



*Behold, the angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, "Rise, take the child and his mother, flee to Egypt, and stay there until I tell you. Herod is going to search for the child to destroy him." Joseph rose and took the child and his mother by night and departed for Egypt. He stayed there until the death of Herod, that what the Lord had said through the prophet might be fulfilled, Out of Egypt I called my son. Mt 2:13-15*



# 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](http://www.stmarysholliston.com)

Email Address: [St.marys1870@gmail.com](mailto: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 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> 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.

**2019 ST. MARY’S PARISH GRAND ANNUAL UPDATE**

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

<b>2019 Grand Annual goal to cover operating expenses:</b>	<b>\$150,000.00</b>
<b>Grand Annual parishioner support received to date:</b>	<b>- \$148,625.00</b>
<b>Parishioner support still needed to reach 2019 Grand Annual goal:</b>	<b>\$ 1,375.00</b>
<b>% of 2019 Grand Annual achieved to date:</b>	<b>99%</b>
<b>% of St. Mary’s families who have now made their Grand Annual gift:</b>	<b>60%</b>

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 pads and hardware, pew improvements for our handicapped members to include easier accessibility in the Church, and Church Sound System upgrades and repairs as the old Sound System became illegal as the FAA purchased our old channels.



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
- 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

**LAST SUNDAY’S PARISH OFFERTORY:**

Mass Collections:	\$ 12,019.50
Automatic Giving:	\$ 2,556.50
WeShare:	\$ 861.29
Total Offertory:	\$ 15,437.29

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!

**THE ROSE FOR LIFE:** Is sponsored this week by a St. Mary’s parishioner. Please join her in prayer for an unborn child.

**PRAYERS AND MASS INTENTIONS:**

<b>Saturday</b>	<b>December 28</b>
5:00	Judith McGrath
7:30	Carol Schwab
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>December 29</b>
7:30	People of St. Mary’s
9:30	Lucia Inman
11:30	Margaret Reddy, Robert & Teresa Leger
<b>Monday</b>	<b>December 30</b>
9:00	William T. Flannery
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>December 31</b>
9:00	Special Intention
5:00	<i>Mary, Mother of God, Vigil</i>
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>January 1</b>
9:00	<i>Mary, Mother of God, Feast</i>
6:30	<i>Mary, Mother of God, Feast</i>
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>January 2</b>
9:00	Merritt Moraski
<b>Friday</b>	<b>January 3</b>
9:00	Paul Meany
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>January 4</b>
9:00	Holy Souls
5:00	Nicholas Rossini
7:30	Fran & Agnes Hickey
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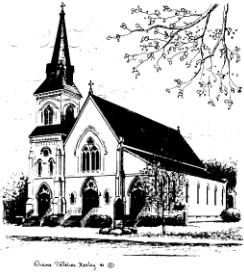
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# Saint Mary's Parish

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

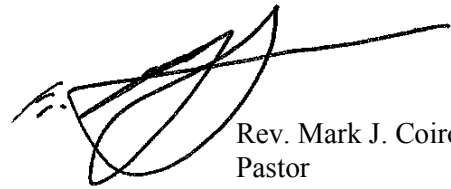
December 29, 2019  
Feast of the Holy Family

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

Thank you to ALL who helped make Christmas 2019 at St. Mary's so beautiful and full of faith. As ever, the people of St. Mary's stepped forward, taking the lead and lending their hands wherever needed. So on this Feast of the Holy Family, I thank God for the generosity and support of the men, women, and children who make up our St. Mary's Family of Faith.

In a very real sense, every Catholic family is called to be like the Holy Family of Jesus, Joseph, and Mary. No family is perfect, and indeed the Holy Family knew trial, struggle and suffering – including the Flight to Egypt today. Rather, a holy family is one that invites Christ into it, and then seeks to imitate His example of sacrificial love. Family prayer is always the essential means by which this invitation to God is made. In the words of Pope Saint John Paul II, *"Family prayer has its own characteristic qualities. It is prayer offered in common, husband and wife together, parents and children together. Communion in prayer is both a consequence of and a requirement for the communion bestowed by the sacraments of Baptism and Matrimony. The words with which the Lord Jesus promises His presence can be applied to the members of the Christian family in a special way: 'Again I say to you, if two of you agree on earth about anything they ask, it will be done for them by my Father in heaven. For where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I in the midst of them.'"* (Familiaris Consortio, 59)

A special prayer for Parents follows, and another for Families is included in this bulletin. God bless you!



Rev. Mark J. Coiro  
Pastor

## THE PARENT'S PRAYER

O Heavenly Father, make me a good parent.

Teach me to understand my children, to listen patiently to what they have to say and to answer all their questions kindly. Keep me from interrupting them or contradicting them.

Make me as courteous to them as I would have them be to me.

Forbid that I should ever laugh at their mistakes or resort to shame or ridicule when they displease me.

May I never punish them for my own selfish satisfaction or to show my power.

Let me not tempt my child to lie or steal.

And guide me hour by hour that I may demonstrate by all I say and do that honesty produces happiness.

Reduce, I pray, the meanness in me.

And when I am out of sorts, help me, O Lord, to hold my tongue.

May I be ever mindful that my children are children  
and I should not expect from them the judgement of adults.

Let me not rob them of the opportunity to wait on themselves and make decisions.

Bless me with the bigness to grant all their reasonable requests,  
and the courage to deny them privileges I know will do them harm.

Make me fair and just and kind.

And fit me, O Lord, to be loved and respected and imitated by my children.

All this I pray in the name of Jesus the Lord. Amen.



# Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God

~ A Holy Day of Obligation ~

## **Vigil Mass:**

Tuesday, December 31, at 5:00 PM

## **Feast Day Masses:**

Wednesday, January 1, at 9:00 AM & 6:30 PM

### **The Story of Mary, Mother of God**

Mary's divine motherhood broadens the Christmas spotlight. Mary has an important role to play in the Incarnation of the Second Person of the Blessed Trinity. She consents to God's invitation conveyed by the angel (Luke 1:26-38). Elizabeth proclaims: "Most blessed are you among women and blessed is the *fruit of your womb*. And how does this happen to me, that the mother of my Lord should come to me?" (Luke 1:42-43, emphasis added). Mary's role as mother of God places her in a unique position in God's redemptive plan.

Without naming Mary, Paul asserts that "God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law" (Galatians 4:4). Paul's further statement that "God sent the spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying out 'Abba, Father!'" helps us realize that Mary is mother to all the brothers and sisters of Jesus.

Some theologians also insist that Mary's motherhood of Jesus is an important element in God's creative plan. God's "first" thought in creating was Jesus. Jesus, the incarnate Word, is the one who could give God perfect love and worship on behalf of all creation. As Jesus was "first" in God's mind, Mary was "second" insofar as she was chosen from all eternity to be his mother.

The precise title "Mother of God" goes back at least to the third or fourth century. In the Greek form *Theotokos*—God-bearer—it became the touchstone of the Church's teaching about the Incarnation. The Council of Ephesus in 431 insisted that the holy Fathers were right in calling the holy virgin *Theotokos*. At the end of this particular session, crowds of people marched through the street shouting: "Praised be the *Theotokos*!" The tradition reaches to our own day. In its chapter on Mary's role in the Church, Vatican II's *Dogmatic Constitution on the Church* calls Mary "Mother of God" 12 times.

### **Reflection**

Other themes come together at today's celebration. It is the Octave of Christmas: Our remembrance of Mary's divine motherhood injects a further note of Christmas joy. It is a day of prayer for world peace: Mary is the mother of the Prince of Peace. It is the first day of a new year: Mary continues to bring new life to her children—who are also God's children.

**ST. MARY’S EPIC – HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP:**

Next week we will have an optional Prayer and Planning Meeting on Sunday, January 5 in Classrooms 3 and 4 from 7:15 to 8:15 PM. This meeting is for teens who want to help plan and lead future EPIC meetings and events. Our next General Meeting is Sunday, January 12, from 7:15 to 8:45 PM in FHH - \$5 Dues. The meeting will feature the announcement of the location of the St. Mary’s EPIC Summer Mission Trip (July 26 – Aug 1, 2020). It will also include faith reflection from Deacon John on the importance of Service and Mission in our faith, as well as Games, Food, Faith, Fun, Friends, and more. Teens must attend five EPIC Meetings and complete one Service Project before participation in the Summer Mission Trip (6 general meetings still remain). Mission Trip paperwork and Teen Leader interview signups will also be available at the January 12 meeting.

**MIDDLE SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP:** Our next trips are this Friday, January 3, Celtics vs Hawks; and Saturday, January 18, Snow tubing. Our next Meeting is Sunday, January 26 from 6:30 – 8:30 PM, a half hour longer because of the 13<sup>th</sup> Annual Battle of the Sexes. There will be faith, friendship, fun, and signups for the February Vacation week trip to Coco Key and Boda Borg! All 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> Graders are welcome!

**SCOUT CHRISTMAS TREE PICK UP:** Boy Scout Troop 76 is getting ready for their Annual Christmas Tree Disposal to be held on Saturday, January 4. The cost is \$10 for trees under 6 ft. and \$12 for trees over 6 ft. To schedule a pick up, send an email with your Name, Address and Phone Number to [Troop76Holliston@gmail.com](mailto:Troop76Holliston@gmail.com). Trees should be clean (i.e. no tinsel wreaths or swags) and placed curbside before 7 AM. Enclose check in an envelope and tape to your front door. Make checks payable to Troop 76 Holliston. **HOLLISTON RESIDENTS ONLY, THANK YOU!**

**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 next Sunday, January 5, 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.

**MOTHER TERESA ON THE FAMILY:**

*“It is easy to love the people far away. It is not always easy to love those close to us. Bring love into your home, for this is where our love for each other must start.”*

*“The child is the beauty of God present in the world, that greatest gift to a family.”*

*“The problem with our world is that we draw the circle of family too small.”*

**PRAYER FOR FAMILIES**

Lord of all,  
 Bless our families.  
 Be they formed by blood or by circumstance,  
 Make them holy.  
 As you reveal yourself to us in three persons:  
 Father, Son, and Spirit,  
 And in the relationship that flows among the three,  
 May we find you in our relationships.  
 In our marriages, in our families  
 In our households, in our communities  
 In our global humanity.  
 May we look across all that divides us  
 And see family  
 And embrace as a family does.  
 And love as a family ought to.  
 For where two or three gather in your name  
 There are you in the midst.  
 There indeed are you,  
 The one for whom we long so deeply.  
 Through Christ Our Lord. Amen.

MUSIC	5:00 PM	9:30 AM	11:30 AM
Entrance		#69	#69
Offertory		#87	#87
Communion		#68	#68
Recessional		#80	#80

**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS BLOOD DRIVE:** The 13<sup>th</sup> Annual Red Cross Blood Drive sponsored by the Knights of Columbus St. Mary’s Council will be held on



Saturday, January 18, 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](http://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.