



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.

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, Director of Music
 Mr. Leo Racine, Director of Contemporary Music
 Mrs. Mary Beth Harris, Parish Secretary
 Mrs. Paula O'Brien, Religious Education Secretary
 Ms. Mary Sanning, Business Manager
 Mrs. Najat Whalen, Sacristan
 Mr. Billy Hanson, Parish Facilities
 R & R Landscaping, Cemetery Care

MUSIC	5:00 PM	9:30 AM	11:30 AM
Entrance	#20	#91	#91
Offertory	#28	#86	#86
Communion	#395	#85	#85
Recessional	#30	#90	#90

2018 Grand Annual Thank you! Thank you to all who have participated in the 2018 Grand Annual. The appeal goal of \$150,000 has been achieved. Combined with the weekly offertory, the Grand Annual covers our parish's operating costs. This year's Grand Annual included Interior Church Floor Replacement, Installation of New Pew Kneelers, Rectory Repairs, New Air-conditioning / Heating System for the Parish Library and Designated Improvements for our handicapped members. Your faithful stewardship, especially in these difficult economic times, is much appreciated. If you have not yet made a donation, you may still do so by using your orange envelope (extras located at the church doors).

CHRISTMAS COLLECTION: As in previous years this goes entirely to support the retired priests of our Archdiocese. The 2018 Christmas Collection was \$24,035.00. If you have not yet given to this important collection please do so as soon as possible. Thank you to all who so generously supported these men who have given their lives in God's faithful service!

LAST SUNDAY'S PARISH OFFERTORY:

Mass Collections: \$ 8,245.00
 Automatic Giving: \$ 4,315.00
 Total Offertory: \$ 12,560.00

Thank you for your faithful support of your parish each week. May God bless you!

PRAYERS AND MASS INTENTIONS:

Saturday January 5
 5:00 Carmela Camuso
 7:30 June McLean

Sunday January 6
 7:30 People of St. Mary's
 9:30 Walter Baker
 11:30 Dianne Gootman

Monday January 7
 9:00 Helen Shannahan

Tuesday January 8
 9:00 Paul Meehan

Wednesday January 9
 9:00 Michael Bowles, Sr.

Thursday January 10
 9:00 Walter Baker, 1st Anv.

Friday January 11
 9:00 Paul & Joseph Meany

Saturday January 12
 9:00 Pauline Pascucci
 5:00 Richard Burrows, 10th Anv.
 7:30 William Flannery, 1st Anv.

Sunday January 13
 7:30 People of St. Mary's
 9:30 Marcos Camargo, 7th Anv.
 11:30 George J. Bourque



THE ROSE FOR LIFE: Is sponsored this week by the Carver Family. 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.

DONUTS, JUICE AND COFFEE: The Welcoming Committee invites all parishioners and their families to stop into Father Haley Hall after the 9:30 AM Mass TODAY, January 6, for donuts, juice and coffee. Members of the Parish Council will be available if you want to share any thoughts or ideas regarding the Parish.



American Red Cross

K OF C BLOOD DRIVE: The 12th Annual Red Cross Blood Drive sponsored by the Knights of Columbus St. Mary's Council will be held on Saturday, January 19, from 8:30 AM to 1:30 PM in Father Haley Hall. Walk-ins are welcome, but appointments are strongly encouraged. To schedule an appointment, contact 1-800-REDCROSS or visit redcrossblood.org and search by zip code (01746) in the "Search for Blood Drive" field. For further information, contact Knights of Columbus blood drive coordinator, Rodman Burgett, at 508-653-6130.



Saint Mary's Parish

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

January 6, 2019
Feast of the Epiphany

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

On this Feast of Epiphany, we recall the Wise Men who arrived in Bethlehem following a long journey. Scripture tells us that the Wise Men brought gifts for the newborn Christ – Gold, to show that He was a King; Frankincense, used in worship, to show that He was God; and Myrrh, a funerary ointment, to show that Jesus was mortal, and that one day He would die to save us from our sins. The truest gifts are always sacrificial, requiring us to give of that which is most precious to us. We remember therefore on this Feast of Epiphany that Jesus was God's great gift to the world, His only and beloved Son.

The gift of Jesus is one that we are all called to share, particularly by our willingness to forgive others even as He has forgiven us by the shedding of His blood. Over and over again, the scriptures call on those who are "cherishing" anger and resentment in their hearts to turn these things over to God. Job 36:13 *"The godless in heart cherish anger; they do not cry for help."* Psalm 66:18 *"If I had cherished vengeance in my heart, the Lord would not have listened."* If on this Epiphany Sunday we are cherishing some grudge or enmity, holding it tight to us like a treasure, then that is the very gift that Jesus most desires us to lay down at His manger this year.

St. John Chrysostom once observed the following about the Epiphany. He said, *"If the Wise Men had come in search of an earthly King, they would have been disconcerted at finding that they had taken the trouble to come such a long way for nothing. Consequently, they would have neither adored nor offered gifts. But since they sought a heavenly King, though they found in Him no signs of royal pre-eminence, yet, content with the testimony of the star alone, they adored: for they saw a man, and they acknowledged a God."* Let us like the Wise Men look for the heavenly king Jesus, and be ready to accept Him when He manifests His presence in very humble and surprising ways. Let us look for Him especially among the poor and those people God places in our lives who are hurting and in need of our help. To paraphrase St. John, let us *"see men and women, and acknowledge God within them."*

The Wise Men followed the light of a star, and as we continue our journey into this New Year of grace, we seek to more perfectly follow Jesus. *"I am the light of the world; he who follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life"* (Jn 8:12). No one wants to follow a stranger, and so the most important step in following Jesus is coming to know Him personally. If it is not already a part of your prayer life, I encourage you therefore to take up this year the practice of reading at least a few lines of scripture every day. Choose a Gospel (Mark is the shortest), and start to prayerfully work your way through it with a chapter or even just a page a day. The Bible contains God's Living Word, and it will help you come to know Jesus better. This in turn will help you to love, imitate, and follow Jesus. You will be astounded by how often the scriptures speak to you in new and personal ways according to where you are in a particular moment of your life's journey.

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

Under His Mercy,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mark J. Coiro". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Rev. Mark J. Coiro
Pastor

P.S. Again this year St. Mary's is pleased to provide you with blessed Epiphany Chalk. This custom is a beautiful way to invite Jesus anew into your home and family. The procedure for blessing your home with Epiphany chalk is provided on the next page of the bulletin. Just wipe away the old year's chalk with soap and water to prepare.



EPIPHANY BLESSING OF THE HOME WITH CHALK

In the Middle Ages, it was customary for Catholics to bless their homes for the New Year on the Feast of the Epiphany. The family would walk in procession from room to room, the father carrying a plate with burning incense, the oldest son carrying holy water to sprinkle each room, the youngest child carrying a piece of chalk that had been blessed at Epiphany Mass that morning.

The chalk was used to inscribe the doorway to the family home with the New Year, three crosses, and the letters **C M B**. These letters are the initials of the three Wise Men that came bearing gifts to the Christ child on the first Epiphany – Caspar, **M**elchior, and **B**althazar. In Latin, the letters also represent a prayer – “**C**hristus **M**ansionem **B**enedicat”, “May Christ bless this house”.

The tradition of blessing the doorway with Epiphany chalk symbolizes the family’s commitment to welcome Christ into their home throughout the New Year. It is a beautiful reminder that every Catholic home should be a “little church” – a house of prayer where the presence of Christ is made visible, and from which His love shines forth into the neighborhood. Just as the three Wise Men welcomed Jesus at His birth, so too must we seek always to welcome Him into our homes and lives.

Again this year, St. Mary’s is pleased to provide blessed chalk at all Epiphany Masses. Each parish family is invited to take home a piece of chalk to inscribe the outside lintel or top of the door most frequently used to enter their house. The whole family should be assembled for the blessing.

BLESSING OF THE HOME WITH CHALK

20 + C + M + B + 19

On the lintel of the door the leader writes:

Leader: **20** + In this New Year of Our Lord and God
All: We honor Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Leader: **C** + May all who come to our house this year
All: Find Christ living among us.

Leader: **M** + May our home be a place of faith
All: A dwelling of goodness, love and peace.

Leader: **B** + Bless this house and all who inhabit it
All: Fill us with a concern for others that we may reflect your love.

Leader: **19** In this year of Our Lord and God
All: Bless all the members of this household and surround them with your protection.

Leader: Lord, God of heaven and earth, You revealed Your Only-Begotten Son to every nation by the guidance of a star. Grant that those who live in this house will be a light of truth and goodness. We ask this through Christ our Lord, Amen.



HOLY HOUR FOR LIFE: A Holy Hour for Life with Adoration, Music & Benediction will be held on Monday, January 21 at 7:00 PM in the church. This Holy Hour, held at parishes throughout the Archdiocese in observance of the National Day of Prayer and Penance, is in support of those attending the annual March for Life pilgrimage to Washington, D.C.

We will pray also for anyone affected by life's tragedies, including those who have been wounded by abortion, euthanasia, or suicide. We will pray also for a greater awareness and respect for the dignity of all human life – from the moment of conception to natural death, and that those who govern us may be guided by justice, truth, and a love for the gift of life. The Holy Hour for Life is organized by the Boston Deacons for Life in collaboration with the Pro-Life Office of the Archdiocese of Boston. Please join us, all are welcome!

WINGS (*Women in God's Spirit*): Please join us, **Wednesday, January 23** when WINGS begins its Winter Program: *Study & Sharing on Scripture*. Our first week we will welcome speakers Sandy & Mitch Liro, Denver Scripture Course Graduates, St. Mary's Parishioners. This winter we will hear inspiring talks on the upcoming Sunday Mass scripture readings. We will learn new methods to read and meditate upon scripture. Please join us for our winter program, whether you can attend each week or just some weeks. WINGS meets on **Wednesday** mornings from 9:45 – 11:15 AM in Father Haley Hall. Nurturing childcare is available. For more information call Linda Calabrese at 508-893-7919.

THE CALL TO HOLINESS: Leo Racine will be facilitating a three-week reading and discussion group on Pope Francis' 2018 apostolic exhortation called *Gaudete et Exultate: On the Call to Holiness in Today's World*. The group will meet on Thursday evenings, January 10, 17 and 24 from 7:30 to 8:30 PM in the Parish Center. Please contact Leo at 508-429-7476 or leoracine@msn.com for more information.

MIDDLE SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP: Our next trip is 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 Blue Man Group Trip!

EPIC HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP: This year, following the devastation caused by Hurricane Michael (photo below), 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. Interested teens have a very tight window for signing up for one of the 56 slots. All high school teens in the parish should watch for a mailing with the trip details and an **Indication of Interest** form to be turned in at the January 13 EPIC meeting – this will get you on our radar but will not guarantee you a space. As previously noted, potential teen leaders and chaperones should contact Jake Thiringer for an application via stmarysym1870@gmail.com.

EPIC DATES TO REMEMBER:

January 13 – Come to EPIC with your indication of interest for the Mission Trip – and get your application!
7:30 PM, Father Haley Hall.

January 23 – Catholic Heart Workcamp Presentation,
7:00 PM – Lower Church Hall.

January 27 – Application Window opens – first come first served – after 9:30 Mass – includes 1st payment of \$500.



Mission Trip!

CLOW- CHILDREN K-6: CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD: Today, Sunday, January 6, the children will remain in the Church with Deacon John and learn what Jesus teaches us in the Gospel reading.

WEEK'S RELIGIOUS EDUCATION SCHEDULE

DAY	GRADE	GRADE
Sun., Jan. 06	GR-2 at 8:10 AM	GR-2 at 10:45 AM
	GR-3 at 7:55 AM	GR-3 at 10:45 AM
	GR-6 at 12:45 AM	GR-6 at 5:00 PM
	GR-7 at 5:30 PM	
Mon., Jan 07	GR-4 at 3:00 PM	GR-6 at 2:30 PM
	GR-6 at 5:00 PM	GR-8 at 6:00 PM
Tues., Jan. 08	GR-5 at 4:00 PM	GR-6 at 4:00 PM
	GR-10 at 6:30 PM	
Wed., Jan. 09	GR-2 at 4:15 PM	GR-7 at 6:00 PM
	GR-8 at 6:00 PM	
Thur., Jan. 10	GR-10 at 6:30 PM	

GRADE 7 CHASTITY PROGRAM: Today, Sunday, January 6 at 5:30 PM and on Wednesday, January 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. Parents are always welcome to join us for these presentations. If a student is unable to attend the Sunday presentation then he/she should attend the Wednesday session.

SAFETY SESSIONS: On Monday, January 7, GR-4 will have a Safety class from 3 – 4:30 PM. On Tuesday, Jan. 08, GR-5 will have a Safety class during class time. Teachers are expected to be present.

TEACHER / COORDINATOR MEETING: Grades 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 5 CHRISTIAN SEXUALITY WORKSHOP FOR PARENTS: On **Thursday, January 17** at 10:00 AM and 7:00 PM in Room 3 – 4 of the center. Each year St. Mary's Parish offers a workshop for Grade 5 children in March. Parents are invited to view the program ahead and decide if they want their child to attend. The program is a video broken down into specific topics regarding the physical, psychological changes that occur in children. The children's workshop will be held on **Saturday, March 23** at 9:00 AM. Parents or guardians wishing their child to attend the workshop on Saturday, March 23 must attend this workshop and submit a signed "Permission Form" or a signed "Previously Previewed Permission Form".

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, January 8 and Thursday, January 10 from 6:30 to 8:30 PM in Fr. Haley Hall.

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: Rediscover the True Meaning of Christmas. Fr. Shannon Collins sheds new light on the biblical narratives of the birth of Jesus Christ, as well as the beautiful traditions of the Church during Christmas. Listen before the Christmas season ends! God Made Man By Fr. Shannon Collins. "An enlightening talk about how and why our very Creator came down to a lowly place among us at a specific time in history to save the world!" - Julie L., Sterling, VA org

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.

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



R.E. CLASS SNOW CANCELLATIONS: When Holliston public schools are closed due to inclement weather, religious education classes will not be held. Weather cancellations will be aired on Channel 5 and Channel 7 during the week day and on Channel 4 on Saturday & Sunday only. You can also call the R.E. Office at 508-429-6076 and press ext. 28 for cancellation notices.

COMPASSIONATE FRIENDS: Tuesday, January 15 in the Library at 7:45 PM.