



St. Mary's Parish



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!

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: As announced.

Adoration Schedule:

First Fridays from 9:30-
10:30 AM and as announced.

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

2024 CATHOLIC APPEAL GOAL ACHIEVED!

We want to thank everyone from our parish who contributed to the 2024 Catholic Appeal. Our Parish Goal of \$87,500 has been reached. Whether you gave \$20 or \$2,000, what matters is that *you did what you could* according to your means to support the good works of our Catholic Church. Please know that your parish is proud of you. And may the blessings promised to the compassionate be yours in abundance. Amen.

EASTER SUNDAY COLLECTION

FOR RETIRED PRIESTS: \$ 20,337.66

GOOD FRIDAY COLLECTION FOR THE

CHURCH IN THE HOLY LAND: \$3,489.66

HOLY THURSDAY COLLECTION FOR THE

HOLLISTON PANTRY SHELF: \$1,219.00



BANNS OF MARRIAGE:

III Nathaniel Bachman and Wendy Figueroa Rodriguez

HOLLISTON PANTRY SHELF: We offer a grocery store shopping experience where Holliston residents are able to select from close to 500 quality food items, including: milk, beef, chicken, fish, pork, seasonal produce, eggs, cheese, yogurt, canned soups, beans, pastas, cereals, coffee, snacks, and personal care items like shampoo, laundry detergent, soap and toothpaste. We offer complete privacy and confidentiality for our neighbors who need temporary or longer term help meeting their grocery needs. Shoppers need to only obtain a Pantry ID card through the Town Clerk's office at the Town Hall. For more assistance, please contact us at (508) 429-5392 or at info.hollistonpantryshef@gmail.com.

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday	April 6
5:00	Anna Sandi, 12 th Anv.
7:30	Clarella Kiesgen, 5 th Anv.
Sunday	April 7
7:30	People of St. Mary's
9:30	Carmine and Loreta Gizzi
11:30	Tim Garry
Monday	April 8
9:00	Feast of the Annunciation of the Lord
Tuesday	April 9
9:00	Holy Souls in Purgatory
Wednesday	April 10
9:00	Jean Rousseau, 1 st Anv.
Thursday	April 11
9:00	Isabel Harther
Friday	April 12
9:00	The Stahl Grandchildren (Living)
Saturday	April 13
5:00	Regina Duval
7:30	People of St. Mary's
Sunday	April 14
7:30	Martin J. O'Neill, Jr., 17 th Anv.
9:30	Gary Sencio
11:30	Janet O'Reilly

DIVINE MERCY CHAPLET: The St. Mary's Knights of Columbus Council invites ALL parishioners to remain after Mass this weekend (Divine Mercy Sunday) for a brief prayer service. See inside this bulletin for more information.

DONUTS, JUICE AND COFFEE TODAY, SUNDAY: The Welcoming Committee invites all parishioners and their families to come down to Fr. Haley Hall after the 9:30 AM Mass today, 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 TODAY, SUNDAY: It being the First Sunday of the Month, there will be an upstairs Interactive Children's Homily at our 9:30 AM Mass!



FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

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

Looking upon our sanctuary it is easy to see that the Easter season has truly arrived. The stark simplicity of Lent has been replaced by a lush and blooming abundance that speaks to us of new life and Resurrection. Special thanks to Najat Whalen and the members of the Art & Environment Committee whose green thumbs worked this transformation, including Milda Hueca, Katie Smith, Cindy Pratt, Marjorie and Abbey Winchenbach, Michael Bukow, Maria Bomba, Sharon and Susanna Butler, Mary Theresa Whalen, and Linda Truitt. We thank everyone who touched our Easter celebrations with beauty and grace. These include the St. Mary's Adult and Children's Choir led by Abby Kelly-Lanser; musician Leo Racine; Deacons Marty, John, and Ron; and all the Altar Servers, Lectors, Eucharistic Ministers, and Ushers. Well done!

Thank you also to the good people of St. Mary's who warmly welcomed our many Easter visitors. I would especially like to congratulate every parent who made the effort to help their child / children experience the beauty of Triduum. Whether you brought them to Holy Thursday's Mass of the Lord's Supper, or to Good Friday's Evening Passion Service, or to the Great Easter Vigil, you taught them a powerful lesson about embracing Holy Week and faith in its fullness. You provided them as many opportunities for grace as you could, and there is no more precious gift.

As we all know, faith is very much a fluid and living thing. It ebbs and flows as sometimes we feel very close to God and other times He seems to recede far into the distance. Like Mary who *"reflected on these things and stored them up in her heart,"* we hold fast to the memory of the close times with God in order to get us through the distant times. Like "doubting" Thomas in today's Gospel, we may long for physical, tangible proof of the living presence of the Lord, and yet Jesus challenges us to follow Him without it. *"Blessed are those who have not seen and have believed."* Doubt is not always a bad thing. Doubt provides the opportunity for faith – for following even when we do not understand.

There is no Christian, anywhere, who does not struggle with at least some aspect of their faith's teaching. The first step in such moments is to study the particular teaching in question and make a sincere effort to understand it. If understanding does not come, then we pray for strength to live faithfully even that which we do not yet fully understand. As St. Paul said, we see now *"as through a glass darkly,"* but one day we shall see God face to face, and in His light experience the joy of perfect truth.

May the Lord of Our Easter Journey continue to bless you and yours.

Under His Mercy,

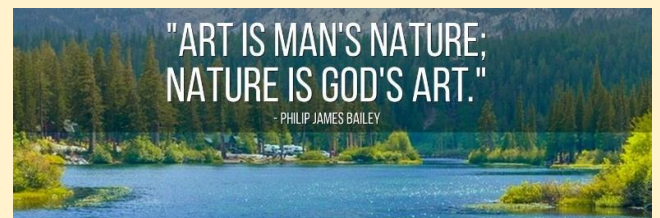


Rev. Mark J. Coiro

WINGS RETURNS!

WINGS (Women in God's Spirit) is pleased to present our 2024 Spring Season beginning **this Wednesday, April 10 at 10 AM** in Father Haley Hall and on Zoom. Our Spring Season will focus on "Living as a Praying Person."

This week, Pat Campo-LeBlanc, longtime WINGS member and talented photographer, will speak on "Seeing Beauty leads to Prayer". Pat will delight us with images from her ministry of beauty and will share how she uses social media to post photos of God's beautiful world with original prayers of hope and love.



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. Childcare is available; please register in advance. Checks payable to St. Mary's Parish can be mailed to St. Mary's, 8 Church St., Holliston, MA, or pay at the door. Email stmaryswingssecretary@gmail.com to register or call Jen at 617-852-9632 or Diane at 508-259-7795.

ST. MARY'S MOM'S PRAYER GROUP: Please join us this Tuesday, April 9 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.

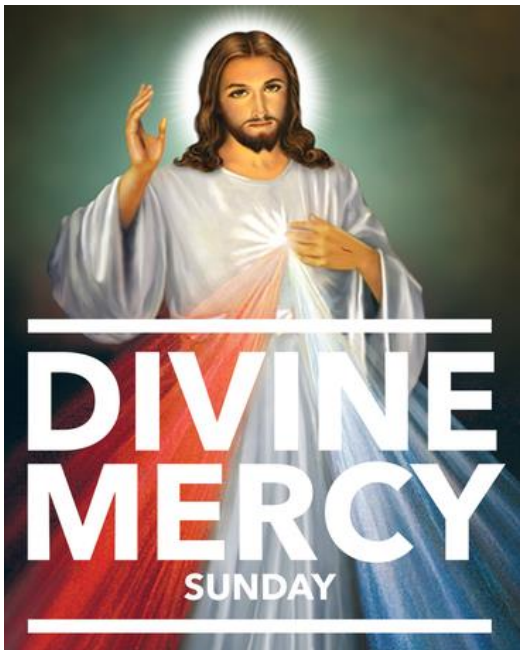
SMCWG: The St. Mary's Catholic Women's Group will hold their last meeting of the season this Wednesday, April 10 at 12 Noon in the Parish Library. Please bring your lunch and a drink. All are welcome!

MARRIAGE FELLOWSHIP: Marriage Fellowship will be meeting this Thursday, April 11 at 6:30 PM in the Annex for a time of fellowship with snacks, prayer, and discussion of five unique approaches to giving and receiving love as described by Gary Chapman in his book "The Five Love Languages". Our very own Deacon John and his lovely wife Diane will be facilitating. Nurturing and fun childcare is provided. Couples from all seasons of life are welcome and encouraged to attend.

THE ROSE FOR LIFE: Is sponsored this week by the Mitchell Family. Please join them in prayer for an unborn child. To sponsor the Rose for Life, please call the Rectory at 429-4427.



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.



DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY: Divine Mercy Sunday is the Second Sunday of the Easter season. It was named by Pope John Paul II at the canonization of St. Maria Faustina on April 30, 2000, and then officially decreed by the Vatican. Divine Mercy Sunday can be seen as the convergence of all the mysteries and graces of Holy Week and Easter Week. It is like a multi-exposure photograph of Holy Thursday, Good Friday, Easter Sunday, and Easter Week. Or we can think of it as a converging lens that focuses the light of the Risen Christ into a radiant beam of merciful love and grace for the whole world.

In fact, Jesus revealed in various revelations to St. Faustina that it was His desire that we celebrate this special feast: *The Feast of Mercy emerged from My very depths of tenderness. It is My desire that it be solemnly celebrated on the first Sunday after Easter. Mankind will not have peace until it turns to the Fount of My Mercy.* (Diary, 699)

Our Lord revealed to St. Faustina His desire to literally flood us with His graces on that day. Just consider each of the promises and desires that He expressed about Mercy Sunday, which are recorded in the main passage of the Diary - passage 699 - about Mercy Sunday:

On that day the very depths of My tender Mercy are open. I pour out a whole ocean of graces upon these souls who approach the Fount of My mercy [the Sacraments of Reconciliation and Holy Eucharist]. The soul that will go to Confession [beforehand] and receive Holy Communion [on that day] shall obtain complete forgiveness of sins and punishment. On that day all the divine floodgates through which grace flow are opened. Let no soul fear to draw near to Me, even though its sins be as scarlet. The Feast of Mercy emerged from My very depths of tenderness.

WISDOM FROM THE SAINTS: "The Divine Heart is an ocean full of all good things, wherein poor souls can cast all their needs; it is an ocean full of joy to drown all our sadness, an ocean of humility to drown our folly, an ocean of mercy to those in distress, an ocean of love in which to submerge our poverty." – St. Margaret Mary Alacoque

YOUTH MINISTRY

MIDDLE SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP

TONIGHT, Sunday, April 7: Monthly MSYG Meeting, 6:30 - 8:00 PM! Pizza, Prayer, and Sign Ups for these awesome events:
Tuesday, April 16: BODA BORG, Vacation Week.
Friday, May 3: 6th Grade Nursing Home BINGO.
Friday, May 17: SCAVENGER HUNT!



TGIF HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP

Sunday, April 21: Monthly TGIF Meeting, 7 - 8:45 PM. Chipotle Night!
Sunday May 5: Mission Mass 11:30 AM; End of Year Meeting & Potluck, 7 - 9 PM.
Saturday, May 11: Parade Bake Sale Booth Fund Raiser.
Saturday / Sunday, May 11 & 12: Mother's Day Flowers Fund Raiser.
Sunday, May 12: 11:30 AM Mass for Class of 2024 Graduates with Reception.
Thursday, May 16: FINAL MISSION TRIP PAYMENT DUE!

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.

CLASS OF 2024 MASS FOR GRADUATES: Sunday, May 12, at 11:30 AM, St. Mary's will offer her 12th Annual Mass for Graduates. This year our parish has teens graduating from seven different schools. The Mass will include a special Blessing of Graduates, the Presentation of the 2024 Blessed Mother Scholarship, and a Student Class Speaker. The Mass is followed by a light reception in Fr. Haley Hall, and a Group Class Photo for the Newsletter. Come congratulate our graduates!



SHADOWS WOMEN'S SHELTER DRIVE: Hello everyone! I just wanted to take a moment to thank all of you for your generous donations to my National Honor Society Project for the Shadows Women's Shelter over the past two years! This year, we raised \$920 and received many products. I created 20 bags and two overflow baskets with all of the extra products. In each bag was a wallet, eye shadow, blush, lip balm, mascara, nail polish, hand cream, socks, a bracelet, a jewelry tray, gems, a bag of candy, and a \$20 CVS gift card. I delivered all of the donations on Holy Saturday, March 30, and the shelter was really excited to receive them. Thank you!
 - Grace Burgett

CLOW - CHILDREN K-6: CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD, today, Sunday, April 7, the first Sunday of the month, the children will remain in the church to listen and learn what Jesus has to tell them in the Gospel.

VISIT OUR TABLES THIS SUNDAY AFTER THE 9:30 AM MASS IN FR. HALEY HALL: Donuts, Juice and Coffee today, the first Sunday of the month along with opportunities to sign children up for our 2024 SCUBA VBS and roles for the MAY DEVOTION on Sunday, May 5 following the 11:30 AM Mass.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASSES THIS WEEK

DAY	GRADE	GRADE
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
Mon., April 8	GR-3 at 4:00 PM*	GR-8 at 6:00 PM
Tues., April 9	GR-4 at 4:00 PM	GR-9 at 7:00 PM
Wed., April 10	GR-8 at 6:00 PM	
Thur., April 11	GR-9 at 7:00 PM	
Sun., April 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

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

GRADE 3 ROSARY MAKING SESSION: Monday, April 8 at 4:00 PM in Fr. Haley Hall. All in person and home-based children are to attend the Monday session on our Blessed Mother and learn how to make a Rosary. There will be a film on Fatima and the message of our Blessed Mother on the importance of praying the Rosary each day to bring many living souls back to God.

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR NEWLY BAPTIZED CHILDREN AND FIRST COMMUNICANTS:

William and Francisco Wood were baptized and received the Holy Eucharist at the Easter Vigil this past Easter weekend. Today we welcome Riley Sullivan who will receive her First Holy Communion at the 9:30 AM Mass. All three of these young people will join St. Mary's Parish family each week to receive the Bread of Life.

FAITH FORMATION FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH: If your child has missed several years of religious education it is never too late to prepare them for a lifelong relationship with God. Our Catholic faith, founded by Jesus Christ, provides a good moral foundation based on the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Please contact us if your child needs to be prepared to receive the Sacraments of Baptism or First Communion.
st.marysdre1870@gmail.com.

CONFIRMATION I AND II: Grade 9 Classes meet on Tuesday, April 9 and Thursday, April 11 from 7:00 to 8:30 PM. Students are to check into Fr. Haley Hall for their classes.



VBS REGISTRATION NOW OPEN! Our 17th Annual Vacation Bible School will take place July 22-26, 9:00 AM to Noon. Join us as we DIVE DEEP into friendship with Jesus!

VBS is a weeklong celebration of faith with song, arts, crafts, movies, games, drama and Scripture. \$75 per camper, \$200 family limit. Space is limited. Register today! Camper registration: <https://forms.gle/RGKP8s6ZXBsXFLdS8>

VBS VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: It's no secret that the volunteers have just as much fun as the campers! Teens (entering Grade 7 or older) along with adults are needed to make our underwater adventure a success. Full week or partial week volunteers welcome. Volunteer registration: <https://forms.gle/HsAhsPjPkBrXVGwo7>

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. How about 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>.

