

I am the vine, you are the branches. He who abides in Me, and I in him, bears much fruit; for without Me you can do nothing.



## St. Mary's Parish



### 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!

### 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 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

**PARISH OFFERTORY LAST WEEKEND:**

Automatic Giving:	\$ 3,891.50
WeShare:	\$ 3,603.42
Offertory Envelopes:	\$ 9,152.00
Total Offertory:	\$ 16,646.92

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/>

**HOLLISTON PANTRY SHELF:** Food items needed at the Pantry: pasta, spaghetti, tomato paste, canned peaches (15 oz), Ramen Noodles - Beef and Chicken, Beefaroni, pasta sauce, canned corn, snacks and Juice Boxes. Donations may be dropped off in the tan bin by the main parking lot entrance here at St. Mary's or at the Pantry Shelf at 73 Charles Street, Holliston.

**PARISHIONER LOOKING FOR RIDES TO DIALYSIS IN MILFORD:** If you can help with a morning ride from 7 to 11:30 AM to the Fresenius Kidney Care Blackstone Valley, please contact the Rectory at 508-429-4427. Thank you.

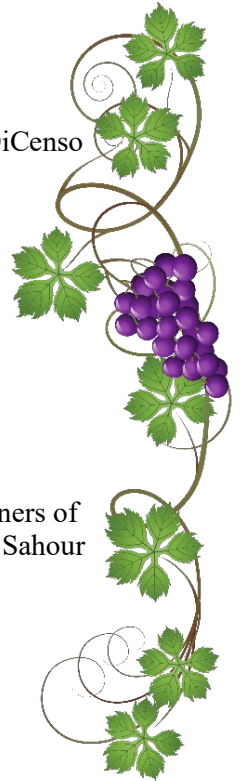


**HOLLISTON 300 PARADE!** Are you proud of your parish? Then represent St. Mary's by marching alongside our float in the big 300<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Parade on Saturday, May 11. We are looking for men, women, boys

and girls. Please respond to Mary Beth at [st.marys1870@gmail.com](mailto:st.marys1870@gmail.com). Also, watch for our TGIF Bake Sale in front of the church on parade day, benefitting the Summer Mississippi Mission Trip!

**MASS INTENTIONS**

<b>Saturday</b>	<b>April 27</b>
5:00	Sr. Ricci
7:30	Russell & Doris Phipps
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>April 28</b>
7:30	People of St. Mary's
9:30	Pasquale & Francesca DiCenso
11:30	Fr. Haley
<b>Monday</b>	<b>April 29</b>
9:00	Rev. Mario J. Orrigo II
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>April 30</b>
9:00	Tony Krenselewski
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>May 1</b>
9:00	Jane Errico
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>May 2</b>
9:00	Holy Souls in Purgatory
<b>Friday</b>	<b>May 3</b>
9:00	Fr. Issa and the Parishioners of our Sister Parish in Beit Sahour
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>May 4</b>
5:00	Confirmation Teens
7:30	Holy Souls
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>May 5</b>
7:30	People of St. Mary's
9:30	Mario Aversa
11:30	Crowning of Mary



**NEWSLETTER COLLATING TOMORROW:**

Please join us this Monday, April 29 from 9:30 AM to 1:00 PM in Father Haley Hall to assist in our collating of the May Newsletter. All are welcome and needed!

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

**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, May 5, 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! This is the final upstairs CLOW this school year, but downstairs CLOW will continue through May.



## FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

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

This Wednesday, we enter Our Lady's Month of May, a time when flowers start to bloom and new life springs forth all around us. This time of year reminds us of the new life that Mary welcomed into her womb at the Annunciation, and the new life that Jesus her Son won for the whole world.

Mary was chosen by God to be the Mother of Jesus, but at the Cross Jesus gave her to all of us, saying to the beloved disciple, "Son, there is your mother," and to Mary, "Mother, there is your son." One of Jesus' final acts was to share His own mother with us, so that in her we might always have a strong advocate and avenue to His divine love.

This May I invite you to reclaim Mary as your own spiritual mother. Lay your troubles before her in prayer, even as once the hosts of the wedding at Cana made Mary aware that the wine was running out. Be confident that just as Mary took that situation to Jesus, so she will carry your challenges, hurts, hopes and deepest needs to the One Who at Cana turned water into wine.

Especially if your faith has been running dry – if you have stopped praying, if you have stopped feeling the nearness and constancy and love of God in your life – let Mary help you. Ask her to help bring you back to her Son, that He might transform the water of your doubts into the rich wine of faith.

A hallmark of Catholic prayer is the rosary, and there is no better way to embrace your Blessed Mother and ask her aid than by praying the holy rosary, especially if you have fallen out of the habit. It was at Fatima that the Blessed Mother asked Catholics to pray the rosary each and every day for the intention of peace in the world, a prayer we are certainly in need of today.

Additionally, the rosary has great power to bring unity and peace to those families who pray it together, and I hope that every family of our parish will pray the rosary at least once together during Mary's month.

Let us all continue to pray that Our Lady might take us under the protection of her mantle and intercede powerfully for us in our time of need.

God bless you!

Rev. Mark J. Coiro



## CROWNING OF MARY NEXT SUNDAY

On next Sunday, May 5, the 11:30 AM Mass will conclude with a Marian Procession. Led by our Grade 5 Students, and weather permitting, the Statue of the Blessed Mother in front of the rectory will be crowned, and a decade of the Rosary prayed. All Parishioners are invited to be part of this celebration, as we usher in Our Lady's Month of May and ask her prayerful intercession on our behalf.

*"The Virgin, who acknowledged herself to be a servant, became the Mother of our Redeemer and of those reborn in her Son. Now, raised above the angels, she prays for all, the Queen of mercy and grace."*

- From the Crowning of Mary Service

# FOR OUR YOUTH



**CLASS OF 2024 MASS FOR GRADUATES:** Sunday, May 12, at 11:30 AM, St. Mary's will celebrate her 12<sup>th</sup> 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!

## MIDDLE SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP:

Friday, May 3: 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Nursing Home BINGO.

Friday, May 17: SCAVENGER HUNT!

Sunday May 19: End of Year Meeting and Potluck, 6:30 – 8:30 PM in Fr. Haley Hall

**TGIF HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP:** We have two TGIF Happenings next Sunday, May 5:

**May 5 Mission Mass:** 11:30 AM - Please sit together in the front nave right.

**May 5 TGIF End of Year PotLuck:** 6:30 - 8:30 PM. Remember - Your parents are invited to this - R & R Missions will be with us to make a final Presentation and to answer parent questions. You will also be assigned your Mission prayer partners at this Gathering! :)



# COMING IN MAY

**MAY 5, CROWNING OF MARY:** Next Sunday, May 5, the 11:30 AM Mass will conclude with a Marian Procession. Led by our Grade 5 Students, and weather permitting, the Statue of the Blessed Mother in front of the rectory will be crowned.



## MAY 8 AND 9, SOLEMNITY OF THE ASCENSION ~ A Holy Day of Obligation

**Vigil Mass, Wednesday, May 8, at 7:00 PM**

**Feast Day Masses, Thursday, May 9, at 9:00 AM & 6:30 PM**

The Feast of the Ascension of Jesus Christ is celebrated each year on the fortieth day after the Feast of Pascha (Easter). Since the date of Pascha changes each year, the date of the Feast of the Ascension also changes. The Feast is always celebrated on a Thursday and marks an event of such importance that it is a Holy Day of Obligation. This means that Catholics attend Mass this day as on a Sunday. The Feast itself commemorates when, on the fortieth day after His Resurrection, Jesus led His disciples to the Mount of Olives, and after blessing them and asking them to wait for the fulfillment of the promise of the Holy Spirit, He ascended into heaven. Where He has gone, we hope one day to follow!

**MAY 12, MOTHER'S DAY:** A special Blessing of Mothers will take place at all Masses this weekend.

**MOTHER'S DAY BOUQUET FUNDRAISER:** On this special day for mothers, we would like to help you celebrate her with a unique bouquet to show your appreciation. The TGIF teens who will be attending the Summer Mission Trip to Mississippi will be selling beautiful bouquets of flowers for a suggested donation of \$30 / bouquet. All proceeds from the sales will go directly to the teens to offset the cost of the Mission Trip. Flower bouquets will be for sale after all Masses on Mother's Day Weekend, May 11 and 12. Thank you for supporting this important ministry!



**CORI RENEWAL ALERT:** All active and new volunteers (18+ years) must now have a completed **2024 CORI** form on file in order to serve in a ministry. If you are renewing, you may submit a completed/signed CORI along with a copy of your license to [st.marysre1870@gmail.com](mailto:st.marysre1870@gmail.com), or in person. If you are new, you must have your completed/signed CORI form and license verified in person by a staff member. CORI forms are available outside of the Religious Education office. Thank you!

**WINGS:** Our WINGS (Women in God’s Spirit) 2024 Spring program in person and via Zoom continues this week, Wednesday, May 1 at 10 AM (coffee begins at 9:45am!). Our speaker will be former Religious Education secretary here at St. Mary’s and the Director of Music at St. Stephen’s, Framingham, Kim Lisbon. Kim will share how prayer and her relationship with God sustain her and allow her to live a life of joy and hope no matter what life brings. Babysitting is available. Email [stmaryswingssecretary@gmail.com](mailto:stmaryswingssecretary@gmail.com) to register or call Diane at 508-259-7795 or Jen at 617-852-9632.



**ST. MARY’S MOM’S PRAYER GROUP:** Please join us this Tuesday, April 30 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.



**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 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Knights of Columbus “*Swing for Charity*” Golf Tournament on Friday, June 21, 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](http://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](http://KofCswingforcharity.com). Thank you for your continued support of the St. Mary’s Knights of Columbus.



**WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER:** John 15:1-8 "Jesus said, I am the true vine, and my Father is the vine grower. Remain in me, as I remain in you. I am the vine, you are the branches. Whoever remains in me and I in him will bear much fruit. If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask for whatever you want and it will be done for you." Check out a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Experience today. It will help your relationship and teach you tools to transform your marriage. You can find one by looking up WWME.org. Some of the dates to sign up are:

**June 7 - 9, in Upton, MA. June 21 - 23, in Huntington, NY. August 2 - 4, in Portland, CT.**

Worldwide Marriage Encounter sponsors a variety of in-person and virtual marriage experiences, some on weekends and some on weekdays. Couples explore their relationship with each other, God, and the Church. Registration is limited; there is a \$100 application fee. For more information or to apply, call Joe and Ginny Vatele at 978-870-5646 or <https://wwmema.org/>.



**SAVE THE DATE ~ THE FAMILY BBQ IS COMING:** St. Mary’s Family Barbecue is Saturday, June 22 from 6:00 to 8:00 PM in Father Haley Hall. Join us as Tennessee BBQ fires up the grill for BBQ chicken, pulled pork, cheeseburgers, hotdogs, baked beans, corn on the cob and much more. Bring the kids and experience a fun filled evening of good food, friendship and live country music! Come meet your neighbors! There will be family games and contests! Tickets: \$7 for kids 12 and under, \$10 for adults. Tickets go on sale after all Masses the weekend of June 8 and 9, and 15 and 16, and may also be purchased through the Religious Education Office starting June 3. There are no tickets at the door.

**Prom and graduation are almost here; have you talked with your teen about your expectations when it comes to alcohol and drugs?**



the stand  
project



dea



cdc



Prom and graduation celebrations are big events, and most teens have a fun, safe time! Be aware that many students may feel pressure or will take part in risky behaviors. Ongoing discussions of family beliefs and values are part of setting the stage for the best and safest time. Listening to and respecting your teen's point of view can also help support them during these events and exciting times in their life!

## Resources

Download the "Talk. They Hear You." App One-Pager (Front Only | PDF | 568 KB)

Use These 5 Goals When Talking to Kids about Alcohol and Other Drugs

8 Tips for a Safe Prom & Graduation — (thestandprojectua.org)

\*DEA Fentanyl (dea.gov)

Fentanyl Facts (cdc.gov)

**Prom & Graduation  
Tips for Parents  
and Caregivers.**

## Is it worth it?

### Social Host Liability Law

- Massachusetts' legal drinking age is 21. 'Social host liability' means you can be held financially and/or civilly responsible if your guest harms, injures, or kills another person after having consumed alcohol at your home.
- Parents who give permission for their underage child to drink alcohol could also be civilly liable.
- Anyone who furnishes alcohol to a minor risks a fine of up to \$2,000 and a one-year jail sentence.

## Contact Us

- **Parents / Caregivers**  
Do not hesitate to call!
- **Holliston Youth & Family Services**  
(508) 429-0620
- **Holliston Police Department**  
(508) 429-1212
- **Holliston Drug and Alcohol Awareness Coalition (HDAAC)**  
(508) 429-0620

**Talk.  
They Hear You!**



**Holliston High School**  
370 Hollis Street  
Holliston, MA 01746



**HDAAC**

The Holliston Drug & Alcohol Awareness Coalition

**www.HDAAC.org**

“The night you danced like you knew our lives would never be the same.” Taylor Swift - “Long Live”

“Making memories with you is my favorite thing to do!” unknown

## Talk With Your Teen

- **Personal safety and a safe prom night/graduation is everyone’s priority.**
- **Teens crave clear and consistent limits** and want to know expectations and consequences; this is a big stress relief for them.
- **You are the strongest influence on your teen.** Talk with them early and often this prom and graduation season about the dangers of drinking, drugs, and peer pressure.
- **Give teens the opportunity to share their thoughts** with open-ended questions – jumpstart with: What are you excited about? Is anything causing you stress? Are you feeling pressure about prom/graduation? What myths have you heard about prom/graduation parties? When you think of prom/graduation what peer pressure comes to mind? It is also good to share your thoughts as well as how you might manage different situations.
- **Talk with other parents/caregivers** – most are not okay with parties that involve alcohol or drugs.
- **Binge drinking is a set up for teens to make bad decisions** and to lose control when it comes to sexual behavior, criminal mischief, violent behavior, or using illicit drugs.

## Fully charge phones for safety and selfies!

Prom and graduation are to be celebrated! Most students make healthy lifestyle choices throughout their school experience which includes these very events. Encourage accountability and safety through the “buddy-system” to support healthy and fun celebrations.

Trusting your teen is key! Part of giving trust is discussing pre- and post- prom/graduation party plans. Let your teen know they can **call or text anytime for any reason** – you can discuss details later. **Have a code**, emoji, or word they can share **to ask for help especially** if they are **in an unsafe situation**. You and your teen can think ahead, plan for potentially tricky situations, and determine ways that can keep them, their friends, and all kids safe.

**Talk with your teen;  
help them  
have a memorable,  
safe night!**

## Be Aware! Potentially Deadly Consequences...

- Right now, the dangerous and alarming presence of the powerful synthetic opioid **fentanyl is being mixed with almost every street drug** – including marijuana, cocaine, and pills made to look like Adderall or other prescription medicine.
- **More deaths of Americans under age 50 are related to fentanyl – more than any other cause of death** including heart disease, cancer, homicide, suicide, and other accidents. (\*DEA, 2023)
- Fentanyl’s extreme **potency makes** drugs cheaper, more powerful, more addictive, and more dangerous; even **deadly. Please talk to your teens! The risk is REAL!**



LETHAL  
DOSE of  
Fentanyl

\*Source: DEA, [www.DEA.gov](http://www.DEA.gov)

**CLOW - CHILDREN K-6: CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD**, today, Sunday, April 28, the children will be dismissed from the church and led to the lower church hall to listen and learn what Jesus has to tell them in the Gospel.

**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASSES THIS WEEK**

DAY	GRADE	GRADE
Sun., April 28	GR-K at 9:15 AM	GR-1 at 8:10 AM
	GR-4 at 10:45 AM	GR-5 at 10:45 AM
	GR-6 at 4:00 PM	GR-7 at 5:00 PM
Tues., April 30	GR-9 at 7:00 PM	
Wed., May 1	GR-2 at 4:15 PM	
Thur., May 2	GR-9 at 7:00 PM	
Sun., May 5	GR-2 at 8:10 AM	GR-2 at 10:45 AM
	GR-3 at 7:55 AM	GR-3 at 10:45 AM

**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.marvsdre1870@gmail.com](mailto:st.marvsdre1870@gmail.com)



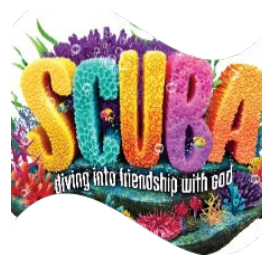
**MAY DEVOTION:** Sunday, May 5 following the 11:30 AM Mass! Everyone is welcome to join with our Grade 3, 4, and 5 students to honor Our Blessed

Mother in the May Devotion. Parishioners are asked to bring their Rosary beads and flowers. The statue of Mary will be crowned by a fifth grader. Please come and take part in this beautiful devotion to the Mother of God who is our Heavenly Mother and Advocate before the throne of God on our behalf. Jesus will never refuse His beloved Mother anything when she brings our petitions before Him.

**FIRST COMMUNION TEEN VOLUNTEERS:** Our First Communion Masses are on Saturday, June 8 and Saturday, June 15 at 10:30 AM. Each year we ask high school teens to offer their time to be ushers and helpers. There is a need for four teens at each Mass. If you can help contact [st.marvsre1870@gmail.com](mailto:st.marvsre1870@gmail.com).

**CONFIRMATION I AND II:** Grade 9 classes meet on Tuesday, April 30 and Thursday, May 2 from 7:00 to 8:30 PM. Students are to check into Fr. Haley Hall for their classes.

**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION FOR 2024-2025:** Our classes for this year will soon be ending and planning for next year has started. There will be an opportunity to register online this year for your children's faith formation. The staff is working now to put this option together along with next year's schedule for PRE-K through Grade 10. Watch the bulletin for notices regarding registrations in the month to come.



**ONLINE VBS REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN!**

**"SCUBA," Our 17<sup>th</sup> Annual Vacation Bible School, will take place July 22-26, 9 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!** Join us on **Wednesday, May 29 from 7:30 to 9:00 PM** in Father Haley Hall to help make coral crafts for VBS. Please bring a

hot glue gun if you have one. Supplies are provided. NO EXPERIENCE necessary. Just come and join in the fun so that the children are awed and amazed with their SCUBA surroundings.

**DO YOU HAVE THE FOLLOWING ITEMS? OUR VBS UNDERSEA PROPS STILL NEED MANY DONATIONS:** Pool noodles, or Styrofoam packaging inserts. Laundry bottle caps, marshmallow sticks, black poster board (thin not thick). Do you have items that we can borrow such as an 8-lb. bowling ball, a large fish tank, flippers, snorkel mask and mouthpiece? How about a human dummy (full scale)? Check out our full wish list at: <https://shorturl.at/ctzKQ>.