

ST. MARY'S PARISH



HOLLISTON, MASSACHUSETTS



SUNDAY, APRIL 19, 2026
THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

GOSPEL: LUKE 24:13-35

"Then their eyes were opened and they recognized him."



St. Mary's Parish



Mass Schedule:

Monday through Friday
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.

Our Mission:

“To know Christ and to make Him known.”

8 Church St., Holliston, MA 01746

Website: www.stmarysholliston.com

Email Address: parish@stmarysholliston.org

Rectory Phone: (508) 429 - 4427

Religious Education Phone: (508) 429 - 6076

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 register through our website or by calling the rectory. 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
Noon to 12:45 PM.

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. Welcome to Christ!

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

Mass Intentions

- Saturday April 18**
5:00 Paul T. Shea
7:30 The Departed Members of the LaRoche and D'Aloia Families
- Sunday April 19**
7:30 People of St. Mary's
9:30 John Riordan
11:30 Ambrosio Bolandrina
- Monday April 20**
9:00 Carmine and Concetta Spadano
- Tuesday April 21**
9:00 Rev. Lawrence J. Rondeau
- Wednesday April 22**
9:00 Holy Souls in Purgatory
- Thursday April 23**
9:00 Elizabeth Power
- Friday April 24**
9:00 Michael Eden
- Saturday April 25**
5:00 Patrick Keane
7:30 Carmen Chiango
- Sunday April 26**
7:30 Antoinetta Calabrese
9:30 People of St. Mary's
11:30 Marty Breinlinger's 50th Anniversary Mass of Thanksgiving

50TH ANNIVERSARY OF ORDINATION!

THIS WEEKEND IS LAST CALL FOR THE CELEBRATION! Reception RSVP's close Sunday night.



Deacon Marty's 50th Anniversary of Ordination Mass of Thanksgiving will be celebrated next Sunday, April 26 at 11:30 AM, followed by a reception in Fr. Haley Hall.

To allow us to plan accurately for food, please use the SignUpGenius Link below to RSVP your attendance no later than tonight, April 19:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/805094DA5AB29A3FC1-63162865-reception#/> Save the date and come celebrate with us!

A table for cards will be provided at the reception. Anyone wishing to give a gift is asked to make a donation to the Holliston Pantry Shelf in Deacon Marty's name.



FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

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

Today we journey alongside the two disciples on the road to Emmaus. It is a scripture that speaks deeply to the soul because it mirrors the interior walk of every Christian. These two followers are traveling in the shadow of the Cross, their hearts heavy with the weight of shattered hope and the confusing silence of the tomb.

In His infinite mercy, Jesus draws near. Yet, He does not immediately unveil His glory. Instead, He walks in step with them as a humble traveler and asks: *"What are you discussing as you walk along?"*

We see here a beautiful, divine condescension. Jesus, the Omniscient Lord who knows the depths of every soul, "pretends" ignorance. He does not do this to deceive, but to invite. He desires that they name their doubts, their sorrows, and their fears out loud.

There is a sacramental mystery in this "naming." It is the same grace we encounter in the Sacrament of Reconciliation. While the Lord knows our transgressions, He asks us to speak them, for in the verbalizing of our brokenness, we surrender it to Him.

As St. Claude de la Colombière once beautifully observed, *"The most effective way to be delivered from a secret anxiety is to disclose it to someone who has the power to heal it."* By

encouraging the disciples to pour out their hearts, Jesus opens a space within them - emptying them of their despair so that He might fill them with His Resurrection light.



This encounter also serves as a sacred blueprint for our ministry to one another, particularly to those walking through the valley of grief. Jesus teaches us that true charity often begins with a holy silence. Before He opened the Scriptures, He opened His heart to listen.

In our parish, we are called to be "icons" of this listening Christ. When a brother or sister is mourning, we are not called to provide easy answers or to rush their healing. We are called to walk in step with them, offering a presence that says, "You are not alone." To listen to another's grief is a pre-sacramental act of love; it prepares the soil of their heart to eventually receive the seeds of hope once more.

The Emmaus walk is also the story of every Holy Mass. The Road to Emmaus is the Liturgy itself!

The Liturgy of the Word: As Jesus *"interpreted to them what referred to Him in all the Scriptures,"* our own hearts are set ablaze. The Word of God is not a dead letter, but a living flame that consumes our apathy and clarifies our vision.

The Liturgy of the Eucharist: The journey reaches its summit at the table. *"He took bread, said the blessing, broke it, and gave it to them."* In that moment of fraction, their eyes were opened. They recognized Him not just as a teacher, but as the Living Bread, the Risen Jesus in their presence once more.

Whatever "road" you may find yourself on this week whether it be a road of joy or a road of profound sorrow, know that the Risen Lord is walking beside you. He is waiting for you to speak your heart to Him.

May we all have the humility to share our burdens with Him, both in prayer and Confession. For through such sharing, we prepare our souls to recognize and receive anew the Living Lord.

God bless you.

Rev. Mark J. Coiro



PARISH STAFF:

Rev. Mark J. Coiro, Pastor
 The Xaverian Fathers, Weekend Assistance
 Deacon John D. Barry, Permanent Deacon
 Deacon Ronald A. Dowding, Permanent Deacon
 Deacon Martin Breinlinger, Senior Deacon
 Mrs. Fran Crespi, D.R.E., Grades K-7
 Mrs. Lisa Dufault, HS Youth Minister
 Ms. Abigail Kelley-Lanser, Director of Music
 Mrs. Mary Beth Harris, Parish Secretary
 Mrs. Jennifer Burgett, Religious Education Secretary
 Ms. Mary Sanning, Business Manager
 Mrs. Najat Whalen, Sacristan
 Mr. Billy Hanson, Parish Facilities
 R & R Landscaping, Cemetery Care

PARISH OFFERTORY LAST WEEKEND:

Automatic Giving: \$ 4,845.00
 WeShare: \$ 3,664.96
 Offertory Envelopes: \$ 7,906.00
 Total Offertory: \$ 16,415.96

Thank you for making up any missed weekly parish support. The fiscal health of your parish depends on it. Kindly consider switching to WeShare or Automatic Giving. See: <https://stmarysholliston.com/how-to-give/>.

CATHOLIC APPEAL UPDATE:

Dollar Goal:
100%
Donor Goal:
80%



Thank you to all who have already made their 2026 Catholic Appeal Gift. We have made our parish's assigned goal, in part due to a \$25,000 gift from a single family. We are very grateful to them and to all who have done what they could.

The challenge now is that 20% of those who donated last year have not done so yet, and many more families still have never donated.

No one is asked to do more than they can, but all are asked to do **something** - according to their means - to support the good works of our Catholic Church.



Printed Appeal materials are available outside the Religious Education Office. Please use them, or visit: <https://bostoncatholicappeal.org/>. Thank you!

Important Update!	New Emails as of April 13, 2026
Mary Beth Harris & Fr. Mark	parish@stmarysholliston.org
Abbey Kelley-Lanser	music@stmarysholliston.org
Fran Crespi	religiouseddre@stmarysholliston.org
Lisa Dufault	tgif@stmarysholliston.org
Jennifer Burgett	religiousedsec@stmarysholliston.org
Mary Sanning	businessmgr@stmarysholliston.org
Billy Hanson	facilitiesmgr@stmarysholliston.org
Confirmation Grades 9 & 10	youthministry@stmarysholliston.org
Confirmation Grades 7 & 8	confirmation@stmarysholliston.org
Middle School Youth Group	msvg@stmarysholliston.org
Altar Servers	altarserver@stmarysholliston.org
VBS	ybs@stmarysholliston.org

FOR OUR YOUTH



HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP ~ TGIF (Teens Gather In Faith): Our next TGIF Meeting is **ONE WEEK AWAY, CHIPOTLE NIGHT, (NOTE DUES WILL BE \$10 FOR THIS MEETING),** Sunday, April 26, from 7:00 - 8:45 PM in Fr. Haley Hall (bring a friend)!

TGIF is open to ALL TEENS in Grades 9 - 12. For more information contact Lisa Dufault at tgif@stmarysholliston.org.

Mission Trip Paperwork Packets are due at/by the April 26 TGIF meeting. Please also fill out the R & R Google Form as soon as possible. The link was emailed out April 1 and you can also view today's online bulletin at www.stmarysholliston.com for the link **Mission Trip R & R Form.**

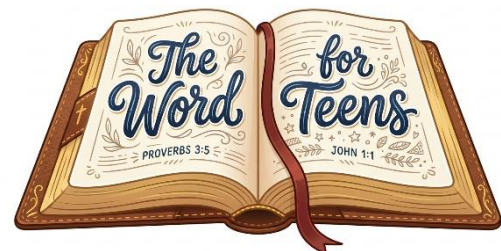


MIDDLE SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP!

Our End of Year Parent Potluck Meeting is Sunday, May 17, from 6:30 - 8:30 PM! Parents of our MSYG teens are invited to come and enjoy the night, which includes an awesome MSYG Slideshow. Raft - mate Signups and Brownstone Quarry Signups will take place at the May 17 Meeting.



This Tuesday is our annual Spring Paintball Trip, and on Friday, May 1 our 8th Graders will host a BINGO Event at Timothy Daniel's Nursing Home. And don't forget about the Giant Three Town Scavenger Hunt on Friday, May 15!



FINDING JESUS IN THE "UGH" MOMENTS

Luke 24:13-35 (The Road to Emmaus)

We've all had those days. You know the ones - where everything feels like a massive fail. Maybe you bombed a test you actually studied for, your friend group is acting toxic, or you're just feeling "meh" about life.

In this Sunday's Gospel, two disciples are having the ultimate "ugh" moment. They're walking away from Jerusalem, discouraged and confused because Jesus - the guy they thought would change everything - had been crucified. They're so caught up in their own disappointment that when Jesus Himself starts walking right next to them, they don't even recognize Him.

Middle school and high school can feel like that long, dusty road to Emmaus. We get so stuck in our own heads - worrying about our future, our looks, or our mistakes - that we treat God like a stranger. We think, "If God were actually here, my life wouldn't feel this messy."

(Continued Next Page)



Thank you to our teens for spending last Saturday making and delivering 100 bagged lunches, freshly



baked cookies, and bagged cereal to Fr. Bill's in Quincy. Looks like fun was had at the Scavenger Hunt that followed. A HUGE congratulations to our Winning Team of Cam R, Cam M, Kyle and Michael.

THE WORD FOR TEENS CONTINUED:

But look at what Jesus does. He doesn't wait for the disciples to get their act together or reach a "holy" destination. He meets them mid-walk, right in the middle of their sadness and doubt.

Jesus spends the walk listening to them, then He explains the Scriptures. But the real shift happens at dinner. The Bible says:

"He took bread, said the blessing, broke it, and gave it to them. With that their eyes were opened and they recognized him." (Luke 24:30 - 31). Suddenly, it all clicked. They realized their hearts had been "burning within them" the whole time.

You might not see Jesus physically walking next to you in the hallway, but He's there. He shows up in:

The "Burning Heart": That random feeling of peace or conviction you get when you're helping someone or in prayer.

The Word: When a Bible verse or a lyric really hits home.

The Eucharist: The same way the disciples recognized Him in the breaking of the bread, we find Him at Mass.

This week, stop assuming you're walking alone. In your loneliest or most stressful moment, just whisper: "Jesus, open my eyes." You might be surprised to find He's been there for every mile.

FOR FAMILIES

BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP: A seven-week, faith-based bereavement support group will begin on Thursday, April 23 at 1:30 PM at St. Jude's Church in Norfolk. This peer support group is open to anyone who has experienced a recent loss. There is no charge for this group, however registration is required. To register or for information, contact Nan Rafta at 774-571-0092.

PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES & FATIMA FROM OUR LADY OF FATIMA SHRINE:

We are organizing a pilgrimage to Lourdes and Fatima from September 1 - 10, 2026. It will cost \$3,974.00 double occupancy, including all meals, tips, and local travel. It will be a marvelous opportunity to bring our prayers of peace and unity in our world today to Our Lady in very special ways. Contact our office at 508-429-2144 or holliston@xaverianmissionaries.org.

FOR THOSE IN NEED

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS 18th ANNUAL

CHARITY RAFFLE: The Knights have begun selling tickets to their Annual Charity Raffle. The proceeds from this raffle go to local charities such as the Holliston Senior Center, O'Connell House, Homes for our Troops, and the Doug Flutie Foundation for Autism. One ticket is \$5 and a book of five for \$20. First prize is \$1,000. The raffle drawing will take place at the K of C Golf tournament on June 26.



Knights will sell tickets in at Shaw's in Medway on May 22 and 23; at Roche Bros. in Millis on May 15 and 16; and at Shaw's in Ashland on June 6 and 7. The direct contact to purchase raffle tickets is stmaryshollistonkofc@gmail.com.

THE ROSE FOR LIFE: The Rose this week is sponsored by the Parmese Family. Please join them in prayer for an unborn child. Please call Mary Beth at 508-429-4427 to become part of this beautiful affirmation of life.

HOLLISTON PANTRY SHELF: Food items needed at the Pantry: white vinegar (16 oz), juice boxes (apple, orange, fruit punch), canned regular coffee (11 oz), canned decaf coffee (11 oz), Chips Ahoy Cookies, Ritz crackers (13.7 oz Box), and canned beets (16 oz). Donations may be dropped off in the tan bin by the main parking lot doors right here at St. Mary's, or to the bins outside 73 Charles Street.

FOR SAFETY

FY26 CORIs NOW DUE: It is that time of year again! CORIs must be renewed each year for all St. Mary's volunteers, along with reviewing the RCAB Code of Conduct. If you have not already completed your FY26 CORI, you can complete these forms in the Religious Ed office. We will also be hosting a CORI table after all Masses this weekend, April 18 and 19. Thank you!

FOR WOMEN

ST. MARY'S MOM'S PRAYER GROUP:

Please join us **this Tuesday, April 21 from 9:45 - 11 AM**, in Fr. Haley Hall as we pray together, read reflections by the liturgical season, and share prayer intentions. Children of all ages are welcome with toys and coloring activities available. For information, please contact Lauren Onak at 954 - 803 - 9942.



WINGS (Women in God's Spirit):

The 2nd meeting of our WINGS (Women in God's Spirit) 2026 Spring Season "One Body - Living Faith in a Fragmented World" is this Wednesday, April 22 at 10 AM in Father Haley Hall

and over Zoom. Our speaker will be Jim Flanagan who will speak on "Spiritual Networking: Beyond the Pews." Jim's faith journey began at St. Mary's as a teen Kindergarten helper, CYO member, and CYO Coordinator from 1986 - 1992. He is currently the Director of Family Faith Formation and Youth Ministry in St. Mary's Parish in Franklin. Jim considers it an honor and a blessing to serve youth of all ages, young adults, and their families for almost 35 years. Babysitting is available; please register in advance. Email stmaryswingssecretary@gmail.com to register or call Jen at 617 - 85 2 - 9632.

FOR MEN

Cor ~ ST. MARY'S FAITH

ENRICHMENT PROGRAM FOR MEN: Our next *Cor* meeting will take place on Thursday, April 23. We will meet as usual in Fr. Haley Hall at 7:00 PM. The topic for the evening will be the Eucharist.



Do we really appreciate and understand what the Eucharist is and what it means? Do we know why the Eucharist is considered the source and summit of the Christian life? Do we understand what it means that Jesus Christ is present - body, blood, soul and divinity - in the Holy Eucharist? What is a Eucharistic miracle? We hope you will join us to discuss these questions, and much more, at our meeting on April 23.

The mission of *Cor* is to provide Catholic men an opportunity to gather together and support each other as they seek to deepen their relationships with God through scripture, catechesis, prayer and small group discussions. We will generally meet on the 2nd and 4th Thursdays of the month up through the end of May.

All men of St. Mary's parish age 18 and older are welcome to join us for faith enrichment, scripture, catechesis, prayer and brotherhood. For more information, contact StMarysCor@gmail.com.

FOR EVERYONE

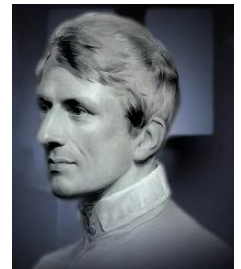
On Saturday, May 16, all are invited to attend a very special presentation by miracle recipient Deacon Jack Sullivan which will be followed by a Healing Service in the church. The event starts at 1 PM in the church. The Healing Service is from 2 - 2:30 PM.

On August 15, 2001, Deacon Jack Sullivan was healed from a crippling spinal disorder after praying for the intercession of Cardinal John Henry Newman. His sudden, complete recovery was presented to the Vatican as part of its investigation into the beatification of Cardinal Newman. On July 3, 2009 Pope Benedict XVI announced that the healing was in fact a miracle which led to Newman's beatification in England on September 19, 2010. Deacon Sullivan participated as a Deacon in John Henry Newman's beatification Mass with Pope Francis as celebrant. Cardinal Newman was later canonized as a saint by Pope Francis on October 13, 2019

In his presentation, Deacon Sullivan will speak about his miraculous healing, his devotion to Saint John Henry Newman and the subsequent healings he has been blessed to be a part of, here and abroad, through the intercession of St. John Henry Newman.

Deacon Sullivan was born and raised in Braintree and currently resides in Pembroke. Before becoming a Deacon, he was the Clerk Magistrate of the Plymouth District Court for many years.

After his presentation, Deacon Sullivan will lead a healing service for all, followed by individual blessings for those seeking St. Newman's help. Deacon Sullivan has the only first-class relic of St. John Henry Newman other than the original relic in the UK and will bring the relic with him to the healing service.



CLOW ~ CHILDREN K-6 ~ CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD: The children will be dismissed to the lower church hall to listen and learn what Jesus teaches us the Gospel. **Please note:** Younger children must be accompanied by their parents and able to sit and engage in the lesson. Older children are welcome to assist the adult leaders.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASSES:

DAY	GRADE	GRADE
Sun., April 26	CGS-B at 8:00 AM	GR-1 at 8:10 AM
	GR-4 at 10:45 AM	GR-5 at 10:45 AM
	GR-6 at 4:00 PM	
Mon., April 27	GR-3 at 4:00 PM*	GR-5 at 4:00 PM*
	GR-8 at 7:00 PM	
Tues., April 28	GR-4 at 4:00 PM	GR-6 at 4:00 PM
	GR-9/10 at 7:00 PM	
Wed., April 29	GR-2 at 4:15 PM	GR-4 at 4:00 PM
	GR-9/10 at 7:00 PM	
Thur., April 30	GR-8 at 7:00 PM	

APRIL VACATION ~ NO CLASSES: Sunday, April 19 to Friday, April 24. The Religious Education Office will be closed Monday, April 20.

GRADES 3 AND 5 CLASS SESSION ON OUR BLESSED MOTHER ~ MONDAY, APRIL 27 AT 4:00 PM: Grade 3 and 5 students will come to Fr. Haley Hall to learn about our Lady of Fatima, Our Lady of Lourdes, and Our Lady of Guadalupe and pray the Rosary together. All are welcome.

EMPOWERING GOD'S CHILDREN SAFETY SESSION FOR GRADE 4: Any family wishing to Opt-Out their child must complete and submit an Opt-Out form to the Religious Education Office.

- Grade 4 - Tuesday, April 28 / Wed., April 29



PARISH MAY DEVOTION SPONSORED BY GRADES 3, 4 AND 5 CHILDREN: The May Devotion will take place on **Sunday, May 3 following the 11:30 AM Mass.** Children and families are to bring their Rosary beads and flowers. We will pray

one decade of the Rosary during this devotion and honor Mary for her "Yes" to God's divine plan for our salvation. Everyone is welcome to join in this beautiful devotion.



VBS RAINFOREST FALLS 2026 VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL JULY 20 - 24

WHO: Children entering Kindergarten through Grade 6. Teens entering Grade 7 and up and Adults are needed as volunteers.

WHEN: July 20 - 24, 2026, 9 AM to 12:00 Noon.

COST: \$75/child, \$200/family max. Tuition assistance available if needed.

REGISTRATION: Open now through June 1, but our max is 100 campers. Use QR Code or click: <https://forms.gle/DfxUbFgn41QtqM7V7>



CATECHESIS OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD (CGS) OPEN HOUSE ~ SUNDAY, MAY 3 FROM 9:30 AM to 1:00 PM: The parish community and families are welcome to come and view the Atrium where the children experience the Montessori model for faith formation at age 3 to 5 years old. Children already know at this tender age that God is real. If you have young preschool children, consider registering them for our Catechesis of the Good Shepherd Program in the Fall. Classes will begin in October. Watch the Sunday Bulletin for dates and times. Ask about the opportunity to be trained as a CGS Catechist or Assistant. The reward is satisfying partnering on a child's faith journey!