



St. Mary's Parish

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

Our Mission:

“To know Christ and to make Him known.”

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

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.

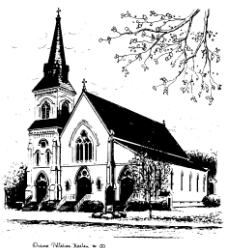
Please join in!

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.



Saint Mary's Parish

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

January 5, 2020
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."

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 stylized 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 in this bulletin. Just wipe away the old year's chalk with soap and water to prepare.

P.P.S. Starting this week, the Religious Education Office will be staffed only on Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays (9 AM – 5 PM each day). Our Religious Education Secretary, Paula O'Brien, is transitioning to a job in her home parish as Religious Education Director. She is continuing here part time until her replacement is hired and trained. Paula has been a great blessing to our parish – from her pleasant, friendly manner to her exceptional organizational skills. On this Feast of Epiphany, we thank God for the "gift" Paula has been to us the past year and a half. She will be missed!



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 + 20

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: **20** 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.

CHRISTMAS THANKS!

The heartfelt gratitude of our parish goes out to all those who made our St. Mary's Christmas 2019 celebrations so very beautiful!

The St. Mary's Adult, Youth, Children, and Contemporary Choirs under the direction of Kevin Lyczak and Leo Racine respectively, offered glorious music to herald the Savior's birth. Deacons Marty, John, and all the Altar Servers, Lectors, Eucharistic Ministers, and Ushers brought great reverence and faith to our Christmas Masses. At the Hall Mass, Debra Frey led our children in a beautiful and meaningful Nativity Pageant. Outdoors, the efforts of the St. Mary's Knights of Columbus, and Stumpy's Tree Service provided a grand light display, with the Knights also setting up the lower lights, Manger and Nativity scene.

Inside, the Paltrineri's handmade ribbons adorned our wreaths, Mary Theresa Whalen, Cindy Pratt, Emily Bukow, Bea Hait, Maria Bomba, Stephanie Bonarrigo, and Katie Smith, oversaw the decoration of the church Sanctuary and Christmas tree (also put up by the Knights), while Ann Connoni set up the Nativity scene before our altar. Bob Connoni and Mark Harrington put up all the wreaths in the Church.

Ingrid, Abby, Lizzie and Isabel Roth decorated the family tree in the Parish Center Lobby using all the lovely ornaments created several years ago by members of the Spirited Hands Craft Group. A wonderful team of many volunteers (too numerous to name) helped Najat Whalen and Linda Truitt, arrange the poinsettias on the Altar and in Father Haley Hall.

The old adage that "many hands make light work" was certainly true this year as we were able to quickly change the church from the solemnity of Advent to the celebration of Christmas. A sincere thank you to everyone who helped out.

On behalf of the retired priests of our Archdiocese, we thank everyone who contributed to the 2019 Christmas collection which came to \$25,605. Due to the importance of this collection in the lives of our retired priests, we encourage anyone who may have been away from St. Mary's this Christmas to please make their Christmas offering now. This may be done by mailing it to 8 Church Street or placing it in any Mass collection. In either case, it must be in a separate envelope clearly labeled "Christmas Collection" in order to differentiate it from the parish offertory. Thank you for being there for our retired priests, who gave their lives in faithful service to God's people.

We thank anyone we may have forgotten to mention here, and most especially we thank all of you who made our Christmas celebrations meaningful by your prayers and presence. May our celebration of Christ's birth bring us all a renewed faith and increase our longing for His return.



St. Mary's Parish

Invites you to take part in our upcoming
150th Anniversary Parish Mission ...

Surge of the Heart!

JON LEONETTI
International Speaker, Bestselling Author & Radio Host

PARISH MISSION

SURGE
of the
Heart

“One of the most inspiring parish missions available in America today.”

-Matthew Kelly, Founder of Dynamic Catholic

“Engaging, entertaining and hilarious!”

-Erin Walsh, NE.

“One of the most compelling Parish Missions we have ever experienced.”

-Fr. Winston Bath, NY.

“I’ve never heard of the guy.” -Pope Francis

Who is God and Why That Matters

Sunday, February 9 from 7 to 8:15 PM

God's Dream For Your Life

Monday, February 10 from 7 to 8:15 PM

Living God's Dream

Tuesday, February 11 from 7 to 8:15 PM

**RENEW
REINVIGORATE
RE-INSPIRE
YOUR
CATHOLIC
FAITH!**

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, 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	TM#86	#91	#91
Offertory	#639	#86	#86
Communion	#587	#85	#85
Recessional	TM#67	#90	#90

2019 Grand Annual Thank you!

Thank you to all who have participated in the 2019 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, Pew improvements for our handicapped members to include easier accessibility in the Church and new Church Sound System upgrades. Your faithful stewardship is much appreciated. If you have not yet made a donation, you may still do so by using your orange envelope.

CHRISTMAS COLLECTION: As in previous years this goes entirely to support the retired priests of our Archdiocese. The 2019 Christmas Collection was \$25,605.00. 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: \$ 8,821.50
 Automatic Giving: \$ 3,392.00
 WeShare: \$ 700.00
 Total Offertory: \$ 12,913.50

Weekly offertory needed for Parish Bills: \$15,000

Offertory Shortfall Last Weekend: \$2,086.50

PRAYERS AND MASS INTENTIONS:

Saturday January 4
 5:00 Nicholas Rossini
 7:30 Fran & Agnes Hickey
Sunday January 5
 7:30 People of St. Mary's
 9:30 Rev. Edward Caron, C.S.Sp.
 11:30 Diane Gootman
Monday January 6
 9:00 Walter "D" Robbins
 11:00 Funeral ~ Annette Cassidy
Tuesday January 7
 9:00 Special Intention
Wednesday January 8
 9:00 Carmela Camuso
Thursday January 9
 9:00 Pat Zack
Friday January 10
 9:00 Walter Baker
Saturday January 11
 9:00 Holy Souls
 5:00 William T. Flannery
 7:30 Walter Baker
Sunday January 12
 7:30 People of St. Mary's
 9:30 Bill and Kathleen Henry
 11:30 Maureen Jackson



THE ROSE FOR LIFE: Is sponsored this week by the Olson Family. Please join them in prayer for an unborn child. If you wish to sponsor the Rose in 2020 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 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.



American Red Cross

K OF C BLOOD DRIVE: The 13th 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 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.



HOLY HOUR FOR LIFE: A Holy Hour for Life with Adoration, Music and Benediction will be held on Monday, January 20 at 7:30 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. All are welcome!

WINGS (*Women in God's Spirit*): Please join us Wednesday, January 22 when WINGS begins its Winter 2020 Season on Great Themes of the Old Testament presented by Sr. Agnes Therrien. This series is based on the writings and lectures of Richard Rohr, OFM. Session 1, on January 22, will be "Who is the God Whom We Seek?" We will look at different images of God portrayed in the Old Testament and ponder our own relationship with God. The WINGS ministry provides an opportunity for women to deepen their faith, no matter where they are on their spiritual journey. Please join us whether you can attend each week or just some weeks. WINGS meets on Wednesday mornings from 9:45 to 11:15 AM in Father Haley Hall. Nurturing childcare is available. WINGS charges dues of \$15 per season; however, everyone is most welcome regardless of ability to pay. For more information call Jennifer Schiller 617-852-9632 or to sign-up: betty.febo@gmail.com.

MIDDLE SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP: Our next trip is 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 13th 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 6th, 7th and 8th Graders are welcome!

ST. MARY'S EPIC – HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP: Prayer and Planning Meeting tonight, 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 EPIC 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. It will also include Sign Ups for our Social Trip to Sky Zone Trampoline Park in Westborough – the afternoon of Saturday January 25.



CALLING ALL LONG-TIME AND NEW PARISHIONERS: The St. Mary's 150th Anniversary Committee wishes to hear from those parishioners who have been members of St. Mary's for over 50 years. Do you have any photos or memorabilia we could use? We are also interested in hearing what brought new parishioners (5 years or less) to St. Mary's. Was there a particular parish program or ministry that interested you, or is our welcoming reputation just well-known far and wide! Please send any comments/anecdotes to betty.febo@gmail.com or if you would like to share a story in person, contact Sandy Liro at 508.429.6098. Your comments may be included in our new parish history, but no comments will be directly attributed without express permission.

COMING SOON TO A LOBBY NEAR YOU! Our St. Mary's Anniversary Video Series is almost here! The Parish History segment will debut in February in the Religious Education Center lobby. Watch this Bulletin for dates and times. I am still looking for photographs. Specifically, the 125th Anniversary in 1995, St. Mary's CYO activities, Quinlan Congress, and anything else you'd like to see on the screen. We will scan the photos and return them to you, or, we can scan them in your home if you would rather they not be lent. Contact Betty Febo at 508-429-7190 or betty.febo@gmail.com. Thank you!

CLOW- CHILDREN K-6: CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD: Today, Sunday, January 5, the children will remain in the church with Fr. Mark and learn what Jesus teaches us in the Gospel reading

WEEK'S RELIGIOUS EDUCATION SCHEDULE

DAY	GRADE	GRADE
Sun., Jan. 05	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 4:00 PM	GR-7 at 5:00 PM
Mon., Jan. 06	GR-3 at 3:00 PM	GR-6 at 5:00 PM
	GR-8 at 6:00 PM	
Tues., Jan. 07	GR-6 at 4:30 PM	GR-9 at 6:30 PM
Wed., Jan. 08	GR-2 at 4:15 PM	GR-5 at 3:00 PM
	GR-7 at 6:00 PM	GR-8 at 6:00 PM
Thur., Jan. 09	GR-9 at 6:30 PM	

HELP - MONITORS ARE NEEDED:

For information and details call 508-429-6076.
GR-4/5: MONITOR: - Alt Sundays 10:45AM-12:15 PM.
GR-6: 1 MONITOR - Tuesdays, 4:30-5:30 PM.
GR-8: 1 MONITOR - Alt Wednesdays, 6:00-7:30 PM.
GR-9: 1 MONITOR - Alt Tuesdays, 6:30-8:30 PM.

GRADE 7 CHASTITY PROGRAM: Today, Sunday, January 5 and on Wednesday, January 8, Linda Thayer, our guest speaker, will discuss the Christian view of human sexuality and how to live a chaste life until marriage with the Grade 7 students. All Students are required to attend their assigned session. However, if a student is unable to attend on Sunday he/she should attend the Wednesday session from 6 – 7:30 PM; likewise, students unable to attend the Wednesday class should attend the Sunday 5:00 p.m. presentation.

GRADE K – 7 COORDINATOR MEETING: A meeting will be held on Thursday, January 9, 2020 from 7:30 to 9:00 PM in Room 3 – 4. This meeting is important for planning the 2020-2021 Master Calendar and Schedules.

GRADE 2 PARENT MEETING: Parent meetings are scheduled during class time on Sunday, January 26 at 8:15 AM and 10:45 AM and one on Monday, January 27 at 7:00 PM for parents unable to attend on Sunday.



R.E. CLASS SNOW CANCELLATION: When Holliston public schools are closed due to inclement weather for full or half day, then R. E. classes will not be held. 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.

CONFIRMATION I: Grade 9 starts off the New Year in 2020 on Tuesday, January 7 and Thursday, January 9 at 6:30 PM in Fr. Haley Hall.

GRADES 5 AND 7 COORDINATORS ARE STILL NEEDED: Our Grade Coordinators are vital to our R.E. program and assist the DRE in planning, scheduling and contacting families during the year regarding class reminders and assist with events. Please contact Fran Crespi for information if you are interested and able to help. Training will be provided. Please call 508-429-6076 or email: st.marysre@gmail.com.

Please note that R.E. Coordinators are responsible for guiding and assisting both teachers and students in growing in their relationship with Christ and His Church. Since this is done best by example, all parish coordinators are required to be regularly practicing members of the St. Mary's Worshipping Community.

ADULT FAITH SERIES: On Tuesday, January 7, 2020, the "The Bible and the Virgin Mary" series will continue from 10:00 AM to Noon in Room 3 – 4. This series will continue on Tuesday, January 7, 14, 21, 28, February 4 and 18, 2020. All are welcome!

CHRISTIAN SEXUALITY WORKSHOPS ARE SCHEDULED FOR PARENTS WITH GRADE 5 CHILDREN: Every year St. Mary's Parish offers a Christian Sexuality Workshop for children in Grade 5. The curriculum is based on "How the Body is Changing", the sacredness of Marriage and Family. Two workshops will be offered for parents, one on Thursday January 23 from 7 – 8 PM and the second on Saturday, January 25 from 10 – 11 AM. In order for the Grade 5 children to attend their workshop on Saturday, March 21, parents must have viewed the workshop and signed a Permission form or a 'Previously Previewed' Form if an older child has taken the workshop.

SCHEDULED "KEEPING CHILDREN SAFE" SAFETY SESSIONS FOR JANUARY:

DAY	GRADE	GRADE
Sun., Jan 05	GR-3 at 7:55 AM	GR-3 at 10:45 AM
Sun., Jan. 12	GR-4 at 7:55 AM	GR-4 at 10:45 AM
	GR-6 at 4:00 PM	
Mon., Jan. 13	GR-4 at 3:00 PM	
Tues., Jan 14	GR-6 at 4:30 PM	
Mon., Jan. 27	GR-3 at 3:00 PM	

COMPASSIONATE FRIENDS: This meeting will be held on Tuesday, January 21 at 7:45 PM in the Library.