

*They fell, but o'er their glorious grave
floats free the banner of the cause
they died to save.*

~ Francis Marion Crawford



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

**All Parish Schedules are currently suspended
in light of the Covid 19 Pandemic.**

**We pray and look forward to the day that
we can gather again as God's People.**

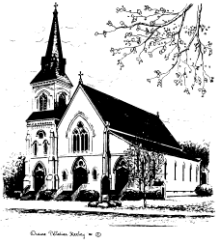
**May God watch over you and keep you
and those you love physically healthy
and spiritually safe!**

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

May 24, 2020
7th Sunday of Easter

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

This past Friday, Deacon Martin Breinlinger marked the 44th Anniversary of his Ordination to the Permanent Diaconate. Those 44 years have been characterized by hard work, faithful ministry, and loving service to our parish. Congratulations Deacon Marty! We are so blessed to have you and Mary Alice in our midst!

This weekend we honor the men and women who have laid down their lives in defense of our nation's freedom; as well as those now serving in our military. No matter our feelings about any particular military conflict, we can all agree that we owe a debt of gratitude to those who put the preservation of these United States before their own safety. As Jesus Himself said, *"There is no greater love than this, to lay down one's life for a friend."* We therefore invoke this Memorial Day God's blessings on all our nation's veterans. For those who have died, we ask God's mercy and peace. For those present among us, we ask His strength and constant support. For those servicemen and women currently under arms, we ask His strong protection. May God protect them even as they protect us. And may their efforts lead to a lasting, and just peace in the world.

On this final weekend of our Easter Journey, Jesus gives us the great gift of prayer. *"I pray for them,"* He says of His disciples in our Gospel verse. And it is always comforting to know that a friend is praying for us in our time of need. We often speak in our liturgy of Jesus interceding for us with the Father, a reminder that He Ascended to Heaven not to abandon us, but to speak to God for us. Jesus makes a point in the Gospel of saying that He is only praying for His followers in that moment, those who have accepted Him. And certainly most of us pray for those we love, those close to us as family or friends.

Yet we must also remember that Jesus taught His disciples to pray for their enemies, a more challenging form of prayer but one of immense importance for those who follow the Lord of Love. First, when we pray for the good of our enemies, those who have hurt or betrayed or offended us in any way, our prayers will touch them with God's transforming grace. Secondly, this kind of self-emptying prayer allows the poison of anger to be bled from our souls, so that Christ's own peace can dwell therein. We must remember that Jesus Himself used His last breath on the Cross to pray to God, asking forgiveness for those who had tortured and crucified Him. And never are we closer to Christ in prayer, than when we pray for those that have injured us.

God bless you!

Rev. Mark J. Coiro
Pastor

REOPENING VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

It is our great hope to reopen our beautiful St. Mary's for public Masses next weekend, May 30 & 31. The building is in full compliance with State and Archdiocesan health regulations. All we need now are parishioners to man the doors, check people in as they arrive, and direct the flow. If you can volunteer at a Mass, please email Mary Beth at st.marys1870@gmail.com. We are also in need of a parishioner with good organizational and computer skills to schedule door volunteers and make sure ongoing Masses remain compliant. Thank you!



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

FROM THE BUSINESS MANAGER:

Dear St. Mary's Parishioners,

As you know, due to the Pandemic Church Closings, St. Mary's has lost her Mass Collection income. This has understandably led to some Offertory Shortfalls:

May 16/17 Shortfall:	\$1,066.91
April 25/26 Shortfall:	\$ 573.30
April 11/12 Shortfall:	\$ 941.65
April 4/5 Shortfall:	\$1,737.19
March 28/29 Shortfall:	\$3,375.53
March 21/22 Shortfall:	\$9,194.54
March 14/15 Shortfall:	\$6,323.27



We are very grateful to all those who have continued to give, especially in this time when many have been laid off from work. May God bless you for your faithful stewardship!

In order to assure that St. Mary's can continue to pay her staff and bills, we do ask those parishioners not already using Automatic Giving or WeShare, to please consider signing up for one of those services as your means allow.

Full details on how to do so are provided on the St. Mary's Website under the HOW TO GIVE tab: <https://stmarysholliston.com/how-to-give/>.

We recommend setting up the WeShare option, which can be done right now on your computer by clicking here: <https://stmarysholliston.weshareonline.org/>.

If you are unable to do Automatic Giving or WeShare, then please drop off or mail in your parish offertory support each week until you can place it in the basket at Mass again.

Even once church reopens, for health safety reasons WE WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO TAKE UP COLLECTIONS AT MASS.

So for awhile at least, the forms of stewardship described above are all St. Mary's has to pay her bills and keep all her services available.

Thank you and God bless you! Mary Sanning
Business Manager

P.S. Blue In Pew Catholic Appeal Envelopes may be dropped off at St. Mary's anytime and will be credited toward our St. Mary's "In Pew Count" when the new Catholic Appeal Launch Weekend is announced. Online pledges may be made at www.BostonCatholicAppeal.org. Please be sure to identify St. Mary's, Holliston as your parish.

**STEWARDSHIP**

Managing God's Gifts To Us

WEEKLY OFFERTORY NEEDED TO PAY OUR PARISH'S BILLS: \$15,000.

LAST SUNDAY'S PARISH OFFERTORY:

Mass Collections: \$ 0.00
 Automatic Giving: \$ 4,101.00
 WeShare: \$ 4,348.09

Offertory Envelopes
 dropped off or
 mailed to the office: \$ 5,484.00
Total Offertory: \$ 13,933.09

Offertory Shortfall Last Weekend: \$1,066.91

**Thank you for making up
 any missed weekly support!**

REGISTER FOR FALL RELIGIOUS

EDUCATION BY JUNE 15, 2020: The deadline to register your for Religious Education Classes in Fall of 2020 is Monday, June 15. Class time choices are on a first come first served basis. The Registration Form is now available on the St. Mary's Website: <https://stmarysholliston.com/> under Register/Parish Forms on the main page. Forms should be accompanied by full payment made out to St. Mary's Parish. Scholarships or payment plans are available. Open to families with children entering Pre-K through Grade 10. If you are new to Holliston and want to register your children please contact us at st.marysre1870@gmail.com. Welcome!

HOW TO ATTEND MASS ONCE WE REOPEN:

Please note that these rules have been mandated for all churches for health safety compliance. We did not devise them, we are just following them in order to reopen.

For their protection, the elderly and those with underlying health vulnerabilities are discouraged from attending in Phase One. Anyone with a fever or other symptoms of illness should also not attend.

1) Pre-sign up for a Mass via Sign Up Genius - the link for which will be sent out as soon as we have enough volunteers to open. Those without internet may sign up by phone, information to follow. After taping the church pews apart by 6 feet, our allowed capacity is now 200 people per Mass (usually 600).

2) Bring hand sanitizer with you and wear a mask at all times. Children under the age of two should not wear masks. Parents should judge for children between the ages of two and five whether they should wear a mask. All people who claim an exemption because of health can forego wearing a mask.

3) Bring a printout of the Mass Bible Readings if desired. To avoid possible cross-contamination, we are not permitted to provide missals or handouts. You may find the readings easily at: <http://www.usccb.org/bible/> by calendar date, or at www.magnificat.com/free. You can also access these on your smartphone, but please shut that ringer off for Mass! :)

4) Enter the church through the front center door facing the Town Hall, or the elevator if handicapped. Only these entrances will be accessible. If using the elevator, PLEASE hand sanitize before touching the glass entry door handles and elevator push buttons.

5) Sanitize your hands immediately upon entering the church. We have a limited supply of sanitizer for anyone who forgets to bring some, but please try to bring your own.

6) Sign in with the door volunteers at the Mass for which you preregistered.

7) Upon entering the church proper, keep your mask on at all times and follow 6 foot social distancing - except for families who may sit together as a group. Every other pew is taped off, and blue tape in each pew center marks out a 6 foot area between opposite ends of the same pew.

8) Please refrain from singing – spoken responses only.

9) For Holy Communion, follow the blue arrows which are spaced 6 feet apart. Receive with your mask on, in the hands only. Then step away from the Communion table. Once 6 feet from the priest or minister, remove your mask, place the Host in your mouth, and then immediately put your mask back in place.

10) If using the bathrooms in the Parish Center, follow the arrows to use one stairwell to go down and the other to come back up. This avoids people passing each other closely on the stairs.

11) Participants at Mass are asked to leave the church within a couple of minutes of the end of the Mass so as to allow time for cleaning the church before the next Mass. No social gatherings are permitted after Mass.

12) Please remove any papers or trash from your pew when you exit, and place it in the receptacles provided at the church entrances. Please do not leave anything in the pew where a cleaner would have to touch it!

13) Shared collection baskets are not permitted, so no collection can be taken up at Mass. Please continue to make your weekly offertory support via Automatic Giving, WeShare, or by mailing in or dropping off your envelope via the rectory mail-slot. Thank you!

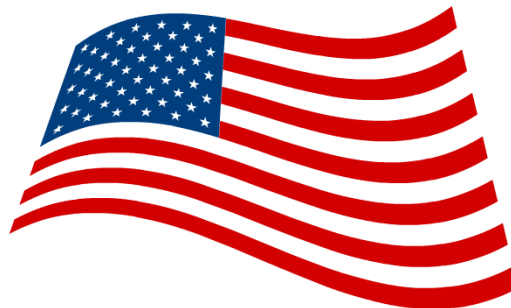
This is a long list and hardly ideal. But we will do what we must to comply and open again.

A good video to help you visualize reopening procedures is here: <https://vimeo.com/421142581>



WHY WE CELEBRATE MEMORIAL DAY:

What we remember - and honor - on Memorial Day is heroic sacrifice. We acknowledge those who nobly gave of themselves, even unto death, for a purpose they believed was greater than themselves. Since the days just following the end of the Civil War, Americans have gathered in late May to honor those who died in military service to their country. In the spirit of the day, we can also recall, honor, and pray for all those we know who have lived lives of service and sacrifice for the good of others.



One definition of sacrifice is “the destruction or surrender of something for the sake of something else.” Though suffering is always a part of sacrifice to some extent, seeking suffering for its own sake is not sacrifice. Sacrifice implies giving up one good for a higher good. For example, a child gives up a day of play to visit an ailing grandparent, or a parent sacrifices watching a favorite television program to help a child who is struggling with homework. Life in the family is full of opportunities for service and sacrifice.

What counts in this definition is the phrase “for the sake of something else.” Is that “something else” worthy of the sacrifice we make? True sacrifice is always at the service of life. We learn this from Jesus, who made the ultimate sacrifice and remained faithful through his Passion, death, and Resurrection. Jesus’ greater purpose for this sacrifice was our well-being—that we might have life and have it abundantly.

This Memorial Day, as we remember all who have served and sacrificed on our behalf, let us not forget what Jesus was willing to give up for us—and the lessons we can learn from that perfect example of sacrifice.

- Tom McGrath

JUNE 15 DEADLINE FOR ST. MARY’S CONFIRMATION CANDIDATES:



All 10th Graders applying for the Sacrament of Confirmation this fall must complete the St. Mary’s Online Catholic Fundamentals Review by June 15, 2020.

Additionally, the following four items must be mailed to St. Mary’s or dropped through the Rectory Office Door Mail Slot by June 15. Place them all in the same large envelope with the student’s name and grade, and keep backup copies at home.

- 1) Your ten Mass Reflection Sheets, (just the ones you have not already turned in at class).
- 2) Your Letter to the bishop.
- 3) Your Completed One Page Questionnaire on the “Confirmation as a Sacrament” Video Class.
- 4) The Priesthood & Religious Life Assignment sent to you by Gustavo Bachman in March, along with any make up work for missed classes this year that you have not already turned in.

For more details or information, consult the email sent to you by our Confirmation Coordinator, Jake Thiringer, on May 22. Or email Jake at stmarysym1870@gmail.com. Please note that on account of the Pandemic, all 10th Grade students are being excused this year from the customary Confirmation Service Hours Paperwork, and the Confirmation Interview. Please pray for these young people as they discern God’s call!

FUNERALS, WEDDINGS, BAPTISMS: Funeral Masses are now permitted again in the Archdiocese of Boston, with all the same new procedures and restrictions as other Masses (see page four of this bulletin). Weddings and Baptisms may now be celebrated under the same rules.

ROSE FOR LIFE: Is sponsored this week by a St. Mary's Parishioner in memory of Mary Miley. Please join her in prayer for an unborn child. If you wish to sponsor the Rose in 2020 please call the Rectory at 429-4427. You may leave your message for Mary Beth at extension 5.

HOLLISTON PANTRY SHELF: The policy for requesting assistance has changed: Presently any Holliston resident in need who does not have a Pantry ID card or has not registered with the Pantry can simply email info@hollistonpantrysheil.org or call 508.429.5392. A delivery will be scheduled to your door. You provide only your name, address, and phone number to verify Holliston residency. Every call is kept confidential, and no personal information is elicited. The Pantry Shelf, 73 Charles Street, is busier now than ever. Current needs include: Pasta Sauce, Cereal, Tuna Fish (5 Oz. Cans), Campbell Chunky Soup, Progresso Soups, Canned Carrots, Tomato Soup & Chicken Noodle Soup (10.75 Oz. Cans), Juice Boxes and Snacks. The Pantry Shelf protects each patron's privacy.

Name	<input type="checkbox"/> BK
Phone	
Sold by	<input type="checkbox"/> CC

12th Annual Charity Raffle

Knights of Columbus Council 14224

St. Mary's of Holliston

First Prize \$1000

Second Prize \$500 Third Prize \$250

Fourth Prize \$150 Fifth Prize \$100

DRAWING: September 26, 2020

Proceeds Benefit

Holliston Senior Center, Holliston Pantry Shelf, Veterans Charities
Habitat for Humanity, Local Food Pantries & Other Charitable Donations

For Official Rules see hollistoncares.com

Ticket price \$5.00 Winner need not be present to win



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS 12TH ANNUAL CHARITY RAFFLE:

We've donated over \$210,000 in the past eleven years, but this year is especially important because the pandemic has really hurt many charities. We're trying our best to help support them. Council Knights are now selling raffle tickets. One raffle ticket is \$5 or five tickets for \$20, and we have five prizes from \$100 to \$1000.

Due to the current pandemic, Knights will follow all social distancing rules and Knights will happily deliver or mail your tickets. You may also purchase tickets by sending your check payable to KofC #14224, name, address, and phone number to TOM ANGUISH, 542 WINTER STREET, HOLLISTON. We'll fill out your tickets and send your portion back to you. Live sales at local stores have been put on hold. New schedules will be announced once the state of emergency has been lifted.

We're donating to the Holliston Pantry Shelf and food pantries in other local towns, the Holliston Senior Center, local Habitat for Humanity projects, Homes for our Troops and other veteran's charities. The Drawing is scheduled to take place at Celebrate Holliston on September 26. Raffle co-chairmen are Knights Tom Anguish, Bill Heuer, Aaron Pyman and Grand Knight Al Scaramella.



SAINT JOHN'S SEMINARY
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS

Master of Arts in Ministry/Master of Theological Studies
66 Brooks Drive, Braintree, Massachusetts

Online Summer Semester: May 26-July 8, 2020

Catholic Social Doctrine
Dr. Christopher Klofft – Tuesday evenings (May 26-July 7)

Spirituality for Ministry and Catholic Leadership
Rev. George Evans and Dr. Aldona Lingertat – Wednesday evenings (May 27-July 8)

Online classes start May 26th and May 27th



Register for online summer courses by going to www.sjs.edu. For info: 617-779-4104.

YOUTH MINISTRY

MIDDLE SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP: Due to the COVID - 19 Pandemic, all Middle School Youth Group Activities scheduled for May and June are cancelled. Activities will resume as soon as safety allows. Members will be kept informed by email. Kennebec Rafting, Thursday, June 25 - Friday, June 26 - CANCELLED. Deerfield Rafting, Friday, August 14 - STILL ON AT THIS TIME.

ST. MARY'S EPIC – HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP: Next Sunday, May 31, we will have a virtual video-call meeting from 7:15 PM until approximately 8:15 PM. More information about the meeting, as well as technical and login information will be shared later this week via email to registered teens and families as well as on our Instagram Page @stmarysepic.

KEEPING THE MISSION ALIVE/BOOK DISCUSSION: During St. Mary's recent 150th Anniversary Parish Mission, Jon Leonetti provided his three books for sale. Given the response (he sold out), it seems that Mission participants are interested in continuing to think and pray about Jon's message. Please reach out to Lisa Dufault at lisadufault@yahoo.com or Diane Collins at diathome17@aol.com to sign up, and we will let you know the date.

ST. MARY'S 150th ANNIVERSARY GALA SILENT AUCTION: Interested in donating to the St. Mary's 150th Anniversary Gala Silent Auction? We are looking for donations of all kinds. Perhaps you are a season ticket holder, a business owner, someone who owns a vacation house who can offer a weekend getaway, or maybe you have a special talent or service you could donate (culinary professional, massage therapist, painter, musician, personal health instructor). This would be a great opportunity to help make St. Mary's Anniversary celebration a great success! We would love to hear from you! Please contact Paula Watt at 401-256-8341 or Paula.Watt@ymail.com.

PARISH ANNIVERSARY HISTORY BOOK UPDATE: I am continuing to write the history of St. Mary's for the 150th Anniversary. I am currently working on events between 1950 and 1975 (prior to Fr. Haley). This is a difficult chapter as any newspaper articles are on microfilm (and are hard to find without a specific date) and the St. Mary's monthly newsletters started in 1981. Each week I will ask about a different topic and hope the collective memory of St. Mary's parishioners will provide me with some information. This week's topic is the CYO. The precursor to the Catholic Youth Organization, the St. Mary's Boys Club, was started by Fr. Daniel O'Keefe in the early 1940s. By 1950 St. Mary's CYO had a baseball and basketball team started by George DeCristoforo and Walter Dillon. The CYO continued into the 1980s and 1990s with sports and social events and was the forerunner to the current vibrant Youth Ministry at St. Mary's. If you have memories of participating in CYO activities, or had children who did, please email me your thoughts. No names will be used unless explicit permission is given. Betty.febo@gmail.com or call 508-429-7190. Thank you for making the history as complete as it can be.

– Betty Febo

WORSHIPING VIRTUALLY WITH ST. MARY'S

PREPARING A PLACE TO PRAY:

Pick a place where you will be as free from as many distractions as you can. A TV or Radio in the background will never let you listen to the service, or God. So do your best to rearrange a spot and be sure to shut off your cellphone entirely.

Set your laptop, iPad or phone into a good position on a table. Clear everything else off.

If you have a candle, put that near you. An Icon, Cross, or Statue of Mary is great, too.

Print out and have handy the Mass Readings:
www.magnificat.com/free.



When ready, have your family pray together the following prayer of preparation:

Throughout time, Almighty God has moved people to set apart places to pray, to worship, and to meet with God. Almighty God, we thank you for making us in Your image, for making Your presence known, and for calling us to know You. We set apart this time and this place for Your worship. Sanctify it all, Father, Son and Holy Spirit. May all we do here be to Your glory. Through Christ Our Lord. Amen.

At this time, light your candle.



COMMUNION TIME: If watching Mass, make an Act of Spiritual Communion at Communion time.

My Jesus,
I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament.
I love You above all things,
and I desire to receive You into my soul.
Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally,
come at least spiritually into my heart.
I embrace You as if You were already there
and unite myself wholly to You.
Never permit me to be separated from You.
Amen.



SUNDAY MASS: Every Sunday, the 11:30 AM Mass is being live-streamed from our beautiful St. Mary's Church. You may watch this Mass live on Holliston Cable Access:

Verizon Fios **Ch. 33** or Comcast Xfinity **Ch. 96**.

Or you can visit: <https://www.facebook.com/MusicAtStMarysHolliston> and scroll down. You do not need a Facebook account to access this page. If you arrive "early," you may need to hit the refresh button. Welcome!

MORNING PRAYER: Live-cast from St. Mary's Church every weekday morning with Deacon Barry at 7:30 AM:
<https://www.facebook.com/MusicAtStMarysHolliston/>.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASSES HAVE BEEN SUSPENDED AND THE PARISH CENTER IS CLOSED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE DUE TO THE COVID-19 VIRUS.

2020-2021 RELIGIOUS EDUCATION REGISTRATIONS ARE DUE BY JUNE 15:

As Christ has called us to continue His Mission here on earth, St. Mary's is honored to provide religious education and faith formation to assist families with children and youth to form a relationship with God through Jesus Christ. Your home is the **domestic church** where God is present in your daily life. If children are to be true disciples for Christ they need to witness your love for God and living in His will. We accomplish this path by continuing to teach our children about Jesus Christ and the beauty of the Gospels. Our Religious Education Office has mailed home Registrations for 2020-2021. They are also available at:

<https://stmarysholliston.com/> under the top right corner REGISTER tab / under PARISH FORMS. We hope you will also consider joining Christ's mission as a Teacher or Monitor. May God bless you!

FAITH FORMATION MATERIALS FOR GRADES K THROUGH 7: Our Religious Education Office will continue to provide families with spiritual educational materials during this time through email and from online resources that will be helpful for your family to share together. There are wonderful free children's and adult movies that will inspire your heart along with study resources offered for a trial period from the Augustine Institute on the "FORMED" website. At the end of the trial period, you may want to consider a yearly subscription for your family with wonderful Catholic programs for just \$100.00 a year.

GRADE 2 FIRST COMMUNION MASSES:

The Archdiocese of Boston has **postponed First Communion Masses** until public Masses can safely resume and the danger of the COVID-19 has been lifted. First Communion Masses will be scheduled when Cardinal Sean O'Malley receives the good news that groups can once again gather together in public places. Until then, our Sacred Liturgy, the Mass, will be live-streamed to the parishioners.

FY2020 CORI VOLUNTEER RENEWAL ALERT:

Ministry Leaders must make sure that **all** their active volunteers (18 years and older) renew and complete a FY 2020 CORI. **PGC Workshops** will be scheduled once the directives have been lifted and groups can safely meet in public. Please watch the bulletin for future scheduled PGC Workshops.



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

2020 – JULY 20 - 24

Get ready for “**Rocky Railway**”

A program made for train loving children who dream of adventure and travel. Climb aboard for mountains of fun on this faith-filled adventure. Kids discover that trusting Jesus pulls them through life's ups and downs.

WINGS (Women in God's Spirit): Canceled. However, WINGS has a facebook page and would love to have folks (not just members) access it and respond to posts. <https://www.facebook.com/WingsHolliston/>.

CONFIRMATION I AND II: Classes are suspended. Jake & Gustavo have sent out materials for the students to continue studies at home.

THE SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION 2020:

The Sacrament of Confirmation will be conferred by Bishop Reed on Saturday, September 26 at 10:30 AM and 1:30 PM. Because of likely social distancing concerns, candidates will be assigned which Confirmation they will attend. This will assure a 50/50 split between the two celebrations. For this reason, candidates should keep the times of both Confirmations free on their calendar. See page 5 of this bulletin for more Grade 10 Information.

THE LITURGICAL CELEBRATION OF THE

EUCHARIST- PART IV: The movement of the celebration (continued). The *anaphora*: with the Eucharistic Prayer – the prayer of thanksgiving and consecration – we come to the heart and summit of the celebration. In the *preface*, the Church gives thanks to the Father through Christ, in the Holy Spirit, for all His works: creation, redemption, and sanctification. The whole community thus joins in the unending praise that the Church in heaven, the angels and all the saints, sing thrice-holy God (CCC 1352). In the *epiclesis*, the Church asks the Father to send His Holy Spirit (or the power of His blessing) on the bread and wine, so that by His power they may become the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ and so that those who take part in the Eucharist may be one body and one spirit (some liturgical translations put the epiclesis after the anamnesis). In the *institution narrative*, the power of the words and the action of Christ, and the power of the Holy Spirit, make sacramentally present under the species of bread and wine Christ's Body and Blood, His sacrifice offered on the Cross once and for all (CCC 1353). In the *anamnesis* that follows, the Church calls to mind the Passion, resurrection, and glorious return of Christ Jesus; She presents to the Father the offering of His Son which reconciles us with Him. In the *intercessions*, the Church

indicates that the Eucharist is celebrated in communion with the whole Church in heaven and on earth, the living and the dead, and in communion with the pastors of the Church, the Pope, the diocesan bishop, his presbyterium and his deacons, and all the bishops of the whole world together with their churches (CCC 1354).

THE FIFTEEN PROMISES FOR PRAYING THE ROSARY ~ CONTINUED



Last week the first seven of the fifteen promises of praying the Holy Rosary were explained. This week the last eight of the fifteen promises are explained below. Our Blessed Mother revealed that the Rosary is the best weapon against evil and when prayed daily can bring peace to the world.

8. *Those who are faithful to recite the Rosary shall have during their life and at their death the light of God and the plenitude of His graces; at the moment of death they shall participate in the merits of the saints in paradise.*

Our Lady highlights the great quantity of graces which can be obtained through praying the Rosary. These graces assist us during life and at the moment of death. The merits of the saints are the gift of God's rewards to those persons who responded to His grace that they obtained during life, and so Our Lady indicates that She will provide a share of that to us at death. With this promise and the seventh promise (last week's bulletin) Our Lady is providing the means for the person to have a very holy death.

9. *I shall deliver from purgatory those who have been devoted to the Rosary.* Should one require purgatorial cleansing after death, Our Lady will make a special effort to obtain our release from purgatory through Her intercession as Advocate.

10. *The faithful children of the Rosary shall merit a high degree of glory in Heaven.* This promise is a logical consequence of promises #3 and #4 since anyone who truly lives a holier life on earth will obtain a higher place in Heaven. The closer one is to God while living on earth, the closer that person is to Him also in Heaven. The Catechism of the Catholic Church (CCC, paragraph 2014) states. "Spiritual progress tends toward ever more union with Christ."

11. *You shall obtain all you ask of me by recitation of the Rosary.* This promise emphasizes Our Lady's role as our Advocate and Mediatrix of all Graces. Of course, all requests are subject to God's most perfect will. God will always grant our request if it is beneficial for our soul, and Our Lady will only intercede for us when our request is good for our salvation.

12. *All those who propagate the Holy Rosary shall be aided by me in their necessities.* If one promotes the praying of the Rosary, Our Lady emphasizes Her Maternal care for us by obtaining many graces (i.e., spiritual necessities) and also material necessities (neither excess nor luxury), all subject to the will of God, of course. **Our Mother Queen of Peace Times** is dedicated to the propagation of the most Holy Rosary. Everyone who contributes time, money and prayers is included in this promise by Our Holy Mother.

13. *I have obtained from my Divine Son that all the advocates of the Rosary shall have for intercessors the entire celestial court during their life and at the hour of death.* Since Our Lady is our Advocate, She brings us additional assistance during our life and at our death from all the saints in Heaven (the Communion of Saints). (See paragraphs 954 through 959 in the Catechism of the Catholic Church.)

14. *All who recite the Rosary are my Sons, and brothers of my only Son Jesus Christ.* Since the Rosary is a most excellent prayer focused on Jesus and His life and activities in salvation history, it brings us closer to Our Lord and Our Lady. Doctrinally, our Lady is our Mother and Jesus is our older brother, besides being our God.

15. *Devotion to my Rosary is a great sign of predestination.* Predestination in this context means that, by the sign which is present to a person from the action of devoutly praying the Rosary, God has pre-ordained his salvation. Absolute certainty of salvation can only be truly known if God reveals it to a person because, although we are given sufficient grace during life, our salvation depends upon our response to said grace.

Special Note: *The Sacrifice of the Holy Mass is the most important prayer in the life of the Church. The Holy Rosary Prayer is very powerful but it is second to the Holy Mass. One should participate fully, pray and concentrate during Holy Mass on the readings, the words of consecration, and Holy Communion. The Rosary should not be prayed during Holy Mass but either before or after the Mass.*