



# St. Mary's Parish

## Our Mission:

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

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!

## 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 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

March 7, 2021  
3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Lent

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

“Contemptus Mundi.” This spiritual phrase means not “contempt” for the world – but rather “detachment” from the world. The world is a blessed thing, created good by God, then corrupted, but still the place in which God calls each of us to serve Him. The challenge is to live *in* the world while not being *of* the world. The world is fine – “worldliness,” can become a deadly distraction.

Jesus makes this clear in today's Gospel by His reaction to the money changers and purveyors of livestock in the great Temple of Jerusalem. Both were necessary to the Jewish worship of that day – money changers were needed to change the Roman coins with their graven images of the emperor into coins acceptable as temple offerings. Similarly, the animals were necessary to purchase as sacrifices to God.

But these things which in and of themselves were innocuous, had become corrupted. The money changers charged extortion rates. The livestock for sacrifice had to be purchased from the temple flocks so you had to pay a lot more for them. Even worse, all this commercial activity had moved from the outer courtyard to the inside of the temple itself. It was a distraction from prayer, as merchants winked at godly values in order to make quick cash.

And so Jesus drives forth those who had desecrated His Father's house, showing us by His actions never to let the things of this world get too strong a hold over us. Money, clothes, houses, cars, popularity, position, pleasure - anything that we find ourselves valuing more than a holy relationship with God and neighbor, needs to be returned to its proper priority.

In a sense, the purification of the temple by Jesus is a model for what we all are called to accomplish during these 40 Days of Lent. Contemptus Mundi – detachment, from the things of this world. We do it by fasting – not just on the 2 required days of Ash Wednesday and Good Friday – but frequently, as our health allows. We do it by giving to the poor, not just out of our surplus, but sacrificially – in ways that have a real impact on the way we live. We do it by turning our eyes away from our possessions, and the riches of our neighbors – in order to raise our eyes to heaven in prayer. Heaven, our true home and final destination.

Jesus used a whip fashioned of chords to purify the temple. And in the same way we take up the Lenten chords of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving – to drive away this world's influence over us. To remind ourselves that we are not citizens of this world trying to make our way to heaven, but rather that we are citizens of heaven trying to make our way through this world.

God bless you.

Rev. Mark J. Coiro  
Pastor

**PRAYER:** Thank you to all who have already committed to a specific hour of Adoration during this year's Forty Hours Devotion. The Devotion begins next Sunday, March 14 at the 11:30 AM Mass, and continues through the Closing Benediction Mass, Tuesday, March 16 at 9 AM. Many more volunteers are still needed to assure the Devotion can go forward in our parish for the sixteenth straight year. Please sign up today to spend a particular hour with the Lord: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/805094da5ab29a3fc1-40hours>. Due to the Pandemic, we are not allowed to leave the church open, so only those three who sign up for a specific hour will be present in the church that hour. Special pandemic instructions will be emailed to all who volunteer.

**ALMSGIVING:** Thank you in advance to all for your participation in the 2021 Catholic Appeal, launching in every parish this weekend. It is extremely important that you make your pledge today, if possible. If enough families do so by the end of this weekend, then St. Mary's will receive back a rebate. If not enough people turn them in, then St. Mary's will not receive a rebate. Remember that nothing is required up front – just your pledge. So in addition to helping support the good works of the Church through the Catholic Appeal, please support your own parish in this way. Thank you!

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

MASS INTENTIONS:

Saturday March 6
5:00 Earl King
7:30 Brian Evers
Sunday March 7
7:30 People of St. Mary's
9:30 Girl Scouts of America
11:30 Roy Salvi
Monday March 8
9:00 Thomas McDermott, Month's Mind
Tuesday March 9
9:00 Timothy Finn
Wednesday March 10
9:00 Craig MacDonald
Thursday March 11
9:00 John W. Quinn
Friday March 12
9:00 Gloria Castaldi
Saturday March 13
5:00 Victor Losanno, Jr.
7:30 Midge Boyd
Sunday March 14
7:30 People of St. Mary's
9:30 Pio J. Decaminada
11:30 40 Hours Devotion ~ Opening Mass



STEWARDSHIP

Managing God's Gifts To Us

PARISH OFFERTORY LAST WEEKEND:

Automatic Giving: \$ 6,459.50
WeShare: \$ 5,236.15

Offertory Envelopes
dropped off / mailed

to the office: \$ 3,462.00
Total Offertory: \$ 15,157.65

Thank you for your faithful stewardship!

LAST WEEKEND: The Church Around the
World, \$1,406.75. Thank you.



THIS WEEKEND -
THE 2021 CATHOLIC
APPEAL:

Kindly review the information
provided on the next bulletin
page and make your pledge
this weekend if possible.

Two Examples of What the Appeal Does:

Funds the Archdiocesan Child Protection Office
that provides parish training and administers
volunteer background checks. Funds Pregnancy
Help, providing shelter, medical care, material
assistance and job training to women in crisis
pregnancies.

THE ROSE FOR LIFE: Is sponsored this week by
the Harris Family. 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.

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.

CLASSES OF 2021

# This is OUR CHURCH



Please make the 2021 Catholic Appeal  
part of Your Lenten Almsgiving.

The Appeal launches in all Parishes  
**THIS WEEKEND.**



**THE APPEAL** ~ The Catholic Appeal is to our Archdiocese what the weekly offertory is to our parishes. It makes possible fifty different central ministries that benefit hundreds of pastoral, charitable and educational programs. Your generous support and participation is critical to the success of the 2021 Catholic Appeal at St. Mary's and helps move us forward in hope as we seek to better embody the Gospel message in our lives. L

**OUR GOAL** ~ St. Mary's 2021 Appeal goal is \$87,486, the same as last year, which our parish achieved even though the Appeal launched during the pandemic shutdown of March 2020.

**PARTICIPATION REBATE** ~ If 140 of our Parish's Families make their 2021 Appeal Pledge by the end of this weekend, (nothing needed up front, just the pledge), then St. Mary's will qualify to receive substantial rebates from the overall Appeal.

**HOW TO PARTICIPATE** ~ Last weekend we would normally have passed out Catholic Appeal materials and pledge forms with our bulletin, but pandemic safety procedures prevented that. So how do you pledge?

**(Option 1)** If you have given previously to the Catholic Appeal, then you should have received a 2021 Pledge Form in the mail. Mail it to St. Mary's or to the Archdiocese, being sure to identify St. Mary's, Holliston, as your parish. You may also drop it off at St. Mary's, and we will mail it in. Any checks we receive made out to the 2021 Catholic Appeal will also be forwarded.

**(Option 2)** Scan the QR Code right. Please be sure to identify yourself as a St. Mary's Parishioner.



**(Option 3)** Visit <https://bostoncatholicappeal.org/> and scroll to the bottom of the page to donate online, again being sure to identify St. Mary's, Holliston as your parish. This website also offers you a video to watch and detailed information about the Catholic Appeal.



When you help the Catholic Appeal you educate, feed, strengthen, and care for all.

**Forty Hours Devotion:** In celebrating this devotion, the Blessed Sacrament will be exposed on the altar at St. Mary's for forty continuous hours. The Forty Hours Devotion nurtures the love of the faithful for our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament. Additionally, three special dimensions surround this devotion:

- the protection from evil and temptation;
- reparation for our own sins and for the Poor Souls in Purgatory;
- and deliverance from political, material, or spiritual calamities. Please pray for an end to the worldwide pandemic, and for all those harmed by it.



**Next Sunday, March 14**

11:30 AM Opening Mass

**Tuesday, March 16**

9:00 AM Closing Mass with Benediction

Normally the church is open to the public throughout the Forty Hours. Regrettably, Pandemic safety regulations make that impossible this year. So this year only the three persons signed-up for each hour may enter.

Sign-Up for a specific hour at <https://stmarysholliston.com/>.

**THIS YEAR, DUE TO THE PANDEMIC,  
THE CHURCH CANNOT BE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC DURING THE  
FORTY HOURS DEVOTION. ONLY THE THREE PEOPLE SIGNED UP  
FOR EACH HOUR WILL BE PRESENT. SIGN UP TODAY!**

**40 HOURS WITH JESUS CHRIST**

**By Fr. William Saunders**

The Forty Hours Devotion is a special forty-hour period of continuous prayer made before the Blessed Sacrament in solemn exposition. Of course, the focus of this devotion is on the Holy Eucharist. As Catholics, the words of our Lord burn in our hearts: "I myself am the living bread come down from Heaven. If anyone eats this bread, He shall live forever; the bread I will give is my flesh for the life of the world" (John 6:51).

Affirming our belief in the real presence of our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament, the Vatican Council II taught that the Holy Eucharist is "the source and summit of the Christian life" (Lumen Gentium, #11). While the Mass is the central act of worship for us Catholics, an act which participates in the eternal reality of our Lord's passion, death, and resurrection, Vatican Council II upheld and encouraged the adoration of the Blessed Sacrament outside of Mass. Of course such devotion derives from the sacrifice of the Mass and moves the faithful to both sacramental and spiritual communion with our Lord (Eucharisticum Mysterium, #50).

As Pope Pius XII taught in *Mediator Dei*, "This practice of adoration has a valid and firm foundation." Our Holy Father, Pope John Paul II has repeatedly "highly recommended" public and private devotion of the Blessed Sacrament, including processions on the Feast of Corpus Christi and the 40 Hours Devotion (cf. *Dominicae Caeae*, #3, and *Inaestimabile Donum*, #20-22).

Second, the number forty has always signified a sacred period of time: the rains during the time of Noah lasted 40 days and nights; the Jews wandered through the desert for 40 years, our Lord fasted and prayed for 40 days before beginning His public ministry. The 40 Hours Devotion remembers that traditional "forty-hour period" from our Lord's burial until the resurrection. Actually in the Middle Ages, the Blessed Sacrament was transferred to the repository, "the Easter Sepulcher," for this period of time to signify our Lord's time in the tomb.

The Forty Hours Devotion begins with a Solemn Mass of Exposition, which concludes with the Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament. The Blessed Sacrament remains on the altar in a monstrance. During the next 40 hours, the faithful gather for personal or public prayer in adoration of our Lord. At the end of the devotions, there is a solemn benediction and final reposition of the Blessed Sacrament. The Forty Hours Devotion can be seen almost like a parish mini-retreat or mission. Consequently, an appropriate time to schedule Forty Hours is either Advent or Lent.

While the Forty Hours Devotion nurtures the love of the faithful for our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament, three special dimensions have also surrounded this devotion: the protection from evil and temptation; reparation for our own sins and for the Poor Souls in Purgatory; and deliverance from political, material, or spiritual calamities. Here the faithful implore our Lord to pour forth His abundant graces not only for themselves, but their neighbors, not only for their own personal needs, but for those of the world. Such practices are evidenced in the history of this devotion.

Having explored the spiritual dimension of the Forty Hours Devotion, a greater appreciation for this spiritual exercise is found through knowing its history. The practice of Forty Hours Devotion originated in Milan about the year 1530. Granted, prior to this time, the Church did have exposition and benediction, Eucharistic processions, and devotions to the Blessed Sacrament reserved in the tabernacle.

In 1539, Pope Paul III responded to a petition from the Archdiocese of Milan asking for an indulgence for the practice: "Since our beloved son the Vicar General of the Archbishop of Milan, at the prayer of the inhabitants of the said city, amongst other pious practices, has established a round of prayers and supplications to be offered by day and night by all the faithful of Christ, before our Lord's Most Sacred Body, in all the churches of the said city, in such a manner that these prayers and supplication are made by the faithful themselves relieving each other in relays for forty hours continuously in each church in succession, according to the order determined by the Vicar... We approving in our Lord so pious an institution, grant and remit." While this pronouncement seems to be the earliest official approval by the Church of this devotion, the Forty Hours Devotion spread rapidly.

By 1550, both St. Philip Neri and St. Ignatius Loyola had also instituted this practice, especially for the reparation of sin. Recognizing the tremendous graces offered through this devotion as well as the dangers threatening the Church, Pope Clement VIII in his letter *Graves et diuturnae* (November 25, 1592) proclaimed, "We have determined to establish publicly in this Mother City of Rome an uninterrupted course of prayer in such ways that in the different churches, on appointed days, there be observed the pious and salutary devotion of the Forty Hours, with such an arrangement of churches and times that, at every hour of the day and night, the whole year round the incense of prayer shall ascend without intermission before the face of the Lord." He also issued regulations for the devotions, which were later collected and promulgated by Pope Clement XI in 1705, and known as the *Instructio Clementina*.

In our own country, St. John Neumann (1811-60), the fourth bishop of Philadelphia, was a strong promoter of the Forty Hours Devotion. While the practice had already existed in individual churches throughout the city (as well as in other places in the country), no organized, cohesive diocesan schedule for it had ever before been attempted. St. John had a tremendous devotion to our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament, and desired to foster such a spiritual life in his people.

Unfortunately at this time, a strong anti-Catholic sentiment plagued Philadelphia. During the Know Nothing riots of 1844, two churches were burned and another was saved simply by the threat of gunfire. Some priests, therefore, advised St. John that the introduction of 40 Hours Devotion would only flame the hatred against the Catholics and expose the Blessed Sacrament to desecration. St. John was left in a quandary.

A strange incident occurred which helped St. John decide. One night, he was working very late at his desk and fell asleep in his chair. The candle on the desk burnt down and charred some of the papers, but they were still readable. He awoke, surprised and thankful that a fire had not ignited. He fell on his knees to give thanks to God for protection, and heard His voice saying, "As the flames are burning here without consuming or injuring the writing, so shall I pour out my grace in the Blessed Sacrament without prejudice to My honor. Fear no profanation, therefore; hesitate no longer to carry out your design for my glory."

He introduced the practice of 40 Hours Devotion at the first diocesan synod in April, 1853, and the first devotions began at St. Philip Neri Parish, an appropriate place since that saint had initiated the devotion in the city of Rome. St. John himself, spent most of the three days in the Church praying. No trouble ensued. St. John then introduced the program for the whole diocese, so that each parish would have Forty Hours Devotion during the course of the year. The Forty Hours Devotion was so successful it spread to other dioceses. At the Plenary Council of Baltimore in 1866, the Forty Hours Devotion was approved for all Dioceses of the United States.

The Forty Hours Devotion provides a wonderful opportunity for the spiritual growth of each person and the parish as a whole. In a world where temptation and evil abound, where devotion to the Mass and our Lord in the Holy Eucharist have declined, where the practice of penance and confession have been forgotten by many, we need the Forty Hours Devotion more than ever.



**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."

**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, March 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 March 17, 24, and 31. For additional information or to signup, contact Mitch Liro at 508-429-6098 ([mjlsjl67@gmail.com](mailto:mjlsjl67@gmail.com)), or contact Deacon Ron at 508-429-3961 ([ronald.dowding@verizon.net](mailto: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

**WINGS (Women in God's Spirit):** WINGS is a ministry of encouragement and enrichment for women of all ages who seek to deepen their faith and grow in relationship with God and one another. WINGS has finished our very informative and spiritually uplifting 2021 Winter Bible Study. Mark your calendars for our five week Spring season beginning on Wednesday, March 17 at 10 AM via Zoom. More details to come. Suggested donation for the Spring season is \$10.00 unless you have previously paid for the year. All women are welcome, regardless of ability to pay. Previous Fall and 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](mailto:stmaryswingssecretary@gmail.com) to register or call Diane @508-259-7795. If you received the Zoom link for the Winter Program, there is no need to register for Spring.



## SAFETY PROCEDURES TO ATTEND WEEKEND MASS ~

(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.
- 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, standing on the double arrows, remove your mask, place the Host in your mouth, and then immediately put your mask back in place.
- 10) Participants at Mass are asked to leave the church when their pew is dismissed at 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!



A good video to help you visualize the 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 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:** Make an Act of Spiritual Communion at Communion time. See Prayer Below.

**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."



## ACT OF SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

God, my God, inextinguishable and invisible fire,  
You make Your angels flaming fire.

Out of Your inexpressible love,  
You have given me Your  
Divine Flesh as food  
and through this Holy Communion  
made me a partaker of Your divinity.

As I cannot this day receive  
Your Holy Sacrament,  
I invite the fire of Your Divine Love  
to come upon me.

Permeate all my body and soul,  
all my bones and sinews.  
Consume my sins in fire.

Enlighten my soul and illumine my mind.  
Sanctify my body and make Your abode in me,  
together with Your blessed Father  
and Holy Spirit,  
that I may always abide in You.

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 on **Sunday, March 7**, at St. Catherine of Siena Parish in Norwood at 4:00 PM for the Rosary.



The Rosary will be live-streamed. Families anywhere can pray with families from other parishes by going to [www.stcatherinenorwood.org](http://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., March 7	GR-10 at 4:30 PM	Remote - Zoom
Mon., March 8	GR-8 at 6:00 PM	Remote - Zoom
Tues., March 9	GR-9 at 6:30 PM	Remote - Zoom
Wed., March 10	GR-10 at 6:30 PM	Remote - Zoom
Sun., March 14	GR-9 at 6:30 PM	Remote - Zoom

**GRADE 2 - FIRST PENANCE DATE NOTICE:** The two First Penance dates are Friday, March 12, at 6:30 PM and Saturday, March 20, at 11:30 AM. Please, families must honor the date they have been assigned for their child's First Penance due to the pandemic and the number of people permitted in the church. If a parent was unable to attend one of the three Zoom meetings this past week, please contact Fran at [st.marysdre1870@gmail.com](mailto:st.marysdre1870@gmail.com) or by phone at 508-429-6076 before March 10 to schedule a Zoom meeting.

**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. Parent ZOOM meetings will be scheduled for Tuesday, March 2, Wednesday, March 3, and Thursday, March 4, at 7:00 PM. Invitations were sent out Sunday, February 28. Questions regarding the Grade 2 program can be directed to Fran at: [st.marysdre1870@gmail.com](mailto:st.marysdre1870@gmail.com) or to our GR-2 Coordinator, Derri Cole at: [colederr@hotmail.com](mailto: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>.

**CHILDREN'S NOON STATIONS OF THE CROSS ON GOOD FRIDAY~ LIVE STREAMED:** Families with children in Grades 3 through 5 were mailed information in early February to participate in the Good Friday Stations of the Cross. This year the presentation of this solemn walk with Jesus to Calvary will be presented in a different format with the children than the past several years due to the pandemic and social distance requirements. However, safety precautions will be in place and families with children who would like to take part in the Stations of the Cross should submit their forms directly to Lisa Dufault, assistant Stations of the Cross coordinator, as soon as possible [at lisadufault@yahoo.com](mailto:lisadufault@yahoo.com). Only the parents of the children who will have a role will be permitted to attend in person.

## GUARDIAN OF THE REDEEMER



Continued from last week: Pope John Paul II's (JPII) Apostolic Exhortation "Guardian of the Redeemer", the person and Mission of Saint Joseph in the Life of Christ.

JPII continues, "Since Joseph made his life and service a sacrifice to the mystery of the Incarnation and to the redemptive mission connected with it; in having the legal authority which was his over the Holy Family in order to make a gift of self, of his life and work, he turned his human vocation to domestic love into a superhuman oblation of self, an oblation of his heart and all his abilities into love placed at the service of the Messiah growing up in his house".

Since it is inconceivable that such a blind task would not be matched by the necessary qualities to adequately fulfill it, we must recognize that Joseph showed Jesus "by a special gift from heaven, all the natural love, all the affectionate solitude that a father's heart can know."

Besides fatherly authority over Jesus, God also gave Joseph a share in the corresponding love, the love that has its origin in the Father "from Whom every family in heaven and on earth is named" (Ephesians 3:15).

The Gospels clearly describe the fatherly responsibilities of Joseph toward Jesus. For salvation – which comes through the humanity of Jesus – is realized in actions which are an everyday part of family life, in keeping with that "condescension" which is inherent in the economy of the Incarnation. The Gospel writers carefully show in the life of Jesus nothing was left to chance, but how everything took place according to God's predetermined plan . . . This happened, so there might be fulfilled . . . , in reference to a particular event in the Old Testament, serves to emphasize the unity and continuity of the plan which is fulfilled in Christ.

With the Incarnation, the "promises" and "figures" of the Old Testament become "reality": places, persons, events and rites . . . according to precise divine commands communicated by angels and received by humans sensitive to the voice of God. Continued next week.

## 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 Religious Education Office at 508-429-6076 if you need a **2021 CORI** Form. Everyone must fill in all sections of the CORI form marked with an asterisk where it pertains to important information. Incomplete CORI forms may result in processing delays for volunteers who serve in various ministries at St. Mary's.

**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 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](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.