



**"Whoever gives even a
cup of cold water..."
Matthew 10:42**



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: Currently suspended due to Pandemic risk level.

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. Congratulations!



From the Pastor's Desk

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

For Jesus, hospitality is a sacred trust. That is the meaning of our Gospel verse, *"If anyone gives a cup of cold water to one of these little ones because he is my disciple, I tell you the truth, he will certainly not lose his reward"* (Matthew 10:42). Water in the arid Land of Christ was a precious commodity. Cold water was a luxury indeed. And yet that is the level of hospitality that Jesus expects His disciples to lavish on the "Little Ones." This phrase refers to those who are weak, vulnerable or hurting in any way. Jesus, after all, is the Good Shepherd who abandons the ninety-nine sheep who are safe in their fold in order to seek and save the one lost sheep – the "little one," in grave peril. For Jesus, the phrase "Little Ones," encompasses the young, the old, the sick, the poor, the homeless, the hungry, and yes the stranger who arrives in search of a better life.

In recent weeks, our national conversation shows a growing awareness that the "Little Ones," must include those who have been downtrodden, disrespected or persecuted for their race. We can be sure that such a distinction meant nothing to Christ, Who saw only members of the *human* race, and Who loved most whichever of His brothers or sisters in the human family were hurting in that moment. Let us aspire to always do the same.

God bless you,

Rev. Mark J. Coiro
Pastor



KEEPING THE MISSION ALIVE/BOOK DISCUSSION: During St. Mary's 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@gmail.com.



PARISH ANNIVERSARY HISTORY BOOK UPDATE: Covid-19 is not stopping the progress of the anniversary history book! It is still being written, and I am working on the chapter between 1950 and 1970 (Prior to Fr. Haley). I could use your help. I am hoping the collective memory of St. Mary's parishioners will provide me with some information. The past few weeks I was looking for info on CYO activities at St. Mary's and St. Mary's Teen Center from the 1960s. Did you know the land to build Cole Court was sold by the Archdiocese of Boston? Early Holliston Town Reports mention a Mission in East Holliston but I have not found any services held there or any structures on the property. If you have any information on any of these topics, please contact me. No names will be used unless explicit permission is given. Betty.febo@gmail.com or call 508-429-7190. 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. Robin Rogers, Religious Education Secretary
 Ms. Mary Sanning, Business Manager
 Mrs. Najat Whalen, Sacristan
 Mr. Billy Hanson, Parish Facilities
 R & R Landscaping, Cemetery Care

PRAYERS AND MASS INTENTIONS:

Saturday	June 27
5:00	Dominic Magrini, 3 rd Anv.
7:30	Helen Medwid
Sunday	June 28
7:30	People of St. Mary's
9:30	Jane Errico
11:30	Dante, Carmela & Crescenzo Camuso
Monday	June 29
9:00	George Vautrin
Tuesday	June 30
9:00	Roy Salvi
Wednesday	July 1
9:00	Mary Miley
Thursday	July 2
9:00	Ronald Trinque
Friday	July 3
9:00	Fr. Issa & the People of our Sister Parish, Our Lady of Fatima, Beit Sahour
Saturday	July 4
5:00	Vincent Mullen
7:30	Frederick Vergen
Sunday	July 5
7:30	Mary Flanagan
9:30	Catherine Martha Whalen, 23 rd Anv.
11:30	People of St. Mary's



2020 CATHOLIC APPEAL:
 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.

THE ROSE FOR LIFE: Is sponsored this week by Peter and Maureen Eagan. 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.



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.

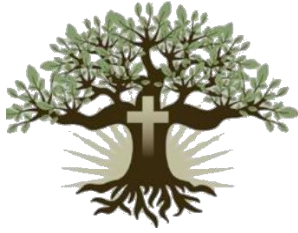
Please leave donations in the large grey chest outside the Pantry Shelf door. Current needs include: Paper Towels, Pasta Sauce, Cereal, Tuna Fish (5 Oz. Cans), Campbell Chunky Soup, Progresso Soups, Canned Carrots, Tomato Soup & Chicken Noodle Soup (10.75 Oz. Cans), Juice Boxes and Snacks. The Pantry Shelf protects each patron's privacy.

**HELP US KEEP THE DOORS OPEN –
 VOLUNTEER TO
 BE A GREETER!**

St. Mary's is required to have greeters to count and guide Mass-goers during the Pandemic. Several have retired, and with summer vacation schedules for the rest we soon may have to cancel certain of our weekend Masses for lack of door greeters.

Please help us keep our doors open by volunteering to greet at them!

Volunteer by emailing your availability to
 Mary Beth Harris at
st.marvs1870@gmail.com



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:	\$ 2,296.50
WeShare:	\$ 3,221.87
Offertory Envelopes dropped off or mailed to the office:	\$ 6,937.00
Total Offertory:	<u>\$ 12,455.37</u>

Offertory Shortfall: \$ 2,544.63

PANDEMIC PERIOD

OFFERTORY SHORTFALLS:

June 20/21 Shortfall:	\$2,544.63
May 23/24 Shortfall:	\$3,318.56
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

Thank you for your faithful stewardship!

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 (see above).

Even though Masses have now resumed, please note that for health safety reasons ...

Parishes are not permitted to take up the Offertory Collection at Mass.

In order to assure that St. Mary's can continue to pay her staff and bills, we therefore 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 mail in your parish offertory support each week, or drop it through the Rectory Office Door mail slot until you can place it in the basket at Mass again.

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! - Mary Sanning



REGISTRATIONS NOW PAST DUE FOR FALL 2020 RELIGIOUS EDUCATION:

The deadline to register children for Religious Education Classes in the Fall of 2020 was Monday, June 15. Class time choices are on a first come first served basis, and students are now being assigned classes. The Registration Forms are still 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.marysrel870@gmail.com. Welcome!

GRADE 10 REGISTRATION: Registrations for Year II, Grade 10, of our Confirmation Program required a "COMPLETE" in Year I in order to be fully processed. Any Grade 9 makeup work, including Mass Reflection Sheets, must be received before a final class assignment for Grade 10 can be made.

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 next page of this bulletin). Weddings and Baptisms may now be celebrated under the same rules.

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 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.

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.

EPIC ~ HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP: We are all heartbroken that the scheduled Mississippi Mission Trip was cancelled due to the current health crisis. Refunds are being processed to families who have paid Mission Trip fees. We are working with the Archdiocese to see if there is any way we can keep the spirit of the mission trip alive by having some sort of social distancing get together in St. Mary's Parking Lot. In the meantime, have a great summer and we will let our EPIC members know if we are able to schedule any events or prayer activities later in the summer.



WISDOM FROM THE SAINTS: "A tree is known by its fruit; a man by his deeds. A good deed is never lost; he who sows courtesy reaps friendship, and he who plants kindness gathers love." - St. Basil the Great



BE A YEAR OF THE EUCHARIST MISSIONARY

What is a Year of the Eucharist Missionary?

A person who believes in the True Presence of the Body, Blood, Soul, and Divinity of Jesus Christ in the Eucharist and will dedicate themselves to pray, participate in, and promote the Year of the Eucharist.

Who can be a Missionary?

We welcome anyone within and outside of the Archdiocese of Boston to join us as Missionaries, deepening your own love of the Eucharist, and praying for this Eucharistic Year to bear fruit in the whole Church.

St. Mary's Year of the Eucharist Coordinators are Fran Crespi and Jim Merski. Please contact Fran Crespi (st.marysdre1870@gmail.com) or Jim Merski (mjmerski@gmail.com) to become a Year of the Eucharist volunteer.

What does a Year of the Eucharist Missionary do?

We call it the Three P's — **Pray, Participate, Promote.**

1. **PRAYER** – Commit to praying an additional 1% each day. That's 15 minutes. This can be done at home, in front of the Blessed Sacrament, by going to Mass, or reading Scripture, etc.

- Families and/or youth under 12 promise to say at least 3 prayers a day, such as the morning offering, grace before meals, and a bedtime prayer.

2. **PARTICIPATION** – Commit to helping with and attending Year of the Eucharist events at your parish, school, shrine, campus ministry, and ecclesial community.

- Consider ways to help homebound missionaries participate, such as picking them up to attend an event and/or have them assist with an administrative task.

3. **PROMOTION** – Commit to witnessing to the power of the Eucharist in your life. You can do this a few different ways: give a witness talk at the end of Mass, on a video, or at a faith formation gathering; write something for the bulletin; make a picture to hang up at home, at church, or at school; spread the word about the Year of the Eucharist events at your parish and in the Archdiocese.

To participate, please go to the Year of the Eucharist website at:

<https://www.bostoncatholic.org/yearoftheeucharist/missionaries> to register and become a Year of the Eucharist Missionary and we will send you a Year of the Eucharist pin and prayer card! Once you register, you will be sent a link to the recorded virtual commissioning ceremony which took place with Cardinal Sean on Thursday, June 11th.

HOW TO ATTEND WEEKEND MASS ~ PANDEMIC PROCEDURES

(Daily Mass is exactly the same, except that there is no preregistration or sign in upon arrival. To save cleaning, only nave seating will be used on weekdays. To allow deep cleaning, the Saturday 9 AM Mass is suspended).

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. 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>



Watch Video

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!

THE PARISH CENTER IS CLOSED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE DUE TO THE COVID-19 VIRUS.

NOTICE FOR THE 2020-2021 RELIGIOUS EDUCATION REGISTRATIONS: Registration forms are 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.

Many families have contacted our office to inquire about classes in September and if they should send in the registration for their children. It is important that you send in the registrations so we can plan ahead with either the classroom model, remote home classes or a hybrid model of both. St. Mary's will have faith formation for your children and youth in September. At this time we are waiting to learn how the Holliston Public School system will decide when and how classes will be held or if there will be a hybrid classroom or remote learning at home. Families will decide if it will be safe for their children to return to school by September. We are also obligated to honor what the Archdiocese of Boston mandates for the safety and protection of the children, youth and volunteers as the months go forward. There are so many unknowns at this time regarding the behavior of the virus as it mutates and is still infecting people. The past three months have been difficult for families and their children. God fashioned our lives to be in relationships and for children this means being with their friends. All this has been on hold. A mother mentioned that it was difficult for her to get her children off to school every morning and now her children miss their teachers and friends and want to be back in school. To help you through this crisis we know that our faith in God gives us hope. Take the time to pray together as a family before your meals and thank God for the gift of blessings that you have. Our loving God does not ignore our prayers and He will provide the grace needed to meet our needs if we trust in Him. May God bless you and keep you and your loved ones safe.

PRE-K, KINDERGARTEN AND GRADE 1: If you have children entering these grades you can register them in our religious education program. Go to the website listed above and download the registration form. **Please note that children must complete Grade 1 before entering Grade 2.**

WINGS (Women in God's Spirit): 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/>

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL NOTICE

After much discernment and prayer our VBS will be suspended this summer. As public activities slowly resume, social distance and wearing masks may be the norm for many more weeks. It is first prudent and necessary to measure the safety risks of the children and adults who would be engaged in VBS group activities. Good news is that Group has developed a home VBS program with great activities and projects the family can enjoy and engage in at home this summer. The program will be sent out to you next week.

Thank you for your understanding.

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.

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.

FAITH FORMATION MATERIALS FOR GRADES K THROUGH 7:

Our Religious Education Office will provide families with spiritual educational materials during the summer via Email 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 and 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.

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.

THE EUCHARIST ~ THE SACRAMENTAL SACRIFICE: THANSIVING, MEMORIAL, PRESENCE ~ The Sacrificial memorial of Christ and of His Body, the Church. The Eucharist as the memorial ~ continued from last week.

The Eucharist is also the sacrifice of the Church.

The Church which is the Body of Christ participates in the offering of Her Head. With Him, She Herself is offered whole and entire. She unites Herself to His intercession with the Father for all men. In the Eucharist the sacrifice of Christ becomes also the sacrifice of the members of His Body. The lives of the faithful, their praise, sufferings, prayers, and work are united with those of Christ and with His total offering, and so acquire a new value. Christ's sacrifice present on the altar makes it possible for all generations of Christians to be united with His offering.

In the catacombs the Church is often represented as a woman in prayer, arms outstretched in the praying position. Like Christ Who stretched out His arms on the Cross, through Him, with Him, and in Him She offers Herself and intercedes for all men (CCC 1368)..

The whole Church is united with the offering and intercession of Christ. Since He has the ministry of Peter in the Church, the Pope is associated with every celebration of the Eucharist, whereas He is named as the sign and servant of the unity of the universal Church. The Bishop of the place is always responsible for the Eucharist, even when a priest presides, the Bishop's name is mentioned to signify his presidency over the particular Church, in the midst of his presbyterate and with the assistance of deacons. The community intercedes also for the ministers who, for it and with it, offer the Eucharistic sacrifice: *Let only that Eucharist be regarded as legitimate, which is celebrated under the presidency of the bishop or him to whom he has entrusted it* (CCC 1369)

To the offering of Christ are united, not only are the members still here on earth, but also those already *in the glory of heaven*. In communion with and commemorating the Blessed Virgin Mary and all the saints, the Church offers the Eucharistic Sacrifice. In the Eucharist the Church is as it were at the foot of the Cross with Mary, united with the offering and intercession of Christ (CCC 1370).

The Eucharistic sacrifice is also offered for the *faithful departed* who "have died in Christ but are not yet fully purified," so that they may be able to enter into the light and peace of Christ. *Put this Body everywhere! Don't trouble yourselves about it! I simply ask you to*

remember Me at the Lord's altar wherever you are.

Then we pray [in the anaphora] for the holy fathers and bishops, who have fallen asleep, and in general all who have fallen asleep before us, in the belief that it is a Great benefit to the souls on whose behalf the supplication is offered, while the Holy and tremendous Victim is present By offering to God our supplications for those who have fallen asleep, if they have sinned, weoffer Christ sacrificed for the sins of all, and so render favorable, for them and for us, the God Who loves man 9CCC-1371).

SAINT POPE PIUS X (Reign 1903-1914) The Pope of the Blessed Sacrament



St. Pope Pius X received his First Holy Communion at the age of twelve and he so desired to receive the Eucharist at a much younger age. When he was elected Pope in 1903 he reduced the age for a child to receive the Sacrament to the age of reason (age seven). He started the first CCD (Catholic Christian Doctrine) religious education classes for children and created the first Catechism to teach the children and youth about the Catholic Church.

One of his teachings was, "*Holy Communion is the shortest and safest way to heaven.*"