



# 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  
 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:****"Holliston – Holy Land Friendship Scholarship."**

In response to a request from our Sister Parish, Our Lady's in Beit Sahour, the St. Mary's Parish and Finance Councils both voted unanimously to scholarship four Palestinian Catholic children this school year, instead of our usual two. The current war has made it impossible for many to meet tuition, and our support this year will truly be a light and a lifeline for these children. They are: **Pellar, a 7<sup>th</sup> Grade girl;** Farah, a 6<sup>th</sup> Grade boy; Bissan, a 7<sup>th</sup> Grade girl; and Andrea, an 8<sup>th</sup> Grade boy. Let us also pray for these children. And let us continue to pray for peace in the Lands made Holy by Christ. Thank you!

**LAST SUNDAY'S PARISH OFFERTORY:**

Automatic Giving: \$ 5,017.50  
 WeShare: \$ 5,069.00  
 Offertory Envelopes  
 Dropped/mailed  
 to the office: \$ 6,831.00  
 Total Offertory: \$ 16,917.50

Thank you for making up any missed weekly parish support. The fiscal health of your parish depends on it. Kindly consider switching to WeShare or Automatic Giving. See: <https://stmarysholliston.com/how-to-give/>.

**SNOW DAYS:** If Holliston Schools close or are delayed for weather, the 9 AM Daily Mass is cancelled.

*Pancake  
Breakfast*

**SAVE THE DATE ~ BOY SCOUT PANCAKE**

**BREAKFAST:** Sunday, February 4, all you can eat pancakes and sausages from 8:00 AM till 12:00 PM in Father Haley Hall. Come support the Scouts!

**MASS INTENTIONS**

<b>Saturday</b>	<b>January 13</b>
5:00	John Cocchiarella
7:30	Neythen Yoviscin
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>January 14</b>
7:30	People of St. Mary's
9:30	Mary and Jeanne Miley
11:30	Donald Taylor
<b>Monday</b>	<b>January 15</b>
9:00	Charlotte Marden
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>January 16</b>
9:00	Elizabeth Walker MacLeod
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>January 17</b>
9:00	Paul T. Shea
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>January 18</b>
9:00	Creighton Muscato
<b>Friday</b>	<b>January 19</b>
9:00	Matilda Scaduto, 1 <sup>st</sup> Anv.
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>January 20</b>
5:00	Calvin Meisner, 10 <sup>th</sup> Anv.
7:30	Sandra Constantina
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>January 21</b>
7:30	People of St. Mary's
9:30	Marie Loscocco
11:30	Patrick MacDonald



*I'd like to express my gratitude for helping me with my tuition fees at school.*

*I wish you all a Merry Christmas and a happy new year full of joy, happiness and prosperity.*

*Pellar Varayesh*

**MIDDLE SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP  
UPCOMING EVENTS:**

Friday, Jan. 26: Snow Tubing, Nashoba.  
 Friday, Feb. 2: Luau Dance.  
 Sunday, Feb. 4: Monthly Meeting 6:30 – 8:30 PM.

**TGIF (Teens Gather In Faith):**

January 20, to Level 99. Our next TGIF Meeting is Sunday, January 28, from 7 - 8:30 PM. All Summer 2024 Mississippi Mission Trip Forms and the \$200 Mission Trip deposits are due at this Meeting.





## FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

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

A dramatic change greets us as we enter the church building this weekend. Gone are the evergreens, poinsettias, and lights of Christmas. In their place is the simplicity of Ordinary Time, as our liturgical calendar skips thirty years from Christ's infancy to the start of His public ministry.

The fact that most of Jesus' life was spent in obscurity allows us each to "fill in the blanks". We can imagine Him as a boy, running and playing with the other children of Nazareth. In our mind's eye we can see Jesus at Joseph's side, learning to cut and shape wood to useful purpose. We can be comforted by the fact that most of Jesus' life was quite ordinary. He lived as we do, growing in body, mind, and spirit. He knew the same joys and sorrows, likes and dislikes, that we do. Most importantly, He grew in understanding of His Heavenly Father's will. By living most of His years in unremarkable fashion, Jesus has truly made all that is ordinary rich in the grace of God.

This weekend our Scriptures share the common theme of "God's call". Samuel is called by God to serve Him as a prophet. The Psalmist cries out his willingness to submit his life to God's plan. St. Paul reminds us that we are all called to keep our minds and bodies pure as dwelling places for the Holy Spirit, while Andrew and Peter answer Jesus' call to "come and see" where He is staying. Occasionally God's call is dramatic and unmistakable. More often it is subtle and needs to be discerned through prayer. But the fact is that God never stops calling each of us to holiness, to particular paths, and to the unique peace that comes from knowing and accomplishing His will.

God bless you.

Rev. Mark J. Coiro



P.S. In case you were snowed in last Sunday and unable to get Epiphany Chalk to bless your home for 2024, a small supply is available this weekend also. You may take a piece from the table to the left of the Religious Education Office in the Parish Center Lobby. The procedure and prayer for using the chalk may be found in last weekend's bulletin, available on the St. Mary's Website.

## CHILDREN & YOUTH CHOIRS STARTING UP

For children and teens in Grades 3 through 12: this Wednesday, January 17, our Music Director Abbey Kelley-Lanser will be relaunching the Children's Choir and the Youth Choir! Rehearsals will be held weekly on Wednesdays in the St. Mary's Lower Church Hall.

Our goals are to foster musical community among the groups, to prepare solo or joint choir songs for every other 9:30 AM Sunday Mass and special events, to learn about God through lifelong, memorable songs and to make a joyful noise unto the Lord!



To Sign Up or if you have any questions, contact Abbey at [musicatstmarysholliston@gmail.com](mailto:musicatstmarysholliston@gmail.com), or call her at 508-429-6076.

Children's Choir: 3<sup>rd</sup> - 5<sup>th</sup> Graders,  
Wednesdays 3:30 - 4:15 PM.

Youth Choir: 6<sup>th</sup> Graders and above,  
Wednesdays 4:00 - 5:15 PM.

First Sung Mass: Sunday, January 28 at 8:45 AM -  
warmup for the 9:30 AM Mass.





# HAWAIIAN LUAU!

## MIDDLE SCHOOL DANCE

**DATE:** **FRIDAY**, FEBRUARY 2, 2024

**TIME:** 7 PM – 9:30 PM

**PLACE:** St. Mary's Parish Center  
708 Washington St., Holliston.

**COST:** \$10 at the door. *Drinks & snacks will be on sale separately.*

**WHO:** Any and all 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, or 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Middle School Students are invited to attend. The dance is sponsored by St. Mary's Youth Ministry, but is **open to all Middle School Students from anywhere**. Invite a friend!

*For safety, you must remain in the building until a parent walks inside to pick you up.*

**PROFESSIONAL DJ,  
MUSIC, LIGHTS,  
TROPICAL  
ATMOSPHERE,  
FROZEN DRINKS,  
LIMBO CONTEST,  
BEST BEACH  
OUTFIT CONTEST,  
PRIZES & TOTAL  
FUN IN THE SUN!**





**ST. MARY'S KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS IS SPONSORING A RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE:** Next Saturday, January 20, in St. Mary's Father Haley Hall, the Council will sponsor its annual Red Cross Blood Drive. Hours are from 8:30 AM to 1:30 PM. To schedule an appointment, contact 1-800-REDCROSS or visit <https://www.redcrossblood.org/> and search by zip code (01746) in the "Find a Blood Drive" field. For further information, contact the Knights of Columbus Council Blood Drive coordinator, Rodman Burgett at 508-653-6130.



**THE ROSE FOR LIFE:** Is sponsored this week by Joan Cocchiarella in memory of John Cocchiarella. Please join her in prayer for an unborn child. If you wish to sponsor the Rose in 2024 please call the Rectory at 429-4427.

**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS 13<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL BASKETBALL FREE THROW CONTEST:** On Saturday, January 27, the St. Mary's Council #14224 will sponsor their 13<sup>th</sup> Annual Free Throw Contest. ALL Holliston boys and girls ages 9 - 14 as of January 1, 2024, are eligible to participate. The contest will be held at the Holliston High School gym from 12:00 to 5:00 PM. Entry Forms will be available at the gym and must be signed by BOTH child and parent/guardian. Winners in each age group will be entered into the Knights of Columbus District Contest. The Council will award trophies to Holliston winners in February. Last year, two Holliston youths were State Champions! Any questions, please contact Knight Donald Marden at 508-429-1363.

**ST. MARY'S MOM'S PRAYER GROUP:** Please join us this Tuesday, January 16 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 508-429-4427 with any questions.



**WINGS WINTER SEASON (Women in God's Spirit):** WINGS is pleased to present our 2024 Winter Bible Study in person and via Zoom. The Winter Season will begin on Wednesday, January 31, at 10 AM and end on Wednesday, March 6. Continuing our fall theme of "Prayer, A Conversation with God", WINGS has chosen Kevin Perrotta's "Becoming a Praying Person" as our guide. Books may be purchased through Amazon or Loyola Press. Please let us know if you have trouble with the ordering process. Note that it is not mandatory to purchase the book to participate in the Winter Bible Study. WINGS will share references to the relevant bible verses with you each week; however, the book will contain additional useful material. WINGS requests dues of \$20 per season (unless you have already paid for the year); however, all women are most welcome regardless of ability to pay. Checks payable to St.

Mary's Parish can be mailed to St. Mary's Parish, 8 Church St., Holliston, MA, 01746 or pay at the door. Email [stmaryswingssecretary@gmail.com](mailto:stmaryswingssecretary@gmail.com) to register or call Jen at 617-852-9632 or Diane at 508-259-7795.

**POPE BENEDICT'S THIRD ENCYCLICAL:** On Saturday mornings, January 13, 20, and 27, from 10:00 - 11:00 AM, Leo Racine will lead an in-person reading/discussion group on Pope Benedict's 2009 encyclical *Caritas in Veritate*, on Integral Human Development in Charity and Truth. The US Bishops, on their website ([www.usccb.org](http://www.usccb.org)), describe *Caritas in Veritate*, Pope Benedict's third encyclical, as "a call to see the relationship between human and environmental ecologies and to link charity and truth in the pursuit of justice, the common good, and authentic human development." The meetings will be held in Rooms 3 and 4 of the Parish Center, with the possibility of a Zoom meeting if there is inclement weather on any particular Saturday. Please contact Leo at 508-429-7476 or [leoaracine@msn.com](mailto:leoaracine@msn.com) for more information or to register.

**DO YOU HAVE A PASSION FOR ECO-JUSTICE?** *Sacred Air: Climate & Energy* is an eight-session JustFaith Ministries' small group program that explores the impact of the climate crisis on God's creation and God's people. In order to discern ways to restore the health of our planet and those who live on it, your small group will learn about causes and effects of the climate crisis. Leo Racine and Jane Materazzo of St. Theresa's parish in Sherborn will facilitate this engaging program which will be held on Zoom on Sunday evenings from 7:00 to 9:00 PM beginning on February 4. The program is free to St. Mary parishioners. Please contact Leo Racine at 508-429-7476 or [leoaracine@msn.com](mailto:leoaracine@msn.com) for more information and to begin the registration process.

**HOLLISTON PANTRY SHELF HELP:** Regular coffee, peanut butter, jelly, sugar, ketchup, mayonnaise, Chunky Soup, cookies, canned turkey/chicken, canned fruit, and brownie mixes.

**CLOW - CHILDREN K-6: CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD**, today, Sunday, January 14, 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. **Please note: Younger children must be accompanied by their parents** and able to sit and engage in the lesson. Older children are welcome to assist the adult leaders.

#### RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASSES THIS WEEK

DAY	GRADE	GRADE
Sun., Jan. 14	No Classes	
Mon., Jan 15	No Classes	Martin Luther King
Tues., Jan. 16	GR-4 at 4:00 PM	GR-9 at 7:00 PM
Wed., Jan. 17	GR-7 at 6:00 PM	
Thurs., Jan. 18	GR-9 at 7:00 PM	
Sun., Jan. 21	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

**GRADE 7 CHASTITY PROGRAM:** On Wednesday, January 17, at 6:00 PM and on Sunday, January 21, at 5:00 PM, Linda Thayer, our guest speaker, will address the importance of chastity in the Christian view of human sexuality with the Grade 7 students. All Sunday and Wednesday students are required to attend. As always, parents are welcome to join us for these presentations.

**GRADE 7 SAFETY SESSIONS:** Our Grade 7 Safety Sessions will be held on Sunday, January 28, from 5:00 to 6:30 PM and on Wednesday, January 31, from 6:00 to 7:30 PM in Rooms 3 and 4 in the Center. Mrs. Catherine Mitchell is the presenter. This is an opportunity for the students to learn what God's gifts are for their personal safety such as their senses, intuition, fear, trusted adults, healthy relationships, getting out of a tight spot, being aware and assertive, keeping friends, and keeping in control of their surroundings. Parents can view the program at: [www.VIRTUSonline.org](http://www.VIRTUSonline.org). Enter the **User Name:** Parent\_Boston and then the **Password is:** EGCBoston1. When you are in the landing page click on the **education tab** at the top. You can view the Lesson plans for Grades K – 12. *Please view this program before the safety classes begin in January through April 2024.*

**GRADES 3 - 7 COORDINATOR / TEACHER MEETING:** On Monday, January 29, at 7:30 PM in room 3 and 4 to go over the second 2023-2024 second semester curriculum plans and planning for 2024-2025.

**CONFIRMATION I AND II:** Grade 9 classes meet on Tuesday, January 16, and Thursday, January 18, from 7:00 - 8:30 PM. Students are to 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**.

**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.*

**GRADE 5 GENERAL SESSION ON MARY~ MONDAY, JANUARY 29, AT 4:00 PM:** All Grade 5 classes and homeschooled children are to attend. The Virgin Mary appeared many times from heaven to little children and asked that we pray the Rosary daily for the conversion of the heart of the world and for world peace. The world's people had so strayed away from God and He gave her the task of bringing her children back to God. As her children she gave us the holy Rosary to pray for world peace. By praying the Rosary daily reparation can be made for all the offenses committed against the Sacred Heart of Jesus and the Immaculate Heart of Mary. Parents are also welcome to attend and blessed Rosary beads will be available for all the children and guests.

**A MARTYR FOR NON-VIOLENCE AND PEACE:** Dr. Martin Luther King believed in non-violence and justice for those who were persecuted and denied their dignity and rights. He died a martyr for justice for all people. May King's voice, "I have a Dream . . ." ring on to fulfill God's plan for peace among all people.



**R.E. CLASS SNOW CANCELLATION:** When Holliston public schools are closed due to inclement weather, religious education classes will not be held. Class cancellations will be aired on Channel 5 and Channel 7 during the weekday and on Channel 4 on Saturday and Sunday only.