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HOLLISTON, MA 01746**

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**NEWSLETTER  
SEPTEMBER, 2017**



***MAKING YOUR  
CHILD MISS  
MASS?***



## **THE SUNDAY SPORTS DILEMMA THE PRACTICE YOUNG ATHLETES REALLY NEED? WORSHIP.**

By Megan Hill. This article first appeared on ChristianityToday.com in June of 2013.  
Used by permission of Christianity Today, Carol Stream, IL 60188.

A few weeks ago, our son's baseball team played its last inning, and his coach walked to the bleachers. He wanted to nominate our son for the all-star team. It's a thrill for any boy who loves the game like ours does: a chance for a summer's worth of at-bats, dugout chatter, travel to other towns, and improved skills.

This was the first time our family had to confront the issue of Sunday sports, but, with three athletic children, it won't be the last. Pastors say children's sports have become the biggest challenge to church attendance for American families.

The idea that Chariots of Fire runner Eric Liddell made it all the way to the 1924 Olympic Games before being asked to compete on a Sunday seems almost quaint. Today, the littlest T-ball player is routinely expected to show up on Sunday, and the demands only escalate as children get older.

The Association of Religion Data Archives recently reported that some churches have responded to the loss of families by adding alternative service times on Saturday, so church members can attend both sports and worship. Additionally, many churches have increased their offerings of sports-related activities, hoping to appeal to families who prioritize athletic involvement. *Continue reading this article at:*

<http://www.christianitytoday.com/women/2013/june/sunday-sports-dilemma-church-practice.html>

# St. Mary's Parish Newsletter

September, 2017 ~ Volume 43, Number 1

17  
SEPT

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

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## 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

**Sunday, September 17:** St. Mary's CLOW (Children's Liturgy of the Word) resumes with a special children's homily and Bible readings at the 9:30 AM Mass each week in the Lower Church, and in the Upstairs Church the First Sunday of each month. The CLOW is designed for children in Kindergarten through Grade 5, however all children are welcome. Please contact Pat at 508-533-6714 if you can assist in this beautiful, joyful ministry for the children of our parish. Training is provided, and you'll get much more than you give!

**Sunday, September 17:** Fall Religious Education Classes begin this week. Is your child registered? It is the sacred trust of every Catholic parent to provide their child with a good formation in the faith. This is a promise you made to God at their Baptism. Please also consider sharing the faith with many children as a Rel. Ed. teacher (see page 7 of this Newsletter). And Jesus said: *"Let the children come to me, do not prevent them."* MT 19:14

## Steeple & Rubber Roof Repairs ~

Shown left, Waderson de Oliveria of Hurley Roofing and Construction removes old material from the St. Mary's Church Steeple. Downtown Holliston is visible far below him. This summer the steeple and bell tower roofs were replaced, the final phase of the repairs to these parts of the church that have been ongoing for several years now. Having repaired and largely reconstructed the interior of these structures, we needed to prevent any new damage by replacing the old and leaking roofs. The new roofs were funded by the 2016 Grand Annual.

Hurley Roofing and Construction will be at our parish again starting the week of September 11 to replace the flat rubber roof between the Church and Parish Center. We have attempted to repair this roof three times in the past five years following leaks that caused interior damage. However, even though we just had it repaired this spring, a heavy rainstorm this summer caused new leaks and damage to the church sacristy. Fortunately, no vestments or sacred vessels were harmed when the waterlogged ceiling tiles collapsed overnight (photo below). The interior sacristy repairs are covered by insurance. The new rubber roof will be part of the 2017 St. Mary's Grand Annual.







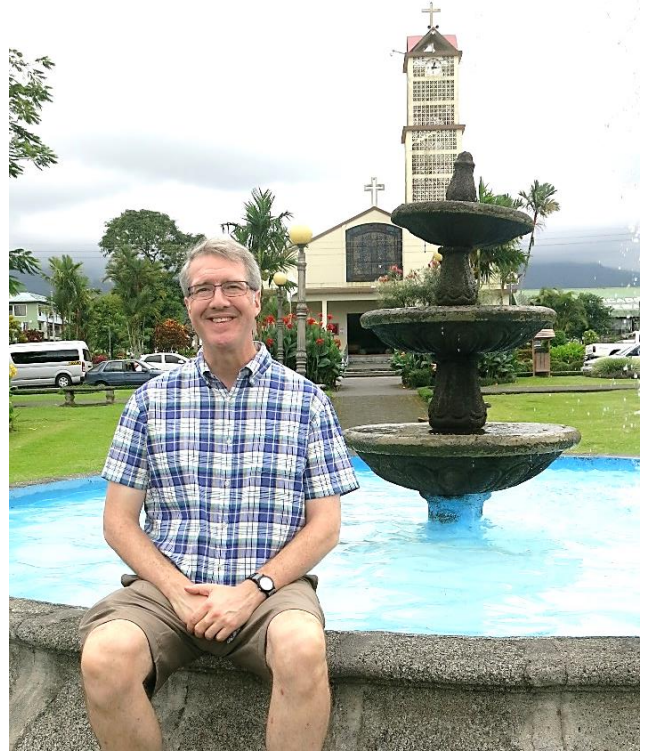
# From the Pastor's Desk

September 5, 2017  
Feast of St. Teresa of Calcutta

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

In the Summer Newsletter, I included a photo of the church where I planned to attend Mass while on vacation in Costa Rica. Shortly after my return, one of our High School Parishioners who had seen it asked me, *"So did you really go to the church in front of the volcano?"* The answer is yes, and here's a photo of me in front of La Fortuna de San Carlos Catholic Church in Aranal, Costa Rica to prove it! The trip was wonderful and included many moments of grace, including worshiping with our Catholic brothers and sisters in a distant land.

Two things in particular struck me about my Mass experience there – love for the poor and respect for Jesus in the Eucharist. I was early, and so I was in the church 45 minutes before the 7 PM Vigil Mass when they began ringing the church bells. This was not the call to worship, but a call for the poor to come and be fed. Large tables stacked with staples like rice, beans, cooking oil, etc., were set up on the front church landing. People came to get these groceries either for free, or for whatever small offering they were able to make. Inside the church, a metal grocery cart appeared, into which people placed items of donated food as they arrived for Mass. It was clear that caring for the poor was very much a priority for this community.



The Mass itself was beautiful, with enthusiastic singing and families with many teens and children praying together. Their respect for the Eucharist was clear in many ways, but especially at Communion time when about 30% of the people present remained in their pews and did not receive. In that place, being in a state of grace in order to receive Communion is taken very seriously. If someone misses Mass and has not yet been able to get to Confession, or has not observed the Eucharistic Fast, or in some way needs to bring their life back into harmony with the moral teachings of their faith – then they humbly refrain from Communion.

To see so many respect the Eucharist in this way was very moving. It reminded me that sometimes we honor Jesus most by getting our spiritual house in order before welcoming Him "under our roof." This is what St. Paul meant in 1 Corinthians 11:27-29 when he wrote that: *"Whoever eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord unworthily will have to answer for the body and blood of the Lord. A person should examine himself, and so eat the bread and drink the cup. For anyone who eats and drinks without discerning the body, eats and drinks judgment on himself."* To just receive Communion automatically every time we are at Mass, without first examining our conscience and deciding if we are properly disposed, is to miss out on the grace of humility and the opportunity to recognize any need for a conversion of life.

I know in my own life, that I get the most out of Holy Communion when I have recently made a good Confession. In that way the house of my soul has been cleansed and the doors flung wide open to Jesus. All that had come between me and the Lord has been absolved and removed. So when He comes "under my roof" in the Holy Eucharist, there is nothing to block or lessen my experience of the Divine Power, Presence and Love contained in His Body and Blood.

God bless you.

Rev. Mark J. Coiro  
Pastor

P.S. Kindly note that the annual Parish Financial Report is included on page 13 of this Newsletter.  
Thank you to all whose faithful stewardship keeps St. Mary's financially healthy and able to serve God's people.



# WINGS (Women in God's Spirit)

*"Peace I leave with You, My Peace I give to You." (John 14:27)*

As "Women in God's Spirit" we have a need for lifelong faith formation. For the past 17 years the WINGS ministry has provided a wonderful opportunity for women to deepen their relationship with God, by gathering to study God's Word, pray, and share with one another. WINGS is a **multi-generational group** that meets for seven weeks at a time in the fall, winter and spring.

The beauty of the WINGS ministry is that it brings different things to different women. One woman shared the following about her experience at WINGS: "When participating in WINGS I experience being welcomed, accepted, loved, mothered, educated, informed, supported and helped along, both in my spiritual journey to God and in my personal life. My participation has made me a better person."

**We now look forward to the start of our 2017 fall season entitled "United in God's Love". WINGS will begin on Wednesday, September 20, when we welcome Lynn Kenn, a founding member of the World Apostolate of Fatima Division for the Archdiocese of Boston. Lynn will share on "Celebrating the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Fatima: Hope for the World".**

All are welcome to come, whether you can come just once or for the entire season. WINGS **provides loving childcare** and encourages women with young children to attend, and have their children enjoy being with other children under the supervision of loving child care providers.

**WINGS (Women in God's Spirit)** is a faith enrichment group for women of all ages. WINGS meets on Wednesday mornings from 9:30 – 11:15 AM in Father Haley Hall. Nurturing childcare is available. For more information on WINGS call Linda Calabrese at 508-893-7919, visit the WINGS website at [www.Catholicwings.com](http://www.Catholicwings.com), or visit the Saint Mary's website. Details on WINGS, and the fall season schedule (soon to be posted) can be found under Adult Faith Groups. Scroll to ADULT FAITH GROUPS>WINGS> "What is the current WINGS schedule?" and click on the link. Print out at home or pick up a copy at any WINGS meeting.

## JOIN OUR CHOIRS!

Do you like to sing? Do you have a child who likes to sing? Join one of our choirs! No music training is necessary! It's FREE and it's FUN!



**Adult Choir:** Open to youth and adults of all ages. The Adult Choir sings for the Sunday 11:30 AM Mass every week (rehearsal at 10:45 AM before Mass). Rehearsals are every Thursday from 7:00 - 9:00 PM in the Lower Church.

**Children's Choir:** Open to children grades 4-7. The Children's Choir sings for the Sunday 9:30 AM Mass more or less every two weeks. (rehearsal at 8:40 AM before Mass). Rehearsals are every Wednesday from 3:30-4:15 PM in the Lower Church.

**Youth Choir:** Open to children/youth 7<sup>th</sup> grade and higher. The Youth Choir sings for the Sunday 9:30 AM Mass more or less every two weeks. (rehearsal at 8:40 AM before Mass). Additionally, the Youth Choir sings for a Sung Vespers service once a month. Rehearsals are every Wednesday from 4:00-5:15 PM in the Lower Church. When we sing Vespers, the rehearsal starts at 5:30 PM.

**All Choirs:** Our first rehearsals take place the week after Labor Day! The calendar for the entire 2017-2018 season can be accessed by scanning the QR code on the side, or by going to the St. Mary's Website, [www.stmarysholliston.com](http://www.stmarysholliston.com) → Music program → Children's Choir → calendar.





# End-of-the-Year 2017 Choir Promotion Ceremony

On Pentecost Sunday, June 4, 2017, the Children and Youth Choirs sang their last 9:30 Mass before summer break. As it is customary, select members of the choir received their ribbons and medals, and probationers (choristers in training) received their cottas—the white vestment worn on top of the robes. Earning a ribbon indicates that the singer has reached a certain level of proficiency in musical skills according to the standards of the Royal School of Church Music. Receiving a cotta indicates that the singer has become an official member of the choir, after being trained for a year on the essentials of choral singing.



The Music Program at St. Mary's is affiliated with the Royal School of Church Music in America, and because of this, both Children and Youth Choirs participate in the RSCM's "Voices for Life" program. This means that, on top of singing in rehearsals and at Sunday Masses, children and youth receive training in different areas for their musical development. They learn about music theory and vocal techniques, they develop their aural skills, and they learn about liturgy, choral etiquette, and everything that is necessary for being part of a musical ensemble. As children become more and more skilled in all these areas, they advance up in levels, and they are able to test for colored ribbons that indicate their level of achievement. There are five levels of proficiency: white level, light-blue level, dark-blue level, the red level, and finally the yellow level.

**This year we were immensely proud to present the following children with awards:**

**Cottas:** Andrew McWilliams, Paget O'Brien, Grace Kilpelainen, and Tomas Torres

**White Ribbon:** Andrew McWilliams, Paget O'Brien

**Light-blue Ribbon:** Hannah Devine and Siena Verna

**Dark-blue Ribbon:** Rose Jessup McDermott, Taylor Scruton, and Anna Sheehan

**Yellow Ribbon:** Olivia Hastie



Congratulations to all awardees, especially to **Olivia Hastie** for earning, for the first time ever in the history of this choir, the Yellow Ribbon Award! THANK YOU to everyone involved in the Children and Youth Choirs for an amazing year! We look forward to another season of great music with you!





Once again it is time to prepare the schedule for our year at the Pine Street Inn. THANKS especially to everyone who gave so willingly and generously of their time, talents and treasure last year. We look forward to seeing you again. For those of you who are not familiar with this ministry, the following paragraphs will give you some idea of what St. Mary's has been doing for the past few years.

The Pine Street Inn is a not-for-profit organization committed to men, women and children in need of shelter, sustenance and the basic moral and material supports necessary to lead a dignified and stable life. It is the mission of the Inn, in all its programs, to be a community of respect and hope for each guest it serves; to be a resource through which neighbors and friends can help to meet the basic needs of others; and to serve as a national leader in the fight to end homelessness.

On the first Saturday of each month, the Adult Food Group at St. Mary's prepares a meal and takes it into Boston to serve in the women's dining hall. We have seen the program grow and develop and become an integral part of

the ministry at St. Mary's. Those who are making the meal usually prepare it in the Parish Center kitchens. We also have many bakers who make delicious desserts for perfect endings to meals. It has become a way to meet new people and to spend some time with friends; planning menus, shopping, cooking and driving to Boston. Many stop for a bite to eat later, reflecting on individual thoughts and feelings. Most importantly, it is a way to help those who can't help themselves.

If you would like to volunteer, please fill out the form below indicating your preferences for cooking or baking. Please return the completed form as soon as possible to: Laura Koziol, 85 Alden Rd., Holliston, MA 01746. If you have any questions please call Laura Koziol at 508-429-7174.

**COOK:** This involves menu planning (recipes are available), cooking and serving. At least 1 driver and 2 servers are needed to deliver and serve the meal to Pine Street Inn. The total commitment is from about 12 noon to 7 PM on Saturday (plus grocery shopping).

**BAKE:** This involves baking 3 dozen of whatever you choose and dropping them off at the Parish Center before noon.

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_ CELL PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

I am able to cook and/or bake:

Cook \_\_\_\_\_ (# of times) Bake \_\_\_\_\_ (# of times)

I am able to drive to Pine St. and serve if scheduled as a cook:

Yes \_\_\_\_\_

Please include me on the BACKUP list:

Cook \_\_\_\_\_ Bake \_\_\_\_\_

**DATES:** Indicate C for Cook and B for Bake and indicate date preference, 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, etc. Scheduling is done on a first come, first served basis. Please return form promptly.

\_\_\_\_ Saturday, Nov. 4

\_\_\_\_ Saturday, Mar. 3

\_\_\_\_ Saturday, Sept. 1

\_\_\_\_ Saturday, Dec. 2

\_\_\_\_ Saturday, Apr. 7

\_\_\_\_ Saturday, Oct. 6

\_\_\_\_ Saturday, Jan. 6

\_\_\_\_ Saturday, May 5

\_\_\_\_ Saturday, Feb. 3

\_\_\_\_ Saturday, June 2



Special Requests (preferred partners, dates, etc.):

***For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink ... MT 25***



# St. Mary's Religious Education

"The Lord Jesus invites men and women, in a special way, to follow Him, as teachers and formers of disciples" (GDC 231). Please consider our Teacher and Monitor needs below:

**CLASSES BEGIN THE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 17.  
MAY WE GROW IN OUR LOVE OF THE LORD!**

**Class code: A=Alt. weeks M=Monthly W=Weekly**

GRADES	SESSION DAY AND TIME	TEACHERS NEEDED	MONITORS
	<b>SUNDAY</b>		
PRE-K & Kind.	9:15-10:30 AM	2 Teens M	Filled
	9:15-10:30 AM	4 M	1
GR-1A	8:10 to 9:20 AM	4 A	Filled
GR-2A	8:10 to 9:20 AM	Filled	Filled
GR-2A	10:45 - Noon	2 Teams - A	1
GR-3A	10:45AM-12:15 PM	3 A	1
GR-4 + 5	10:45AM-12:15 PM	2 / 2 A	1
GR-6A	1:00 to 2:00 PM	2 W	1
GR-7A	5:30 to 7:30 PM	3 A	Filled
	<b>MONDAY</b>		
GR-3+5B	3:00-4:30 PM	3 / 2 A	1
GR-4B	3:00-4:30 PM	2 A	1
GR-6B	6:00 to 7:00 PM	1 W	1
GR-8B	6-7:30 PM	1 A	1

**Monitors are required for classes to begin in the fall.**

GRADES	SESSION DAY AND TIME	TEACHERS NEEDED	MONITORS
	<b>TUESDAY</b>		
GR-4B	4:00 to 5:30 PM	2 A	Filled
GR-5C	4:00 to 5:30 PM	2 A	Filled
GR-6C	4:30 to 5:30 PM	1 W	Filled
GR-9C	6:30 to 8:30 PM	3 A	1
GR-10C	6:30 to 8:30 PM	5 A	Filled
	<b>WEDNESDAY</b>		
GR-2D	4:15 to 5:30 PM	2 Teams - A	Filled
GR-7D	6:00 to 7:30 PM	3 A	Filled
GR-8D	6:00 to 7:30 PM	3 A	1
	<b>THURSDAY</b>		
GR-9E	6:30 to 8:30 PM	5 A	1
GR-10E	6:30 to 8:30 PM	4 A	Filled

**Please Teach! The children of  
St. Mary's are counting on YOU.**



## KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

**St. Mary's Council #14224 September 2017**

**Grand Knight: Albert Scaramella**  
**Deputy Grand Knight: Aaron Pyman**

### KNIGHTS AT HOLLISTON SENIOR CENTER

**ANNUAL FALL FAIR:** Many Knights volunteered at the yard sale displays, directing traffic, and loading visitor's cars with September 9 at the Senior Center. The Knight Coordinator was Bill Heuer. We thank all who generously took part.

**KNIGHTS AT CELEBRATE HOLLISTON:** On Saturday, September 16, the Council will have a booth at Goodwill Park conducting children's games, giving away Tootsie Rolls, and displaying Council achievements to educate Holliston citizens of our principles of charity, unity, and fraternity. In addition, the Council Grand Knight will present check donations to the Holliston Pantry Shelf, the Senior Center and Habitat for Humanity - funds raised from the Council's Annual Charity Raffle. The Council's coordinator is Nick Calapa. The Council thanks Nick's Central Garage for donating its booth to the Council.

**K of C BERTUCCI'S FUNDRAISER:** On October 10 and 11, come to Bertucci's with your family or friends for lunch or dinner. A coupon will be provided in your October Newsletter, or download it at: <http://www.stmarysholliston.com> under Parish Forms. When you present the coupon upon receiving your bill, Bertucci's will donate 15% of your purchase to St. Mary's K of C. We use this donation to complement our charitable efforts. Thanks for your participation.

**2017 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. For information contact Grand Knight Albert Scaramella at 508 429-7588 or [ajscaramella@comcast.net](mailto:ajscaramella@comcast.net).



**MONTHLY ROSARY:** The next Rosary will be Wednesday, September 20. The Council recites the Rosary every third Wednesday of the month in St. Mary's Church at 7:00 PM. As quoted in the March 2017 Columbia magazine, "Knights need to be men of prayer." ALL parishioners are invited to share in this beautiful and powerful prayer with our Council.

Senior Center Fair by assisting in setting up their purchases. The Fair was Saturday,





## MY AFRICAN MISSION TRIP

By Frankie Servidio

This May/June I was able to spend a little over two weeks in Zanzibar and Tanzania in Africa. Zanzibar is an island off the coast of Tanzania, and is technically part of the country, however due to government disputes, Zanzibarians see themselves as separate from the mainland. While in Zanzibar, I stayed in the community of Cairo, which had around 500 inhabitants.

Before the organization I volunteered with, GIVE (Growth International Volunteer Excursions), started working in Cairo there was no school building and students had to walk a few miles four times a day (they go home for lunch) to be educated. On top of this, the schooling was done in Swahili, the language of many east African countries, yet after seventh grade if students did not pass an English fluency exam, they would no longer be allowed to participate in education. This is because Swahili is such a simple language it cannot be used to study more complex subjects like biology and algebra.

This inspired GIVE to build a school in Cairo in 2013, which today has more than 140 students. When school is not in session, GIVE provides one on one English tutoring lessons for people aged 5-50. GIVE also provided the community with a running water tap, a privilege that was able to completely change the lives of Cairo's inhabitants. While I was there this year, we were working on building a second building of the school complex so that more students can become educated. When not working construction, I helped teach the women's English class. During my time the very first women's classroom in the center of the village was opened, increasing attendance rates from about 3 women daily to 14 women. Before this classroom was available, women would have to walk about two miles from their home to a restaurant in the village to learn. However, because women are responsible for child care, house cleaning, and cooking, this two-mile journey was too much for them.

The woman that I worked with, a 37 year old shop keeper named Shindano, had to remain in her shop during class times so everyday I would walk down and work with her on basic store transactions, money, and inventory vocabulary. When I arrived each morning she had her mat set up and had her books and mini white board all ready to begin our lesson. Even though I knew little Swahili, and she knew little English, we worked together to try to better her life through learning. People who know English in Zanzibar are immediately qualified for higher paying jobs, such as tour guides or resort workers, since tourism is how Zanzibar makes most of their money.

While in Zanzibar, I was able to do some tourist activities like swimming with wild dolphins and snorkeling in the Indian Ocean. When we went back to the main land of Tanzania I was also able to go on two safaris and see animals like elephants, zebras, giraffes, monkeys, impala, and wildebeests. If you are interested in volunteering/traveling abroad I highly recommend it. By traveling to foreign countries you are gaining a priceless understanding of the people's culture, hardships, and dreams, in a way unachievable through the internet or schooling. GIVE has other projects in Nicaragua, Thailand, and Laos. I highly recommend traveling with them because they are dedicated to providing sustainable change to the communities abroad while working hand and hand with the locals to achieve the changes that they want made to their community while educating them not only on the English language but on the environment, other cultures, and compassion towards the less fortunate.

My trip gave me a new perspective on life, and its simplicity and I encourage every one to get out of their comfort zones and learn more about others and their cultures. Though this was a different type of mission from the ones I've participated in through St. Mary's, I was able to see Christ in the people I worked with and the wonder of God's creation in the people we served, and in the animals and nature of Africa.



Frankie is a St. Mary's Parishioner currently studying Psychology and Anthropology at the University of Miami.







# St. Mary's Parish Middle School Youth Group

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



**MSYG BROWNSTONE QUARRY ADVENTURE!** Wednesday, July 26 found sixty-two St. Mary's Middle School Youth Group Members enjoying Brownstone Exploration and Discovery Park in Portland, Connecticut. The day was sunny and hot – perfect for swimming, rock climbing, cliff diving, zip lining, wakeboarding, and screaming down the huge water slides. The tallest zip line started atop an eighty-five-foot quarry cliff, while others required climbing a rock wall to access. The swimming area was dotted with giant inflatable icebergs, spaceships, and other objects for climbing and sliding. Check out the photos above (or in color on the web)!

**MSYG FALL 2017 KICK OFF MEETING:** Sunday, October 1 from 6:30 – 8 PM in the Parish Center Hall. Open to any and all 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> Graders. There will be Youth Group Registrations for the new school year, a Giant Slideshow of all this summer's MSYG trips, an Ice Cream Sundae Bar, Sign Ups for our 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Only Haunted Hayride Trip and 6<sup>th</sup> & 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Haunted Mansion Trip, and most importantly - opportunities for prayer, service and growing in our knowledge and love of Jesus Christ. Bring a friend!



## St. Mary's Mission Trips Endless Possibilities in Christ Mississippi 2017

We had another incredibly successful and faith-filled week in Mississippi where God's presence was felt and seen everywhere. St. Mary's had 74 teens and adults team up with 77 teens and adults from St. Matthew's in Southborough to create one of the BEST Mississippi trips we have ever had! Our amazing team divided up into many areas to spread God's love on the Gulf Coast. They served faithfully in the following areas: Four groups went to the William Bell Apartments to put on a Vacation Bible Camp for underprivileged kids in a challenged area; another group put finishing touches on a house that was to be sold by Habitat for Humanity; another group built bunk beds for families with foster kids...for many of the children it was the first time they ever had a bed. Another group built a wheelchair ramp for an elderly man who could not get in or out of his house easily. One group worked with the Mercy House which is a community outreach program with the Baptist church that supplies food, clothing and furniture to people in need. Another group started and finished painting a house for a family that could not afford it. The amount of work and love that was spread was unbelievable and all the Glory to God!

Below is a reflection from one of our amazing teen leaders, Tim Strang, who was on the trip.



*"I've been fortunate enough to be a part of the last three Mississippi trips and I get questioned about my MS experience quite a bit. There's really only one question anybody ever asks: "What do you even do in Mississippi?" and it's a fairly valid question. It's also a fairly hard one.*

*That's because it's difficult to describe the Mississippi Experience to people who haven't ever really experienced it. You can explain day by day the exact activities that we partake in, but that always comes out sounding at the very least not worth the hype. The one explanation I've ever heard that came close was that things are just different down there.*

*When I first embarked, I was a scared little freshman with only one known friend on the trip. If I think back to then now, and what I knew about the trip at the time, I'm really at a loss for why I ever agreed to go. I had a plan; I would talk to my one friend, and if worst came to worst, I could ride out the week on that alone, and no one would ever make me go back. Obviously, that isn't how things turned out.*

*For starters, from the very first night I was there it was apparent I'd be leaving with more than just that one friend. Even in Logan awaiting our southbound flight, I was talking with people I'd never talked to before — people I'd only ever seen in the halls, or only heard mentioned in name. I remember feeling like it was all kind of weird, like the normal rules didn't apply. Even affirmations, which terrified me as a concept (giving heartfelt compliments to my peers didn't sound like my thing), turned into the best part of the trip because of the attitude everyone had towards it, and how into it they got. I found myself getting into it too and it helped me a lot.*

*It's this effect combined with the context of what we're doing down there that makes the trips so different. The people down there have made it through some pretty incredible things, solely on the power of faith and friends, and come out of it with an attitude of amazing thankfulness for what little they've been given. And that attitude always extends to us. It could be any random place — the Sonic parking lot, the airport baggage claim, a cart return at Walmart — and random strangers have come up to our group, often crying, thanking us for what we're doing, showing us that it really matters.*

*That's what, I think, has struck me most of all. Prior to the trips, I'd always looked at service as good and noble and definitely something I should be doing, but also as unappealing and somewhat unrewarding. Mississippi's changed that for me, because the way we're serving down there doesn't feel like serving. I always feel like I'm making a difference, and wholeheartedly want to be making so much more, because the service doesn't seem like a chore; and that feeling has followed me home to Holliston and St. Mary's. It's definitely different down there, but in many ways, the difference sticks. And I think that's really the point."*





**St. Mary's  
Mission Trips**  
Endless Possibilities  
In Christ  
**Mississippi 2017**





## ADULT FAITH RESOURCES SEPTEMBER 2017

# got faith?

**PARISH FALL ADULT FAITH FORMATION OPPORTUNITIES:** Three great adult faith formation opportunities are coming our way this fall here at St. Mary's. The first is a discussion of a book by Bruce Feiler entitled *The First Love Story: Adam, Eve and Us*. This program, led by Earl King, will run from 7:00 to 8:30 PM on eight Monday evenings beginning on September 18 in the Parish Library. Contact Earl at 508-361-8655 for more information and to register. Beginning on Tuesday, September 26, Fran Crespi will be leading a study of the EPIC DVD series *A Journey through Church History*. Call Fran at 508-429-6076 for more information for this morning (10:00 AM to noon) program. Finally, on Thursday evenings beginning in mid-September you can participate in the JustFaith program. "Purpose From a New Perspective" is the motto of this truly transforming series. Contact Leo Racine at 508-429-7476 for details.

**ONLINE FAITH FORMATION COURSE FOR PARENTS:** The Boston College Crossroads program is offering a five week online course called "At the Heart of Parenting". This course is based on a book by Kathy Hendricks entitled *The Spirituality of Parenting: Connecting Heart and Soul*. Check out this course and other Crossroads offerings at <http://www.bc.edu/schools/stm/crossroads/homepage.html>.



**SUNDAY READINGS:** The readings of two of the Sundays of this month (September 10 and 17) provide us with encouragement to live our lives with love, forgiveness and compassion. On the first Sunday of September (September 3) we hear a call to follow Christ, no matter what the cost and on the final September Sunday (September 24) we are challenged to understand what perhaps is incomprehensible: God's generosity towards us. You can watch a video and reflect on the upcoming Sunday readings at <http://www.thefiveeloaves.com/>.

**PRAYER:** Do you need a prayer "pick me up" for the new school year or the fall season? You can establish or enhance your daily experience of prayer using the Irish Jesuit website, <http://www.sacredspace.ie/> or the US Franciscan site at <http://blog.franciscanmedia.org/minute-meditations>. See other prayer resources on our parish webpage at [http://stmarysholliston.com/index.php?page=aff\\_prayer](http://stmarysholliston.com/index.php?page=aff_prayer).

**PARENTS OF FAITH AND HOPE:** How is the new school year going for you and your child? At our next meeting on **Friday, October 6**, we will discuss this topic. We are a very supportive group of parents of children, teenagers and young adults with special needs, and those struggling with mental health, learning disabilities and other life challenges. The meeting will be from 8:45 to 11:00 AM at 12 Kingsbury Drive, Holliston. For additional information, please contact Donna at (508) 429-6576 or [dmbrodo@comcast.net](mailto:dmbrodo@comcast.net).

**SACRAMENTS:** This year we will explore the meaning and importance of the Catholic sacraments, "outward and visible signs of God's inward and invisible grace" (St. Augustine). We believe that the sacraments were instituted by Jesus during his ministry on earth and are gifts to His Church and, as such, they are "actions of the Holy Spirit at work in his Body, the Church" (Catechism #1116). The Catechism teaches that the purpose of the sacraments is to "sanctify [all people], to build up the Body of Christ and to finally give worship to God" (#1123). We also believe that the Church itself is a sacrament, a sign of God's grace in our world: "Since the Church is in Christ like a sacrament or as a sign and instrument both of a very closely knit union with God and of the unity of the whole human race..." (Lumen Gentium, #1). So this year, we will look at the sacraments of the Church and the Church itself as "actions of the Holy Spirit", signs of grace in us as individuals and in our world. We will begin next month with the sacrament that brings or initiates us into the Church, Baptism.

--- Leo Racine



# ST. Mary Parish

## Actual vs. Budget FY/17 and 2017/2018 Budget

	<u>2016/17</u> <u>BUDGET</u>	<u>2016/17</u> <u>ACTUAL</u>	<u>2017/18</u> <u>BUDGET</u>
<b>OPERATING RECEIPTS</b>			
Offertory	672,000	665,921	679,000
Sacramental Offerings/Gifts/Donations	34,000	54,064	40,000
Religious Education Fees	78,000	73,060	75,000
Other Income	12,500	31,592	25,000
Youth & Adult Programs**	150,000	161,299	150,000
<b>Total Operating Receipts</b>	<b>946,500</b>	<b>985,936</b>	<b>969,000</b>

### OPERATING EXPENSES

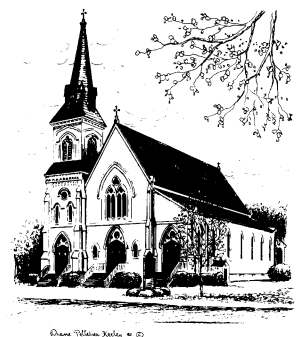
Lay Salaries/Benefits	450,000	432,952	450,000
Clergy Salaries/Benefits	85,000	86,444	94,303
Total Salaries & Benefits	<u>535,000</u>	<u>519,396</u>	<u>544,303</u>
Office Expenses	60,000	88,873	80,000
Household Expenses	15,500	18,603	19,000
Utilities - Heat/Electric/Water	46,000	51,280	54,000
Property Insurance & Liability	16,000	16,121	17,000
Maintenance -			
Supplies/Equipment/Grounds/Building	100,000	70,116	70,000
Pastoral & Liturgical	50,000	44,426	45,000
Church Meetings & Transportation	11,500	14,792	14,500
Youth/Adult Programs*	180,000	112,232	115,000
Improvements -			
Furniture/Equipment/Buildings	0	185,019	75,000
Other Expenses	0	3,220	3,300
IFRM (Parish Tithe to Archdiocese)	75,862	79,475	81,432
<b>Total Operating Expenses</b>	<b>1,089,862</b>	<b>1,203,553</b>	<b>1,118,035</b>
<b>Operating Gain or (Loss)</b>	<b>(143,362)</b>	<b>(217,617)</b>	<b>(149,035)</b>

### Unbudgeted - Grand Annual Collection Received

<u>150,000</u>	<u>165,559</u>	<u>140,000</u>
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### Net Gain/Loss w/Grand Annual Collection

<b>(6,638)</b>	<b>(52,058)**</b>	<b>(9,035)</b>
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\* Offset by adult/youth ministry income  
 \*\* Offset by prior year income

The above Parish Financial & Budget Report was approved by the St. Mary's Parish Finance Council: Kevin Diamond (Vice-Chair), Kevin O'Connell, Ron Pipe, Diane McDermott Roy, Kim Latifi.

Any parishioners with questions/requests for clarification/etc. may contact St. Mary's Business Manager, Mary Sanning at 508-429-4427 x19. You may also email her at [st.marysbusinessmgr@gmail.com](mailto:st.marysbusinessmgr@gmail.com). Thank you for your faithful stewardship.

*Parish Ministry Contacts*

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

*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.

