

Respect Life Month

October, 2022

"Human life is sacred because from its beginning it involves the creative action of God and it remains forever in a special relationship with the Creator, who is its sole end. God alone is the Lord of life from its beginning until its end: no one can under any circumstances claim for himself the right to destroy an innocent human being." Catholic Catechism



"Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, before you were born I dedicated you." Jer. 1:4-5



St. Mary's Parish



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, following Mass
from 9:30-10:30 AM.

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
Religious Education Phone: (508) 429 - 6076

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 register through our website or by calling the rectory. 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
 Mr. Christopher Pelonzi, Director of Music
 Mrs. Fran Crespi, D.R.E., Grades K-7
 Mrs. Theresa Virzi, Grades 8-11 and Youth Minister
 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

SECOND COLLECTION THIS WEEKEND:

This week's second collection will support the Holy Father's "Peter's Pence" collection. This collection will also provide support to The Catholic University of America (CUA) that educates priests and lay people for ministry and for the Inner City Parishes of the Archdiocese of Boston. Your generosity will assist the Holy Father as well as the CUA and poor parishes here at home.

PARISH OFFERTORY LAST WEEKEND:

Automatic Giving: \$ 2,356.50
 WeShare: \$ 5,062.00
 Offertory Envelopes
 dropped off / mailed in \$ 5,221.00
 Total Offertory: \$ 12,639.50

Weekly Need: \$ 15,000.00

Shortfall: - \$ 2,360.50

Thank you for making up any missed weekly offertory support. The financial health of your parish depends on it.

KINDLY CONSIDER SWITCHING TO WESHARE OR AUTOMATIC GIVING: These online services allow you to maintain your support without having to remember to mail or drop off envelopes. They also allow you to maintain your customary weekly parish support even when you are away on vacation, long holiday weekends, foul weather weekends, sickness, (even pandemic), or other challenges during the year. Even if you are at Mass, these forms of giving mean not having to remember to bring checkbooks and / or envelopes with you. Learn how to make the switch at:
<https://stmarysholliston.com/how-to-give/>.

MASS INTENTIONS:

Saturday	October 1
5:00	Tim O'Connell
7:30	Parishioners of St. Mary's
Sunday	October 2
7:30	Eugenia Moraski
9:30	All Children of St. Mary's
11:30	Nicholas Anselmo
Monday	October 3
9:00	Carmen Jennings
Tuesday	October 4
9:00	Nathan Jennings
Wednesday	October 5
9:00	Mary Alice Jennings
Thursday	October 6
9:00	Alice Short
Friday	October 7
9:00	Fr. Issa & the People of our Sister Parish, Our Lady of Fatima, Beit Sahour
Saturday	October 8
5:00	Jeanne Miley, 1 st Anv.
7:30	Francis Gaboriault, 29 th Anv.
Sunday	October 9
7:30	Parishioners of St. Mary's
9:30	Len Levasseur
11:30	Patrick McDonald



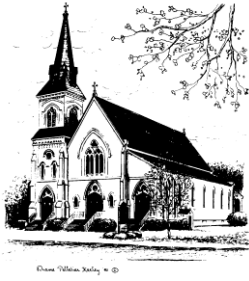
DONUTS, JUICE AND COFFEE: Please join us in Fr. Haley Hall today, Sunday, October 2, after the 9:30 AM Mass, for refreshments and camaraderie. DJ&C is also a great chance to welcome new families who have joined our parish. Come on down!

BANNS OF MARRIAGE:

II Stephen Costello and Elizabeth Stearns

THE ROSE FOR LIFE: Sponsored this week by the Kampersal Family. Join them in prayer for an unborn child.

MOM'S PRAYER GROUP: On Tuesdays from 9:30-11 AM in Classrooms 3-4. Every week, we will pray together, read reflections according to the liturgical season, and share prayer intentions. Children of all ages are welcome, there will be a few toys and coloring activities available. Coffee and snacks will be provided. Contact Meghan Krenselewski at 978-421-5795 with any questions.



Saint Mary's Parish

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

October 2, 2022
27th Sunday in Ordinary Time

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

Today is Respect Life Sunday, a time we are called to reflect on the value of each and every human life from the moment of conception in the womb, to the moment of natural death. It may seem, and even be true, that in the Respect Life conversation we focus most on the innocent unborn. This is from the simple fact that they are so vulnerable, so under threat in the name of choice, and that they are unable to speak for themselves. Throughout His earthly ministry, Jesus spoke powerfully and urgently in defense of the weak and the helpless, and as His Living Body today the Church must imitate His example and continue His advocacy for those without standing in society. We do this not just by proclaiming the inherent value of all human life, but by promoting life in practical and helpful ways.

The Catholic Church in Boston offers tremendous support and resources to those in crisis pregnancies through Pregnancy Help (617-782-5151). This organization offers health care, housing, job training, counseling, adoption referral, nutrition, and practical baby needs to parents who without such help might consider terminating a pregnancy. Our annual "Baby Shower for the Unborn" will be held on October 22/23, collecting new baby items for Pregnancy Help. For women and men whose lives have been scarred by the experience of abortion, a powerful opportunity for healing and reconciliation is available through Project Rachel (508-651-3100).

Here at St. Mary's, we also have the weekly Rose for Life and maintain in our Parish Center lobby a whole board of resource materials and contact numbers. On Mother's Day we will have the annual Carnation Sale for Birthright of Framingham. Thank you to Deacon John Barry, Rosemary Rainsford and our Respect Life Committee for these efforts. It is so very important that we offer both spiritual and material support to parents in very difficult and painful situations.

Our efforts to respect life also must extend beyond the unborn to include all vulnerable persons - the poor, the condemned, the victims of war and terrorism, the elderly and the sick. To respect life is to acknowledge Christ in every person. During my twenty-eight years of priesthood I have presided at the funerals of far too many children and teens, a number of them from St. Mary's. I look at the untimely passing of these young people and wish that I could give them life. The gift of life, however, is beyond our power to bestow. All that we can do is to respect and defend the lives of those still with us, whether born or unborn, young or old, healthy or sick, innocent or guilty. We cannot give life where we choose, so let us never dare for any reason to take the miracle of life away from another person.

God bless you.

Rev. Mark J. Coiro
Pastor

**ATTENTION
ALL 6th, 7th & 8th
GRADERS!**

**YOU ARE
INVITED TO**

**SAINT MARY'S
MIDDLE
SCHOOL
YOUTH GROUP**

**KICK OFF &
ICE CREAM
SOCIAL,**

**TONIGHT,
SUNDAY,
OCT. 2!**



Giant MSYG Kick Off Event,
Tonight, 6:30 – 8 PM, open to all 6th, 7th & 8th Graders. Sign-ups for the Friday, October 14 Barrett's Haunted Mansion Trip and a Giant Slideshow of all this summer's events. Save the date! Join us for our **16th year** of Faith, Friendship, Service & Fun!

NEXT WEEKEND ~



venmo



SUNDAY, OCTOBER 9, FAMILY & FRIENDS HISTORY-MYSTERY RALLYE:

Sunday, October 9 at 2:00 PM starting in our church parking lot. Join us for a thoroughly enjoyable afternoon! Put together a team of at least two people (or your whole family) and have a blast! Follow route directions to historic and notable sites in town, find answers to questions on your sheet, and arrive back at St. Mary's about 45 minutes later. This isn't a timed event, but distance is important. Join other contestants for refreshments and games for the kids until the winners are announced. Three top teams will win \$100, \$50, or \$25! The entry fee is \$15 per car if paid by October 1 or \$20 on the day of the event. Net proceeds go to charity. For early entries, please send your name, address, and a check payable to KofC 14224 to Tom Anguish, 542 Winter Street, Holliston, MA 01746 OR use VENMO and identify your payment as registration for History-Mystery Rallye to St. Mary's Holliston K of C @KofC14224. Identify your payment as registration for History-Mystery Rallye to St Mary's Holliston K of C, @KofC14224, OR point your smart phone at this QR code and go directly to our **VENMO payment page**. **K OF C CHARITY RAFFLE TICKETS:** The winning charity raffle tickets will be drawn during our new Family & Friends History-Mystery Rallye.

OCTOBER 8 & 9 AFTER ALL MASSES, ANNUAL K OF C TOOTSIE ROLL DRIVE:

Also offered at various downtown locations. All proceeds are given to the K of C State Council for donation to special needs charities in Massachusetts.

OCTOBER 8 & 9 AFTER ALL MASSES, PARISH PASTA NIGHT TICKETS ON SALE: Come join your fellow parishioners for fine Italian fare, live music and great company, Saturday, October 22 from 6 to 8 PM. The menu will include rigatoni with red sauce, rigatoni with broccoli and chicken, rigatoni with butter, meatballs, salad, rolls and soda, water, juice and Italian pastries. Families with children of all ages are welcome. The cost is \$10 per person, or \$30 for immediate family (parents and children). Tickets will be on sale after all Masses the weekends of October 8 and 9 and October 15 and 16, and at the Religious Education Office starting on October 10. There are no tickets at the door on October 22. New families will receive a direct invitation and should RSVP to come for free as our special guests.

RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE IN MEMORY OF MARC LEVASSEUR, SATURDAY, OCTOBER 15: Celebrate life and make a difference by giving blood on Saturday, October 15 in Father Haley Hall from 8 AM to 1 PM. The need is constant, the gratification is instant. Streamline your donation experience and save up to 15 minutes by visiting RedCrossBlood.org/RapidPass to complete your pre-donation reading and health history questions on the day of your appointment. We've also got a treat for you this month: Come to give in October and get a \$5 e-gift card to a merchant of your choice. Enjoy some buttery popcorn or a refreshing drink with your movie screening on us. Terms apply, see rcblood.org/boo. Please schedule an appointment to donate at this special blood drive. You'll feel good knowing you've helped change the lives of patients in need. Give blood!

BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS: Sunday, October 16 at 1 PM. Parishioners are invited to bring their pets to the Lower Church as we celebrate the Church's Rite of the Blessing of Animals. Each pet will receive an individual blessing as we ask God's protection for our animal friends and remember that all living things are precious to Him. This blessing takes place in October as St. Francis of Assisi's Feast Day is this month, and he had a special love of the furred, finned and feathered creatures of the earth.



BABY SHOWER FOR THE UNBORN: October 22 and 23 at all Masses. Please bring new baby items and clothes to Mass and place them in or around the baby stroller in the sanctuary. These gifts will directly assist mothers in crisis pregnancies through the Pregnancy Help program of our Archdiocese. Thank you for supporting families and babies in their time of need! A Pregnancy Help Client Testimonial: "When I got pregnant I felt lonely, desperate, and confused. I found myself pregnant with no husband, no family, no money, no house and maybe no job. It was like being in a dark hole. I heard about Pregnancy Help, and they gave me the emotional and material support to get out of the confusion, to put aside all the obstacles that I thought I had and begin to take care of myself and my baby. I do not have words big enough to match the work they do." Learn more at www.pregnancyhelpboston.org.



TGIF (Teens Gather In Faith), NEW SCHOOL YEAR, NEW NAME, NEW HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP! All teens in Grades 9 through 12 are invited to the first TGIF Meeting of the year, **Sunday, October 16**, from 7:15-8:45 PM in Fr. Haley Hall. Bring \$5 dues and bring a friend! Snacks will be provided. If you have any questions please reach out to Theresa at Stmarysym1870@gmail.com. At this meeting we will have signups for the first trip of the year – the Davis Farm Mega Maze, Saturday, October 22. Save the date!

WINGS: (Women in God's Spirit) is a ministry of encouragement and enrichment for women of all ages who seek to deepen their Catholic faith and grow in their relationship with God and one another. Our Fall Season

"Called to Relationship" **begins on Wednesday, October 12**, from 9:45 to 11:15 AM in Father Haley Hall and will conclude on Wednesday, November 16. Our first speaker is Rev. James Flynn who will help us to better understand the relational aspect of our loving God as it connects to the gift of the Holy Trinity. The meeting includes prayer, an inspiring speaker and large or small group sharing with WOMEN OF ALL AGES.

ARE YOU A NEW MOM, RECENTLY RETIRED OR WORKING FROM HOME? Then consider giving yourself the gift of growing in faith through the WINGS program. Can you carve out an hour once a week to learn more about your Catholic faith and deepen your relationship with God? We hope you will join us. Please let us know when you register if you will require babysitting so we can arrange for childcare. WINGS asks for dues of \$50 per year, or \$20 per season (Fall, Winter, Spring) to defray speaker fees; however, everyone is welcome regardless of ability to pay. For additional information about the WINGS ministry, please call Jen Schiller at 617-852-9632 or Diane Collins at 508-259-7795. To register for WINGS, email stmaryswingssecretary@gmail.com. We look forward to welcoming you!



ALL INTERESTED BOYS & GIRLS ARE INVITED TO A MEETING ON SUNDAY, OCTOBER 16, FROM 7 – 7:30 PM IN THE CHURCH.

Any parish youth in 4th Grade through 12th Grade interested in becoming an Altar Server should attend this meeting with a parent and their family calendar. We will plan the training schedule together according to the kids' activity schedules. This ministry is a beautiful way to support the worship life at St. Mary's and to serve God. Email Patty Baribeau that you are coming at: st.marys.altarserver@gmail.com, or just show up!

Altar Servers prepare the sanctuary for Mass and assist during the celebration of Mass. They also occasionally serve at Weddings and other special celebrations in the life of the Church. Altar Servers are usually scheduled for two Masses in a five-week period.

WHY DID I BECOME AN ALTAR SERVER? HERE'S WHAT SOME OF OUR SERVERS SAID!

"It's more interesting to have a job at Mass instead of sitting in the pew."

"I thought it was cool to know the names of everything and how to set up the Church."

"My family wasn't getting to Mass very much before. I thought my becoming an Altar Server would help us, and it did!"

"I wanted to do something special for God."

THE FIRST UPSTAIRS CLOW IS TODAY, SUNDAY, OCTOBER 2 AND THE WEEKLY DOWNSTAIRS CLOW STARTS SUNDAY, OCTOBER 16: Please pray about joining the CLOW team this year! The Children's Liturgy of the Word is a format that presents the biblical teachings of our Catholic faith to the children of our parish in a friendly, interactive and fun setting. The requirements are that you are a practicing Catholic, attending Mass and living out your faith in daily life. We have some fabulous leaders, about 5 regular ones, but realistically should have double that number. We also welcome teen leaders 15 and over who are practicing Catholics. Won't you please consider joining us? Contact Religious Education at 508-429-6076.

CLOW READERS: St. Mary's is in need of a few more young people willing to become youth lectors at the 9:30 AM CLOW Masses. The St. Mary's youth lector program allows youths in 7th Grade or higher to proclaim the Word of God at Mass and at other liturgical celebrations. Candidates must attend church regularly and be willing to spend time during the week before to practice their reading skills. People are scheduled for one Sunday per month. If interested please email Ron Turcotte at ronturcotte2@gmail.com to arrange for a short training session.

PANTRY SHELF BACK TO SCHOOL HELP: Regular coffee, applesauce, peanut butter, jelly, sugar, ketchup, mayonnaise, Chunky Soup, cookies, canned turkey/chicken, canned fruits, pasta sauce, canned tomatoes, toilet paper and cake and brownie mixes. Donations may be dropped off in the blue bin by the main parking lot entrance.

RCIA AND ADULT CONFIRMATION: If you have heard the calling to join the Catholic Church, St. Mary's Parish will be starting an RCIA Program in late September which leads to full initiation into the Church. Among others, this is an ideal opportunity for those who may have been attending Mass with your Catholic spouse or family but now want to participate more fully in the liturgies. In addition, we will also be starting an Adult Confirmation Class (leading to an Adult Confirmation Liturgy) for those adult Catholics (18+) who never received the sacrament at a younger age. If you are interested to join either program or just want further information, please contact Deacon Ron Dowding at 508-429-3961. Read more about RCIA on the next page and Welcome!



What is RCIA?

The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults is the way people are initiated into the Christian way of life, specifically in the Roman Catholic tradition. It is a journey of discovery, where participants come to know Jesus Christ. It is a process of awakening to what it means to be a Catholic Christian. It is an opportunity to explore the Catholic faith. It is a period of discernment to help each individual freely decide if the Catholic Church can be the place to call home. The RCIA is a focused experience of the ever-deepening journey into the life of faith, which is the task of a lifetime.

Who is RCIA for?

RCIA is for adults who have never been baptized, those who have been baptized in another Christian denomination, and even those baptized as a Catholic who were unable to continuing learning about the faith.

So, what do we do on this journey?

We pray, learn about prayer and how to pray. We enter into a journey of discovery into the sacramental and prayer life of the Church, most especially the Mass. We learn about Scripture; in fact, the Bible is our primary “text book”. We learn how to “be” Catholic as we discover the moral and prayer life of the Church. We develop relationships, within our group, but also within the parish and the community.

How much does the program cost?

Nothing. All expenses are covered by the parish.

Who do I call for more information or to get started?

Deacon Ron Dowding at 508-429-3961. Welcome!

What past participants have said:

“RCIA helped me with my spiritual journey by understanding where I was coming from; I was helped to understand how much God loves me and how much this parish community cares.”

“Helped me clear up a lot of misconceptions and stereotypes about Catholics.”

“Reconciliation was keeping me away from this program; but I loved the experience. What a gift this sacrament is!”

“Really enjoyed the experience and education; time flew by so fast it didn’t seem like eight months.”

“Thank you, thank you, thank you! This is exactly what I needed in my life. I am so thankful for the RCIA team - the entire experience!”

“I came because of family pressure. I stayed and became Catholic because I wanted to. It was the best decision I’ve made in my life.”



IS YOUR CHILD REGISTERED FOR RELIGIOUS EDUCATION?

October 14 - Deadline for Grades Pre-K through 8 – No registrations accepted after this date.

Please Note: Grades 9/10 Registration Period is NOW CLOSED and registrations are no longer accepted.

Note: The only exception is for families new to the St. Mary's Parish community arriving after the deadline. Registration forms can be downloaded at <https://stmarysholliston.com/religious-education/religious-education-registration/>.

CLOW SEEKING ADULT HELPERS: CLOW starts on **Sunday, October 16** and is the celebration of the Liturgy of the Word with children. There is a need for more CLOW Leaders. Leaders are provided with the materials a week ahead to prepare. High School teens 15 + years of age are encouraged and welcomed.

TODAY!
PRE-K FIRST SESSION
SUNDAY, OCTOBER 2.



CLASSES BEGIN THIS WEEK FOR GRADES 2 AND 3 ~ SUNDAY OCT. 2, 2022

DATE	GRADE	GRADE
Sun., Oct. 2	PR-K at 9:15 AM	GR-2 at 8:10 AM
	GR-2 at 10:45 AM	GR-3 at 7:55 AM
	GR-3 at 10:45 AM	
Tues., Oct. 4	GR-3 at 4:00 PM	GR-6 at 4:00 PM
Wed., Oct. 5	No Classes	
Sun., Oct. 9	No Classes	
Mon., Oct 10	Closed	
Tues., Oct 11	No Classes	
Wed., Oct. 12	GR-2 at 4:15 PM	GR-7 at 6:00 PM

GRADE 8 TEACHER MEETING is on Tuesday, October 11 at 7 PM in Father Haley Hall. First classes begins Monday, October 17 and Tuesday, October 18.

GRADES 9 & 10 TEACHER MEETING is on Thursday, October 13 at 7 PM in Father Haley Hall. First classes begins Sunday, October 23 (Year 1) and Sunday, October 30 (Year 2).

MONITORS: Monitors are essential while classes are in session. The tasks are simple and training is provided. Please consider filling one of the openings listed in the chart to the right.

GRADES 9 AND 10 ABSENCE POLICY NOTICE:

If a student is absent from the Sunday Mass the day of their class session he/she will be required to fill out a Mass Reflection sheet to make up the Mass time. Know that Grades 9 and 10 meet once a month separately for the 11:30 AM Mass followed by light refreshments and then classes ending at 2:30 PM. Being present for each class is critical for the two year Confirmation Program.



CONFIRMATION 2022 REHEARSALS THIS WEEK!

Students scheduled for the 10:30 AM Mass on Saturday, October 8: Your rehearsal will be held on Tuesday, **October 4** at 7:00 PM. Sponsors also attend.

Students scheduled for the 1:30 PM Mass on Saturday, October 8: Your rehearsal will be held on Thursday, **October 6** at 7:00 PM. Sponsors also attend.

GRADE COORDINATORS: Grade Coordinators are vital to our Religious Education Program. At this time a **Grade 5 and 7 Coordinator** are needed to assist the DRE. Training is provided. Call or Email Fran at 508-429-6076 or st.marysDRE1870@gmail.com for further information and description of tasks.

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.

VOLUNTEER OPENINGS ON CHART BELOW:

GRADE	DAY AND TIME	TEACHERS	MON.
PRE-K.	Sun., 9:15 to 10:30 AM	2 Teens	Filled
Kind.	Sun., 9:15 to 10:30 AM	1 Adult	Filled
GR-2A	Sun., 8:10 to 9:25 AM	1 Adult	1
GR-3A	Sun., 10:45AM-12:15 PM	1 Adult	1
GR-4A	Sun., 10:45AM-12:15 PM	1 Adult	1
GR-5A	Sun., 10:45AM-12:15 PM	Filled	1
GR-7A	Sun., 5:00 to 6:30 PM	1 Adult	1
GR-9A	Sun., 11:30 AM-2:30 PM	1 Adult	Filled
GR-10	Sun., 11:30 AM-2:30 PM	2 Adults	1
GR-8B	Mon., 6:00 to 7:30 PM	2 Adults	1
GR-3C	Tues., 4:00 to 5:30 PM	1 Adult	Filled
GR-4C	Tues., 4:00 to 5:30 PM	1 Adult	Filled
GR-5C	Tues., 4:00 to 5:30 PM	1 Adult	Filled
GR-8C	Tues., 6:00 to 7:30 PM	4 Adults	1
GR-2D	Wed., 4:15 to 5:30 PM	1 Adult	Filled
GR-7D	Wed., 6:00 to 7:30 PM	1 Adult	Filled