



St. Mary's Parish



Our Mission:

"To know Christ and to make Him known."

Mass Schedule:

Monday through Saturday
9:00 AM

Saturday Vigils
5:00 PM
7:30 PM

Sunday
7:30 AM
9:30 AM Family Mass
(*C.L.O.W. Sept. – May*)
11:30 AM Sung Mass

Holy Days: Announced

Adoration Schedule:

First Fridays from
9:30-10:30 AM

8 Church St., Holliston, MA 01746

Website: www.stmarysholliston.com

Email Address: St.marys1870@gmail.com

Rectory Phone: (508) 429 - 4427 or (508) 879 - 2322

Religious Education Phone: (508) 429 - 6076

Fax: (508) 429 - 3324

Dear Visitors: Welcome! We are delighted that you chose to worship with us this day. Please introduce yourself to the priest, and if you are interested in becoming a member of the parish then please call the rectory to register. Please also be aware that for generations it has been the custom at St. Mary's to kneel together for a silent Hail Mary at the end of Mass.

Please join in!

Confession: Saturdays from Noon – 12:45 PM in the church or anytime by appointment.

Anointing of the Sick: Any time by appointment. Please call as soon as you are aware of a serious illness or upcoming surgery.

Baptism: The 2nd & 4th Sunday of each month. To register for Baptism Preparation call 429-4427.

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

2018 ST. MARY’S PARISH GRAND ANNUAL UPDATE

“What return can I make to the Lord for all He has done for me?” Psalm 116

2018 Grand Annual goal to cover operating expenses:	\$ 150,000.00
Grand Annual parishioner support received to date:	- \$ <u>121,081.00</u>
Parishioner support still needed to reach 2018 Grand Annual goal:	\$ 28,919.00
% of 2018 Grand Annual achieved to date:	81%
% of St. Mary’s families who have now made their Grand Annual gift:	55%



As the Grand Annual continues, contributions may be placed either in the orange G.A. envelope you received in the mail, or in one of the extra G.A. envelopes available at the church entrances. G.A. envelopes may be placed in any Mass collection basket or mailed or dropped off at the rectory.

As explained in the November mailing to all parishioners, the \$150,000 goal will be applied to cover a number of parish operating expenses, including but not limited to: Interior Church Floor Replacement, Installation of New Pew Kneelers, Rectory Repairs, New Air-conditioning / Heating System for the Parish Library, Designated Improvements for our handicapped members to include exterior Church Lighting, and Salaries for St. Mary’s dedicated and hardworking staff. Your generous support will assure the financial health of our parish continues.

Thank you for your support of this most important annual collection!

PARISH STAFF:

- Rev. Mark J. Coiro, Pastor
- Rev. Jim Flynn, Weekend Assistance
- The Xaverian Fathers, Weekend Assistance
- Deacon John D. Barry, Permanent Deacon
- Deacon Martin Breinlinger, Senior Deacon
- Mr. Steven Booth, Seminarian
- Mrs. Fran Crespi, D.R.E., Grades K-7
- Mr. Jake Thiringer, D.R.E., Grades 8-12
- Mr. Kevin Lyczak, Parish Music Director
- Mr. Leo Racine, Director of Contemporary Music
- Mrs. Mary Beth Harris, Parish Secretary
- Mrs. Paula O’Brien, Religious Education Secretary
- Mrs. Mary Sanning, Business Manager
- Mrs. Najat Whalen, Sacristan
- Mr. Billy Hanson, Parish Facilities
- R & R Landscaping, Cemetery Care

THE ROSE FOR LIFE: Is sponsored this week by John & Joan Cocchiarella. Please join them in prayer for an unborn child. If you wish to sponsor the Rose in 2019 please call the Rectory at 429-4427.

LAST SUNDAY’S PARISH OFFERTORY:

Mass Collections:	\$ 9,548.00
Automatic Giving:	\$ 2,770.00
Total Offertory:	\$ 12,318.00

St. Mary’s thanks all those who support their parish so faithfully each week. Please be sure to make up parish support for weekends you are away. Thank you!

PRAYERS AND MASS INTENTIONS:

Saturday	December 15
5:00	Vincent & Joan Mullen
7:30	Jerry O’Shea
Sunday	December 16
7:30	People of St. Mary’s
9:30	Paul Brunaccini and Claire Maguire
11:30	Pat McDonald
Monday	December 17
9:00	John & Freida Bohlken
Tuesday	December 18
9:00	Paul T. Shea
Wednesday	December 19
9:00	Dante, Carmelo & Crescenzo Camuso
Thursday	December 20
9:00	Gaetano Urbano
Friday	December 21
9:00	Genevieve Calapa
Saturday	December 22
9:00	Regina Cassidy
5:00	John & Gloria Sullivan
7:30	Special Intention
Sunday	December 23
7:30	People of St. Mary’s
9:30	Paul & Emma Jensen
11:30	Walter J. Ciampa, Sr.

FATIMA SHRINE LIGHTS DISPLAY: Daily from 5 to 9 PM, through Thursday, December 27. Hot chocolate and cookies are provided for visitors. All are most welcome!

A Festival of Lessons and Carols

at St. Mary's Church in Holliston



Tonight, Sunday, December 16, 5:00 – 6:00 PM

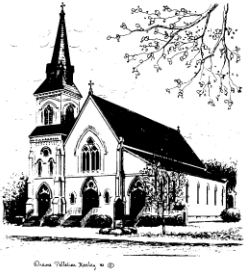


Join us for an Advent and Christmas celebration through scripture and music. St. Mary's Choirs and Ensembles will join together to present choral works by Handel, Rutter, Brahms and others, as well as traditional Christmas carols to sing along! The celebration will be led by St. Mary's Music Director, Kevin Lyczak (left). Nationally-renowned organist Brandon Santini (right), will accompany the service



and present a 30-minute organ recital at 4:30 PM. Bring your friends and neighbors!

This event is free and open to all.



Saint Mary's Parish

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

December 16, 2018
3rd Sunday of Advent

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

Today we mark the midpoint of our Advent journey, known also as "Gaudete" or "Rejoicing" Sunday. Today the purple of penitence is softened by the white of Christmas, as we anticipate the coming celebration of our Savior's birth. The resulting "rose" color stands for "relieved repentance" or "subdued joy." Gaudete Sunday is important in two ways. First, it invites us to take stock of our spiritual progress now that Advent is halfway done. Second, it reminds us that Christians are first and foremost a "joyful" people. Even in the midst of penance, we pause to look toward the final joy that God promises – the forgiveness of our sins, and a new and eternal life in Him. On December 17, the Church's Advent focus shifts from awaiting the Second Coming of Christ, to awaiting the celebration of His First Coming. On that date the Advent Mass prayers, preface and scriptures will all change to reflect this.

This past Wednesday we celebrated the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe, remembering the appearance of the Blessed Virgin Mary to the Mexican peasant Juan Diego on Saturday, December 9, 1531. When the local bishop doubted Juan's account and demanded proof, the Virgin instructed Juan to fill his cloak with roses growing nearby. When Juan then returned and opened the cloak before the bishop, the roses fell out to reveal a glorious image of the Blessed Mother imprinted on the cloak's lining. This image, whose manufacture modern science has been unable to explain, is still venerated today. Since Mary chose to appear to an uneducated and poor man like Juan Diego, her Guadalupe image reminds us of God's special love for the lowly.

Last weekend, many at St. Mary's imitated Mary by reaching out to visit the lives of the poor. At each Mass, presents were collected for the annual "Give A Gift" effort, offering Christmas joy to the poor of inner-city Boston. After all Masses a "Cookie Walk" was held in the lower church to benefit the poor of Haiti, now the world's most impoverished nation. I take this opportunity to commend St. Mary's Knights of Columbus and our Middle School Youth Group, who respectively organized these two events – as well as our St. Mary's parishioners, whose participation made them a success. As John the Baptist prescribes in today's Gospel, "*Whoever has two cloaks should share with the person who has none. And whoever has food should do likewise.*" Concern for the poor, then, lies at the very heart of Advent and our Christian discipleship.

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

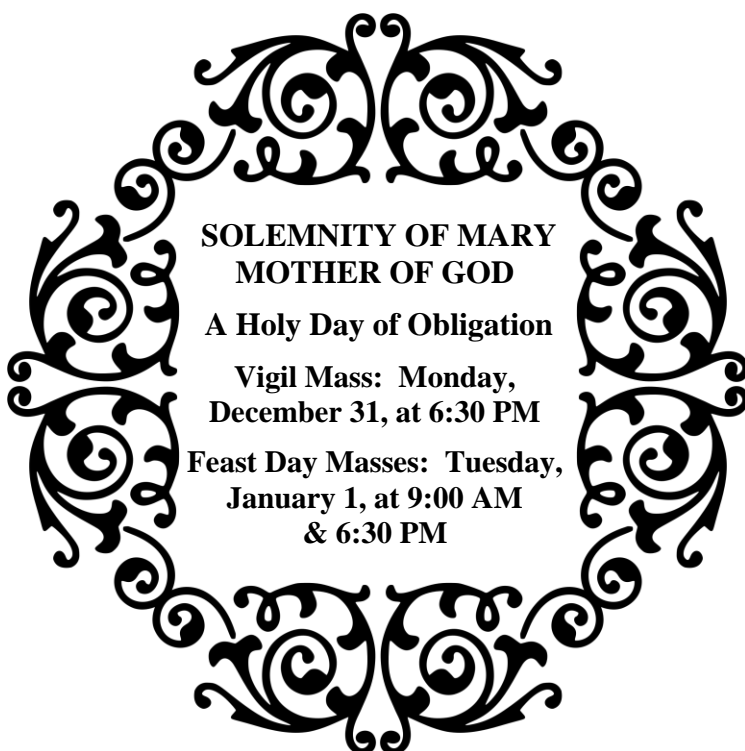
Under His Mercy,

Rev. Mark J. Coiro

P.S. Our good friend Fr. Rocco at the Fatima Shrine asked me to post the following advertisement:

Part time Office position available at Fatima Shrine, Holliston. The Xaverian Missionaries at Fatima Shrine in Holliston are seeking a part time (20 hours) person to assist with light office work, data entry and reception and other responsibilities as needed. Hours and days are flexible. If interested, please contact Fr. Rocco Puopolo, s.x. at 508 429 2144 or

ffrocco@xaverianmissionaries.org.





CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES:

Please note that the Midnight Christmas Mass will start at 11 PM, with carols at 10:30 PM. Also, parking is very packed and difficult for the 4 PM Masses Christmas Eve. Please plan accordingly.

MUSIC	5:00 PM	9:30 AM	11:30 AM
Entrance	#20	#20	#20
Offertory	#28	#723	-
Communion	#57	#364	#593
Recessional	#667	#32	#32

CONTEMPORARY VESPERS ~ TUESDAY, DECEMBER 18, 7:00 PM: Bring your day to a restful end with this twenty-minute experience of the Psalms, calming your spirit and letting go of distractions and anxieties. The Liturgy of the Hours connects you to the whole Church in prayer worldwide.

MIDDLE SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP: Our next trips are Friday, January 4, Celtics vs Mavericks; and Saturday, January 19, Snowtubing. Our next Meeting is Sunday, January 27 from 6:30 – 8:30 PM, a half hour longer because of the 12th Annual Battle of the Sexes. There will be faith, friendship, fun, and signups for the February Vacation week trips!

EPIC HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP: Next Meeting is Sunday, January 13, 7:30 – 8:45 PM in Father Haley Hall.

ST. MARY’S MISSION TRIPS ~ Announcing St. Mary’s EPIC Mission Trip for Summer 2019!

[Applicants for Leadership Roles Needed!]

This year, following the devastation caused by Hurricane Michael (photo right), we will travel to Gainesville, FL, from July 14 to July 21. We will be working out of a Catholic Heart Workcamp; check it out at www.heartworkcamp.com. As we plan for an information session in January and an exciting spring, we need leaders – both teens and adult chaperones (over age 24). If you are an active member of St. Mary’s and you are interested in sharing your faith and your talents in these roles, email our Youth Minister Jake Thiringer at st.marysym1870@gmail.com and he’ll send you the relevant application. A presentation on this summer’s Mission Trip will take place at the January 13 EPIC Meeting.



Monday, December 24, Christmas Eve Masses

***4 PM Masses in both the Church and Parish Hall**
(Hall Mass includes the Christmas Pageant)

5:30 PM Mass in the Church

7:30 PM Mass in the Church

11:00 PM Mass in the Church, Carols at 10:30 PM

Please be aware that the two 4 PM Masses are very crowded and parking is quite difficult. As good neighbors, please avoid parking in the First Congregational Church’s parking lot.

Tuesday, December 25, Christmas Day Masses

** Please remember that there is no 7:30 AM Mass this day.*

9:30 AM Mass in the Church

11:30 AM Mass in the Church

~ CHRISTMAS COLLECTION ~

The Christmas Collection supports the retirement, healthcare and financial needs of priests of the Archdiocese of Boston. We encourage you to please give generously on behalf of the priests that have devoted their lives to faithfully serving God and the people of the Archdiocese of Boston. Thank you!



CLOW- CHILDREN K-6: Today, Sunday, Dec. 16, the children will be dismissed from the main assembly and led to the Lower Church hall to hear what Jesus has to tell them in the Gospel. **Please note:** Younger children are welcome **but must be accompanied by their parents** and be able to sit and engage in the lesson. Older children are welcome to assist the adult leaders.

WEEK'S RELIGIOUS EDUCATION SCHEDULE

DAY	GRADE	GRADE
Sun., Dec. 16	GR-1 at 8:10 AM	GR-4 at 7:55 AM
	GR-4 at 10:45 AM	GR-5 at 10:45 AM
	GR-6 at 12:45 PM	GR-6 at 5:00 PM
	GR-7 at 5:30 PM	
Mon., Dec. 17	GR-3 at 3:00 PM	GR-5 at 3:00 PM
	GR-6 at 2:30 PM	GR-6 at 5:00 PM
	GR-8 at 6:00 PM	
Tues., Dec. 18	GR-4 at 4:00 PM	GR-6 at 4:00 PM
	GR-10 at 6:30 PM	
Wed., Dec. 19	GR-7 at 6:00 PM	GR-8 at 6:00 PM
Thur., Dec. 13	GR-10 at 6:30 PM	
Sun., Dec. 23	NO CLASSES	

CHRISTMAS BREAK ~ SUNDAY, DECEMBER 23 THROUGH FRIDAY, JANUARY 4, 2019.

GRADE 4 CHRISTMAS HAPPENING OF GIVING:

The Grade 4 children had a wonderful time making Christmas cards and ornaments for needy children. They also brought in a toy for a girl or boy to be placed into a Christmas gift bag with winter gloves, socks, pencils, crayons, markers, coloring book and other needed items. The children also enjoyed tasty homemade treats brought in by their families. The Christmas bags were immediately sent to the Holliston food pantry to be distributed to needy children. We want to thank Virginia Calapa and Nick for helping to put this event together and all the teen volunteers and parents who helped make this day a success for all the children.

GRADE 7 SAFETY SESSION: Today, Sun., Dec. 16 at 5:30 PM there will be a safety session presented by Mrs. Catherine Mitchell in Room 3 – 4. This safety session will help students to be aware of their surroundings in public places and to learn how to protect themselves in any difficult situation.

GRADE 7 CHASTITY PROGRAM: On Sunday, January 6 at 5:30 PM and on Wednesday, Jan. 9, at 6:00 PM, Linda Thayer, our guest speaker, will address the importance of chastity in the Christian view of human sexuality with the Grade 7 students. All Sunday and Wednesday Students are required to attend. Parents are always welcome to join us for these presentations.

GRADE 10 RETREAT- 2019: On Saturday, January 5, there will be a retreat from 9:00 AM to 6:00 PM. Students will report to Fr. Haley Hall by 8:45 AM to be checked in. Please contact Jake Thiringer with any questions regarding the retreat at 508-429-6076 or by Email at: stmarysym1870@gmail.com.

GRADE 10 – CONFIRMATION II: Grade 10 meets on Tuesday, December 18 and Thursday, December 20 from 6:30 to 8:30 PM in Fr. Haley Hall.

PROTECTING GODS CHILDREN (PGC)

WORKSHOP: New volunteers 18 years of age and older serving in any capacity must complete a **2018-2019 CORI**, have a signed **Code of Conduct** and complete a **PGC Workshop**. Please check the RCAB website for PGC Workshops scheduled in nearby parishes.

WINTER ADULT FORMATION PROGRAM: Journey along with **Bishop Barron** as he explores the lasting influence of St. Augustine and St. Benedict beginning on Tuesday, January 15 from 10:00 AM to Noon in RM 3 – 4. Bishop Barron unlocks the truth behind the Catholic Church's most influential people to demonstrate how Christ's Incarnation is on display through the minds and lives of His Church's members.

FORMED ~ PICK OF THE WEEK: Celebrate the Birth of Jesus and recall the wonder and joy of Christmas with Brother Francis in this heartwarming presentation that will remind you Who we celebrate during the Christmas season! Watch Brother Francis: "O Holy Night. " *"This film is awesome for the children big and small."*, Toby J., Toledo, Ohio.

TEACHER / COORDINATOR MEETING: Grade 3, 4 5 and 6 teachers please mark your calendar for Monday, January 14 from 7:30 to 9:00 PM to meet with your Grade Coordinator. This meeting will cover the events and class sessions for the remainder of the year.

GRADE 2 FIRST COMMUNION MASSES 2019.

Letters to families to select their child's First Communion Mass will be sent out on Friday, January 4 with a Green Index Card that must be returned by Friday, Feb. 15.

CHRISTMAS BLESSINGS TO ALL! The RE Staff wishes to thank our Grade Coordinators, Teachers, Monitors and Volunteers who have generously given their time, talents and gifts to nurture the Catholic faith of our children and youth. May the Christ Child bless you abundantly for your ministry and service to St. Mary's Parish community this Christmas and the New Year!