



# St. Mary's Parish



## Our Mission:

*"To know Christ and to make Him known."*

### Mass Schedule:

Monday through Friday  
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:** Currently by appointment only due to Pandemic.

**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. Congratulations!



# Saint Mary's Parish

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

September 20, 2020  
25<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

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

Please continue to pray for all those impacted by the terrible wildfires on the West Coast and the flooding caused by Hurricane Sally on the Gulf and East Coasts. May God gather the dead to Himself, console the grieving, heal the injured, and give hope and courage to all. May these twin disasters inspire in us generosity toward those affected and a new awareness of the fragility of this passing life. May we set our sights on the life which never ends, and turn to the service of the God Who made and saves us.

How comforting is Jesus' parable this weekend! Some men labor for the vineyard owner for a full day. Others labor only for a short time. But at labor's end, both groups receive the same generous pay. Through this story Jesus revealed the greatness of the mercy of God, a mercy extended equally to those who serve Him early and those who serve Him late. This means that if we have been away from God - in our prayer, in our priorities, in our choices, in what we have done or in what we have failed to do - it is not too late to turn back to Him. It is not too late to serve God, and to serve Him well, even if only a short time remains to us.

Nor is too late for those we may have written off as undeserving of God's love - those we may have decided are no good, those who frankly we might not be thrilled to see working side by side with us in the vineyard, or resting with us in the Kingdom at day's end. They are the very ones whom we must treat with the greatest care and compassion. For in the end the only thing that can keep us from God's mercy is refusing to extend mercy to others.

God bless you!

Rev. Mark J. Coiro  
Pastor

## CONGRATULATIONS & WELCOME!

**Adults Receiving Catholic Sacraments of Initiation at St. Mary's This Weekend ~**

**Yucchabelle Cote  
Samantha Flynn  
Matthew Kallas  
Katherine Sanders**

**Children Making First Holy Communion This Weekend ~**

**Melanie Abigail Cordova-Flynn  
Juliet Cordova-Flynn  
Madellene Cordova-Flynn  
Gavin Theodore Ward**

**Choristers Receiving Royal School of Church Music Promotion This Weekend ~**

**Paget O'Brien  
Will O'Brien  
Noah Payne  
Autumn Smith**



## THANK YOU FOR ALL THE PRETTY FLOWERS!

Even though Massachusetts was in the grip of a severe drought this summer, magnificent flowers still bloomed and flourished all around Saint Mary's grounds. This was due to the faithful, daily, hand-watering efforts of a group of green-thumbed parishioners. These included Marjorie Graham, Natalie Kent, and Kim & Mike Perkins. Special thanks to Linda and David Truitt who in addition to watering, oversaw all planting and design. Thank you all for bringing beauty and pride to our parish!

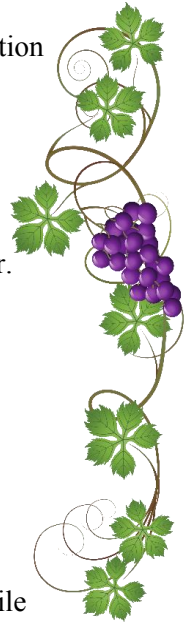


**PARISH STAFF:**

Rev. Mark J. Coiro, Pastor  
 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  
 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:**

<b>Saturday</b>	<b>September 19</b>
5:00	Jack Evans, 2 <sup>nd</sup> Anv.
7:30	<b>Mass of Initiation: WELCOME!</b>
	Yucchabelle Cote ~
	Baptism, First Communion, Confirmation
	Samantha Flynn ~
	First Communion, Confirmation
	Matthew Kallas ~
	Baptism, First Communion, Confirmation
	Katherine Sanders ~
	First Communion, Confirmation
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>September 20</b>
7:30	People of St. Mary's
9:30	Timothy Clifford
11:30	Fr. Haley
<b>Monday</b>	<b>September 21</b>
9:00	Rev. Russell W. Best, Jr.
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>September 22</b>
9:00	Holy Souls
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>September 23</b>
9:00	Rev. Vincent H. Poirier
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>September 24</b>
9:00	Robert Palmer
<b>Friday</b>	<b>September 25</b>
9:00	Franklin DeSousa
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>September 26</b>
5:00	Anthony & Lena Mirabile
7:30	Marie O'Callahan & Peg McDevitt
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>September 27</b>
7:30	People of St. Mary's
9:30	Ruth W. Rudek, Month's Mind
11:30	John F. "Jack" Gray, 6 <sup>th</sup> Anv.



**STEWARDSHIP**

*Managing God's Gifts To Us*

**2020 CATHOLIC APPEAL GOAL ACHIEVED!**

We want to thank everyone from our parish who contributed to the 2020 Catholic Appeal. Our Parish Goal of \$87,486 has now been reached. Whether you gave \$20 or \$2,000, what matters is that *you did what you could* according to your means to support the good works of our Catholic Church. Please know that your parish is proud of you. And may the blessings promised to the compassionate be yours in abundance. Amen.

**SECOND COLLECTION THIS WEEKEND:**

This week's second collection is for the care of our active and senior priests. The Mission of the Clergy Funds is to ensure the highest quality care and quality of life for our priests, especially when age or health dictates, and we need your help. Remember the priests who have made a difference in your life, and consider honoring them with a gift that helps care for them in their time of need, just as they have cared for us when we needed them. Thank you for your support.

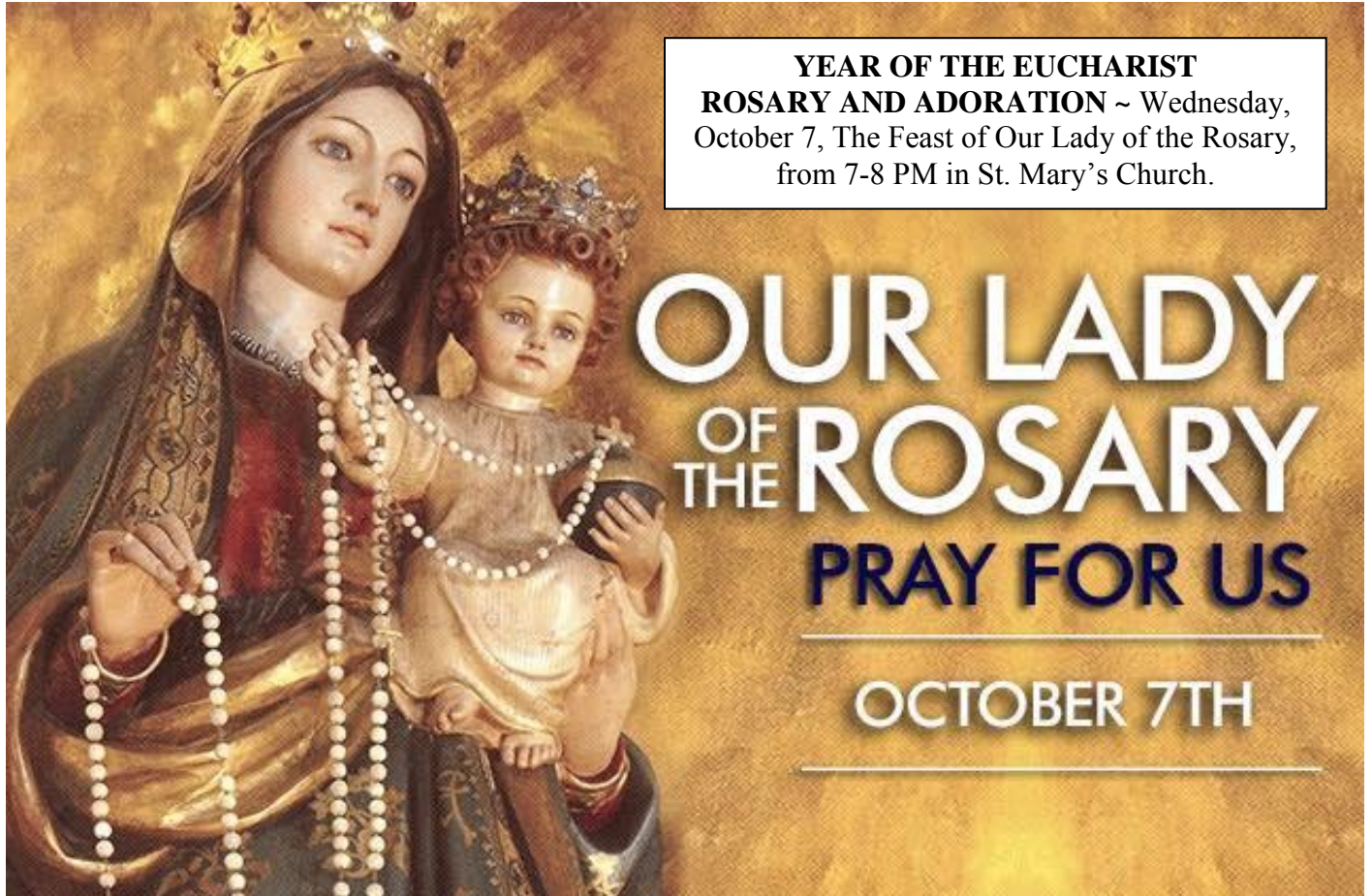
**PARISH OFFERTORY LAST WEEKEND:**

Mass Collections:	\$ 0.00
Automatic Giving:	\$ 2,930.00
WeShare:	\$ 6,838.61
Offertory Envelopes dropped off or mailed to the office:	\$ 6,221.00
<b>Total Offertory:</b>	<b>\$ 15,989.61</b>

**Thank you!**

**THE ROSE FOR LIFE:** Is sponsored this week by the Reilly Family. Please join them in prayer for an unborn child. To sponsor the Rose for Life, call Mary Beth at 508-429-4427, or email [st.marys1870@gmail.com](mailto:st.marys1870@gmail.com).

**PANTRY SHELF REMINDER:** The pantry is fully reopened to shoppers with extensive new safety measures in place. Shoppers may come to the Pantry during any open hours on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday or Friday from 10 AM to 2 PM and Wednesday from 4 to 7:00 PM. Shoppers no longer need to come on a specific day. If you have an illness or emergency you may call the pantry Monday through Friday from 10 AM to 12:00 PM at (508) 429-5392 to receive a pre-filled grocery delivery if available. Food items needed at the pantry: Clorox Wipes (or any other brand), Paper Towels, Pasta, Cereal, Juice Boxes, Tuna Fish - 5 oz. cans, Campbell Chunky Soups, Progresso Soups, Tomato Soups, Chicken Noodle Soup and kids snacks.



**SEASON OF CREATION:** Earlier this year, as part of the Fifth Anniversary celebration of the release of Pope Francis' encyclical *Laudato Si'*, the Vatican issued its first set of environmental guidelines. Among these guidelines is the suggestion that the ethical commitments of Catholic institutions include "avoiding supporting companies that harm human or social ecology (for example, abortion and weapons) and environmental ecology (like fossil fuels)." While the guidelines speak to Catholic institutions particularly, you may want to take a look at the information that is provided on these pages, and consider the suggestion for yourself. You can go to <https://catholicclimatemovement.global/divest-and-reinvest/> for more information.

**ORDINATION OF PARISHIONER RON DOWDING TO THE PERMANENT DIACONATE!**

For the past five years, St. Mary's Parishioner Ron Dowding has been studying and working in the Permanent Diaconate Formation Program of the Archdiocese of Boston. Ron is well known in our parish through his past work leading our RCIA Program, Adult Faith Offerings, and his ministry as a Lector and Eucharistic Minister.

On Saturday, October 3, at 10 AM, Ron will receive the Sacrament of Holy Orders, being ordained a Permanent Deacon by Cardinal Sean O'Malley at the Cathedral of the Holy Cross. Because of the Pandemic, attendance is very limited and by invitation only. However, all are invited to pray along with the Ordination Mass which will be broadcast live on Catholic TV (FIOS: 296, COMCAST: 268), and webcast at:

[www.bostoncatholic.org](http://www.bostoncatholic.org). Ron's First Mass of Thanksgiving will be celebrated right here at St. Mary's on Sunday, October 4 at 11:30 AM. As always, you may attend in person or pray at: <https://www.facebook.com/MusicAtStMarysHolliston/>. You may also watch St. Mary's Sunday, 11:30 AM Mass live on Holliston Cable Access: Verizon Fios Ch. 33 or Comcast Xfinity Ch. 96.





**PROJECT NAZARETH:** What do you think of when you ponder the holy family living in their little house in Nazareth? Joy, peace, laughter? What about the strength to bear the hardships of living in turbulent times and the sorrows of life? Just as God gave the grace for Joseph and Mary to raise Jesus in daily ordinary life, so too has He given you the grace to raise your children. Now available via sign-up at [projectnazareth.com](http://projectnazareth.com). Faith begins at home!

Learn more at <https://www.bostoncatholic.org/project-nazareth> and by watching this video: <https://vimeo.com/453707592>

**ST. AUGUSTINE ON TODAY’S GOSPEL:** *If all are to receive their wages together then how should we understand this statement about those who arrived at the eleventh hour being paid first, and those who had been working since daybreak being paid last? If I can say anything to further your understanding, thanks be to God. Give thanks to him who teaches you through me, for my own knowledge is not the source of my teaching.*

*To take an example, then, let us ask which of two workers receives his wages sooner, one who is paid after an hour, or one who is paid after twelve hours? Anyone will answer: “One who is paid after an hour.” So also in our parable. All the workmen were paid at the same time, but because some were paid after an hour and others after twelve hours, the former, having had a shorter time to wait, may be said to have received their wages first.*

*The earliest righteous people like Abel and Noah, called as it were at the first hour, will receive the joy of resurrection at the same time as we do. So also will others who came later, Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, and those contemporary with them, called as we may say at the third hour; Moses and Aaron and those called with them at the sixth hour; and after them the holy prophets, called at the ninth hour.*

*At the end of the world all Christians, called at the eleventh hour, will receive the joy of resurrection together with those who went before them. All will be rewarded at the same time, but the first comers will have had the longest to wait. Therefore, if they receive their reward after a longer period and we after a shorter one, the fact that our reward is not delayed will make it seem as though we were receiving it first, even though we all receive it together.*

*In that great reward, then, we shall all be equal—the first to the last and the last to the first. For the denarius stands for eternal life, in which all will have the same share. Although through diversity of merit some will shine more brilliantly than others, in the possession of eternal life there will be equality. What is endless for all will not be longer for one and shorter for another. What has no bounds will have none either for you or for me. Those who lived chastely in the married state will have one kind of splendor; virgins will have another. The reward for good works will differ from the crown of martyrdom; but where eternal life is concerned there can be no question of more or less for anyone. Whatever may be the individual’s degree of glory, each one will live in it eternally. This is the meaning of the denarius.*

**MASS GREETERS NEEDED!** St. Mary’s is required to have greeters to count and guide Mass-goers during the Pandemic. We are still short of volunteers for this essential safety ministry. **When Christmas comes, the extra Masses needed to accommodate our people will not have enough greeters unless more volunteers are found. No greeters = no Mass.** Please volunteer by emailing Mary Beth Harris at [st.marys1870@gmail.com](mailto:st.marys1870@gmail.com).

**SCAM ALERT:** Recently, multiple parishioners received fake texts and emails purporting to be Fr. Mark’s. Once again, a scammer is trying to get people to “buy gift cards for the sick.” Those whose email addresses or phone numbers appear in our bulletin or on our website as ministry contacts are especially likely to be targeted, but all should be alert. The only authentic email that would be used by Fr. Mark for correspondence with parishioners is [St.Marys1870@gmail.com](mailto:St.Marys1870@gmail.com). Any other email account claiming to be from him is a scam. If you receive a fake email, please alert Gmail or the appropriate Email provider of the fraud right away. Thank you.

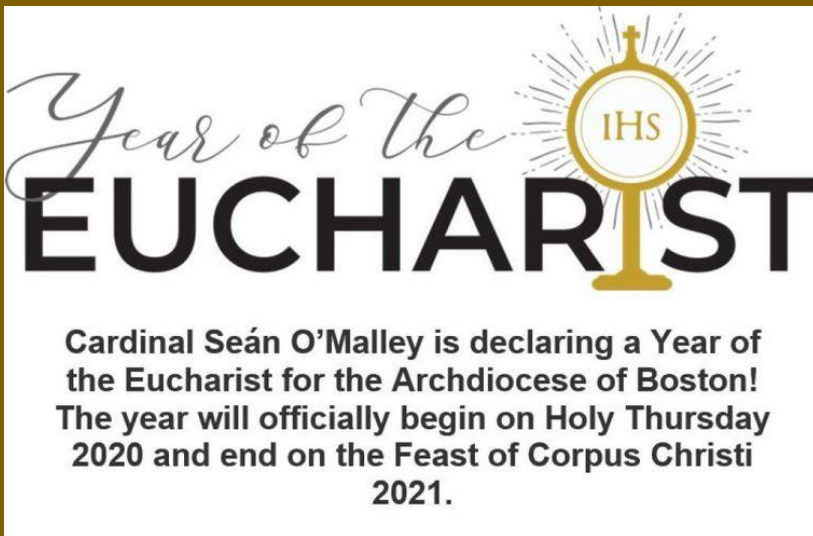
*“When you have received Him, stir up your heart to do Him homage; speak to Him about your spiritual life, gazing upon Him in your soul where He is present for your happiness; welcome Him as warmly as possible, and behave outwardly in such a way that your actions may give proof to all of His Presence.”*

- St. Francis de Sales

## *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](mailto:st.marysdre1870@gmail.com)) or Jim Merski ([mjmerski@gmail.com](mailto: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 11<sup>th</sup>.



## 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](http://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>





# 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](http://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.



# Religious Education

**NOTICE FOR GRADES 1, 2, 3 4, 5, 6 AND 7: A REMOTE MODEL WILL BE IN PLACE UNTIL JANUARY 2021. A HYBRID MODEL WILL BE CONSIDERED IN JANUARY IF COVID-19 IS NOT A THREAT TO THE COMMUNITY.** Please know that no family will be mandated to send their child to a live class. This decision will be made by the families if they at any time feel that it is unsafe during the course of the year for their child to be in a live class. Families will always receive their child's lesson plans remotely.

## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION START DATES

DAY	GRADE	MODEL
Tues., Sept. 29	GR-10 at 6:30 PM	Live, in-person
Thur., Oct. 1	GR-10 at 6:30 PM	Live, in-person
Sun., Oct. 4	GR-2 Family time	Remote-program
Sun., Oct. 4	GR-3 Family time	Remote-program
Sun., Oct. 4	GR-10 at 4:30 PM	Remote program
	GR-9 at 6:30 PM	Remote program
Mon., Oct. 5	GR-3 Family time	Remote program
	GR-5 Family time	Remote program
	GR-6 Family time	Remote program
	GR-8 at 6:00 PM	Live, in-person
Tues., Oct. 6.	GR-5 Family time	Remote program
	GR-6 Family time	Remote program
	GR-9 at 6:30 PM	Live, in-person
Wed., Oct. 7	GR-2 Family time	Remote program
	GR-3 Family time	Remote program
	GR-4 Family time	Remote program
	GR-8 at 6:00 PM	Live, in person
Thur., Oct. 8	GR-9 at 6:30 PM	Live, in person

**NOTE: Family time** is time parents will set aside for their children to do their lesson during the week.

## THE SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION 2020:

The Sacrament of Confirmation will be conferred by Bishop Reed on **Saturday, September 26 at THREE LITURGIES.** Because of social distancing requirements, candidates have been assigned which Confirmation they will attend. This will assure an even division of attendees between the three celebrations. If you have not received your Confirmation time with full details please contact the R.E. Office at 508-429-6076.

**FIRST COMMUNION MASS SIGN-UP:** Please remember that only 40% of the normal capacity of church attendees are permitted at scheduled public Masses during this time. Our October Mass schedule is below. Please contact Fran at: [st.marydre1870@gmail.com](mailto:st.marydre1870@gmail.com) or 508-429-6076 if you want to schedule your child's First Communion Mass.

## MASSES OPEN FOR FIRST COMMUNION FOR THE MONTH OF OCTOBER

DAY	TIME	No. of Children
Sun., Oct. 04	9:30 AM	6 openings
Sun., Oct .11	11:30 AM	5 openings
Sun., Oct. 18	11:30 AM	6 openings
Sun., Oct. 25	11:30 AM	6 openings

**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/>

## IN-PERSON CLASS REQUIREMENTS

The Archdiocese of Boston has provided us with clear Faith Formation Guidelines to follow for this year. They are subject to change and will more than likely do so over the weeks and months.

1. No large groups will be allowed to meet for any event until further notice.
3. Children age 5 and above must wear a face mask at all times.
4. Physical distancing must be observed at all times.
5. Hand hygiene: children, volunteers and staff must hand sanitize when entering the premises and when taking off and putting on their mask.
6. Screening: Children, volunteers, staff must be screened before entering the building with a non-touch thermal scanner.
7. Food will not be allowed or sharing of pencils and supplies.
8. Parents must keep their children at home if they are sick and have their children do their class remotely.

## CATHOLIC ANSWERS TO CHALLENGING QUESTION

### PROVING THE EXISTENCE OF GOD

#### THE DESIGN ARGUMENT:

- The Universe displays a staggering amount of intelligibility (premise).
- Either this intelligible order is the product of chance or of intelligent design (premise).
- The universe is too complex to be made by chance (premise).
- Intelligence comes from a mind, a designer.
- Therefore the universe is the product of intelligent design (conclusion).

It is amazing how the universe has order just as our habitat, earth, is ordered in its creation. Without this order life would not exist as it does on earth.

The third premise is crucial. For those who do not believe in God everything exists by chance and not by any design that the universe exists the way it is. Thus the burden of proof is placed on the believers to demonstrate why this order in the universe is not by chance alone. This reasoning of course seems backward. It should be up to nonbelievers to produce a credible alternative as to why creation has a perfect order to things that exist.

#### THE ARGUMENT FROM DESIRE:

1. Every natural desire within us corresponds to some object that can satisfy that desire (major premise – relies on distinction between natural and artificial desires).
2. There is in us a desire which nothing in time, nothing on earth, no creature can satisfy (minor premise – this requires only honest introspection).
3. Therefore there must exist something more than time, earth and creatures, which can satisfy this desire (conclusion).
4. This something is what people call “God” and “life with God forever.” (Taken from C.S. Lewis *Mere Christianity*, Bk. III, ch. 10, “Hope”)

Creatures are not born with desires unless there exists something to satisfy these desires. When a baby feels hunger there is food to satisfy that hunger. If a duck wants to swim, water exists water to satisfy this desire.

#### IMPORTANT CORI AND PGC INFORMATION ~

##### **FY2021 CORI VOLUNTEER RENEWAL ALERT:**

Ministry Leaders must make sure that **all** their active volunteers (18 years and older) renew and complete a **FY 2021 CORI**. If you are planning to volunteer in any ministry, you must complete a **2021 CORI** form. You can scan in your license and completed 2021 CORI form and send it back to: [st.marysre1870@gmail.com](mailto:st.marysre1870@gmail.com). Please call the R.E. Office if you need a **2021 CORI** Form.

**NOTICE:** Due to the current restrictions and health concerns presented by the pandemic, the office of Risk Management at the Archdiocese has made the following **temporary adjustments** to their adult child protection training requirements. All employees and all volunteers who may have contact with children **are** required to complete Protecting God's Children training. However due to our current inability to gather together for live trainings, volunteers can currently meet this requirement through participation in two online trainings: VIRTUS online PGC training and Massachusetts online Mandated Reporter training.

**To complete the online PGC training, volunteers should go to [www.virtusonline.org](http://www.virtusonline.org).**

- Click on “First time registrant
- On the next page click on “Begin the registration process”
- Select “Boston” from the drop down list of dioceses
- Complete the registration process.

Once registration is complete you will be directed to an online PGC training through VIRTUS. Upon completion of that training, individuals will be directed to a link to an additional online training on mandated reporting in Massachusetts. Both online trainings must be completed to be in compliance with child protection requirements.

The mandated reporter training can be found at: <http://51a.middlesexcac.org/>. Copies of the mandated reported certificates should be sent to Michelle Gee at [MGee@rcab.org](mailto:MGee@rcab.org). It is not necessary to submit a copy of the PGC certificate. Anyone with questions can contact Vivian Soper at [VSoper@rcab.org](mailto:VSoper@rcab.org) or at **617-746-5995**. While staff are working from home, email and phone messages are checked at least hourly during normal work hours.

