

St. Mary's Parish

Our Mission:

“To know Christ and to make Him known.”

8 Church St., Holliston, MA 01746

Website: www.stmarysholliston.com

Email Address: St.marys1870@gmail.com

Rectory Phone: (508) 429 - 4427 or (508) 879 - 2322

Religious Education Phone: (508) 429 - 6076

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!

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:

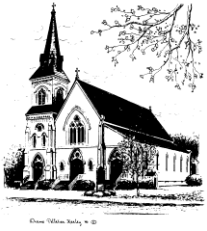
First Fridays from
9:30-10:30 AM

Confession: Currently by appointment only due to the 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 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!



Saint Mary's Parish

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

February 21, 2021
1st Sunday of Lent

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

As we enter the church today, we see the lush greenery of Ordinary Time replaced with bare branches and hard stones. This transformation of our worship space marks the start of our Lenten journey – a sojourn into the wilderness. For forty days we will forsake comfort and luxury in favor of fasting, prayer and almsgiving. Of these three Lenten practices, perhaps fasting is the most underutilized. Our Catholic faith instructs only that we fast on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. These days, however, represent a bare minimum. Persons in good health are encouraged to fast more often during Lent – perhaps one day each week (traditionally on Fridays).

Physically, such fasting allows the body to purify itself of toxins and to divert energy normally used for digestion to other needs. Spiritually, such fasting represents a self-emptying; a lessening of the hold this world has on us as we seek first the things that are of God. It also fosters a self-discipline that can be valuable in almost every other area of life. If a sinful habit has taken hold of us, for instance, to the point that we very much feel in the grip of something beyond our control, fasting can be part of finding our freedom again. Remember the occasion when the disciples came to Jesus bewildered that they had been unable to cure a possessed boy? *“Why could we not cast him out?”* they asked Jesus. And Jesus answered, *“This kind can be driven out in no way except by prayer and fasting.”* (Mark 9:29)

Nor is our Lenten fasting to be limited only to food. In the words of St. John Chrysostom:

*“Do you fast? Give me proof of it by your works.
If you see a poor man, take pity on him.
If you see a friend being honored, do not envy him.*

*Do not let only your mouth fast,
but also the eye and the ear and the feet and the hands
and all the members of our bodies.*

*Let the hands fast, by being free of avarice.
Let the feet fast, by ceasing to run after sin.
Let the eyes fast, by disciplining them not to look upon that which is sinful.*

*Let the ear fast, by not listening to evil talk and gossip.
Let the mouth fast from foul words and criticism.
For what good is it if we abstain from the flesh of animals, only to bite and
devour our brothers through our speech?*

*May He who came to the world to save sinners, strengthen us to
complete the fast with humility, have mercy on us and save us. Amen.”*

May the Lord of Our Lenten Journey bless you and yours.

Under His Mercy,

Rev. Mark J. Coiro
Pastor

P.S. Starting this past Ash Wednesday, we have been instructed to omit the word “One,” from the Doxology. So, “One God, for ever and ever,” becomes “God, for ever and ever.” I have included on the next bulletin page the communication we received from the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops explaining this change. I did it the new way on Ash Wednesday, then promptly forgot at Friday’s daily Mass. After almost twenty-seven years of priesthood saying the prayer one way, this change will take a while to get used to. Thank you for your patience when I lapse!



UNITED STATES CONFERENCE OF CATHOLIC BISHOPS

CHANGE TO THE CONCLUDING DOXOLOGY OF THE ORATIONS EFFECTIVE ASH WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 2021

“One God, for ever and ever” becomes “God, for ever and ever.”

In May of 2020 the Congregation for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments wrote to the English-speaking Conferences of Bishops regarding the concluding doxology of the Collects in the Roman Missal (which also appear in other liturgical books).

Specifically, the Congregation pointed out that the current translation – which concludes “... in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever” – is incorrect. There is no mention of “one” in the Latin, and “Deus” in the Latin text refers to Christ. Therefore, the correct translation, which is already reflected in the Missal in other languages (including our own USCCB Missale Romanum) is simply: “[...] in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever.” The Cardinal Prefect has pointed out the importance of affirming this Christological truth amid the religious pluralism of today’s world.

A Brief History:

English translations of the Missal for use by the faithful prior to the Second Vatican Council reflected the correct translation, as for example the St. Joseph’s Missals of the 1950’s. However, when the post-conciliar texts were published in English, the word “one” was added. It should be noted that when the translation of the Missal currently in use was in progress, ICEL pointed out the discrepancy to the Congregation in Rome, but was told to retain the use of “one God” in the new translation.

In light of the Congregation’s most recent direction in this matter, the Latin Rite Bishops of the USCCB have voted to amend no. 54 of the U.S. text of the General Instruction of the Roman Missal to reflect the change, and the Congregation has confirmed this decision, as it already has for the Episcopal Conferences of England and Wales, Ireland, and Canada.

This change to the concluding doxology of orations is to be implemented on Ash Wednesday, February 17, 2021. The words “one God, for ever and ever” are simply replaced with “God, for ever and ever.” It is likely a change that will take ongoing repetition to fully integrate into the liturgical practice of each priest.



WINTER WINGS LAST SESSION ~ THIS WEDNESDAY:



The last session in our WINGS (Women in God’s Spirit) 2021 Winter Bible Study via Zoom will be this Wednesday, February 24 at 10 AM. WINGS is using Kevin Perrotta’s John 1-10, I am the Bread of Life as our study guide. St. Mary’s Deacon John Barry will guide us through Chapter 6 of Kevin Perrotta’s book. Please join us even if you don’t have access to the study book. Chapter 6 focuses on John 10:1-33. Previous Winter WINGS presentations may be found at <https://stmarysholliston.com/women-in-gods-spirit-w-i-n-g-s/> Scroll down to the bottom. Email stmaryswingssecretary@gmail.com to register or call Diane @508-259-7795.

PARISH STAFF:

Rev. Mark J. Coiro, Pastor
 The Xaverian Fathers, Weekend Assistance
 Deacon John D. Barry, Permanent Deacon
 Deacon Ronald A. Dowding, 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:

Saturday	February 20
5:00	People of St. Mary's
7:30	John Collins, 16 th Any.
Sunday	February 21
7:30	Michael Duclos
9:30	Rose Doyle
11:30	Evan Andrews
Monday	February 22
9:00	Crescenzo Camuso
Tuesday	February 23
9:00	Holy Souls
Wednesday	February 24
9:00	Francis Murphy
Thursday	February 25
9:00	Dante and Carmela Camuso
Friday	February 26
9:00	Leslie Higgins
Saturday	February 27
5:00	Michael J. Poole
7:30	Greg Schmall
Sunday	February 28
7:30	People of St. Mary's
9:30	John Calabrese
11:30	Maggie Callahan



STEWARDSHIP

Managing God's Gifts To Us

PARISH OFFERTORY LAST WEEKEND:

Automatic Giving: \$ 4,170.00
 WeShare: \$ 5,404.51

**Offertory Envelopes
 dropped off / mailed**

to the office: \$ 6,937.00
 Total Offertory: \$ 16,511.51

Thank you for your faithful stewardship.

SECOND COLLECTION THIS WEEKEND:

Catholic Charities.

SECOND COLLECTION NEXT WEEKEND:

The Church Around the World.

2021 CATHOLIC APPEAL: On March 6 & 7, the 2021 Catholic Appeal will be launched in all parishes throughout the Archdiocese. As stewards of God's gifts we support the wellbeing of our parish, but also of the wider Church throughout our Archdiocese. We invite you to prayerfully consider making a generous gift to the 2021 Catholic Appeal.



To make an online pledge, please visit www.bostoncatholicappeal.org, identifying St. Mary's as your parish. Or you may scan the QR code. Thank you for supporting the many good works of our Catholic Church.

"Lent is a fitting time for self-denial; we would do well to ask ourselves what we can give up in order to help and enrich others by our poverty. Let us not forget that real poverty hurts; no self-denial is real without this dimension of penance." - Pope Francis



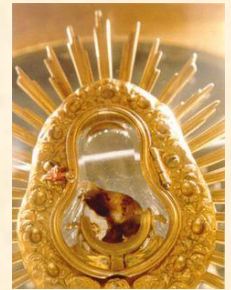
Fasting: Catholics over eighteen and up to the beginning of their sixtieth year are bound to the obligation of fasting. Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are the days of fasting. On these days, only one full meal is allowed. Two other meatless meals, sufficient to maintain strength, may be taken according to each one's needs, but together they should not equal another full meal. Eating between meals is not permitted, but liquids, including milk and fruit juices are allowed.

Abstinence: Catholics over fourteen years of age are bound to the obligations of abstinence. Abstinence is to be observed on Ash Wednesday and the Fridays of Lent. On abstinence days, meat may not be used at all.

Regarding other weekdays of Lent, participation in daily Mass and the voluntary observance of fasting is recommended. Commendable, particularly during Lent, is generosity to local, national and world programs of sharing our abundance, the traditional Lenten Devotions and all the self-denial summed up in the concept of "mortification."

Starting this Friday
CATHOLIC QUEST in conjunction
with St. Mary's Parish presents the

Vatican Travelling Exhibit of Eucharistic Miracles



With an extensive assortment of photographs and historical descriptions, the exhibition presents some of the principal Eucharistic Miracles that took place throughout the ages in various countries of the world and which have been recognized by the Church.

By means of 159 panels, one can "virtually visit" the places where the Miracles took place.

Come and view this exhibit at St. Mary's Church, 8 Church Street, Holliston, MA, 01746 in Father Haley Hall. Masks are required and full Pandemic Procedures apply. Admission is free but there will be a Free Will Offering Box if you desire to make a gift.

Friday, February 26 - 5:00 PM to 8:00 PM
Saturday, February 27 - 12:00 PM to 7:30 PM
Sunday, February 28 - 10:30 AM to 3:00 PM



For more information, please visit:

http://www.therealpresence.org/eucharst/mir/engl_mir.htm
or contact Jim Merski at mjmerski@gmail.com



Commemorating Jesus' withdrawal into the desert for 40 days, Lent is marked by fasting, prayer and almsgiving. The sacrifices Catholics make during Lent are a reflection of Jesus' deprivation in the wilderness and on the Cross, as well as a test of self-discipline. It is a time of "detachment" from earthly goods and pleasures, in favor of spiritual and eternal ones. Whereas Easter celebrates the Resurrection of Jesus after His death on the Cross, Lent recalls the events leading up to and including Jesus' crucifixion by Rome.

TODAY ~ FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT HOLY HOUR:

Sunday, **February 21** from 2:00 - 3:00 PM in St. Mary's Church. Deacon Ron Dowding will Expose the Blessed Sacrament for one hour of Eucharistic Adoration. During this time of prayer, he will offer "A Lenten Reflection for the Year of the Eucharist." The Holy Hour will be live-streamed at <https://www.facebook.com/MusicAtStMarysHolliston>. Parishioners who attend in person will follow all the Sunday Mass pandemic safety procedures.

TUESDAYS OF LENT, EVENING PRAYER ~ Evening Prayer, part of the Church's official daily prayer, the Liturgy of the Hours, will be offered virtually for Lent on Tuesdays, **February 23** and March 2, 9, 16, 23 and 30 at 7:00 PM. This beautiful prayer consists of psalms, hymns, and intercessions. It is easy to learn. Join us and find peace at day's end. You can participate in the prayer via the Music at St. Mary's Facebook page, <https://www.facebook.com/MusicAtStMarysHolliston>.

WEDNESDAYS OF LENT, THE DIVINE MERCY ~ During the Season of Lent, Parishioner Mitch Liro and Deacon Ron Dowding invite you to a series of weekly virtual meetings to learn about and explore The Divine Mercy. The program is open to anyone. Each meeting will consist of viewing brief, professionally produced videos, short discussions, and recitation of the Divine Mercy Chaplet. We will meet in the comfort of our own homes via ZOOM on Wednesday evenings for 60-90 minutes. Meetings will be at 6:30 PM on **February 24**, and March 3, 17, 24, and 31. For additional information or to signup, contact Mitch Liro at 508-429-6098 (mjlsjl67@gmail.com), or contact Deacon Ron at 508-429-3961 (ronald.dowding@verizon.net). "Sacred scripture is the greatest story ever told; and the story of The Divine Mercy is the Second Greatest Story Ever Told." - Rev. Michael Gately



VIRTUAL LENTEN RETREAT EVENING, ST. JOSEPH ~ Wednesday, **February 24**, 7:00 PM. Pope Francis has declared this to be the Year of St. Joseph, marking the 150th anniversary of the saint's proclamation as patron of the Universal Church by Pope Pius IX on December 8, 1870. The Year of St. Joseph began on December 8, 2020 and will conclude on December 8, 2021. The Catholic Church honors St. Joseph as the foster father of Jesus. He is also invoked as the patron saint of workers, fathers, and a happy death. Why is St. Joseph such a popular patron, such an important figure for Catholics of all times and places? What do we really know about him? What does he have to teach us about what it means to follow Christ and experience the

fulfillment that comes from spiritual maturity? Join us as we journey through this Lenten Season with Saint Joseph and hear from these engaging speakers.

Bishop William D. Byrne, Bishop of Springfield, MA ~ A reflection on the spirituality of St. Joseph.
Fr. Donald Calloway, MIC, Author ~ Consecration to St. Joseph, The Wonders of Our Spiritual Father. Fr. Calloway will bring to life the wonders, the power, and the ceaseless love of St. Joseph, Universal Patron of the Church.

Register by clicking this link: www.sjs.edu/lentenretreat or by scanning the QR code right.





A Prayer for Racial Healing

God of justice,
you create all people in your image.
Through your goodness,
open our eyes to see
the dignity, beauty, and worth
of every human being.

Fill us with courage
that we might seek
to heal wounds, build bridges,
forgive and accept forgiveness,
and establish
peace and equality
for all in our communities.
Amen.

THIS WEEK ~ RISING OUT OF HATRED BOOK DISCUSSION:

Are you interested in book discussions? Deacon Marty will be hosting a book discussion this Thursday, February 25, via ZOOM. The discussion will take place from 7:00 PM until 8:30 PM. The book for discussion is "Rising Out of Hatred" by Eli Saslow.

If you would like to participate in the discussion please email Deacon Marty at mebmab4@msn.com. The discussion will be limited to 10 people. A second session can be added if there is sufficient interest. Read Deacon Marty's review of this book on page 15 at: <https://rb.gy/n3rty9>.

THE ROSE FOR LIFE: Is sponsored this week by John and Joan Cocchiarella. Please join them in prayer for an unborn child. If you wish to sponsor the Rose in 2021 please call the Rectory at 429-4427.

PANTRY SHELF NEEDS: The following grocery items: Regular Ground Coffee, Canned Turkey, Spam, Beefaroni, Canned Ravioli, Canned Beef Stew, Taco Shell Dinner Kits, Progresso Soups, Paper Towels, Clorox Wipes (or any other brand), Juice Boxes, Canned Peaches, Canned Pears, Canned Fruit Cocktail, and Kids Snacks.

BLESSED MOTHER SCHOLARSHIP: Scholarship Applications are now available at <https://stmarysholliston.com/> under REGISTER / PARISH FORMS. This \$2,000 scholarship is granted in recognition of exceptional service to the St. Mary's Parish Family. Applicants must meet the following criteria: Graduating from High School in the Spring of 2021; Accepted to a four-year college or university to commence classes in the Fall of 2021; Family registered at St. Mary's Parish for at least two full years; Completed Religious Education and received the Sacrament of Confirmation; Attend Mass weekly at St. Mary's (virtually or in person), and are otherwise living out their Catholic faith. Applications are due to the Scholarship Committee by Easter Sunday, April 4. The Scholarship will be presented at St. Mary's Mass for the Graduating Class of 2021, Sunday, May 23 at 11:30 AM.

WISDOM FOR YOUR LENTEN JOURNEY:

"The Lord measures out perfection neither by the multitude nor the magnitude of our deeds, but by the manner in which we perform them."
-St. John of the Cross

"You don't know how to pray? Put yourself in the presence of God, and as soon as you have said, 'Lord, I don't know how to pray!' you can be sure you've already begun." -St. Josemaría Escrivá

"Lent is a time of going very deeply into ourselves... What is it that stands between us and God? Between us and our brothers and sisters? Between us and life, the life of the Spirit? Whatever it is, let us relentlessly tear it out, without a moment's hesitation." - Catherine Doherty

"Unless there is a Good Friday in your life, there can be no Easter Sunday." - Ven. Fulton Sheen





"Christ Ministered to By Angels," James Tissot French, c. 1886-1894

FAITH IN ART:

Rejecting art-historical traditions in which Jesus takes material sustenance from the angels in the form of dates and pomegranates, Tissot insisted on otherworldly agency.

In this image, Jesus lies prostrate on the ground, His arms outstretched as if already on the Cross. He is surrounded by row upon row of faintly seen, blue tinged airy spirits, each of whose heads bears a star-like flame.

Through his use of thin layers of color to represent the angels against the darkness of the night sky, Tissot captures the hue of moonlight. Here, however, their moonlit color comes not from themselves, nor from the sun, but from the Incarnate Son who lies before them.

Further, by his distortion of proportions (a few of the angels have arms that would be impossibly long for most human beings) he emphasizes the non-human nature of these spirits. They offer Jesus, not material, bodily refreshment, but spiritual sustenance, consolation and adoration.

FULL ST. MARY'S LENTEN SCHEDULE AT:

<https://stmarysholliston.com/wp-content/uploads/NL-5678.pdf>

"... and the angels ministered to Him."

Mark 1:13

A LENTEN JOURNEY WITH ST. JOSEPH FOR FAMILIES

This year, which Pope Francis has named the Year of St. Joseph, is a time to reflect on the life and witness of the great patron saint of fathers. We are also entering into the season of Lent, a time when we solemnly reflect on the life, passion, and death of Jesus and practice selfless works of love through which we grow closer to Jesus and His most Sacred Heart. As we walk together through this sacred time of sacrifice and mercy, let us embrace the humble ways of St. Joseph, who was the devoted spouse of our Blessed Mother, Mary, and the earthly father to their Son, Jesus Christ, our Redeemer.

Although we do not hear much at all about St. Joseph in the scriptures, we know that his humble obedience to God and faithfulness to his family made him a primary example of faith, hope, and unconditional love. Let us invite St. Joseph to accompany us during Lent as we embrace the Spiritual and Corporal Acts of Mercy. (CCC 2447) Ask St. Joseph to teach you, as he taught Jesus, to be obedient to God the Father and to embrace all people with the compassion and mercy.

As a parent or guardian, please guide your child(ren) through this Lenten journey. Each day contains an offering either in word or deed. If you feel one of the suggestions is not doable, replace it with one of your own. In-kind or monetary donations can be set aside and made all at once at the end of Lent for your convenience. For reference, the Spiritual and Corporal Works of Mercy are as follows:

SPIRITUAL WORKS OF MERCY

1. **Admonish the Sinner: James 5:19-20** - "My brothers, if anyone among you should stray from the truth and someone bring him back, he should know that whoever brings back a sinner from the error of his ways will save a soul from death and will cover a multitude of sins."
2. **Instruct the Ignorant: Matthew 16:15-16** - "He said to them, 'But who do you say that I am?' Simon Peter said in reply, 'You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.'"
3. **Counsel the Doubtful: John 14:27** - "Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do, I give it to you. Do not let your hearts be troubled or afraid."
4. **Comfort the Sorrowful: Matthew 11:28** - "Come to me, all you who labor and are burdened, and I will give you rest."
5. **Bear Wrongs Patiently: Luke 6:27-28** - "But to you who hear I say, love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who mistreat you."
6. **Forgive Offences Willingly: Matthew 6:14** - "If you forgive others their transgressions [sin wrongdoing], your heavenly Father will forgive you."
7. **Pray for the Living and the Dead: Ephesians 6:18** - "With all prayer and supplication, pray at every opportunity in the Spirit. To that end, be watchful with all perseverance and supplication for all the holy ones."

CORPORAL WORKS OF MERCY

1. **Feed the Hungry: Matthew 25:35** - "For I was hungry, and you gave me food, I was thirsty, and you gave me drink, a stranger and you welcomed me."
2. **Clothe the Naked: Matthew 25:36** - "I was naked, and you clothed me, ill and you cared for me, in prison and you visited me."
3. **Shelter the Homeless: Matthew 25:35** - "For I was hungry, and you gave me food, I was thirsty, and you gave me drink, a stranger and you welcomed me."
4. **Visit the Sick and Imprisoned: Matthew 25:36** - "[I was] naked and you clothed me, ill and you cared for me, in prison and you visited me."
5. **Bury the Dead: Tobit 1:17** - "I would give my bread to the hungry and clothing to the naked. If I saw one of my people who had died and been thrown behind the wall of Nineveh, I used to bury him."
6. **Give Alms to the Poor: Proverbs 19:17** - "Whoever cares for the poor lends to the LORD, who will pay back the sum in full."



A LENTEN JOURNEY with ST. JOSEPH FOR FAMILIES

WEDNESDAY

17 Ash Wednesday

Receive ashes at Mass or participate in Mass online.

*Fasting for those 18-59; only one full meal or two smaller ones.
Fast from meat (14+)*

THURSDAY

18

Give up television or videos today.

FRIDAY

19

Visit the Sick and Imprisoned:

Make a card for a retired priest at Regina Cleri Residence 60 William Cardinal O'Connell Way, Boston MA 02114

Fast from meat (14+)

SATURDAY

20

Counsel the Doubtful:

Think of some questions or doubts that you have about Jesus and offer them to God in prayer, asking Him to show you His Truth.

SUNDAY

21

Tell someone in your family why you are thankful for them.

MONDAY

22

Comfort the Sorrowful:

Send a note to someone who might be sad, lonely, or in need of a kind word.

TUESDAY

23

Shelter the Homeless:

Pray for those without shelter to find secure and safe housing.

24

Give Alms to the Poor:

Give your allowance to a charity, or ask your parent/guardian if you can do a chore to earn money to give to the charity.

25

Read about the Beatitudes and ask God to help you live them out.

[Matthew 5:1-11](#)

26

Attend the Stations of the Cross at your parish, online, or use a resource like [this one](#).

Fast from meat (14+)

27

Bury the Dead:

Think about the people in your family who have died and pray: "Eternal rest grant to them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen."

28

Bear Wrongs Patiently:

Say a prayer for someone who has not always been nice to you.

MARCH 1

Pray for the Living and the Dead:

Say a prayer for religious sisters and brothers, both alive and dead, who have devoted their lives to Jesus.

2

Do something kind or helpful for someone in your family.

3

Feed the Hungry:

Only drink water today to stand in solidarity with those who often go thirsty.

4

Share your toys or belongings more generously.

5

Clothe the Naked:

Collect clothing items that you no longer wear and donate to a local charity.

Fast from meat (14+)

6

Read about Jesus' Temptation in the Desert and think about the times when you were tempted. Give God thanks for helping you through those times.

[Matthew 4:1-11](#)

7

Counsel the Doubtful:

Say a Hail Mary for someone you think needs God's peace.

8

Instruct the Ignorant:

Share your favorite Bible story with a sibling or friend.

9

Give up dessert or a snack today.

10

Visit the Sick and Imprisoned:

Call or virtually visit with a sick friend or family member.

11

Give up social media, gaming devices, or technology.

12

Pray for the Living and the Dead:

Pray the Lord's Prayer for those children who have lost a parent(s).

Fast from meat (14+)

13

Bear Wrongs Patiently:

Do something nice for someone who has not been nice to you.

SUNDAY

14 Laetare Sunday

Admonish the Sinner:

Pray for those who persecute others because they appear "different."

MONDAY

15

Forgive Offenses Willingly:

Say, "I forgive you" to anyone who makes you angry today.

TUESDAY

16

Go out of your way to say something kind to someone at school or in your family.

WEDNESDAY

17 **Feast of St. Patrick**

St. Patrick is the patron saint of the Archdiocese. You can read more about his story [here](#).

THURSDAY

18

Feed the Hungry:

Gather up some non-perishables or canned goods and donate them to a local food pantry, such as the one at your church.

FRIDAY

19 **Feast of St. Joseph**

Say a prayer of St. Joseph for fathers. Prayers and more about the Year of St. Joseph can be found [here](#).

No fasting today because of the feast.

SATURDAY

20

Shelter the Homeless:

Sleep on the floor tonight as an offering for those who have no bed to sleep in.

21

Give Alms to the Poor:

Ask your parents/guardian not to buy your favorite snack this week and donate the money saved to a local food bank.

22

Help fold laundry or clean up the clothes in your room.

23

Comfort the Sorrowful:

Send an encouraging note to someone you know who might be struggling or sad.

24

Pray a decade of the rosary as a family today.

[For younger children](#)

[For older children](#)

25

Feast of St. Dismas

Pray for the Sick and Imprisoned:

Through prayer, ask St. Dismas, the Good Thief on the cross, to intercede for those in prison.

[Luke 23:39-43](#)

26

Instruct the Ignorant:

Jesus asks, "Who do you say that I am?" Go around the table and fill in the word to describe Jesus in the Litany of Praise: "Praise you Jesus, you are my... (i.e. joy, friend, Savior, etc.)."

Fast from meat (14+)

27

Bury the Dead:

Visit the grave of someone who has died and pray a Hail Mary for their soul.

28

Palm Sunday

Bear Wrongs Patiently:

Practice patience today when you're frustrated.

29

Admonish the Sinner:

Discuss what sin is. Pray the Jesus Prayer: "Jesus Christ, Son of the Living God, have mercy on me a sinner."

30

Visit your parish website and make a plan to go to confession before Easter.

31

Forgive Offenses Willingly:

Say the Pardon Prayer for all who have sinned: "My God, I believe, I adore, I hope, and I love You! I ask pardon of You for those who do not believe, do not adore, do not hope and do not love You."

APRIL 1

Holy Thursday

Go to Mass or watch it online. If neither are possible, read [John 13:1-20](#) and discuss what happened.

2

Good Friday

Attend the Veneration of the Cross at your church or do the Stations of the Cross at home. (see links on Feb. 26th)

Fasting for those 18-59; only one full meal or two smaller ones. Fast from meat (14+)

3

Holy Saturday

Attend the Easter Vigil at your parish or online.

4

Easter



HOW TO ATTEND WEEKEND MASS ~ SAFETY 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, but we must follow 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 140 people per Mass (usually 600). Sign Ups are here: <https://stmarysholliston.com/>

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. 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!

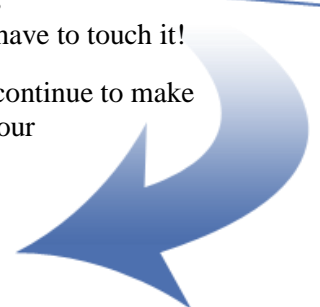
13) Shared collection baskets are not permitted, so no collection can be taken up at Mass. Please continue to make your weekly offertory support via Automatic Giving, WeShare, or by mailing in or dropping off your envelope via the rectory mail-slot. Thank you!

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 This 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 arrange 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:
<https://bible.usccb.org/daily-bible-reading>.

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. See Prayer Left.

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 early, you may need to hit "refresh."

Welcome!

ACT OF SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

I wish, my Lord, to receive you
with the purity, humility and devotion
with which your most holy Mother received you,
and with the spirit and fervor of the saints.
Amen.

THE PARISH CENTER IS CLOSED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE DUE TO THE PANDEMIC.

VIRTUAL CLOW: The Children's Liturgy of the Word is offering prerecorded weekly lessons online until we can meet again in person. These are engaging and enriching lessons for parents and children to participate in together. Click on the following link and then once on the web page, click on prerecorded lessons.
Pat Campo-Leblanc/Coordinator.

<https://stmarysholliston.com/st-marys-childrens-liturgy-of-the-word/>



Religious Education

IMPORTANT COVID NOTICE: Please note that if the Town of Holliston is classified in the RED ZONE due to COVID-19, then in-person classes will not be in session. This is in line with the Archdiocesan Guidelines and do not reflect what the public school guidelines are for health and safety during the pandemic.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASSES 2021: Classes will continue remotely until the Archdiocese of Boston states that it is safe to allow small group gatherings.

GRADE K-7 NOTICE: Families must check their child's grade level LINKS for updated sessions weekly as sessions for each grade are in constant development. Since families have expressed difficulty keeping up with the lessons, it is important to remember that your children can self-pace the lessons according to your schedule to avoid stress in completing the sessions. However, the sessions should be completed by June 30, 2021.

THE FAMILY ROSARY MISSION: The Family Rosary Mission is an initiative to invite families to pray the Rosary together. Join us again this Sunday, **February 21**, at St. Catherine of Siena Parish in Norwood at 4:00 PM for a **Holy Hour** with Eucharistic Adoration, the Rosary and a presentation by Fr. Ed Riley on the Fatima message from the Virgin Mary. The Holy Hour will be live-streamed at: www.stcatherinenorwood.org.



CONFIRMATION I AND II: Please see the chart below for Grades 9 and 10. Classes for Grades 9 and 10 are ninety minutes and for Grade 8, one hour and fifteen minutes.

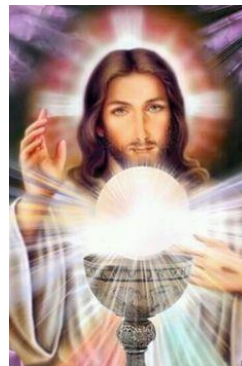
DATE	GRADE	MODEL
Sun., Feb 21	Pre-K and GR-K At 10:00 AM	Remote - Zoom
Tues., Feb. 23	GR-9 at 6:30 PM	Remote - Zoom
Thur., Feb .25	GR-9 at 6:30 PM	Remote - Zoom
Sun., Feb. 28	GR-1 at 2:00 PM	Remote - Zoom

GRADE 1 - BAPTISM: This year the Baptism class will take place through a Zoom meeting on Sunday, February 28 at 2:00 PM. An invitation will be sent out to all the families with first grade children.

GRADE 2 - FIRST PENANCE: At this time the First Penance dates are scheduled on two weekends: Friday, March 12 at 6:30 PM and Saturday, March 20 at 10:30 AM. The First Penance children's assessment must be completed before the children have their First Penance. Completed assessments must be returned by Friday, February 26 for our Religious Education office to review.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION: The dates for First Holy Communion Masses have been set for Saturday, June 12 at 10:30 AM and 1:30 PM and Saturday, June 19 at 10:30 AM and 1:30 PM. Once families have had time to review the letters that have been sent to them, Zoom meetings will be scheduled to meet the families and answer any questions regarding the information within the letter. Questions regarding the Grade 2 program can be directed to Fran at: st.marysdre1870@gmail.com or to our GR-2 Coordinator, Derri Cole at: colederr@hotmail.com.

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>.



Lenten Mini-Retreat
"A Lenten Reflection for the Year of the Eucharist."

By Deacon Ron Dowding
With Eucharistic Adoration
Sunday, February 21 at 2 PM
In the church and live-streamed.
In person pandemic temperature check-in, hand sanitizing, masks and social distance seating is required.

MISSION OF THE REDEEMER



The Encyclical Letter “Mission of the Redeemer” (Redemptoris Missio) was promulgated by Pope John Paul II (JP II) in 1990. JPII explains in his letter that Jesus Christ entrusted His mission to the Church and that the mission is still in its infancy. Thus, forty one years ago, JP II realized that we must commit ourselves completely to this service and proclaim God’s wonderful works.

JPII explained, “What moves me even more to proclaim the urgency of missionary evangelization is the fact that it is the primary service which the Church can render to every individual and to all humanity in the modern world; a world which seems to have lost its sense of ultimate realities and existence of self. Christ the Redeemer fully reveals man to himself.... “The person who wishes to understand himself thoroughly... must ...draw near to Christ...”

As he began his pontificate, JPII stated that the Church’s fundamental function in every age, and particularly in ours, is to direct man’s gaze, to point the awareness and experience of the whole of humanity toward the mystery of Christ. The Church’s universal mission is born in Jesus Christ, as is stated in our Trinitarian profession of faith: “I believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father. . . For us men and for our salvation He came down from heaven; by the power of the Holy Spirit He became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man.”

JPII was concerned for God’s people in the modern world as he stated that there is a tendency to reduce man to his horizontal dimension alone. Without openness to the Absolute, what does man become? The answer is found in the experience of every individual, but it is also written in the history of humanity, in the blood shed in the name of ideologies or by political regimes which have sought to build a “new humanity” without God. Folks, it is now FY 2021 and it is Christ’s command that we persevere to convert the heart of the world to Him.

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. Please call the Religious Education Office at 508-429-6076 if you need a **2021 CORI** form. It is important that all sections of the CORI form marked by an asterisk be completed in order to be properly processed. Thank you.

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.

Click on “First time registrant.”

On the next page click on “Begin the registration process.”

Select “Boston” from the drop down list of dioceses and complete the registration process.

Once the 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. It is not necessary to submit a copy of the PGC certificate. Anyone with questions can contact Vivian Soper at 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.