

Ash Wednesday February 22

6:45 AM	Liturgy
9:00 AM	Mass
4:00 PM	Liturgy
5:30 PM	Liturgy
7:00 PM	Mass



Ashes will be distributed
at all five celebrations.
Our Lenten Journey begins.
Forty Days of grace.
A time to turn back to the Lord.



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 9:30 - 10:30 AM,
Thursdays in Lent 7-8 PM

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
Noon to 12:45 PM,
Thursdays in Lent 7-8 PM

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

EARTHQUAKE EMERGENCY SECOND COLLECTION THIS 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.

SECOND COLLECTIONS FEBRUARY 26:

The Church Around the World. This collection supports the Church in those underdeveloped areas of the world. Catholic Relief Services (CRS), the Church in Africa and in Central and Eastern Europe, the Military Archdiocese, Home Missions, and the Black and Indian Missions. Your donations will help fund spiritual, educational and humanitarian needs. Also, collected on the Sunday after Ash Wednesday is the Catholic Charities Collection. Thank you for your continued generosity!

LAST SUNDAY'S PARISH OFFERTORY:

Automatic Giving: \$ 3,310.00
 WeShare: \$ 4,857.00
 Mass Offertory and
 Envelopes Mailed
 or Dropped Off: \$ 9,554.00
 Total Offertory: \$ 17,721.00

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:

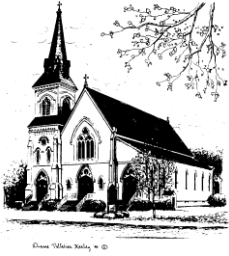
Saturday	February 18
5:00	Paul T. Shea and Louis and Emma Zeramby
7:30	John Collins, 18 th Anv.
Sunday	February 19
7:30	Paul Haberski
9:30	People of St. Mary's
11:30	Donna Joyce
Monday	February 20
9:00	Michael & Sylvia Paladino (Living)
Tuesday	February 21
9:00	Rev. Michael M. Ferraro

ASH WEDNESDAY

FASTING: Catholics over eighteen and up to the beginning of their sixtieth year are bound to the obligation of fasting. **Ash Wednesday** and Good Friday are the days of fasting. On these days, only one full meal is allowed. Two other meatless meals, sufficient to maintain strength, may be taken according to each one's needs, but together they should not equal another full meal. Eating between meals is not permitted, but liquids, including milk and fruit juices are allowed.

ABSTINENCE: Catholics over fourteen years of age are bound to the obligations of abstinence. Abstinence is to be observed on **Ash Wednesday** and the Fridays of Lent. On abstinence days, meat may not be used at all. Regarding other weekdays of Lent, participation in daily Mass and the voluntary observance of fasting is recommended. Commendable, is generosity to local, national and world programs of sharing our abundance, the traditional Lenten Devotions and all the self-denial summed up in the concept of "mortification."

Thursday	February 23
9:00	Rev. Hubert E. Desmond
Friday	February 24
9:00	Travis Joseph Butler
Saturday	February 25
5:00	Beverly Sullivan
7:30	People of St. Mary's
Sunday	February 26
7:30	Irvin Duclos
9:30	Khalil and Marta Hasrouni
11:30	Ambrosio Bolandrina



Saint Mary's Parish

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

February 19, 2023
7th Sunday in Ordinary Time

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

We stand at the very threshold of Lent, the Church's great Season of Purification that starts this coming Ash Wednesday. Recently I came across a beautiful reflection by St. Brigid of Ireland, Virgin of the Church. In it she recites the desires of her heart. And it occurs to me that if by the end of Lent these same desires have taken hold in us, then we will count these forty days as having been fruitful indeed. St. Brigid writes:

"I would like the angels of Heaven to be among us. I would like an abundance of peace. I would like full vessels of charity. I would like rich treasures of mercy. I would like cheerfulness to preside over all. I would like Jesus to be present. I would like the three Marys of illustrious renown to be with us. I would like the friends of Heaven to be gathered around us from all parts. I would like myself to be a prayer to the Lord; that I should suffer distress, that he would bestow a good blessing upon me."

"Angels of heaven to be among us" – This hope represents our awareness of the spiritual; our trust in the sometimes invisible, but constant presence of God. "An abundance of peace" – In a world wracked by war, terrorism, and hatred, what could be more timely than to offer a special prayer for peace each day of Lent? "Vessels full of charity" – We are the vessels, and true charity means looking for the best in others, speaking only well of others, and acknowledging Christ's presence in every human being. "Rich treasures of mercy" – Even as this Lent we share our earthly wealth with the poor, let us not be stingy in handing out a wealth of forgiveness to those against whom we have been hoarding anger and enmity. "Cheerfulness" – This is very much the hallmark of a Christian, not a giddy happiness, but a peace and quiet joy that comes from trusting in God no matter what may come.

"Jesus to be present" – On Ash Wednesday the ashes on our foreheads identify us as Catholics, but on every day our loving kindness should let people know that Jesus is in their midst. Let us also strive to realize Christ's presence by spending more time with Him in the Holy Eucharist these forty days. "The three Marys" – Let us like Mary Magdalene turn away from sin and begin a new life of purity in the Lord; let us like Mary the sister of Martha and Lazarus "sit at Jesus' feet and listen to Him" by making the Scriptures a daily part of our Lenten journey; let us like Mary the Mother of Jesus, remain true to her Son even when the whole world seems to reject His Gospel of love. "The friends of heaven" – a reference to the saints, whose life stories when read can encourage us in our own struggles. Let us also humbly beg the prayers of these holy men, women, and children, who now see God face to face. "To be a prayer to the Lord and know blessing through suffering" – this is the essence of Lenten fasting, abstinence, almsgiving, and prayer; that by emptying ourselves in sacrificial ways Christ might make His home more fully in us, and we in turn might become more of a blessing to others.

God bless you.



Rev. Mark J. Coiro
Pastor

HOLY LAND PRAYER INTENTIONS: Please neatly print your prayer requests on the papers provided in the front of the church today. Fold them in half and place them in the table baskets. They will be distributed among our Pilgrims and prayed every single day at Mass during our March 10-19 journey through the Holy Land, including Bethlehem, Nazareth and Jerusalem.



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





This Weekend ~ Bring in your Palms for Burning:

At all Masses this 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.

Friday Lenten Suppers Start this Friday ~

Join us for a great meal, prayer and deepening your community connection to your St. Mary's family! (Photo from last year at right).

Fridays: February 24, March 3, 10, 17, 24, and 31 at 6 PM in Fr. Haley Hall.

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. You will be added to the Lenten Supper Volunteer Group. A weekly 'Sign Up Genius' goes out in the bulletin and people sign up for food and drink as they're able (which we are aware varies week to week). Thank you!

Confession & Adoration Every Lenten Thursday ~

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.

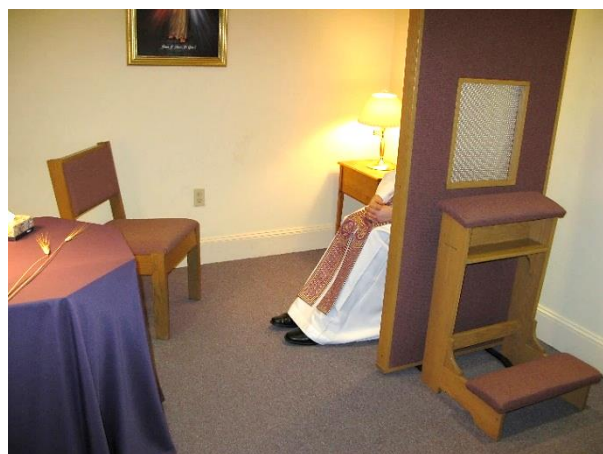
March 2: Pray for peace in Ukraine.

March 9: Pray for those experiencing addiction, and their loved 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.





Parish Mission March 5, 6 & 7 ~ From 7-8 PM in the church, Tuesday followed by a reception in Fr. Haley Hall.

In this three-night Parish Mission, Adam Storey will show how a life of passion must be rooted in a loving relationship with Jesus Christ. It is in Jesus where we encounter the most passionate love conceivable. It is in Him where we find fulfillment of the heart's deepest desires. This vision might sound appealing, but what does this relationship actually look like, what things tend to hold us back, and how can a passionate life be pursued in the midst of the daily grind?

Adam will explore this vision and these questions in depth, and he'll offer practical and simple ways for everyone to grow in this most precious relationship with God.

SUNDAY, MARCH 5 - FIRST NIGHT, *PASSIONATE*

HEARTS: The heart of the Christian life is about entering into a loving relationship with God - who first seeks us. During this first evening, Adam will explore why we must open our hearts to God, helping participants see that He is what our hearts most long for - for it is in this relationship where we are most alive. Using the lives of the saints and personal stories, Adam will show that our relationship with God truly has the power to transform us.

MONDAY, MARCH 6 - SECOND NIGHT, *WHEN THE RUBBER MEETS THE ROAD*: It's easy to think that a vibrant relationship with Jesus is a gift only offered to a few. Not so. In this talk, Adam will show that developing and nurturing this relationship with Jesus is accessible to all of us. We'll explore in depth the lay vocation, and how each of us can grow in holiness precisely in the hustle and bustle of daily life.

In this second evening, Adam will explore common misconceptions and challenges every Catholic faces, including struggling to find time, feeling awkward, and attempts to hide ourselves from God, and what we can do about it.

TUESDAY, MARCH 7 - THIRD NIGHT, *LET'S GET REAL*: Every love story is different, and so is every relationship with the Lord. However, there are small patterns of holiness every Christian can embrace each day. Drawing from the spiritual riches of the Church, in this final evening Adam will offer five simple and concrete disciplines a disciple of the Lord Jesus can incorporate into their day, helping them grow as disciples and deepen their Faith. This final Mission evening is followed by a reception in Fr. Haley Hall.

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
Catholic Speaker and Author





Forty Hours Devotion ~ March 26 - Tuesday, March 28

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.



Sunday, March 26

11:30 AM	Opening Mass
6:00 PM	Evening Prayer
8:00 PM	Scripture Reflection

Monday, March 27

9:00 AM	Morning Mass (Hall)
Noon	Holy Rosary
6:00 PM	Evening Prayer
8:00 PM	Scripture Reflection

Tuesday, March 28

9:00 AM	Closing Mass with Benediction
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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>.



This Lent 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, or apply to be connected to a family in Beit Sahour through <https://forms.gle/s12FgtesxdK35yVM9>.



YOUTH MINISTRY

MIDDLE SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP: Our next MSYG trip is this Thursday, February 23 to Boda Borg in Malden and Quincy Market in Boston. We will leave at 9 AM from St. Mary's and arrive at Boda Borg to choose from 17 different Quest scenarios - some require mental problem solving, others are very physical. Are you ready to break out of prison, win a TV game show, explore a haunted house and run an obstacle course? You'll do that and so much more! Then lunch at Quincy Market (bring \$ for this) and we will return between 5-5:30 PM depending on traffic.

• **ALSO, parents must complete the BODA BORG LEGAL WAIVER using the link you were emailed last Thursday.**

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 6th, 7th and 8th Graders are welcome. Bring a friend!



EXPERIENCE THE QUEST!

T.G.I.F (Teens Gather In Faith): Coming up for T.G.I.F, High School Youth Group teens will be sponsoring the Lenten supper on March 24. All high school teens are welcome to come together for some service, and an opportunity to gather with their church family. Keep an eye out on your emails regarding the sign up for this special service night. 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. T.G.I.F is still 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. With any questions or concerns, 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 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 T.G.I.F. meeting to attend Mission. Check your mailboxes, because mailings will be sent out your way soon with more information and will also be posted on Instagram at 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 with any questions.



WINGS (Women in God's Spirit): Our WINGS 2023 Winter Bible Study via Zoom continues this week, Wednesday, February 22, at 10:15 AM. Note our new time for this Wednesday is only to allow for attending Ash Wednesday Mass. WINGS is using Kevin Perrotta's book *Relating to Others as Jesus Would* as our study guide. Chapter 4, *Jesus Relating to People He Met along the Way*, focuses on Luke 12:13-21, Mark 10:13-16, Luke 19:1-10 and Luke 23:27-31. These readings may be found online. Our speaker for this week will be Joe Javorski, parishioner of St. Joseph's Parish in Medway and member of the Vision of Peace Prayer Group. Joe is an experienced Bible study leader and was our 2022 Winter Season guide. 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.

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 beige bin by St. Mary's main parking lot entrance.

NO WEEKDAY STREET PARKING ON CHURCH AND ELM STREETS: The Holliston Police Department has asked Saint Mary's to inform you of the following. Effective immediately, and until further notice, street parking on both Elm Street and Church Street is prohibited Monday through Friday. This is due to increased traffic flow caused by the emergency closure of the Factory Pond Bridge on Woodland Street. Street parking on Elm Street and Church Street is still allowed on the weekends. Parking on Washington Street is still allowed on both weekdays and weekends. We will let you know once the bridge is repaired, and street parking is possible again. Thank you.

LOVE YOUR ENEMIES: *"When love acts in the soul it does so wisely and gently, for it has great power to kill anger and envy, and all the passions of wrath and melancholy, and it brings into the soul the virtues of patience, gentleness, peaceableness, and friendliness to one's neighbor."*

People guided only by their own reason find it very hard to be patient, peaceful, sweet-tempered and charitable to their neighbors when they treat them badly and wrong them. But true lovers of Jesus have no great difficulty in enduring all this, because love fights for them and kills such movements of wrath and melancholy with amazing ease.

Through the spiritual sight of Jesus it makes the souls of such people so much at ease and so peaceful, so ready to endure and so conformed to God, that if they are despised and disregarded by others, or suffer injustice or injury, shame or ill-treatment, they pay no attention. They are not greatly disturbed by these things and will not allow themselves to be, for then they would lose the comfort they feel in their souls, and that they are unwilling to do. They can more easily forget all the wrong that is done them than others can forgive it even when asked for forgiveness. They would rather forget than forgive, for that seems easier to them.

And it is love that does all this, for love opens the eye of the soul to the sight of Jesus, and confirms it in the pleasure and contentment of the love that comes from that sight. It comforts the soul so much that it is quite indifferent to what others do against it. The greatest harm that could befall such people would be to lose the spiritual sight of Jesus, and they would therefore suffer all other injuries than that one alone.

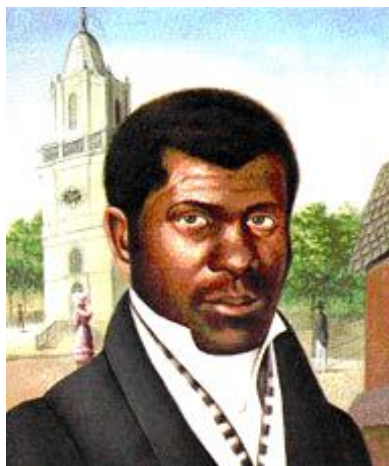
When true lovers of Jesus suffer harm from their neighbors, they are so strengthened by the grace of the Holy Spirit and are made so truly humble, so patient, and so peaceable, that they retain their humility no matter what harm or injury is inflicted on them.

They do not despise their neighbors or judge them, but they pray for them in their hearts, and feel more pity and compassion for them than for others who never harmed them, and in fact they love them better, and more fervently desire their salvation, because they see that they will have so much spiritual profit from their neighbors' deeds, though this was never their intention.

But this love and this humility, which are beyond human nature, come only from the Holy Spirit to those whom he makes true lovers of Jesus."

From *The Scale of Perfection* II, 3, chapter 8, Hilton, Walter (+1396), English Catholic Augustinian

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 Venerable Pierre Toussaint.



VENERABLE PIERRE TOUSSAINT (1766-1853): Pierre Toussaint was born a slave in Haiti. Plantation owner Pierre Bérard made Toussaint a house slave and allowed his grandmother to teach her grandson how to read and write. In his early 20s, Pierre, his younger sister, his aunt, and two other house slaves accompanied their master's son to New York City because of political unrest at home. Apprenticed to a local hairdresser, Pierre learned the trade quickly and eventually worked very successfully in the homes of rich women in New York City.

When his master died, Pierre was determined to support himself, his master's widow, and the other house slaves. He was freed shortly before the widow's death in 1807. Four years later, he married Marie Rose Juliette, whose freedom he had purchased. They later adopted Euphémie, his orphaned niece. Both preceded Pierre in death. He attended daily Mass at St. Peter's Church on Barclay Street, the same parish that Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton had attended.

Pierre donated to various charities, generously assisting blacks and whites in need. He and his wife opened their home to orphans and educated them. During a Yellow Fever epidemic when many of the city's political leaders fled the city in search of healthier rural climates, Pierre Toussaint cared for the sick and the dying.

Pierre was instrumental in raising funds for the first Catholic orphanage and began the city's first school for black children. He also helped to provide funds for the Oblate Sisters of Providence, a religious community of black nuns founded in Baltimore and played a vital role in providing resources to erect Old Saint Patrick's Cathedral in Lower Manhattan. Urged to retire and enjoy the wealth he had accumulated, Pierre responded, "I have enough for myself, but if I stop working I have not enough for others."

Pierre originally was buried outside St. Patrick's Old Cathedral, where he was once refused entrance because of his race. His sanctity and the popular devotion to him caused his body to be moved to the present location of St. Patrick's Cathedral on Fifth Avenue.

In recognition of Pierre Toussaint's virtuous life, the late Cardinal Cooke introduced Pierre's cause for canonization at the Vatican in 1968. In December 1989, the late Cardinal O'Connor had the remains of Pierre Toussaint transferred from Lower Manhattan to St. Patrick's Cathedral in midtown Manhattan where he is buried as the only lay person, alongside the former Cardinal-Archbishops of New York City. On December 17, 1997, Pope John Paul II declared Pierre Toussaint, Venerable, thus placing him firmly on the road to becoming North America's first black saint. Venerable Pierre Toussaint was a man who was proud of his faith, proud of his culture and committed to serving others.

ROSE FOR LIFE: Is sponsored this week by the Koval Family. Please join them 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 AM 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 21. We will be discussing how to incorporate rest into the busy lives of motherhood in tune with the liturgy.



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 if you're interested in sharing a spiritual hug with your fellow parishioners.

CLOW- CHILDREN K-6: CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD will resume on Sunday, **February 26**.

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
Feb. Vacation	Sun., Feb. 19-25	No Classes
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	
Mon., Feb. 27	GR-8 at 6:00 PM	
Tues., Feb. 28	GR-3 at 4:00 PM	GR-6 at 4:00 PM
	GR-8 at 6:00 PM	
Sat., Mar. 4	GR-9 Retreat	
Sun., Mar. 5	PRE-K at 9:15 AM	GR-1 at 8:10 AM
	GR-4 at 10:45 AM	GR-5 at 10:45 AM

THIS WEEK! 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.

CONFIRMATION I-GRADE 9: Next session is Sunday, March 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: Students who were unable to attend the earlier GR- 9 and GR-10 retreat dates will be able to attend the scheduled GR-9 retreat on **Saturday, March 4, 10 AM-3 PM** in FHH. The GR-10 students will attend

their retreat on **Saturday, April 1, 10 AM-8:30 PM** at Betania II that will include the 7:30 PM Mass at St. Mary's. If you have any questions regarding the retreats, please contact Theresa Virzi. All GR-9 and GR-10 students must complete a retreat this year.

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,

Blast off for a **STELLAR** week of Faith, Friendship and Fun. Registration opens for Grades K-6 children 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.

The Lenten Class Pen Pal Project with the students of the Patriarchate School of our Sister Parish - Our Lady of Fatima in Beit Sahour Palestine is underway! Students in Grades K-10 have been supplied with instructions and group fill-in sheets to share their favorite Catholic and Bible themed interests! We look forward to sharing the faith of our young Catholics at St. Mary's across the world! We will be collecting the Pen Pal sheets from all the classes through March.

