



# 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: As 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  
 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

**PARISH OFFERTORY LAST WEEKEND:**

Automatic Giving:	\$ 6,080.00
WeShare:	\$ 3,232.00
Mass Offertory and	
Envelopes Dropped Off	\$ 6,993.00
Total Offertory:	\$ 16,305.00

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/>.

**WISDOM FROM THE SAINTS:** *"At His Transfiguration Christ showed His disciples, the splendor of His Beauty, to which He will shape and color, those who are His: 'He will reform our lowness configured to the Body of His Glory.'"*

- St Thomas Aquinas



**NEWSLETTER COLLATING:** Please join us tomorrow, Monday, August 7 from 9:30 AM to 1:00 PM in Fr. Haley Hall to assist in our collating of the Summer Newsletter. Postal rule changes have created more work for us, so we could really use more volunteers. All are welcome!

**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.

**MASS INTENTIONS:**

<b>Saturday</b>	<b>August 5</b>
5:00	Thomas & Shirley Chipman
7:30	Bill & Martha Kreinsen
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>August 6</b>
7:30	People of St. Mary's
9:30	Richard Chase
11:30	Linda Moore
<b>Monday</b>	<b>August 7</b>
9:00	Ruth Cullen
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>August 8</b>
9:00	Holy Souls
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>August 9</b>
9:00	Marcia Seymour, 13 <sup>th</sup> Anv.
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>August 10</b>
9:00	Steven Jiencke
<b>Friday</b>	<b>August 11</b>
9:00	Helena Richardi, 13 <sup>th</sup> Anv.
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>August 12</b>
10:00	Funeral ~ John Hanna, Jr.
5:00	John T. Sullivan
7:30	Adrienne Beattie, 2 <sup>nd</sup> Anv.
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>August 13</b>
7:30	People of St. Mary's
9:30	Mission "Welcome Home" Mass
11:30	Morris "Moe" Clemons

**THE ROSE FOR LIFE:** Is sponsored this week by Anthony and Adele Polise. 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.



**16<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL ALTAR SERVER APPRECIATION TRIP TO 6 FLAGS:** Thank you to everyone who made last Tuesday's trip such a success and so much fun! Thank you St. Mary's Altar Servers for your faithful and reverent ministry in our parish!



## FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

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

Our loved ones are not gone forever, but only hidden from our sight for a time. That is a great truth of today's Feast of the Transfiguration. Consider Jesus' words to His disciples in John 14:2 when He said, "In my Father's House there are many rooms."

Jesus does not say "in my Father's Houses there are many rooms" - as if heaven were one house and earth another. Instead He says, "In my Father's House, there are many rooms." Reminding us that heaven and earth are just different rooms under the one overarching roof of God's love.

To die then, can be likened to going from one room to another room of the same house. And Jesus is the door between the two, the One Who offers a safe way - the only way - for us to pass from the room of earth to the room of heaven. "I am the door," says Jesus in JN 10:7.

I would humbly suggest that what happened at the Transfiguration was that Jesus - the living door between heaven and earth - was opened. The brilliant white light streaming from His face and clothing was the light of heaven spilling through that open door. The voice of God the Father actually speaks through that open door. And in case we miss the point, two dead men, Moses and Elijah, come through that open door to stand with Jesus.

The Transfiguration, then, is an invitation to recognize Jesus as the Way, the Door to Heaven, the Salvation for our souls. It is a reminder to look ahead, because like the room in which Jesus chose to celebrate the Last Supper, the earthly room in which we now dwell is borrowed and temporary. This is not home. We are all born here, but none of us are staying here. And so we should listen urgently to God the Father's voice when He says to us today of Jesus, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to him."

We best keep today's Feast by listening to Jesus - both by seeking His will in our individual lives and situations, and by accepting the call to mercy and sacrificial love at the heart of His every word.

God bless you!

Rev. Mark J. Coiro



## THE ASSUMPTION OF MARY INTO HEAVEN A HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION

**Monday, August 14, 2023**

6:30 PM Vigil Mass

**Tuesday, August 15, 2023**

9:00 AM Feast Day Mass

7:00 PM Feast Day Mass

On November 1, 1950, Pope Pius XII defined the Assumption of Mary to be a dogma of faith: "We pronounce, declare and define it to be a divinely revealed dogma that the immaculate Mother of God, the ever-Virgin Mary, having completed the course of her earthly life, was assumed body and soul to heavenly glory." The pope proclaimed this dogma only after a broad consultation of bishops, theologians and laity. There were few dissenting voices. What the pope solemnly declared was already a common belief in the Catholic Church.

We find homilies on the Assumption going back to the 6<sup>th</sup> century. In following centuries, the Eastern Churches held steadily to the doctrine, but some authors in the West were hesitant. However, by the 13<sup>th</sup> century there was universal agreement. The feast was celebrated under various names - Commemoration, Dormition, Assumption - from at least the fifth or sixth century. Today it is celebrated as a Solemnity, and a Holy Day of Obligation for Catholics.





**ST. MARY'S MIDDLE SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP:** Our next trip is Whitewater Rafting the Deerfield River on Friday, August 18. The Fall MSYG Kick Off Event is Sunday, October 1, from 6:30 - 8 PM in Fr. Haley Hall. MSYG is open to ALL 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> Graders - not just Catholics and not just from St. Mary's. Join us for a new year of Faith, Friendship, Service and Fun. Adventure awaits!

**TGIF (Teens Gathered In Faith), ST. MARY'S HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP:**

Our Mission Trip 'Welcome Home Mass' is next Sunday, August 13 at 9:30 AM. Our TGIF Kick Off is Sunday, October 15 from 7-8:30 PM in Fr. Haley Hall. There will be a video and teen witness about this past summer's Mission Trip to Florida. Next summer's Mission is to Mississippi. The weekend of October 21 & 22 (World Mission Sunday), a Mission teen will witness at every Mass. We cannot wait to share the grace that flowed from this summer service experience.

**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 functioning 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](mailto:st.marysre1870@gmail.com). Thank you.

**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.



## NATIONAL SHRINE OF THE DIVINE MERCY

**ST. MARY'S PILGRIMAGE  
~ ALL ARE WELCOME!**

**NATIONAL SHRINE OF THE DIVINE MERCY:** St. Mary's Knights of Columbus Council is marking our 15<sup>th</sup> anniversary here at St. Mary's Parish! As part of our celebration, we are organizing a bus trip to Stockbridge, Mass., on Friday, September 29. We are welcoming anyone in the parish to join us! Our plan includes a visit to the downtown shopping area of the town, a luncheon at the world-famous Red Lion Inn (now celebrating its 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary) and a visit to the National Shrine of Divine Mercy.

We will leave St. Mary's parking lot at 8:00 AM and return at 6:00 PM. The Council is subsidizing a portion of the cost to reduce the per person fee to just \$69. It promises to be a fun and wonderful day to spend with fellow parishioners. If you're interested in joining us, contact Deacon Ron Dowding at 508-429-3961, Tom Brodo at 201-874-5635, or Mitch Liro at 508-429-6098.

**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.



**WINGS (Women in God's Spirit)** 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 is titled ***"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](mailto:stmaryswingssecretary@gmail.com).

**PROTECT YOUNG EYES:** Our mission? We show families, schools, and churches how to create safer digital spaces. We do this with a great website, powerful presentations, and a unique learning app for parents who have ZERO free time. Click the image at left or visit us at:

[https://protectyoungeyes.com/?mc\\_cid=26ca09e1b1&mc\\_eid=8c52ceb7b3](https://protectyoungeyes.com/?mc_cid=26ca09e1b1&mc_eid=8c52ceb7b3).



**WORLD YOUTH DAY 2023:** Today is the culminating celebration of World Youth Day in Lisbon Portugal. There Pope Francis will celebrate Mass with over a million Catholic teens from around the world. World Youth Day (WYD) is a worldwide encounter with the Pope celebrated about every three years in a different country.

Let us pray for safety and spiritual fruitfulness for all participating in World Youth Day this year. Pope Francis' homilies and greetings may be found here: <https://worldyouthday.com/lisbon-2023>.

Cardinal O'Malley is present for World Youth Day. If last weekend you missed the special PILOT marking his 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary as Archbishop of Boston, we have placed a few extra copies on the table by the Religious Education Office in the Parish Center Lobby.

**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION REGISTRATIONS ~**

**FAMILY NOTICE:** If you have not registered your child for faith formation classes at this time please do so today in order to assist our Grade Coordinators to prepare for opening classes in September.

**PRE-K, KINDERGARTEN AND GRADE 1:** If you are new to St. Mary's Parish or already part of the parish family and want your child to participate in our faith formation program then please contact our Religious Education Office at 508-429-6076 and request a Registration Form. **Children must complete Grade 1 before entering our Grade 2 Program.**

Registration forms are on the parish website at:

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

**GRADES 5 AND 7 COORDINATORS NEEDED:**

Volunteer opportunities are open for Grade 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 contact us at 508-429-6076 or by email: [st.marysre1870@gmail.com](mailto:st.marysre1870@gmail.com) if you can inspire and lead our volunteer teachers to become ambassadors for Christ.

**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](mailto:st.marysRE1870@gmail.com) for processing. New volunteers must have information verified in person by any staff member. *Please note: If a FY2023 form has already been submitted, we do not need another.*

**GRADE 2 TEACHERS FOR 2023-2024:** Grade 2 is a Sacramental year to prepare the children for their First Confession and First Holy Communion. Prayerfully consider partnering with another Mom or Dad to teach a class. See the chart to the right for available teaching times. Contact us at 508-429-6076 or at: [st.marysre1870@gmail.com](mailto:st.marysre1870@gmail.com).

**MONITOR VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES:**

The tasks involve collecting class attendance, recording absences, calling families, assisting with mailings, and monitoring classroom activities to ensure that classes are running smoothly. If you can commit once or twice a month contact us at [st.marysre1870@gmail.com](mailto:st.marysre1870@gmail.com).



Be a Witness for Christ and open the hearts and minds of our children and youth so that they will actively live out their faith each day with confidence in His Truth.

**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
<b>SUNDAY</b>			
PRE-K & Kind.	9:15-10:30 AM	<b>4</b> Teens	<b>1</b>
	9:15-10:30 AM	<b>6</b> Teachers	Filled
GR-1A	8:10 to 9:20 AM	<b>8</b> Teachers	Filled
GR-2A	8:10 to 9:20 AM	<b>3</b> Teachers	Filled
GR-2A	10:45 AM - Noon	<b>2</b> Teachers	<b>1</b>
GR-3A	7:55 AM to 9:20 AM	<b>2</b> Teachers	Filled
GR-3A	10:45AM-12:15 PM	<b>3</b> Teachers	<b>1</b>
GR-4A	10:45AM-12:15 PM	<b>3</b> Teachers	<b>1</b>
GR-5A	10:45AM-12:15 PM	<b>3</b> Teachers	<b>1</b>
GR-6A	4:00 to 5:30 PM	<b>4</b> Teachers	<b>1</b>
GR-7A	5:00 to 6:30 PM	<b>3</b> Teachers	<b>1</b>
<b>MONDAY</b>			
GR-8B	6:00 to 7:30 PM	<b>4</b> Teachers	<b>1</b>
<b>TUESDAY</b>			
GR-3C	4:00 to 5:30 PM	<b>3</b> Teachers	Filled
GR-4C	4:00 to 5:30 PM	<b>2</b> Teachers	Filled
GR-5C	4:00 to 5:30 PM	<b>2</b> Teachers	Filled
GR-6C	4:00 to 5:30 PM	<b>3</b> Teachers	Filled
GR-9C	6:30 to 8:30 PM	<b>5</b> Teachers	<b>1</b>
GR-10C	6:30 to 8:30 PM	<b>4</b> Teachers	<b>1</b>
<b>WEDNESDAY</b>			
GR-2D	4:15 to 5:30 PM	<b>4</b> Teachers	Filled
GR-3D	4:00 to 5:30 PM	<b>4</b> Teachers	Filled
GR-7D	6:00 to 7:30 PM	<b>4</b> Teachers	Filled
GR-8D	6:00 to 7:30 PM	<b>4</b> Teachers	<b>1</b>
<b>THURSDAY</b>			
GR-4E	4:00 to 5:30 PM	<b>2</b> Teachers	<b>1</b>
GR-5E	4:00 to 5:30 PM	<b>2</b> Teachers	<b>1</b>
GR-9E	6:30 to 8:30 PM	<b>5</b> Teachers	<b>1</b>
GR-10E	6:30 to 8:30 PM	<b>4</b> Teachers	<b>1</b>

**MORNING OF REFLECTION FOR ALL**

**CATECHISTS: Saturday, September 16 at 9:00**

**AM - 12:00 PM.** We invite all faith formation leaders and catechists to a morning of reflection at the Pastoral Center in Braintree. Join other catechists from around the Archdiocese for Mass, breakfast, a talk by Susan Abbott, and fellowship. Return to your parish affirmed in your important ministry, strengthened through prayer, and encouraged by brothers and sisters in Christ. Click [HERE](#) for more information and / or to register.