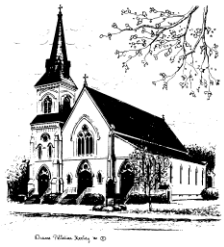

ST. MARY'S PARISH
8 CHURCH ST.
HOLLISTON, MA 01746

November 2025 Newsletter
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INSTALLATIONS & PROMOTIONS!

At the 9:30 AM Mass on October 12, we were blessed to install three new Altar Servers. Shown above, all are Juniors in High School who after participating in our Mississippi Mission Trip this summer, felt a desire to become more involved in their parish. We welcome:

Wyatt Kuchman,
Ethan Suhajda,
and John Tobin!

We also congratulate:

Scott Baribeau,
Aiden Breen,
Michael Bukow,
Joel Burgett,
Hanna Kaufman,
Anthony Meisner,
August Nelson
Daniel Nunes,
Matthew Pierce,
and Santi Silveyra-Dodds.

They were all promoted to Senior Altar Server rank at the same Mass.

Shown above, these ten teens were promoted to Senior Altar Server rank on October 12 and received their Senior Server Crosses. All have recently completed more advanced liturgical training, and we thank them for their past service and willingness to now take on greater responsibilities. Well done!

St. Mary's Parish Newsletter

November, 2025 ~ Volume 51, 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.stmaryshol liston.com

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

At two beautiful ceremonies on Saturday, September 27, forty-one of our teens received the Sacrament of Confirmation. It was an inspiring sight to witness them - standing boldly before the altar, renewing their baptismal promises, and being sealed with the Holy Spirit Who strengthens and sends. Congratulations and welcome!

CONFIRMED IN THE SPIRIT!

Giada 'Adelaide of Burgundy' Adovasio
Anna 'Dymphna' Barrett
Joseph 'Augustine of Hippo' Belger
Stella 'Rose of Lima' Blinstrub
Eleanor 'Veronica' Browne
Adriana 'Catherine of Siena' Bulmer
Susannah 'Bernadette' Butler
Declan 'Henry II' Cassidy
Caroline 'Genevieve' Cosgrove
Ella 'Vilana' Coughlin
Hector 'Achilleus' Cruz
Charlotte 'Teresa of Calcutta' Daigneault
Caroline 'Brigid of Kildare' Dietz
Thomas 'Francis Xavier' DiPippo
Benjamin 'Peter the Apostle' Dufault
Sarah 'Joan of Arc' Eppinger
Cameron 'Patrick' Flores
Eliza 'Gemma Galgani' Gebski
Henry 'Augustine of Hippo' Hayes
Elijah 'John Paul II' Hopke
Michael 'Dominic Savio' Hupfer
Emma 'Teresa of Calcutta' Kampersal
Anaya 'Maria Goretti' Kipp
Aidan 'Lawrence' Kramer
Wyatt 'Christopher' Kuchman
William 'Stephen of Hungary' MacLeod
Josephine 'Veronica' Marshall
Hadley 'Catherine of Siena' McAdams
Max 'Anthony of Padua' McErlean
Max 'John Paul II' McFadyen
Paul 'Patrick' McGrath
Addison 'Francis of Assisi' McShane
Eamonn 'Edward Oldcorne' O'Brien
Ruby 'Catherine of Siena' O'Brien
Paige 'Anne Line' Peabody
Abigail 'Elizabeth of Portugal' Perkins
Braydon 'John Leonardi' Rotz
Evan 'John Paul II' Scaramella
Brendon 'Benedict' Skelly
Lucille 'Joan of Arc' Stevens
John 'Michael the Archangel' Tobin

Saturday, November 1, Feast of All Saints: Usually a Holy Day of Obligation, All Saints is not a Mass obligation day this year because it falls on a Saturday. Let us still rejoice in the example of the saints, and ask them to pray for us to the God in Whose Presence they now dwell. Let us rededicate ourselves to becoming saints - not perfect, but redeemed by the grace of God and desiring to be one with Him in glory.

Sunday, November 2, Feast of All Souls: Because it falls on a Sunday, the Feast of All Souls will be celebrated at all Saturday Vigil and Sunday Masses that weekend. All Souls is a day dedicated to praying for the souls of the faithful departed who are undergoing purification in Purgatory. The Church teaches that these souls, though saved, are not yet fully ready to enter the presence of God and benefit from our prayers, sacrifices, and Masses offered on their behalf. This feast expresses the deep communion between the Church on earth, the souls in purgatory, and the saints in heaven. It is rooted in the belief in the Communion of Saints and the mercy of God, Who desires the salvation of all. Catholics are encouraged to visit cemeteries, attend Mass, and pray for their deceased loved ones and all the dead. Our Book of Remembrance will be in the church.

Tuesday, November 4, All Souls Candlelight Mass:

At St. Mary's, a special candlelight All Souls Mass will be celebrated on **Tuesday, Nov. 4 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.

Saturday, November 15, Parish Pasta Night: Come join your fellow parishioners for fine Italian fare, live music and great company at this year's Pasta Dinner on Saturday, November 15 from 6 to 8 PM. The menu will include rigatoni with red sauce, rigatoni with broccoli and chicken, rigatoni with butter, meatballs, salad, rolls and soda, water, juice and Italian pastries. Families with children of all ages are welcome. The cost is $10 per person, or $30 for an immediate family (parents and children). Tickets will be on sale after all Masses the weekends of November 1 & 2 and November 8 & 9, and at the R.E. Office starting November 3. There are no tickets at the door on November 15. Mangia!

November 27, 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, November 27, 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 family table to the Altar Table of God. As always, this Thanksgiving Day morning Mass will be followed by a pastry reception in Father Haley Hall.

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

Dear Good People of St. Mary's,

Each year, the month of November invites us to turn our hearts toward eternity. As the leaves fall and the days grow shorter, the Church calls us to remember the Holy Souls in Purgatory - our beloved dead who have gone before us, marked with the sign of faith, yet still being purified in the merciful love of God.

This is not a month of sadness, but of hope. We believe, as the Creed proclaims, in the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, and the life everlasting. Death does not end love. In Christ, love is stronger than death, and every act of prayer offered for the departed is an act of living faith, a bridge of grace between heaven and earth.

Saint Ambrose once wrote, *"We have loved them during life; let us not abandon them in death, until we have conducted them by our prayers into the house of the Lord."*

What a powerful truth this is. Our prayers - especially the Holy Mass and the Rosary - truly assist those who await the fullness of God's light. Prayer for the dead is not a mere tradition; it is an expression of communion and a love that refuses to forget.

When we pray for the souls of the faithful departed, we are reminded that we too are pilgrims on our way to the Father's house. In this way, November becomes a mirror in which we see both our mortality and our destiny. Life on earth is fleeting, but God's promise is eternal. The saints who now rejoice in glory once walked the same dusty roads we walk today. They too faced loss and sorrow, yet they clung to the hope that Christ has conquered death forever.

Let us make this month truly a time of prayerful remembrance and renewed hope. Visit the graves of your loved ones. Have an intentioned Mass celebrated for them. Write the name of your loved ones in our Parish Book of Remembrance. Speak their names in prayer to God. And let your heart rest in the assurance that no soul who longs for God is lost.

In His Service and Yours,

Rev. Mark J. Coiro

A Poem for the Feast of All Saints

They were not born with halos,
they were shaped by grace,
washed in the wounds of Christ,
hidden in the folds of His mercy.

Some walked desert sands in silence,
others preached on crowded streets,
some held swords, some rosaries,
some bore crowns, and some bore chains.

They wept.
They bled.
They hoped against hope.
They believed when the world went dark.
They forgave,
when the wound still stung.

The saints, they are not far.
They are nearer than breath,
watching through the veil,
burning like stars
in the great hush of Heaven.

They are the laughter of eternity,
the quiet strength behind our weakness,
the invisible hands lifting our prayers
like incense before the throne.

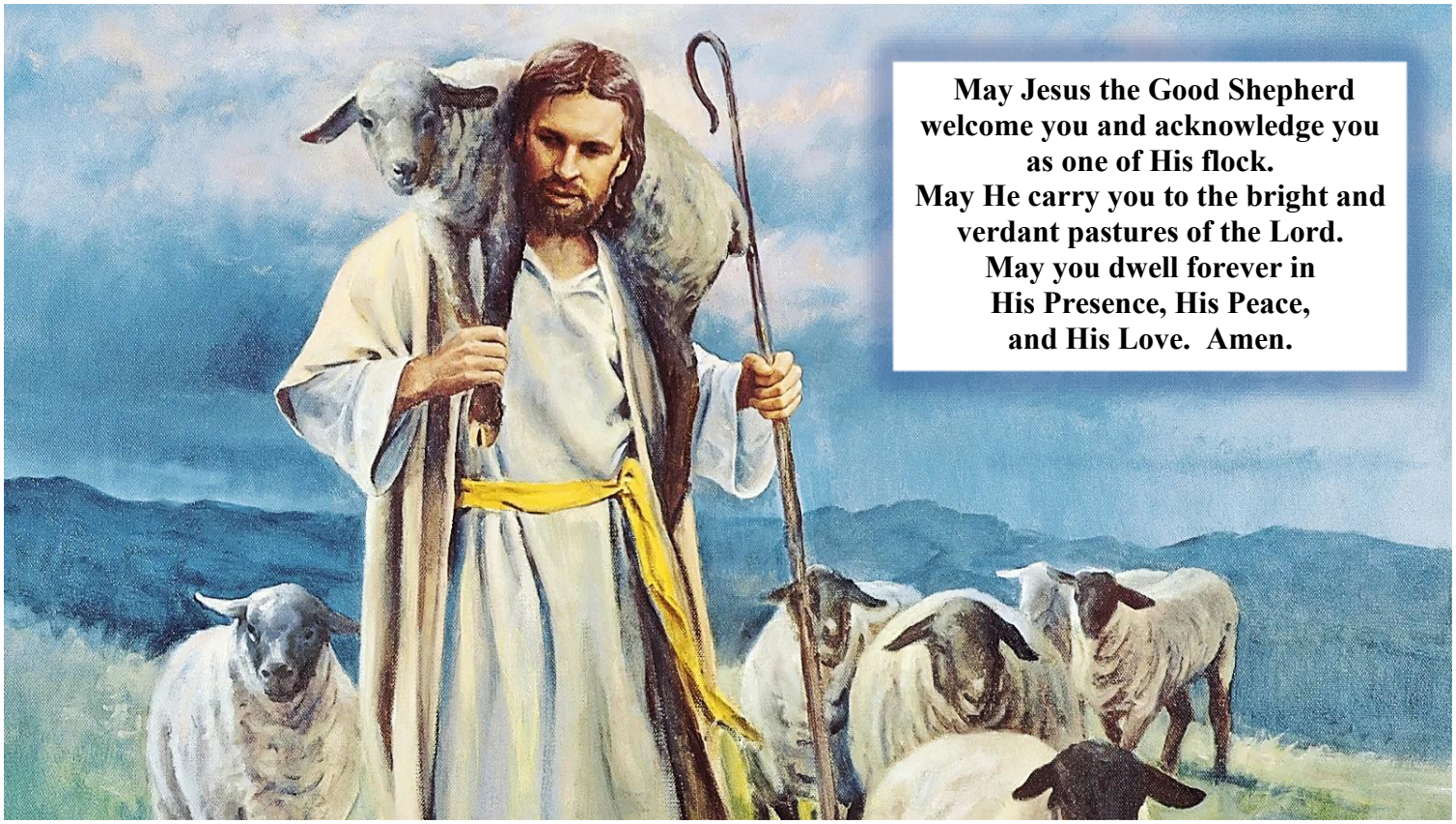
They know the road we walk,
they have stumbled on it too.
But their steps are now light,
their faces radiant,
for they have seen the Face that saves.

O holy ones,
teach us to hunger for holiness,
to walk where you walked,
even when the way is narrow,
even when the cross is heavy.

Make us brave with your bravery,
pure with your purity,
joyful with your joy.

For we are not alone,
we are part of this great communion,
this river of souls
flowing into the heart of God.

And one day,
yes, one day,
we shall join your song,
and shine like the sun
in the Kingdom of our Father. Amen.



Gerturde Reilly
John Craycroft
Frances Kampersal
Ruth Marsh
Eileen Fahey
Raymond Stackpole
Roberta McGaffigan
Virginia Petersen
Joanne Bedard
Joann Culcasi
Francis Walenski
Joan LeBlanc
Mark Duffy
Patricia Gaudette
Charles Collie
Kristin Alpert
Mary Camilleri
Audrey Foley
Ann Tomacelli
Christopher Tatevosin
Deidre Rowles
Katherine Doliner

FEAST OF ALL SOULS

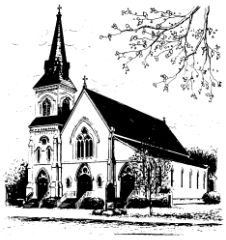
The individuals listed here were honored with Christian burial from St. Mary's since the Feast of All Souls last year. They will be commemorated in a special way at a Candlelight All Souls Mass,

Tuesday, November 4 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.

Catherine "Judy" Cruz
Gigino Cordani
Grace DiSciullo
Rita Tetrault
Beth Cassidy
Carmen Chiango
John Brazil, Jr.
Joseph Wells
Jan Lyons
Robert Herrick
Stephen Rogers
Nancy Pederzoli
Renee Balmelli
Theophilus McLelland, III
Karen Leary
Charles Redmond
Edward Sullivan, Jr.
Donald Marden
John Cosby
Bernadette Lavoie
Cheryl Brote
Nancy Hovsepian



Saint Mary's Parish

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

November, 2025

Dear Fellow Parishioners,

For the past 65 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 staff and maintain her four buildings, three of which are well over 100 years old.

As you know, the Grand Annual always takes place in November. The 2025 St. Mary's Grand Annual Collection is November 15 & 16. The goal is $150,000 - the same as the 2021, 2022, 2023, and 2024 Grand Annuals, which through your good stewardship were all achieved.

The most expensive item is the installation of two industrial A/C Units to replace the forty-six-year-old original units on the Parish Center Roof, which are both failing. The most visible facilities item is the upholstering of the wooden pew seats in the church. The hard wood can be difficult for older parishioners and others with medical conditions to sit on for the length of a Mass, concert, or other event. The new cushioned seats are custom designed to rest on the curve of our pews and should be in place before January 2026.

The Grand Annual will also cover major concrete repairs to the front and side entrances to the church, as well as the replacement of the stage spot lighting in Fr. Haley Hall. (One track was removed when it stopped working). Also, if you have felt lately that the back of the church has gotten darker, you are correct. After forty years, multiple high fixtures in the nave are so worn and cracked that they can no longer accept bulbs and must be replaced. New lighting is also needed in the Parish Center Lobby, where we are going through a bulb a week from failing fixtures.

While St. Mary's is blessed to have good handicap access via our elevator, those in wheelchairs, walkers, or crutches have difficulty opening the exterior parking lot glass door to access the elevator. We will soon be installing a push panel, automatic door system for them.

As you know from your Newsletter, St. Mary's Youth Ministry Programs have exploded in popularity in recent years. Associated costs have gone up significantly, and we hope to designate part of the Grand Annual to fund these programs that we know are so valued by our people. A complete Grand Annual breakdown follows:

$47,000	Replacement of both failing industrial A/C units on the Parish Center Hall roof.
$17,000	Middle and High School Youth Ministry Programs.
$14,000	Installation of pew seat upholstery throughout the church.
$ 8,000	Lighting Fixtures for Hall Stage, Church Nave plus, and Lobby.
$ 5,500	Concrete Repairs - demolition and new pouring.
$ 5,500	Exterior Rectory and Church, Interior Sr. Ricci House, Painting and Repairs.
$ 4,000	Handicap push plate door system for parking lot elevator entry.

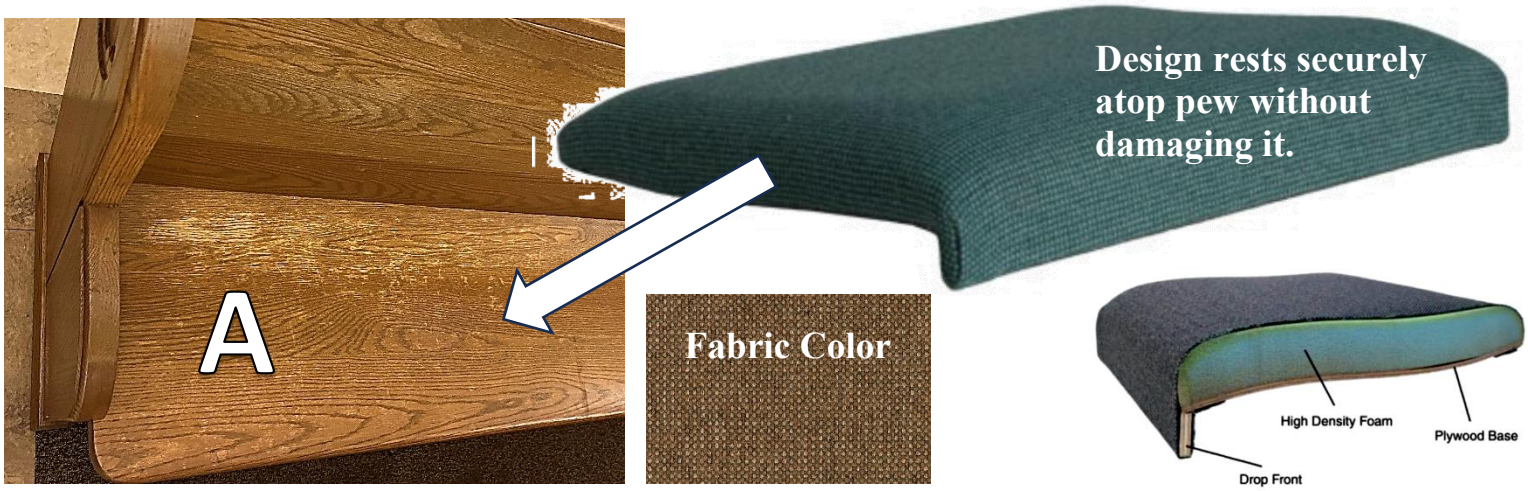
The remaining Grand Annual amount is applied to our six full-time staff salaries ($49,000).

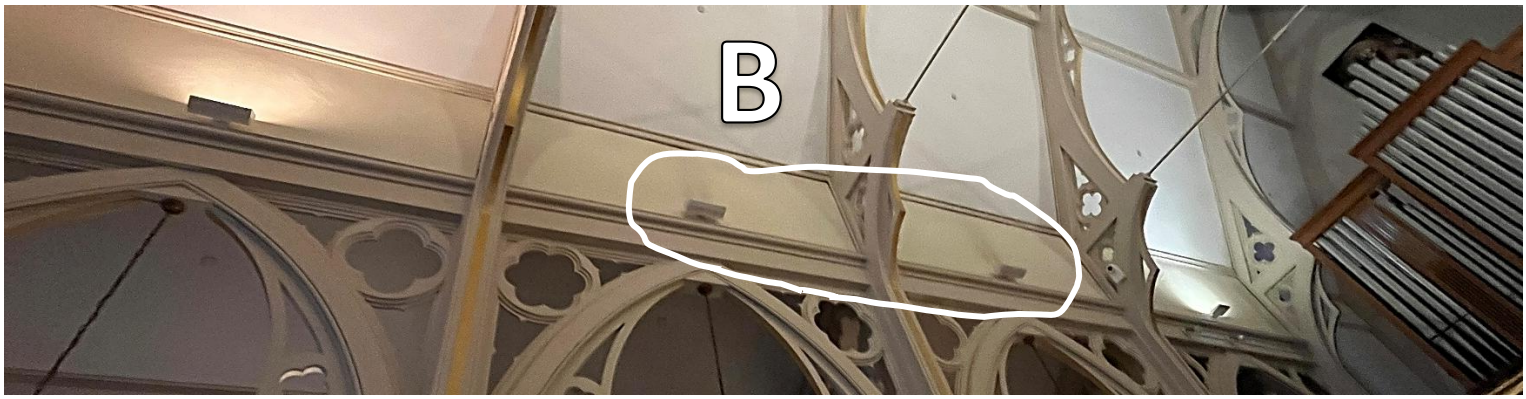
Since successfully paying off the last of her $1.2 million loan debts in the fall of 2010, St. Mary's has been able to pay her bills and remains debt free. Your generous support of St. Mary's 2025 Grand Annual will assure that the hard-won financial health of our parish continues. We realize that these current economic times are difficult for many. But if we <u>all</u> do what we can according to our means, then the 2025 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 Kevin Diamond





PHOTOS OF A FEW OF THE 2025 GRAND ANNUAL ITEMS

A - Church Pew Seats, upholstery instead of refinishing the wood.
B - Irreparable Church Upper Nave Lighting Fixtures will be replaced.
C - A Push Plate Automatic Door System will be installed for easier handicap access.
D - Damaged concrete removal and full repouring. Church front and Lower Church side steps.
E - Church and Rectory paint repairs.
F - Replace stage spotlights.

HOW TO MAKE YOUR 2025 GRAND ANNUAL GIFT

Please carefully review the Grand Annual information provided to you by the St. Mary's Finance Council in this Newsletter.

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 15 & 16**, 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. You may also place it in the offertory basket at any Mass.

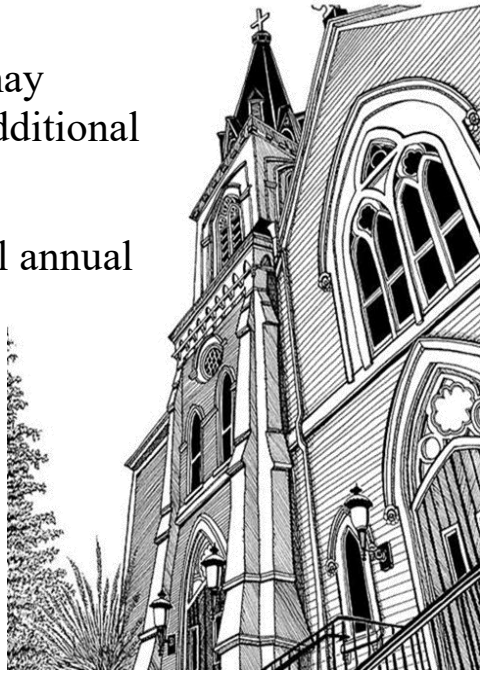
It is important that the special gold envelope, or an envelope clearly marked "Grand Annual" be used.

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



The missing stage lighting track will also be replaced.

Knights of Columbus

St. Mary's Council #14224 November, 2025

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

COUNCIL PRESENTS DONATIONS TO LOCAL CHARITIES AT CELEBRATE HOLLISTON: On Saturday, September 20, Council Knights presented donation checks to the Holliston Pantry Shelf, The Holliston Senior Support Foundation, Doug Flutie, Jr. Foundation for Autism, Metrowest Veterans Emergency Relief Fund, and the O'Connell House Women's Shelter. The donations totaled $25,500, raised from our Third Annual "Swing for Charity" Golf Tournament and the Annual Charity Raffle.

DIVINE MERCY SHRINE PILGRIMAGE: Thirty-four parishioners enjoyed a sunny and warm day at the Divine Mercy Shrine in Stockbridge on October 6. After lunch at the Red Lion Inn, we boarded the bus to Eden Hill, the site of the Shrine. There we prayed the Stations of the Cross, followed by outdoor Mass, the Chaplet of Divine Mercy, Benediction and Veneration of a relic of St. Faustina. Grand Knight Tom Brodo and Knights Deacon Ron Dowding and Mitch Liro were the leaders.

AN INVITATION: Dear Brother in Christ, are you ready to put your faith into action? The Knights of Columbus is a dynamic community of Catholic men committed to service, brotherhood, and spiritual growth. Whether it's feeding the hungry, supporting parish life, or defending the faith, there's a place for you among us. Together, we become stronger fathers, husbands, and disciples. Step into a mission bigger than yourself - become a Knight today. Contact Grand Knight Tom Brodo at StMarysHollistonKofC@gmail.com to talk about the possibilities. And welcome!

UPCOMING EVENTS

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 19 - PARISH ROSARY: All Parishioners are warmly invited to join us in the prayerful devotion of the Holy Rosary. Join us in the church at 7 PM as we come together to honor Our Blessed Mother and seek her powerful intercession. In the stillness of prayer, let us unite our hearts in faith, gratitude, and hope, lifting our intentions to God through Mary's loving hands. May this sacred time bring peace to your soul and draw us all closer to the heart of Jesus.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 22 - RECYCLING EVENT WITH THE GREEN TEAM JUNK REMOVAL: Gather up unwanted clutter and electronic devices and bring them to St. Mary's parking lot from 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM for recycling sponsored by Green Team Junk Removal and our Council. Recycled items will have a donation charge. Further details of accepted items will be in the parish weekly bulletins leading up to the recycling event. In addition, the Green Team will send a direct mail flyer to all Holliston residents prior to the event.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 23 - DEPARTED MEMBERS MASS AND INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS: The Council will remember our departed Knights at the 11:30 AM Mass followed by the formal Installation of our 2026 Officers. These last include our new Grand Knight, Tom Brodo, and our new Deputy Grand Knight, Charlie Paradie.

COR ~ ST. MARY'S FAITH ENRICHMENT PROGRAM FOR MEN.

Cor, St. Mary's faith enrichment program for men, is well into its second season. With the helpful guidance of Deacon Ron Dowding, we have been journeying through the Old Testament with a focus on God's salvific plan. Our exploration of the Old Testament has led to many meaningful discussions about God's plan for us, our own journeys to or away from God and the Catholic Church's teachings on a variety of issues.

Our first October meeting explored the story of the prophet, Jeremiah, who, although initially reluctant, and perpetually persecuted, boldly proclaimed that destruction was imminent unless the people repented of their sins and turned back to God. Despite its dire warnings, the Book of Jeremiah reminds us that even where there is unfaithfulness, God always remains faithful to His promises, that He is always ready to forgive our sins, and that he greatly desires a restored relationship with Him.

The November Cor meeting will be on November 13 in Father Haley Hall. All men of St. Mary's parish aged 18 or older are invited to participate in *Cor*. We meet on the 2nd and 4th Thursdays of the month up to December 11 (except there will be no meeting on November 27) from 7 - 9 PM. Our mission is to help and support each other as we seek to deepen our relationship with God, through scripture, catechesis, prayer and small group discussions. For more information, contact StMarysCor@gmail.com.

FOR ALL WOMEN ~ COME ENJOY THE LAST TWO GATHERINGS IN OUR FALL SERIES, "Spiritualities of the Catholic Church."

Women **I**n **G**od's **S**pirit meets on Wednesdays from 9:45 - 11:15 AM. Join from anywhere on Zoom (being local or a parishioner is not required), or come in person. Free babysitting is available!

Nov. 5: "Finding God in All Things." - The Jesuits. The Jesuit spirituality of finding God in all things invites us to recognize the divine presence not only in moments of prayer, but also in the ordinary experiences of daily life. It encourages a deep attentiveness to the world around us - people, nature, work, and even suffering - as places where God is actively present and speaking. This way of seeing fosters a sense of gratitude, humility, and purpose, grounding us in a faith that is both contemplative and engaged with the world.

Nov. 12: "Love Conquers All." - The Augustinians. In Augustinian spirituality, "love conquers all" reflects the belief that true love - rooted in God - is the ultimate force that transforms the human heart and unites us with divine truth. For Augustine, it is not reason alone but love that draws us toward goodness and heals the wounds of sin and division. This love, when ordered rightly toward God, overcomes all obstacles and leads the soul to its deepest peace and fulfillment.

Email us or drop in to a meeting! stmaryswingssecretary@gmail.com. Scan for Facebook

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NOVEMBER EVENTS

INSCRIPTION MASS FOR CHILDREN PREPARING FOR THE SACRAMENTS OF FIRST CONFESSION AND HOLY COMMUNION: Children will be inscribed into the Sacramental Program on Sunday, November 9 at the 4:00 PM Mass. The children's parents will bring their children before the altar and make several promises to faithfully teach and model the Catholic Faith to their children at home; faithfully bring their children to Mass every week; and bring them to religious education classes. The children will present their handmade paper hearts, a sign of their love for Jesus, to be placed on display in the center for everyone to view.

GRADE 3 MINISTRY FAIR: Our Traditional Grade 3 Ministry Fair will be held on Monday, November 17 from 4:00 to 5:30 PM. All Grade 3 children and their teachers will meet in Fr. Haley Hall. Fr. Mark, Deacon John Barry, the Music Director Abbey Kelley-Lanser with two children's choir members, the children's Altar Server Ministry, a Sacristan, an extraordinary Eucharistic Minister, and a lector will share what they do to serve St. Mary's Parish community in their ministries. Parents are welcome to attend.

CHRSTMAS NATIVITY AND SIGN-UPS: Children in Grades 1 through 4 will be invited to register to take part in our annual Christmas Nativity Pageant. Look for a letter and registration form in early November! The pageant takes place on Christmas Eve during the 4:00 PM Mass. Please encourage your children to take part in this beautiful pageant. Deborah Frey will coordinate and direct the Nativity rehearsals scheduled for Saturday December 6, December 13, and December 20 from 9:00 to 10:00 AM. All forms must be returned by November 16.

TEACHERS AND MONITORS ARE NEEDED: Our Religious Education program has begun and we are still short several Teachers and Monitors. Please see our weekly bulletin back page for our needs. Our young people need to grow in their faith shared with their families at home. Please consider offering your time and talents for Christ.

NEWS FROM OUR CATECHESIS OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD ATRIUM: The first session with the children on Sunday, October 5 was a success. The three to five-year old children responded well to the new Montessori program and engaged fully listening to Sacred Scripture. Working with their hands in the practical life areas, they are forming their own expression and experience of prayer with the Good Shepherd, Who is Christ Himself. CGS Photo Below.

NOTE FROM A CATHOLIC MOM

As a Catholic mother, I poured my heart into giving my child every opportunity - education, music lessons, sports, a loving home, and endless encouragement. But in all the busy striving, I now see the one treasure I failed to pass on with intention: the gift of faith. We rarely made it to Sunday Mass, and prayer at home was occasional, not a rhythm. I thought love and good values would be enough. But now, watching my grown child search for meaning in a noisy world, I realize what a steady anchor our faith could have been.

To my fellow Catholic parents: don't underestimate the quiet power of planting seeds of faith. Sunday Mass, family prayers, and simply speaking about God's presence - these are not burdens, but blessings. Our Church offers more than rules; it offers Christ Himself, the source of peace, joy, and strength. It's never too early, or too late, to build your home on that foundation. I now pray daily for my child's return to the Church, trusting in God's mercy. Be encouraged: even small acts of faith at home can echo into eternity. Give your children not only the world, but the One who made it.

St. Mary's Parish Middle School Youth Group

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

GRADE 6 DEERFIELD WHITEWATER

The date was Friday, August 22, as a group of St. Mary's MSYG 6th Graders and adult leaders embarked on a day of Class I-III whitewater adventure on the Deerfield River in Western MA. The 7th and 8th Grade MSYG members had rafted the Kennebec River in June, and now these younger members had their chance for whitewater adventure. First, they mastered such rapids as "Sideways Splash", "Freight Train" and "Pinball". Then it was time for "Zoar Gap" - at Class III the day's biggest rapid. This was followed by several miles of water bucket fights and swimming in the deeper spots. Awesome fun!

MSYG OCTOBER KICK OFF

Thank you everyone who made the October 5 Middle School Youth Group Kick Off such a success! 105 teens met new people by playing Human BINGO, reflected on the meaning of their Bible Bracelet verses, and played a crazy Boys vs. Girls Game of Bible Story Charades. Then everybody enjoyed delicious ice cream together. (Group Photo Below). After the Meeting teens helped bring Baby Shower for the Unborn donations down from the church. A great group of kids!

NEXT MSYG MEETING

Sunday, November 2, 6:30 - 8 PM

Come Enjoy ~ A Prayer Service for our Beloved Departed; A Giant Milk & Cookie Bar; plus Sign-Ups for the annual Cookie Walk (Dec. 13 & 14); Sign-Ups for Paintball (Tuesday, Nov. 11);
And Sign-Ups for Grade 7 BINGO at Timothy Daniel's Nursing Home (Friday, Nov. 21)!

St. Mary's Parish High School Youth Group

Contact Lisa Dufault, st.marystgif1870@gmail.com, 508-429-6076 ext. 3

TGIF (Teens Gather In Faith): TGIF Teens Serve with Joy Making Bagged Lunches for the Homeless. Our St. Mary's TGIF High School Youth Group recently put their faith into action by preparing 150 bagged lunches for those in need at Father Bill's & MainSpring. Each lunch was lovingly packed with a sandwich, chips, an apple, and freshly baked cookies, a small gesture of kindness made even more special by the teens' hand-decorated lunch bags filled with encouraging messages and colorful artwork.

St. Mary's Parish High School Youth Group

Contact Lisa Dufault, st.marystgif1870@gmail.com, 508-429-6076 ext. 3

TGIF (Teens Gather In Faith) *Continued from the previous page.* This act of service was more than just a project, it was a living example of the Corporal Works of Mercy, specifically feeding the hungry. As Catholics, we are called to see Christ in others and to serve with compassion and humility. Through this simple yet meaningful effort, our teens shared God's love in a tangible way, reminding us that small acts of service can make a big difference. *"If you offer your food to the hungry and satisfy the needs of the afflicted, then your light shall rise in the darkness, and your gloom be like the noonday."* - Isaiah 58:10

The TGIF teens continue to grow in faith, friendship, and service, living out the Gospel call to love our neighbor and to be the hands and feet of Christ in the world.

2025 - 2026 TGIF DATES

Anna Maria College Youth Rally Trip - Sunday, November 9, 2025

Meeting - Sunday, November 16, 2025

Meeting - Sunday, December 14, 2025 - SPECIAL LOCATION!!!

Meeting - Sunday, January 25, 2026

BINGO FUNDRAISER - Friday, January 16, 2026

Meeting - Sunday, February 22, 2026

Meeting - Sunday, March 15, 2026

EGGSTRAVAGANZA FUNDRAISER - Sunday, March 29, 2026

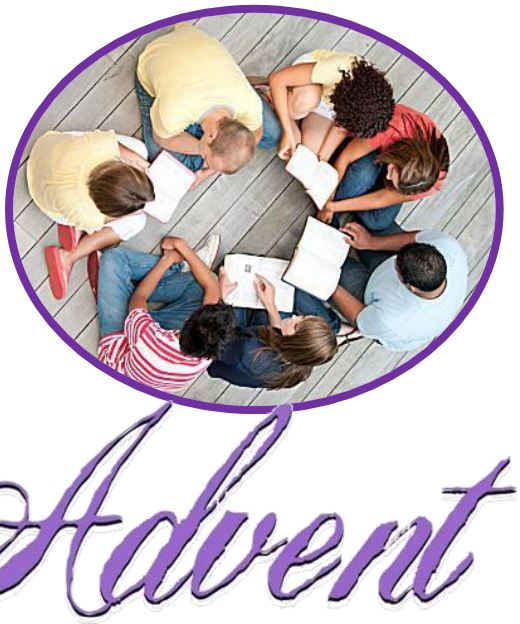
Meeting - Sunday, April 26, 2026

MOTHER'S DAY FLOWER FUNDRAISER - Saturday, May 9 & Sunday, May 10, 2026

TGIF Family Potluck - Sunday, May 31, 2026

We are still working on the dates for the 2026 Mission Trip. Thank you for your patience with this. We know people are trying to make summer plans and hope to have these dates and information soon!

BE ON THE LOOKOUT FOR DETAILS OF OUR **TGIF ADVENT STUDY.** LAST YEAR A GROUP OF TEENS MET WEEKLY THROUGHOUT ADVENT AND TOGETHER WE READ AN ADVENT DEVOTIONAL AND PRAYED TOGETHER. SIGNUPS WILL BE AT OUR NOVEMBER 16 TGIF MEETING.



STMARYS_TGIF

Be sure to follow us on Instagram @STMARYS_TGIF to hear about upcoming events and to keep up with our adventures! You don't have to be a Teen or Parent of a Teen in TGIF to follow along. It is a wonderful way, in addition to your prayers, to show your support for this amazing ministry!

Troop 14 Holliston

Boy Scouts of America
St. Mary's Parish * November, 2025

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

Contact: Mike Hebert, Scoutmaster
603 - 520 - 9045

Email: Troop14Holliston@yahoo.com

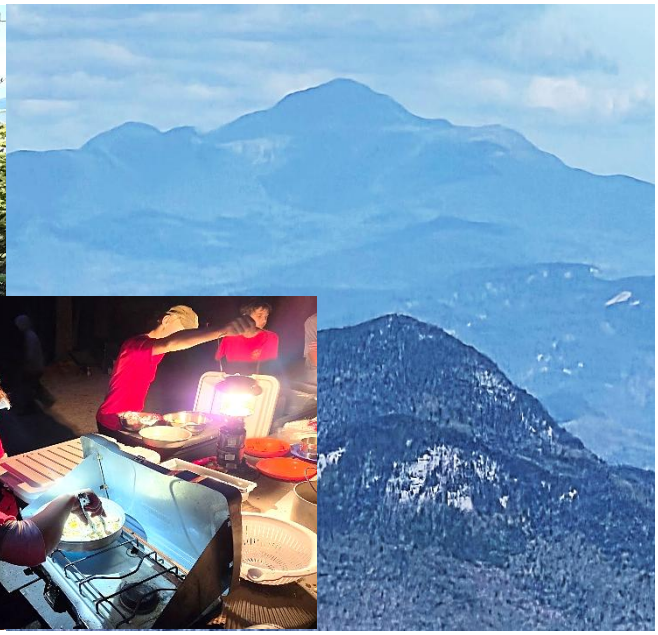
If interested in joining Troop 14, contact the Scoutmaster. It is an ideal organization for boys in sixth grade or above.

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

MOUNT PASSACONAWAY HIKE AND CAMPOUT: The first out-of-state campout of the year took place the weekend of October 4 - 5. Thanks to great fall weather, a group of 19 Scouts and leaders enjoyed a 10-mile hike on 4,043-foot Mount Passaconaway in the White Mountains of New Hampshire, followed by a well-earned dinner and campout. At the summit, Scouts were greeted with a clear view of the fall foliage with Mount Washington in the distance.

NEW SCOUTING YEAR: On September 8, Troop 14 held its first meeting of the 2025-2026 Scouting year. The Troop is now 65 Scouts strong, a milestone for the Troop as this is the largest it has ever been! Troop 14 also has a new Scoutmaster Michael Hebert, who brings many years of personal Scouting experience and Scout leadership to the Troop.

NOBSCOT CAMPOUT: Scouts from Troop 14 attended the annual fall campout at Nobscot Scout Reservation in Sudbury from September 19 - 21. This is a fun campout that is a great way to ease back into the Scouting year and spend time together as a Troop. It is also a great opportunity for our newer Scouts, many of whom spent a week at summer camp at Camp Squanto in Plymouth, to gain additional experience camping with Troop 14. Our time at Nobscot included hiking up to the scenic overlook of the Tippling Rock trail, service work, campfires, games and working on rank requirements including cooking camp meals. Scouts enjoyed the evening cracker barrel that included freshly made Cobbler.



NOTE-WORTHY HAPPENINGS IN THE MUSIC MINISTRY

Stay up to date with our musical ensembles!

St. Mary's Music Ministry | @MusicAtStMarysHolliston | Music Ministry Webpage

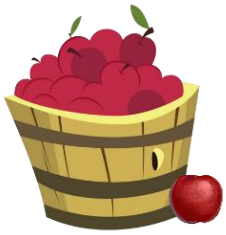
@YouthMusicJams

St. Mary's Music Ministry is Growing

Congrats to the Children! Our **Children's Choir** sang their first two 9:30 AM Sunday Masses on September 28 and October 26, and they received enthusiastic feedback from listeners and parents. These first two months of rehearsals focused on growing our whole selves through musicianship for God's Musical Harvest. Every song we sing is an intentional prayer, incorporating "Body, mind, spirit, voice: it takes the whole person to sing and rejoice!" - *Helen Kemp (1918-2015), Influential Children's Choir Educator*

As of October, the **Adult Choir** has almost 30 members! It was a joy to bring our special anthem "Alleluia" by Mark Repasky to honor the teens who were Confirmed in September. We look forward to continuing to offer our harmonies at weekly 11:30 AM Sunday Masses, as well as for the upcoming All Souls Candlelight Mass on November 4. Save the date the evening of Sunday, December 14 for our annual Lessons & Carols Concert to hear more beautiful reflections on our Faith.

Youth Music Jams are in session! This apple-picking season, it's time for you to *pick* your musical gifts and passions to *jam* for the Lamb. Teens in Grades 7 and up are invited to bring their instruments and singing voices to our open rehearsals. Vote Christian songs to play!

Email musicatstmarysholliston@gmail.com for the SCHEDULE.

Which instrument will YOU pick?