



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!

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

PANTRY SHELF NEEDS: Donations are accepted at anytime in the large black bin outside our Pantry. We cannot accept any items that are refrigerated, frozen, expired or opened. We can only accept food items at this time. The items we need most are Chunky Peanut Butter, Creamy Peanut Butter, Grape Jelly, Strawberry Jelly, Shampoo, Cookies, Canned Chili, Canned Beef Stew, White Vinegar (16 oz), Snacks and Juice Boxes. Alternate drop off areas include donation bins at St. Mary's Church, or Cole Court Community Center.

LAST SUNDAY'S PARISH OFFERTORY:

Automatic Giving: \$ 4,765.00
 WeShare: \$ 3,735.00
 Offertory Envelopes
 Dropped/mailed
 to the office: \$ 5,096.00
 Total Offertory: \$ 13,596.13
Shortfall: \$ 1,403.87

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



MASK USE EXTENDED: The Archdiocese of Boston is now requiring that masks be worn by everyone at all

Masses, regardless of vaccination status, through Thursday, March 3, 2022. (Children under the age of five need not wear masks. Children under the age of two should not wear masks). Be safe!

SNOW DAYS: If Holliston Schools close or are delayed for weather, the 9 AM Daily Mass is cancelled.

PRAYERS AND MASS INTENTIONS:

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
Monday	January 10
9:00	Rev. Harold Lawson
11:00	Funeral Mass ~ Charles A. Horne, Jr.
Tuesday	January 11
9:00	Rev. George Hogan
Wednesday	January 12
9:00	William T. Flannery
Thursday	January 13
9:00	Robert Palmer
Friday	January 14
9:00	Jean Ferris (Living)
Saturday	January 15
5:00	Jeanne Miley
7:30	Brenda Chamberlain
Sunday	January 16
7:30	People of St. Mary's
9:30	Elizabeth Walker MacLeod
11:30	Patrick McDonald

HOLY HOUR EVERY THURSDAY:

Eucharistic Adoration and Benediction, this Thursday, January 13, from 7-8 PM. Come let us adore Him!

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS

NEEDED: St. Mary's is in urgent 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.



POINSETTIAS – TODAY, SUNDAY,

JANUARY 9: *After* the 11:30 AM Mass today, Sunday, January 9 please feel free to take home one or two of the beautiful poinsettias. These lovely plants should last several more weeks if watered carefully and protected from the cold. If you can't make it on Sunday the remaining ones will be in Fr. Haley Hall until Tuesday morning after which they will be discarded.



Saint Mary's Parish

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

January 9, 2022

Feast of the Baptism of the Lord

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

Today's Feast of the Baptism of the Lord is a transitional celebration – marking both the conclusion of the Christmas Season, and the start of Ordinary Time. Whereas the commercial / secular world would have Christmas start the day after Thanksgiving and then be promptly extinguished on December 26, in the Church we do not begin to anticipate Christmas until December 17, and then we bask in the joy of it through today's Feast. I congratulate those who kept their outdoor Christmas lights on all the way to this weekend!

In Baptism, it is said that the water makes us holy. But at His Baptism it was Jesus who made the water holy, so that we all might be baptized into Him. Being sinless, Jesus had no need to be baptized. But as in all things, He showed us the way by His own example. He demonstrated that He never asks us to do anything that He Himself was not willing to humbly undergo. In Baptism, one is immersed into the mystery of Christ's own life, death and resurrection. In the waters of Baptism original sin is washed from the soul, as we are reborn in the Lord.

On this last day of the Christmas Season, let us each consider our own Baptismal commitment to the Lord. Let us seek even more fervently to be His faithful sons and daughters – living, loving and forgiving as Jesus taught. There is no better time. For as author Howard Thurman so beautifully expressed ...

*“When the song of the angels is stilled,
When the star in the sky is gone,
When the kings and princes are home,
When the shepherds are back with their flocks,
The work of Christmas begins:
To find the lost,
To heal the broken,
To feed the hungry,
To release the prisoner,
To rebuild the nations,
To bring peace among brothers,
To make music in the heart.”*

In Christ's Service and Yours,

Rev. Mark J. Coiro
Pastor

**GIVE
BLOOD**

AT THE 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 <https://www.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.

DANGEROUSLY LOW BLOOD SUPPLY: This is serious. The Red Cross is experiencing the worst blood shortage in over a decade. The dangerously low blood supply levels have forced some hospitals to defer patients from major surgery, including organ transplants. Your donation is desperately needed at this time. Please schedule an appointment to give now. One pint of blood can save up to three lives!

CHRISTMAS THANKS!

On this final day of the Christmas Season, we offer our great gratitude to all those who made our St. Mary's Christmas 2021 celebrations so very beautiful!

The St. Mary's Adult, Youth, and Children's Choirs under the direction of Scott Ellaway offered glorious music to herald the Savior's birth. It was also great to have Leo Racine singing again at two Christmas Masses. Deacons Marty, John, and all the Altar Servers, Lectors, Eucharistic Ministers, and Ushers brought great reverence and faith to our Christmas Masses.

Outdoors, the efforts of the St. Mary's Knights of Columbus and Stumpy's Tree Service provided a grand light display, with the Knights setting up the bush lights, Manger, and Nativity scene. Stumpy's strung all the tree lights – including on our Mary Tree (shown left), which never looked better. (Blue is the Virgin's color). Special thanks to Knight and neighbor Paul Saulnier who watched over and kept the lights in good repair through wind and weather.



Inside, the Paltrineri's handmade ribbons adorned our wreaths, Linda Truitt, Katie Smith, Margie, Abby, and Ellie Winchenbach, Bea Hait, Ingrid Roth, Nick, Virginia, and Marie Calapa, Mitch Liro, Ana Rojo-O'Brien, Susan Simpson, and Lila Bausch, oversaw the decoration of the church Sanctuary and Christmas tree (also put up by the Knights).

Lizzie and Isabel Roth decorated the family tree in the Parish Center Lobby using all the lovely ornaments created several years ago by members of the Spirited Hands Craft Group. A wonderful team of many volunteers (too numerous to name) helped Najat Whalen and Linda Truitt, arrange the poinsettias in the Church sanctuary and Father Haley Hall.

On behalf of the retired priests of our Archdiocese, we thank everyone who contributed to the 2021 Christmas collection which to date has reached \$14, 805.00. Due to the importance of this collection in the lives of our retired priests, we encourage anyone who may have been away from St. Mary's this Christmas to please make their Christmas offering now. This may be done by mailing it to 8 Church Street or placing it in a Mass collection box, or through the rectory door slot. It must be in a separate envelope clearly labeled "Christmas Collection" in order to differentiate it from the parish offertory. Thank you for being there for our retired priests, who gave their lives in faithful service to God's people.

We thank anyone we may have forgotten to mention here, and most especially we thank all of you who made our Christmas celebrations meaningful by your prayers and presence. May our celebration of Christ's birth bring us all a renewed faith and increase our longing for His return. God bless you!



MIDDLE SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP ~ NEW DATES! Our Snow Tubing Trip has been *rescheduled* from Saturday, January 15 to Friday, February 11. Our next Meeting is still 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", beginning this Saturday, January 8, and continuing on the 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.

THE ROSE FOR LIFE: Is sponsored this week by Liz Theiler in memory of George and Emelia Bourque. Please join her in prayer for an unborn child. If you wish to sponsor the Rose in 2022 please call the Rectory at 429-4427.

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!



EXAMINING THE OUR FATHER ~ A Free Webinar: January 18, 2022 at 7:00 PM. Click the blue Register Now Box on our online bulletin to sign up. The Fathers of the early centuries of Christianity include saints, scholars, bishops, priests, laity, and ascetics, who are all united in their hunger to know the Lord. Thus, we could ask for no better guides in a prayerful examination of the Our Father. This presentation will introduce some of these major interpreters - Cyprian of Carthage, Augustine of Hippo, Maximus the Confessor and others - and share their wisdom regarding the transformative power of Christ's command to "pray like this." The Webinar is led by Fr. John Gavin, SJ., Associate Professor of Religious Studies at the College of the Holy Cross. Fr. Gavin is a compelling speaker and a profound but pastoral thinker. Most recently, he is the author of a study of Christian commentaries on the Lord's Prayer, *Mysteries of the Lord's Prayer* (CUA Press, 2021). He is the editor of a new book, *Social Justice and the Sacred*, about the social and theological works of St. Alberto Hurtado, SJ.

[REGISTER NOW](#)

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.

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 9, the children will be dismissed from the main assembly and led to the **Lower Church Hall** to hear what Jesus has to tell them in the Gospel. Note: Younger children are welcome **but must be accompanied by their parents** and be able to sit and engage in the lesson.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION SCHEDULE

DAY	GRADE	GRADE
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	
Mon., Jan. 10	GR-3 at 4:00 PM	GR-6 at 4:00 PM
	GR-8 at 6:00 PM	
Tues., Jan. 11	GR-5 at 2:30 PM	GR-9 at 6:30 PM
Wed., Jan. 12	GR-8 at 6:00 PM	
	GR-5 at 4:00 PM	GR-7 at 6:00 PM
Thur., Jan. 13	GR-9 at 6:30 PM	
Sun., Jan. 16	MLK Day	No Classes

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 18 and Thursday, January 20. Classes are from 6:30 to 8:30 PM in Fr. Haley Hall.

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: Has been **RESCHEDULED** to Saturday, February 12. Students will meet in Fr. Haley Hall at 8:45 AM to check in. Retreat meeting will include Mass and dinner with conclusion by 7:30 PM. A second date, Saturday, March 19, has been added for students unable to attend in February. Please mark your calendars. If you have any questions regarding this event, please contact Theresa Virzi x223 or stmarysYM1870@gmail.com.

GRADE 7 CHASTITY PROGRAM: Tonight, 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 must attend their assigned session. Students that were unable to join this past Wednesday should attend the Sunday 5:00 PM presentation.

CORI VOLUNTEER RENEWAL ALERT: Ministry Leaders must secure that **all** their active volunteers (18 years and older) renew and complete a **FY2022 CORI**. If you are or plan to volunteer in any ministry, we must have a completed **2022 CORI** form on file. Volunteer renewals may submit a copy of driver's license, along with signed/completed CORI form, and email directly to: st.marysre1870@gmail.com for processing.

WISDOM FROM THE SAINTS: *See, Fire and Spirit in the womb that bore you! See, Fire and Spirit in the river where you were baptized! Fire and Spirit in our Baptism; in the Bread and the Cup, Fire and Holy Spirit!* Christ, the Light of the World, dwelt first in the womb of the Virgin—who was thus “baptized” by her Son—and then in the womb of the Jordan; he emerged from both as the Incarnate Word, the Savior of mankind. Those who are baptized thus become the children of Mary and partakers of the body, blood, soul, and divinity of her Son. - St. Ephrem

