



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:

Every Thursday, 7-8 PM
First Fridays, 9:30-10:30 AM

8 Church St., Holliston, MA 01746

Website: www.stmarysholliston.com

Email Address: St.marys1870@gmail.com

Rectory Phone: (508) 429 - 4427

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: Saturdays from Noon to 12:45 PM, or by appointment.

Anointing of the Sick: Any time by appointment. Please call as soon as you are aware of a serious illness or upcoming surgery.

Baptism: The 2nd & 4th Sunday of each month. To register for Baptism Preparation call 429-4427.

Marriage: Please call at least 6 months in advance of your desired wedding date. Congratulations!



Saint Mary's Parish

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

January 2, 2022
Feast of the Epiphany

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

On this Feast of Epiphany, we recall the Wise Men who arrived in Bethlehem following a long journey. Scripture tells us that they brought gifts for the newborn Christ – Gold, to show that He was a King; Frankincense, used in worship, to show that He was God; and Myrrh, a funerary ointment, to show that Jesus was mortal, and that one day He would die to save us from our sins. The truest gifts are always sacrificial, requiring us to give of that which is most precious to us. We remember therefore on this Feast of Epiphany that Jesus was God's great gift to the world, His only and beloved Son.

The gift of Jesus is one that we are all called to share, particularly by our willingness to forgive others even as He has forgiven us by the shedding of His blood. Over and over again, the scriptures call on those who are "cherishing" anger and resentment in their hearts to turn these things over to God. Job 36:13 *"The godless in heart cherish anger; they do not cry for help."* Psalm 66:18 *"If I had cherished vengeance in my heart, the Lord would not have listened."* If on this Epiphany Sunday we are cherishing some grudge or enmity, holding it tight to us like a treasure, then that is the very gift that Jesus most desires us to lay down at His manger this year.

St. John Chrysostom once observed the following about the Epiphany. *"If the Wise Men had come in search of an earthly King, they would have been disconcerted at finding that they had taken the trouble to come such a long way for nothing. Consequently, they would have neither adored nor offered gifts. But since they sought a heavenly King, though they found in Him no signs of royal pre-eminence, yet, content with the testimony of the star alone, they adored: for they saw a man, and they acknowledged a God."* Let us like the Wise Men look for the heavenly king Jesus and be ready to accept Him when He manifests His presence in very humble and surprising ways. Let us look for Him especially among the poor and those people God places in our lives who are hurting and in need of our help. To paraphrase St. John, let us *"see men and women, and acknowledge God within them."*

This past Friday evening, I had the joy of celebrating the Sacrament of Marriage for St. Mary's Parishioner Patric Castellanos to Molly Kelley of Medway. May they be a great gift to one another in the years ahead, and a blessing to all those whom God will place in their life's path. Every year many parishioners comment on the beauty of the chasuble I wear for Christmas Masses. I always tell them that it was an ordination gift from a college friend of mine, Miss Rosemary Chicoine. This past Christmas Eve, Rose received a proposal of marriage from her now fiancé Michael. I congratulate them both and ask God's good blessing upon them!

May the Lord of Our Journey continue to bless you and yours.

Under His Mercy,

Rev. Mark J. Coiro
Pastor

P.S. Again this year St. Mary's is pleased to provide you with blessed Epiphany Chalk. This New Year's custom is a beautiful way to invite Jesus anew into your home and family. The procedure for blessing your home with Epiphany chalk is provided in this bulletin. Just wipe away the old year's chalk with soap and water to prepare.

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
 Mrs. Theresa Virzi, Grades 8-11 and Youth Minister
 Mr. Scott Ellaway, Artist in Residence, Music
 Mrs. Mary Beth Harris, Parish Secretary
 Mrs. Paula O'Brien, Religious Education Secretary
 Ms. Mary Sanning, Business Manager
 Mrs. Najat Whalen, Sacristan
 Mr. Billy Hanson, Parish Facilities
 R & R Landscaping, Cemetery Care

2021 CHRISTMAS COLLECTION: As in previous years this goes entirely to support the retired priests of our Archdiocese. The 2021 Christmas Collection was \$13,023.00. (The pre-pandemic average was \$22,000). If you have not yet given to this important collection, please do so as soon as possible. Thank you to all who so generously supported these men who have given their lives in God's faithful service!

LAST SUNDAY'S PARISH OFFERTORY:

Automatic Giving: \$ 3,175.00
 WeShare: \$ 1,761.13

Offertory Envelopes

Dropped/mailed
 to the office: \$ 6,492.00
 Total Offertory: \$ 11,428.13
Shortfall: \$ 3,571.87

May God bless you for your faithful stewardship. Thank you for making up any missed weekly offertory support.



CURRENT MASK PROTOCOLS: The Archdiocese of Boston is requiring that masks be worn by everyone at all Masses, regardless of

vaccination status, through January 17, 2022. (Children under the age of five need not wear masks. Children under the age of two should not wear masks). This is a preemptive safety measure due to anticipated holiday travel and family gatherings.

HOLY HOUR EVERY THURSDAY: Eucharistic Adoration and Benediction, this Thursday, January 6, from 7-8 PM. Come let us adore Him!

PRAYERS AND MASS INTENTIONS:

Saturday	January 1
5:00	Earl and Lorraine King
7:30	People of St. Mary's
Sunday	January 2
7:30	Merritt Moraski
9:30	Tancred Schiavoni
11:30	Dianne Gootman
Monday	January 3
9:00	Holy Souls in Purgatory
Tuesday	January 4
9:00	Rev. Lawrence Pratt
Wednesday	January 5
9:00	Rev. C. Paul Rouse
Thursday	January 6
9:00	Elizabeth MacLeod
Friday	January 7
9:00	Fr. Issa & the People of our Sister Parish, Our Lady of Fatima, Beit Sahour
Saturday	January 8
5:00	Kenneth Croke and Louise Croke
7:30	The Deceased Members of the Zocchi and Dzerkacz Families
Sunday	January 9
7:30	People of St. Mary's
9:30	Walter Baker
11:30	Elizabeth Walker MacLeod

DONUTS, JUICE AND COFFEE ~ CANCELED:

The D., J. & C. gathering scheduled for today, Sunday, January 2 has been canceled due to the current measures of the Archdiocese of Boston requiring masks be worn by everyone on all Church properties at all times. We look forward to welcoming you all at our next scheduled get together on Sunday, March 6. (February is the Scout Pancake Breakfast).

K OF C BLOOD DRIVE:

On Saturday, January 22, in St. Mary's Father Haley Hall, the Council will sponsor its annual Red Cross Blood Drive. Hours are from 8:30 AM to 1:30 PM. To schedule an appointment, contact 1-800-REDCROSS or visit redcrossblood.org and search by zip code (01746) in the "Find a Blood Drive" field. For further information, contact the Knights of Columbus Council Blood Drive coordinator, Rodman Burgett at 508- 653-6130.



American Red Cross

BLESSING OF THE HOME WITH EPIPHANY CHALK: Again this year we invite parishioners to take part in the tradition of “chalking the door” to celebrate the Epiphany, the day that marks the arrival of the Magi to the place where Jesus was born.

Chalking the door is a prayer and symbol of asking God’s blessing upon those who live, work, or visit your home throughout the New Year.

In Exodus, the Israelites marked their doors with blood so that the angel of death would pass over their homes. In this service, we mark our doors with chalk as a sign that we have invited God’s presence and protection upon our homes.

In Deuteronomy 6:9 God tells the people of Israel: *“These words that I command you today shall be on your heart. You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house... You shall write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.”*

Chalking the door is a tangible way to honor God and remember to invite Him into our family life throughout the New Year.

How to Participate - At Mass today, take home a piece of the blessed Epiphany Chalk provided at all the church entrances. Then at home, with the whole family gathered together, inscribe the following on the outside of your house or inside above the front main entrance:

20 + C + M + B + 22

The letters C M B come from the traditional names for the three kings: Caspar, Melchior, and Balthazar. They are also an abbreviation for “Christus Mansionem Benedicat,” which means, “May Christ bless this dwelling!” The first and last numbers refer to the current year.



Prayer - *Lord God of heaven and earth, You revealed Your only begotten Son to every nation by the guidance of a star. Bless this house, and all who live here, and all who visit. May we be blessed with health, kindness of heart, gentleness, and the keeping of your law. Fill us with the light of Christ, that our love for each other may shine forth to all. We ask this together as a family, in the words that Jesus taught: Our Father ... Amen.*

MSYG ADULT PLANNING MEETING: This Monday, January 3, 2022, 7 PM, in Fr. Haley Hall. Any Catholic who attends Mass weekly at St. Mary's and is otherwise living a Catholic life, is invited to assist with this ministry for our Middle School age parishioners. You do not need to have a child in the Youth Group. Please bring your family calendar to the meeting. Cori and Virtus training apply.



MIDDLE SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP: Our next trip is Saturday, January 15, at Nashoba for Snow Tubing. Our next Meeting is Sunday, February 6 from 6:30 – 8:30 PM, a half hour longer because of the 15th Annual Battle of the Sexes. There will be faith, friendship, fun and signups for the February Vacation full day trip! All 6th, 7th and 8th Graders are welcome!

EPIC HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH MINISTRY: Our next meeting is Sunday, January 23 from 7:15 – 8:45 PM in Father Haley Hall. Come and enjoy some time with friends, in faith, and there will definitely be some food! All High Schoolers are welcome, so bring your friends! Any questions please contact Theresa Virzi at stmarysym1870@gmail.com.

AMORIS LAETITIA: Treat yourself to a great spiritual gift in 2022 and join the reading/discussion group of Pope Francis' engaging document, Amoris Laetitia, The Joy of Loving: On Love in the Family. The group will meet in the Parish Center Annex, soon to be known as "Sister Ricci House", on Saturdays, January 8, 15, 22 and 29 from 10:00 to 11:00 AM; depending upon the pandemic situation, however, the group may be conducted over Zoom. Contact Leo Racine at 429-7476 or leoaracine@msn.com for more information or to register. You can find Amoris Laetitia on the Internet for free at <https://bit.ly/FrancisAL> or purchase a copy from online booksellers.

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS NEEDED: St. Mary's is in need of more volunteers to serve as Eucharistic Ministers. We have a need for more ministers at all Masses, but most especially for the Saturday 7:30 PM Mass. Complete training is provided, and no prior experience is needed. If you regularly attend Saturday/Sunday Masses, regularly receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation, are living a chaste single life or are married in the Catholic Church, please consider joining our essential Ministry. Like Mary, we bring the Body of Jesus to others.

THE ROSE FOR LIFE: Is sponsored this week by Chuck and Nancy D'Agostino. Please join them in prayer for an unborn child. If you wish to sponsor the Rose in 2022 please call the Rectory at 429-4427.

MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER: To support married couples during this time of social distancing, Worldwide Marriage Encounter is sponsoring virtual marriage experiences. Some are on weekends and several sessions on weekdays from 7:00 to 9:30 PM. Couples will explore their individual personality styles, improve listening and communication skills, understand God's plan for their marriage, and learn how to keep their relationship a priority. Registration is limited and a \$100 application fee is required. For more information or to apply, call at or visit them at <https://wwmema.org/>. Bring the Holy Spirit into your marriage. Sign up today to attend one of the upcoming Worldwide Marriage Encounter Experiences!

WINGS (Women in God's Spirit): WINGS will begin our six week Winter Season on Wednesday, January 26 via Zoom. We will be continuing our theme on Catholic Social Justice using the book "Amos/Hosea/Micah: A Call to Justice" by Joe Paprocki. These three prophets tell us that "other peoples' business is our business when those people are suffering economic hardship and oppression." Reading the prophets' words is an opportunity to examine how, even without realizing it, our lifestyle may have a negative impact on the lives of others. For more information call Jennifer Schiller 617-852-9632 or email stmaryswingssecretary@gmail.com.

HOLY HOUR FOR LIFE: A Holy Hour for Life will be held on Monday, January 17, Martin Luther King Day at 7 PM at St. Mary's Church in Holliston. This Holy Hour is held in observance of the National Day of Prayer and Penance, which supports in prayer those attending the annual March for Life pilgrimage to Washington, D.C. (which will be from Thursday, January 20 – Saturday, January 22 this year). We will pray also for anyone affected by life's tragedies, including those who have been wounded by the Covid pandemic, abortion, euthanasia or suicide, and also for a greater awareness and respect for the dignity of all human life – from the moment of conception to natural death. The Holy Hour for Life is organized by the Boston Deacons for Life in collaboration with the Pro-Life Office of the Archdiocese of Boston. Please join us, all are welcome!"



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION SAFETY NOTICE: When the children, youth, volunteer teachers and monitors, along with the parents, enter the Center or Annex buildings they must wear Masks and sanitize their hands.

CLOW- CHILDREN K-6: CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD: Today, Sunday, January 2, the children will remain in the church with Fr. Mark and learn what Jesus teaches us in the Gospel reading.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION SCHEDULE

DAY	GRADE	GRADE
Sun., Jan. 2	GR-2 at 8:10 AM	GR-2 at 10:45 AM
	GR-3 at 7:55 AM	GR-3 at 10:45 AM
Mon., Jan. 3	GR-4 at 4:00 PM	GR-5 at 4:00 PM
Tues., Jan. 4	GR-4 at 4:00 PM	GR-10 at 6:30 PM
Wed., Jan. 5	GR-2 at 4:15 PM	GR-4 at 4:15 PM
	GR-5 at 4:00 PM	GR-7 at 6:00 PM
Thur., Jan. 6	GR-10 at 6:30 PM	
Sun., Jan. 9	GR-1 at 8:10 AM	GR-4 at 10:45 AM
	GR-5 at 10:45 AM	GR-6 at 4:00 PM
	GR-7 at 5:00 PM	

TEACHERS ARE STILL NEEDED!

Sessions: A= Sun. B= Mon. C= Tues. D=Wed. E= Th.

Grade Level	Teacher Needs	Monitor Needs	DAY / TIME Alternate weeks
GR-1A	Filled	1	Sun., 8:10 to 9:20 AM
GR-2A	Filled	1	Sun., 8:10 to 9:25 AM
GR-5B	1	Filled	Mon., 4:00 to 5:30 PM
GR-9C	2	Filled	Tues., 6:30 to 8:30 PM
GR-10C	4	Filled	Tues., 6:30 to 8:30 PM



R.E. CLASS SNOW CANCELLATION: When Holliston public schools are closed due to inclement weather, religious education classes will not be held. Class cancellations will be aired on Channel 5 and Channel 7 during the week day and on Channel 4 on Saturday & Sunday only.

CONFIRMATION I AND II ~ GRADES 9 / 10:

Grade 9 meets on Tuesday, January 11 and Thursday, January 13. Grade 10 meets on Tuesday, January 4 and Thursday, January 6. Classes are from 6:30 to 8:30 PM in Fr. Haley Hall.

GRADE K-7 COORDINATOR MEETING: Meeting for January 6 is **POSTPONED**. Date to be determined.

HELP! GRADE COORDINATORS FOR GRADES 1, 7, 8 AND 9 ARE URGENTLY NEEDED: Our program needs people of good faith to volunteer as Grade Coordinators. **Training will be provided. Contact Fran if you can take on this role at 508-429-6076 or Email at st.marysdre1870@gmail.com.**

Please note that R.E. Coordinators are responsible for guiding and assisting both teachers and students in growing in their relationship with Christ and His Church. Since this is done best by example, all parish coordinators are required to be regularly practicing members of the St. Mary's Worshipping Community.

GRADE 10 RETREAT: On Saturday, January 8 from 9:00 AM to 7:30 PM. Students will meet in Fr. Haley Hall at 8:45 AM to check in. If you any questions regarding this event, please contact Theresa Virzi x223 or by Email: stmarysYM1870@gmail.com.

GRADE 7 CHASTITY PROGRAM: On Wednesday, January 5 and Sunday, January 9, we will be joined by Linda Thayer, our guest speaker, to discuss the Christian view of human sexuality and how to live a chaste life until marriage with the Grade 7 students. All students are required to attend their assigned session. However, if a student is unable to attend on Sunday he/she should attend the Wednesday session from 6 – 7:30 PM; likewise, students unable to attend the Wednesday class should attend the Sunday 5:00 PM presentation.

**This weekend we celebrate
THE EPIPHANY OF OUR LORD**



Lord, every nation on earth will adore you. In this New Year, may we surrender with trust and confidence our gifts of faith, grace and blessings to God and invite Him to rule over our hearts through His Son, Jesus Christ, our King and Savior.