



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

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Palm Sunday

MARCH 25, 2018

**Full Holy Week
& Easter Schedule
Enclosed**



DO YOU WANT TO SEE YOUR CHURCH ...

- | | |
|--|---------------------------|
| ... train holy priests for ministry? | ... clothe the naked? |
| ... feed the hungry? | ... minister to the sick? |
| ... shelter the homeless? | ... educate the young? |
| ... support women in crisis pregnancies? | ... console the bereaved? |



IF YES, THEN HAVE YOU GIVEN YET TO THE 2018 CATHOLIC APPEAL?

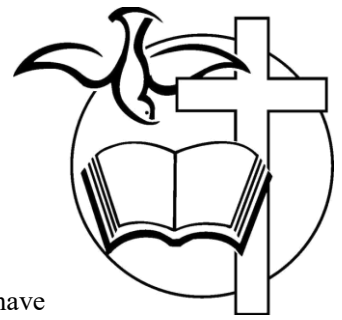
The Catholic Appeal supports all of the good works listed above and many, many more. The Appeal is to your Archdiocese what the weekly collection is to your parish – the critical support that makes its ministries possible. This includes essential services to the poor and needy, for whom the Church is called to be the compassionate and healing presence of Jesus in the world today.

It is the duty of every Catholic to support the good works of the Church. Please do your part, and give to the Catholic Appeal by placing in any Mass collection basket one of the Blue Pledge Envelopes located at the church doors, or by donating online at www.bostoncatholicappeal.org. Please identify your parish as St. Mary's, Holliston, so that your gift will count toward your parish's 2018 C.A. Goal.

Gifts of every size – even modest ones – all matter. The important thing is to participate. Remember what Jesus said when He saw the widow put her one tiny coin into the temple treasury: *“Amen, I say to you, this poor widow put in more than all the other contributors. For they have all contributed from their surplus wealth, but she, from her poverty, has contributed all she had, her whole livelihood.”* (Mark 12:44)

St. Mary's Parish Newsletter

March, 2018 ~ Volume 43, Number 7



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

Rite of Election

This year St. Mary's is pleased to have three adults in our RCIA program (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults). Jake Haas is our sole Catechumen, which means he is seeking all the Sacraments of Initiation: Baptism, Eucharist and Confirmation, which he will receive at the Easter Vigil. Steve Lantz is a Candidate seeking First Communion and Confirmation, and Heather McCarter is a Candidate seeking Confirmation.

Our enthusiastic candidates have been meeting faithfully each Wednesday night since early October to learn about the truth, beauty and richness of our Catholic faith, in preparation for their joyful reception into the Catholic Church at the Easter Vigil. Let us keep them all in prayer!

Photo: On Feb. 18, St. Mary's RCIA candidates and their instructors traveled to Immaculate Conception Church in Malden for the Rite of Election with Cardinal Sean O'Malley.



Top Row, left to right: RCIA Directors Ginny Evans and David Cunis, Candidate Heather McCarter, Cardinal Sean O'Malley, Catechumen Jake Haas and his Sponsor, Kelly Condon. Bottom Row: Candidate Stephen Lantz and his daughter, Arianna (who will be receiving her First Communion this Spring at St. Mary's).



HOLY WEEK WORSHIP SCHEDULE



PALM SUNDAY

Saturday, March 24:

5 PM & 7:30 PM Masses

Sunday, March 25:

7:30, 9:30 & 11:30 AM Masses

Palms will be blessed &
the Passion read at all Masses.

HOLY THURSDAY

Thursday, March 29:

9 AM

Morning Prayer

7 PM

Mass of the Lord's Supper

The Mass of the Lord's Supper recalls the events the night before Jesus died, especially the institution of the Holy Eucharist. The ceremony of the washing of the feet reminds us of Jesus' call to serve one another. The Mass concludes with a procession of the Blessed Sacrament to the altar of repose in Father Haley Hall, where Adoration will continue until 10:30 PM. At Mass a collection will be taken up for the Holliston Food Pantry.

GOOD FRIDAY

Day of Fasting & Abstinence

Friday, March 30:

9 AM

Morning Prayer

12 PM

(Kindergarten – Grade 5) Younger Children's Stations of the Cross

7 PM

Celebration of the Lord's Passion

The 7:00 PM Lord's Passion Celebration is the official Good Friday Liturgy that continues the three day Triduum Celebration begun on Holy Thursday and concluding at Easter. It consists of the Liturgy of the Passion, Veneration of the Cross, and Holy Communion. The Noon Stations are designed for younger children K – Grade 5, (accompanied by parents), and utilize a living tableau and special station prayers to help young children discover Jesus' love for them in the here and now.

Good Friday is a day of fasting and abstinence from meat. In every single Catholic parish around the world this day, a collection is taken up to maintain the Shrines and struggling Christian communities in the Holy Land. This collection is taken up at both the Stations and Passion Services.

HOLY SATURDAY

Please Note: No Confessions on Holy Saturday

Saturday, March 31:

9 AM

Morning Prayer

8 PM

The Great Easter Vigil (brass quartet, adult choir)

The Great Easter Vigil is rightly called the "Mother" of all liturgies. It includes the blessing of the new Easter Candle (given this year in loving memory of Patrick D. McDonald, 1944-2017), the sung Exultet Prayer, and readings that capture the fullness of God's saving work for humanity. The Church rejoices in a special way to receive new members this night through the Sacraments of Initiation. All Easter collections go to support the retired priests of our Archdiocese. Please generously support these men who have given their lives in your service.

EASTER SUNDAY

Sunday, April 1:

7:30 AM

Church Mass

(organ, cantor)

9:30 AM

Center Hall Mass

(contemporary music)

9:30 AM

Church Mass

(youth choirs, organ, trumpet)

11:30 AM

Church Mass

(adult choir, brass quartet, organ)

From the Pastor's Desk

March 11, 2018, Laetare Sunday

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

St. Mary's came through the recent Nor'easters relatively unscathed, except for this roof cross which became dislodged by high winds and was very close to toppling off the church when the roofers finally arrived to re-secure it.

(photo right)



It occurs to me that “the Cross” is something that can not only become dislodged from a building, but also from our lives. The Cross represents the challenging part of our faith. It stands for discipline and self-denial. It represents service and sacrifice. The Cross means taking our eyes off ourselves and putting them on all those for whom Christ died. We remember how Peter found Jesus’ talk of suffering and dying for others to be hard to take, and even tried to silence the Lord on this point (Mt 16:23). Peter wanted Jesus and the mercy, and love, and Good News He brought – but not so much the Cross.

Yet as Jesus reminded us, the Cross is an essential part of our Christian discipleship. “Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me,” says the Lord (Mt 16:24). For one person, the Cross may represent being generous toward those in whose welfare you have no personal stake. For another, the Cross may mean living a chaste single life until you are married. For many of us the Cross means being willing to forgive those who have wronged us – even when such forgiveness has been neither earned nor asked for. For some, the Cross means speaking up for life in a culture that more and more embraces death.

Peter wanted to take Jesus without taking the Cross. And we each can identify the Cross Jesus wants us to carry because it’s the part of Christian living we find hardest to take. The part that goes against our own instincts and desires. The part that will really cost us in terms of wealth, or popularity, or pleasure, or success as the world measures success. The Cross represents a willingness to die to the self, so that Christ, and Christ’s love may live more perfectly within us. It is to make more room for Jesus, by making less room for all that is selfish and self-serving in our lives.

Very often picking up *our* Cross, actually means picking up someone *else’s* Cross. Acting so as to lighten the burdens of someone who is elderly, or sick, or poor, or lonely, or in any of a thousand ways in need of somebody to be Christ for them. Every time we pick up a problem that isn’t ours; each time we try to better a situation that is causing someone else to suffer; each time that the life of a family member or friend or stranger is made a little easier because we freely choose to shoulder part of the burden that they are carrying - those are the moments when we start to become truly like Christ. Who did not die for His own sins, but for ours. Who freely took up the Cross of *our* suffering and made it forever His own.

God bless you.

Rev. Mark J. Coiro
Pastor

Good Friday ~

The importance of the Cross in our lives is reflected liturgically by the way Catholics keep Good Friday, the day that Jesus died to save us. There would have been no Easter joy without the events at Calvary the Friday before, and our Easter is made most meaningful and complete by our observance of Jesus’ Passion on Good Friday. Good Friday is a day of solemn reflection, prayer, fasting, and abstinence from meat. It is customary to also abstain from social activities (going to the movies, playing sports, etc). Anything we would not do on the actual day a close family member that we love just died, we also avoid doing on the day that Jesus died. For Catholics, Good Friday is the single most solemn day of the year, as we consider the suffering and death that Jesus endured to save us from our sins. Please come and be part of our worship on Friday, March 30, as we honor and venerate the Cross of our salvation.



ASHES & SMILES ...

Shown here from left to right, Kiernan, Anthony and Lauren Capela were among the St. Mary's Parishioners who received their ashes on Wednesday, February 14. For Catholics, ashes represent a commitment to make a fresh start with God, embracing our faith with new fervor through prayer, fasting and almsgiving. Even as ashes remain after something is purified by fire, so we see Lent as an opportunity to purify our souls, emptying them of anything that has come between us and God so that we may arrive at Easter renewed and open to His love.

54 YEARS & GOING STRONG!

February is World Marriage Month, and at all Masses on the weekend of February 17 & 18 a special blessing was offered to all married persons present. As is our custom at St. Mary's, the couple at each Mass present together and married the longest was presented with roses. In honoring these couples, we honored all our married couples, and allowed all at the Masses to witness married love that with God's help has flourished and endured. Shown right, Bob & Ann DiMilla received roses at the 9:30 AM Sunday Mass in recognition of their 54 years of Marriage. May God bless them and all our married couples!



15 NEW FAMILIES JOIN ST. MARY'S!

St. Mary's rejoices to welcome these 15 new families who recently joined our parish family. We will strive to be your faithful companions in faith - praying for you, worshipping with you, and supporting you, as together we journey onward towards God. Welcome!

The Anderson Family ~ Jay, Jacqueline, Madison, Kelsea & Natalie

The Stenstream Family ~ Michael, Lauren & Camden

The Vital Family ~ Emmanuel, Simone, Giovanni & Brendan

The MacLeod Family ~ Daniel, Melissa, Andrew, Caroline, Adam, Ben, Juliana & Will

The Berkholtz Family ~ Mathew, Jane, Patrick and Molly

The Gardella Family ~ Jeffrey and Megan

The Tocci Family ~ Greg, Coleen and John

The Spencer Family ~ William and Kelly

The Duncan Family ~ Peter, Marissa, Emmalina and Bennett

The Hushek Family ~ Matthew, Courtney and Charlotte

The Soriano and Flammia Family ~ Kristin and Justin

The Hudson Family ~ Heath, Tracy, Jack, Charlotte & Lucy

The Murphy Family ~ Francis and Diane

The Mauro Family ~ Daniel, Heather, Adalyn & Lucas

The Zerio Family ~ Anthony, Elizabeth, Jonathan & Emily

FRA ANGELICA ~ HEAVEN ON EARTH

By Mitch & Sandy Liro



On February 24, we visited the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum. On special exhibit were the paintings by Fra Angelico, a 15th Century Italian monk and painter. Viewing the 13 pieces in the Fra Angelico exhibit was breath-taking! It was the story of Our Blessed Mother from the Annunciation to her Assumption. We were able to get very close to the paintings at eye level, enabling us to interpret the different emotions of the people and follow Mary's story through multiple panels. The beauty of the colors used - especially the use of gold highlighting for Mary, Jesus, the apostles and angels - did indeed feel like heaven on earth. Thank you Fra Angelico for painting Our Blessed Mother Mary's life with such beauty! The Fra Angelico special exhibit is at the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum through May 20. We encourage all our fellow St. Mary's Parishioners to experience it. Try to go - you'll love it!

"Renaissance master Fra Angelico transformed the history of western art with his breathtaking paintings. Heaven on Earth reunites the Gardner's magnificent Assumption and Dormition of the Virgin, acquired by Isabella in 1899 and the first Fra Angelico to reach the United States, with its three companions from the Museo di San Marco, Florence. Conceived as a set of jewel-like reliquaries for the Florentine church of Santa Maria Novella, they tell the story of the Virgin Mary's life. This exhibition invites you to explore Fra Angelico's ground-breaking narrative art, marvel at his peerless creativity, and immerse yourself in the material splendor of his craftsmanship."

<https://www.gardnermuseum.org/calendar/exhibition/fra-angelico>



A Cross Walk with Kathleen Mitford

by Cathy Stenquist

Kneeling in the quiet, waiting for the 7:30 AM Mass to begin, I smiled seeing a mother and her two young children slipping into the front pew ahead of me. Dressed in their matching Sunday best, coats were slipped off followed by hushed whispers. Watching her gentle, yet firm way of redirecting her children's attention toward the altar, reminded me of myself almost 30 years ago with 3 young kids in tow. As Mass went on, she lovingly engaged them with a gentle hug, a brief explanation to point out what was happening. I knew then that I wanted to meet this mother and hear her faith story.

We made a date for coffee at my house one Saturday morning. The broad smile I knew from church was followed by a friendly handshake. Soon, hands cupped around a warm mug of tea made us feel more like old friends than strangers. We soon discovered that in addition to sharing the name Kathleen/ Cathleen, we both had worked for many years in the retail and product development industry.

From the age of seven, Kathleen was interested in fashion. She remembers getting a toy called "Fashion Plates" and rubbing the raised designs with crayons to design outfits. Her dream came true, when she worked as a menswear designer in New York. Buyers from Nordstrom or Macys would buy the line for their own private label. When an opportunity to lead the implementation of development software for the retail industry presented itself, she took it; eventually transitioning to designing products for all industries.



Kathleen Mitford

"I realized that the fashion and tech world were not so different. A problem is presented and you have to figure out how to solve it," Kathleen shared. She is now Executive Vice President of Products at PTC, a Needham based software company.

The Mitford family - Kathleen, husband Mark, daughter Victoria (6) and son James (2 ½), moved to Holliston 3 years ago from Windham, NH to be closer to her work. "From day one, Saint Mary's Parish has been very welcoming to us," Kathleen shared, "Father Mark reached out to me as soon as I sent an inquiry to join the parish. No Pastor had ever reached out to us in this way before. He met with me to learn about my family and how he could help us feel closer to God and the community. "



(L-R) Victoria (6) and James (2 ½)

She went on, "We have been going to the 7:30 AM Mass since James was born. We sit in the first row so they can see what is going on, which keeps them more engaged. Father Mark knows my kids by name and makes them feel very welcome. He will often make a comment about James joining the choir when he gets older!"

We both recalled as young girls how our parents took us out in September to the shoe store where they would get down on their knees to measure your feet. Each child got two pairs of new shoes – one for school and one for church! This made us both feel like church was special. We agreed that getting to Mass as a young mother has its challenges. Neither of our husbands is Catholic, so both the joy and responsibility of educating them in the faith fell mostly on our shoulders. "I know my kids will be antsy and sometimes being two, I have to walk James to the back for a minute," she admitted, "I've gotten over feeling bad about the noise, they are kids after all. They are smart too, playing a bit of game to see 'how bad do I need to get before Mom takes me to the back?'"

"My daughter Victoria listens to Fr. Mark's homilies and often asks questions afterward. She was confused recently." Kathleen went on, asking, "Baby Jesus was just born... and now he is getting ready to die. How did

he grow up so quickly?” What a perceptive and deep question for a 6-year-old! Kathleen seems very open to talking to her children about their faith and likes to get them involved, even at this young age, on how to live it.

“Our family has been very blessed and I want my children to understand that many other people are not as fortunate as we are. We try to teach our kids to be empathetic. On any occasion where they will be getting toys, the kids will go through the ones they have and chose some to give to those less fortunate. We make Easter baskets together for kids in need and at Christmas we adopt two kids to buy clothing and toys for.” She went on to say how doing these things as a family provokes good questions and teachable moments.

I asked Kathleen about any “God” moments in her life. Immediately her eyes welled up with tears. “I can share with you, but I am probably going to cry...” She said. “Well, you’re in good company then,” I agreed, “I cry at everything!”

“I was 41 years old,” she began, “and four months pregnant with our second child when I suffered a miscarriage. We had tried so long to have children that it was horrible.” I could feel my own eyes well up, as I listened to her, thinking of my own miscarriage. I reached my hand across to her in solidarity, two mothers connected through our shared pain.

***And Aubrey was her name,
I never knew her, but I loved her just the same,
I loved her name...
Wish that I had found the way
And the reasons that would make her stay...
But how I miss the girl
And I'd go a million times around the world just to say
She had been mine for a day***

Aubrey by Bread

“You never really imagine how attached you get to a child growing in your womb,” Kathleen shared. “I needed to depend on my faith to get me through the loss. It helped me get a different perspective on having kids.” She went on to say how she speaks on different occasions to her employees and has been open about her experience going through infertility and miscarriage.

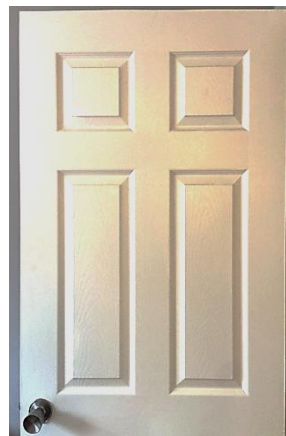
I was touched by the way she is willing to share her story and we both agreed we should not be afraid to discuss miscarriage and to be compassionate to those who have lost a baby so early. “After all” I added,

“witnessing to our experiences, shines light on what we believe as Catholics... on the preciousness of life from the moment of conception.” I told her how I named my baby Aubrey, because the lyrics from a song by that name touched me so, and memorialized her at The Shrine of the Holy Innocents in Stockbridge.

<http://www.thedivinemercy.org/shrine/about.php>

As our time was drawing to a close, Kathleen said she had been looking around her home for crosses and found one in the design on their door. I hope this will be the start of a new family tradition, and with each cross they discover, with many great conversations to follow.

As we carried our tea cups into the kitchen, we paused and embraced in a hug. I took her hand and told her I would pray for her baby son in heaven and for peace in her heart.



I am so thankful to have met Kathleen, Victoria and James. Kathleen has helped me to think differently about the children’s chatter and singing at Mass, for it is truly a joyful testament to the beauty and energy of young life.

(Take a look: Do you have a cross like this in your house?)

“Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these.” Luke 18:16

I remember once a pastor at St. Zepherin’s in Wayland, asked the parents present, if they wanted their grandchildren to be Catholic.

“Of course!” We all thought. He quickly and wisely followed with, “Then it begins now, with your children.”

There are no guarantees of course. We are fighting for children who have a whole world at their fingertips that often does not share our values. But as Kathleen so beautifully witnesses, we cultivate the soil and plant seeds, so that with the grace of God, in His time, they will bloom.

Check back next month to see who I will be walking with next!

Walking in His name, Cathy Stenquist



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

St. Mary's Council #14224 March, 2018

MONTHLY ROSARY:

The next Rosary will be Wednesday, March 21. 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: On March 21, Council members will begin selling raffle tickets for our annual charity raffle. Proceeds from this fund raiser have benefitted local charities and veterans 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, Habitat for Humanity, and St. Mary's Church. 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! In addition, we will be selling chances on weekends in the spring at downtown Holliston stores and grocery stores in Medway, Ashland, and Milford. This year's Chairmen are Thomas Anguish, Bill Heuer, Aaron Pyman, and Al Scaramella.

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY: On Sunday, April 8, Divine Mercy Sunday, The K of C will be leading a short prayer service after each Mass (including Saturday Vigil Masses). The prayer service will be a recitation of the Divine Mercy Chaplet. All parishioners are invited to stay after Mass for 5-10 minutes to participate. Prayer cards and other material will be available for those who are unfamiliar with the Chaplet. We hope you will be able to join us. If you would like to learn about the Chaplet and Divine Mercy Sunday, point your browser to this URL: <http://www.ewtn.com/devotionals/mercy/dmmap.htm>. The Divine Mercy Image is shown to the right.



2018 MEMBERSHIP DRIVE: All good St. Mary's men eighteen and older are invited to join our Council. The Knights of Columbus is the largest Catholic men's lay organization in the world. Our Council respects members' limited time but needs new members to share our faith journey as Catholic men. In addition to access to affordable life insurance products, a Knight receives "... priceless immeasurable benefits: the chance to make a difference in the community through the Council's good works; ... and the opportunity of being in an organization of like-minded men that together make a difference in the world." [Knightline, December 2017]. For membership information contact Grand Knight Albert Scaramella at 508 429-7588 or ajscaramella@comcast.net.



WINGS (Women in God's Spirit)

Are you looking for a way to nourish your faith this Spring? Come join many women who deepen their relationship with God, by gathering to study God's Word, pray, and share with one another. Our Spring season is entitled: "**Your Love O Lord Sustains Us**". Below are speakers joining WINGS this Spring:

April 4: Mary Morris "Santo Cristo Dos Milagres - The Power of Prayer: Faith, Hope, Love & Miracles".

April 11: Rev. Mark J. Coiro "God's Surprises and the Graces That Flow From Them".

April 18: No WINGS Public School Holiday.

April 25: Sister Agnes Therrien "Enlarging the Space under Our Tents".

May 2: Rev. Oscar J. Pratt, II "Ministry in the Church! A Duty and Privilege to be Shared by All".

WINGS (Women in God's Spirit): *Is a faith enrichment group for women of all ages. Please join us for our Spring season, whether you can attend each week or just some weeks. WINGS meets on Wednesday mornings from 9:30 – 11:15 AM in Father Haley Hall. For more information on WINGS call Linda Calabrese at 508-893-7919, or visit the Saint Mary's website. Details on WINGS, and the spring season schedule can be found under Faith Education. Select Adult Faith Resources, select WINGS, select "What is the current WINGS schedule?" and click on the link. Print out at home or pick up at any WINGS meeting.*



Troop 14 Holliston

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

SCOUT SUNDAY: On February 4, during the Scout Sunday Mass, Father Mark awarded Webelo Scout Parishioner Michael Butler from Pack 47 the Parvuli Dei Religious Medal. Michael spent the past year working on the various requirements with his parents, and then they met with Father Mark to complete the Award. Congratulations Michael. (photo)

INDOOR ROCK CLIMBING: Troop 14 with 24 Scouts and leaders spent an overnight at Rock Spot in Boston, where they rock climbed late into the night (including some climbing with lights dimmed and headlamps on), slept for a few hours on the padded floors and then woke to do some early climbing before the facility opened. A handful of Pack 47 2nd Year Webelos climbed with the Troop on Saturday evening. It was a great event for team building, challenging & testing your skills and abilities.



Michael Butler
Parvuli Dei Recipient.

COMING - March campout at Nobscot Scout Camp in Sudbury, MA.
EVENTS: - April Hike & Campout at Deer Lake Scout Reservation in Killingworth, CT.

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 begins April 1, with forms online at stmarysholliston.com





St. Mary's Parish Middle School Youth Group

Open to all 6th, 7th, & 8th Graders for Faith, Friendship, Service & Fun.



MSYG CELTICS TRIP: It was a rough night for the Celtics, who fell 91 to 97 to the Pacers, but still lots of fun for the 104 St. Mary's teens who attended. The Celtics started with a big deficit, but managed to tie things up briefly in the 4th quarter, making for an interesting game. A beautiful moment came as we were leaving, when many of the teens gave their pocket money to the homeless people on the street outside the Center.





St. Mary's Parish Middle School Youth Group

Open to all 6th, 7th, & 8th Graders ~ Next Meeting is Sunday, April 8!



BASILICA VISIT

February School Vacation Week saw our MSYG hopping. On Tuesday, Feb. 20, the 6th & 7th Graders spent the morning at SkyZone Trampoline Park in Boston, then had lunch at Quincy Market, followed by a visit to the Basilica of Our Mother of Perpetual Help on Mission Hill. On Wednesday, Feb. 21, our 8th Graders spent the day at Boda Borg in Malden, facing 17 different Adventure Quests by using brains and athletic ability. (They too enjoyed lunch at Quincy Market).

The Basilica visit on Tuesday was especially moving, as the teens learned, prayed and stood in awe of this magnificent House of God.

Top: Some of the teens pose for a group photo in the Basilica sanctuary.

Center Left: Every teen was given the photo and bio of a Florida School Shooting victim. We all prayed for them in the Basilica and committed to spiritually adopt that person by continuing to pray for them all through Lent.

Center Right: The teens look up during a tour by Fr. Joe Tizio, C.Ss.R, Rector of the Basilica.

Bottom Left: The "umbrellino," signifying the Pope's special relationship with the Basilica, and that he will always find shelter there.

Bottom Right: Crutches piled up in gratitude by the Icon of Our Mother of Perpetual Help. Each belonged to someone who received a miracle of healing at the Basilica.

Below: The Icon of O.M.O.P.H.



ADULT FAITH RESOURCES

MARCH 2018

got faith?

HOLY WEEK: This year, Holy Week begins on March 25 with the commemoration of Palm Sunday. The week ends with the celebration of the Paschal Triduum (Holy Thursday, Good Friday, and the Easter Vigil). This week is the most solemn one of the entire Church year. Why not consider participating in one or more of the parish liturgies during Holy Week? (See the schedule printed in this newsletter.) You can read more about Holy Week at <https://www.osv.com/Article/TabId/493/ArtMID/13569/ArticleID/11466/Your-Guide-To-Holy-Week.aspx> as well as at <http://www.catholic.org/lent/holyweek.php>.

“JUST” WONDERING: As a part of our Lenten Soup suppers this year, we are exploring the paths of charity and justice taken by a number of holy men and women in our tradition; so far we have talked about Isaiah the Hebrew prophet, St. Peter Claver and St. Katharine Drexel. Here are a few of the resources related to their stories that we have shared during the soup suppers. You can learn about our criminal justice system and how it seems not to work well for the poor and vulnerable in our society by reading *Just Mercy: A Story of Justice and Redemption* by Bryan Stevenson. You may also go to the Equal Justice Initiative website, <https://www.eji.org/>, for additional information and/or to donate to this agency which works for justice for the poor and vulnerable. At <http://slaveryfootprint.org>, take a survey to learn how many enslaved people (or other forced laborers) work for you. Finally, here’s an article entitled “How (and How Not) to Address Racism in the Church”, an article which appeared in the May 2017 issue of U.S. Catholic: <http://www.uscatholic.org/articles/201704/how-and-how-not-address-racism-church-30987>.



EASTER SEASON AND READINGS: The Easter season begins with the celebration of the great Vigil and ends with the commemoration of Pentecost, this year held on Sunday, May 20. On the Second Sunday of Easter, April 8, we hear the story of Jesus’ appearance to his disciples in the upper room; all but Thomas are present. Thomas is the doubter, the one who asks to put his fingers in Jesus’ nail marks and his hand into his side in order to confirm that it is really Jesus who has come to visit with them. When Thomas sees Jesus the next week, he makes an incredible profession of faith: “My Lord and my God”. For a great and easy to understand reflection on faith, go to https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=m_4PSqFjtvI. This short YouTube selection is one part of a series on faith, *C4: Ignite Your Catholic Faith*, put together by the Diocese of Milwaukee. It features Bishop Don Hying answering the question: What is faith? His answer is based on the Catechism of the Catholic Church (<http://ccc.usccb.org/flipbooks/catechism/index.html#38>), paragraph 142. (The entire third chapter of Part One of the Catechism is devoted to the question of faith.) As you know, you can prepare for the Sunday readings any week at <http://www.liturgy.slu.edu/>.

CARE OF THE ENVIRONMENT: Join us on Saturday, April 14 for a showing of the climate change/global warming movie *An Inconvenient Sequel: Truth to Power*. This screening, sponsored by the parish Creation Care Team, will be held in Rooms 3 and 4 in the Parish Center from 10 AM to Noon.

SACRAMENTS: Our focus this month is on the Sacrament of Holy Orders. Fr. Thomas Richstatter, O.F.M., on page 100 of his book, *Sacraments: How Catholics Pray*, reminds us that all of the baptized participate in the royal priesthood of Christ, as St. Peter tells us in his first letter “but you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood...” (1 Peter 2:9). Fr. Richstatter goes on to write about how, over time, the Church was “ordered”, structured according to various ministries and groups; the bishops, priests and deacons are those who are ordained, in the sacrament of Holy Orders, to carry out specific ministries in the church (p. 100-102). As noted in our US Adult Catechism (<http://ccc.usccb.org/flipbooks/uscca/#298>), grace is given to those who are ordained through this sacrament to carry out their responsibilities in the church. You can read more about this sacrament in Chapter 20 of the online US Adult catechism. ---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 Koziel	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.

