend Mass weekly at St. Mary's and are otherwise living out their Catholic faith. Applications are due to the Scholarship Committee by Sunday, April 15.



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, March 7 from 9:30-11:15 AM when Beth Comstock will be offering a reflection on “Boaz Takes Care of Business” pages 62-71 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 at (508) 893-7919 or Lisa at (774)-286-1844.

CREATION CARE TEAM MOVIE SATURDAYS: The parish Creation Care Team will be showing the global warming/climate change movie An Inconvenient Truth: A Global Warning on Saturday, March 10 from 10 AM to 12 Noon in rooms 3 & 4 in the Parish Center. Light refreshments will be available. The sequel to this movie, An Inconvenient Sequel: Truth to Power, will be shown on Saturday, April 14, same time and place. Please join us. Contact Leo Racine at 429-7476 or leoracine@msn.com for more information.

Meet Him For Forty Hours ~ Sun., March 4 - Tues., March 6

40 Hours Devotion: In celebrating this devotion, the Blessed Sacrament will be exposed on the altar at St. Mary's for forty continuous hours. The church will be open throughout and people may stop in at any time to visit with the Lord in prayer. The Forty Hours Devotion nurtures the love of the faithful for our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament. Additionally, three special dimensions surround this devotion:

- the protection from evil and temptation;
- reparation for our own sins and for the Poor Souls in Purgatory;
- and deliverance from political, material, or spiritual calamities.

Sunday, March 4

11:30 AM Opening Mass
6:00 PM Sung Choral Vespers
7-7:30 PM Organ Music
8:00 PM Scripture Reflection

Monday, March 5

9:00 AM Morning Mass (Hall)
Noon Holy Rosary
6:00 PM Evening Prayer
7-7:30 PM Organ Music
8:00 PM Scripture Reflection

Tuesday, March 6

9:00 AM Closing Mass with
Benediction



Persecuted Christians In The Holy Land

This weekend St. Mary's will support our fellow Christians in the Holy land as we have the opportunity to purchase their olive wood carvings. The Christian communities in the Holy Land are currently experiencing

unprecedented persecution by extremist Jewish groups (including arson attacks against churches), and discriminatory practices by the Israeli Government. The latter came to a head this past week, as a "Church Land Bill" was proposed that would tax out of Church ownership properties not used solely for worship and authorize the seizure of properties previously sold by the Church to non-Church entities. So grave is this threat, that the Church of the Holy Sepulcher – containing both Calvary and Jesus' Tomb, was closed in protest. Please take some time to familiarize yourself with the situation of Christians in the Holy Land, already vastly reduced in numbers since the formation of the Israeli State, but now experiencing persecution at unprecedented levels.

VISIT: <https://www.cmc-terrasanta.org/en/>



Statement on Municipal threats and the discriminatory “Church Lands Bill”

The heads of Churches in charge of the Holy Sepulcher and the Status Quo governing the various Christian Holy Sites in Jerusalem, are following with great concern the systematic campaign against the Churches and the Christian community in the Holy Land, in flagrant violation of the existing Status Quo.

We, the heads of Churches in charge of the Holy Sepulcher and the Status Quo governing the various Christian Holy Sites in Jerusalem - the Greek Orthodox Patriarchate, the Custody of the Holy Land and the Armenian Patriarchate - are following with great concern the systematic campaign against the Churches and the Christian community in the Holy Land, in flagrant violation of the existing Status Quo.

Recently, this systematic and offensive campaign has reached an unprecedented level as the Jerusalem municipality issued scandalous collection notices and orders of seizure of Church assets, properties and bank accounts for alleged debts of punitive municipal taxes. A step that is contrary to the historic position of the Churches within the Holy City of Jerusalem and their relationship with the civil authorities. These actions breach existing agreements and international obligations which guarantee the rights and the privileges of the Churches, in what seems as an attempt to weaken the Christian presence in Jerusalem. The greatest victims in this are those impoverished families who will go without food and housing, as well as the children who will be unable to attend school.

The systematic campaign of abuse against Churches and Christians reaches now its peak as a discriminatory and racist bill that targets solely the properties of the Christian community in the Holy Land is being promoted. This abhorrent bill is set to advance today in a meeting of a ministerial committee which if approved would make the expropriation of the lands of churches possible. This reminds us all of laws of a similar nature which were enacted against the Jews during dark periods in Europe.

This systematic and unprecedented attack against Christians in the Holy Land severely violates the most basic, ab antiquo and sovereign rights, trampling on the delicate fabric of relations between the Christian community and the authorities for decades.

THEREFORE, and recalling the Statement of the Patriarchs and Heads of Local Churches in Jerusalem, dated 14 February, 2018 and their previous statement of September 2017, as a measure of protest, we decided to take this unprecedented step of closure of the Church of the Holy Sepulchre.

Together with all Heads of Churches in the Holy Land we stand united, firm and resolute in protecting our rights and our properties.

May the Holy Spirit answer our prayers and bring a resolution to this historic Crisis in our Holy City.

CLOW- CHILDREN K-6: Today, Sunday, March 4, the children will go to Fr. Haley Hall with Deacon John Barry to learn what Jesus teaches us in today's Gospel.

PICK OF THE WEEK: "Glimpses Along the Way of the Cross" Enter more deeply into the mystery of Christ's Cross in three beautiful talks as Monsignor James Shea guides us along the Stations of the Cross. These powerful meditations take us into the depths of Christ's agony, and back out again into the relief and joy of what His sacrifice means for us. *"Fr. Shea knows how to relate to someone in the pew who has felt pain and needs the healing only Christ can give. These talks helped me to meet Jesus again!"* —David, Chicago, IL. To listen to these talks go to www.formed.org and just enter your email address and our Password **NW3N3Q**. Then follow the directions to register for FORMED.

GRADE 5 CHRISTIAN SEXUALITY WORKSHOPS FOR PARENTS: There will be parent workshop on Wednesday, March 7 from 7 - 8 PM in RM 3-4. 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 missed the parent workshop and want to view the program contact Fran at st.marysdre1870@gmail.com.

GRADES 9 - 10 STUDENT VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED: Our **Grade 2** program needs volunteers for the **Grade 2 Family Retreat** on Sat., April 7 from 12:00 Noon to 5:00 PM. Student volunteers are needed to help with **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.

PRE-K – GRADE 7 COORDINATOR MEETING: On Thursday, March 15 at 7:30 PM there will be a meeting to discuss the 2018-2019 Master Calendar and schedules for the Religious Education program. This is an important meeting.

GRADE 2 PARENT MEETINGS: Sunday, March 18 at 8:15 AM and 10:45 AM in Fr. Haley Hall. This is a very important meeting with information for First Communion and the Certificate Masses. These meetings are held during the children's class time.

SPECIAL NEEDS: Meets on Tuesday, March 6 from 6:30 to 7:30 PM in the Library.

PERSONAL CARE ATTENDANT (PCA) NEEDED: This is a paid three day a week position. Call Cathy Disciullo at 508-429-4990 if you can help.

CONFIRMATION I AND II: Grade 9 meets on Tuesday, March 6 and Thursday, March 8 at 6:30 PM in Fr. Haley Hall.

GRADE 10 RETREAT- 2018: On Saturday, March 3, there will be a retreat from 9:00 AM to 6:00 PM. Students will report to Fr. Haley Hall by **8:45 AM** to be checked in. Please contact Matt Chick with any questions regarding the retreat at 508-429-6076 or by Email at: stmarysym1870@gmail.com.

WEEK'S RELIGIOUS EDUCATION SCHEDULE

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



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.

ADULT FAITH FORMATION: Session 19 of the *EPIC* series on Church History will be shown on Tuesday, March 6 at 10:00 AM in Room 3 – 4. Come and join us.

**VBS
2018**

**JULY
23 - 27**



At Shipwrecked kids will learn Bible points each day through songs, snacks and hands on activities. Look for the VBS registrations coming your way in April.