



Divine Mercy Sunday is the Second Sunday of the Easter season. It was named by Saint Pope John Paul II at the canonization of St. Maria Faustina on April 30, 2000, and then officially decreed by the Holy See.

Divine Mercy Sunday can be seen as the convergence of all the mysteries and graces of Holy Week and Easter Week. It is like a multi-exposure photograph of Holy Thursday, Good Friday, Easter Sunday and Easter Week. Or we can think of it as a converging lens that focuses the light of the Risen Christ into a radiant beam of merciful love and grace for the whole world.

In fact, Jesus expressed in various revelations to St. Faustina that it was His desire that we celebrate this special feast. *"The Feast of Mercy emerged from My very depths of tenderness. It is My desire that it be solemnly celebrated on the first Sunday after Easter. Mankind will not have peace until it turns to the Fount of My Mercy."* (Diary, 699) Our Lord revealed to St. Faustina His desire to literally flood us with His graces on that day.

"On that day the very depths of My tender Mercy are open. I pour out a whole ocean of graces upon these souls who approach the Fount of My mercy [the Sacraments of Reconciliation and Holy Eucharist]."

The soul that will go to Confession [beforehand] and receive Holy Communion [on that day] shall obtain complete forgiveness of sins and punishment. On that day all the divine floodgates through which grace flow are opened. Let no soul fear to draw near to Me, even though its sins be as scarlet." (Diary, 699)



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.

2018 CATHOLIC APPEAL ~ Living Our Faith Together

We want to thank everyone from St. Mary's who has so far participated in the 2018 Catholic Appeal.

To date our parish has raised \$86,039 from 44% of St. Mary's active households, reaching 98% of our parish goal of \$87,486.

These contributions support the many ministries of our Archdiocese and will improve the lives of so many vulnerable persons. The Appeal is to our Archdiocese what the weekly offertory is to our parish. If you have not yet made your gift, please consider making a pledge. You can pick up information and pledge envelopes at the church entrances. Please place your completed pledge envelope in any Mass collection basket. Online pledges may be made at www.BostonCatholicAppeal.org. Either way, please be sure to indicate St. Mary's, Holliston as your parish so that your gift is applied to our parish goal. Thank you for doing your part – large or small according to your means – to support the good works of our Church. God bless you!



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

NEWSLETTER COLLATING: Please join us on Friday, April 13 from 9:30 AM to 1:00 PM in Father Haley Hall to assist in our collating of the May Newsletter. All are welcome and needed!

THE ROSE FOR LIFE: Is sponsored this week by the Bomba Family. Please join them in prayer for an unborn child. To sponsor the Rose for Life for 2018 please call the Rectory at 429-4427.

EASTER COLLECTION: \$21,255.00
 Thank you for supporting our retired priests!

PRAYERS AND MASS INTENTIONS:

Saturday	April 7
5:00	Robert Cardillo
7:30	Midge Boyd
Sunday	April 8
7:30	People of St. Mary's
9:30	Giuseppe & Joseph Calamita
11:30	Patrick McDonald
Monday	April 9
9:00	Steven Jiencke
Tuesday	April 10
9:00	Steven Jiencke
Wednesday	April 11
9:00	Leon & Dorothy Lavoie
Thursday	April 12
9:00	Steven Jiencke
Friday	April 13
9:00	Abi Lizotte
Saturday	April 14
9:00	Msgr. Joseph Alves
5:00	Deceased Members of the LaRoche and D'Aloia Families
7:30	Nicholas Rossini
Sunday	April 15
7:30	People of St. Mary's
9:30	Sr. Mary Conlon
11:30	Robert & Millie Flynn

A HEALING SERVICE FOR ADDICTION:

Will be held on Wednesday, April 11 at the Shrine. Confessions begin at 6:30 PM, Rosary at 6:45 PM and Mass at 7:15 PM. Fr. Michael McNamara will be presiding. If you have any questions call Ron or Mary Whinnem at (508) 655-1463.



MUSIC	5:00 PM	9:30 AM	11:30 AM
Entrance	#64	#71	#71
Offertory	#76	-	-
Communion	#333	#679	-
Recessional	#474	#563	#563



Saint Mary's Parish

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

April 8, 2018
Divine Mercy Sunday

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

Looking upon our sanctuary it is easy to see that the Easter season has truly arrived. The stark simplicity of Lent has been replaced by a lush and blooming abundance that speaks to us of new life and Resurrection. Special thanks to Najat Whalen and the members of the Art & Environment Committee whose green thumbs worked this transformation, and to all who touched our Easter celebrations with beauty and grace. These include the St. Mary's Adult, Youth, Children, and Contemporary Choirs under the direction of Juan Mesa and Leo Racine respectively, as well as Deacons Marty and John, and all the Altar Servers, Lectors, Eucharistic Ministers, and Ushers.

Thank you also to the good people of St. Mary's who warmly welcomed our many Easter visitors. I would especially like to congratulate every parent who made the effort to help their child / children experience the beauty of Triduum. Whether you brought them to Holy Thursday's Mass of the Lord's Supper, or to Good Friday's Evening Passion Service, or to the Great Easter Vigil, you taught them a powerful lesson about embracing Holy Week and faith in its fullness. You provided them as many opportunities for grace as you could, and there is no more precious gift.

As we all know, faith is very much a fluid and living thing. It ebbs and flows as sometimes we feel very close to God and other times He seems to recede far into the distance. Like Mary who *"reflected on these things and stored them up in her heart,"* we hold fast to the memory of the close times with God in order to get us through the distant times. Like "doubting" Thomas in today's Gospel, we may long for physical, tangible proof of the living presence of the Lord, and yet Jesus challenges us to follow Him without it. *"Blessed are those who have not seen and have believed."* Doubt is not always a bad thing. Doubt provides the opportunity for faith – for following even when we do not understand. There is no Christian, anywhere, who does not struggle with at least some aspect of their faith's teaching. The first step in such moments is to study the particular teaching in question and make a sincere effort to understand it. If understanding does not come, then we pray for strength to live faithfully even that which we do not yet fully understand. As St. Paul said, we see now *"as through a glass darkly,"* but one day we shall see God face to face, and in His light experience the joy of perfect truth.

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

Under His Mercy,

Rev. Mark J. Coiro
Pastor

HANDSHAKE & PRECIOUS BLOOD: As you know, at the start of Lent the Archdiocese suspended both the handshake at the Sign of Peace and reception of the Precious Blood at Holy Communion. This was due to the severity of this year's Flu Season. This weekend we return to both practices. As we again touch Jesus in the Blood of the Chalice, and as once more we touch our neighbors at the Sign of Peace, may we feel closer in all ways to the One Who lived, died and rose to save us. On this Divine Mercy Sunday, let us remember Jesus' invitation to touch others by extending to them the same mercy we desire from Him. Mercy is "forgiveness underserved," and the mercy we offer to others is the mercy Jesus promises in return.

CEMETERY CLEANUP: R & R Landscape will begin the Spring Cemetery Cleanup in the coming weeks. Please remove all Winter baskets/arrangements that you wish to keep at home by April 14. Thank you.

DIVINE MERCY CHAPLET: The Knights of Columbus will be leading a prayer service immediately after each Mass this weekend (April 7-8). The service will consist solely of praying the Divine Mercy Chaplet and will take less than 10 minutes. All interested parishioners are invited to remain in the Church after Mass. The chaplet is very easy to learn and is a beautiful prayer. (Prayer cards will be provided).

THANK YOU: A great big heart-felt thank you to all of the parishioners who participated in the St. Mary's Lenten Soup Suppers. Your generosity and willingness to accept part of the work load made the suppers possible and successful this year. To those who helped create and manage the weekly schedule, set up and clean up the supper space, prepare the food and present the weekly reflections, your work is sincerely acknowledged and appreciated. None of us could do it alone. And, of course, special thanks are extended to the parishioners who came every week to share a meal and build our parish community. Thank you all from Joanne Davenport, Marilyn Lourandos and Leo Racine, the Lenten Soup Supper Coordinating Team.

ST. MARY'S WOMEN'S GROUP: Will meet on Wednesday, April 11 in the Parish Library from 12 noon to 2 PM. Come and enjoy a social afternoon of fun, games and prizes. All are welcome.

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 as we begin our Spring Season entitled "Your Love O Lord Sustains Us" which begins on Wednesday, April 11 from 9:30-11:15 AM when Fr. Mark Coiro will be offering a reflection on "God's Surprises and the Graces That Flow From Them". 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.



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.

MIDDLE SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP MEETING ~TONIGHT:

Our next meeting is tonight, Sunday, April 8, 6:30 – 8 PM in Fr. Haley Hall. All 6th, 7th and 8th Graders are welcome. There will be prayer, trip signups for P & L Paintball (vacation week), 6th Grade Prom Night Service Trip to St. Patrick Manor, 8th Grade Spelunking, 8th Grade rafting roommate sign ups and pizza.



EPIC: Our next EPIC night will be on Sunday, April 29. If your son/daughter is interested in joining please contact Matt Chick at stmarysym1870@gmail.com.

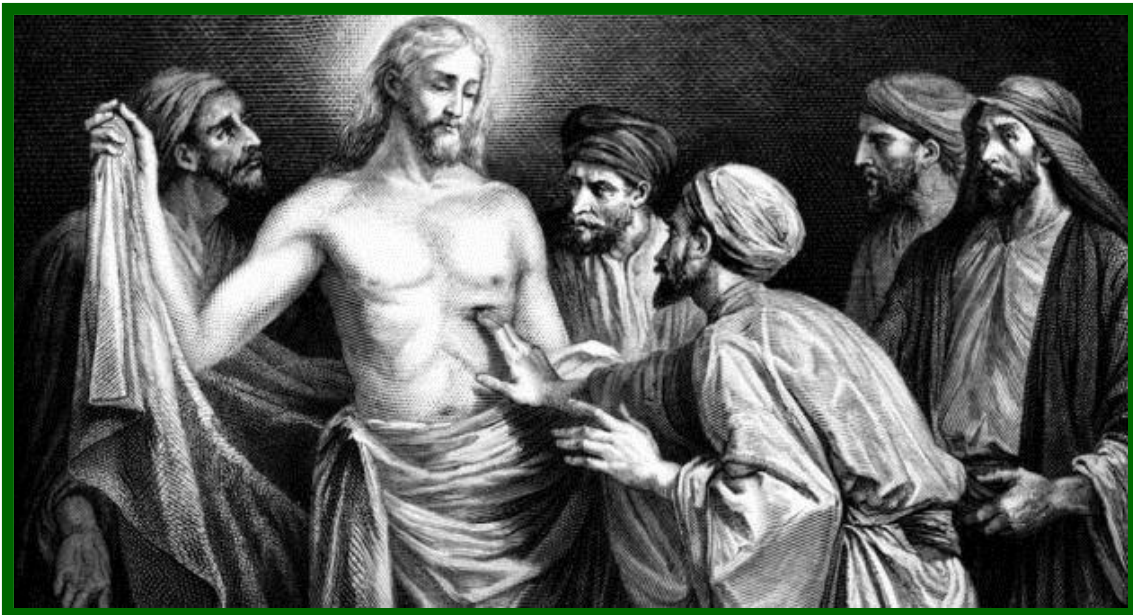
PLEASE HELP US HELP YOU BY LETTING US SPREAD YOUR MULCH! St. Mary's Mission Trip teams will be traveling to Houston this summer to help communities still trying to recover from the devastating effects of Hurricane Harvey. By letting us spread mulch at your home, you can help too. Money you spend on our 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 cleanup and prep the beds. **CONTACT:** Ellen Kennedy at 508.498.4285, gebmkenedy@comcast.net. Clients are on a first come, first served basis. Spots fill up quickly.

EGGS & EASTER: For Christians, the egg is an ancient symbol of the Resurrection of Jesus Christ. As a chick breaks the shell when it is hatched, so Our Lord breaks the seal of the tomb and comes forth living into the world. Real and marble eggs have been found in the tombs of Christian Martyrs in Rome, and through the centuries eggs have been a liturgical symbol of the Resurrection. In many European Cathedrals, eggs are placed before the altar at Easter. In the Burgos Cathedral in Spain, eggs are a permanent part of the Crucifix, resting below the feet of Christ as a sign and promise that He would rise again. On a 16th century ivory egg in the de Fontaine collection are inscribed the words, *"Post tenebras spero lucem"* – *"After the darkness, I hope for light."* Painting Easter eggs is an especially beloved tradition in the Orthodox and Eastern Catholic churches, where the eggs are dyed red to represent the blood of Jesus Christ that was shed on the Cross. Moreover, historically Christians would abstain from eating eggs and meat during Lent, and Easter was the first chance to eat eggs after a long period of abstinence. Orthodox Christians continue to abstain from eggs during Lent.



LAUGHTER & EASTER: *"In the Baroque period the liturgy used to include the risus paschalis, the Easter laughter. The Easter homily had to contain a story that made people laugh, so that the church resounded with a joyful laughter. That may be a somewhat superficial form of Christian joy. But is there not something very beautiful and appropriate about laughter becoming a liturgical symbol? And is it not a tonic when we still hear, in the play of cherub and ornament in Baroque churches, that laughter which testified to the freedom of the redeemed? And is it not a sign of an Easter faith when Haydn remarked, concerning his church compositions, that he felt a particular joy when thinking of God: 'As I came to utter the words of supplication, I could not suppress my joy but loosed the reins of my elated spirits and wrote "allegro" over the Miserere, and so on?'"* - Pope Emeritus Benedict XVIII

CREATION CARE TEAM MOVIE SATURDAY: The Parish Creation Care Team will be showing the global warming/climate change movie *An Inconvenient Sequel: Truth to Power*, on Saturday, April 14 from 10 AM to 12 Noon in rooms 3 & 4 in the Parish Center. Light refreshments will be available. The earlier companion movie, *An Inconvenient Truth: A Global Warning*, was quite powerful and eye-opening. Consider joining us for this sequel. Contact Leo Racine at 429-7476 or leoaracine@msn.com for more information.



Now a week later his disciples were again inside, and Thomas was with them. Jesus came, although the doors were locked, and stood in their midst and said, "Peace be with you." Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands, and bring your hand and put it into my side, and do not be unbelieving, but believe." Thomas answered and said to him, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him, "Have you come to believe because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and have believed." Jn 20:26-29

CLOW- CHILDREN K-6: Today, Sunday, April 8, the children will remain in the church with Fr. Mark and learn what Jesus teaches us in today's Gospel reading.

FORMED - PICK OF THE WEEK: Experience the Power of God's Mercy. Join Fr. Michael Gaitley on a breathtaking journey to uncover the reality of God's merciful love as he weaves together history, Sacred Scripture, the prophetic apparitions of Fatima, and the world-changing witnesses of St. Faustina, St. Maximilian Kolbe, and Pope St. John Paul II. *"This series will change your life! Fr. Gaitley has scored another home run with this series."* - Dan S., Milledgeville, GA

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION REGISTRATIONS FOR 2018-2019: Registrations will be sent out after the April vacation to all families having children and youth in the R.E. program by regular mail. **If you have a child entering Pre-K or Kindergarten for the first time please call the R.E. Office and a registration form will be mailed out to you.** Please note that children entering Grade 1 are required to complete First Grade as part of their Sacramental Preparation Program before entering Grade 2. Once you receive the Registration Form please review it carefully and make any changes necessary in order to keep our database up to date. Please mail or return the completed form to the R.E. Office before the deadline of Friday, June 15 to ensure placement for your child.

FAMILY BASE RELIGIOUS EDUCATION – GRADES 3 - 5: During the month of April parents who have home schooled their child must contact Fran Crespi and make an appointment for their child's end of year grade assessment. Home base families have signed a Covenant to ensure that their child fulfills this requirement. This final assessment is necessary before entering the next grade level. To schedule an appointment send an Email to: st.marysdre1870@gmail.com.

ROSARY GENERAL SESSION: On Monday, April 9 from 4 – 5:30 PM all Grade 3 students from the Sunday and weekday classes are required to attend this session. Teachers are needed to assist the students. Parent pick-up is at 5:30 PM.

CREATING A CULTURE OF PROTECTION: April is Child Abuse Prevention month. Take the time to read the policies and learn how you can help create a culture of protection at: www.bostoncatholic.org

COMPASSIONATE FRIENDS: Tuesday, April 17 in the Library at 7:45 PM.

CONFIRMATION I AND II: Grade 9 meets on Tuesday, April 10 and Thursday, April 12 at 6:30 PM in Fr. Haley Hall.

GRADES 9 - 10 STUDENT VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED: Our Grade 2 program needs volunteers for 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.

WEEK'S RELIGIOUS EDUCATION SCHEDULE APRIL VACATION IS APRIL 15 - 20

DAY	GRADE	GRADE
Sun., April 8	PRE-K at 9:15 AM	GR-2 at 8:10 AM
	GR-3 at 7:55 AM	GR-2 at 10:45 PM
	GR-3 at 10:45 AM	GR-6 at 1:00 PM
Mon., April 9	GR-3 at 4:00 PM	GR-4 at 3:00 PM
	GR-6 at 6:00 PM	GR-8 at 6:00 PM
Tues., April 10	GR-4 at 4:00 PM	GR-9 at 6:30 PM
Wed., April 11	GR-2 at 4:15 PM	GR-7 at 6:00 PM
	GR-7 at 6:00 PM	
Thu., April 12	GR-6 at 2:15 PM	Temple Visit
	GR-9 at 6:30 PM	
Sun., April 15	NO CLASSES	April Vacation
Sun., April 22	GR-1 at 8:10 AM	GR-4 at 10:45 AM
	GR-5 at 10:45 AM	GR-7 at 5:30 PM

GRADE 6 TEMPLE VISIT: On Thursday, April 12, all Grade 6 students and their teachers from the Sunday and weekday classes are to visit Temple Beth Am in Framingham as part of their curriculum. Students must have a signed Permission form in order to visit the Temple. Students report to Fr. Haley Hall by 2:15 PM to be checked in. The bus will leave promptly at 2:30 PM and arrive at the Temple by 3:00 PM for a presentation by Rabbi Sharon Sobel. Parent pick-up is at 4:45 PM in the parking lot.

**VBS
2018**

**July
23 – 27**



At Shipwrecked kids will learn Bible points each day through songs, snacks and hands on activities. 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.