



*"Blessed are the peacemakers: for
they shall be called the
children of God."*



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 from 9:30-
10:30 AM and as announced.

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
 Mrs. Fran Crespi, D.R.E., Grades K-7
 Mrs. Theresa Virzi, Grades 8-11 and Youth Minister
 Mr. Mark Schiapucci, Interim Choir Director
 Mr. Andrew John Rondelli, Interim Organist
 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:
"Holliston – Holy Land Friendship Scholarship."



This annual Scholarship fully funds the education of one boy and one girl for a year at the Patriarchate School of our Sister Parish, Our Lady's in *Beit Sahour* - the *Shepherd's Fields* outside Bethlehem.



The Scholarship recipients are Andrea Elias Salim Jaraisseh, (Andy), 13 years old, Grade 7; and Malak Majdi Hanna Odeh, 17 years old, Grade 11, photos left. Thank you!

LAST SUNDAY'S PARISH OFFERTORY:

Automatic Giving: \$ 4,128.00
 WeShare: \$ 3,912.00
 Mass Offertory and
 Envelopes Mailed
 or Dropped Off: \$ 6,096.00
 Total Offertory: \$ 14,136.00
 Weekly Need: \$ 15,000.00

Shortfall: - 864.00
Please make up any missed weekly support from when travelling or away. Thank you!

May God bless you for your faithful stewardship.

Church in Latin America (Last Weekend): \$2,070.25
 Thank you for being a blessing to them.

WISDOM FROM THE SAINTS: *"Apart from the Cross, there is no other ladder by which we may get to heaven."* - St. Rose of Lima

PRAYERS AND MASS INTENTIONS:

Saturday	January 28
5:00	Tammy Sullivan
7:30	Charlotte Fortin, 10 th Anv.
Sunday	January 29
7:30	Elvira Haberski (Living)
9:30	People of St. Mary's
11:30	Richard B. Matty
Monday	January 30
9:00	Richard "Dick" Trinqu
Tuesday	January 31
9:00	Holy Souls
Wednesday	February 1
9:00	Rev. Thomas J. Powers
Thursday	February 2
9:00	Gonzalo Dean
Friday	February 3
9:00	Intentions of Fr. Issa & Parishioners of our Sister Parish in Beit Sahour
Saturday	February 4
5:00	Joan Mullen
7:30	Robert Fortin, 8 th Anv.
Sunday	February 5
7:30	People of St. Mary's
9:30	Boy Scouts
11:30	Patrick Cuff, 5 th Anv. And Troy Marden, 4 th Anv.

NEW ALTAR SERVER**CLASS: About eight more**

St. Mary's youths in 4th - 12th Grades are needed to serve at the Lord's altar at Holy Mass. 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.

All interested boys and girls are invited to a meeting **this Monday, January 30, 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 Mrs. Baribeau at st.marys.altarserver@gmail.com that you are coming or just show up!





From the Pastor's Desk

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

In the last three weeks, at least sixty-nine people have been killed in mass shootings, including two mass shootings in California. In this moment of sorrow we pray for the repose of the slain, the healing of the injured, and the consolation of the bereaved. We also reaffirm our belief in the intrinsic value of every human life without exception.

The Friday before last, hundreds of thousands gathered in Washington D.C. for the annual Respect Life March. It has been frustrating to me over and over to hear the media refer to the movement as Anti-Abortion Rights, rather than Pro-Life. This distinction is an important one, because while the D.C. March is timed to mark the now overturned Supreme Court Decision allowing abortion on demand (Roe vs. Wade), the Pro-Life Movement is not only about respecting the child in the womb. It is a recognition of the value and dignity of all human life, and a call to respect human life from conception to natural death - including every moment in between.

Therefore, the Pro-Life movement is also about defending the lives of the poor, the sick, the elderly, those impacted by war and terrorism, and prisoners condemned to die. It is about social justice and our responsibility as Church to speak up for the weak and vulnerable, to defend the lives that society often sees as having little value.

This truth is well expressed in these words from the USCCB:

For the Church, there is no distinction between defending human life and promoting the dignity of the human person. Pope Benedict XVI writes in *Caritas in Veritate*. . . that "The Church forcefully maintains this link between life ethics and social ethics, fully aware that 'a society lacks solid foundations when, on the one hand, it asserts values such as the dignity of the person, justice and peace, but then, on the other hand, radically acts to the contrary by allowing or tolerating a variety of ways in which human life is devalued and violated, especially where it is weak or marginalized.'" (no. 15).

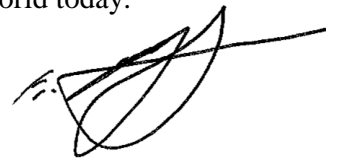
As a gift from God, every human life is sacred from conception to natural death. The life and dignity of every person must be respected and protected at every stage and in every condition. The right to life is the first and most fundamental principle of human rights that leads Catholics to actively work for a world of greater respect for human life and greater commitment to justice and peace.

The bishops pledge to affirm the intrinsic value of human life and the dignity of every human being in a way that transforms the culture. Achieving this goal includes ongoing education, prayer, policy, and advocacy efforts to mobilize the Catholic community on issues of life, justice, and peace. In this way, the Catholic community celebrates the gift of human life and witnesses to the Good News of Jesus Christ.

Let us then all do our part to promote a Culture of Life. Let us remember that Jesus Himself was the greatest advocate for those His society had devalued; and that in being their voice we become the voice of His Gospel in the world today.

God bless you.

Rev. Mark J. Coiro



ANNUAL BOY SCOUT PANCAKE

BREAKFAST: Next Sunday, February 5.

Enjoy all you can eat pancakes and sausages from 8:00 AM to 12:00 PM in Father Haley Hall. \$5/person – max \$20/family. Any scout in uniform eats free. Come support St. Mary's Boy Scout Troop 14 in a delicious way!



Calling All Women



WINGS (Women in God's Spirit) 2023 Winter Bible Study begins this Wednesday, February 1 at 10 AM via Zoom. WINGS is using Kevin Perrotta's book, *Relating to Others as Jesus Would* as our study guide. Please join us even if you don't have access to the study book. Our speaker this week will be Olivia Hastie, lifelong parishioner of St. Mary's and graduate of Holy Cross College. She is currently a student at Harvard Divinity School and has been involved in children's faith formation. This week's Chapter 1: *Jesus' Way of Relating to His Family* focuses on Luke 2:41-52, John 2:1-12, John 7:1-10, and Mark 3:19-35. These readings may be found [online](#). Email stmaryswingssecretary@gmail.com to register or call Jen @617-852-9632 or Diane @508-259-7795.

ST. MARY'S MOM'S PRAYER GROUP: The Mom's Prayer Group meets every Tuesday morning at 9:30 in Father Haley Hall for faith sharing and prayer intentions. Children of all ages are welcome, snacks and coffee are provided. This week's meeting is Tuesday, January 31. We will be discussing spiritual goal setting.

BLESSING OF MARRIED COUPLES: Saturday, February 11 / Sunday, February 12. In honor of World Marriage Sunday, St. Mary's will offer a special blessing to all married persons at all Masses. As is our custom, the couple at each Mass *present together* and *married the longest* will be presented with roses, as we honor all our married couples and ask God's abundant grace upon them.

COUPLE'S DATE NIGHT: National Marriage Week is February 5-13. Join us for a fun and resourceful date night as we learn the tools to "Manage Daily Stress" and "Resolve Conflict" with Clinical Psychologist, Dr. Greg Kolodziejczak on Saturday, February 11 from 7:00 - 9:00 PM in the formal dining room of the Pastoral Center in Braintree. Dinner, libations, and a few surprises served. Cost is \$30 per couple. For more information or to register, visit <https://www.evangelizeboston.com/event/date-night-marriage-enrichment/>.

Next Weekend



ANNUAL BLESSING OF THE THROATS: NEXT WEEKEND, FEBRUARY 4 and SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 5: In honor of the Feast of St. Blaise, this devotion will be celebrated after all Masses these dates. St. Blaise, Physician, Bishop and Martyr, is invoked against diseases of the throats and other ailments.

SACRED WATER PROGRAM:

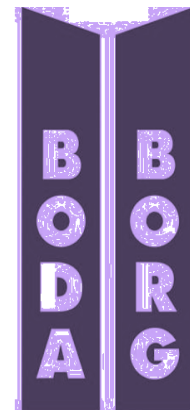
How can we protect our oceans and waterways? Sacred Water: Oceans & Ecosystems is a small group program that explores the impact of the climate crisis on God's creation and God's people. Topics include watershed discipleship, natural disasters and the climate crisis, ocean health, clean water access, pollution, plastics, and environmental racism. This program is being offered via Zoom on Monday evenings from 7 - 9 PM beginning February 13. There is no registration fee, as it is being co-sponsored by St. Mary's in Franklin and St. Mary's Holliston. For information or to register, contact Leo at 508-429-7476 or leoaracine@msn.com. Visit the JustFaith website at <https://bit.ly/SACREDWATER> to learn more about the Sacred Water program.





MIDDLE SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP: Our February Meeting is NEXT Sunday, February 5 from 6:30 – 8:30 PM, a half hour longer because of the *16th Annual Battle of the Sexes - a fast paced competition between boys and girls requiring knowledge, skill, and teamwork to take home the trophy!*

There will be faith, friendship, fun and signups for both the February 23 Vacation week trip to Boda Borg and the March 3 Nursing Home Bingo Service Event. All 6th, 7th and 8th Graders are welcome! Also, mark your calendar for the huge Middle School Luau Dance, Friday, February 10 - open to all 6th, 7th and 8th Graders from anywhere!



T.G.I.F (Teens Gather In Faith): This year's T.G.I.F has been off to a fun start, and Chipotle Night is always a favorite! Be sure to continue to check your emails as well as @tgif.stmarys on Instagram for upcoming events and meetings. If you have not yet joined High School Youth Group, and are interested, please contact Theresa by email at StMarysYM1870@gmail.com. All High School Students are Welcome!

HIGH SCHOOL SUMMER MISSION TRIP: Did you miss Mission Info Night? Please follow up with Theresa at StMarysYM1870@gmail.com if you are interested in more information. This year's High School Mission Trip will take place July 16- July 23. All high school students welcome, students must attend at least one TGIF meeting to attend Mission. More information will also be posted on Instagram at tgif.stmarys. All high schoolers are welcome!

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY: Do you love to knit or crochet? Come join our new group, PSALM: Prayer Shawls and Lots More! We'll be making prayer shawls for parishioners who need a spiritual hug or comfort during their most difficult hours. If you've always wanted to learn, we'll teach you. Our next meeting will be Friday, February 3, in the library at 9:30 AM after Daily Mass. If you knit or crochet (or if it's your New Year's Resolution to learn!) please contact Jane at JaneLebak@gmail.com or (603) 438-6468.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 2023: St Mary's invites you to participate in our "STELLAR!" VBS 2023. Children will discover how they can Shine Jesus' Love and Hope in everyday life. July 24 - 28, 2023 from 9 AM - 12 PM.



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

HOLLISTON PANTRY SHELF HELP: Regular coffee, peanut butter canned fruit, pasta, pasta sauce, Beef Ramen, cookies, Progresso soups, canned beef stew, tuna 5 oz., snacks and juice boxes. Donations may be dropped off in the blue bin by the main parking lot entrance.

TAX STATEMENTS: Tax statements for fiscal year 2022 are currently being prepared and will be mailed out in the coming weeks. **If you use WeShare, that part of your giving statement will be sent separately by email.** If you have any questions regarding your statement please call the rectory at 429-4427. St. Mary's is grateful to both those who faithfully use Our Sunday Visitor envelopes and those who use direct banking and WeShare. If using envelopes, please remember to write the enclosed amount on the outside. If this is done, the money counters only have to verify the contents. If it is not done, then they also have to write the amount for you, which adds substantially to the time needed to count the collection for deposit. If they do not notate the unwritten amount, it may be recorded as "0". Thank you!

PARISH HISTORY BOOKS: Family books not already picked up will be delivered by St. Mary's Boy Scout Troop 14 in February. Extra books are available for sale in the Religious Education Office.

LOWER CHURCH BATHROOMS UNDER REPAIR: Thanks to your faithful support of the 2022 Grand Annual, the repair and renovation of both Lower Church bathrooms is now underway. Please use the Parish Center bathrooms instead for the duration of this badly needed project.

HAWAIIAN LUAU!

MIDDLE SCHOOL DANCE

DATE: FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2023

TIME 7 PM – 10 PM

PLACE St. Mary's Parish Center
708 Washington St., Holliston.

COST \$10 at the door. *Drinks & snacks will be on sale separately.*

WHO Any and all 6th, 7th, or 8th Grade Middle School Students are invited to attend. The dance is sponsored by St. Mary's Youth Ministry, but is open to all Middle School Students from anywhere. Invite a friend!

For safety, you must remain in the building until a parent walks inside to pick you up.

**PROFESSIONAL DJ,
MUSIC, LIGHTS,
TROPICAL
ATMOSPHERE,
FROZEN DRINKS,
LIMBO CONTEST,
BEST BEACH
OUTFIT CONTEST,
PRIZES & TOTAL
FUN IN THE SUN!**



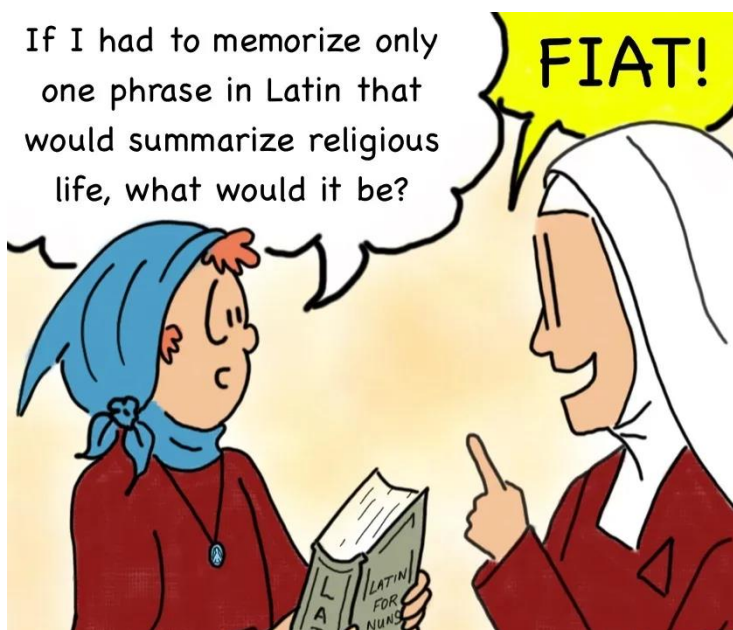


HEALING MASS WITH THE SACRAMENT OF THE ANOINTING OF THE SICK: Sunday, February 12, at 11:30 AM.

On Sunday, February 12, (one day after the Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes), St. Mary's will mark the World Day of the Sick. On this day we are encouraged to remember in our prayers all persons who are seriously ill. At the 11:30 AM Mass, helped by our 5th graders, St. Mary's will offer the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick. Anyone diagnosed with a serious illness is invited to receive this holy sacrament as a source of hope, strength and healing (James 5:13-15). Anyone needing a ride to the Healing Mass should contact the Rel. Ed. Office at 429-6076. *"The special grace of the sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick has as its effects: the uniting of the sick person to the passion of Christ, for his own good and that of the whole Church; the strengthening, peace, and courage to endure in a Christian manner the sufferings of illness or old age; the forgiveness of sins, if the sick person was not able to obtain it through the sacrament of penance; the restoration of health, if it is conducive to the salvation of his soul ..."* (CCC 1532).

If I had to memorize only one phrase in Latin that would summarize religious life, what would it be?

FIAT!



FIAT: Fiat, a gathering of women interested in learning more about religious life, cordially invites you to the next meeting on Wednesday, February 15, at 7:00 PM (ET) on Zoom. The topic is "Sisters in Ministry." Sister Maryanne Ruzzo, SC will share her experience as a pastoral associate and a hospital chaplain. If you are interested in attending, please contact Sr. Marian Batho, CSJ at 617-746-2025 for more information and the link to the meeting.

CURSILLO: The Cursillo is a "little course in Christianity" that begins on a Thursday evening and concludes Sunday afternoon. Each Cursillo is an encounter with Christ in a small community of the Church, in order that Christ's love and grace can be brought to every aspect of life. Fr. Bill Murphy and Mary Ann McLaughlin will be the Spiritual Directors of upcoming weekends. The Boston Cursillo Weekends will be held at The Notre Dame Spirituality Center, 30

Jeffrey's Neck Rd, Ipswich, MA 01938. For more information call: Chris Graf 617-332-5548. The Cursillo Weekends are: Women's Weekend, February 9 - 12. Men's Weekend, March 23 - 26.

THE BEATITUDES: What is Beatitude? St Gregory of Nyssa teaches us that "*beatitude is a possession of all things held to be good, from which nothing is absent that a good desire may want.*" What is the opposite of Beatitude? "*The opposite of beatitude is misery, being tormented unwillingly with painful sufferings.*" The man who loves relishes life, the man who envies is forever miserable in his abundance, the man driven by envy never has enough. The man who loves has an inexhaustible treasure that never diminishes no matter how much of it he shares with his neighbor, the treasure of "*beatitude, an inexpressible beauty which is very grace, wisdom, and power; this true light that is the fount of all goodness, wisdom, and power; mighty above all else, lovable, unchanging, rejoicing without end in infinite happiness.*" Those who love are forever happy, those who envy wallow in their misery.

FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME: It has been said that at one time or another, we will be invited to assume the attitude that each one of the Beatitudes speaks of. To those caught up in worldly values, these beatitudes can appear foolish and of little significance. However, we know that to offer mercy, to be a peacemaker, to live a chaste and pure life or to withstand insult because of your love of Christ - we need to take on the mind and heart of Christ. Pray for the grace to live each day with a "beatitude attitude."

THE ROSE FOR LIFE: Is sponsored this week by William and Cathy Glover in memory of Edmund and Marjorie LeBlanc. Please join them in prayer for an unborn child. To sponsor the Rose, please call the Rectory at 429-4427.

**CLOW- CHILDREN K-6:****CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE**

WORD: Today, Sunday, January 29, 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. 29	GR-K at 9:15 AM	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
	GR-10 at 11:30 AM	
Mon., Jan. 30	GR-9 RETREAT	On-Site
Tues., Jan. 31	GR-4 at 4:00 PM	GR-5 at 4:00 PM
Weds., Feb. 1	No Classes	
Sat., Feb. 4	GR-10 RETREAT	Off-Site
Sun., Feb. 5	PRE-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	
Mon., Feb. 6	GR-8 at 6:00 PM	
Tues., Feb. 7	GR-3 at 4:00 PM	GR-6 at 4:00 PM
	GR-8 at 6:00 PM	

MONITORS ARE STILL NEEDED! Please contact Fran to discuss class times with our greatest needs for monitors! Thank you!

SAFETY CLASSES SCHEDULED FOR 2023:

Parents who want to Opt-Out their children from the Safety Class must submit an Opt-Out Form prior to the session to the Religious Education Office

- **GR-1:** Sunday, January 29.
- **GR-5:** Sunday, Jan. 29 and Tuesday, Jan 31.
- **GR-6:** Tuesday, Feb. 7 and Sunday, Feb. 12.

**GRADE 9 RETREATS:**

UPDATED! Students in Grade 9 have a choice of attending one of two

retreats. The first retreat is

scheduled for tomorrow, Monday, January 30 from 4 – 9 PM and a second is offered on Saturday, March 4, from 10 AM - 3 PM. Both retreats will be held in Fr. Haley Hall. If you have any questions regarding the retreats, please contact Theresa Virzi.

CONFIRMATION I - GRADE 9: Next session is Sunday, February 12 at the 11:30 AM Mass. Fellowship will follow in Fr. Haley Hall and class from 1 - 2:30 PM.

GRADE 10 RETREAT: Will be held at Betania II in Medway on Saturday, February 4. Students will check in at 8:45 AM at the retreat center. If you have any questions regarding this event, please contact Theresa Virzi.

CONFIRMATION II - GRADE 10: TODAY!

Sunday, January 29 at the 11:30 AM Mass. Fellowship will follow in Fr. Haley Hall and class from 1–2:30 PM.

FOR ALL RELIGIOUS ED FAMILIES! MUST SEE VIRTUS EMPOWERING GOD'S CHILDREN (EGC)

NEW SAFETY PROGRAM: The Boston Archdiocese has rolled out a new Safety Program for 2023 for Grades K-12. Parents can view the program at:

www.VIRTUSonline.org. Enter the **User Name:** Parent_Boston and then the **Password:** EGCBoston1. When you are in the landing page click on the **education tab** at the top. You can view the Lesson plans for Grades K – 12. *Please view this program before the safety classes begin in January through February 2023.*

CORI VOLUNTEER RENEWAL ALERT: Ministry Leaders must secure that **all** their active volunteers (18 years and older) renew and complete a **FY2023 CORI**. If you are or plan to volunteer in any ministry, we must have a completed **2023 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. New volunteers must have information verified in person by any staff member. *Please note: If an FY2023 form has already been submitted, we do not need another.*

Vacation Bible School / July 24-28, 2023

We hope your Grade K – 6 children will join us for a **STELLAR** week of Faith, Friendship and Fun. Registration opens on April 1, 2023.



R.E. CLASS SNOW CANCELLATION: When Holliston public schools are closed or released during the day due to inclement weather then 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.