



Give thanks to the LORD,  
for he is good

- Psalm 107:1 NIV

THANK YOU, 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: 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!

## 2023 ST. MARY'S PARISH GRAND ANNUAL UPDATE

*"What return can I make to the Lord for all He has done for me?"* Psalm 116

2023 Grand Annual goal to cover operating expenses:	\$150,000.00
Grand Annual parishioner support received to date:	- \$ 73,336.00
Parishioner support still needed to reach 2023 Grand Annual goal:	\$ 76,664.00
% of 2023 Grand Annual achieved to date:	49 %
% of St. Mary's families who have now made their Grand Annual gift:	17 %



As the Grand Annual continues, contributions may be placed either in the gold G.A. envelope you received in the mail, or in a separate envelope clearly marked "Grand Annual." G.A. envelopes may be mailed to 8 Church Street or dropped through the Rectory Office Door Mail-slot. Any collection basket passed at Mass may also be used.

As explained in the special mailing to all parishioners, the \$150,000 goal will fund staff salaries, the Sister Ricci House bathroom renovations and the two Church Boiler Pumps, which currently are leaking. Your generous support will assure the financial health of our parish continues.

**Thank you for your support of this most important annual collection!**

### 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. Sean Jacobs, D.R.E., Grades 8-10, Youth Minister  
 Ms. Abigail Kelley-Lanser, Organist, Director of Music  
 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

### SECOND COLLECTION THIS WEEKEND:

For Retired Women Religious (nuns). Please give generously in recognition of the important role religious sisters have had in the Archdiocese of Boston.

### LAST SUNDAY'S PARISH OFFERTORY:

Automatic Giving: \$ 2,079.00  
 WeShare: \$ 2,913.00

Offertory Envelopes  
 Dropped/mailed

to the office: \$ 8,443.00  
 Total Offertory: \$ 13,435.00

**Shortfall: \$ 1,565.00**

**Thank you for making up any missed weekly parish support. God bless you!**



### THANK YOU MARRIAGE FELLOWSHIP!

At this time of thanksgiving, we thank our helpers and members of the Marriage Fellowship Ministry who were able to pull these gift boxes together for **Boxes of Joy - Cross Catholic Outreach!**

Thank you to everyone who helped make this happen.

**TO THE FRIENDS OF GINNY EVANS:** It was with much thought and prayer and a heavy heart that we decided to put our mom in a Nursing Home. But it also gives us peace of mind to know she is safe and cared for. We know she would love to get a card or phone call or even a visit if you are in the area.

Ginny Evans  
 Oak Knoll Health Care Center  
 9 Arbetter Drive, Rm. 224B  
 Framingham, MA 01701  
 508-877-3300. Thank you, The Evans Family

**WISDOM FROM THE SAINTS:** *"A single 'Blessed be God' in adversity is worth more than a thousand acts of thanksgiving in prosperity."* - St. John of Ávila



**MASS INTENTIONS:**

<b>Saturday</b>	<b>November 18</b>
5:00	Thomas Fleming
7:30	John Desmond McHugh
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>November 19</b>
7:30	People of St. Mary's
9:30	The Paladino Family (Living)
11:30	Margaret Brady
<b>Monday</b>	<b>November 20</b>
9:00	Vincent Scaduto, 37 <sup>th</sup> Anv.
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>November 21</b>
9:00	John J. Moore, 38 <sup>th</sup> Anv.
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>November 22</b>
9:00	Mary Zaborowski
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>November 23</b>
9:00	Thanksgiving Mass & Blessing of Food
<b>Friday</b>	<b>November 24</b>
9:00	Pasquale & Francesca DiCenso
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>November 25</b>
5:00	Eleanor Budra, 40 <sup>th</sup> Anv.
7:30	John and Helen Shannahan
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>November 26</b>
7:30	People of St. Mary's
9:30	St. Mary's Altar Servers
11:30	Joseph, Esther and Cathy McCarron

**BOOK OF REMEMBRANCE:** Through the month of November, traditionally referred to as the "Month of the Holy Souls" the Book of Remembrance will be in front of the Baptismal Font and Easter Candle in the church. You are invited to write the names of your own departed loved ones in the book. Their intentions will then be included in all the Masses celebrated at St. Mary's during November. May God welcome them into the light and perfect peace of His presence.

**HOLLISTON PANTRY SHELF HELP:** Regular coffee, peanut butter, jelly, sugar, ketchup, mayonnaise, Chunky Soup, cookies, canned turkey/chicken, canned fruits, pasta sauce, canned tomatoes, toilet paper and cake and brownie mixes. Donations may be dropped off in the bin by the main parking lot entrance.

**THE ROSE FOR LIFE:** Is sponsored this week by a St. Mary's parishioner. Please join her in prayer for an unborn child. To sponsor the Rose for Life for 2024 please call 429-4427.

**AUTOMATIC GIVING CARDS:** If you contribute to St. Mary's via Automatic Giving or WeShare and you would like to receive Offertory Cards to put in the collection baskets at Mass please email the Rectory at [st.marys1870@gmail.com](mailto:st.marys1870@gmail.com) and we will send them to you. As always God bless you for your faithful stewardship!



**THANKSGIVING DAY MASS & BLESSING OF FOOD:**

Mass will be celebrated at 9:00 AM Thursday, November 23. Please bring an item of food that will be part of your Thanksgiving meal to be blessed, and then take it home with you for your family table. A collection will be taken at Mass and donated to the Holliston Food Pantry. Mass will be followed by coffee and doughnuts in Fr. Haley Hall.

**THE PARISH COUNCIL WANTS TO HEAR**

**FROM YOU:** Representatives of the Parish Council will be in the lobby of the Parish Center after each Mass this weekend, November 18 and 19. Please stop by with questions or to share any suggestions, comments or concerns so that we can use them as input to our work for the people of St. Mary's.



Open to all High Schoolers, Teens will next **Gather In Faith**

**Tonight**, Sunday, November 19 from 7 - 8:30 PM in Fr. Haley Hall. We hope you will be one of them! What's Happening?

Jesse Keefe from R & R Retreat

Missions in Mississippi will be joining us to give a detailed presentation on our 2024 Summer Mission Trip. (Last month we heard from our own Mission teens). Detailed Mission information handouts tonight so be sure to take one home!

We will also be sorting, counting, and prepping for transport the HUNDREDS of items donated at St. Mary's for the Cardinal's Emergency Winter Clothing Drive.

Christmas Caroling for the Elderly Sign Ups are tonight, keep December 15 OPEN! Also tonight, Milk & Cookies, Prayer, Faith, Friendship & Fun!

**WHAT TO BRING?**

- All, \$5 Monthly Dues.

- If going, Permission Form, Copy of most recent Proof of Vaccination (required by Nursing Home) and \$10 for Nursing Home Caroling Night.



## FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

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

This week we celebrate Thanksgiving, and like you I will be gathering with my relatives for a day of food and family. I thank God also for the many beautiful members of our St. Mary's family, who give so much of themselves to make our parish a place where the love and mercy of Jesus Christ are readily apparent.

I thank especially the men, women, and children who are so very faithful to our celebration each week of the Lord's Day. Your prayers and presence at Mass each Sunday are a great gift you give to your Church and to God.

The word "Eucharist" itself means "Thanksgiving." And by giving God your time on Sunday you are expressing in a powerful way your gratitude for the many good things He has given us – including the gift of His own Son, Jesus. Every blessing we enjoy in this life has its source ultimately in God. All blessings are signs to us of God's goodness. And your presence each week at God's table is the sign of your gratitude to Him.

Occasionally, Thanksgiving dinner will find a stranger among us – a visitor that some member of the family brought along. As very soon we begin Advent and a New Year of Grace, please consider bringing someone along with you to the Lord's Supper. Whether it is someone who has never known Jesus before, or a Catholic who has lapsed in the practice of their faith, know that they will be welcome. Know that in Christ, they will be loved.

There is a wonderful spirit of thanksgiving in today's Parable of the Talents. The first two servants, the ones who make their talents grow, both acknowledge that God was the founder, or source, of their success. *"Master, you gave me five talents. See, I have made five more,"* says the first, and *"Master, you gave me two talents. See, I have made two more,"* says the second.

It is not just their increase that pleases the Lord, but the fact that they acknowledge that all their success started with His beneficence.

God bless you and Happy Thanksgiving!

Rev. Mark J. Coiro



### FINAL DAY - WINTER CLOTHING DRIVE:

Cardinal O' Malley has requested a special Collection of Winter Clothing and Toiletry items for Immigrants and Refugees. With the number of migrants arriving in Massachusetts outpacing available emergency supplies and housing, the Cardinal is urging local Catholics to contribute resources ahead of the winter season. Here at St. Mary's, donated items may be placed in the baskets provided in the church sanctuary, through today, Sunday, November 19. Thank you for loving these, our neighbors in need.

**CATHOLIC SOCIAL JUSTICE:** Did you attend the Archdiocese Justice Convocation on October 21 and want to continue the conversation? Even if you were unable to attend, are you interested in viewing the recording to hear the speakers provide facts and figures about poverty in Massachusetts today? Would you like to discuss the 'moral triangle' to house the homeless, feed the poor and welcome the stranger and learn more about the Archdiocese's response to these challenges? Then, please email Di Collins at [diathome17@aol.com](mailto:diathome17@aol.com). Once we know interest, we can plan the appropriate conversation and hopefully identify ways we and the larger St. Mary's community can help our neighbors.

**ST. MARY'S MOM'S PRAYER GROUP:** There is a St. Mary's Mom's Group on Tuesdays from 10:30 AM - 12 noon in Fr. Haley Hall. Every week, we will pray together, read reflections according to the liturgical season, and share prayer intentions. Children of all ages are welcome, there will be a few toys and coloring activities available. Coffee and snacks will be provided. Contact Meghan Krenselewski at 978-421-5795.

**WINGS (Women in God's Spirit):** 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. We have just concluded our Fall 2023 In Person and Virtual Season "Prayer - A Conversation with God." To view these recorded presentations visit our WINGS webpage <https://stmarysholliston.com/women-in-gods-spirit-w-i-n-g-s/>. Watch for details on our Winter Season starting in mid-January. For additional information about the WINGS ministry, please call Jen Schiller at 617-852-9632 or Diane Collins at 508-259-7795 or visit our webpage <https://stmarysholliston.com/women-in-gods-spirit-w-i-n-g-s/>. To register for WINGS, email [stmaryswingssecretary@gmail.com](mailto:stmaryswingssecretary@gmail.com).

# December

**ADVENT IS COMING THE SUNDAY AFTER NEXT!** Advent, the start of a New Year in the Church, starts on Sunday, December 3. Read below to learn about all the many spiritual offerings at St. Mary's during this season of preparation for the Coming of the Lord!

**ST. MARY'S MARRIAGE FELLOWSHIP:** Join St. Mary's Marriage Fellowship on Sunday, December 3 for a family-based service project making holiday crafts for the Holliston Senior Center. Drop by for an afternoon of fun in the Lower Church from 2 - 5 PM. Children are very welcome. Come for as long as you're able! RSVP to [stmarysmarriagefellowship@gmail.com](mailto:stmarysmarriagefellowship@gmail.com).

**MIDDLE SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP MEETING:** Our next Meeting is Sunday, December 3 from 6:30 – 8 PM in the Parish Center. There will be faith, friendship, fun, and signups for the December 15 Caroling, Pizza Party, Christmas Lights Trip. Friday, Jan. 5, 7 PM, Celtics vs Utah Jazz payments are also due tonight. Any and all 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> Graders are invited. Bring a friend!



**GIVE A GIFT:** December 9 and 10 at all Masses. Once again we ask the people of St. Mary's to help make Christmas truly a season of sharing. All items go to needy families in Boston, and are distributed through two inner city Catholic parishes. Please bring an article of new clothing and a new toy, unwrapped together in a plain bag or gift bag with a tag stating "Boy" or "Girl" and size or age up to age 18. No adult gifts please. Kindly place your gift in front of St. Mary's altar at any Mass the weekend of December 9 and 10. Gift bags only please.

**COOKIE WALK FOR HAITI:** December 9 and 10, after all Weekend Masses. Long rows of tables will be set up in the Lower Church Hall – tables loaded down with over 2,000 delicious homemade cookies baked by St. Mary's Middle School Youth Group Members. For \$6, you may purchase an empty cookie bag, then "walk" down the rows of tables and select a dozen cookies which youths (wearing plastic gloves) will place in your bag. All proceeds will benefit the poor of Haiti, a deeply impoverished nation recently rocked by a presidential assassination, a major earthquake, and a hurricane.

**THE LIVING STONES OF BETHLEHEM:** Tuesday, December 12, 7 - 8 PM in the church. Come learn more about Bethlehem, and the "Living Stones of the Church," the Christians who live there today. The presentation will include slides and stories from our Parish Visit to Beit Sahour last March. We will also pray for peace in the Holy Land.

**LESSONS & CAROLS:** Sunday, December 17, from 5 - 6 PM in the church. Join us for an evening of beautiful music and scripture, anticipating the wondrous birth of our Lord Jesus. This year's Lessons and Carols will feature St. Mary's Adult Choir under the direction of Abbey Kelley-Lanser. The program will include familiar carols as well as choral music by Victoria, Willcocks, Praetorius, and more. Our organist will be Brandon Santini who will offer a recital from 4:30 – 5 PM. Bring the whole family and fill your Christmas preparations with plenty of holiday cheer!

**ADVENT ADORATION WITH CONFESSION:** Every Monday of Advent, December 4, 11, and 18, from 7 - 8 PM. Bring your day to a restful end by basking in the True Presence of our Eucharistic Lord. Clear and quiet your soul from all that has come between you and God by making a good Confession – especially if it has been awhile. Confession is a healing encounter with Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of sins. The Lord's mercy, healing, and grace are given to us through this encounter. In it Jesus also strengthens us to resist future or ongoing temptation. The Sacrament of Confession is a moment of accountability for us before the Lord. The Lord's forgiveness and mercy is infinite. Nothing we have done can ever separate us from experiencing God's forgiveness through this sacrament. Confession will also continue to be offered on Saturdays in the church from Noon to 12:45 PM, **except on December 23 when Confessions will not be heard.**



**CLOW - CHILDREN K-6: CHILDREN'S**

**LITURGY OF THE WORD:** Today, Sunday, November 19, the children will be dismissed from the main church with a Leader to the lower church hall to listen and learn what Jesus teaches us in the Gospel reading. Younger children are welcome **but must be accompanied by their parents** and be able to sit and engage in the lesson.

**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASSES THIS WEEK**

DAY	GRADE	GRADE
Sun., Nov. 19	GR-2 at 8:10 AM	GR-2 at 10:45 AM
	GR-3 at 7:55 AM	GR-3 at 10:45 AM
	GR-6 at 4:00 PM	GR-7 at 5:00 PM
Mon., Nov. 27	GR-2 at 4:30 PM*	
Tues., Nov. 28	GR-2 at 4:30 PM*	GR-5 at 4:00 PM
	GR-6 at 4:00 PM	GR-6 at 5:00 PM
Wed., Nov. 29	GR-2 at 4:30 PM*	GR-7 at 6:00 PM
Thurs., Nov. 30	GR-4 at 4:00 PM	GR-5 at 4:00 PM

**THANKSGIVING BREAK NOTICE:** There will be no classes the week of Thanksgiving, Monday, November 20 through Sunday, November 26.

**PLEASE HELP FILL OUR MONITOR NEEDS**

**BELOW:** Contact us at 508-429-6076 if you can monitor a session. We need your help!

**GR-2 & 3: 1 Monitor** - alt. Sun. 10:45 AM - 12:15 PM

**GR-4 & 5: 1 Monitor** - alt. Sun. 10:45 AM - 12:15 PM

**GR-4 & 5: 1 Monitor** - alt. Thurs. 4:00 - 5:30 PM

**GR-6: 1 Monitor** - alt. Sun. 4:00 - 5:30 PM

**CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS NATIVITY:** Families who wish their Grade 1-4 children to take a role in St. Mary's traditional Christmas Eve Nativity Pageant at the 4:00 PM Vigil Mass must send in their child's form by 11/24. The three rehearsals are Saturday **12/2, 12/9 and 12/16 from 9 - 10 AM**. Submit your completed signed form by email to: [SpecialInnkeeper1224@gmail.com](mailto:SpecialInnkeeper1224@gmail.com).

**GRADE 4 TOUR OF THE CHURCH TODAY:** All Grade 4 Sunday and weekday classes along with our homeschooled children will meet in the church by 3:30 PM for a Tour of the Church with their teachers. Pick-up for children is at 5:00 PM in the church. Parents are welcome to attend the tour.

**\*GRADE 2 FIRST PENANCE REVIEW SESSIONS:**

Grade 2 children will have a review for the Sacrament of Penance on Mon., Nov. 27 for the Sunday 8:10 AM classes; on Tues., Nov. 28 for the Sunday 10:45 AM classes; and on Wed., Nov. 29 for the Wednesday classes.

*Thanksgiving blessings to all our families and Volunteer Coordinators, Teachers and Monitors.*

**CONFIRMATION I AND II:** Grade 10 classes meet on Tuesday, November 28 and Thursday, November 30 from 7:00 - 8:30 PM. Please check into Fr. Haley Hall.

**PROTECTING GOD'S CHILDREN TRAINING WORKSHOP:** All new volunteers in any capacity and ministry must take the Protecting God's Children (PGC) Training. Please check our bulletin each week for the newly scheduled **PGC Workshops**.

Participants must **pre-register** for a session. Here's how: "Go to [www.Virtusonline.org](http://www.Virtusonline.org). Click on "First-time Registrant" and 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."

**CORI RENEWAL ALERT:** All active and new volunteers (18+ years) must have a completed **2024 CORI** form on file in our office to serve in a ministry. 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.*

**HOLLISTON NEWCOMERS AND NEIGHBORS THANKSGIVING DONATION DRIVE:** The HNN is helping to provide **gift cards** to those in need through the Holliston Pantry Shelf and other local organizations that support the Holliston youth such as Head Start and Wayside Youth & Families. So once again we are asking for **monetary donations to support these efforts**. Visit HNN at: <http://www.hollistonnewcomers.org/donations> and **select Thanksgiving** or mail your donation by check along with the Certificate below.

**Holliston Newcomers and Neighbors  
Thanksgiving Donation Certificate**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_



Please make your check out to Holliston Newcomers & Neighbors along with this certificate and mail it to Katrine Giroux, 147 Mohawk Path, Holliston, MA and **note on your check that it is for Thanksgiving.**