

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

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## **NEWSLETTER MAY, 2018**

- May 10, Feast of the Assumption,  
A Holy Day of Obligation.
- May 12, Spring BBQ & BlueGrass.
- May 13, Blessing of Mothers.
- May 20, Mass & Reception  
for the Graduating Class of 2018.
- May 20, Middle School Youth Group.
- Pope Francis' 'Urbi et Orbi' Message.
- Cross Walk with Marie Calapa.
- Adult Faith Resources for May.
- Register now for Fall 2018  
Religious Education Classes.  
The Deadline is Friday, June 15.



### **REGISTER FOR FALL RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**

**BY JUNE 15** ~ The deadline to register your child / children for Religious Education Classes in Fall of 2018 is Friday, June 15, 2018. Class time choices are on a first come first served basis. Be sure to get your preferred class and day by registering on time. The Registration Form is now available in the St. Mary's Website: [stmarysholliston.com](http://stmarysholliston.com), under Register, then Parish Forms on the main page. Forms should be accompanied by full payment, scholarship request or payment plan request.

### **GET READY FOR ...**

**"SHIPWRECKED ~ RESCUED BY JESUS,"  
ST. MARY'S 12<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL!  
COMING JULY 23-27, 2018.**

Enjoy Castaway Sing and Play, Explore true adventures from the Bible with hands on adventures in Bible Discovery, and Dive into the Imagination Station.

Ship-Rec Games will make a connection to each day's Bible point, as we run, laugh, plan and play together. Enjoy Tropical Treats, the Kid Vid Cinema, and then wrap up each day with the Sail Away Send Off!

VBS Registration is now open, with forms online at [stmarysholliston.com](http://stmarysholliston.com), under Registration, Parish Forms.

Space is limited to 150 children so register now! We provide child care for children under age 5 whose parents are volunteering the entire week at VBS. Teen volunteers must be in Grade 7 or above.





# St. Mary's Parish Newsletter

May, 2018 ~ Volume 43, Number 9

St. Mary's Parish  
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Holliston, MA 01746  
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Parish Email Address: [st.marys1870@gmail.com](mailto:st.marys1870@gmail.com)  
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Mission ~ *"To Know Christ and to make Him Known."*

## Parish Clergy

Rev. Mark J. Coiro, Pastor  
The Xaverian Fathers, Weekend Assistance  
Rev. James Flynn, Weekend Assistance  
Deacon John Barry, Permanent Deacon  
Deacon Martin Breinlinger, Senior Deacon

## O Beautiful Mother ~

Shown below, on May 2 some members of the St. Mary's Children and Youth Choirs gathered to rehearse with Mr. Mesa for the annual May Devotion. At this beautiful celebration to honor Our Lady's Month of May, children of the parish process into the church with flowers.

Representing all the children, one boy and girl "crown" the statue of Mary with flowers. The Rosary is prayed as all ask Mary's prayerful intercession with her Son, Jesus.

*On this day, O beautiful Mother,  
On this day we give thee our love.  
Near thee, Madonna, fondly we hover,  
Trusting thy gentle care to prove.*





## 2018 Easter 'Urbi et Orbi' Message of Pope Francis

Dear brothers and sisters, Happy Easter! Jesus is risen from the dead! This message resounds in the Church the world over, along with the singing of the Alleluia: Jesus is Lord; the Father has raised him and he lives forever in our midst.

Jesus had foretold his death and resurrection using the image of the grain of wheat. He

said: "Unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains alone; but if it dies, it bears much fruit" (Jn 12:24). And this is precisely what happened: Jesus, the grain of wheat sowed by God in the furrows of the earth, died, killed by the sin of the world. He remained two days in the tomb; but his death contained God's love in all its power, released and made manifest on the third day, the day we celebrate today: the Easter of Christ the Lord.

We Christians believe and know that Christ's resurrection is the true hope of the world, the hope that does not disappoint. It is the power of the grain of wheat, the power of that love which humbles itself and gives itself to the very end, and thus truly renews the world. This power continues to bear fruit today in the furrows of our history, marked by so many acts of injustice and violence. It bears fruits of hope and dignity where there are deprivation and exclusion, hunger and unemployment, where there are migrants and refugees (so often rejected by today's culture of waste), and victims of the drug trade, human trafficking and contemporary forms of slavery.

Today we implore fruits of peace upon the entire world, beginning with the beloved and long-suffering land of Syria, whose people are worn down by an apparently endless war. This Easter, may the light of the risen Christ illumine the consciences of all political and military leaders, so that a swift end may be brought to the carnage in course, that humanitarian law may be respected and that provisions be made to facilitate access to the aid so urgently needed by our brothers and sisters, while also ensuring fitting conditions for the return of the displaced.

We beseech fruits of reconciliation for the Holy Land, also experiencing in these days the wounds of ongoing conflict that do not spare the defenseless, for Yemen and for the entire Middle East, so that dialogue and mutual respect may prevail over division and violence. May our brothers and sisters in Christ, who not infrequently put up with injustices and persecution, be radiant witnesses of the risen Lord and of the victory of good over evil.

We invoke on this day fruits of hope for those who yearn for a more dignified life, above all in those areas of the African continent deeply affected by hunger, endemic conflicts and terrorism. May the peace of the risen Lord heal wounds in South Sudan and open hearts to dialogue and mutual understanding. Let us not forget the victims of that conflict, especially the children! May there be no lack of solidarity with all those forced to abandon leave their native lands and lacking the bare essentials for living.

We implore fruits of dialogue for the Korean peninsula, that the discussions under way may advance harmony and peace within the region. May those who are directly responsible act with wisdom and discernment to promote the good of the Korean people and to build relationships of trust within the international community.

We also beseech fruits of peace for Ukraine, that the steps taken to favour harmony may be consolidated, and facilitated by the humanitarian initiatives needed by its people.

We also invoke fruits of consolation for the Venezuelan people, who, as their bishops have written, are living in a kind of "foreign land" within their own country. May that nation, by the power of the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, find a just, peaceful and humane way to surmount quickly the political and humanitarian crises that grip it. May welcome and assistance not be wanting to its sons and daughters forced to abandon their homeland.



May the risen Christ bring fruits of new life to those children, who as a result of wars and hunger, grow up without hope, lacking education and health care; and to those elderly persons who are cast off by a selfish culture that ostracizes those who are not "productive".

We also implore fruits of wisdom for those who have political responsibilities in our world, that they may always respect human dignity, devote themselves actively to the pursuit of the common good, and ensure the development and security of their own citizens.

Dear brothers and sisters, the words heard by the women at the tomb are also addressed to us: "Why do you seek the living among the dead? He is not here, but has risen" (Lk 24:5-6). Death, solitude and fear are not the last word. There is a word that transcends them, a word that only God can speak: it is the word of the resurrection (cf. John Paul II, Conclusion of the Way of the Cross, 18 April 2003). By the power of God's love, it "dispels wickedness, washes faults away, restores innocence to the fallen, and joy to mourners, drives out hatred, fosters concord and brings down the mighty" (Easter Proclamation).

Happy Easter to all!



## From the Pastor's Desk

Dear Members of St. Mary's,

On April 21, I had the joy of serving as my Godson Tyler's Confirmation Sponsor (photo right). I still remember the Baptism Ceremony 15 years ago when I became his Godfather and it's hard to believe that little baby is now a young man.

I encouraged Tyler to be thoughtful about choosing his Confirmation Saint and gave him several books on Lives of the Saints to help him. I suggested he find a saint whose story inspired him, or a saint who excelled in some virtue he wants to have grow more in his own life.

In the end, Tyler chose St. Ambrose of Milan. When I asked why, he said *"Because he stood up for what was right and spoke truth to power."* [Ambrose was a valiant bishop who famously confronted the Emperor Theodosius and refused him entry to the Cathedral in Milan until he did penance for his great sins – including the massacre of civilians in a rebellious city. In the end, St. Ambrose successfully brought the emperor to repentance.]

In addition to the inspiration they offer, our Confirmation Saints are also meant to enrich our prayer life, interceding for us to God in heaven. I encouraged Tyler to add a simple, *"St. Ambrose, pray for me!"* to his nightly prayers.

Who is your Confirmation Saint? If you have not thought lately about him or her, take a moment to study up on your saint. Their lives are raw, human and amazing. By our common Baptism all the saints are joined to us as our spiritual siblings in the Church. But the one whose name you bear by Confirmation is special, and can be a real blessing in your life. Make May, the Month of Mary, Queen of Saints, also the month you reconnect with and get to know your own Confirmation saint anew.

God bless you!



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be a stylized 'P' followed by a flourish.



### **MAY 10, Ascension Thursday, A Holy Day of Obligation ~**

**Vigil Mass, Wednesday, May 9, at 6:30 PM**

**Feast Day Mass, Thurs., May 10, at 9:00 AM & 7:00 PM**

The Feast of the Ascension of Jesus Christ is celebrated each year on the fortieth day after the Feast of Pascha (Easter). Since the date of Pascha changes each year, the date of the Feast of the Ascension also changes. The Feast is always celebrated on a Thursday, and marks an event of such importance that it is a Holy Day of Obligation. This means that Catholics attend Mass this day as on a Sunday. The Feast itself commemorates when, on the fortieth day after His Resurrection, Jesus led His disciples to the Mount of Olives, and after blessing them and asking them to wait for the fulfillment of the promise of the Holy Spirit, He ascended into heaven. Where He has gone, we hope one day to follow.

**MAY 12, Spring Barbecue! ~** Again this May the K. of C. will be hosting the annual St. Mary's Spring BBQ. The date is: Sat., May 12, from 6 - 8:30 PM in Father Haley Hall.



Join us as Tennessee BBQ fires up the grill for BBQ chicken, pulled pork, cheeseburgers, hotdogs, corn on the cob, delicious desserts and much more. Bring the kids and experience a fun filled evening of good food, friendship and live musical entertainment. Come meet your neighbors!

Tickets: \$7 for kids 12 and under, \$10 for adults, \$35 for a family (parents and kids). Tickets are on sale after all Masses April 30/May 1 & May 7/8 and may also be purchased at the Religious Education Office through May 9.



**MAY 13, Mother's Day ~** A special Blessing of Mothers will take place at all Masses this weekend. The annual Mother's Day Carnation Project will also be held, with beautiful blooms available at all Masses. This is the primary fundraising event held by Birthright of Framingham. The Birthright Center is staffed entirely by volunteers who offer friendship, emotional support and practical assistance to women in a crisis pregnancy. Birthright does not charge for its services, but relies on donations from generous supporters to continue helping pregnant women in need. Your support is deeply appreciated. Checks can be made out to Birthright of Framingham, 79A Main St., Framingham 01702. Any and all contributions are gratefully accepted.

**MAY 20, Mass for the Class of 2018 ~** On Sunday, May 20, at 11:30 AM, St. Mary's will offer her 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Mass for Graduates. This year our parish has teens graduating from eight different schools. The Mass will include a special blessing of Graduates and a student speaker (Matt O'Connell). St. Mary's Blessed Mother Scholarship will also be awarded at this beautiful celebration. The Mass is followed by a light reception in Fr. Haley Hall, and a Group Class Photo. Come congratulate our graduates!







# KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

St. Mary's Council #14224 May, 2018



**Grand Knight: Albert Scaramella**

**Deputy Grand Knight: Aaron Pyman**

**TENTH ANNUAL CHARITY RAFFLE:** Council members are selling raffle tickets for our Annual Charity Raffle. Proceeds from this fundraiser have benefitted local charities and veteran's groups totaling over \$157,000 for the past nine years. Among those charities receiving donations from our Council are the Holliston Pantry Shelf, Holliston Senior Center, Homes for our Troops, Habitat for Humanity, and St. Mary's Church. One chance sells for \$5 and a book of five chances sells for \$20. Contact any Council member to purchase raffle tickets. First prize is \$1000! Thanks to all St. Mary's parishioners who purchased raffle tickets after Masses April 14 and 15. If you didn't purchase your ticket yet, Knight's will be selling raffle tickets at the Milford Stop & Shop on May 5 and 6, Bellingham Market Basket on May 12, Holliston Superette and Fiske's on May 19, Ashland Shaw's on June 2 and 3, Holliston Coffee Haven and True Value Hardware on June 9. The Drawing will be held June 20 in the Lower Church Hall. This year's chairmen are Thomas Anguish, Bill Heuer, Aaron Pyman, and Al Scaramella.

**K OF C BASKETBALL FREE THROW CONTEST-Success in State Finals:** Congratulations to Tyler Mottor and Kiera Lucas. Tyler was State 1<sup>st</sup> Place Champion in the 10 year old division and Kiera was State 2<sup>nd</sup> place in the 9 year old division. Tyler is eligible to advance to the National finals. Knight Don Marden was the coordinator of our Holliston contest.

**K OF C "MULCHERS" SPRUCE UP OUR CHURCH:** The early morning of Saturday, April 28 found a dozen Knights eagerly applying landscape mulch around St. Mary's. This is the 9<sup>th</sup> year the Council has supplied the mulch and labor to beautify our church grounds. Photo Top Right.

**MEMBERSHIP DRIVE FOR 2018:** All good St. Mary's men eighteen and older are invited to join our Council. The Knights of Columbus is the largest Catholic men's lay organization in the world. Our Council respects members' limited time but needs new members to share our faith journey as Catholic men. For membership information contact Grand Knight Albert Scaramella at 508 429-7588 OR [ajscaramella@comcast.net](mailto:ajscaramella@comcast.net).



**MONTHLY ROSARY: The next Rosary will be Wednesday May 16.** The Council recites the Rosary every third Wednesday of the month in St. Mary's Church at 7:00 PM. As quoted in the March 2017 Columbia magazine, "Knights need to be men of prayer." **ALL** parishioners are invited to share in this beautiful and powerful prayer with our Council.

**MAY ROSARY FOR PEACE:** Pope Francis has asked Catholics to pray the rosary each day of May for the intentions of peace in the world. He specifically asks that you hold up Syria and the Koreans to the reconciling and healing grace of God. On May 1, the Pope made a visit to the Sanctuary of Our Lady of Divine Love and lead the Rosary there for these intentions.

**WISDOM FROM THE SAINTS:** "Give me an army saying the Rosary and I will conquer the world." - Blessed Pope Pius IX

*"The greatest method of praying is to pray the Rosary."*  
- Saint Francis de Sales

*"The holy Rosary is a powerful weapon. Use it with confidence and you'll be amazed at the results."* - St. Josemaria Escriva





# St. Mary's Parish Middle School Youth Group

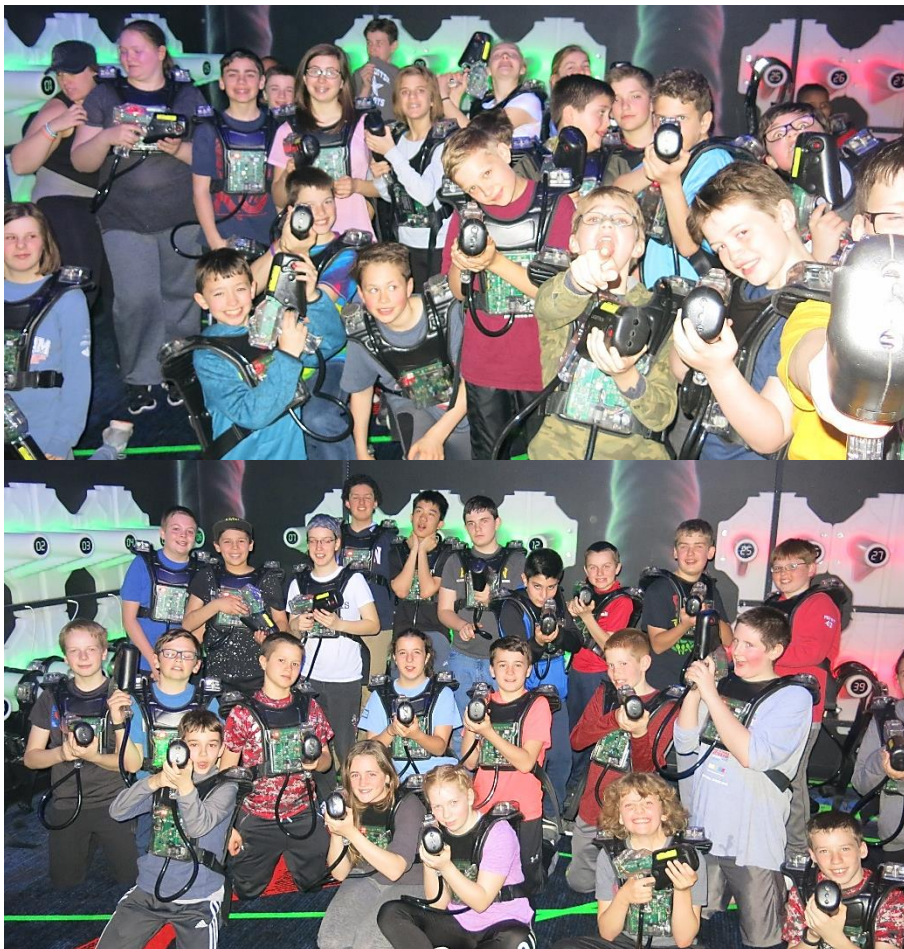
Open to all 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, & 8<sup>th</sup> Graders for Faith, Friendship, Service & Fun.



## RECENT MSYG EVENTS

**Monday, March 26:** Over thirty Middle School Youth Group teens took part in Bingo Night at St. Patrick Manor. This fun, annual event allows them to both play bingo and visit with the residents. The teens went right to work visiting with the residents in their rooms. One group of teens had the special opportunity to meet Mary, who proudly told them she was 102! Bingo was fun for all and the big winner of the night was a retired Sister who planned to donate her winnings to the Church! Thanks to all the teens that made this a special evening for the residents at St. Patrick's.

**Thursday, April 19:** The plan was for Paintball, but the weather was freezing with icy rain and even a little snow – crazy for April! So Fr. Mark whipped together a back up plan, and instead of Paintball our fifty-three teens spent the morning playing Laser-tag in Westboro, followed by an afternoon movie at the Framingham 16 Theater. The high scorer at Laser-tag was Lucas Haynes, who won all the movie snacks he wanted. Happily, he shared with his friends.



**MSYG END OF YEAR CLOSING  
CEREMONY & POT LUCK  
MAY 20, 6:30 – 8:30 PM**

All MSYG moms & dads are invited to this annual End of Year Celebration. Please bring your potluck item as assigned, except for 8<sup>th</sup> Grade parents & teens who are our special guests. The night will include:

- Delicious Pot Luck Supper
- Prayer & Closing Ceremony
- Awards & Honoring of 8<sup>th</sup> Graders
- Sign Ups for Brownstone Quarry & the Scavenger Hunt
- Summer raft team sign ups
- A Giant Slideshow Movie of all this past year's events



## A Cross Walk with Marie Calapa

By Cathy Stenquist

There was a tap, tap on my shoulder. Looking up from where I knelt. Virginia Calapa, a friend from the WINGS group, leaned in. She asked for my prayers for her daughter Marie, who had an important interview that week for a job. I gladly offered my prayers and found myself intrigued by her brief explanation of her daughter's field, astrophysics. Far from being from a scientist myself, I sensed that Marie's story would be an interesting one to hear.

A few weeks later, Sunday morning came around finding myself a few pews behind the Calapa family. After Mass, I introduced myself to Virginia's husband, Nick and her daughters Brigid and Marie. Marie happily accepted my invitation and we agreed to meet at Fatima Shrine.



Marie Calapa

On one of the first days of Spring, we began a lovely walk down the winding paths, stopping on a bench to chat. We saw many people along the way, who like us, were savoring the holy and quiet stroll. We found a bench near the grotto and got acquainted.

Growing up, Marie doesn't remember having more than a generic interest in science. But her father, a Bio science major, fostered her curiosity with Chemistry kits to play with. After graduation, she attended UMass Amherst as a language major studying Japanese in the honors program. Everything changed when she took an astronomy course shifting the direction of her focus. She had found her true passion.

I asked her what solidified her pursuit of astronomy. She explained, "I was working on a research project with an assistant professor. I had no experience at all and was looking at some graphs. Looking closely, I saw AGN (Active Galactic Nuclei). "A what?" I wondered... She paused thinking how to explain it in layman's terms. "It is a super massive black hole in a galaxy that is actively sucking in and eating matter." I was amazed

how without much experience, she could see such a thing and identify it. We continued discussing how amazing the universe is. I asked if she was able to connect her wonder about the universe to God in some way.

"I look at these things and think that the seed of these formations must have been planted there by someone. Some things in this world are just too perfect." She went on, "In the parameters of how the universe is shaped, there is this very small thin line where the earth is located that allows us to exist. It is a rare place, a little band that is perfect for living on. If even one thing was different, it would make life as we know it impossible. Scientists can't explain it. The universe is perfectly coordinated in how it works." "I know," I added, I think of that with the changing of the seasons and the rhythm of the tides. There's no doubt God has a hand in creation."

"Who inspires you?" I asked. Without hesitation, Marie responded, "The Director of the Vatican Observatory, Brother Guy Consolmagno, an American Jesuit. As an astronomer, he talks about the interplay of faith and science." She went on, "For some reason, a lot of people feel that there must be faith or reason... there can't be both. I appreciate that someone who works at the Vatican can reconcile both." Personally, I had never heard of the Vatican Observatory and really enjoyed reading about its history and mission at this link. <http://www.vaticanobservatory.va/content/specolavaticana/en/science--religion--society/faq-science-religion.html>

Brother Guy Consolmagno also does a brief, fascinating TED talk at this link about science and faith. [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kmU2gDbP\\_Tk](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kmU2gDbP_Tk)

***"Our mission is to remind churchgoers that there's nothing to be afraid of in science. Too often a choice of science or religion has been given to the people in the pews. People know their religion and are comfortable with it, so that's their choice. As a result, some people are being forced away from science, which is a tragedy since studying creation is a marvelous way of getting to know the Creator."***

From Specola Vatican FAQ

Marie chose to study Galaxy formation and evolution. She smiled as she took a minute to help me understand. "Basically, there are two galaxies drawn together by a gravitational pull. They crash into one another and form one new galaxy." Thinking about our talk in the context



of our faith, I couldn't help but share that the Sacrament of Marriage seems a lot like that... two people that are drawn together to form a new union that is bigger and stronger than they are alone.

Marie graduated in 2014 with a double Bachelors in astronomy and physics and then went on to get her Masters in astrophysics. "What has been your biggest challenge?" I asked. "That since I graduated, all my work has not lead to an immediate career." Like so many her age, Marie struggles with what feels like an uncertain future. I shared with her my own story and how through my life I have done many things. It was not a straight road to get to where I am now, but looking back, I can see how God is working in each situation to bring me where I needed to be. I told her I have no doubt she will find something that is even more than she imagines. Marie commented that she was very surprised and grateful that the members of St. Mary's have been so helpful talking to her and praying for her to find a job.

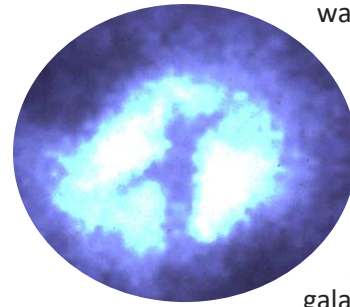
Marie has really enjoyed her volunteer work at St. Mary's too. She has helped almost every year with the summer Vacation Bible School held in Fr. Haley Hall. "I have SO many t-shirts with the VBS logo on them!" she laughed. She is also a 4<sup>th</sup> grade Religious Ed teacher. "At first, I had to figure out the class dynamic of working with 9 year olds, listening to their stories, then learning how to bring them back to the topic. We are studying the 10 Commandments. The class book does a good job of couching it in ways that make sense to the kids. For 'Thou shalt not steal' - We imagined a world where no one stole from each other. I try to make it practical and apply to their level." Knowing she is a scientist, though, they ask very interesting questions like, 'Could someone really survive 40 days and nights in the desert?'"

As we talked we discovered that we had both had a 'God moment' in our families when a grandparent died. When her grandfather passed away, Marie had a dream where he appeared to her. The room was dark with a single candle lit. When she looked closer she could see him curled up in the flame. He said to her, 'It's ok, I am fine.' "It was peaceful. I felt like he was reaching out to me from purgatory on his way to heaven. I was very close to him, so I found this comforting."

At the end of the walk we looked for a cross of our own. "I know it's not one we found," Marie offered, "but there are some celestial objects that look like a cross." "Perfect!" I replied. The idea that we could have a cross that God Himself created, was thrilling to

me. To my surprise, Marie found a bonus cross. How wonderful to think of these in the heavens above!

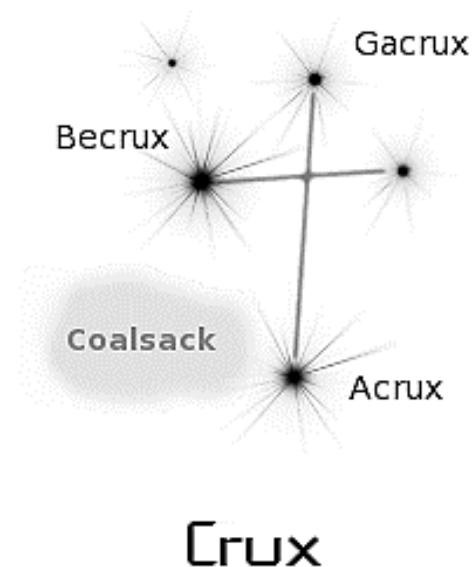
Marie explained, "This is the M51 core as seen by the Hubble telescope - I didn't even know about this one! Apparently, at the core of nearby spiral galaxy M51, there's dust shrouding the center black hole in such a



way as to look like a cross. I feel the strongest pull to this one since it seems the most "cross-like" while also being related to many of my research projects re: dust in galaxies, galaxy cores, galaxies in general."

As noted on constellation-guide.com –

"The Southern Cross or Crux, which means "the cross" in Latin, is a prominent constellation in the southern sky. It is the smallest of all eighty-eight constellations. In spite of its size, Crux is one of the best-known constellations in the southern hemisphere. It is easily recognizable for its cross shape, formed by its five brightest stars."



Marie currently freelances for Pearson Publishing writing questions for teaching exams. Soon she will be meeting with a career counselor to help her

on her way and looks forward to getting her own place. I found Marie fascinating to talk to. She lights up when she explains what she has learned about galaxies. I am blessed to have met her and I don't think I will ever look up at the sky in quite the same way!

**Check back next month to see who I will be walking with next!**

Walking in His name – Cathy

## ADULT FAITH RESOURCES

### MAY 2018

# got faith?



**HOLY SPIRIT:** Pentecost will be celebrated on May 20 this year. This feast commemorates the outpouring of the Holy Spirit on the apostles gathered in Jerusalem; the feast is also known as the birthday of the Church. Who is the Holy Spirit? And what role does the Spirit play in our lives in 2018? The Catechism of the Catholic Church (CCC) identifies the Spirit as the third person of the Trinity, the final person to be fully revealed. We also know that the mission of the Spirit is the same as that of Christ...to bring all the world to God and God's kingdom, through love. Chapter Nine of the US Bishops'

catechism for adults is dedicated to the Holy Spirit (<http://ccc.usccb.org/flipbooks/uscca/#129> and forward). And what about the Spirit in our lives today? The Loyola Press website offers both a simple listing and some examples of the gifts and fruits of the Holy Spirit...these characteristics are those of Jesus himself and they are engendered in us today by God's own Spirit; the website is at <https://www.loyolapress.com/our-catholic-faith/scripture-and-tradition/catholic-basics/catholic-beliefs-and-practices/gifts-of-the-holy-spirit>. These gifts and fruits spur us into action, to share the love of God we have received with those around us...today.

**CALL TO HOLINESS:** The Pope's new Apostolic Exhortation is called *Gaudete et Exultate: On the Call to Holiness in Today's World*. Building on the call to holiness clearly pronounced in the Second Vatican Council's *Constitution on the Church (Lumen Gentium)* "...all the faithful, whatever their condition or state, are called by the Lord – each in his or her own way – to that perfect holiness by which the Father himself is perfect" (*Lumen Gentium*, 11)... Pope Francis gives us in *Gaudete et Exultate* a "[reproposition] of the call to holiness in a practical way for our own time, with all its risks, challenges and opportunities" (2). The Pope says that the Beatitudes (Matthew 5:3-12) "are like a Christian's identity card" (63) and he goes on to explain them in the context of today's world. In the end he writes "In all aspects of life we can continue to grow and offer something greater to God, even in those areas we find most difficult (175)." You can read this exhortation at [http://w2.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/apost\\_exhortations/documents/papa-francesco\\_esortazione-ap\\_20180319\\_gaudete-et-exultate.html](http://w2.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/apost_exhortations/documents/papa-francesco_esortazione-ap_20180319_gaudete-et-exultate.html). Jesuit priest, James Martin, has a video reflection on the document at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JRweQno8PJA>.

**SEASONS AND READINGS:** The Easter season continues this month, and ends with the feast of Pentecost (May 20). On May 27, Ordinary Time begins with the celebration of the Most Holy Trinity. Interestingly, on nearly every Sunday this month, and also on Ascension Thursday (May 10) we hear the message from Jesus (or in the case of May 6, from Peter, in the reading from the Acts of the Apostles), that God's word is meant for all people...and that we are sent to bring that word out to the world. Pope Francis reminds us that mission is an integral part of the identity of the Church, and that each of us is called to participate in the work of mission...spreading the joy of the gospel. You can read reflections on the Sunday/Feastday readings, as well as consider questions to forward your own growth as a disciple of Jesus, at the Emmaus Journey website, [https://emmausjourney.org/sundays\\_reading.php](https://emmausjourney.org/sundays_reading.php).

**MARY:** May is a month dedicated to Mary, Jesus' mother and the mother of our Church; she is also the patron of our parish. The practice of dedicating this month to special devotion to Mary goes back many centuries. At [https://www.catholicculture.org/culture/liturgicalyear/overviews/months/05\\_1.cfm](https://www.catholicculture.org/culture/liturgicalyear/overviews/months/05_1.cfm) you'll find more information about this practice. The Catholic Company's "Get Fed" website offers a number of ways to celebrate May at <https://www.catholiccompany.com/getfed/celebrate-may-month-of-mary/>; this page is linked to The Catholic Company's retail website.

---Leo Racine



***Parish Ministry Contacts***

<b>Ministry (508)</b>	<b>Contact</b>	<b>Phone #'s</b>
A.A.	Staff	(617) 426-9444
Al-Anon	Staff	366-0556
Altar Servers	Tina Hein	429-9853
Art & Environment	Rectory	429-4427
Adult Faith Formation	Leo Racine	429-7476
Compassionate Friends	Ed Motuzas	473-4239
C.L.O.W.	Pat LeBlanc	(508) 533-6714
Eucharistic Ministers	Joe DeMarkey	429-5401
Food Pantry	Sylvia Stickney	429-5392
Give A Gift	Tony Alexander	429-5405
Greeting Ministry	Bob Whiting	893-8007
H.S. Youth Ministry	Matt Chick	429-6076
Homebound Ministry	Marty Breinlinger	429-4427
Hospitality	Joanne Davenport	533-7948
Hospital Ministry	Henry Woods	429-1037
Knights of Columbus	Mike Kerrigan	429-8696
Lectors	Ron Turcotte	429-5396
Marriage Prep	Ken/Mary Hammond	533-5258
M.S. Youth Group	Fr. Mark Coiro	429-4427
Music Ministry	Juan Mesa	429-4427
Newsletter	Marilyn Lourandos	429-4032
Parish Council	Diane Collins	435-9246
Pine Street Inn	Laura Kozial	429-7174
Project Just Because	Cherylann Walsh	435-6511
Religious Education	Fran Crespi	429-6076
Respect Life	Rosemary Rainsford	429-1527
S.M.C.W.G.	Patricia Strozzi	654-2723
Vacation Bible School	Kristin Roberto	429-4716

***Mass Schedule***

Monday through Saturday:	9:00 a.m.
Saturday Vigils:	5:00 p.m. & 7:30 p.m.
Sunday:	7:30 a.m., 9:30 a.m., & 11:30 a.m.

***Sacrament of Reconciliation***

Saturday, 12 Noon to 12:45 p.m. in the church or anytime 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.

***Marriage***

Please contact a priest at least six months in advance to allow for Pre-Marriage program and arrangements.

***Baptism***

Baptisms are celebrated the Second and Fourth Sunday of each month at 2:00 p.m., please register by calling the rectory. Baptism Instruction must take place prior to the Baptism itself. Please contact the Rectory to register for Baptism Instruction. Please note that universal practice in the Catholic Church is that one man and one woman (other than the parents) serve as Godparents. Godparents must be at least 16 years old, Confirmed, regularly attending Sunday Mass, and otherwise living a life in harmony with the Catholic faith. They are to serve as Catholic role models for the child being baptized.

***RCIA***

The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) is an engaging program for individuals who desire to learn more about the Catholic faith. The program is a gradual process paced at the needs of the individual. RCIA welcomes anyone who seeks to be baptized into the Catholic Church. Also, anyone baptized in Christian tradition other than Roman Catholic who would like to be received into full communion with the Catholic Church is invited to attend. In addition, RCIA welcomes individuals who are baptized Catholics and have never received First Communion, First Reconciliation, or Confirmation. If you or someone you may know is interested, please contact the rectory at 508-429-4427. Meeting times are set up as needed by each year's participant schedules. Welcome!

***C.L.O.W.***

The Children's Liturgy of the Word is a special celebration of the scriptures with readings from the Children's Lectionary. These readings are brought alive for the children using methods that include drama, props, and an interactive homily style. At St. Mary's, the C.L.O.W. is celebrated from mid-September through May every Sunday at the 9:30 AM Mass.

On most of these Sundays, the parish children are invited to process down to the lower church following the Opening Prayer. The exception is on the First Sunday of each month, when the children remain upstairs at the 9:30 a.m. Mass for a special Children's homily with the priest and the main assembly.

