

*“Every perfect gift is from above,
coming down from the Father of lights.”*

James 1:17

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: 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

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

OFFERTORY LAST WEEKEND:

Automatic Giving:	\$ 2,986.50
WeShare:	\$ 3,765.21
Offertory Envelopes:	\$ 7,607.00
Total Offertory:	\$ 14,358.71
Weekly Need:	\$ 15,000.00

Shortfall - \$ 641.29

ANNUAL MISSION APPEAL COLLECTION:

\$4,293.00 Thank you.

PLEASE CONSIDER SWITCHING TO ELECTRONIC GIVING: Each year, St. Mary’s faces the challenge of a summer offertory drop off when people are travelling. Just as your mortgage, utility bills, etc., all still have to be paid when you are on vacation or otherwise away from home, so St. Mary’s expenses still remain when you are not able to worship at your own parish on a given weekend.

That is why making up your “missed” weekly offertory support is so very important. Mass envelopes can help you keep track of this. But an even better option is electronic / automatic giving. This allows you to maintain your customary weekly parish support even when you are away on vacation. It also protects your parish on long holiday weekends, foul weather weekends, sickness, (even pandemic), or other challenges during the year.

These online services allow you to maintain your support without having to remember to mail or drop off envelopes. Even if you are at Mass, these forms of giving mean not having to remember to bring checkbooks and / or envelopes with you.

Learn how to make the switch at:
<https://stmarysholliston.com/how-to-give/>.

MASS INTENTIONS:

Saturday	August 31
5:00	John Cocchiarella
7:30	Charlie Coles
Sunday	September 1
7:30	People of St. Mary’s
9:30	Franco DiCenso
11:30	Dorothy Bamberry, 11 th Anv.
Monday	September 2
9:00	For All Who Labor
Tuesday	September 3
9:00	Clifton Stewart
Wednesday	September 4
9:00	Melissa Bachman, 6 th Anv.
Thursday	September 5
9:00	William Meehan
Friday	September 6
9:00	Fr. Issa & the People of our Sister Parish, Our Lady of Fatima, Beit Sahour
Saturday	September 7
5:00	Anthony and Lena Mirabile
7:30	People of St. Mary’s
Sunday	September 8
7:30	Kevin Muzzy
9:30	Tim O’Connell
11:30	Joan Powers, 8 th Anv.

NEXT SUNDAY ST. MARY’S MINISTRY FAIR: Find out about opportunities to serve and participate in the life of our parish. There will be speakers at all the Masses and a chance to meet people involved in the various ministries after the Sunday 9:30 AM Mass on September 10. You can sign up to be part of a ministry, too. Refreshments (DJ&C) will be available! Let’s celebrate our call as individuals and as a parish community to discipleship and service.

NEXT SUNDAY TIMMY CAKE FUNDRAISER: Representatives of The Timothy O’Connell Foundation will be selling Tim’s favorite chocolate cake after each Mass on the weekend of September 7 and 8. Donation is \$70. All proceeds from the sales of these cakes will go to the Foundation’s charitable mission, including its Scholarship Fund. The Timothy O’Connell Foundation is a 501(c) (3) not-for-profit organization, established in honor and loving memory of Timothy O’Connell, a St. Mary’s parishioner. Since its inception in 2008, the Foundation has distributed over \$950,000 in gifts to worthy cancer-related causes, and has awarded more than \$140,000 in scholarships to Holliston students pursuing health-related fields of study. Learn more about the Foundation’s other gifting programs and goals at www.timsteam.org. Email joanneoconnell@comcast.net with any questions. Thank you



FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

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

This past week many of our young people returned to school and others headed off to college for the very first time. We pray that God will watch over them all, opening their minds and hearts to His truth. While for many of us our formal education is complete, we are all called to continued growth in our knowledge and love of God. It is said that when Cardinal Cushing used to visit a rectory, he would always ask to see the pastor's bookcase. If the books were old and dusty, the Cardinal would look for the one with the most recent publication date. If the pastor asked why, legend says that Cushing would reply, "I just wanted to see the date you died."

Truly, to stop instructing ourselves in Christ - to become satisfied with our understanding of His person and teachings - this is to die a kind of spiritual death. Jesus is alive, and until the moment we meet Him face to face our souls long to know Him in deeper ways. In the coming months there will be many Adult Faith Formation offerings in our parish, and I encourage you to consider taking advantage of them.

Please consider also teaching a Religious Education Class this year. As you see on the back bulletin page the need is great, and so are the rewards. As we prepare a lesson to teach, we often come to a new and deeper understanding of faith ourselves. As Cardinal Cushing might have asked, what was the date of the last time you taught or studied the faith?

As our nation this weekend celebrates Labor Day let us keep in prayer those who are jobless, or working in unsafe conditions or without a just living wage. Let us be specially mindful of the plight of the poor and our responsibility to them. In his Encyclical "Rerum Novarum", Pope Leo XIII offered this beautiful reminder:

No one is commanded to distribute to others that which is required for his own needs and those of his household. But, when what necessity demands has been supplied, it becomes a duty to give to the indigent out of what remains over. "Of that which remaineth, give alms." It is a duty of Christian charity ... [given by] Christ the true God, who in many ways urges on His followers the practice of almsgiving - "It is more blessed to give than to receive"; and who will count a kindness done or refused to the poor as done or refused to Himself - "As long as you did it to one of My least brethren you did it to Me." To sum up, then: Whoever has received from the divine bounty a large share of temporal blessings,

whether they be external and material, or gifts of the mind, has received them for the purpose of using them for the perfecting of his own nature, and, at the same time, that he may employ them, as the steward of God's providence, for the benefit of others. (RN art. 22)

This Labor Day, I thank all St. Mary's Staff for their hard work and faithful ministry for our parish. I thank also the countless volunteers who give of their time and talent to make our little corner of God's vineyard flourish.

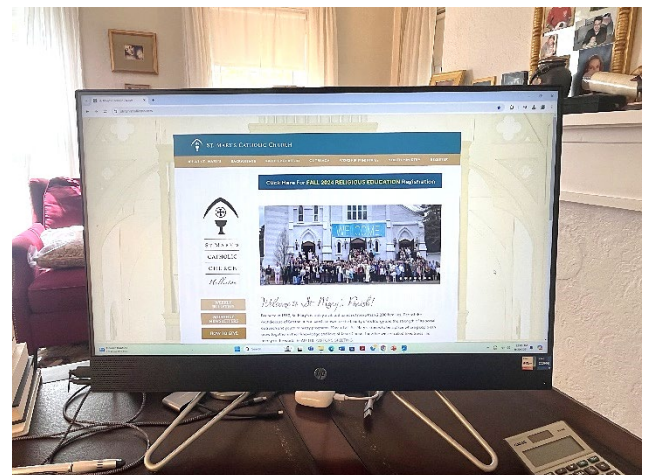
God bless you!

Rev. Mark J. Coiro



WORDPRESS IT HELP NEEDED ~ Do you know WordPress?

St. Mary's is in need of volunteers to assist in the updating and formatting of our wonderful website: <https://stmarysholliston.com/> (photo below). This work can be done at your convenience and from your own home. If you possess this talent, please consider sharing it with your parish family. Kindly contact St.Marys1870@gmail.com to find out more. Thank you!



THIS THURSDAY ~ KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS SILVER ROSE PILGRIMAGE:



K of C Council #14224 will display the Silver Rose in honor of Our Lady of Guadalupe once again at St. Mary's this Thursday, September 5 at 7:00 PM in the church. The Silver Rose program demonstrates the unity between Knights of Columbus in Canada, the United States and Mexico, through a series of prayer services promoting the dignity of all human life and honoring Our Lady. Each year, from early March through mid-December, Silver Roses are stewarded by Knights of Columbus councils along routes from Canada to Mexico. Every stop the Silver Rose makes throughout the pilgrimage is a rosary-centered occasion for Knights, parishioners and community members to pray for respect for life, for the spiritual renewal of each nation, and for the advancement of the message of Our Lady of Guadalupe. All are invited to take part in this beautiful prayer.

YOUTH NEWS AND EVENTS!

CHILDREN AND YOUTH CHOIRS BEGIN SEPTEMBER 4: No prior musical experience required! Weekly Wednesday rehearsals include a variety of songs, games, and activities to foster musical skills and spiritual growth. See details below, and contact Music Director Abbey Kelley-Lanser to get a sign-up form (musicatstmarysholliston@gmail.com, 508-429-6076). It's never too late to join us and we'd be delighted to have you! Children's Choir: Grades 3 - 5; rehearses Wednesdays 3:30 - 4:20 PM in the Lower Church Hall. Youth Choir: Grades 6 and above; rehearses Wednesdays 4:00 - 5:00 PM in the Lower Church Hall. Both sing together every few Sundays; warmups at 9:00 AM in the Organ Loft, followed by 9:30 AM Mass.

TROOP 14 BOY SCOUT KICK OFF: Our First Meeting of 2024/2025 is September 9, from 7:00 - 8:30 PM in the Lower Church. If interested in joining Troop 14, contact Scoutmaster Chris Baribeau, 508-579-4357. It is an ideal organization for boys in sixth grade or above.

TEENS GATHER IN FAITH (High School Youth Group): TGIF Mission teens will be witnessing their summer experience in Mississippi at all St. Mary's Masses on September 14 and 15! Save the date now for the Fall TGIF Kick Off, Sunday, September 22 from 7 - 8:45 PM in Father Haley Hall! Open to all teens in Grades 9 - 12.

MSYG ADULT VOLUNTEER MEETING ~ MIDDLE SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP: Thursday, September 19 at 7 PM in Father Haley Hall. Any adult parishioner who attends Mass weekly at St. Mary's, and who is living a life in harmony with the moral teachings of the Catholic faith, may volunteer to be part of this joyful ministry. With Monthly Meetings averaging 90 - 100 teens, and many well attended trips, we need many adults to assure safety and to guide our young people into faith, friendship, service and fun. CORI & VIRTUS requirements apply. Please bring your calendar, as we will be having adult signups for all fall semester MSYG activities.

*** Please RSVP to St.Marys1870@gmail.com if you are planning to attend. ***

MIDDLE SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP: The Fall MSYG Kick Off Event is Sunday, October 6, from 6:30 - 8 PM in Fr. Haley Hall. MSYG is open to ALL 6th, 7th & 8th Graders - not just Catholics and not just from St. Mary's. Join us for a new year of Faith, Friendship, Service and Fun. Adventure awaits!

BOY SCOUTS AD ALTARE DEI: The twelfth point of the Scout Law is "A Scout is Reverent". To that end, the Catholic Church has established a religious education program for Boy Scouts called "Ad Altare Dei" (which means "To the Altar of God"). The program runs for eight months and includes a variety of ways to explore and learn more about the seven sacraments of the Catholic Church. Upon successful completion of the program, scouts earn the Ad Altare Dei medal (given by the Archdiocese of Boston) and the Religious Emblem (given by the Boy Scouts of America). For information, please contact Deacon Ron Dowding through the Rectory at 508-429-4427.



DURING THIS SUMMER'S VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL, ten bags of food were collected for the Holliston Food Pantry, and \$101 dollars were received for the Atlantic White Shark Conservancy in Chatham, MA. Thank you everyone for your generosity!

ST. MARY'S MOM'S PRAYER GROUP: Every week we pray together, read reflections according to the liturgical season, and share prayer intentions. During the school year, children of all ages are welcome and there are a few toys and coloring activities available. We resume on Tuesday, September 10! Please contact Meghan Krenselewski at 978-421-5795 for details.

SMCWG: The St. Mary's Catholic Women's Group will hold the first meeting of the season on Wednesday, September 11 at noon in the Parish Library. This will be a Potluck Lunch and all women of the Parish are welcome!

MUSIC IN THE LIBRARY: Thanks to a generous parishioner, St. Mary's library now has a shelf of Christian music CDs for your enjoyment. You don't have to check them out – just take one home and enjoy! Return it when you're finished or keep it to enjoy multiple times. Various popular and Christian artists and music compilations are on a shelf by the library windows.

RCIA stands for Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults. It is the Catholic Church's way of initiating new members. It is an opportunity: ● For those who have not been baptized. ● For those who have been baptized but want to receive the sacraments of Holy Eucharist and Confirmation. ● For anyone who wants to learn and ask questions about the Catholic Faith. RCIA begins in September and concludes around the feast of Pentecost (usually mid-May). All are welcome. Our classes will begin in September. For further information, please feel free to contact Deacon Dowding through the Rectory office at 508-429-4427.

THE ROSE FOR LIFE: The rose is sponsored this week by the Mitchell Family. Please join them in prayer for an unborn child. To sponsor the rose for a week in 2025, kindly call the Rectory at 508-429-4427, or email st.marys1870@gmail.com.

HOLLISTON SENIOR CENTER ANNUAL FALL FAIR AND YARD SALE: Next Saturday, September 7, from 9:00 to 3:00 PM (Rain or Shine). Although most folks think of the Fall Fair as the Center's Fair, it is actually run by the Senior Support Foundation (SSF). The Fair is the primary source of revenue for the SSF. The SSF funds: classes, monthly breakfasts and special events. The Fair offers something for everyone: yard sale, baked goods, books, art and frames, linens, raffles, and so much more! It is a great event for the whole family. One hundred percent of funds raised by the SSF at the Fall Fair along with participant donations, support the programming at the Center and the older adults of Holliston. The town budget does not pay for programs. Food will be available to purchase throughout the day. What you will find at the sale: small household items, jewelry, books, DVDs, linens, homemade crafts, framed art, raffle, baked goods, silent auction, and refreshments. Please join us on September 7 for a fun filled day, supporting your neighbors!

ONE-DAY EMMAUS RETREAT: On Saturday, September 28, St. Mary's Parish in Franklin will sponsor a one-day retreat (9:30 AM - 6:30 PM) which is presented by the Emmaus Ministry for Grieving Parents. The organization's website (www.emfp.org), tells us that the Emmaus Ministry "serves the spiritual needs of parents whose children of any age have died by any cause, no matter how long ago." Parents can register for this retreat at <https://bit.ly/2024RegEmmaus>. You can contact Leo Racine, pastoral associate at 508-528-0020 or pastoralassociate@stmarysfranklin.org for more information.

ANNUAL WEDDING ANNIVERSARY MASS: All couples celebrating their 10th, 25th, or 50th wedding anniversaries or another special milestone are invited to a celebratory Mass on Sunday, November 3 at 3:00 PM at the Cathedral of the Holy Cross, Boston. Couples will renew their marriage commitment and receive a special blessing. Family and friends are invited to attend. To register, visit <https://www.evangelizeboston.com/event/annual-wedding-anniversary-mass-3/>. For more information, please call Emily Elliott at 617-746-5756.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION REGISTRATIONS ARE PAST DUE: Go to <https://stmarysholliston.com/> and register. The process is simple with online payment using a credit card or bank fund transfer with WeShare. Payments in cash or check must be made in person in the Religious Education Office.



LAPSED YEARS OF 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 Christ. Please contact us if your child needs to be prepared to receive the Sacraments of Baptism or First Communion at st.marysdre1870@gmail.com.

A GRADE 5 COORDINATOR IS NEEDED: Coordinators assist the DRE and support the teachers during the year. Please call 508-429-6076 or email Fran at st.marysdre@gmail.com if you can inspire and lead our volunteer teachers. Training is provided.

Please note that R.E. Coordinators are responsible for guiding and assisting both teachers and students in growing in their relationship with Christ and His Church. Since this is done best by example, all coordinators are regularly worshipping members of St. Mary's.

CORI VOLUNTEER RENEWAL ALERT: If you are an active volunteer (18+ years) or planning to volunteer in any ministry, we must have a completed **2024 CORI** form on file. Volunteer CORI Renewal forms and new volunteers CORI forms must be signed and verified in person with a license by any staff member. *Please note: If a FY2024 form has already been submitted, we do not need another.*

ATTENTION: PROTECTING GOD'S CHILDREN WORKSHOP (PGC) SCHEDULE: We are offering a workshop for 17-18 year olds on Monday, September 9. We will also hold a workshop on Thursday, September 12 for adult volunteers. Workshops will meet from 6 - 9 PM in Room 3-4 of the Center. Please contact the Religious Ed office if you are interested in attending.

MONITORS ARE NEEDED AND VITAL TO OUR PROGRAM: If you can volunteer one 90 minute slot once a month for any grade level we will be very grateful for your time helping to keep the students safe. Training is provided and the tasks are simple. *Thank you!*

VOLUNTEERING! BE A DISCIPLE FOR CHRIST:



Our children and youth need good faith filled people to help form their conscience

and hearts to live out their Baptismal gift of faith. As a community of faith we can be Christ's disciples and teach these young souls to be "Disciples for Christ". Please go to our website and click the banner that leads you to the registration form and click the volunteer box. If you have children in the program, consider offering your time to teach with another parent; be a monitor in the lobby, or a classroom assistant. See below for available openings and times. Website: <https://stmarysholliston.com/>

CLASSES BEGIN SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 2024

GRADES	SESSIONS DAYS AND TIMES	TEACHERS NEEDED
PRE-K & Kind.	Sun. 9:15 to 10:30 AM	2 Teens
	Sun. 9:15 to 10:30 AM	3 Teens, 3 Adults
GR-1	Sun. 8:10 to 9:20 AM	4 Adults
GR-2	Sun. 8:10 to 9:20 AM	2 Adults
GR-2	Sun. 10:45 AM to 12:00 PM	3 Adults
GR-3	Sun. 7:55 AM to 9:25 PM	3 Adults
GR-3	Sun. 10:45 AM to 12:15 PM	3 Adults
GR-4	Sun. 10:45 AM to 12:15 PM	3 Adults
GR-5	Sun. 10:45 AM to 12:15 PM	3 Adults
GR-6	Sun. 4:00 to 5:30 PM	3 Adults
GR-7	Mon. 7:00 to 8:30 PM Conf. 1 New Program	5 Adults
GR-3	Tues. 4:00 to 5:30 PM	3 Adults
GR-4	Tues. 4:00 to 5:30 PM	2 Adults
GR-5	Tues. 4:00 to 5:30 PM	2 Adults
GR-6	Tues. 4:00 to 5:30 PM	2 Adults
GR-6	Tues. 5:00 to 6:30 PM	2 Adults
GR-8	Tues. 7:00 to 8:30 PM	6 Adults
GR-9	Conf. 1 Current Program	
GR-10	Tues. 7:00 to 8:30 PM Conf. 2 Current Program	5 Adults
GR-2	Wed. 4:15 to 5:30 PM (same day as below)	4 Adults, two for each class
GR-3	Wed. 4:00 to 5:30 PM	2 Adults
GR-4	Wed. 4:00 to 5:30 PM	2 Adults
GR-5	Wed. 4:00 to 5:30 PM	2 Adults
GR-7	Wed. 7:00 to 8:30 PM Conf. 1 New Program	5 Adults
GR-3	Thur. 4:00 to 5:30 PM	1 Adult
GR-4	Thur. 4:00 to 5:30 PM	1 Adult
GR-5	Thur. 4:00 to 5:30 PM	1 Adult
GR-8	Thur. 7:00 to 8:30 PM	6 Adults
GR-9	Conf. 1 Current Program	
GR-10	Conf. 2 Current Program	5 Adults