



# 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!





## FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

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

Please keep in your prayers Mary Soares, Gene Decamp, and John Hanna Jr., all of whom had Funeral Masses celebrated here this past week.

We also hold up to God's mercy our fellow citizens who have perished in the terrible fires on the island of Maui. May God speed them into His peace, and console those who are mourning such a loss.

Last Sunday, on the Feast of the Transfiguration, I preached on Peter's desire to stay on that mountaintop where faith was easy and untested. Today again Jesus invites Peter to leave his comfort zone, calling him to step out of the boat and walk on the water with Him.

Is there some familiar and comfortable place, habit or situation that Jesus is calling you to abandon? Is there a grudge, a vice, or a prejudice that He is inviting you to step away from? Is there a ministry or volunteer position He is asking you to take on, but that you find intimidating?

If so, take heart from our Gospel verse. Remember that when Peter accepted the challenge and left the boat, Jesus was there to support and uphold him when things got rough. And it was in that very moment that Peter touched the Lord, just as it is in the times our faith is tested that we too come closer to Jesus.

Have you ever fallen? Have you denied Jesus in order to be safe, or curry favor with the world? Are you feeling cut off from Jesus, and watery in your love of God?

Then pray the prayer that Peter did, when he was sinking beneath the waves. The shortest prayer he ever spoke, but a prayer that says it all. "*Lord, SAVE ME!*" And He will.

God bless you.

Rev. Mark J. Coiro

N.B. This coming Thursday and Friday, August 17 & 18, the main church parking lot will be repaired, seal-coated and relined. On these two days it will be necessary to utilize street parking. We apologize for the inconvenience and thank you for your patience and flexibility while this necessary work is done.



## 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.

**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: \$ 4,607.50  
 WeShare: \$ 4,301.00  
 Mass Offertory and  
 Envelopes Dropped Off \$ 7,042.00  
 Total Offertory: \$ 15,950.50

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/>.

**IMPORTANT GRADE****8, 9 & 10 UPDATE:**

Dear Parents ~ Staffing issues have required us to make schedule changes that affect Grades 8, 9 & 10. The new / updated 2023-2024 Religious Education Class Schedule was emailed to you on Friday.

If your young person is already registered, kindly contact Religious Education Secretary Jennifer Burgett at [st.marysre1870@gmail.com](mailto:st.marysre1870@gmail.com) or 508-429-6076 and notify her as to which of the new schedule options works best for your family. No paperwork is required, just leave a message.

If your young person is not registered yet, then as soon as possible please return the new / updated registration form you were emailed on Friday.

Please also consider if with this new schedule you might be able to volunteer as a teacher or monitor this year. Our program relies on faithful parents to help all the young people of St. Mary's grow in their knowledge and love of the Lord. Thank you.

**MASS INTENTIONS:**

<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
<b>Monday</b>	<b>August 14</b>
9:00	John Donahue
<b>6:30</b>	<b><u>Assumption of Mary ~ VIGIL</u></b>
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>August 15</b>
<b>9:00</b>	<b><u>Assumption of Mary</u></b>
<b>7:00</b>	<b><u>Assumption of Mary</u></b>



**SAINTLY WISDOM:** "And with regard to ourselves, how deservedly do we keep the Feast of the Assumption with all solemnity. What reasons for rejoicing, what motives for exultation have we on this most beautiful day! The presence of Mary illumines the entire world so that even the holy city above has now a more dazzling splendor from the light of this virginal Lamp. With good reason thanksgiving and the voice of praise resound today throughout the courts of Heaven...let us not complain for here we do not have a lasting city, but we seek one that is to come, the same which the blessed Mary entered today."

- St. Bernard of Clairvaux

<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>August 16</b>
9:00	Santa Patti, 38 <sup>th</sup> Anv.
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>August 17</b>
9:00	Paul T. Shea
<b>Friday</b>	<b>August 18</b>
9:00	Carmine & Concetta Spadano
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>August 19</b>
5:00	Lorraine D'Amelio
7:30	Gabriel Parmese, 8 <sup>th</sup> Anv.
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>August 20</b>
7:30	People of St. Mary's
9:30	Michael & Sylvia Paladino(Living)
11:30	Michael Chenette

**WELCOME HOME ST. MARY'S TROOP 14 HIGH ADVENTURE CREW!**

The Crew left St. Mary's early last Sunday morning for upstate New York. They spent three days backpacking and sumitting many of the High Peaks of the Adirondacks in the rain, but that didn't dampen their spirits! The rest of the week they paddled the lakes of the Adirondacks, exploring small islands along the way. May God bless them with safe travel as they return home this weekend.



# St. Mary's MSYG on the Deerfield, 2018!



**ST. MARY'S MIDDLE SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP:** Our next trip is Whitewater Rafting the Deerfield River *this Friday, August 18!* Full details are below and be sure to follow the packing list you were emailed.

- 7:30 AM Departure by bus from the Parish Center, (donuts & juice boxes provided), but suggest a hearty breakfast beforehand also. Be here by 7:15 AM please!
- 2.5-hour drive to Charlemont, MA.
- 10:15 Crabapple Whitewater Orientation, Lifejacket and helmet fitting, Safety lecture and paddling instruction. Bus ride to Fife Brook dam.
- Raft 5 miles in Class II whitewater, Zoar Gap Rapid Class III.
- Continue 4 miles in Class II whitewater, take out and ride back to Crab Apple, hearty lunch (included). slide presentation of trip.
- 2-2:30 PM Depart CrabApple.
- Return to St. Mary's around 4:30 – 5:00 PM. Return time is affected by weather, amount of water released on the river that day, and traffic. We will call when 20 minutes out.

**MSYG:** 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 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.

**THE ROSE FOR LIFE:** Is sponsored this week by the Chiango 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.

**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.

**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.

**SENIOR CENTER ANNUAL FALL FAIR SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 9:** The Center is gearing up for the Annual Fall Fair on Saturday, September 9, sponsored by the Senior Support Foundation. This is the ONE big fundraiser of the year, and 100% of the proceeds go toward our programs and classes. **WE NEED YOUR HELP!** Bring in your goods on any Tuesday or Thursday in August from 10 AM to 1:00 PM and drop them off to the volunteers near the garage. Clean out your closets and bring **ONLY GENTLY USED** items, no clothing please! Bring us your books (no text books), jewelry, videos and music, baked goods, handmade crafts (knitting, quilting, etc.), boxed stationery, office supplies, etc. Please drop off at the Garage. We **CANNOT** take upholstered or large pieces of furniture, baby items with fabric, baby furniture or car seats. No large exercise equipment, no TVs, large electronics, or any computers. **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!** We need your help to make the Fair happen. The Fall Fair committee is seeking volunteers to help with the Fair. We are looking for folks on Tuesdays and/or Thursdays to help with accepting, sorting and pricing donations. We will need people to help with set up on Friday, September 8 and all-day Saturday, September 9. Call the Senior Center if you would like to volunteer 508-429-0622.

**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.

**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).

*St. Norbert*

**You will never  
enjoy the  
sweetness of  
a quiet prayer  
unless you shut  
your mind to all  
worldly desires  
and temporal  
affairs.**





**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION REGISTRATIONS ~**

**FAMILY NOTICE:** If you have not registered your child for faith formation classes, now is the time to do so. Our volunteer Grade Coordinators assign the children to classes and help to recruit our volunteer teachers 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.**

Registrations forms are on the parish website at:

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

**GRADES 5 AND 7 COORDINATORS NEEDED:**

There are two openings to fill for a Grade 5 and a Grade 7 Coordinator. Training is provided. Grade 5 covers the seven Sacraments and Grade 7 on understanding the Gospel teachings of Jesus Christ and becoming His Disciples. If you can inspire and lead our volunteer teachers to become ambassadors for Christ please contact us at 508-429-6076 or by email:

[st.marysre1870@gmail.com](mailto:st.marysre1870@gmail.com).

**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 an FY2023 form has already been submitted, we do not need another.*

**ATTENTION ~ PROTECTING GOD'S**

**CHILDREN TRAINING WORKSHOPS:** If you are a new volunteer in any of St. Mary's ministries and need to take the Protecting God's Children (PGC)

Training, please contact [st.marysre1870@gmail.com](mailto:st.marysre1870@gmail.com) to inform us what workshop you want to take.

The Workshop sessions are: **Saturday, August 26 from 9:00 AM to Noon; Saturday, September 9 from 9:00 AM to Noon and Thursday, September 14 from 6:30 to 9:30 PM.** Participants should **preregister** for a session. Here's how: "Go to [www.Virtusonline.org](http://www.Virtusonline.org). Click on "First-time Registrant". Select "Boston, MA (Archdiocese)" as your organization. You will have to create a VIRTUS log-in before proceeding to register. Follow the prompts after this."



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 9:15-10:30 AM	<b>4</b> Teens <b>6</b> Teachers	<b>1</b> Filled
GR-1A	8:10 to 9:20 AM	<b>6</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	<b>7:00 to 8:30 PM</b>	<b>5</b> Teachers	<b>1</b>
GR-10C	<b>7:00 to 8:30 PM</b>	<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	<b>7:00 to 8:30 PM</b>	<b>5</b> Teachers	<b>1</b>
GR-10E	<b>7:00 to 8:30 PM</b>	<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.