

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: 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

parish@stmarysholliston.org

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,

Happy Feast of Pentecost! Today, we celebrate the glorious culmination of the Easter season - the birthday of the Church. Fifty days after the Resurrection, the Holy Spirit descended upon the Apostles like tongues of fire, transforming a group of frightened, hiding disciples into bold witnesses of the Gospel.

In today's reading from Acts we encounter a profound miracle. A diverse crowd is gathered from every corner of the known world as the Spirit-filled Apostles begin to speak. The scripture tells us that the crowd was bewildered because *"each one heard them speaking in his own language."* Think about the depth of that moment. The Holy Spirit did not eliminate the cultural or linguistic differences of the people; instead, the Spirit overcame the barrier of division. Through the divine breath of God, diversity was transformed into a beautiful, harmonious symphony of faith.

This miracle stands in stark contrast to the world we wake up to every day. Whether we look at the global stage, the political landscape of our country, or sadly even our own town, we see a culture fractured by division. We suffer from political polarization, social echo chambers, and a growing inability to truly listen to one another. Too often, we treat those who disagree with us as adversaries rather than neighbors.

We live in a modern Babel, where everyone is shouting in their own "language" of ideology, anger, or fear, and no one is truly hearing or understanding. These divisions don't just affect our society; they threaten our homes, our friendships, and even our parish communities.

Pentecost is the divine antidote to this brokenness. The Holy Spirit is, by definition, the Peacemaker and the Unifier. Where the human ego seeks to divide and conquer, the Spirit seeks to heal and unite.

The spiritual implication of Pentecost for you and me is profound: to be filled with the Holy Spirit

means to become agents of understanding. When we allow the Holy Spirit to guide our speech and our listening, we receive the grace to see past labels and political affiliations. We are given the spiritual ears to hear the human heart behind the opposing argument. To "speak in tongues" today does not mean babbling in unknown languages; it means speaking the universal language of Christ - the language of charity, mercy, patience, and truth.

If we want to see healing in our country and our community, it must begin within us. We must pray for our own personal Pentecost. We must ask the Holy Spirit to burn away our prejudices, our stubbornness, and our desire to always be right, replacing them with a desire to be holy.

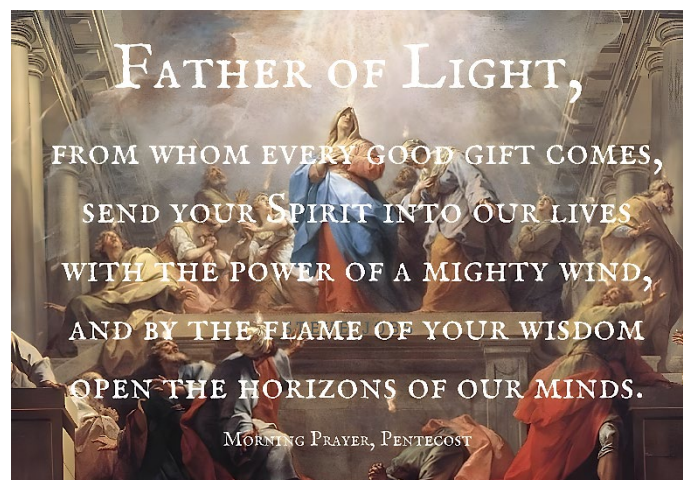
As St. John Paul II beautifully reminded us:
"The Holy Spirit, who is the source of unity and love, does not create uniformity, but rather a wonderful and rich harmony of gifts and charisms."

Let us challenge ourselves this week to be instruments of that harmony. When conversations tense up, let us breathe in the peace of the Holy Spirit before we respond. Let us actively seek to understand before we demand to be understood.

May the Holy Spirit renew the face of the earth, begin a transformation in our local community, and make us truly one in the Heart of Christ.

Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful, and kindle in them the fire of your love!

Rev. Mark J. Coiro





A CONCERT CELEBRATING

Virtue's Voice

Reflections on Faith and Freedom



ST. MARY'S IN HOLLISTON

FREE AND OPEN TO ALL

★ **FRIDAY, MAY 29 | 7:00 PM** ★

Join us for the return of our annual Spring Choir Concert, celebrating the United States' 250th Anniversary and the virtues that uphold the dignity of all people.



Mass
Cultural
Council

St. Mary's Music Ministry
Abigail Kelley-Lanser, Director of Music



HOLLISTON CULTURAL COUNCIL

THIS COMING FRIDAY!

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, 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 May 23
 5:00 Shane Christopher Noyes
 7:30 Carmen Chiango, 1st Anv.
Sunday May 24
 7:30 Antoinetta Calabrese
 9:30 People of St. Mary's
 11:30 Mariann Gillespie
Monday May 25
 9:00 Our Nation
Tuesday May 26
 9:00 John, Jeanette and JR Gannon
Wednesday May 27
 9:00 Holy Souls In Purgatory
Thursday May 28
 9:00 Ann Tomacelli
Friday May 29
 9:00 Sandra Cellosi
Saturday May 30
 5:00 Marion Kampersal
 7:30 Antoinetta Calabrese
Sunday May 31
 7:30 Gene Arthur Howland
 9:30 People of St. Mary's
 11:30 Jarrod Hanna, Month's Mind



MEMORIAL DAY, MONDAY, MAY 25: Mass at St. Mary's Church at 9:00 AM. Prayers and military honors at St. Mary's Cemetery at 10:00 AM. The parade starts at 11:00 AM and follows the same route as last year, Woodland St., Church St.,

Central St., Front St., Exchange St., Railroad St., Central St., and Washington St.



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 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 in person again, these forms of giving mean not having to remember to bring checkbooks and/or envelopes with you.

Kindly consider switching to WeShare or Automatic Giving. See: <https://stmarysholliston.com/how-to-give/>.

SECOND COLLECTION FOR SEMINARIES THIS WEEKEND: Supports the formation and training of seminarians in the Archdiocese of Boston for service, we pray, as future priests. Please be generous and support these seminarians on their journey toward their ordination to the priesthood. For more information, kindly visit www.VocationsBoston.org.

LAST SUNDAY'S PARISH OFFERTORY:

Automatic Giving:	\$ 4,860.00
WeShare:	\$ 3,845.57
Envelopes:	\$ 6,894.00
Total Offertory:	\$ 15,599.57

FOR THOSE IN NEED

HOLLISTON PANTRY SHELF: Food items needed at the Pantry: white vinegar (16 oz), juice boxes (apple, orange, fruit punch), canned regular coffee (11 oz), canned decaf coffee (11 oz), Chips Ahoy Cookies, Oreo Cookies (chocolate or vanilla), Ritz crackers (13.7 oz box), saltine crackers (16 oz box) and canned beets (16 oz). Donations may be dropped off in the tan bin by the main parking lot doors right here at St. Mary's, or to the bins outside 73 Charles Street.



PHOTO ABOVE: As part of their May 15 Scavenger Hunt, our Middle School Youth Group teens collected almost 100 items for the Holliston Pantry Shelf. Well done!



THE ROSE FOR LIFE: The Rose this week is sponsored by the Carver Family. Please join them in prayer for an unborn child. Please call Mary Beth at 508-429-4427 to become part of this beautiful affirmation of life.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS 18th ANNUAL CHARITY RAFFLE: The Knights continue to sell tickets for their Annual Charity Raffle. The proceeds from this raffle go to local charities such as the Holliston [Senior] Center, O'Connell House, Homes for our Troops, and the Doug Flutie Foundation for Autism. One ticket is \$5 and a book of five for \$20. First prize is \$1,000. The raffle drawing will take place at the K of C Golf tournament on June 26. Knights will sell tickets at Shaw's in Ashland on June 6 and 7. The direct contact to purchase raffle tickets is stmaryshollistonkofc@gmail.com.

FOR MEMORIAL DAY

This weekend, as parades march, flags wave, and families gather for the unofficial start of summer, our nation pauses for a deeply solemn purpose: to observe Memorial Day. Established to honor the men and women who made the ultimate sacrifice while serving in the United States Armed Forces, this day calls us to a profound sense of national gratitude. We remember that the civic freedoms we enjoy today - to speak, to gather, and to worship freely - were purchased at a staggering human cost.

For us as Catholics, Memorial Day carries an even deeper, spiritual significance. In the selfless sacrifice of our fallen service members, we hear a powerful echo of the Gospel. Jesus taught us, *"Greater love has no man than this, to lay down his life for his friends"* (John 15:13). Our faith reminds us that remembrance is not merely a passive emotional exercise, but a sacred duty. We do not just look backward with appreciation; we lift our hearts forward in prayer, offering the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass for the eternal repose of their souls, trusting in the promise of the Resurrection.

As we honor our fallen heroes, let us also pray for their grieving families, for our active-duty military, and for our world to be guided to peace by Christ.

Heavenly Father,

On this Memorial Day, we place into your hands the souls of the brave men and women who courageously laid down their lives for the cause of freedom. In their ultimate sacrifice, may we see a reflection of the selfless love of Your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ.

Open our hearts to a spirit of profound gratitude, that we may never take for granted the liberties we enjoy. Wrap Your comforting arms around the families who still mourn the loss of their loved ones; fill their homes with Your Presence and heal their wounds with Your grace.

Guide the leaders of our nation and the world with Your wisdom, that they may tirelessly pursue paths of justice and reconciliation. Transform us into instruments of Your peace, so that the sacrifices of the fallen may never be in vain.

May the souls of all the faithful departed, especially those who died in service to our country, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

Amen.

FOR WOMEN

ST. MARY'S MOM'S PRAYER GROUP: Please join us **this Tuesday, May 26 from 9:45 - 11 AM**, in Fr. Haley Hall as we pray together, read reflections by the liturgical season, and share prayer intentions. Children of all ages are welcome with toys and coloring activities available. For information, please contact Lauren Onak at 954-803-9942.

FOR MEN

Cor ~ ST. MARY'S FAITH ENRICHMENT PROGRAM FOR MEN: Don't miss our final *Cor* meeting of the Spring 2026 Season - THIS Thursday, May 28. The meeting will be in Fr. Haley Hall at 7 PM. The topic will be the Sacraments.

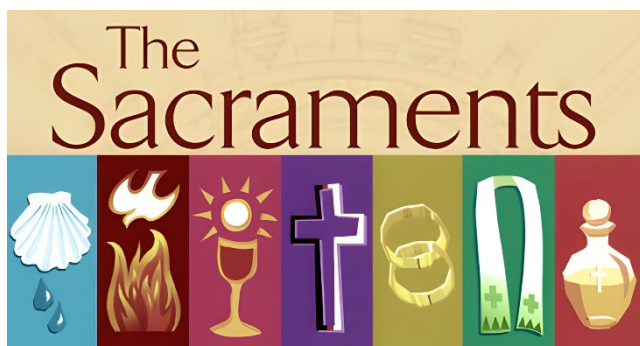


The Sacraments are wonderful gifts from God instituted by Jesus to help sustain us during our earthly journey. In a previous meeting, we discussed

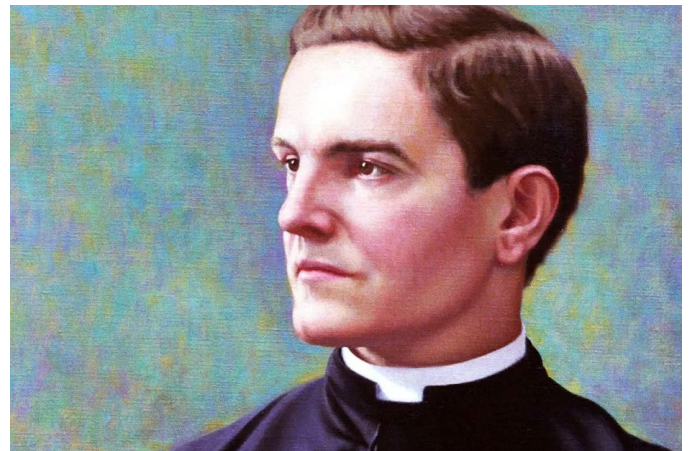
the sacrament of the Eucharist - the gift above all others - through which we encounter Jesus himself. Although Jesus is not present in the same way in the other sacraments; we will discuss how, through the visible actions of the priest, Jesus confers unseen divine graces unique to the particular sacrament.

Cor will not meet during the Summer, but meetings will resume in the Fall.

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 ALL



A BEAUTIFUL WITNESS OF GOD'S POWER OF HEALING! Have you ever Witnessed a Miracle? All are invited to attend and listen to our speaker Mr. Joe McGivney on Thursday, June 18 at 7 PM in Fr. Haley Hall. Joe is a relative of Blessed Fr. Michael McGivney, founder of the Knights of Columbus. He has a thrilling story of miraculous healing and of God's infinite power and love. Come meet a miracle and be inspired! Light refreshments will follow where Joe and Nicole will be available for questions and book signing. Please RSVP to Phil Bonasia at bonasiapaph@aol.com or by texting Phil at 781-248-0353. This event is jointly sponsored by Knights of Columbus Councils #14224 and #1611.

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

RECTORY OFFICE SUMMER HOURS: Please note that during the summer months of June, July, and August the Rectory Office is closed on Mondays and Tuesdays. On other weekdays it remains open the usual 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM hours. Mass Cards may also be obtained at the Religious Education Office off of the Parish Center Lobby. Have a safe, faith filled summer!

FY26 CORIs NOW DUE: It is that time of year again! CORIs must be renewed each year for all St. Mary's volunteers, along with reviewing the RCAB Code of Conduct. If you have not already completed your FY26 CORI, you can complete these forms in the Religious Education office.

FOR OUR YOUTH



HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP! One week from today is our LAST TGIF Meeting and our FAMILY POTLUCK DINNER, on Sunday, May 31, from 6:30 - 8:30 PM in Fr. Haley Hall. This is a wonderful evening for TGIF teens and their families to celebrate the year, honor our seniors and watch the slideshow. Be on the lookout for the meeting mailing/email this week. Final payment amounts for the Mission Trip were emailed last week and are due at our May 31 TGIF Family Potluck.

TODAY, TGIF takes on Fenway Park! Details were mailed to those who signed up. GO SOX! We roll out at 11:30 AM sharp, meet in Fr. Haley Hall at 11:15 AM.



Scan the QR Code to follow along on our adventures which are filled with Faith, Fellowship and Fun. For more information about TGIF High School Youth Group, contact Lisa Dufault at tgif@stmarysholliston.org.

MIDDLE SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP: Thanks everyone for another amazing End of Year Potluck last Sunday. Shown below, our departing 8th Graders received gifts and a special blessing. May God bless, guide, and protect them in High School. Our loss is TGIF's gain!



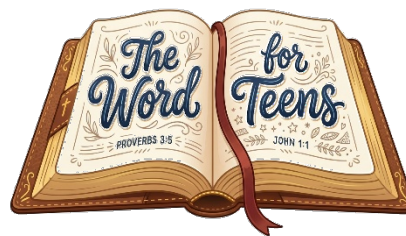
We look forward to a great summer of adventures in faith together! Upcoming MSYG Events:

Sunday, June 28 - Monday, June 29, Grade 7 and 8 Kennebec Whitewater Rafting Trip, Maine.

Friday, July 31 - All Day at Brownstone Quarry, Connecticut.

Friday, August 21 - Grade 6 Deerfield River Whitewater Rafting, MA.

Pentecost reminds us that the Holy Spirit When we pray at Mass this weekend, *face of the earth,*” we are asking God to The Holy Spirit gives courage when we confusing, and strength to stand for what as the apostles were transformed from Christ, we are called to let the Spirit friendships, and actions every day.



is God’s living presence within us today. *“Lord, send out your Spirit, and renew the begin that renewal in our own hearts first. are afraid, wisdom when life feels is right even when it is unpopular. Just fearful followers into bold witnesses of move through our words, choices,*

For Catholic teenagers, Pentecost is an invitation to stop living faith on “mute.” The world often pushes people to hide their beliefs or only care about themselves, but the Holy Spirit calls us to something greater. Every act of kindness, forgiveness, honesty, and compassion helps renew the face of the earth. The Spirit works through ordinary people who are willing to say yes to God. This Pentecost, pray for the courage to let your faith be visible - not by being perfect, but by being open to God’s grace and allowing His Spirit to guide your life.

Pentecost also reminds us that we are never alone in our faith journey. The same Holy Spirit who strengthened the apostles is present in us through prayer, the sacraments, and the community of the Church. Even in moments when faith feels difficult or when we struggle with doubt, the Spirit continues to guide us closer to Christ. God does not expect us to have everything figured out; He simply asks us to trust Him and remain open to His call. When we listen to the Holy Spirit and follow where He leads, our lives can become a source of hope, peace, and encouragement for the people around us.

THE CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD

(CLOW): Today, May 24, 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.

CLOW WILL RESUME IN SEPTEMBER. We are grateful for our CLOW Leaders and helpers who gave their time proclaiming God's Word to the young children.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASSES:

DAY	GRADE
Sun., May 24	NO CLASSES
Mon., May 25	NO CLASSES
Tues., May 26	GR-7 at 7:00 PM
Wed., May 27	GR-7 at 7:00 PM
Thurs., June 4	GR-2 at 4:30 PM*
Sat., June 6	First Communion
Sun., June 7	CGS-A at 8:00 AM
Sun., June 14	CGS-B at 8:00 AM

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION FOR 2026-2027: Our classes for this year will soon be ending and planning for next year has started. Online Registrations for all grade levels will be open on July 1. Be on watch for the Registration mailing outlining our class offerings, days, and times. Register and pay by locking in placement and your choice of classes before you depart for a restful summer and vacation. **NOTE:** Since there will be two sessions for Catechesis of the Good Shepherd offered in the Fall, all current families who register **by the deadline** can be guaranteed to have their choice of the session they want for their child.

A SPECIAL NOTE OF GRATITUDE TO OUR VOLUNTEER CATECHISTS: As teachers you have blessed the children and youth this year by sharing our Catholic faith with them so that they know that God loves them and how they should respond to His love in return as well as to our neighbor. You have enlightened the hearts and minds of the goodness and meaning of the truth Jesus continues to teach us in the living Word of God. May you and the students that you taught be blessed with God's grace to live each day in the same love and mercy for one another in Christ's name.

*** FIRST COMMUNION REHEARSAL:** Children preparing for First Holy Communion will have a rehearsal on Thursday, June 4 from 4:30 - 5:45 PM. One parent must remain during the rehearsal. Come directly to Fr. Haley Hall to check in your child.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL REGISTRATION NOW OPEN! JULY 20 - 24, 2026



REGISTRATION: Open now through June 1, but our max is 100 campers. Use the QR Code or click:

<https://forms.gle/DfxUbFgn41QtqM7V7>



WHO: Children entering Kindergarten through Grade 6; Teens entering Grade 7 and up and Adults are needed as VBS Volunteers!

WHEN: 9 AM to 12:00 Noon each day.

COST: \$75/child, \$200/family max. Tuition assistance available.



CALLING ALL PARISHIONERS: Your trash is our treasure! The VBS team is looking for the following items as donations to build our VBS Rainforest displays: Brown packing paper (Amazon or similar), cereal boxes, artificial plants/branches/flowers/bamboo, extra-large cardboard boxes, paper towel tubes, pipe cleaners, large/roll green paper/posterboard, colorful tissue paper, broken handheld umbrellas, rainforest-themed stuffed animals. Have something else you think we can use? Email us at vbs@stmarysholliston.org. Bring all donations to the bin located in the lobby anytime in May or June. Thank you!

CALLING ALL CRAFTERS! Join us Wednesday, June 10 from 6:00 - 8:00 PM in Father Haley Hall to help make crafts for the Rainforest VBS props. Please bring a hot glue gun if you have one. Supplies are provided. **NO EXPERIENCE** necessary. Just come and join in the fun! All parishioners welcome; younger children must be accompanied by an adult; teens may be dropped off to help.

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, at 508-429-6076 or religioureddre@stmarysholliston.org.