



St. Mary's Parish



Our Mission:

"To know Christ and to make Him known."

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.

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!



FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

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

In Catholic tradition, the month of November is dedicated in a special way to our beloved dead. As the leaves fall and the days grow shorter, we find our thoughts naturally turning toward the end things. In a special way we remember those who have already entered the winter of death and wait now for the springtime of the Resurrection. We honor their memories and more importantly, we give them the gift of our prayers.

Praying for the dead is a practice endorsed by the scriptures. We read in 2nd Maccabees how a great Jewish general sent gifts to the temple in Jerusalem, asking that prayers be said for his fallen soldiers. The scripture then observes that *"In doing this he acted in a very excellent and noble way, inasmuch as he had the resurrection of the dead in view; for if he were not expecting the fallen to rise again, it would have been useless and foolish to pray for them in death. But as he did this with a view to the splendid reward that awaits those who had gone to rest in godliness, it was a holy and pious thought. Thus he made atonement for the dead that they might be freed from sin."* (2 Macc. 12:43-46)

Most of our protestant brothers and sisters eschew praying for the dead, rightly observing that we each choose for ourselves whether to accept or refuse Christ in this life. Once death occurs, our choice is final and judged before God. *"For we must all stand before the judgment seat of Christ, that each one might receive recompense according to what he did in the body, whether for good or for evil."* (2 Cor. 5) Those who are judged worthy have no need of our prayers, they argue. And those who have rejected God's offer of salvation are beyond the help of our prayers. Why then pray for the dead at all?

The answer lies in one of the most beautiful and consoling truths of the Catholic faith – our belief in purgatory. Purgatory is a gift from God extended to those found worthy of His kingdom at the time of death. Many of us may ultimately choose Christ, but still have experienced sin, and the ravages of sin upon our soul, during our life's journey. Purgatory is the cleansing flame by which we are purified and made new in the Lord. We are restored to our best and truest selves – innocent and whole – before we enter fully into the divine presence.

Consider a man who has completed a long and dangerous journey to a city. He arrives there safely, but along the way has picked up dirt and grime from the road. His clothes have gotten worn and torn, and he himself is a little battered and bruised. Upon entering the city, this man is invited to come up to the palace and dine with the king at a great feast. Forever. Would that man not want first to rest and heal? To put aside his soiled garments, wash, and don his finest apparel before entering into the presence of the king?

That is the gift of purgatory – the opportunity to be purified and restored. Having passed through purgatory, the saved are then able to take their place at the table of God's children in heaven at their very best – able to reflect fully, and enjoy to the most perfect extent, the light and glory of God. The experience of purgatory is painful, as we face in turn each of our wounds, each of our sins. No longer is any self-deception possible – only truth and new awareness of ourselves and of the Lord. The pain of purgatory is the pain of an open wound being sewn up, a broken limb being reset. It is difficult, but we go through it knowing that new health, and indeed a new life, await us.

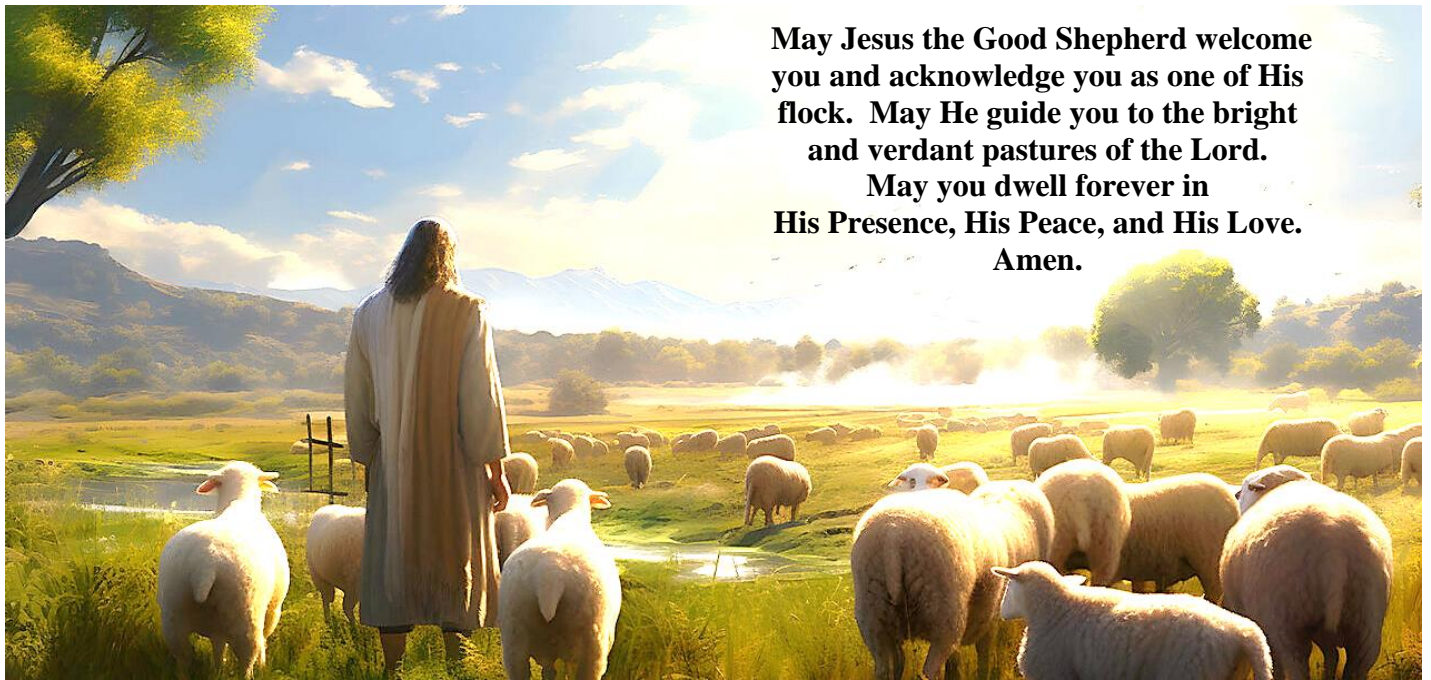
Nor do we face purgatory alone. Faith teaches us that the prayers of our loved ones on earth and the prayers of the saints and angels in heaven support us through our purification. Most powerful of all is the prayer offered when the Mass is said for us – the sacrament of Christ's own death and resurrection. The Mass like nothing else can support and encourage and help us on the final journey between this life and eternal joy in the Lord. And thus it is that we pray for the dead. We do not know which souls are in purgation, and so we pray for All Souls, begging the mercy and grace of God upon them.

Starting this Saturday, November 2, the Feast of All Souls, please feel free to inscribe in the Book of Remembrance the names of any departed loved ones you would like kept in prayer here at St. Mary's throughout the month of November. The Book will be located in front of the Baptismal Font and Easter Candle. If you would like a Mass said for a departed loved one, please contact the rectory office.

May the Lord of Our Journey continue to bless you and yours. And may the souls of the faithful departed rest in peace.

Amen.

Rev. Mark J. Coiro



May Jesus the Good Shepherd welcome you and acknowledge you as one of His flock. May He guide you to the bright and verdant pastures of the Lord. May you dwell forever in His Presence, His Peace, and His Love. Amen.

Michael Ferriero
Charlotte Marden
James Baker
Robert Neff
Joseph Gallerane
Roland Dwinell
Edward Connors
Bertha Archambault
Mary Ann Hyland
Peter Fish, Sr.
Donald Parnell
Norman Kehoe
Victor Losanno
Margaret Dennison
Joan Quigley
Todd Parmenter
Virginia Riely
William St. James
John Walker
Peter Lawrence
James Martin
Arthur Moore
Richard Gentile
Alexander Adams
Eileen Levitan
Agnes Kovacs
Robert Barrett

Thomas Cordell
John Spera
Michael Fair
Deacon Philip Caruso
Rita Murphy
Arthur Cabral
Richard Ozog
Cheryl Griffin
Richard Chartrand
Kathlyn Hilliard
Mary Elizabeth Harmon
Michael Mansfield
Alan Denman
Roberta Kerrigan
Alice Baker
Marilyn Pulito
Ida Kolenda
Sally Lunter
Ronald Mattson
John Fjeldheim
Alan King
Stephen Casler
Timothy Farrell
James Jordan
Paul Pate
Patrick Shea
Kevin Moore

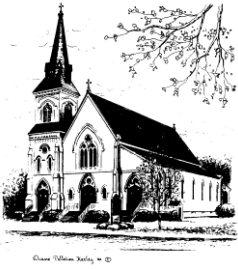
FEAST OF ALL SOULS

The individuals listed here were honored with Christian burial from St. Mary's since the Feast of All Souls last year. They will be commemorated in a special way at a Candlelight All Souls Mass,

Wednesday, November 6 at 7 PM

A candle will be lit in each one's memory as their name is read. They and all our beloved dead will be kept in prayer throughout the month of November, according to Catholic custom.

All are invited to take part in the All Souls Mass to pray for the repose of their own departed loved ones.



Saint Mary's Parish

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

November 3, 2024

Dear Fellow Parishioners,

For the past 64 years, St. Mary's, Holliston has relied on the Grand Annual - a once a year special collection that goes entirely toward parish operating costs. In combination with the weekly offertory, the Grand Annual allows St. Mary's to pay her staff and maintain her four buildings, three of which are over 100 years old.

As you know, the Grand Annual always takes place in November. The 2024 St. Mary's Grand Annual Collection is Veteran's Day Weekend - November 9 & 10. The goal is \$150,000 – the same as the 2020, 2021, 2022, and 2023 Grand Annuals, which despite the pandemic were all achieved.

The single largest facilities item covered by this year's Grand Annual is the replacement of the large church skylight above the sanctuary. Installed in 1993, the seals have now worn out and the structure has degraded. This has allowed water and dirt to penetrate past the outer protective Plexiglass layer and onto the actual glass. If not replaced, it is only a matter of time before water starts to get into the church sanctuary.

As our parish grows, the Fr. Haley Hall kitchen is being used much more. The two very small sinks are inadequate for the size of our functions, and various kitchen surfaces need to be refinished. The refrigerator also needs to be replaced. This summer we had to install a new church bell system, since the one installed in 1978 finally wore out. Multiple front exterior areas of the church (Town Hall side), have rotten wood and peeling paint, while the interior of the rectory is also in need of repairs. A complete Grand Annual breakdown follows:

\$30,000	Church Skylight Replacement
\$28,000	Main Parish Center Kitchen Repairs and Renovation
\$14,950	Replacement of rusted-through Fr. Haley Hall parking lot double metal doors and frame
\$10,825	Church exterior rotted wood repairs and painting, multiple areas
\$16,084	New Church Bells installed over summer
\$20,000	Rectory Repairs including damaged flooring, stair carpets, plumbing leaks, ceiling stains, torn wallpaper, peeling paint, and shower and lighting repairs in third floor bathroom.

The remaining Grand Annual amount is applied to staff salaries (\$30,141).

Since successfully paying off the last of her \$1.2 million loan debts in the fall of 2010, St. Mary's has been able to pay her bills and remains debt free. Your generous support of St. Mary's 2024 Grand Annual will assure that the hard-won financial health of our parish continues. We realize that these current economic times are difficult for many. But if we all do what we can according to our means, then the 2024 Grand Annual will be a success. Thank you in advance for your generosity. And thank you for the many ways you personally help to build up our beautiful parish family.

Sincerely,

The St. Mary's Finance Council

Kim Latifi

Kevin O'Connell

Ron Pipe

Dianne McDermott Roy

Kevin Diamond

HOW TO MAKE YOUR 2024 GRAND ANNUAL GIFT

Please carefully review the Grand Annual information mailed to you by the St. Mary's Finance Council. It should arrive this week.

Pray about it and **decide as a family** what gift you can make according to the means with which God has blessed you.

If you have children, make them aware of your Grand Annual support so that they can learn good stewardship by your example.

If possible, please return your gold Grand Annual envelope the weekend of November 9 & 10, or as soon as possible thereafter. It may be mailed to 8 Church Street or dropped off through the Rectory Office Door Mail Slot at that same address. You may also place it in the offertory basket at Mass.

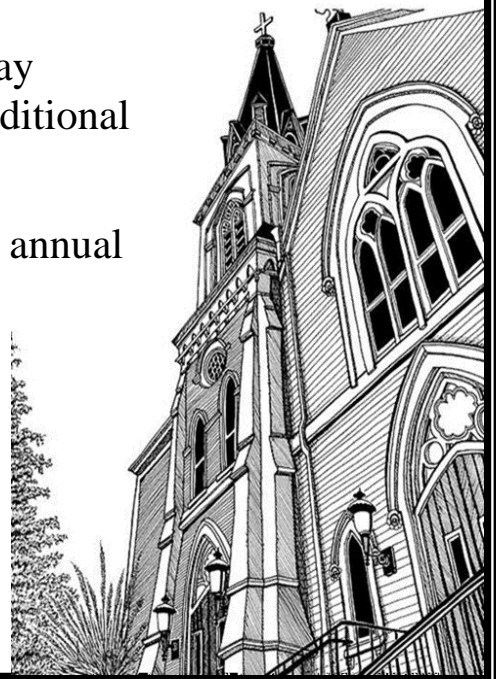
It is important that the special gold envelope, or an envelope clearly marked "Grand Annual" be used.

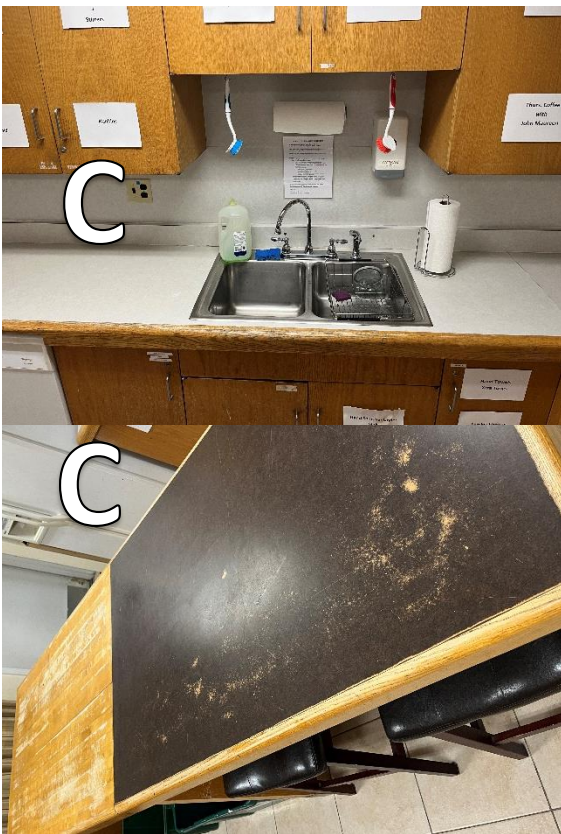
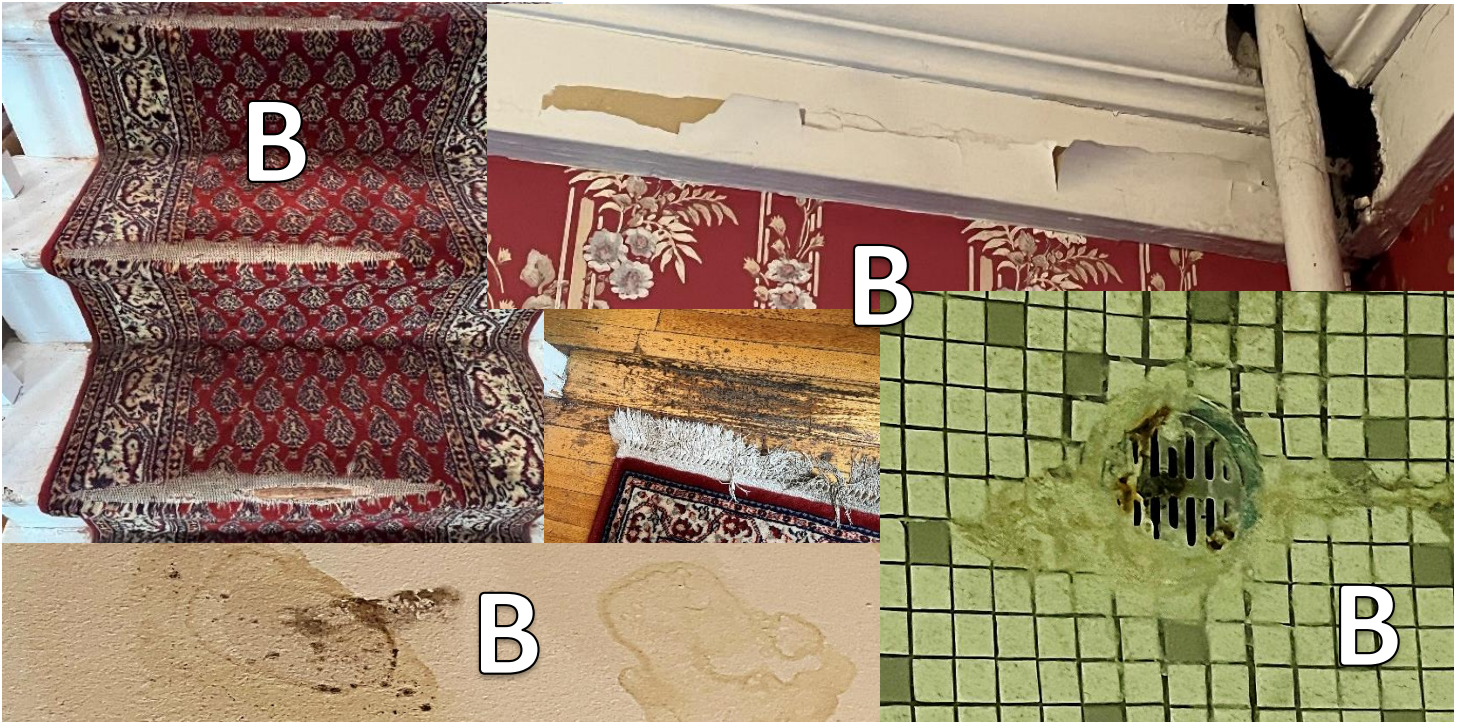
For those using Automatic Giving or WeShare, you may designate your Grand Annual support as a separate, additional offering.

Thank you for doing your part to support this essential annual stewardship effort!

"Every person shall give as he is able, according to the blessing of the LORD your God which He has given you."

DT 167:17





PHOTOS OF A FEW OF THE 2024 GRAND ANNUAL ITEMS

- A – Church Sanctuary Skylight**
- B – Rectory Interior Carpet, Floor, Ceiling, Shower drain, Paint, Wallpaper**
- C – Parish Center Kitchen too small sinks and worn surfaces**
- D – Rusted through double doors from Fr. Haley Hall to Parking Lot**
- E – Church Exterior rotted wood and peeling paint – multiple areas affected**

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
 Mrs. Lisa Dufault, HS Youth Minister
 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

MASS INTENTIONS:

Saturday November 2
 5:00 Elizabeth Walker MacLeod
 7:30 People of St. Mary's

Sunday November 3
 7:30 Judy Cruz
 9:30 Agnes Kovacs
 11:30 Deceased Members of the Knights of Columbus

Monday November 4
 9:00 Elizabeth Walker MacLeod

Tuesday November 5
 9:00 Rev. Msgr. Paul T. Ryan

Wednesday November 6
 9:00 Patricia Bidwell

Thursday November 7
 9:00 Stephen Mulcahy, 16th Anv.

Friday November 8
 9:00 Fr. Issa & Our Sister Parish

Saturday November 9
 5:00 Joyce Alice Murphy, 35th Anv.
 7:30 Leona Phelan, 4th Anv.

Sunday November 10
 7:30 People of St. Mary's
 9:30 Nicholas & Agnes Anselmo
 11:30 Valerie Liotta

TODAY

UPSTARIS CLOW AND DONUTS, JUICE & COFFEE: The Welcoming Committee invites all parishioners and their families to stop into Fr. Haley Hall after the 9:30 AM Mass TODAY, Sunday, November 3, for donuts, juice and coffee! Members of the Parish Pastoral Council will be attending and welcome any comments or ideas you have for St. Mary's. Please join us.

PARISH PASTA NIGHT TICKETS:

Tickets are on sale after all Masses this weekend (and next), for our Annual Parish Pasta Night, Saturday, November 16, from 6 - 8 PM. Come join your fellow parishioners for fine Italian fare, live musical entertainment and great company. The menu will include rigatoni with red sauce, rigatoni with broccoli and chicken, rigatoni with butter, meatballs, salad, rolls and soda, water, juice and Italian pastries. Families with children of all ages are welcome. The cost is \$10 per person, or \$30 for immediate family (parents and children). Tickets are also available in the Religious Education Office starting November 4. There are no tickets at the door on November 16. Mangia!



STEWARDSHIP
Managing God's Gifts To Us

Hurricane Relief: \$3,180.00. Thank you!

PARISH OFFERTORY LAST WEEKEND:

Automatic Giving:	\$ 2,912.00
WeShare:	\$ 5,720.36
Mass Offertory and	
Envelopes Dropped Off	\$ 5,453.00
Total Offertory:	\$ 14,085.36
Weekly Need:	\$ 15,000.00

Shortfall - \$ 914.64

**NEXT WEEKEND -
 2024 Grand Annual Kick Off:**

The Grand Annual is the single most important collection for our parish each year. Combined with the weekly offertory, it allows St. Mary's to cover her operating costs.

Please carefully review the Grand Annual information provided by the Finance Council, and return your gold Grand Annual envelope next weekend or as soon thereafter as you can.

Thank You!



TODAY

BROKEN ROSARIES? Did your favorite rosary or chaplet come apart, and you can't get it back together. Solution: Bring it to the today's D.J. & C. and we'll try to fix it! (Suggested donation, \$1. Sorry, no flex wire or string rosaries.)

SMCWG: St. Mary's Catholic Women's Group will hold their Fall Fundraiser in the Parish Lobby TODAY, **Sunday, November 3** after the 9:30 and 11:30 AM Masses. Holiday gifts, cards, a kid's corner, 50/50 and more will be available with all monies being donated to charities. Cash and personal checks are accepted. Also, St. Mary's Catholic Women's Group will be meeting on Wednesday, November 13 from 12 noon to 2 PM in the Parish Library. Please bring your lunch and a drink. Coffee and tea will be provided. All women are welcome.



RECYCLING EVENT ~ NEXT SATURDAY NOVEMBER 9:

St. Mary's Knights of Columbus Council #14224 and Green Team Recycling will hold a huge Recycling Event from 9 AM to 12 noon in St. Mary's parking lot. This event will accept a greatly expanded list of items that can be recycled, in addition to electronics. Watch for a flyer in your mail. It lists the additional items that will be accepted. The list includes push lawn mowers, snow blowers, mattresses, box springs, tires, washers, water heaters, and more. You'll find the recycling prices very reasonable. Start cleaning out your house of these old items you really want to disappear.

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 for 2025 please contact the Rectory at 508-429-4427 or email st.marys1870@gmail.com.

ST. MARY'S MOM'S PRAYER GROUP: Join us this Tuesday, November 5 from 9:45 - 11:00 AM, in Fr. Haley Hall as 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 toys and coloring activities available. Contact: Meghan Krenselewski, 978-421-5795.



WINGS: Join us at WINGS on Wednesday, November 6, from 10 - 11:15 AM for the fifth session of our six-week Fall Season "Called to Holiness: Becoming Our Best Selves." Our speaker is Sr. Georgeanne Donovan, former Superior General of the Marist Missionary Sisters. Our topic is "Holiness in a Distracted World." Although Jesus' words in the Gospel may strike us as poetic, they clearly run counter to the way things are usually done in our world. Using the gifts of our faith, our speaker will remind us that holiness is always attainable, no matter the season of life or distractions around us. All women are welcome. Childcare is provided. For additional information about the WINGS ministry, please call Jen Schiller at 617-852-9632 or Diane Collins at 508-259-7795 or visit our webpage <https://stmarysholliston.com/women-in-gods-spirit-w-i-n-g-s/>. To register for WINGS, email stmaryswingssecretary@gmail.com.

THANK YOU ~ **BABY SHOWER FOR THE**

UNBORN: Thank you to all who donated baby items

for this wonderful cause. These gifts will directly assist mothers in crisis pregnancies through the Pregnancy Help program of our Archdiocese. Thank you again for supporting families and babies in their time of need! Learn more at: www.pregnancyhelpboston.org.



MIDDLE SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP MEETING ~ TONIGHT,

November 3, from 6:30 - 8 PM in Fr. Haley Hall. There will be ...A Prayer Service for our Beloved Departed; A Giant Milk & Cookie Bar; Sign-Ups for the annual Cookie Walk (Dec. 7 & 8); Sign-Ups for Paintball (Monday, Nov. 11); Sign-Ups for Grade 7 Nursing Home BINGO (Friday, Nov. 22); and Sign-Ups for the Celtics (Monday, Nov. 25)!



STMARYS_TGIF

T.G.I.F (Teens Gather In Faith): We had a blast at our McCray's Haunted Hayride trip. At our most recent T.G.I.F. Meeting we had around 90 teens. With the Feast of All Saints and the Feast of All Souls approaching, we took the time to pray for the faithfully departed. We also enjoyed s'mores by the fire. Today, a group of teens and chaperones head to Anna Maria College in Paxton for an all-day Catholic Youth Rally. **Our next T.G.I.F. meeting is November 17 from 7:00 - 8:45 PM.** If you have not yet joined the High School

Youth Group, and are interested, please email st.marysTGIF1870@gmail.com. All High School Students are Welcome! Be sure to check out our Instagram [@stmarys_tgif](https://www.instagram.com/stmarys_tgif) or by scanning our QR code!



SIGN-UPS FOR CHILDREN'S NATIVITY: Registration is now open for the Christmas Nativity Pageant held during the 4:00 PM Christmas Eve Vigil Mass in Fr. Haley Hall. Families with children in Grade 1-4 will receive information via email. Completed forms must be returned by Friday, November 22 via the online signup, by mail to Debra Frey, 615 Winter Street, Holliston or by email to special.inkeeper1224@gmail.com. Practice will take place Saturday mornings on December 7, 14 and 21.

CANDLELIGHT MASS FOR ADDICTION: Come to me all who are burdened! A special Mass will be offered at St. Mary's on Thursday, November 14 at 7 PM for souls lost and for loved ones afflicted by substance use disorder, addictive behaviors, or unnatural attachments. The Mass is sponsored by the iTHIRST Initiative. Learn more about iTHIRST at <https://ithirstinitiative.org> or contact Deacon John and Diane Barry at (508) 794-9128. All are welcome!



VETERANS REMEMBERED ~ DRIVING DISCOVERY TOUR, SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 17:

Learn about Holliston's Armed Services Heroes! Compete for Prizes and Support Veterans! Have Fun Exploring Holliston's Memorials! Proceeds benefit "Thanks to Yanks."

Participation Fee: \$20 per car, Vets: \$10. Day of event only - no pre-registration. Event starts at 1:30 PM, St. Mary's Church Parking Lot. Driver and Navigator required to participate. Sponsored by St. Mary's Knights of Columbus.



CLOW - CHILDREN K-6 - CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD: Today, Sunday, November 3, the children will remain in the church to hear and learn what Jesus tells us in the Holy Gospel.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASS SCHEDULE FOR THE COMING WEEKS:

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

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS NATIVITY:
 Families with children in Grades 1- 4 will receive sign up forms by email inviting their children to participate in the Christmas Nativity at the 4:00 PM Christmas Eve Vigil Mass. The three rehearsals are scheduled for Saturday **12/7, 12/14 and 12/21 from 9 - 10 AM**. Completed sign up forms must be submitted by Friday, November 22 to: Debra Frey, 615 Winter Street, Holliston MA 01746 or by email to SpecialInnkeeper1224@gmail.com.

TEACHERS ARE STILL NEEDED FOR THE FOLLOWING GRADES: Go to our website and register to teach a class at: <https://stmarysholliston.com/>. Click the banner that leads you to the volunteer box. Then click the volunteer box and complete the form to choose the grade, day and time that meets your schedule. **Please see our needs below:**

Grade 5, Sunday: 10:45 AM to 12:15 PM, Teacher.
Grade 3, Tuesday: 4:00 PM to 5:30 PM. Teacher. .
Grade 2, Wednesday: 4:15 PM to 5:30 PM, 2 Adult or Teen Helpers.

MONITORS ARE NEEDED ON ALTERNATE WEEKS (90 MINUTE CLASSES):
Sunday, Grades 4 and 5: 10:45AM to 12:15 PM.
Tuesday, Grade 10: 7:00 to 8:30 PM.
Thursday, Grade 8/9: 7:00 to 8:30 PM.

CONFIRMATION YEAR 1~ GRADE 7: Meets this week on Mon., November 4 and Wed., November 6 from 7:00 to 8:30 PM in Fr. Haley Hall.

CONFIRMATION YEAR 2 ~ GRADE 10: Meets this week on Tues., November 5 and Thurs., November 7 from 7:00 to 8:30 PM in Fr. Haley Hall.

CORI VOLUNTEER RENEWAL ALERT: If you are an active volunteer (18+ years) in any ministry, we must have a completed **2024 CORI**. Volunteer CORI forms - renewals and new - must be signed and verified in person with a license by any staff member.

PROTECTING GOD'S CHILDREN WORKSHOPS: Monday, November 18, 6:00 to 9:00 PM
 Please register to attend a training if you need to fulfill this requirement to participate in any ministry. Register at www.virtusonline.org. Select First-Time Registrant / Boston, MA (Archdiocese) / Start Registration and follow the prompts. You will need to create an account ID and password to sign-up. Thank you!

HOLLISTON NEWCOMERS THANKSGIVING DRIVE: Gift Cards will be provided through the Holliston Pantry Shelf to those in need and other local organizations that support the Holliston youth. Help families make their Thanksgiving Day special by giving a monetary donation to HNN by visiting the webpage at <http://www.hollistonnewcomers.org/donations> and select Thanksgiving. Donations can be mailed by sending a check made out to Holliston Newcomers & Neighbors to Katrine Giroux, 147 Mohawk Path, Holliston, and note that it is for Thanksgiving. Handmade **Thanksgiving Cards** for the families can be dropped off at 922 Highland Street, Holliston, in the bin at the front door. *Deadline for donations is Sunday, November 17. Thank you!*

Holliston Newcomers & Neighbors
Thanksgiving Donation

Name: _____

Address: _____

Please make your check out to Holliston Newcomers and Neighbors and note on the check that the donation is For Thanksgiving. *We appreciate your donation!*

Please mail your check along with This Certificate to:

Katrine Giroux
 147 Mohawk Path
 Holliston.MA 01746

