



ST. MARY'S PARISH
8 CHURCH ST.
HOLLISTON, MA 01746

December Newsletter

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4th SUNDAY OF ADVENT & CHRISTMAS MASSES ~

SCHEDULES BELOW



The Sunday Mass Obligation for the Weekend of Sat., Dec. 23 & Sun., Dec. 24 remains. The 4th Sunday of Advent is a distinct and essential part of our spiritual journey to Christmas, even though Christmas Eve is that same Sunday afternoon.

This year Catholics should therefore plan to attend Mass either Saturday Afternoon or Sunday Morning for the 4th Sunday of Advent, *in addition* to whatever Christmas Mass they attend. Those who choose to attend Mass twice on Sunday – in the morning for Advent and then later that day for Christmas, are permitted to receive Communion twice in the same day.



4th Sunday of Advent Masses ~

Saturday, December 23:

5 PM

7:30 PM

Sunday, December 24:

7:30 AM

9:30 AM

11:30 AM



Christmas Eve Masses ~

Sunday, December 24:

4 PM Mass in the Church

4 PM Mass in Fr. Haley Hall
(Children's Pageant)

5:30 PM Mass in the Church

7:30 PM Mass in the Church

11 PM Midnight Mass in the Church
(Caroling starts at 10:30 PM)

Christmas Day Masses ~

Monday, December 25:

9:30 AM Mass in the Church

11:30 AM Mass in the Church

Photo Above ~

The St. Mary's Annual Christmas Pageant! Rehearsals are about to begin for children in Grades 1 – 4.

Contact St. Mary's Religious Education Office for more information:

stmarysre1870@gmail.com
or by calling 508-429-6076.

Merry Christmas!

St. Mary's Parish Newsletter

December, 2023 ~ Volume 49, Number 9



St. Mary's Parish
8 Church Street
Holliston, MA 01746

Rectory: 429-4427

Religious Education Center: 429-6076

Music Program: 429-6076

Religious Education Email: st.marysre1870@gmail.com

Parish Email Address: st.marys1870@gmail.com

Website: www.stmarysholliston.com

Mission: "To Know Christ and to Make Him Known!"

Family Pasta Night!

On Saturday, November 18, Father Haley Hall was again packed with parishioners for this annual evening of community building and delicious Italian food. It was a special joy to welcome a number of new families, including the family of our new Music Director Abbey. The Knights of Columbus did their usual great job of serving, while live musicians played golden oldies and even a few fun dance songs for the kids. Can you Hokey Pokey?





The Season of Advent marks the start of a New Year in the Church. It is a season of increased prayer, penance, and good works. It is a time to renew our love of Jesus and through Him our love of others. It is a time in which we ask God's mercy and rededicate ourselves to His joyful service. In this way, even as we mark the birth of Jesus, we ourselves are making a new beginning as Children of God.

WEEKLY ADVENT ADORATION WITH CONFESSION ~

Mondays, December 4, 11, & 18, from 7 - 8 PM. Bring your day to a restful end by basking in the True Presence of our Eucharistic Lord. Clear and quiet your soul from all that has come between you and God by making a good Confession – especially if it has been awhile. Confession is a healing encounter with Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of sins. The Lord's mercy, healing, and grace are given to us through this encounter. In it Jesus also strengthens us to resist future or ongoing temptation. The Sacrament of Confession is a moment of accountability for us before the Lord. The Lord's forgiveness and mercy is infinite. Nothing we have done can ever separate us from experiencing God's forgiveness through this sacrament. Confession will also continue to be offered Saturdays in the church from Noon to 12:45 PM, *except on December 23*.

FEAST OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF MARY, A HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION ~

Thursday, December 7 Vigil Mass at 6:30 PM.

Friday, December 8 Feast Day Masses at 9 AM & 7 PM. The Immaculate Conception is that sacred moment when Mary was conceived in her mother Anna's womb and specially protected by God from any touch of original sin. In this way, Mary became the new Eve, a new beginning for people and a pure vessel to receive the Son of God and bear Him into the world. This is the Patronal Feast of the United States of America, a nation consecrated to Mary under her title as the Immaculate Conception.



GIVE A GIFT ~ December 9 & 10 at all Masses. Once again we ask the people of St. Mary's to help make Christmas truly a season of sharing. All items go to needy families in Boston, and are distributed through two inner city Catholic parishes. Please bring an article of new clothing and a new toy, unwrapped together in a plain bag or gift bag with a tag stating "Boy" or "Girl" and size or age up to age 18. No adult gifts please. Kindly place your gift in front of St. Mary's altar at any Mass the weekend of December 9 & 10. Photo Left: Last year's wonderful Give A Gift response. **Gift bags only please.**



COOKIE WALK FOR HAITI ~ December 9 & 10, after all Weekend Masses. Long rows of tables will be set up in the Lower Church – tables loaded down with over 2,000 delicious homemade cookies baked by St. Mary's Middle School Youth Group Members. For \$6, you may purchase an empty cookie bag, then “walk” down the rows of tables and select a dozen cookies which youths (wearing plastic gloves) will place in your bag. All proceeds will benefit the poor of Haiti, a deeply impoverished nation rocked by a presidential assassination, a major earthquake, and a hurricane.



THE LIVING STONES OF BETHLEHEM ~

Tuesday, December 12, from 7 - 8 PM in the church. Come learn more about Bethlehem, and the “Living Stones of the Church,” the Christians who live there today. The presentation will include slides and stories from our Parish Visit to Beit Sahour last March. We will also pray for peace in the Holy Land. Photo Left: Fr. Issa, Pastor of our Sister Parish.

LESSONS & CAROLS ~ Sunday, December 17, 5 - 6 PM in the church, preceded by organ performance from 4:30 – 5 PM. Join us for an evening of beautiful music and scripture, anticipating the wondrous birth of our Lord Jesus. This year's Lessons and Carols will feature St. Mary's Adult Choir under the direction of Abbey Kelley-Lanser. The program will include familiar carols as well as choral music by Victoria, Willcocks, Praetorius, and more. Our organist will be Brandon Santini who will offer a recital from 4:30 – 5 PM. Bring the whole family and fill your Christmas preparations with plenty of holiday cheer!





FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

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

Recently some Seventh Graders from our St. Mary's Middle School Youth Group ran a BINGO event at Timothy Daniel's Nursing Home here in Holliston. The kids were paired with residents, getting to know them and helping them keep track of their BINGO Cards. Some of the kids served as our "Prize Patrol," bringing over the selection of prizes we had brought whenever someone won a game.

For me, one of the most memorable moments came when a woman won a small statue of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph. The joy on her face was something to see. She even kissed the image of Jesus' Family in reverence.



I remember thinking, "This is what it's all about!" Bringing happiness and faith to others in Jesus' Name. I was so proud of our young people. And as we enter now into the Season of Advent, I hope we will both experience and share the special joy which is the Lord.

There were many other items in the BINGO prize boxes – a snow globe, cookies, candies, a crystal bird, even lottery scratch tickets. But out of all the options, the woman in these photos chose the one with Jesus.

This Advent, we too will be faced with many options. Many activities will demand our time and attention. In fact, with Christmas on a Monday this year, we have only three short weeks of Advent. It would be easy to fill them exclusively with shopping, decorating, socializing, and every kind of worldly distraction.

Or we can choose Christ. We can make Him the priority. We can see these weeks truly as a time to draw closer to Him in love, including by our generous love of neighbor. This Advent perhaps make a special family trip to select items for the poor through Give A Gift on December 9 & 10. Or come together to add your voices to the magnificent Lessons and Carols Celebration on December 17.

Take home a daily Advent prayer book from the church after Sunday Mass this coming weekend. And if Mass has been missing from your life, know that you are wanted, welcome and that we have been holding your place for you at the Table of the Lord. Make a good Confession, especially if it's been awhile. Read completely one of the Gospels, they are shorter and richer than you think.

Whatever it is, choose something that opens you up to the Lord in a way you haven't for a long while or maybe even never at all. Because in choosing Him, you are choosing true and lasting joy.

God bless you!

Rev. Mark J. Coiro

P.S. A sincere thank you to everyone who participated in the Cardinal's Emergency Winter Clothing Drive this November. With the Commonwealth's Family Shelter system overwhelmed and cold weather now upon us, these items for refugees and immigrants were most urgently needed. No less than 5,027 items were donated over a three-week period by the good people of Saint Mary's! Thank you also to our wonderful TGIF High School Youth Group, who sorted, counted, and prepared all the items for delivery. You can see photos of the donations on the St. Mary's TGIF page in this Newsletter. Well done!

"A Christian steward is one who receives God's gifts gratefully, cherishes and tends them in a responsible and accountable manner, shares them in justice and love with others, and returns them with increase to the Lord."



Stewardship of Retired Priests ~ The 2023 Christmas Collection

There is only one collection taken up at Christmas Masses and every penny of it goes to support the housing and healthcare costs of our retired priests – holy men who have given their entire lives in service to God's people. The Clergy Fund that provides for their needs is currently underfunded. So please, if you can, try to make a truly sacrificial gift for our priests at this year's Christmas Mass. Please also pray for these wonderful men. On behalf of all our retired priests, THANK YOU! Christmas Offerings may be placed in the basket at Mass, mailed in, or dropped off. Gifts may also be made through WeShare:

<https://stmarysholliston.weshareonline.org/>. Merry Christmas!

Stewardship of Parish ~ The 2023 Grand Annual

Thank you to all who have already done their part in this year's Grand Annual – the single most important collection at our parish each year. For 63 years, combined with the weekly offertory, it has allowed our parish to cover its operating costs. If you have not yet done so, please return the orange Grand Annual envelope you received in the mail as soon as possible (extras at the church doors). Grand Annual envelopes may be placed in any Mass collection basket, mailed in, or dropped off. Gifts may also be made through WeShare: <https://stmarysholliston.weshareonline.org/>.

We ask every single family of our parish to please participate in the Grand Annual, doing the best they can according to their means. Thank you and God bless you. *"No one shall appear before the Lord empty-handed, but each of you with as much as he can give, in proportion to the blessings which the Lord, God has bestowed on you."* - Deuteronomy 16

2023 ST. MARY'S PARISH GRAND ANNUAL UPDATE

"What return can I make to the Lord for all He has done for me?" Psalm 116

2023 Grand Annual goal to cover operating expenses:	\$150,000.00
Grand Annual parishioner support received to date:	- \$103,766.00
Parishioner support still needed to reach 2023 Grand Annual goal:	\$ 46,234.00

% of 2023 Grand Annual achieved as of November 26:	70 %
% of St. Mary's families who have now made their Grand Annual gift:	30 %



As the Grand Annual continues, contributions may be placed either in the gold G.A. envelope you received in the mail, or in a separate envelope clearly marked "Grand Annual." G.A. envelopes may be mailed to 8 Church Street or dropped through the Rectory Office Door Mail-slot. Any collection basket passed at Mass may also be used.

As explained in the special mailing to all parishioners, the \$150,000 goal will fund staff salaries, the Sister Ricci House bathroom renovations and the two Church Boiler Pumps, which currently are leaking. Your generous support will assure the financial health of our parish continues. **Thank you for your support of this most important annual collection!**

Your 2023 Grand Annual Gifts Already At Work



**Sr. Ricci House
BEFORE**



**Sr. Ricci House
AFTER**



**Lower Church
BEFORE**



**Lower Church
AFTER**



Grade Four Saint Shields

Grade 4 honors the Church Triumphant in the creation of Shields that represent the Saints they are studying. Every student carefully colors, cuts out, and pastes the saint, the Feast Day, Name and a fact of their life. This will introduce the Saints to the students who someday will pick one for their Confirmation.



Grade Six Jesse Tree

This is a symbolic way of presenting the story of God's love and action in the lives of His people throughout the centuries. It connects the season of Advent to God's faithfulness to His people for over four thousand years.

Knights of Columbus



St. Mary's Council #14224 December, 2023

"In Service to One, In Service to All."

WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA: Again, the Council has ordered wreaths to be placed on Veterans' graves on Saturday, December 16 at the National Veterans Cemetery in Bourne and Lake Grove Cemetery in Holliston.

DECEASED MEMBERS MASS: On Sunday, November 5, the 11:30 AM Mass was held to honor the four deceased members of the Council since its charter year: John Hand, Victor Terranova, John Gatti, and Thomas Cuniff. The McSweeney Assembly Honor Guard was present to assist in the procession and ushered.

COUNCIL CHRISTMAS PARTY - DECEMBER 20: The Council will hold its annual Christmas party at the Council Meeting on December 20 after the Rosary. All brothers are encouraged to attend and enjoy the banter of fellow Knights.

CRECHE SET-UP - DECEMBER 2: All St. Mary's men are invited to help the Council set-up St. Mary's Creche and lights for the Christmas season. We will begin at 8:00 AM Saturday, the second day of December. Coffee and donuts are promised after the work is done.

COUNCIL EAGLE SCOUT SUPPORT: The Council assisted an Eagle Scout project as part of the Council's Community Support. Grand Knight Al Scaramella and his grandson Jack Scaramella are pictured right with Jack's Eagle Scout project, a bike rack for the Washington Street Auxiliary Town Office.



MONTHLY ROSARY: The next Rosary will be Wednesday, December 20 in the church at 7:00 PM. Any and all persons are welcome to attend.

MEMBERSHIP DRIVE FOR 2023: For membership information contact Grand Knight Albert Scaramella at 508-561-0584 OR ajscaramella@comcast.net OR you can now join ON-LINE by going to the Supreme K of C website kofc.org/joinus. Our Council respects members limited time but needs new members to share our faith journey as Catholic men.

CHILDREN'S CHOIR



ON WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 17, 2024, our Music Director Abbey Kelley-Lanser will be relaunching the Children's Choir and the Youth Choir! Rehearsals will be held weekly on Wednesdays in the St. Mary's Lower Hall. Our goals are to foster musical community among the groups, to prepare solo or joint choir songs for every other 9:30 AM Sunday Mass and special events, to learn about God through lifelong, memorable songs and to make a joyful noise unto the Lord! To Sign Up or if you have any questions, contact Abbey at musicatstmarysholliston@gmail.com, or call her at 508-429-6076.

Children's Choir: 3rd - 5th graders, Wednesdays 3:30 - 4:15 PM.

Youth Choir: 6th graders and above, Wednesdays 4:00-5:15 PM.

First Sung Mass: Sunday, January 28 at 8:45 AM warmup for the 9:30 AM Mass.





"Therefore encourage one another and build one another up, just as you are doing."

1 THESSALONIANS 5:11



About WINGS

WINGS is a ministry of encouragement and faith enrichment for women anywhere on their spiritual journey. Join us for inspiring speakers, fellowship, and friendship! Meetings are on Wednesdays 9:45-11AM in Fr. Haley Hall and on Zoom. *Free babysitting is provided!*

Fall Program Recap

Our fall program, "Prayer, A Conversation with God", enlightened our minds, nourished our souls, and revitalized our prayer lives. God is always finding new ways to capture our hearts - we just need to stop and notice. We encourage you to watch the presentations on our website!



How to Join

Send us an email or drop into a meeting! Suggested dues are \$20/season (or \$50/year) to help defray costs, but all are welcome to attend regardless of ability to pay.

BRINGING OUR WHOLE SELVES
TO PRAYER WITH ST. IGNATIUS




*"Prayer is like a dance with God -
we engage our minds, our bodies,
and our hearts."*

CRISTA MAHONEY
IGNATIAN SPIRITUAL DIRECTOR

What's Next

Stay tuned for details on our Winter program, which runs January - March and will focus on spiritual growth through the study and sharing scripture. The theme, speakers, and schedule will be available in the coming weeks.

Contact us

-  stmaryswingssecretary@gmail.com
-  scan for website
-  facebook.com/wingsholliston





Parish Pastoral Council Update, December, 2023 Feedback Always Welcome ~

Did you know? There are eight parishioners who are your representatives on the Parish Council. You should feel comfortable reaching out to them with any ideas or concerns. We routinely meet in an advisory capacity with Fr. Mark and the Deacons to discuss our parish community. In September we said goodbye to Kristin Ward who

served the Council for the past several years but has recently moved from Holliston. We welcomed new members Brendan Cavalier and Heather Nunes in October. As parents of young children, they bring an additional perspective to our discussions. The current Council includes Diane Collins (Vice Chair), Brendan Cavalier, Sue Cote, Dave DeStefano, Lisa Dufault, Kathleen Larche, Kim Latifi, Vin Murphy, and Heather Nunes.

Feel free to reach out to us directly or via the "Contact Us" link on the St. Mary's website. A few of our recent PPC areas of focus follow.

Visibility and Promoting our Welcoming Community:

Parish Council members have committed to being present at DJ&C and holding quarterly listening weekends where we will be available after all Masses to hear from you. Please seek us out to share your thoughts and wishes for St. Mary's.

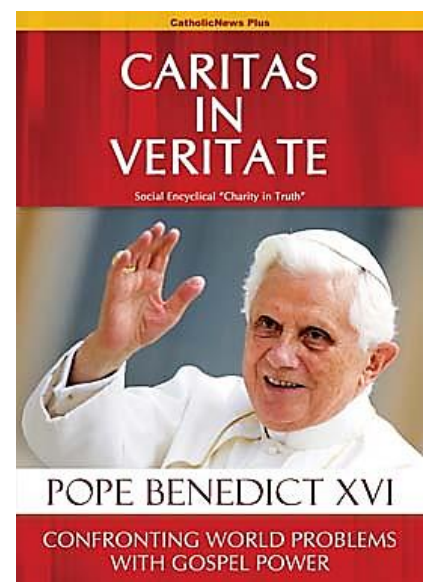
In the spring when Vacation Bible School ministry leaders attended DJ&C and promoted the program, the response was wonderful. Building on that success, we are encouraging other Ministry Leaders to share their programs at future DJ&C and invite participation. New parishioners already receive a welcome bag from our Welcoming Committee, and we've updated the content to make it easier for new families to learn about our programs and reach out for more information.

Cardinal Sean's Appeal for Refugee Help: The Cardinal's Appeal was a quick turn-around effort and several members of the Parish Council stepped up to make personal pleas to Ministry Leaders to promote this initiative. We're grateful for the generosity of our parishioners and the support of multiple ministries to supply winter goods and basic toiletries for those who have sought refuge in Massachusetts. Thank you!

Adult Faith Opportunities Coming in January, 2024 ~

On Saturday mornings, January 13, 20, and 27, 2024, from 10 - 11 AM, Leo Racine will lead an in-person reading/discussion group on Pope Benedict's 2009 encyclical *Caritas in Veritate*, On Integral Human Development in Charity and Truth. The meetings will be held at St. Mary's (room to be announced), with the possibility of a Zoom meeting if there is inclement weather on any particular Saturday. Please contact Leo at 508-429-7476 or leoaracine@msn.com for more information or to register.

Leo Racine of St. Mary's, Holliston, and Jane Materazzo of St. Theresa's parish in Sherborn, will facilitate an eight-week JustFaith Ministries' program called Sacred Air. The program will be offered via Zoom and the meetings will be on Sunday evenings, February 4 to March 24 from 7 - 9 PM. Sacred Air will be the third JustFaith Ministries' environmental/ecojustice program offered by St. Mary's parish. There is no cost for parishioners to participate in the program and the learning is priceless! Please contact Leo at 508-429-7476 or leoaracine@msn.com for more information or to register.





Loops Through Loops: How Prayer Shawls Connect Us

By Jane Lebak

Ten years ago, a friend confided in me about her mother's terminal illness. I felt awful for her, and then it popped into my head—Jane, did you forget? You make prayer shawls. I'm not good for much, but I can knit.

So, what to make? Well, for starters, I wanted it to go fast, so it should be a worsted

weight yarn. It should be soft and cozy. I wanted it machine-washable, good for mopping up spilled coffee or tears, then for throwing into the wash to re-emerge even softer. I wanted a neutral color, but visually interesting. (I'm not picky. I'm just... Okay, I'm picky.)

In my stash, I uncovered a forgotten half-finished prayer shawl. Years earlier, at about the shawl's halfway point, I'd wondered if I should put beads on it. In that breathless hesitation before deciding on beads, I'd set it aside, never made up my mind, and eventually tucked it back into the cedar chest. I still had the pattern and the yarn. It was burgundy. It was worsted weight and machine washable. We were good to go.

Knitting and crocheting are the art of pulling loops through loops. Without knots, these loops aren't anchored, except in one another. Every loop needs to be in place, holding the ones around it. Sometimes you make a special loop that creates an empty space, and sometimes one loop anchors many loops—but in the end, they're all loops, and they're all connected.

People are all connected, too. God wants us looped to one another, to belong to one another, to anchor one another. And sometimes, God does a little matchmaking.

Monday morning, shawl in hand, I rang my friend's doorbell. I'm always anxious about giving people the things I knit, so God blessed me, and no one answered. You can call me Braveheart: I hung the bag on the knob and fled.

Before I tell you what happened next, let's step back in time. Late Sunday night, my friend's mother awakened in the still darkness and she went to the living room. It was chilly, so she reached for one of the throw blankets. Her upper body strength was weak, though, and she struggled to wrap the blanket around herself. It bunched uncomfortably at her back. She thought to herself, or maybe she prayed it, "I wish I had something like a half-blanket."

The next day, my friend and her mother found a bag on the door with a note saying that a local geek had made a prayer shawl. When they opened it, they found a long rectangle: a half-blanket.

We are all loops through loops, anchoring one another. God knew what His daughter would need. God knew another daughter could make it. And God, being God, looped the two together.

To contribute to St. Mary's Prayer Shawl Ministry, email JaneLebak@gmail.com, and we'll get you looped in.



St. Mary's Parish Middle School Youth Group

Open to all 6th, 7th & 8th Graders for Faith, Friendship, Service & Fun.

VETERAN'S DAY PAINTBALL BATTLE: On Friday, November 10, St. Mary's Middle School Youth Group teens headed down to PnL Paintball in Bridgewater for a full day of paintball. The day started with Fr. Mark leading a prayer for peace in the world, and in a special way for peace in the Holy Land. We also prayed for our nation's veterans. Father emphasized that we play paintball as a sport and for teambuilding. Once we arrived at PnL there was a safety instruction, then the red and blue teams faced off in various contests. Play areas included the woods, bunkers, obstacle fields, and of course the famous "Ghost town." Thanks everyone for a fun day in the beautiful outdoors!





St. Mary's Parish Middle School Youth Group

Next Meeting is Sunday, December 3 from 6:30 – 8 PM, Welcome!

GRADE SEVEN BINGO SERVICE TRIP: Each year, the three grades of St. Mary's Middle School Youth Group take turns running a fun BINGO event for the residents of Timothy Daniel's Nursing Home. On Friday, November 17, it was the Seventh Grade's turn. The kids introduced themselves to the residents, learning where they were from and their former occupations. Most then helped the players keep track of their BINGO cards, while a few called out the numbers and passed out prizes to the winners. According to the residents and staff, St. Mary's always has the best prizes! At the end of the event, one resident gifted the snow globe he had just won to the teen who helped him. A sad but beautiful moment came when two of the girls asked after a resident they had played BINGO with last year. Upon learning that he had recently passed, they wrote his name in the Book of Remembrance in St. Mary's Church. God bless you.





St. Mary's High School Youth Group

Teens Gather In Faith!

OCTOBER 20 HAUNTED TRIP: Heavy rain in Western Massachusetts forced the cancellation of the TGIF Haunted Hayride Trip to South Hadley this night, so the group went to our Barrett's Haunted Mansion backup instead. Mary Barrett was awesome to accommodate us, and even arranged speed passes so that our group could do both the Mansion and Condemned experiences. Delicious ice cream topped off a spooky night in a sweet way. Have faith not fear!





St. Mary's High School Youth Group

Teens Gather In Faith!

NOVEMBER 19 WINTER CLOTHING DRIVE: The people of St. Mary's came through in an amazing way to the Cardinal's Emergency Winter Clothing Drive. With more than 5,000 items donated to assist homeless immigrant and refugee families, the teens of TGIF had plenty to sort, count, and prepare for distribution. The meeting started with a prayer by Molly MacLeod, then Fr. Mark blessed the donations, praying that they would be a source not only of physical warmth, but of spiritual comfort and blessing to those who receive them. Great job everybody!

NEXT TGIF: Sunday, December 10 from 7 - 8:30 PM in Fr. Haley Hall. All Summer Mission Trip Paperwork will be handed out at this meeting, and parents of interested teens are invited to come from 8 - 8:30 PM for a Mission Presentation with Q & A.





Troop 14 Holliston

Boy Scouts of America
St. Mary's Parish * December, 2023

Meetings: Monday Nights 7:00 - 8:30 PM

Contact: Chris Baribeau, Scoutmaster
508-579-4357

Email: Troop14Holliston@yahoo.com

If interested in joining Troop 14, contact the Scoutmaster. It is an ideal organization for boys in sixth grade or above.

The Troop meets weekly during the school year, Mondays from 7 - 8:30 PM in the Lower Church.

TURKEY ROAST CAMPOUT: Troop 14 held their annual Turkey Roast Campout at the Holliston Sportsmen's Association over the weekend of November 3 – 5. It was a sunny weekend where the Troop hosted Cub Scouts from Holliston who are getting ready to take the next step in their Scouting journey by transitioning to Boy Scouts. Saturday was a fun filled day of outdoor activities that included games, orienteering, bow and arrow shooting, tomahawk throwing, and a shooting safety class followed by trap shooting. Troop leaders and parents were busy preparing for the evening dinner by roasting turkeys over outdoor pits and prepping the many accompanying side dishes for the 100 plus dinner attendees. The weekend was a huge success due to the many hands involved in supporting the activities and meals.



COURT OF HONOR: The recent Court of Honor held in October at St. Mary's was a night to celebrate all of the hard work and summer/fall achievements for the Scouts of Troop 14. Scoutmaster Chris Baribeau had the honor of presenting the Scouts with their 23 rank advancements,

160 merit badges, and the 10-50 miler awards. The 10 Scouts earning the 50-miler award patch had to complete a 50-mile hike/canoe or boat route and also 10 hours of conservation service work. The 160 merit badges are the most the troop has ever achieved at a Court of Honor!

