



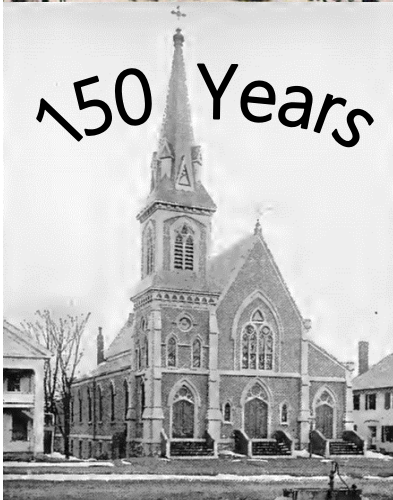
**ST. MARY'S PARISH
8 CHURCH ST.
HOLLISTON, MA 01746**

Return Service Requested

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*The 150th Parish
Anniversary
Gala is Nov. 13.*

*R.S.V.P. by
Monday, Nov. 1.*



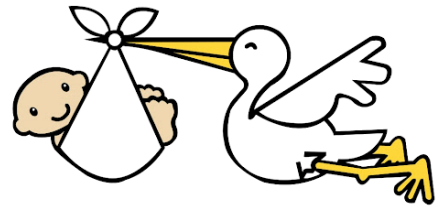
150 (plus 1) years ago, on November 29, 1870, St. Mary's was canonically established as a Parish. Those 150 years represent untold moments of ministry and grace that have blessed generations of Catholics in Holliston and the surrounding communities.

We give thanks to God for this beautiful family of faith and ask Him to watch over and guide us into the future. Amen!



St. Mary's Parish Newsletter

November, 2021 ~ Volume 47, Number 3



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

SHOWERED WITH LOVE!

Shown below on Monday, October 18, students of Mrs. Payne's 4th Grade Religious Education Class hold up some of the hundreds of brand-new baby items donated to St. Mary's Annual Baby Shower for the Unborn. Items were dropped off at all Masses the weekend before by the good people of St. Mary's. These will directly assist women in crisis pregnancies through the "Pregnancy Help" Program of our Archdiocese. Learn more at: www.pregnancyhelpboston.org.

"The Catholic community must offer support to those women who may find it difficult to accept a child, above all when they are isolated from their family and friends." - Pope Benedict XVI





Monday, November 1, Feast of All Saints: Today the Church celebrates the Feast of All Saints – honoring and asking the prayerful intercession of all the Holy Men, Women, and Children who have gone ahead of us in faith and now live in the light of God’s presence. Some of the saints have been “declared” by the Church and their names are known to us. Most, however, are known only to God, and this day we both commemorate their holy lives and recall our own calling to become saints – holy witnesses of Christ’s love to the world. A Holy Day, All Saints Masses will be celebrated **Monday, November 1 at 9 AM and 7 PM.**



Tuesday, November 2, Feast of All Souls:

Catholics believe that our prayers assist souls that died in a state of grace through purgatory – a journey of purification that allows a soul to enter God’s eternal presence in a state of perfect innocence, able to receive fully the light and glory of God. At St. Mary’s, a special candlelight All Souls Mass will be celebrated on **Tuesday, Nov. 2 at 7 PM.** Those buried from the parish over the past year will have their names read and a candle lit in their memory. The candlelight Mass is open to everyone who would like to pray for their own departed loved ones. The full Adult Choir will be ministering.

Thursdays, November 4, 11, & 18, Eucharistic Adoration: As part of St. Mary’s Year of the Eucharist Observances, A Eucharistic Holy Hour with Adoration and Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament is being celebrated **every Thursday night from 7-8 PM** in the church. Come spend time in the True Presence of the Lord.

Saturday, November 13, 150th St. Mary’s Parish

Anniversary Gala: Join your fellow St. Mary’s Parishioners and Keynote Speaker Bishop Robert Reed for a wonderful evening of celebration and entertainment! Enjoy a cash bar cocktail hour, silent auction (yes there are some Patriot’s Tickets), plated dinner, and dancing to an extraordinary band, ‘The Party Factor.’ Full details in this Newsletter.



November 25, Thanksgiving Day Mass: Begin your family’s Thanksgiving this year by feasting on the Holy Eucharist at God’s table. Join your fellow parishioners at a special **Thursday, Nov. 25, 9 AM Mass**, at which together we will thank God for all His many blessings. Bring an item of food that will grace your family Thanksgiving dinner to be blessed at Mass and then take home – connecting your table to the Table of God. As always, this Thanksgiving Day morning Mass will be followed by a pastry reception in Father Haley Hall.

St. Mary's Parish ~ 150th Anniversary

GALA

**Register by Monday,
November 1**

**Saturday, November 13
Regency Ballroom
Doubletree Hotel
11 Beaver Street
Milford, MA**

Join your fellow St. Mary's Parishioners and Keynote Speaker Bishop Robert Reed for a wonderful evening of celebration and entertainment with a cash bar cocktail hour, silent auction, plated dinner, and dancing to an extraordinary band! Cost per person is \$35.

Music by 'The Party Factor,' an energetic 7-piece band including male and female lead vocalists, keyboard, sax/percussionist, drums, bass, and guitar offering a wide repertoire of music.

Reserve your seats by calling Mary Beth at 508-429-4427, or by using this link:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/805094da5ab29a3fc1-150th>

Be sure to indicate your choice of entrée. Pay by WeShare, or by check to "St. Mary's Parish," with "GALA" in the memo line, and mail to St. Mary's, 8 Church St., Holliston, MA, 01746.

6 PM - Cocktail Hour with Silent Auction and 50/50 Raffle, Cheese and Cracker Display, Vegetable Crudité Display and Dip, Cash Bar

**7 PM - Plated Dinner with Harvest Salad
Warm Rolls & Butter
Roasted Rosemary Potatoes
Sautéed Whole Green Beans
Regular & Decaf Coffee and Tea
Strawberry Cheesecake**

**- Choice of one of the following entrées
Orange Maple Breast of Chicken
Baked Haddock
Eggplant Parmigiana w/ Marinara Sauce**



St. Mary's Gala ~ Silent Auction

Bid live at the November 13 Gala or early online starting November 6. Watch the Sunday Bulletin for the Online Bidding Link!

Silent Auction Sneak Peek ~ Over 50 Fabulous Baskets to choose from including Spa Days, Restaurants, Sports Games, Religious Gifts, Books and Much More. These Are Just A Few!



Shine Bright: The perfect Christmas gift courtesy of **Holliston Jewelers**. You'll look beautiful in this stunning sterling silver diamond cross necklace - adjustable to 16 or 18 inches.

Ultimate Patriots Fan: Includes 2 tickets to the Pat's game on **December 26, 2021 @ 1pm versus rivals The Buffalo Bills**. Great seats! Also includes two large Patriots shirts and hats to show your team spirit. What a Christmas gift!

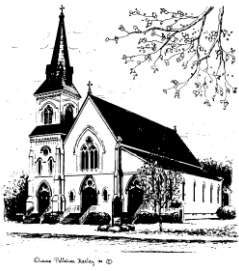


College Football & Food: Includes 2 tickets (row 12) to the **November 27, 2021 Boston College Football Game**. Watch the Eagles and the Wake Forest Demon Deacons compete after you park with a **FREE Parking Pass**. Enjoy a post-game snack at the Ashland Ale House with your \$25 Gift Certificate!

Wine Lovers: Includes delicious wines, gourmet snacks, truffles and chocolates courtesy of local favorite, **The Wine House** in Holliston.



Christmas Mass VIP Seating: Entitles you and your family to reserved seating at the 2021 Christmas Mass of your choice. Take the stress out of finding a seat at Christmas Mass as you celebrate Our Savior's birth!



Saint Mary's Parish

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

November, 2021

Dear Fellow Parishioners,

For the past 61 years, St. Mary's, Holliston has relied on the Grand Annual – a once a year special collection that goes entirely toward parish operating costs. In combination with the weekly offertory, the Grand Annual allows St. Mary's to pay her bills and maintain her four buildings, three of which are over 100 years old.

As you know, the Grand Annual always takes place in November. The 2021 St. Mary's Grand Annual Collection is Veteran's Day Weekend - November 13 & 14. The goal is \$150,000 – the same as 2020 which despite the pandemic was achieved.

The single largest facilities items covered by this year's Grand Annual are electrical in nature. First, the thirty-year-old church sanctuary lighting system must be replaced. The technology is now outdated such that bulbs for it are no longer being made and are unavailable. We have only a six-month bulb supply on hand, so this work is time sensitive. The old church system will be taken out, and new lighting installed – higher up, less obtrusive, and more energy efficient. The new system will also allow us to light the area in front of the altar for weddings, funerals, concerts, and the Good Friday Stations of the Cross. The removal of the old system, and the purchase and installation of the new comes to \$41,850.

The second electrical project involves the long overdue upgrading of the wiring in our "Annex Classroom" building. On April 3, 2022, this 170-year-old building is going to be dedicated as "Sister Ricci House," in loving memory of our dear Sister Ricci Lloyd, CSJ, who went home to God on April 4, 2016. A new sign will be unveiled and Sister's portrait placed within. While most of this building will continue to be used for Religious Education classes, part of the first floor is now needed for office space and will be refurbished for that purpose. Unfortunately, this building still relies largely on antique "knob and tube wiring." For safety purposes, this will all be replaced with modern wiring, and upgrades made to allow for the use of computers and photocopiers. This electrical work comes in at \$8,930, plus an additional \$7,000 for wall and flooring repairs, painting, and office furniture.

Other 2021 Grand Annual needs include the church door repairs and threshold / frame replacements completed this past summer (\$11,200); and monitor screens and DVD players for all the Religious Education classrooms (\$1,600). The remaining amount is applied to staff salaries (\$79,420).

Since successfully paying off the last of her \$1.2 million loan debts in the fall of 2010, St. Mary's has been able to pay her bills and remains debt free. Your generous support of St. Mary's 2021 Grand Annual will assure that the hard-won financial health of our parish continues. We realize that these current economic times are difficult for many. But if we all do what we can according to our means, then the 2021 Grand Annual will be a success. Thank you in advance for your generosity. And thank you for the many ways you personally help to build up our beautiful parish family.

Sincerely,

The St. Mary's Finance Council

Kim Latifi

Kevin O'Connell

Dianne McDermott Roy

Ron Piper

Kevin Diamond

2021 Grand Annual Breakdown:

- \$41,850.00 - Church sanctuary lighting system replacement.
- \$11,200.00 - Exterior Church door repairs and threshold replacements (completed).
- \$ 8,930.00 - “Sr. Ricci House,” electrical safety upgrades.
- \$ 7,000.00 - “Sr. Ricci House,” floor and wall repairs for office space, plus office furniture.
- \$ 1,600.00 - Monitors and DVD Players for all Religious Education Classrooms.
- \$79,420.00 - Staff Salaries. The eight men and women of St. Mary’s Staff are hardworking, dedicated individuals. This portion of the Grand Annual will go toward their salaries.

HOW TO MAKE YOUR 2021 GRAND ANNUAL GIFT

Please carefully review the Grand Annual information provided in the St. Mary’s Finance Council mailing being sent to all parishioners.

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

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

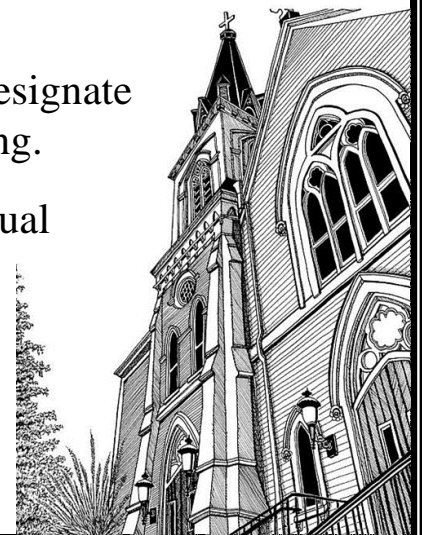
If possible, please return your gold Grand Annual envelope the weekend of November 13 & 14, or as soon as possible thereafter. It may be mailed to 8 Church Street or dropped off through the Rectory Office Door Mail Slot at that same address.

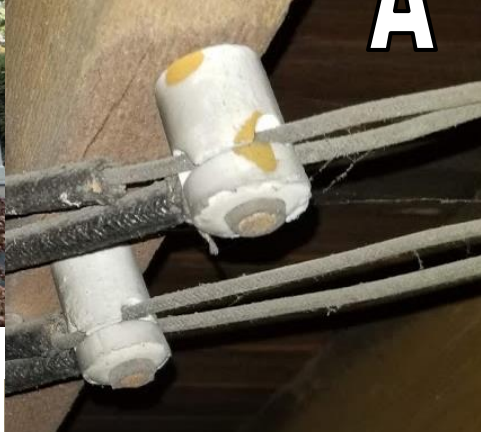
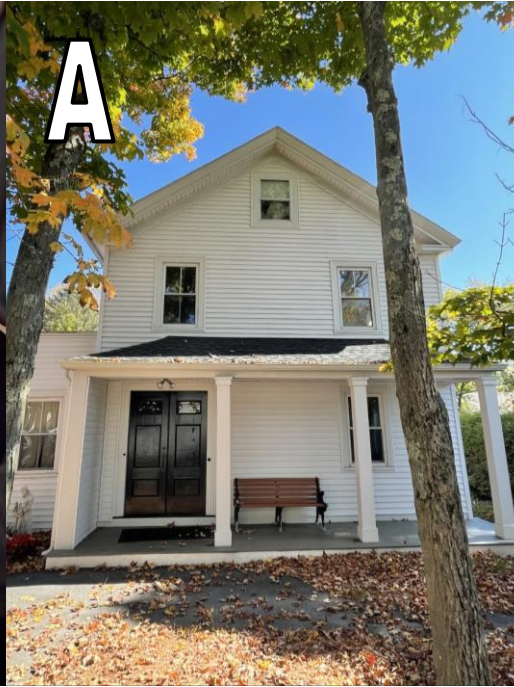
It is important that the special gold envelope, or an envelope clearly marked “Grand Annual” be used.

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

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

***“Every person shall give as he is able,
according to the blessing of the LORD
your God which He has given you.”*** DT 16:17





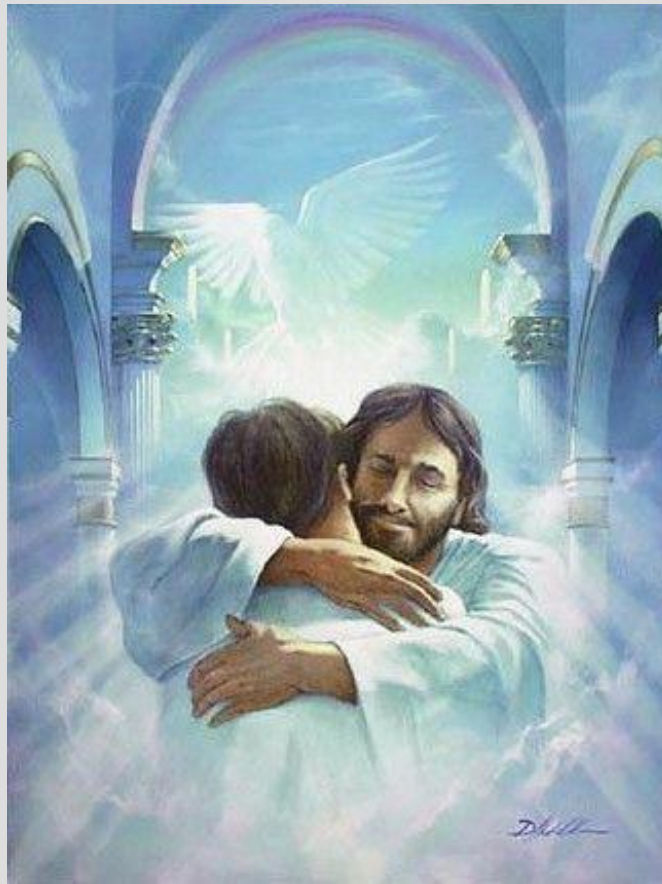
Photos of a few of the 2021 Grand Annual Items

A – Sister Ricci House: Electrical upgrades of antique knob and tube wiring. Office space preparation and repairs. “Sr. Ricci House” Dedication Mass and Ceremony with Sign Unveiling on Sunday, April 3, 2022.

B – Church Sanctuary Lighting: Obsolete technology must be replaced as bulbs are no longer being made. The new system will be more energy efficient and unobtrusive while covering more area.

C – Church Doors: Fully repaired and refurbished over the past summer with new thresholds installed to replace cracked, broken ones.

Jane Stanley
Patricia Stafford
William Wolters
Anita Lombardo
Patricia Monahan
Elisabeth Kuhner
Catherine Sheehan
Vasco Brovelli
Pauline Brovelli
Christopher Murphy
Clifford Fuller
Thomas Fitzpatrick
Victor Losanno, Jr.
Janice Austin
Ellis Stillwell, Jr.
James O'Connell
Nancy Monson
David Hazard
Marie Kelley
Patricia Clancy
Thomas Sullivan
Darlene Parker
Thomas Zinck
Karen Loftus



“Blessed are they who have died in the Lord. Let them rest from their labors, for their good deeds go with them.”

Rev. 14:13

Rose Marie Gallagher
Isabel Vazquez-Otero
James Porcello
Alice Deady
Rosemarie Phipps
Lorraine King
Pennie Losanno
Helen DeFazio
Barbara Christensen
Beverly Cray
Marilyn Walenski
Jack Love
Douglas Pierce
Adrienne Beattie
Charles Duross, Jr.
Victoria Markunas
Kathleen Smith
William Meehan
Charlotte Boccuzzi
Philip Thombs
Susan De La Rosa
Walter Neuman
Jeanne Miley
Constance Tynan

FEAST OF ALL SOULS

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

Tuesday, November 2 at 7 PM

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

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

OUR SISTER PARISH

بيت ساحور

OUR LADY OF FATIMA IN BEIT SAHOUR



MESSAGE FROM FATHER ISSA TO ST. MARY'S

Dear Father Mark and the parishioners of St. Mary's, Holliston,

I am writing to you again after my first message which I sent to you Christmas 2020, which was a message of hope bestowed upon us by the light of the Divine Child, in the midst of the circumstances in which we and the entire are going through. Indeed, the Covid-19 is still taking the life of many people and our parishioners still under its threat despite the fact that they refuse to succumb because of a simple yet a very strong reason. They love life, and they have already gone through more difficult circumstances.

Nowadays, things are almost back to normal in our parish. The school started receiving old and new students at the end of August, and so far things are going well. The same applies to the activities of the parish, the youth and the scouts, all of whom are doing their activities well, and at a good pace, especially in recruiting young men and women to the church. In the parish, we were able to activate the work of the Saint Vincent (Mansour) Charitable Society again, after a freeze of more than seven years. Its goal is to help the church in its mission towards the poor and needy, and it is now working to recruit young men and women in order to have them involved in the parish service. In the near future, we aspire to offer spiritual and social education to the families committed to the Church and those who attend Sunday Mass on a regular basis. I believe that the role of families has become an urgent need in our diocese, and it may be the most effective way for the future of our Church here.

As you know, Bethlehem area is still suffering from the disruption of tourism. Many of those who used to work in hotels and olive wood industry are now working in construction. Only few of them were lucky to have a permit to work in Israel proper, and their number is very limited. The most affected proportions are the youth and young families. However, neither young men can afford the expenses of their getting married nor the young families are able to afford the costs and pay loans back to the bank. In this regard, the Latin Patriarchate, in cooperation with other Christian institutions, plays a major role in helping Christian families, Catholic and Orthodox, in Beit Sahour, in order to help have them stay in the Holy Land them, and assist them encounter and overcome the economic and political crises that our country is going through. This will of course curb the wave of emigration on the part of Christian young people.

Christmas is approaching, and the city of Bethlehem will be full of religious festivities and events. We used to see it full of Christian pilgrims who come to celebrate Emmanuel's birth. We pray to the Holy Family to intercede for us and protect our families, our youth and our children, in the midst of these harsh conditions that the people of the Holy Land are going through.

Father Mark told me about your intention to visit the Holy Land during next year, especially to our parish in Beit Sahour. We are looking forward to this visit, since we are going to meet in person for the first time: "How fantastic it is for brothers to gather together." However, and in preparation for this visit, I will work hard with Father Mark, in the coming days, to strengthen the ties between the two parishes. Father Mark suggested forming a liaison committee that will include all parish bodies i.e. scouts, youth, and the school.

Father Issa Hijazeen

Priest of the Parish of the Virgin Mary Our Lady of Fatima - Beit Sahour



78 Confirmed In The Spirit!

On Saturday, September 25, seventy-eight teens were Confirmed at St. Mary's Parish by Bishop Robert Reed. Through this sacrament God has poured out His Holy Spirit upon them, empowering them with many gifts. And by choosing to be Confirmed, the young people have made a commitment to God – to live and love and worship as active members of His Holy Catholic Church. We pray that our young people will be true to their word and the pledge they have now made. For by being faithful to God, they will be faithful to themselves - healthier, happier, and more of a blessing to others than they could ever be without Him. Congratulations!



ST. MARY'S HIGH SCHOOL MINISTRY presents...

EPIC

Endless Possibilities In Christ



"I can do all things in Him who strengthens me." Philippians 4:13

Kickoff Meeting: Sunday, November 21

from 7:15 to 8:45 PM in Fr. Haley Hall

What to Bring: Registration Form & \$5 Monthly Dues (all)

There will be a presentation discussing the opportunity to join this summer's **Mission trip to Mississippi**, as well as other EPIC events for this year.

All High School students are invited for Faith, Friendship & Fun!

Hope to see you there!

If you have any questions, or are an adult who wants to help, please contact Theresa Virzi at stmarysym1870@gmail.com.



St. Mary's Parish Middle School Youth Group

8 Church St., Holliston, MA 01746 508-429-4427 www.stmarysholliston.com

October Kick Off Meeting!



PHOTO ABOVE ~ MSYG KICK OFF: Sunday, October 3 saw 102 teens enjoying the 2021 Middle School Youth Group Kick Off Event. It was our first MSYG Gathering since the pandemic shut us down in March of 2019. The icebreaker and ice cream social were held outside, while masks and distancing were observed indoors. The evening started with an Opening Prayer, then a Scripture exercise on MT 12:43-45.

"When an unclean spirit is cast out of a person, it roams through arid regions searching for rest but finds none. Then it says, 'I will return to my home from which I came.' But upon returning, it finds it empty, swept clean, and put in order. Then it goes and brings back with itself seven other spirits more evil than itself, and they move in and dwell there; and the last condition of that person is worse than the first."

The teens acted out the passage, (the seven afflicting spirits bopping the poor man with pool noodles), and talked about how it was the spiritual "emptiness" of the man that made him vulnerable. They then redid the passage with the man inviting in the Holy Spirit after casting out the unclean one. This gave him protection when it and its buddies tried to return. Just so, it is not enough to try and avoid evil in life. We must invite Jesus into the "house of our soul," that He may protect, guide, and fulfill us as God's children. It's not by accident that we pray for Jesus to "enter under our roof," right before receiving Holy Communion each Sunday.

Having learned how having Christ living within us protects us from evil, we felt very safe going to Barret's Haunted Mansion on October 15. See the next page for pics and details of a very fun, spooky night!

NOVEMBER MSYG MEETING: Sunday, November 7 from 6:30 – 8 PM in Fr. Haley Hall.

All 6th, 7th and 8th Graders are invited for faith, friendship and fun. All should bring their \$5 Monthly Dues.

There will be...

A Candlelight Prayer Service for our Beloved Dead

A Giant Milk and Cookie Bar

Sign Ups for the November 11 Veteran's Day Paintball Trip, (Bring Paperwork and Payment for this if going).

Sign Ups for the December 11 & 12 Cookie Walk for the Poor of Haiti.



* MASKS REQUIRED BY ALL, SANITIZE HANDS AT DOOR, GAME & FOOD OUTSIDE IF WEATHER PERMITS *



Middle School Youth Group Trip To Barrett's Haunted Mansion!

Seventy-five St. Mary's youths filled two school busses (windows open, masks on), and headed off for a night of ghosts and ghouls. The date was Friday, October 15 and the site was Barrett's Haunted Mansion. Scary clowns, swampy shifting floors, living dolls, and assorted monsters were all part of the fun. Barrett's kindly had a VIP area set up for us to enjoy pizza, complete with a black hearse. Then it was off to Peaceful Meadows Dairy Farm in Whitman. There the group enjoyed delicious ice cream sundaes, cups and cones. Thank you to our parent chaperones, Fr. Mark, and our new Youth Minister Theresa Virzi and her husband Andrew for giving their time to make this night safe and fun!





Troop 14 Holliston

Boy Scouts of America
St. Mary's Parish * November, 2021

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

Contact: Chris Baribeau, Scoutmaster
508.579.4357

Email: Troop14Holliston@yahoo.com

Website: www.hollistonTroop14.com

If interested in joining Troop 14, contact the Scoutmaster. It is an ideal organization for Boys 11-17 years old.

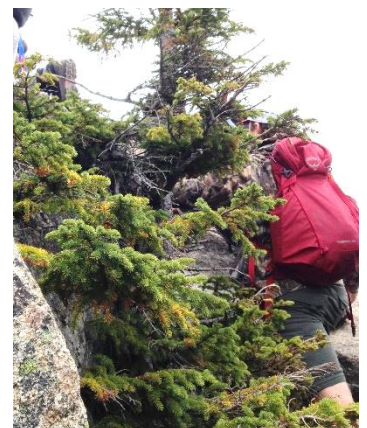
The Troop is back in full swing with weekly Monday Night Meetings from 7 - 8:30 PM in St. Mary's Lower Church Hall. Join us!

UPCOMING EVENTS:

- Turkey Roast Campout at the Sportsman Association November 5-7.
- Scouting for Food on Saturday, Nov. 6 & 13.
- Early winter weekend campout in December.
- January snow-shoe backpacking trip to Carter Notch Hut in the White Mountains.

CAMPOUT IN WHITE MOUNTAINS & MT. WHITEFACE HIKE: On October 9-10, twenty-one Scouts and leaders headed to New Hampshire to camp for the weekend and hike Mt. Whiteface. The Troop left Holliston at 6:00 AM, starting hiking by 9:30 and summited the 4020' mountain by early afternoon. While some of the Scouts were veteran hikers, for eleven of the Scouts, this was their first 4000' mountain with the Troop, and the first of 12 needed to become a member of Troop 14's 4000' Club. Hiking down that afternoon built up a good appetite and after setting up camp they devoured 6 lbs. of pasta for dinner before sitting around the campfire and reflecting on the day. The Scouts were up early the next morning, ate breakfast, broke camp and held a "White Mountain Scout Prayer Service" where they reflected on various biblical ways mountains have spoken to the people of God. The Service ended with a Navajo Prayer to honor the people who first climbed the mountains in this land. Photos Below.

FALL POPCORN FUNDRAISER & DAY AT THE RECYCLING CENTER: Troop 14 Scouts participated in our annual Popcorn fundraising this fall. In addition to the Scout's individual popcorn sales, on October 16 the Troop was at the Holliston Recycling Center to help unload vehicles of leaves and yard debris and sell a variety of popcorn products to raise money for Troop activities and equipment. They will be there again on November 20. Altogether, the Troop is expected to sell just under \$7,000 in popcorn, with \$2,500 going to the Troop. Thanks to the community at large for supporting our Troop.





KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

St. Mary's Council #14224 November, 2021

Grand Knight: Albert Scaramella
Deputy Grand Knight: Tom Brodo

MONTHLY ROSARY:

The next Rosary will be **Wednesday, November 17** in the Church at 7:00 PM. The Rosary is open to all parishioners and current COVID-19 policies are in effect. As quoted in the March 2017 Columbia magazine, "Knights need to be men of prayer."



COUNCIL #14224 13th ANNUAL CHARITY RAFFLE: The drawing took place at Father Haley Hall on October 9. The first prize was \$1,000 and was won by Neil Denny of Medway. The winning ticket was sold by Knight Michael Michielli. Additional prizes from \$500 to \$100 were pulled by impartial attendees. All proceeds benefit the Holliston Pantry Shelf, Holliston Senior Center, Habitat for Humanity, Veterans Charities & other charitable donations. The Council has now donated over \$250,000 since the raffle began 13 years ago. The Council thanks all St. Mary's parishioners who took a chance on a ticket. You are all winners in our eyes for supporting the above charities.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS "CATHOLIC CITIZENSHIP ESSAY" CONTEST:

The Supreme Council sponsors this international annual essay contest "...to give students an opportunity to define the role of a Catholic citizen in many different scenarios and

to strengthen the bond between the Knights of Columbus and local schools." Eligibility is open to all Catholic students in public, private, or parochial schools in grades 8-12. Theme information and entry forms are available in the Religious Education Office or can be downloaded from <http://kofc14224.org/#kofclinks>. Judges from our Council and the Religious Education Directors will judge the 500-750 word essay and acknowledge all entrants. The winner for each grade will be entered in the State Council Contest. Council level awards will be presented to all winners. **Essays must be completed by December 5, 2021.** The contacts are Grades 8-11 D.R.E. Theresa Virzi and Council Knight Mitchell Liro.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS "KEEP CHRIST IN CHRISTMAS" POSTER CONTEST:

The contest is open to all youth between the ages of 5-14. There are three age groups: ages 5-7, ages 8-10, and ages 11-14. The suggested poster size is 11x14 inches. Each poster must be submitted with an entry form by December 5, 2021. Council level prizes for all winners. Winners will enter State Council Contest. Entry forms are available in the Religious Education Office or can be downloaded from <http://kofc14224.org/#kofclinks>. The contacts are Grades K-7 D.R.E. Fran Crespi and Council Knight Mitchell Liro. Last year St. Mary's Parish had a State Poster winner!



MEMBERSHIP DRIVE FOR 2021: 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 508-561-0584 OR ajscaramella@comcast.net OR you can now join ON-LINE by going to the Supreme K of C website <https://www.kofc.org/secure/en/join/join-the-knights.html>. Online membership allows you to obtain all K of C benefits including outstanding insurance plans and optional membership in our St. Mary's Council.

LINES FROM THE LIBRARY

BY BETTY FEBO



Yes, St. Mary's Library is alive and well! After a long Covid hiatus, I have been back at the library adding, removing and rearranging. The books are now just waiting for you to check them out! Simply sign the card in the back of the book and put the card in the "Return box" on the counter. When you return the book, put the back in the "Return box." I will take care of the rest.

The display shelves (at the end of the book shelves, by the window) will now hold seasonal and new books. You are welcome to check them out. Changed monthly.

The "Free Books" shelves (at the other end of the book shelves, under the counter) are full with new titles. These have been removed from the library collection or donated but not added to the collection. Help Yourself!

Many new books have been added to the collection. A few are highlighted below:

813.6 Ste Stepian, Chris. *Three Days: The Search for the Boy Messiah*. A fictionalized account of how Jesus might have spent His time lost in the Temple. Suitable for middle school and up.

282.092 Esc Escobar, Mario. *Francis: Man of Prayer*. The biography of a meek man who chose as his first act a simple request: please pray for me.

271.97 Lan Langford, Joseph. *I Thirst: 40 Days with Mother Teresa*. This guided meditation on Scripture and the teachings of Mother Teresa will lead you into the heart of the mystery of God's thirst for souls and how we can meet the Lord's thirst.

278.6 Rea *The Eucharistic Miracles of the World*. Catalogue of the Vatican International Exhibition. This is the catalog of the Eucharistic Miracles traveling exhibition that was hosted by St. Mary's in Sept. 2020.

261.72 And Anderson, Carl. *These Liberties We Hold Sacred*. Essays on Faith and Citizenship in the 21st Century. Donated by St. Mary's Chapter of the Knights of Columbus.

282.092 Wei Weigel, George. *Lessons in Hope: My Unexpected Life with St. John Paul II*. At the heart of *Lessons in Hope* are Weigel's conversations with the Pope over the dinner table at his Vatican residence. It offers fresh insights into the heart, soul and mind of John Paul II.

J 222.1 Fei Feiler, Bruce. *Walking the Bible*. An illustrated journey for kids through the greatest stories ever told.

248.32 Kel Kelly, Matthew. *I Heard God Laugh*. We cannot live the life we have imagined, or experience the joy we yearn for, unless we learn to tend the soul. This book will help you tend your soul.

"Only God knows the good that can come about by reading one good Catholic book." - Saint Don Bosco





ADULT FAITH RESOURCES NOVEMBER 2021

got faith?

SYNODALITY: Pope Francis has recently opened the 2021-2023 Synod of Bishops which has as its central issue that of synodality. The website for this synod is <https://www.synod.va/en.html> and its theme is “For a Synodal Church: Communion, Participation, and Mission”. What does synodality mean? On page 13 of the preparatory document for the synod, we find the following explanation of synodality: “the *specific modus vivendi et operandi* [way of living and operating] of the Church, the People of God, which reveals and gives substance to her being as communion when all her members journey together, gather in assembly and

take an active part in her evangelizing mission.” On this journey, it is imperative that we all listen to each other and to the authentic voice of the Spirit. Let us pray for the success of this Synod!

ENVIRONMENT: The Vatican is preparing to offer suggestions on how we can work as individuals and as a community to care for our common home. On November 14, the World Day of Prayer for the Poor, the Dicastery (Department) for Promoting Integral Human Development will begin offering Laudato Si’ Planning Guides for Catholics around the world. These guides were originally scheduled to be released on October 4 (the feast day of St. Francis of Assisi); their “holistic approach supports a spiritual and cultural revolution as we strive for total sustainability in the spirit of integral ecology”. See the website for more information: <https://laudatosiactionplatform.org/>.

WORLD DAY OF THE POOR: Pope Francis’ message on the occasion of this Fifth World Day of the Poor (November 14) can be found at <https://bit.ly/Thepoor>. The theme for this day is “The poor you will always have with you”. The pope believes that this saying is not meant to lead us to indifference to the poor, but rather to mutual sharing with them. He writes: “[t]he poor are not people ‘outside’ our communities, but brothers and sisters whose sufferings we should share, in an effort to alleviate their difficulties and marginalization, restore their lost dignity and ensure their necessary social inclusion.”

SUNDAY READINGS AND SEASONS: This month we see the transition from Ordinary Time to the beginning of the new Liturgical Year (Year C) and the Season of Advent. The Sunday conclusion to the current liturgical year (Year B) is celebrated on November 21 with the Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe (Christ the King). The final weeks of the liturgical year, along with the First Sunday of Advent, always focus our attention on the end times, and we are called to be vigilant and prepared for we do not know when the Lord will come again in glory. You can prepare for the Sunday readings at <https://liturgy.slu.edu/>.

THANKSGIVING: This national holiday is celebrated this year on November 25. Though not linked to a specific religious tradition, it is a time for us to express our gratitude for all the gifts we have received throughout the year and our lives. You can find prayers for Thanksgiving Day on the Catholic Digest page <https://bit.ly/Prayersofthanks> as well as on the Franciscan Media page <https://bit.ly/FranciscanThanks>.

EUCCHARIST: The Year of the Eucharist continues to be celebrated in our Archdiocese. You can find many resources, including video testimonies on the Eucharist and a link to Bishop Robert Barron’s presentation on the Real Presence (he will be a guest at the Archdiocesan Eucharistic Congress on June 18, 2022) on the the Year of the Eucharist webpage: <https://www.bostoncatholic.org/yearoftheeucharist>.

--Leo Racine