

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 Choir 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
 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

EASTER COLLECTION FOR RETIRED PRIESTS:

All monies collected at Easter go to cover the healthcare and retirement needs of the senior priests of our Archdiocese. These men have served us in a 24/7 job for most of their lives. Without them, we could not fully live our Catholic faith. Please remember the priests who have been there for you and consider honoring them through this special collection. Thank you for your generous and prayerful support to the wellbeing of our priests!

You may contribute online at <https://clergytrust.org/>. WeShare and Automatic Giving gifts may also be designated for the Easter Collection. Thank you!

BANNS OF MARRIAGE:

II Nathaniel Bachman and Wendy Figueroa Rodriguez



BLESSED MOTHER SCHOLARSHIP: Scholarship Applications are now available at <https://stmarysholliston.com/> under REGISTER / PARISH FORMS. This \$2,000 scholarship is granted in recognition of exceptional service to the St. Mary's Parish Family. The Scholarship will be presented at St. Mary's Mass for the Graduating Class of 2024, Sunday, May 12 at 11:30 AM. Congratulations Grads!

THE ROSE FOR LIFE: Is sponsored this week by the Bates Family in memory of Holton Hewitt. Please join them in prayer for an unborn child. Call the rectory office at 508-429-4427 to sponsor the Rose.

WISDOM FROM THE SAINTS: *"Why should we today sing Alleluia, Praise the Lord? Because this day we are fed, freed, assured of the truth, and given promises of being endowed, in our resurrection, with the gifts of clarity, agility, brightness and impassibility, which Christ showed in his resurrection."* - St. Vincent Ferrer

2024 EASTER

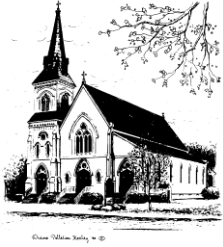
CANDLE: This year's Easter Candle has been given in loving memory of John Cocchiarella (photo right). The Easter Candle is used at Masses during the Easter Season and at every Baptism and Funeral throughout the year. It represents the light of Christ's Resurrection conquering the darkness of sin and death.



UPCOMING MASS INTENTIONS:

Monday 9:00	April 1 Matthew D'Agostino
Tuesday 9:00	April 2 Funeral Mass ~ William "Andy" St. James
Wednesday 9:00	April 3 Sr. Ricci
Thursday 9:00	April 4 Wanda Zeglarska
Friday 9:00	April 5 For the Intentions of Fr. Issa & the People of our Sister Parish, Our Lady's in Beit Sahour, Palestine
Saturday 5:00 7:30	April 6 Anna Sandi, 12 th Anv. Clarella Kiesgen, 5 th Anv.
Sunday 7:30 9:30 11:30	April 7 People of St. Mary's Carmine and Loreta Gizzi Tim Garry

DIVINE MERCY CHAPLET: The St. Mary's Knights of Columbus Council invites all parishioners to remain after Mass next weekend, April 6 and 7 (Divine Mercy Sunday), for a brief prayer service. We will be praying the Divine Mercy Chaplet. The chaplet is a beautiful prayer of humility that only takes about ten minutes to pray and is very easy to learn. Further information about the many graces available to us on Divine Mercy Sunday can be found at divinemercury.org. Have a wonderful Holy Week and we look forward to praying with you!



Saint Mary's Parish

8 Church St. ~ Holliston, MA ~ 01746 ~ (508) 429-4427

March 31, 2024
Easter Sunday

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

Easter Greetings in the Lord! Today we find our Parish Family increased by three new members – Lisa Mendoza Wood, Francisco Wood, and William Wood – all of whom received Sacraments of Initiation to the Catholic faith at the Easter Vigil. Let us welcome them joyfully, and reaffirm our own commitment to Jesus, the Risen Lord Who is our future and our hope.

Always, the initiation of new persons into the Church invites us to consider our own place as members of the Living Body of Christ. To be a Catholic is to be part of a community of believers who are committed to assisting one another as we journey together in the Lord. It's not by accident that Jesus never sent His disciples off alone, but always two by two. In this way, they were able to support and encourage each other along the difficult but royal road of the Cross – the way of forgiveness and sacrificial love that alone will bring us safely home to God.

Today's Gospel tells us that on the first Easter morning when Mary Magdalene came alone to the tomb and found it empty, she was filled with distress. In contrast, when Peter and the Beloved Disciple ran to the tomb together, they began to believe in the Resurrection. The simple lesson here is that we are not meant to seek Christ alone. That is why the faster, Beloved Disciple waited for Peter to catch up before entering the tomb. It is when we seek the Risen Lord together as Church that faith and hope unfold most readily before us. Nowhere is this truth more evident than when we gather each week for Sunday Eucharist – the Sacrament and mystery by which we are united to Christ and one another. Jesus is risen, but when we gather in His Holy Name and receive together the precious gift of His Body and Blood, He is with us still.

It is a wonderful adventure to experience the living presence of Jesus and to follow Him in our daily lives. Our share in His Resurrection begins now and extends unto eternity. If you find yourself this Easter feeling disconnected from the Lord, then there is no more appropriate time to welcome Him anew into your life. If you live nearby, we invite you to return here next Sunday and find out more about following Jesus. If you live far away, we hope that you will seek out a parish family near you that will support you as you grow in His faith and love. On behalf of all of us here at St. Mary's, I wish you and your loved ones a blessed and joyful Easter.

In Christ's Service and Yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mark J. Coiro'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Rev. Mark J. Coiro
Pastor

“When we are linked by the power of prayer, we, as it were, hold each other's hand as we walk side by side along a slippery path; and thus it comes about that the harder each leans on the other by prayer, the more we are riveted together in brotherly love.” - St. Gregory the Great

2024 CATHOLIC APPEAL ~

We want to thank everyone from St. Mary's who has so far participated in the 2024 Catholic Appeal.

As of March 24 our parish had raised \$69,919 from 41 % of St. Mary's active households, reaching 80 % of our parish goal of \$87,500.



These contributions support the many ministries of our Archdiocese and will improve the lives of so many vulnerable persons. The Appeal is to our Archdiocese what the weekly offertory is to our parish. If you have not yet made your gift, please consider making a pledge.

(Option 1) If you have given previously to the Catholic Appeal, then you should have received a 2024 Pledge Form in the mail. Mail it to St. Mary's or to the Archdiocese. You may also drop it off at St. Mary's, and we will mail it in. Any checks we receive made out to the 2024 Catholic Appeal will also be forwarded.

(Option 2) Scan the QR Code right.

(Option 3) Visit <https://bostoncatholicappeal.org/> and scroll to the bottom of the page to donate online. This website also offers you a video to watch and detailed information about the Catholic Appeal.



However you give, please be sure to indicate St. Mary's, Holliston as your parish so that your gift is applied to our parish goal. Thank you for doing your part – large or small according to your means – to support the good works of our Church. God bless you!



DONUTS, JUICE AND COFFEE NEXT SUNDAY: The Welcoming Committee invites all parishioners and their families to come down to Fr. Haley Hall after the 9:30 AM Mass next Sunday, April 7, for donuts, juice and coffee! Come enjoy the chance to connect with and get to know your fellow parishioners. Members of the Parish Pastoral Council will be attending DJC and welcome any comments or ideas you have for St. Mary's. Please join us!

UPSTAIRS FOR KIDS NEXT SUNDAY: It being the First Sunday of the Month, there will be an upstairs Interactive Children's Homily at our 9:30 AM Mass!

THANK YOU! A great big heart-felt thank you to all who participated in the St. Mary's Lenten Suppers. Your generosity and willingness to accept part of the workload made the suppers possible and successful this year. To those who helped create and manage the weekly schedule, set up and clean up the supper space, prepare the food and present the weekly reflections, your work is sincerely acknowledged and appreciated. None of us could do it alone. And, of course, special thanks are extended to the parishioners who came every week to share a meal and build up our parish community.

CEMETERY REMINDER: Please remove all Christmas/Winter decorations, wreaths, folding chairs, benches not used as headstones, and old planters from the Cemetery. R and R Landscape has begun the Spring Cleanup of our beautiful Cemetery and is preparing the grounds for the Spring and Summer. Please do not throw empty containers, plastic flowers, old plantings, etc. in the woods or on the side of the Cemetery Road. If you have any questions regarding the Cemetery please call the Rectory at 508-429-4427.

LET ANYONE WHO THIRSTS, COME TO ME: A Healing Mass for those Impacted by Divorce or Separation will be held April 30 at the Pastoral Center from 6:30 - 9PM. Hosted by Family Life Ministry, the evening includes Confession, Adoration, a witness talk by divorced Catholic Mark Gioia, Mass celebrated by Fr. Jürgen Liias, and prayers for healing. For more information or to register visit <https://bit.ly/LetAnyoneWhoThirsts> or call Emily Elliott @ (617) 746-5756. God bless you.



Support Our Mississippi Mission Trip Teens! Teens Gather In Faith!

This July, 72 high school students from St. Mary’s will travel to Gulfport, Mississippi for a week of faith-filled Mission work and service. This is a life-changing week for the teens and chaperones as they live out their faith, make lifelong friendships and get to know the people they serve. It is a beautiful extension of our parish family’s Mission to know, love and serve God. The cost of the trip this year has increased to \$1,100 per student. The teens are busy planning fundraising events to defray the cost. The next one is ...

Family BINGO Night is *THIS FRIDAY!*

To support the 2024 Mississippi Mission Trip.

What: Fun Family BINGO with gift cards and other awesome prizes! Snacks and drinks on sale will also benefit the Mission Trip.

When: THIS FRIDAY, April 5,
7 – 9 PM.

Where: Fr. Haley Hall.

Donation: \$20 for an Adult Prizes Card; \$10 for a Kiddie Prizes Card – both are good for two hours’ play!



TGIF HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP

Friday, April 5: Family BINGO Night Mission Trip Fund Raiser.

Sunday, April 21: Monthly TGIF Meeting, 7 - 8:45 PM.

Sunday May 5: Mission Mass 11:30 AM; End of Year Meeting & Potluck, 7 - 9:00 PM

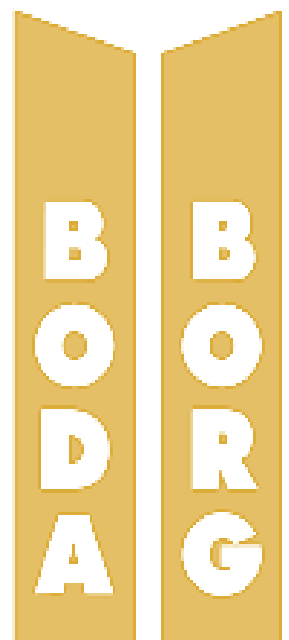
MIDDLE SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP

Sunday, April 7: Monthly MSYG Meeting, 6:30 - 8:00 PM! Signups for ...

Tuesday, April 16: BODA BORG, Vacation Week.

Friday, May 3: 6th Grade Nursing Home BINGO.

Friday, May 17: SCAVENGER HUNT!





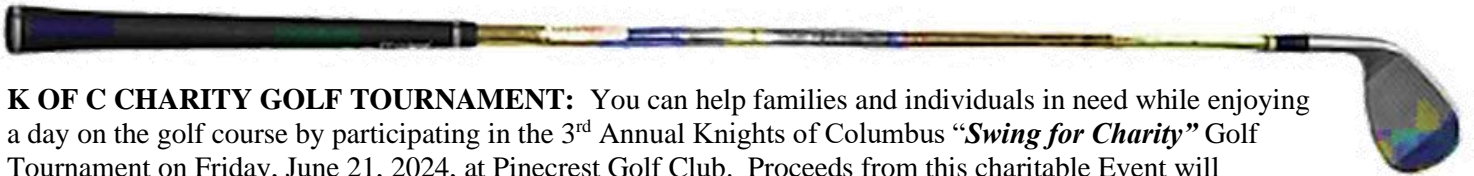
ST. MARY'S MOM'S PRAYER GROUP: Please join us this Tuesday, April 2 from 10:30 AM - 12 noon in Fr. Haley Hall. Every week we pray together, read reflections according to the liturgical season, and share prayer intentions. Children of all ages are welcome, there are a few toys and coloring activities available. Coffee and snacks are provided.

SMCWG: The St. Mary's Catholic Women's Group will hold their last meeting of the season on Wednesday, April 10 at 12 Noon in the Parish Library. Please bring your lunch and a drink. All are welcome!

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. Mark your calendars for our Spring Season beginning on Wednesday, April 10 at 10



AM in person and over Zoom. Continuing our yearly theme of prayer, during this Spring Season we will listen to speakers describe how prayer has played an integral role in God's plan for their lives. More details to come. Babysitting is available; please register in advance. Suggested donation for the Spring season is \$20.00 unless you have previously paid for the entire WINGS year. All women are welcome, regardless of ability to pay. Our 2023-24 Fall and Winter WINGS presentations on prayer may be found on our WINGS webpage at <https://stmarysholliston.com/women-in-gods-spirit-w-i-n-g-s/>, scroll down to the bottom. Email stmaryswingssecretary@gmail.com to register or call Diane @ 508-259-7795 or Jen @ 617-852-9632.



K OF C CHARITY GOLF TOURNAMENT: You can help families and individuals in need while enjoying a day on the golf course by participating in the 3rd Annual Knights of Columbus "*Swing for Charity*" Golf Tournament on Friday, June 21, 2024, at Pinecrest Golf Club. Proceeds from this charitable Event will be donated to the Holliston Pantry Shelf and the MetroWest Veterans Emergency Relief Fund. You can register as a sponsor, player, or foursome at KofCswingforcharity.com. Alternatively, you can mail a check payable to K of C Council 14224 c/o Tony Polise at 172 Rolling Meadow Dr., Holliston, MA, 01746, or payment can be made via VENMO @KofC14224. Prices can be found at KofCswingforcharity.com. Thank you for your continuing support of the St. Mary's Knights of Columbus.



THE POPE'S MONTHLY PRAYER INTENTIONS: Every month Pope Francis entrusts his Worldwide Prayer Network with prayer intentions that express his great concerns for humanity and for the mission of the Church. His monthly prayer intention is a global summons to transform our prayers into "concrete actions"; it is a compass for a mission of compassion for the world. It proposes a path to mobilize us each month, through prayer and action, to build a more humane and caring world.



These prayer intentions are the product of a long process of discernment within the Church, in various countries around the world, encompassing proposals from various dicasteries, congregations and services of the Holy See. When the process concludes, after several months, the Pope, having received the proposals, takes time to pray and discern with regard to the challenges facing humanity and the mission of the Church. He then entrusts his twelve prayer intentions to all the faithful. They are guidelines for our life and mission.

You are invited to join with many people worldwide in praying for the monthly intention. March - For the New Martyrs. We pray that those who risk their lives for the Gospel in various parts of the world inflame the Church with their courage and missionary enthusiasm. For further information please consult the Pope's Worldwide Prayer Network (the Apostleship of Prayer) at: <https://www.popesprayer.va/the-challenges-facing-humanity-and-assists-the-mission-of-the-church/>.

LENT AT ST. MARY'S ~ GLIMPSSES OF GRACE



Boy Choir Concert



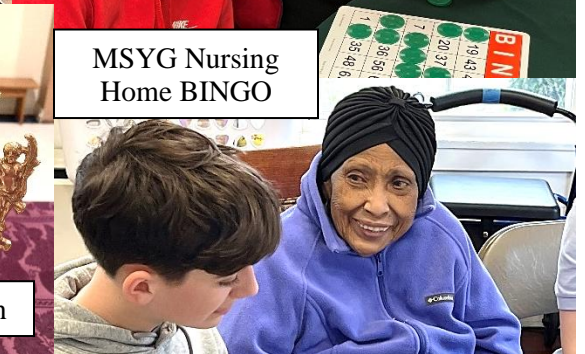
Lenten Suppers



TGIF Lunches for the Homeless



Relics Exposition & Veneration



MSYG Nursing Home BINGO



40 Hours Devotion



Kids Eggstravaganza

EASTER BLESSINGS TO ALL OUR ST. MARY'S PARISH FAMILIES



CLOW ~ CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD resumes on Sunday, April 7 in the church with Fr. Mark.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASSES THIS WEEK

DAY	GRADE	GRADE
Sun., March 31	NO CLASSES	
Tues., April 2	GR-5 at 4:00 PM	GR-6 at 4:00 PM
	GR-6 at 5:00 PM	GR-10 at 7:00 PM
Wed., April 3	GR-2 at 4:15 PM	GR-7 at 6:00 PM
Thurs., April 4	GR-5 at 4:00 PM	GR-10 at 7:00 PM
Sun., April 7	Pre-K at 9:15 AM	GR-1 at 8:10 AM
	GR-4 at 10:45 AM	GR-5 at 10:45 AM

GRADE 2 FIRST COMMUNION FAMILY

RETREAT: The retreat will be held on Saturday, April 6! Children and families will gather in the church by 1:00 PM for Eucharistic Adoration and prayer. *Children must be accompanied by at least one parent during the retreat.* Parents are reminded to bring a picture of their child for the craft station and a letter or prayer to Jesus in a sealed envelope with their child's name on it.

GRADE 9 AND 10 TEENS ARE NEEDED TO HELP WITH THE GRADE 2 RETREAT:

At least twelve teens are **needed** to help with our various stations for the Grade 2 Family Retreat on Saturday, April 6. Please contact Jennifer, our Religious Education Secretary, by sending along your email, name and contact number by calling the office at 508-429-6076 or email at: st.marysre1870@gmail.com. This is a fun event with crafts, a play, movie and time for prayer. The retreat begins at 1:00 PM and ends at 4:30 PM.

CONFIRMATION I AND II: Grade 10 Classes meet on Tuesday, April 2 and Thursday, April 4 from 7:00 to 8:30 PM. Students are to check into Fr. Haley Hall for their classes.

SPRING VACATION: Sun., April 14 to April 19.

EASTER: "This is the day that the Lord has made. Let us be glad and rejoice!" Our readings remind us that the message of Easter is one of joy, hope, and good news. It is a message that is not to be kept to ourselves. We need to be witnesses of all that Jesus has done for us. Take a moment during Easter brunch or Easter dinner, to speak of your love and gratitude for all the Lord has done for you. He is the source of all good things!

SCUBA VBS - SAVE THE DATE: JULY 22 – 26. Our 17th Annual Vacation Bible School!

Join us as we DIVE DEEP into friendship with Jesus! VBS is a weeklong celebration of faith with song, arts, crafts, movies, drama and Scripture. Registrations open on April 1. Watch for instructions for our NEW online registration. Adults and youth entering GR-7 and older are invited to volunteer. Check out the volunteer flyer: <https://shorturl.at/bgAX3>.

CALLING ALL CRAFTERS! Make some coral at home to add to the VBS set. Coral can be made with things you already have in your house such as cupcake liners, bottle caps, pipe cleaners and so much more! Google search for coral crafts or make anything you can imagine. Drop off to the Religious Education office.

YOUR TRASH IS OUR UNDERSEA TREASURE! VBS needs you! Do you have any of these items to repurpose? Flat-screen TV boxes, appliance boxes, pool noodles, or Styrofoam packaging inserts. Or these items we can borrow? Human dummy, flippers, snorkel mask and mouthpiece, 8 lb. bowling ball or large fish tank. **Check out our full wish list at:** <https://shorturl.at/ctzKQ>.

