



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 last weekend: "Holliston - Holy Land Friendship Scholarship" \$3,171.25 - Thank you!

LAST SUNDAY'S PARISH OFFERTORY:

Automatic Giving: \$ 2,370.00
 WeShare: \$ 5,377.00
 Mass Offertory and Envelopes Mailed
 or Dropped Off: \$ 6,135.00
Total Offertory: \$ 13,882.00

Weekly Need: \$ 15,000.00

Shortfall: - \$1,118.00

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

May God bless you for your faithful stewardship.



HEALING MASS ~ SPONSORED BY GRADE 5: Next Sunday, February 12 following the 11:30 AM Mass the Anointing of

the Sick will be offered to parishioners and family members who seek emotional, spiritual and physical healing. This beautiful Sacrament is essential when one is sick, preparing for surgery, having difficulty with an addiction to any substance, living in despair and seeks the healing grace from our Divine Master and Healer, Jesus Christ. During Jesus' time on earth He lovingly healed so many people from their ailments, such as the leper, the blind man, a little girl and a crippled man who could not walk. Jesus healed out of His love and mercy for each person who believed by faith that they could be healed by Him. By our faith, we believe and trust in the healing power of God's grace. All who are in need of this Sacrament are welcome to receive it.

PRAYERS AND MASS INTENTIONS:

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.
Monday	February 6
9:00	Holy Souls
Tuesday	February 7
9:00	Rev. Raymond P. Kiley
Wednesday	February 8
9:00	Rev. Francis M. Glynn
Thursday	February 9
9:00	Rev. Daniel Magni
Friday	February 10
9:00	Valerie Kirrane
Saturday	February 11
5:00	Bob Pascucci, 1 st Anv.
7:30	James J. Ryan
Sunday	February 12
7:30	William and Peggy Short
9:30	People of St. Mary's
11:30	Gr. 5 Healing Mass



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!

Many thanks to St. Mary's own Boy Scout Troop 14, who starting this week will be delivering to parishioner homes any 150th Anniversary Parish History Books not picked up by families during the weeks of the Christmas Season. This is a great help to us and they can practice their map skills! Extra books are available for purchase in the Religious Education Office.



From the Pastor's Desk

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

I am delighted to announce that exactly one month from today our three night Parish Mission for Lent will begin. Entitled, "LIFE OF PASSION, LIFE OF LOVE," the Mission will be held from 7-8 PM in the church on Sunday, March 5; Monday, March 6; and Tuesday, March 7. The final evening will be followed by a reception in Fr. Haley Hall.

Our Mission leader is Mr. Adam Storey, a collaborator of Jon Leonetti, who recommended Adam highly to us. (You will remember that Jon led our amazing "SURGE OF THE HEART," Mission in February of 2022).

Adam is the Director of the Marriage and Family Life Office for the Diocese of Des Moines, IA. An inspiring national speaker, he will help unpack God's incredible plan for our lives, an invitation to live a life of passion!

After time in seminary discerning about priesthood, Adam realized he was called to the vocation of marriage. (He is now married for twelve years and has five beautiful children). But how to develop a rich, meaningful faith life as a layperson?

Adam will help us answer this question together in real and practical ways. The importance of prayer, incorporating a spiritual life in the home, and pursuing holiness in the world today are all among the themes he will share.

We hope that this Lenten Mission will revive the faith of those who are tired, worn down, doubting, despairing or depressed. Jesus speaks today of faith as being like the light given off by a lamp, something to be shared rather than hidden away. But the lamp of the soul needs to be filled and fueled if faith's light is to burn brightly. These three nights of grace are an opportunity to do exactly that.

So please save the dates and get ready to fill up your lamps!

God bless you.

Rev. Mark J. Coiro



LIFE OF PASSION

LIFE OF LOVE

A Parish Mission

ADAM STOREY



"Adam's unique and passionate gift for sharing his Catholic faith will leave you changed."

- Jon Leonetti

Sunday, March 5
Monday, March 6
Tuesday, March 7
 7-8 PM
 in St. Mary's Church, Holliston.
 Save the dates and invite your friends!

MIDDLE SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP:

Our February Meeting is **TONIGHT, 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! **See next page flyer for full Luau details!**



HAWAIIAN LUAU!

MIDDLE SCHOOL DANCE

DATE THIS 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!**



ANNUAL BLESSING OF THE THROATS: THIS WEEKEND, FEBRUARY 4 and FEBRUARY 5.

In honor of the Feast of St. Blaise, this devotion will be celebrated after all Masses this weekend. St. Blaise, Physician, Bishop and Martyr, is invoked against diseases of the throats and other ailments.

Sickness and suffering are mysteries that confront most Christians at some time in their lives. Believers cherish the stories of Jesus' tender concern for the poor and sick who sought to find relief and meaning in their struggles. The flesh-and-blood example of a long line of Christian witnesses whose faith sustained them in time of trial offers us hope when shadows darken our lives. Saint Blaise was such a person.

St. Blaise (also spelled Blase and Blasius) was a 3rd century physician who became Bishop of Sebaste, Armenia. On one occasion he cured a boy who was choking to death on a fish bone. This was the time of persecution under Licinius, and soon St. Blaise was forced to hide out in a cave on Mt. Argeus. Deprived of human patients, he began tending the wild animals of the surrounding forest. These animals sensed St. Blaise's holiness and would come to him with their injuries. St. Blaise was eventually captured and imprisoned; receiving a gift of candles from the mother of the boy he had saved from choking, with which to light his dark cell. He was beaten, had his flesh torn by wool combs, and was beheaded, martyred for his faith.



Because of the cure of the boy's throat when the boy was choking, St. Blaise is the patron against troubles of the throat. St. Blaise is also the patron of veterinarians and against attacks of wild animals. He is represented in art as a Bishop holding a candle, with wool combs, or in a cave surrounded by wild animals. A framed image of St. Blaise with both candle and wool comb has been placed in St. Mary's sanctuary for this weekend.

On or near February 3, the Feast of Saint Blaise, the Church continues its ministry to the sick with the blessing of throats. This blessing invokes God's healing and protection. Two blessed candles, joined in the form of a cross, are employed. The minister then prays, *"Through the intercession of Saint Blaise, bishop and martyr, may God deliver you from every disease of the throat and from every other illness: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit."*



BLESSING OF ALL MARRIED COUPLES: NEXT WEEKEND, FEBRUARY 11 & 12. In honor of World Marriage Sunday, St. Mary's will offer a special blessing to all married persons at all Masses next weekend. 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.

COLLECTION OF PALMS AND PRAYERS: THE WEEKEND AFTER NEXT, FEBRUARY 18 & 19. At all Masses the weekend after next, your old palms will be collected for burning to create the ashes for Ash Wednesday, February 22. We will also be collecting prayer intentions that will be carried by our thirty-five St. Mary's Pilgrims to the Holy Land. Your intentions will be prayed faithfully every day in the various holy places and shrines as we walk in the very footsteps of Jesus.

WINGS (Women in God's Spirit): Our WINGS 2023 Winter Bible Study via Zoom continues this week, Wednesday, February 8 at 10 AM. Our guide will be Theresa Virzi, St. Mary's Holliston Coordinator of Youth Ministry. Theresa graduated from the Franciscan University of Steubenville in Ohio with a degree in psychology and has a strong background in evangelization. WINGS is using Kevin Perrotta's book *Relating to Others as Jesus Would* as our study guide. This week's Chapter 2: *Jesus Relating to Seekers* includes selections from John 2:23-3:16, Luke 7:18-23, Mark 10:17-22, and Mark 12:28-34. These readings may be found online. Please join us even if you don't have access to the study book. Email stmaryswingssecretary@gmail.com to register or call Diane @508-259-7795 or Jen @617-852-9632.



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, February 7. We will be discussing how to stay motivated to continue developing our faith in the New Year.

WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER: The scriptures say "Love one another." Valentine's Day is approaching. Give your spouse the gift of a loving relationship by applying for a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Experience on March 10-12 in Upton, MA. Worldwide Marriage Encounter sponsors a variety of in-person and virtual marriage experiences, some on weekends and some on seven weekdays. Couples explore their relationship with each other, God, and the Church. Registration is limited; there is a \$100 application fee. For more information or to apply, call Joe & Ginny Vatelle at 978-870-5646 or <https://wwmem.org/>.

T.G.I.F (Teens Gather In Faith): T.G.I.F is seeking TEEN LEADERS for the upcoming ministry year. If you are interested, keep an eye out for an application in your inbox. Teen leaders help plan, organize and assist with youth group events. If you are not getting T.G.I.F emails, please reach out to Theresa. Also, 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 TO FLORIDA:

In 2022, St. Mary's High School teens traveled to Mississippi to spend a week serving others and bringing Christ to them. This mission trip not only greatly impacted the lives of those living in Mississippi, but the lives of our teens and chaperones.

THIS YEAR, our 2023 Mission Trip will take place on **July 16 - July 23** and we will be serving in FLORIDA helping those affected by two devastating hurricanes.

Hurricane Ian slammed Southwest Florida on Sept. 28, producing widespread damage and significant storm surge in Lee and Charlotte counties. Forty-three days later, Hurricane Nicole made its landfall. Almost 200 people died in the storms, and roughly 3.8 billion dollars in damage was done to homes and businesses. Now the rebuilding begins.

All high school students are welcome and must attend at least one TGIF meeting to attend Mission. Mailings will be sent out shortly with more information and will also be posted on Instagram at [tgif.stmarys](https://www.instagram.com/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 10, 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!) contact Jane at JaneLebak@gmail.com or (603) 438-6468.

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!

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.

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. To sponsor the Rose for Life, please call the Rectory at 429-4427.

SAVE THE DATES FOR 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.



SACRED WATER PROGRAM: How can I advocate for protecting our waterways? Sacred Water: Oceans and Ecosystems is a small group program that equips participants to restore the health of our oceans, waterways, and ecosystems through advocacy, grassroots organizing, and daily decision-making. This 8-week program is being offered via Zoom on Monday evenings from 7 - 9 PM. Start date is February 13. There is no registration fee for this program, as it is being co-sponsored by St. Mary's Parish in Franklin and St. Mary's Parish in Holliston. For more information or to register, contact Leo Racine at 508-429-7476 or leoaracine@msn.com. You can also visit the JustFaith website at <https://bit.ly/SACREDWATER> to learn more about the Sacred Water program.

HOLY LAND MEETING FOR ALL REGISTERED PILGRIMS: Thursday, February 16, from 7-8:30 PM in Father Haley Hall. At this gathering we will start getting to know each other, pray, have a presentation on some of what we will experience, and go over some logistics. We will also share out the items donated to bring in our luggage for our Sister Parish's School in the Shepherd's Fields outside Bethlehem. It is very important to make a good Confession before embarking on a Pilgrimage, and I encourage you to make plans now to do so on a specific date and place before March 10. Finally - please, please, please take a moment today to re-check the expiration date on your passport. You don't want any surprises right before we go! The Pilgrimage is now fully booked. All pilgrimage details are provided at: <https://www.pilgrimimages.com/frcoiro/>.

CLOW- CHILDREN K-6: CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD: Today, Sunday, February 5, the children will remain in the church with Fr. Mark and learn what Jesus teaches us in the Gospel reading.



GRADE 5 SPONSORED HEALING MASS IS ON-SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 12 at 11:30 AM. The Grade 5 children will participate in the Scripture readings, greeting parishioners and witnessing the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick at

the close of the Mass as part of their curriculum. Please take note of their posters on the entrance doors of the parish center. St. Mary's has wheelchair access by using the elevator located on the Elm Street parking lot.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION SCHEDULE

DAY	GRADE	GRADE
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	
Weds., Feb. 8	No Classes	
Sun., Feb. 12	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-9 at 11:30 AM	

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

GRADE 5 CHRISTIAN SEXUALITY WORKSHOPS FOR PARENTS: There will be parent workshops on Thursday, February 9 and Monday, February 13 from 10-11 AM and from 7-8 PM in RM 3-4 on both dates. Parents are required to view the program and sign a "Permission" form or a "Previously Previewed" permission form before their child is allowed to attend the student workshop on Saturday, May 8. If a parent missed one of the workshops and wants to view the program, contact Fran at st.marysdre1870@gmail.com.

GRADE 9 RETREAT: One remaining GR 9 Retreat is available for students who were unable to attend the earlier date which will be held on **Saturday, March 4, 10 AM-3 PM** in FHH. 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.

CONFIRMATION II-GRADE 10: Next session is Sunday, February 26 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 an active volunteer or planning to 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.