



*Let them grow
together until
harvest*

MATTHEW 13:30



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
 Mr. Mark Schiapucci, Interim Choir Director
 Mr. Andrew John Rondelli, Interim Organist
 Mrs. Mary Beth Harris, Parish Secretary
 Mrs. Jennifer Burgett, Religious Education Secretary
 Ms. Mary Sanning, Business Manager
 Mrs. Najat Whalen, Sacristan
 Mr. Billy Hanson, Parish Facilities
 R & R Landscaping, Cemetery Care

RECTORY OFFICE SUMMER HOURS: Please note that during the summer months the Rectory Office is closed on Mondays and Tuesdays. On other weekdays it remains open the usual 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM hours. Mass Cards may also be obtained at the Religious Education Office. Thank you.

PARISH OFFERTORY LAST WEEKEND:

Automatic Giving:	\$ 6,358.00
WeShare:	\$ 3,227.00
Mass Offertory and	
Envelopes Dropped Off	\$ 6,353.00
Total Offertory:	\$ 15,938.00

Thank you for your faithful stewardship! We urge all parishioners to please make the switch to Automatic Giving or WeShare. Learn how to make the switch at: <https://stmarysholliston.com/how-to-give/>.

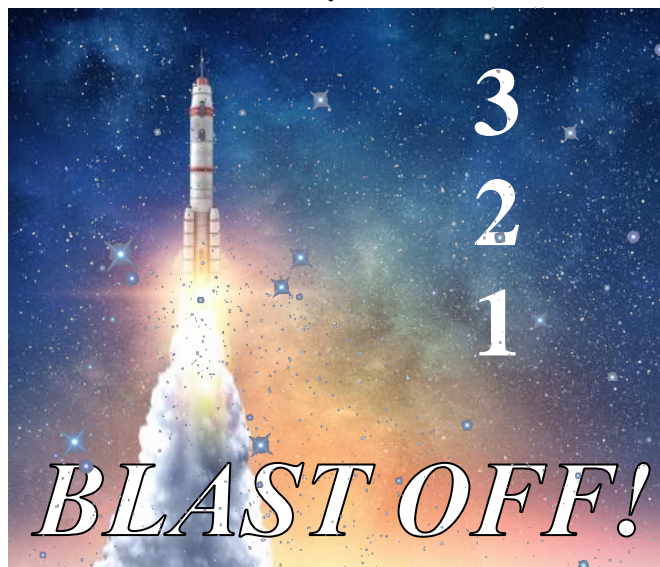
SUMMERTIME PRAYER

*May we make our homes places of relaxation,
 joy, love, peace and safety.
 May we be generous and considerate,
 not thinking only about ourselves, but helping others
 enjoy the blessings of the summertime.
 Lord God, Creator of all things,
 guide our steps and strengthen our hearts
 during these months of summer and vacation days.
 Grant us refreshment of mind and body.
 May we constantly strive to make a meaningful
 difference in the lives of our loved ones and in
 the world around us as we enjoy the warm days of
 summertime. Amen.*

PANTRY SHELF SUMMER HELP: Paper towels, Chunky Peanut Butter, jelly, tuna, ketchup, Chef Boyardee Beef Ravioli, and Progresso Soups. Donations may be dropped off in the tan bin by St. Mary's main parking lot entrance.

MASS INTENTIONS:

Saturday	July 22
5:00	Greg Schmall
7:30	Eric M. Foley
Sunday	July 23
7:30	People of St. Mary's
9:30	David Thomas Bushee
11:30	Charlie Coles, 1 st Anv.
Monday	July 24
9:00	L. David Marisi
12:30	Funeral ~ Marie Nichols
Tuesday	July 25
9:00	Charlie Coles, 1 st Anv.
Wednesday	July 26
9:00	Paul Smith
Thursday	July 27
9:00	Joan Lanoue
Friday	July 28
9:00	Giuseppe & Assunta Bomba
Saturday	July 29
5:00	Jon Simpson
7:30	Kay McGilvray
Sunday	July 30
7:30	People of St. Mary's
9:30	VBS Closing Mass
11:30	Gerald Roy, 6 th Anv.



TOMORROW, MONDAY, JULY 24, and continues each day through Friday, July 28! Music CDs and Streaming Cards for all registered VBS families are now in the Religious Education Office and ready for pick up. Contact Patty Baribeau with any questions at: stmarysVBSHolliston@gmail.com. This year's theme is "Stellar – Let Jesus' Light Shine!" Thank you to all who worked so hard this past week to turn our Parish Center into a truly Stellar Space Environment. May this time learning to know and share God's love be a blessing on all who are part of it in any way!



FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

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

At some point, every believer asks the question, "Why doesn't God just step in and end the evil in the world?" We read about murder, rape, terrorism, genocide and evils of every sort. And we begin to wonder, "What is God waiting for?" We know that the Kingdom will come, that a final judgment will be rendered upon the earth. We see unspeakable suffering all around. And so we start to question the divine delay.

Today's parable of the weeds and the wheat is Jesus' answer to our question. An enemy sows weeds among the farmer's wheat. Good and evil sprout up side by side. The farmer does not try to tear up the weeds for fear of tearing up the wheat with them. In fact, the weeds and the wheat look almost exactly the same until they come to full growth. And that is why the farmer waits for harvest time to separate them. That is why God waits to establish His Kingdom on the earth. It is in order to allow us to come to full growth; revealing whether we are wheat to be stored up, or weeds to be discarded.

In the case of actual wheat and weeds, what they will grow into is genetically predetermined. In the case of humanity, however, we choose our final state. Every small choice we make throughout our lives – whether to be truthful or deceitful, chaste or promiscuous, generous or miserly, forgiving or vengeful – these choices and a million others contribute to the one great choice of our lives; whether we shall be wheat or weeds. It is true that the circumstances of our lives can have a great impact on the choices we make. The kind of family we grow up in, the resources at our disposal, the particular trials we face, all these things may affect how we turn out. But none of them can steal away the great gift that God gives us – the power to choose. And when we choose Christ, He can transform even the toughest, most noxious weeds, into the most desirable of wheat.

If then, God withholds His judgment, you and I must be careful to do the same. The moment we have vilified another person to the point of rejecting them as having any capacity for good, that is the moment we have become very different from God. For God always allows for the possibility of conversion. God knows that even the most corrupt sinner can in time become a saint. And so He allows the whole world time. So that as many people as possible can choose Him, and in so doing discover their best and truest selves. Because in the end, God has sown each and every one of us.

Nor does God sow weeds, but only wheat. Evil in the world sprouts not from God but from choices freely made against His law of love. And deep within, every human being bears God's own imprint. Every one of us has the potential to grow into a true son or daughter of the Almighty, and to bear a rich harvest in His Holy Name.

In Christ's Peace,

Rev. Mark J. Coiro

"Is it possible for weeds to become wheat? God allows saints and sinners to dwell among each other because sinners need salvation, as do saints. In fact, with God's grace and a converted heart, a person who has sinned can be reconciled with God and become good wheat. The Church is therefore holy, though having sinners in her midst, because she herself has no other life but the life of grace. If they live her life, her members are sanctified; if they move away from her life, they fall into sins and disorders that prevent the radiation of her sanctity. This is why she suffers and does penance for those offenses, of which she has the power to free her children through the blood of Christ and the gift of the Holy Spirit." The reality of this parable is that weeds can convert and become wheat, but let us not forget that wheat can become weeds. If there was no chance of wheat falling and becoming a weed, then Satan would not bother to tempt us and Saint Paul would not say, "work out your salvation with fear and trembling." (Phil 2:12) - Pope Paul VI

ST. MARY'S HIGH SCHOOL SUMMER MISSION

TRIP: We are so proud of the 53 St. Mary's teens and adults who have spent the past week doing hurricane repair mission work in Florida. Please continue to pray for them as they travel back home today. We look forward to hearing about their time spent in prayer, community, and service!



VIRTUAL ROSARY FOR COUPLES EXPERIENCING INFERTILITY, DIFFICULT PREGNANCIES, OR MISCARRIAGE (7/27): "Abandon yourself in the hands of Mary. She will take care of you." - St. Padre Pio. Are you or someone you know experiencing infertility, difficult pregnancies, or miscarriage? If so, we invite you to come and offer your prayers and petitions to our Mother Mary, by meditating on the Joyful Mysteries of the Rosary. Come and unite your prayers with others from the archdiocese on Thursday, July 27 at 7:00 PM as Fr. Matt Williams leads us in this virtual prayer experience. Register at <https://bit.ly/NFPWeekRosary>.



ANNUAL WEDDING ANNIVERSARY MASS (10/29): All couples celebrating their 10th, 25th, or 50th wedding anniversaries are invited to join Cardinal Seán O'Malley, O.F.M. Cap. on Sunday, October 29 at 3:00 PM at the Cathedral of the Holy Cross, Boston. The Mass includes a vow renewal and special blessing by the cardinal. Family and friends are invited to attend. Couples can register or find more information at bit.ly/WeddingAnnivMass.

WALKING WITH THE SAINTS: Who doesn't love a good saint story? Join us every other week for "Walking with the Saints" - a video series where priests and religious from around the Archdiocese of Boston share about a saint they've come to know. Watch now on the Evangelize YouTube Channel – [YouTube.com/EvangelizeBoston](https://www.youtube.com/EvangelizeBoston).



JUNIPER: In recent weeks, many of the scripture readings for Mass have spoken of experiencing God through the beauty and gift of His creation. Jesus' parable today of the wheat and the weeds, itself draws on nature to impart divine truth and meaning.

Such meaning is found in abundance around us. Have you noticed this past week that

St. Mary's Juniper Tree, located between Sister Ricci House and the Parish Center, has bloomed and fruited? [Photo left taken this past Tuesday].

In Christianity, the Juniper has a rich history. Because it has prickly branches and the sap at the end of its needles can cause skin irritation, it provides good protection for various nesting animals. In Christian art, therefore, the Juniper is often used as a symbol of protection.

Juniper trees were also made good use of in early monasteries. Their branches were used in the asperges of the congregation because of the abundance of holy water held by its needles. Its symbolism evoked a sense of further protection within the blessing. Their branches were also burned as incense and used medicinally for their anti-bacterial properties.

ST. MARY'S MIDDLE SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP: Deerfield Rafting: Friday, August 18. Adventure awaits!

EMAIL ADDRESSES FOR ST. MARY'S MISSION TRIPS AND YOUTH MINISTRY: St. Mary's is currently unable to access either of these email addresses. If you have emailed them in the past few weeks, that is why you have not received a reply. We sincerely apologize for the inconvenience. We are working to get these accounts working again, but in the meantime any Mission Trip or Religious Education matters should go to the attention of Jennifer Burgett in our main Religious Education Office at: st.marysre1870@gmail.com. Thank you.

TRAVELING? Check out www.masstimes.org to find out the name, location and Mass schedule of the nearest Catholic Church anywhere in America. God never takes a vacation from us; let us make time on vacation for God.

THE ROSE FOR LIFE: Is sponsored this week by the Harris Family. Please join them in prayer for an unborn child. To sponsor the Rose for Life for 2023/2024 please call the Rectory at 429-4427.

16th ANNUAL ALTAR SERVER APPRECIATION TRIP TO SIX FLAGS NEW ENGLAND: This year's trip is Tuesday, August 1. You should have returned your Permission Form by this past Sunday. Departure is now at 8:15 AM from the Parish Center and return will be at 8-8:30 PM. Thank you for your faithful Ministry!

ATTENTION BOY SCOUTS: Deacon Ron Dowding is organizing a program of study for the prestigious Pope Pius XII Award. The program explores how adults and young adults can apply faith to our daily lives. It is open to any Catholic Scout in any troop - but is ideally designed for scouts aged 15 and older. There are no other prerequisites. The program has a duration of 6 - 7 months. Deacon Ron will be making arrangements for an introductory meeting to describe the program in detail. If you are interested, please contact him directly at 508-429-3961.

CONFIRMATION FOR ADULTS: St. Mary's will be offering a Confirmation preparation program for adults who have not yet received this holy sacrament. The program is open to Catholic adults (aged 18 to 118) who have already received the sacraments of Baptism and Eucharist. Meetings will be held weekly beginning in the early autumn leading to the sacrament in the spring. To learn more about the program or to register, please reach out to Deacon Ronald Dowding at 508-429-3961.

KNIGHTS of COLUMBUS 15th ANNUAL CHARITY RAFFLE: The Council is selling chances for our annual Charity Raffle. This is your chance to win \$1,000 or \$500 or \$250 or \$150 or \$100. Tickets are a book of five tickets for \$20 or one ticket for \$5. If you haven't had a chance to get your tickets yet, please send a check to: Tom Anguish at 542 Winter Street, Holliston, 01746. Thank you for your help!



WINGS: Is a ministry of encouragement and enrichment for women of all ages who seek to deepen their faith and grow in relationship with God and one another. Our Fall 2023 Season will focus on "Prayer – A Conversation with God". Our schedule has not yet been finalized, but we will meet Wednesdays (in person and through Zoom) from 9:45 to 11:15 AM in Father Haley Hall starting in October. The meeting includes prayer, an inspiring speaker presentation on a relevant topic of the Catholic faith and large or small group sharing with WOMEN OF ALL AGES. Are you a new mom, recently retired or working

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

NFP COMMUNITY MASS AND GATHERING (7/23): Come and join families and friends from the natural family planning community as we gather on Sunday, July 23rd from 3:00-6:00 PM for Mass, food, and fellowship at Saint Mary's Parish in Waltham, MA. After the 3 PM Mass, we will gather as a community in the parish hall to share a meal and discuss all things NFP together. Please come, and bring the kids, too! Register at <https://bit.ly/NFPGathering>.

REGISTRATIONS ARE NOW PAST DUE: Please do not wait until summer comes to a close to register your children and youth. To secure a class session and time for your children it is important to register for classes now. Our office needs all registrations in order to project the number of volunteer Teachers and Monitors required to have a smooth opening day in the Fall. Registered children and youth are being assigned to classes that have a volunteer teacher at this time.

NEWCOMERS TO PRE-K, KINDERGARTEN AND GRADE 1: You are welcome to register your children for Religious Education if you are a new or a registered family to St. Mary's and have young children entering these grades. Please note that children must complete Grade 1 before entering our Grade 2 program. Request a registration form by calling 508-429-6076 or visit our website at:

<https://stmarysholliston.com/religious-education/religious-education-registration/>.

GRADES 5 AND 7 COORDINATORS ARE NEEDED: We have volunteer opportunities for Coordinators to fill slots for Grades 5 and 7. Training is provided. Grade 5 covers the seven Sacraments and Grade 7 on understanding the Gospel teachings of Jesus Christ and becoming His Disciples. Please call 508-429-6076 or email Fran at st.marysre1870@gmail.com if you can inspire and lead our volunteer teachers to become ambassadors for Christ.

Please note that R.E. Coordinators are responsible for guiding and assisting both teachers and students in growing in their relationship with Christ and His Church. Since this is done best by example, all parish coordinators are required to be regularly practicing members of the St. Mary's Worshipping Community

CORI VOLUNTEER RENEWAL ALERT: If you are an active volunteer (18+ years) or planning to volunteer in any ministry, we must have a completed **2024 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.*

GRADE 2 TEACHERS: Grade 2 is a Sacramental year to prepare the children for their First Confession and First Holy Communion. Please consider partnering with another Mom or Dad. See the chart to the right for available teaching times. Contact us at 508-429-6076 or at: st.marysre1870@gmail.com.



STELLAR VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 2023: Five-Four-Three-Two-One – Blastoff. This week 135 children and volunteers will launch an out-of-this world adventure that will leave an impression upon the children for a lifetime.

Children will buzz with joy as they venture into a world to discover that “Jesus, is the Light of the World.” As the rocket lands and the engines are turned off, the main door opens to a welcomed surprise for the children. It is Christ's light penetrating their hearts with His love. We are grateful to Patty Baribeau, Kristin Roberto, Lisa Dufault, Melissa Cataldo, the Knights of Columbus and many enthusiastic volunteers who will give their time and talents to create a wonderful faith filled experience this week for the children.

CLASSES BEGIN THE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 17.

Grades 1 through 10 meet on alternate weeks. Grades Pre-K, and K meet approximately once a month.

GRADE	SESSION DAY AND TIME	TEACHER NEEDS	MONITOR
SUNDAY			
PRE-K & Kind.	9:15-10:30 AM	4 Teens	1
	9:15-10:30 AM	6 Teachers	1
GR-1A	8:10 to 9:20 AM	8 Teachers	Filled
GR-2A	8:10 to 9:20 AM	4 Teachers	Filled
GR-2A	10:45 - Noon	2 Teachers	1
GR-3A	10:45AM-12:15 PM	3 Teachers	1
GR-4A	10:45AM-12:15 PM	3 Teachers	1
GR-5A	10:45AM-12:15 PM	2 Teachers	1
GR-6A	4:00 to 5:30 PM	3 Teachers	1
GR-7A	5:00 to 6:30 PM	4 Teachers	1
MONDAY			
GR-8B	6:00 to 7:30 PM	4 Teachers	1
TUESDAY			
GR-3C	4:00 to 5:30 PM	3 Teachers	Filled
GR-4C	4:00 to 5:30 PM	2 Teachers	1
GR-5C	4:00 to 5:30 PM	2 Teachers	1
GR-6C	4:00 to 5:30 PM	3 Teachers	1
GR-9C	6:30 to 8:30 PM	5 Teachers	1
GR-10C	6:30 to 8:30 PM	4 Teachers	1
WEDNESDAY			
GR-2D	4:15 to 5:30 PM	4 Teachers	1
GR-7D	6:00 to 7:30 PM	4 Teachers	1
GR-8D	6:00 to 7:30 PM	4 Teachers	1
THURSDAY			
GR-4E	4:00 to 5:30 PM	2 Teachers	1
GR-5E	4:00 to 5:30 PM	2 Teachers	1
GR-9E	6:30 to 8:30 PM	5 Teachers	1
GR-10E	6:30 to 8:30 PM	4 Teachers	1