



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: 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!

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, High School 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



**CONGRATULATIONS NEWLY
 CONFIRMED!**

Giada 'Adelaide of Burgundy' Adovasio
 Anna 'Dymphna' Barrett
 Joseph 'Augustine of Hippo' Belger
 Stella 'Rose of Lima' Blinstrub
 Eleanor 'Veronica' Browne
 Adriana 'Catherine of Siena' Bulmer
 Susannah 'Bernadette' Butler
 Declan 'Henry II' Cassidy
 Caroline 'Genevieve' Cosgrove
 Ella 'Vilana' Coughlin
 Hector 'Achilleus' Cruz
 Charlotte 'Teresa of Calcutta' Daigneault

Caroline 'Brigid of Kildare' Dietz
 Thomas 'Francis Xavier' DiPippo
 Benjamin 'Peter the Apostle' Dufault
 Sarah 'Joan of Arc' Eppinger
 Cameron 'Patrick' Flores
 Eliza 'Gemma Galgani' Gebski
 Henry 'Augustine of Hippo' Hayes
 Elijah 'John Paul II' Hopke
 Michael 'Dominic Savio' Hupfer
 Emma 'Teresa of Calcutta' Kampersal
 Anaya 'Maria Goretti' Kipp
 Aidan 'Lawrence' Kramer
 Wyatt 'Christopher' Kuchman
 William 'Stephen of Hungary' MacLeod
 Josephine 'Veronica' Marshall
 Hadley 'Catherine of Siena' McAdams
 Max 'Anthony of Padua' McErlean
 Max 'John Paul II' McFadyen
 Paul 'Patrick' McGrath
 Addison 'Francis of Assisi' McShane
 Eamonn 'Edward Oldcorne' O'Brien
 Ruby 'Catherine of Siena' O'Brien
 Paige 'Anne Line' Peabody
 Abigail 'Elizabeth of Portugal' Perkins
 Braydon 'John Leonardi' Rotz
 Evan 'John Paul II' Scaramella
 Brendon 'Benedict' Skelly
 Lucille 'Joan of Arc' Stevens
 John 'Michael the Archangel' Tobin

"Come, Holy Spirit. Spirit of truth, You are the reward of the saints, the comforter of souls, light in the darkness, riches to the poor, treasure to lovers, food for the hungry, comfort to those who are wandering; to sum up, You are the one in Whom all treasures are contained. Come! As You descended upon Mary that the Word might become flesh, work



in us through grace as You worked in her through nature and grace. Come! Food of every chaste thought, fountain of all mercy, sum of all purity. Come! Remove from us whatever prevents us from being one in You."

- St. Mary Magdalene de Pazzi



FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

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

What a weekend of grace and joy for our parish! On Saturday, forty-one of our teens received the Sacrament of Confirmation. It was a beautiful sight to witness them - standing boldly before the altar, renewing their baptismal promises, and being sealed with the Holy Spirit Who strengthens and sends.

In a world that often pulls our young people in a thousand directions, it was a powerful sign of hope to see these young men and women say "yes" to Christ. They have not only been Confirmed in their faith, they have been *commissioned*. Like the early disciples, they are now sent to live the Gospel with courage, compassion, and conviction.

In the words of St. Catherine of Siena, "*Be who God meant you to be and you will set the world on fire!*"

The Mass readings this Confirmation Weekend offer a timely and profound message. In the Gospel (Luke 16:19-31), Jesus tells the sobering parable of the rich man and Lazarus. The rich man lived in comfort, seemingly blind to the suffering of the poor man at his gate. When their earthly lives ended, their roles were reversed in eternity.

This Gospel is not merely about wealth or poverty. It is about awareness, compassion, and response. The rich man's greatest failure wasn't his wealth, but his indifference. He saw Lazarus daily, yet did nothing.

Again, the Confirmation celebrated here yesterday was not a graduation - it was a commissioning. Our Confirmandi are now sealed with the Spirit to live as bold witnesses of Christ in the world. In a society that often encourages comfort, distraction, and self-interest, they and we are called to see the "Lazaruses" in our lives. To open our hearts and hands in mercy. To live not for ourselves, but for Christ and for others.

The First Reading (Amos 6:1a, 4-7) also challenges complacency: "*Woe to the complacent in Zion!*" How tempting it is to live in spiritual ease, avoiding the difficult questions of discipleship. But yesterday, we witnessed 41 young disciples say "yes" to living their faith more intentionally. That should reawaken all of us to our baptismal promises - to reject sin, to believe in God, and to follow Christ with our whole hearts.

This Sunday, we are all invited to reflect, "Where am I being called to respond with greater love? Who is the Lazarus at my gate? How is the Spirit urging me to be the light of Christ in a darkening world?"

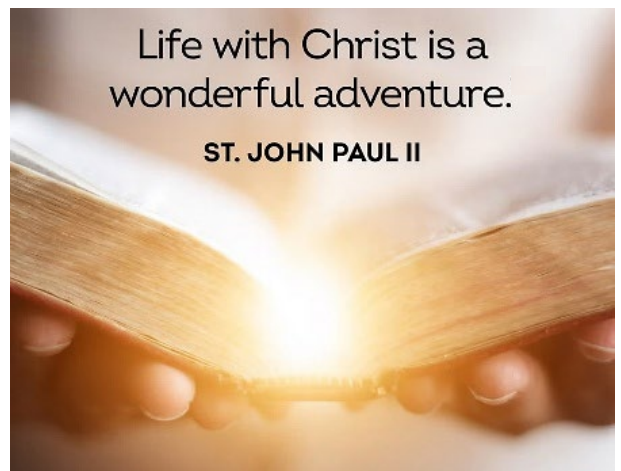
Let us be inspired by our young people and challenge ourselves to accompany them. They need the example, the prayers, and the encouragement of our whole parish. Let us walk with them in faith and together build a Church alive with the fire of the Spirit.

To our forty-one newly Confirmed we say again, Congratulations! We are so proud of you. May your faith be bold, your hearts open, and your lives a witness to Christ. Remember that you are never alone. The Church, in which you are now fully initiated, accompanies you.

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

Under His Mercy,

Rev. Mark J. Coiro
Pastor



FOR THOSE IN NEED

PANTRY SHELF BACK TO SCHOOL HELP:

Food items needed at the Pantry: Progresso Soup, Campbell's Chunky Soup, Campbell's Tomato Soup, Campbell's Cream of Chicken Soup, Campbell's Cream of Mushroom Soup, canned fruit cocktail, canned peaches, tuna fish, pasta sauce, pasta (various), 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 to the bins outside 73 Charles Street.

SUPPORT CATHOLIC CHARITIES IN

MILFORD: CCM is dedicated to serving individuals and families in need, offering essential services such as food assistance, housing support, and emergency aid. They are in immediate need of: Formula - powdered or liquid, cereal and shelf stable milk to replace school breakfasts, canned goods with pop tops and peanut butter and jelly. **At this time of year there is a special need for backpacks and school supplies for all ages.**

Donations and gift cards (e.g., grocery, Visa or Ace Hardware) can be dropped off at their office at 200 Main St. in Milford. Monetary donations may be mailed to the same address.

FOR THE CHURCH

SECOND COLLECTION LAST WEEKEND:

Clergy Funds \$5,708.25. Thank you for supporting the health needs of our active and retired priests!

PARISH OFFERTORY LAST WEEKEND:

Automatic Giving:	\$ 3,148.50
WeShare:	\$ 6,219.09
Offertory Envelopes:	\$ 7,246.00
Total Offertory:	\$ 16,613.59

Thank you for making up any missed weekly parish support. The financial health of your parish depends on it. Please consider switching to WeShare or Automatic Giving. See: <https://stmarysholliston.com/how-to-give/>.

MONDAY MORNING NEWSLETTER

COLLATING: Please join us tomorrow, Monday, September 29, from 9:30 AM to 1:00 PM in Fr. Haley Hall to assist in our collating of the October Newsletter. All are welcome and needed! The October Newsletter may already be viewed online in color at: <https://stmarysholliston.com/monthly-newsletters-2/>.

FOR PRAYER

MASS INTENTIONS:

Saturday	September 27
5:00	Dominic and Grace Magrini
7:30	Bob Herrick
Sunday	September 28
7:30	Judy Cruz
9:30	People of St. Mary's
11:30	Dolores Wilverding, 9 th Anniversary
Monday	September 29
9:00	Bob Herrick
Tuesday	September 30
9:00	Holy Souls in Purgatory
10:30	Funeral ~ Charles Redmond
Wednesday	October 1
9:00	Starving Children in the World
Thursday	October 2
9:00	Eugenia Moraski
11:00	Funeral ~ Edward Sullivan
Friday	October 3
9:00	Fr. Salmon & the People of our Sister Parish, Our Lady of Fatima, Beit Sahour
Saturday	October 4
5:00	Nicholas and Agnes Anselmo
7:30	Carmen Chiango
Sunday	October 5
7:30	People of St. Mary's
9:30	Francesco DiCenso
11:30	Karen Leary

**O Divine Shepherd of Souls,
You Who lead Your flock beside still waters
and into eternal pastures,
receive with tender mercy
the souls of our beloved departed,
whom we now entrust anew to Your care.**

**In the sacred mystery of the Mass,
we offer the most holy sacrifice,
Your Son, truly present,
Body, Blood, Soul, and Divinity,
as a fragrant offering for them.**

**Let the light of this Holy Eucharist,
offered in love and faith,
shine upon the path that leads them home.
May its grace gently wash away every stain of sin,
and may Your angels bear them upward,
beyond the veil of this world
to the place You have prepared for those who
love You. Amen.**

FOR LIFE

THE ROSE FOR LIFE: The Rose is sponsored this week by the Butler Family. Please join them in prayer for an unborn child. Sponsor a Rose by emailing st.marys1870@gmail.com.



BABY SHOWER FOR THE UNBORN:

October 4 & 5 at all Masses. Please bring new baby items and clothes to Mass next weekend and place them in or around the baby stroller in the sanctuary. These gifts will directly assist mothers in crisis pregnancies through the Pregnancy Help program of our Archdiocese. Thank you for supporting families and babies in their time of need!



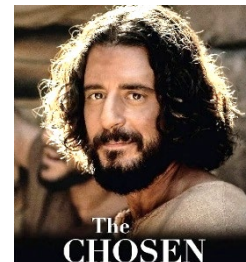
About Pregnancy Help:

Pregnancy Help is a pregnancy resource center staffed by nurses and bilingual caseworkers whose mission is to provide compassionate, practical, life-affirming alternatives

for women facing emotional and social hardships during their pregnancies. Many women come to Pregnancy Help feeling totally alone, isolated, and abandoned by family, friends, and partners. Others have some support but they are confused and frightened about what to do. Whatever a particular woman's situation might be, Pregnancy Help provides a safe place where she can come, speak from her heart, and find the support she needs. Pregnancy Help has been serving pregnant women and their families in the Boston area and its surrounding communities for over 50 years. We support any woman who is experiencing emotional, social, or other hardships during their pregnancies and after the birth of their child. We welcome anyone in need of our services to contact us for free, confidential, and compassionate assistance.

FOR LIFE

HOPE FOR LIFE CONFERENCE: The Hope for Life Conference will be held on Saturday, October 4 at the Track at New Balance in Brighton from 8 AM - 4 PM. All are invited to this special event featuring **The Chosen's Jonathan Roumie**, Mother Olga of the Sacred Heart, Mass by Archbishop Henning, music by the Vigil Project, and much more. The event is a collaboration of the Archdiocesan Pro-Life Office, the Daughters of Mary of Nazareth, and the Men of Divine Mercy Prayer Group.



Please join us in honoring the sanctity and beauty of life. Lunch is provided on-site. For more information or to order tickets, visit www.hopeforlifeboston.com.

TOOTSIE ROLL DRIVE: At all Masses October 11 & 12, Knights from St. Mary's Knights of Columbus Council #14224 will be passing out Tootsie Rolls. Voluntary donations are sent to the State Council to be distributed to charities supporting people with intellectual disabilities such as Special Olympics and Educational Summer Camps. Thank you for your support of this beautiful cause.

RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE IN MEMORY OF MARC LEVASSEUR:

Celebrate life and make a difference by giving blood on Saturday, October 25 in Father Haley Hall from 8 AM to 1 PM. Blood is needed for different kinds of patients. It could be a young child with a rare blood disorder, a family member fighting cancer, or a friend in a car accident. The need is constant, the gratification is instant. Streamline your donation experience and save up to 15 minutes by visiting RedCrossBlood.org/RapidPass to complete your pre-donation reading and health history questions on the day of your appointment. Please schedule an appointment to donate at this special blood drive. You'll feel good knowing you've helped change the lives of patients in need. Give blood!

FOR MARRIAGE

ST. MARY'S MARRIAGE FELLOWSHIP:

Marriage Fellowship families enjoyed their Kickoff Barbecue on September 14 at the home of one of their members. The next Monthly Meeting will be on Thursday, October 16, from 6:30 - 8 PM in Sister Ricci House. Childcare is provided. Email stmarysmarriagefellowship@gmail.com for more information. Welcome!

FOR WOMEN

ST. MARY'S MOM'S PRAYER GROUP: Join us this Tuesday, September 30, 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. For more information, please contact Meghan Krenselewski at 978-421-5795.



WINGS (Women in God's Spirit): Our 2025 Fall Season "Spiritualities of the Catholic Church" will begin in early October. We will examine the charisms or gifts of

Catholic orders that inspired their founders to gather others to spread the word of God (Augustinians, Dominicans, Benedictines, etc.) and how these gifts apply to our lives today. We meet for six Wednesdays from 9:45 to 11:15 AM in Father Haley Hall. We hope you will join us either in person or over Zoom. Our meetings include prayer, an inspiring speaker presentation on a relevant topic of the Catholic faith and large or small group sharing with WOMEN OF ALL AGES. Babysitting will be provided for those attending in person. WINGS asks for dues of \$50 per year, or \$20 per season (Fall, Winter, Spring) to defray speaker fees; however, everyone is welcome regardless of ability to pay. For additional information about the WINGS ministry, please call Jen Schiller at 617-852-9632 or visit <https://shorturl.at/WE7FA>. To register for WINGS, email stmaryswingssecretary@gmail.com.

SMCWG: St. Mary's Catholic Women's Group will be having their October meeting on Wednesday October 8, at noon in the library. Please bring your lunch. Coffee and tea will be provided. We welcome new members so please join us! For any questions, please call Adele at 508-429-5083.

FOR MEN

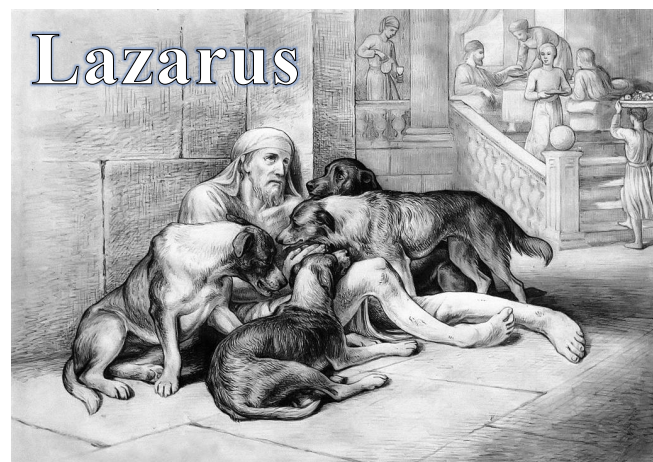


COR ~ ST. MARY'S FAITH ENRICHMENT PROGRAM FOR MEN: The Fall 2025 Session of Cor has begun! Our next meeting will be Thursday, October 9, in Sister Ricci House at 7 PM. We will continue our journey through the Old Testament, focusing on the many ways that it reveals God's salvific plan for us.

We meet on the 2nd and 4th Thursdays of the month up to December 11 (except there will be no meeting on November 27) from 7 - 9 PM. Our mission is to help and support each other as we seek to deepen our relationship with God, through scripture, catechesis, prayer and small group discussions. All men of St. Mary's parish age 18 and older are welcome to join us for faith enrichment, scripture, catechesis, prayer and brotherhood. For more information, contact StMarysCor@gmail.com.

FOR OUR ANIMAL FRIENDS

BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS: Sunday, October 26 at 1:30 PM. Parishioners are invited to bring their pets to Fr. Haley Hall as we celebrate the Church's Rite of the Blessing of Animals. Each pet will receive an individual blessing as we ask God's protection for our animal friends and remember that all living things are precious to Him. This blessing takes place in October as St. Francis of Assisi's Feast Day is this month, and he had a special love of the furred, finned and feathered creatures of the earth.



FOR OUR YOUTH

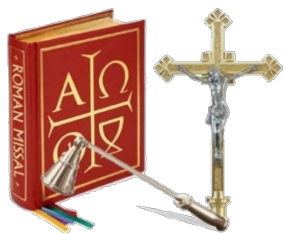
THE MIDDLE SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP
KICK OFF IS

NEXT SUNDAY!

Our MSYG Fall Kick Off and Ice Cream Social is next **Sunday, October 5 from 6:30 - 8 PM**. All teens in Grades 6, 7, and 8 are invited for a new year of faith, friendship, service and fun. There will be sign-ups for the October 24 trip to Barrett's Haunted Mansion, and pre-sign-ups for the January 21 Celtics versus Indiana Game!



BECOME AN ALTAR SERVER!



**NEW ALTAR
SERVERS CLASS:**
Sunday, October 19
from 7 - 7:30 PM in
the Church. Any
parish youth currently
in grades 4 - 12 may
study to become an
Altar Server. Just
bring the youth
accompanied by a
parent with your
family calendar to this

planning meeting. Also, please email Patty
Baribeau to indicate your interest:
st.marys.altarserver@gmail.com.



FOR OUR YOUTH

**T.G.I.F. (Teens Gather In
Faith):** We are looking forward
to our Bagged Lunch for the
Homeless of Fr. Bill's on October
11 and our McCray's 'Fear on the
Farm' Haunted Hayride on
October 18. T.G.I.F is open to
ALL TEENS in Grades 9 - 12.
For more information, contact
Lisa Dufault at
st.marystgif1870@gmail.com.



STMARYS_TGIF

**SAVE THE DATE FOR OUR
NEXT MEETING (bring a friend),
SUNDAY, OCTOBER 19!**

ATTENTION T.G.I.F. ADULT

VOLUNTEERS: We will hold our first
planning meeting on Wednesday, October 1,
from 7:00 - 8:00 PM in Fr. Haley hall. Please
try your best to attend, and please bring your
schedule calendar!



**CLOW ~ CHILDREN K - 6 ~ CHILDREN'S
LITURGY OF THE WORD:**

Today,
September 28, the children will be dismissed
to the lower church hall to listen and learn
what Jesus teaches us in the Gospel. **Please
note:** Younger children **must be
accompanied by their parents** and able to sit
and engage in the lesson. Older children are
welcome to assist the adult leaders.

"Young people, do not be afraid to be holy! Fly high, be among those whose goals are worthy of the sons and daughters of God. Glorify God with your youth. Do not settle for anything less than the greatness to which you are called."

- Pope Saint John Paul II



Ephesians



5:19

St. Mary's Youth Music Jams >

Hey MSYG and TGIF!

We're looking for more **teens in grades 7 & up** to join our **Youth Music Jams!** Bring your voices and instruments to collaborate on your favorite Christian anthems.

If you enjoy singing K-LOVE songs from artists like these, this is the group for you! →



Brandon Lake

Lauren Daigle

Katy Nichole

TobyMac

Forrest Frank

Hillsong UNITED

For King + Country

& more!

Sign me up! Who do I contact?

Scan the QR Code to connect to our Instagram **@YouthMusicJams !**

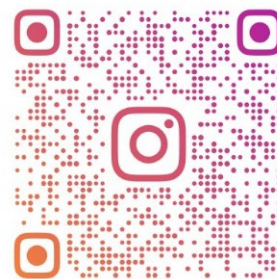
You can also contact the Music Director at:



MusicAtStMarysHolliston@gmail.com



(508) 429 - 6076 x224



YOUTHMUSICJAMS





TEACHERS ARE STILL NEEDED BEFORE CLASSES BEGIN IN OCTOBER: Please see our Teacher and Monitor needs below. Our children need you! **Offer your time to help parents form** the conscience and hearts of their children to live out their Baptismal gift of faith. As a faith community, we are called by Christ to teach these young souls to be His “Disciples.” Go to <https://stmarysholliston.com/>, click on Register and then ‘**Religious Education Volunteer Form**’. If you have children in the program, consider teaching a class with another parent or being a Monitor in the lobby. Below are our needs!

OPPORTUNITIES FOR VOLUNTEERS ARE AVAILABLE IN THE CHART BELOW:

GRADE	SESSION DAY AND TIME	TEACHER NEEDS	MONITOR NEEDS
SUNDAY			
CGS	8:00 to 9:15 AM	2 Assistants	1
GR-2	10:45 AM to Noon	1 Teacher	1
GR-3	7:55 to 9:20 AM	2 Teachers	1
GR-3	10:45AM to 12:15 PM	1 Teacher	1
GR-4	10:45AM to 12:15 PM	3 Teachers	1
GR-5	10:45AM to 12:15 PM	1 Teacher	1
GR-6	4:00 to 5:30 PM	1 Teacher	1
MONDAY			
GR-8*	7:00 to 8:30 PM	Filled	1
TUESDAY			
GR-3	4:00 to 5:30 PM	1 Teacher	Filled
GR-4	4:00 to 5:30 PM	2 Teachers	Filled
GR-5	4:00 to 5:30 PM	Filled	Filled
GR-6	4:00 to 5:30 PM	1 Teacher	Filled
GR-7*	7:00 to 8:30 PM	2 Teachers	Filled
WEDNESDAY			
GR-4	4:00 to 5:30 PM	2 Teachers	Filled
GR-7*	7:00 to 8:30 PM	2 Teachers	Filled
GR-9/10	7:00 to 8:30 PM	Filled	1
THURSDAY			
GR-8*	7:00 to 8:30 PM	2 Teachers	Filled

Note: *Grades 7 and 8 meet on the same week and Grades 9/10 meet on the opposite week as Grade 7 and 8.

GRADE 2 IMPORTANT PARENT MEETINGS: A New Sacramental Curriculum ~ choose one meeting.

- Sunday, today, Sept. 28, after the 9:30 AM Mass at 10:45 AM in Fr. Haley Hall.
- Monday, Sept. 29 at 7:00 PM in Fr. Haley Hall.

CONFIRMATION PROGRAM 2025-2026:

- **Grade 7 - Confirmation 1** begins on Tuesday, October 7 or Wednesday, October 8 at 7:00 PM in Fr. Haley Hall.
- **Grade 8 - Confirmation 2** begins on Monday October 6 or Thursday, October 9 at 7:00 PM in Fr. Haley Hall.
- **Grade 9/10 - Confirmation** (Last year for Grades 9 and 10) begins on Tuesday, October 28 or Wednesday, October 29 at 7:00 PM in Fr. Haley Hall.

CLASS START TIMES ARE BELOW FOR 2025:

- **CGS-A:** Sunday, Oct. 5 at 8:00 AM, Sr. Ricci House.
- **CGS-B:** Sunday, Oct. 19 at 8:00 AM, Sr. Ricci House.
- **GR-1:** Sunday, Oct. 19 at 8:10 AM, Center.
- **GR-2:** Sunday, Oct. 5 at 8:10 or 10:45 AM, Center.
- **GR-2:** Wednesday, Oct. 8 at 4:15 PM, Center.
- **GR-3:** Sunday, Oct. 5 at 7:55 or 10:45 AM, SRH.
- **GR-3, 4, 5:** Tuesday, Oct. 7 at 4:00 PM, Center, SRH.
- **GR-4, 5:** Wednesday, Oct. 8 at 4:00 PM, Center.
- **GR-6:** Sunday, Oct. 19 at 4:00 PM, RM 3-4 Center.
- **GR-6:** Tuesday, Oct. 21, 4:00 PM, RM 3-4 Center.
- **GR-7:** Tues., Oct. 7 or Wed., Oct. 8 at 7:00 PM, FHH.
- **GR-8:** Mon., Oct. 6 or Thur., Oct. 9 at 7:00 PM, FHH.
- **GR-9/10:** Tues., Oct. 28 or Wed., Oct. 29 at 7:00 PM, FHH.

GRADE 4 AND 5 TOURS OF THE CHURCH:

Tours are 90 minutes in length. There are two tours the families can choose from below:

- Today, Sunday, September 28 at 3:30 PM or Monday, September 29 at 4:00 PM. Both tours are in the church. Sign-up sheets will be available for new Altar Servers and to join the Children and Youth Music Choirs.

CATECHESIS OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD ATRIUM AT ST. MARY’S PARISH:



A close up of the Practical Life materials the children will be using to learn basic life skills as they learn about Jesus. Children will learn how to pour liquids with funnels from one small container to

the other; how to scoop dry beans from a tray to another; how to put materials back in their original place after using them. These skills help them to adapt and be responsible as a whole person, with both physical and spiritual formation in a sacred space. Parents are welcome to visit the Atrium before classes begin in October. Working with their hands allows the children to discover God’s presence in their quiet time.

✠ Lazarus at the Gate ✠

*"He has filled the hungry with good things,
and the rich He has sent away empty."*

Luke 1:53

**There was a man,
dressed in purple and fine linen,
who passed the poor each day
as if they were shadows
at the edge of his comfort.**

**At his gate lay Lazarus,
his body broken,
his name known in heaven.
He asked for nothing but crumbs.
Even the dogs were more merciful.**

**No one noticed
when Lazarus died.
But angels did.
They lifted him
as one lifts something holy,
with reverence.**

**The rich man also died,
wrapped not in glory,
but in silence.
He opened his eyes
not to light,
but to flame.**

**He who had everything
now begged for water.
He who had passed the poor
now cried to the poor man
for mercy.**

**But the chasm he built
with every unopened door
and every turned-away face
was now fixed forever.**

**It was not wealth
that condemned him.
It was the absence of love.**

**He had the prophets.
He had Moses.
He had every chance
to see God
in the one who suffered.**

**Lazarus never spoke a word.
He didn't have to.
His wounds were his prayer,
and God answered.**

**Now he rests
in the arms of Abraham,
where no hunger follows,
and no sorrow remains.**

**And still,
outside our gates,
Lazarus waits.**

- By Sister Veronica Thane O.S.B.

