

# 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](http://www.stmarysholliston.com)  
Email Address: [St.marys1870@gmail.com](mailto: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 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> 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

**EARTHQUAKE EMERGENCY SECOND COLLECTION NEXT WEEKEND:**

The images coming out of Turkey and Syria following the February 6, 7.8 magnitude earthquake, are showing the world that the people there are experiencing immense suffering, destruction, and death. Cardinal Seán has asked that a special collection be taken up at all Masses next weekend. Funds raised will help to provide safe shelter, and access to food, clean water, and hygiene supplies. Thank you for your compassionate response.

**LAST SUNDAY'S PARISH OFFERTORY:**

Automatic Giving: \$ 4,141.00  
 WeShare: \$ 5,041.00  
 Mass Offertory and  
 Envelopes Mailed  
 or Dropped Off: \$ 6,645.00  
 Total Offertory: \$ 15,827.00

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

May God bless you for your faithful stewardship.

**PRAYERS AND MASS INTENTIONS:**

<b>Saturday</b>	<b>February 11</b>
5:00	Bob Pascucci, 1 <sup>st</sup> Anv.
7:30	James J. Ryan
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>February 12</b>
7:30	William and Peggy Short
9:30	People of St. Mary's
11:30	Gr. 5 Healing Mass
<b>Monday</b>	<b>February 13</b>
9:00	Rev. James F. Darcy
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>February 14</b>
9:00	Rev. Thomas Corcoran
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>February 15</b>
9:00	Helen Medwid, 3 <sup>rd</sup> Anv.
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>February 16</b>
9:00	Dan Wilman, Month's Mind
<b>Friday</b>	<b>February 17</b>
9:00	Mark P. Brazier
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>February 18</b>
5:00	Paul T. Shea and
	Louis and Emma Zeramby
7:30	John Collins, 18 <sup>th</sup> Anv.
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>February 19</b>
7:30	Paul Haberski
9:30	People of St. Mary's
11:30	Donna Joyce
<b>Monday</b>	<b>February 20</b>
9:00	Michael & Sylvia Paladino (Living)
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>February 21</b>
9:00	Rev. Michael M. Ferraro



Ash  
Wednesday

**February 22**

**6:45 AM Liturgy of the Word**

**9:00 AM Mass**

**4:00 PM Liturgy of the Word**

**5:30 PM Liturgy of the Word**

**7:00 PM Mass**

*Ashes will be distributed at all five celebrations as our Lenten Journey begins!*

**St. Mary's Parish, Holliston  
invites you to take part in our upcoming**



# **LIFE OF PASSION LIFE OF LOVE**

**- LENTEN PARISH MISSION –  
March 5, 6, 7 from 7-8 PM**

**Featuring National Catholic  
Speaker Adam Storey!**

**Night One:      Passionate Hearts**

**Night Two:      When the Rubber  
Meets the Road**

**Night Three:    Let's Get Real**

Adam Storey is the Director of Marriage and Family Life Office for the Diocese of Des Moines, Iowa. He desires to share the love of Christ and the beauty of the Catholic faith wherever he goes. He is a devoted husband to his wife Kara, and their children.

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

*-Jon Leonetti, Catholic speaker and author*





## From the Pastor's Desk

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

Today's readings reflect on the Commandments of God. Jesus says in the Gospel that He has come not to abolish "but to fulfill" the Law. In the first reading, Sirach reminds us that obedience to the Law is the way to life – but that such obedience must be given freely by us. God wants us to choose His way, rather than being forced into it. In the end, the Commandments of God are not meant to take away our freedom or happiness. Rather, they are the way to true freedom and lasting happiness.

When considering the Commandments, it is important to look beyond the prohibitions to the call to action they imply. For instance, we might read the Commandment, "Thou shalt not steal," and think simply that we should not take the property of others. In fact, this commandment also encompasses our responsibility to give to others – especially to the poor. In the words of St. John Chrysostom, "Not to share one's wealth with the poor is to steal from them and to take away their livelihood. For it is not our own goods which we hold, but theirs."

As we strive like Jesus to "fulfill" God's Law, let us consider not just what God calls us to avoid, but the actions He is calling us to pursue. And if we are finding a particular aspect of God's to be difficult or onerous, let us remember that God made us, and that He knows us better even than we know ourselves. He knows what will truly satisfy and save us. Today's second reading reminds us that God's wisdom is superior to that of men. That is why following God's Law leads to life, and why we can never really break God's Law, but only break ourselves against it.

God bless you!



Rev. Mark J. Coiro

## The Lenten Suppers start a week from Friday!

Join us for a great meal, prayer and deepening your community connection to your St. Mary's family!

**All Fridays of Lent: February 24, March 3, 10, 17, 24, and 31 at 6 PM.**

Our Lenten Suppers will take place in Fr. Haley Hall and will include a range of food options while observing Friday's abstinence from meat - as well as child friendly food.



Families with young children are encouraged to come and not feel burdened about bringing a meal, please let your St. Mary's community lift you up.

This also applies to any individual / couple / family feeling burdened where bringing a meal would prevent you from attending. We are all in different seasons of life, let your St. Mary's family be a safe landing spot for you this Lent!

If you'd like to help, please email Natalie Pomarico at [st.maryslentensuppers@gmail.com](mailto:st.maryslentensuppers@gmail.com). You will be added to the Lenten Supper Volunteer Group. A weekly 'Sign Up Genius' goes out and people sign up for food and drink as they're able (which we are aware varies week to week). Thank you!





**NEXT WEEKEND ~ BRING IN YOUR PALMS FOR BURNING:** At all Masses next weekend, February 18 and 19, palms will be collected in baskets on either side of the church sanctuary. They will be burned Sunday night to make the ashes of repentance.

**NEXT WEEKEND ~ BRING YOUR PILGRIMAGE PRAYER INTENTIONS:** At all Masses the weekend of February 18 and 19, we are 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, March 10-19. We will say Mass in Beit Sahour!



**LENTEN THURSDAYS ~ ADORATION AND CONFESSIONS:** In addition to the usual Saturday Noon to 12:45 PM Confession time, during Lent St. Mary's Thursday night Eucharistic Holy Hours will also have the opportunity for Confession, 7-8 PM in the church. Each Lenten Holy Hour includes an intention for which we ask you kindly to pray during your time before Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament:

February 23: Pray for the people of our Sister Parish in Beit Sahour, Palestine.  
March 2: Pray for peace in Ukraine.  
March 9: Pray for those experiencing addiction, and their loves ones.  
March 16: Pray for Catholics who have fallen away from their faith.  
March 23: Pray for married couples in difficulty.  
March 30: Pray for those fighting cancer.

**40 HOURS DEVOTION:** In celebrating this devotion, the Blessed Sacrament will be exposed on the altar at St. Mary's for forty continuous hours. The church will be open throughout and people may stop in at any time to visit with the Lord in prayer. The Forty Hours Devotion nurtures the love of the faithful for our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament. Additionally, three special dimensions surround this devotion:

- the protection from evil and temptation;
- reparation for our own sins and for the Poor Souls in Purgatory;
- and deliverance from political, material, or spiritual calamities.

Anyone and everyone is welcome at any time without signing up. But we need a minimum of two people committed to each specific hour the Blessed Sacrament is Exposed for Adoration. Please sign up at: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/805094DA5AB29A3FC1-40hours2>.

**BECOME A SISTER PARISH PEN PAL FAMILY:** In order to deepen connections between St. Mary's and our Sister Parish in Palestine, families in both parishes will be participating in a digital pen pal relationship. They will learn about each other's families and what life is like in their respective homelands. They will also pray for one another. Would you like to represent St. Mary's Parish in this beautiful way? Contact Paula O'Brien for more information at [stmarysre1870@gmail.com](mailto:stmarysre1870@gmail.com), or apply to be connected to a family in Beit Sahour through <https://forms.gle/s12FgtesxdK35yVM9>.

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

**HEALING MASS ~ SPONSORED BY GRADE 5:** Today, 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. Jesus lovingly 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.

**WINGS (Women in God's Spirit):** Our WINGS 2023 Winter Bible Study via Zoom continues this week, Wednesday, February 15 at 10 AM. Our speaker will be Fr. Mark Coiro, pastor, St. Mary's Holliston. Fr. Mark is a graduate of St. Anselm College, where he received his bachelor degree in Theology and Certification in Classics. He then attended St. John's Seminary in Brighton, where he received his Master of Divinity with a specialization in Systematic Theology. In addition to parish ministry, he served three active duty tours in the U.S. Army Chaplaincy program. Ordained a priest in 1994, he has been pastor of St. Mary's since October, 2005. WINGS is using Kevin Perrotta's book *Relating to Others as Jesus Would* as our study guide. Chapter 3, *Jesus Relating to Sinners*, includes selections from Luke 5:27-32, Luke 7:36-50, John 8:2-11 and Luke 23:32-43. These readings may be found online. Please join us even if you don't have access to the book. Email [stmaryswingssecretary@gmail.com](mailto:stmaryswingssecretary@gmail.com) to register or call Diane @508-259-7795 or Jen @617-852-9632.

#### **MIDDLE SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP:**

Our next MSYG trip is Thursday, February 23 to Boda Borg in Malden and Quincy Market in Boston. Our next MSYG Meeting is Sunday, March 5 from 6:30 – 8:00 PM. There will be a presentation on this summer's Whitewater Rafting Trips, including a video. Also, there will be sign-ups for the Friday, March 24, Late Night Cosmic Bowling Trip! All 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> Graders are welcome. Bring a friend!



#### **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. Mark your calendars for our next meeting, 'Minute to Win it' on March 19 from 7:15-8:45 PM! 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](mailto: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 September 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!

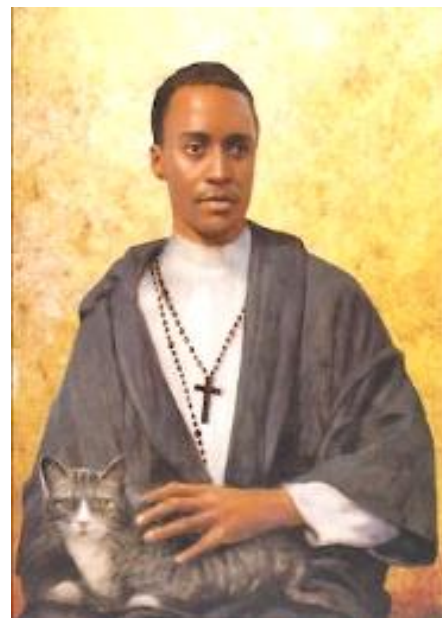
All high school students are welcome and must attend at least one TGIF meeting to attend Mission. Mailings will be sent out shortly with more information and will also be posted on Instagram at [tgif.stmarys](https://www.instagram.com/tgif.stmarys). Forms and first payments will be due March 12 and collected until the T.G.I.F meeting on March 19. All high schoolers are welcome! Reach out to Theresa Virzi at [StMarysYM1870@gmail.com](mailto:StMarysYM1870@gmail.com) with any questions.

**BLACK CATHOLIC SAINTS:** In honor of Black History Month, St. Mary's is profiling and celebrating different Black Catholic Saints in February. May their example of holiness inspire us, and may we all do our part to promote racial amity and equality for all God's children. Today's saint is Saint Martin de Porres.

**ST. MARTIN DE PORRES - (December 9, 1579 – November 3, 1639)**

Martin was born in Peru, the illegitimate son of a Spanish soldier and a freed slave. His father was so unhappy that Martin had inherited his mother's dark complexion that he refused to acknowledge him for years. After the birth of a baby girl, Martin's father abandoned the family altogether, leaving them in dire poverty. Despite having almost nothing himself, Martin gave generously to those who had less than he. When he was mocked for his illegitimacy and race, he responded by doing kind things for the very people who made fun of him.

As a man, Martin wanted to join the Dominican Order. Peruvian law did not allow people of color to enter religious life, but the Dominicans allowed him to work as a servant, sweeping the floors and answering the door. He did so joyfully, and after years of good works and miraculous cures at his hands, the Dominicans worked around the law, allowing him to become a lay brother. Martin eventually founded orphanages for homeless children and cared for lonely African slaves who had been forced to come to Lima. When he died, everyone in Lima mourned him, even bishops and members of the royal court. He is the patron Saint of persons of mixed race and of those who suffer from discrimination.



**HOLLISTON PANTRY SHELF:** The Pantry is open Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday from 10 AM - 2 PM, and Wednesdays from 4 - 7 PM. If you have an illness or emergency you may call the pantry at 508-429-5392 to receive a grocery delivery. Items needed are 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.



**SACRED WATER PROGRAM BEGINS TOMORROW:** 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](mailto:leoaracine@msn.com). You can also visit the JustFaith website at <https://bit.ly/SACREDWATER> to learn more about the Sacred Water program.

**LOWER CHURCH BATHROOM REPAIRS COMPLETED:** Thanks to your faithful support of the 2022 Grand Annual, the repair and renovation of both Lower Church bathrooms is now complete and both bathrooms are open.

**ROSE FOR LIFE:** Is sponsored this week by Maria Bomba. Please join her in prayer for an unborn child. To sponsor the Rose for Life, please call the Rectory at 429-4427.

**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 14. We will be discussing our relationship with the environment as Catholics.

**PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY:** Our new group Prayer Shawls and Lots More (PSALM) is going strong! If you'd like to join, our meetings are after daily Mass on Fridays, or you can make them on your own and deliver them later. We love to teach, so if you'd love to learn, we've got you covered. Please contact Jane Lebak at [JaneLebak@gmail.com](mailto:JaneLebak@gmail.com) if you're interested in sharing a spiritual hug with your fellow parishioners.





**CLOW- CHILDREN K-6: CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD:** Today, Sunday, February 12, 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.

**TODAY! GRADE 5 SPONSORED HEALING MASS 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. This sacrament is offered to anyone in need of spiritual, emotional, physical healing. 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. 12	GR-K at 9:15 AM	GR-1 at 8:10 AM
	GR-4 at 10:45 AM	GR-5 11:30 AM Healing Mass
	GR-6 at 4:00 PM	GR-9 at 11:30 AM
Tues., Feb. 14	GR-4 at 4:00 PM	GR-5 at 4:00 PM
Weds., Feb. 15	GR-2 at 4:15 PM	GR-7 at 6:00 PM
Sun., Feb. 19	NO CLASSES	VACATION WEEK Feb. 19-24
Sun., Feb. 26	GR-2 at 8:10 AM	GR-3 at 7:55 AM
	GR-2 at 10:45 AM	GR-3 at 10:45 AM
	GR-6 at 4:00 PM	GR-7 at 5:00 PM
	GR-10 at 11:30 AM	

**GRADE 5 CHRISTIAN SEXUALITY WORKSHOPS FOR PARENTS:** There will be parent workshops on Monday, February 13 from 10-11 AM and from 7-8 PM in RM 3-4. 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 6. If a parent missed one of the workshops and wants to view the program, contact Fran at [st.marysre1870@gmail.com](mailto:st.marysre1870@gmail.com).

**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.

**GRADE COORDINATOR MEETING:** On Thursday, February 16, there will be a Coordinator meeting from 7:30-8:30 PM in Room 3-4. We will discuss plans for next year's program and ways to improve and recruit teachers along with exploring creative ways to engage the children to live out their faith in meaningful ways through prayer and service with their families and the community of faith.

**TODAY! CONFIRMATION I-GRADE 9:** 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.

**GRADE 9/10 RETREATS:** For students who were unable to attend the earlier GR 9 and Gr 10 retreat dates, a second offer is scheduled as follows: GR 9 on **Saturday, March 4, 10 AM-3 PM** in FHH. GR 10 on **Saturday, April 1, 10 AM-8:30 PM** at Betania II which will include 7:30 PM Mass at St. Mary's. If you have any questions regarding the retreats, please contact Theresa Virzi.

**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](mailto: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

Join us for a **STELLAR** week of Faith, Friendship and Fun. Registration opens for K-6 children on April 1, 2023!



**Happy Valentine's Day!**