



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

Summer Newsletter 2022
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DECLAN'S BAG DESIGN CHOSEN FOR IMPORTANT CANCER FUNDRAISER!

Congratulations to St. Mary's Parishioner Declan Cassidy, whose artwork was chosen this year by the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute to go on reusable shopping bags. These bags are sold at select HomeGoods and HomeSense stores across the USA. Fifty percent of the proceeds of the purchase price of the bags will benefit the lifesaving mission of the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute and the Jimmy Fund. Declan is a patient at the Jimmy Fund Clinic and his name appears on the bottom front of each bag (see below).

On August 23, Declan and his family will be guests during the WEEI Jimmy Fund Telethon from Fenway Park. Tune in to WEEI 93.7 FM and New England Sports Network throughout the 36-hour broadcast to hear stories of courage and hope from Dana-Farber Cancer Institute patients, doctors, nurses, and supporters. Join in the mission to strike out cancer for patients in Boston and around the world!

Learn more at:

<https://www.jimmyfund.org/events/cancer-fundraising-events/weei-nesn-jimmy-fund-radio-telethon/>

ARTWORK BY DECLAN C., AGE 12, a patient at Dana-Farber's Jimmy Fund Clinic.

St. Mary's Parish Newsletter

Summer, 2022 ~ Volume 48, Number 7



St. Mary's Parish
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Holliston, MA 01746

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Twenty Baptized into Christ ~

The St. Mary's Parish Family welcomes these little ones recently initiated to the Catholic Faith by Holy Baptism. We ask God to protect and inspire them, filling them with a joyful love of the Lord. We ask God to make their parents and godparents into living examples of Christian life. We ask God to help us all support these twenty children as they grow in faith. Together, may we find our way to Christ Jesus, Who is forever the Way, the Truth, and the Life. Amen!

Shown in the photo below from left to right are the most recently Baptized children: Reagan Bernadette Williams, Griffin Branco Garland, and Nathaniel Ramana Nambi.



Baptism is the door of the
spiritual life and the
gateway to the sacraments.

Thomas Aquinas

Quinn Alexander Berg

Jack Goodwin Kane

Thomas Francis Chalder

Connor Christopher Vaillant

Leonardo Michael Lafferty

Lillian Marie Livingston

Olivia Rae Grace

Mary Elizabeth Doyle

Luna Violette Paap-Rodriguez

Paige Madelene Swinimer

Garrett Orlando Matthews

Henry Donovan Gervasio

Koen Michael Hopfinger

Barrett David Hopfinger

Thomas Benjamin Price

Holly Margaret Krenselewski

Benjamin Wyatt Bonaldi

Reagan Bernadette Williams

Nathaniel Ramana Nambi

Griffin Branco Garland



FIRST HOLY COMMUNIONS!

On June 11 & 18, fifty-two students made their First Holy Communion at St. Mary's. Holy Communion is the second of the three Catholic sacraments of initiation, the others being Baptism and Confirmation. After years of watching their mothers and fathers receive Holy Communion, these young people were finally able to take their place at God's table. Having been received into the Eucharistic Fellowship, these boys and girls will now be fortified by God's grace each week as they receive Jesus' Body and Blood – the spiritual food by which He strengthens His love and presence in our lives.

Wearing the parish's Our Mother of Perpetual Help vestment, Father Mark compared the two hands of the child Jesus shown clutching Mary - to the two sacraments of Confession and Communion. *"Keep Confession and Sunday Mass in your lives,"* said Father, *"and you will always be held close to your mother the Church – you will always be close to God."*

Because the First Communions took place on Saturdays, the children made their Second Holy Communion the very next day on Sunday, where they were called forward, presented with certificates and applauded by the whole St. Mary's Parish Family. **WELCOME TO THE TABLE OF THE LORD!**

St. Mary's Annual Spring BBQ!

The mouthwatering smell of barbecue filled the Parish Center as Tennessee's Restaurant fired up the grill for St. Mary's annual Spring Barbecue, held Saturday, June 11, 2022. Parishioners of all ages gathered for fellowship and a feast of barbecued chicken, pulled pork, beans, garden salad, corn bread, and more. Homemade desserts were provided by parishioners, and the live musical entertainment came courtesy of the Alan Kaufman Trio – a wonderful bluegrass band. The little ones loved dancing to the music! Thank you to all who made this night so special, especially the Knights of Columbus who hosted and their families who pitched in to help. A special joy was the presence of many new families, who were invited for free as our special guests. Welcome to Saint Mary's! May your time as part of our Parish Family be truly blessed!





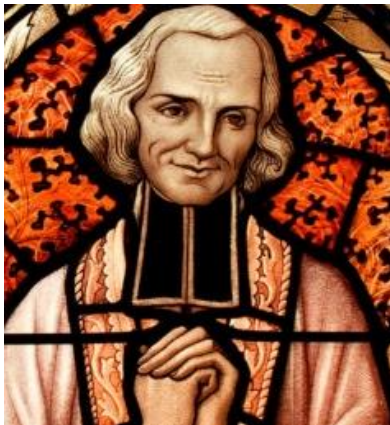
A DAY IN THE LIFE

By Fr. Mark J. Coiro

Every so often people express curiosity as to what the average day in the life of a priest is like. They know we celebrate Masses on Sunday, but what do weekdays involve? Some have suggested that I should document one day, and so here it is - **Thursday, August 4, 2022.**

7:00 AM: The alarm goes off, and I prayed Morning Prayer and the Office of Readings. This is part of the Liturgy of the Hours, the Universal Prayer of the Church that priests promise to pray for our people.

7:30 AM: Took my dog Crispin out on the lawn for his morning ablutions, grabbed the newspapers from the driveway, and made two poached eggs on toast for breakfast. I try to say a Hail Mary after each sad article I read, which this morning included fire victims, war victims, and a woman killed in an automobile accident.



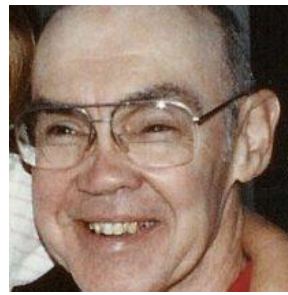
9:00 AM: Daily Mass which I celebrated. The intention was for Daniel Gasti, and it was the Feast Day of St. John Vianney – the Patron Saint of Parish Priests. The First Reading was about treasure in earthen vessels, and I preached about how

God uses imperfect, fragile people to good purpose. John Vianney, for instance, was a poor student, who struggled with his Latin. But he proved to be one of the most compassionate and effective priests ever to serve God's people.

9:30 AM: After Mass I was asked to please hear someone's Confession - appropriate this day as John Vianney was famed for his ministry in this sacrament. People would travel for days to see him, and he spent up to ten hours a day in Confession.

9:45 AM: I fed Crispin then walked him around the block, stopping to chat with someone walking a beautiful three-year-old Black Lab named "Noble." Crispin was not impressed.

10:15 AM: Met with our secretary Mary Beth and did some planning and sacramental document signing with her.



11:00 AM: Celebrated the Funeral Mass of ninety-three-year-old Charlie Coles, a longtime parishioner and faithful usher at our 11:30 AM Mass until the pandemic. Charlie was a kind and humble man, who always gave his all to his family, his parish, and his community. For nearly twelve years he cared for his beloved wife Frances at home until her passing in 2016. Charlie spent the past several years in Assisted Living in Georgia, where family could help care for him. We were honored to welcome Charlie home to Holliston for his Funeral Mass. I did not offer the burial prayers, which were in Sturbridge, MA where Charlie was laid to rest with Frances and his parents.

12:15 PM: Prayed Daytime Prayer and called my friend Fr. Brian about some vacation details. Made a ham sandwich for lunch, drank lots and lots of water, and took two Advil in preparation for what was coming next.

1:00 PM: Received my second Moderna Covid Vaccine booster shot at CVS in Medway. I was going to wait for the more targeted booster available in October, but because I will be travelling to Ireland soon, I was advised to get my booster now. Ouch.



2:45 PM: Returned to the rectory and took Crispin and Charlie for a short walk then played ball with them inside. Charlie is our Parish Secretary's dog, and she sometimes brings her by after lunch. Often, I will take Crispin and Charlie for a hike on the Charles River Trails, (good exercise for me also), but it was just too hot and humid. Crispin and Charlie are definitely best buddies!



3:15 PM: I kept an appointment with a young person in the Parish Center library who is studying the Catholic faith with Deacon Ron Dowding and considering taking part in R.C.I.A. this fall. The young person had some questions they specifically wanted to ask a priest as they consider being Baptized and committing themselves to Christ as a Catholic Christian.

3:45 PM: Drove to Walmart in Bellingham. The Middle School Youth Group Trip to Brownstone Quarry was the next day and the forecast was for brutal heat and humidity. So even though the kids were instructed to bring their own drinks for the day, I decided to buy two extra bottles of water for each kid. (Also pop tarts for the bus ride). I called and checked in with my parents on the way.



5:00 PM: Returned to St. Mary's, where Paula O'Brien kindly helped me unload everything into the Parish Center kitchen refrigerator. Fed Crispin and let him out on the lawn. Then I met briefly with recent high school graduate Robert Payne, who was helping out in my place on the MSYG Trip to Brownstone. I gave him instructions and showed him where everything was for loading the bus in the morning.

5:30 PM: I met with our Business Manager Mary Sanning to sign checks for the parish bills. The biggest were the Eversource electric bill for \$2,040, and the Sadlier religious education textbook bill for \$3,332. We also looked at the summer offertory (struggling a bit).

6:00 PM: Had a scheduled planning meeting by phone with the out of state family of Margaret "Peggy" King, whose Funeral Mass I would be celebrating on Saturday, August 6. Peggy grew up in Holliston but left seventy years ago when she married. She passed at ninety-five years old.



6:30 PM: Forwarded the King's Funeral music requests to our Music Director and printed out the scripture reading choices. I received an email requesting the Anointing of the Sick for a seven-year-old parishioner undergoing surgery on August 11 and arranged to celebrate that sacrament with

the family following the 11:30 AM Mass on Sunday. I also confirmed a Communion home visit for another parishioner for Sunday afternoon.

6:45 PM: During my call with Peggy's family, a voicemail had come in about some trees cut down at St. Mary's Cemetery. I reached out to multiple people

trying to find out who did it and why. I was only able to reach our Cemetery caretakers, R & R Landscaping, who had not cut anything, and like us knew nothing about it. I left several messages for others and emailed the caller promising to find out what had occurred and get back to them the next day. Said a prayer for all.

7:20 PM: I made chicken and rice for dinner (love those 1-minute microwave rice cups), then prayed Evening Prayer.

8:15 PM: Received another call about the cemetery, and talked with them for some time, mostly promising to find out what had happened and why no notification was made. Very nice man, whose wife I used to bring Communion to at home before she passed.

8:45 PM: Arm started to hurt from the booster shot. Gave Crispin a full walk around the block. Went to my study upstairs and watched the second half of Indiana Jones and



the Raiders of the Lost Ark which I had DVR'd. My favorite part is definitely when the Ark is opened and the Nazi's get what's coming to them! Crispin is the only dog I've ever had who likes to watch television, actually staring at the screen and moving his head with the action. Nothing above a PG rating though, he's only three and a half.



10:15 PM: Got ready for bed, then prayed Night Prayer. I began the practice many years ago of kneeling at my bedside for this, always facing a cross on the opposite wall that my mom and dad gave me when I was ordained. I then prayed my little blue book – the book containing all the urgent situations and people for

whom I have promised to pray. I then prayed for family, and in a special way for my godson, goddaughter, and also my sister-in-law who had Covid with strong symptoms. My final prayer every night is for any Catholics who no longer practice their faith to come home and be blessed again by all the gifts and graces God provides His Holy Church.

10:30 PM: Time for bed. I always read for a while to help me get to sleep. Currently I am reading a great sci-fi book, "Eyes of the Void," by Adrian Tchaikovsky. Then lights out around 11 PM. Goodnight!

Knights of Columbus

St. Mary's Council #14224 Summer, 2022

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



FIRST ANNUAL "SWING FOR CHARITY" GOLF TOURNAMENT: On Friday, June 3 at Pinecrest Golf Course, the Council held the first charity Golf Tournament. Eighty-eight golfers participated in the event that culminated in the Council presenting to the Holliston Pantry Shelf a check for \$9,000! Numerous prizes were offered and an 'Anthony's on the Green' luncheon was included. Knights John Curran and Anthony Polise led the tournament committee.



SILVER ROSE SERVICE, WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 21 at 7 PM

This September, our Council is honored to host the Silver Rose Service. The Silver Rose program demonstrates the unity between Knights of Columbus in Canada, the United States and Mexico, through a series of prayer services promoting the dignity of all human life and honoring Our Lady.



Each year, from early March through mid-December, Silver Roses are stewarded by Knights of Columbus councils along routes from Canada to Mexico. Every stop the Silver Rose makes throughout the pilgrimage is a rosary-centered occasion for Knights, parishioners and community members to pray for respect for life, for the spiritual renewal of each nation, and for the advancement of the message of Our Lady of Guadalupe.

All are invited to take part in this beautiful prayer.



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS AND THE NATIONAL EUCHARISTIC REVIVAL: Supreme Knight Patrick Kelly in the June issue of Columbia asked Knights in the United States "...to support and promote the movement with courage and zeal.... Knights of Columbus should promote belief in Christ's presence in the Eucharist themselves, their families and others....Being a Knight of the Eucharist requires endurance in the face of fear and a confidence built on love for that which is greater-and, particularly, for [H]e who is greater."

Knights of Columbus

St. Mary's Council #14224 Summer, 2022

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



K of C COUNCIL #14224 FOURTEENTH ANNUAL CHARITY RAFFLE: The Council is selling chances for our annual Charity Raffle. Your vital support has enabled the Council to donate over \$250,000 so far to charities including the local food pantries, Veteran's organizations, Habitat for Humanity, Holliston Senior Center, and others. Please continue to support our raffle in our efforts to aid those needing food or aid. Tickets will again be \$5 each or a book of five tickets for \$20. Prizes from \$100 to \$1,000. The Drawing will be held October 9. Don't know a Knight? Contact Tom Anguish at stanguish@hotmail.com for tickets. **Or, on September 24 and 25, Knights will be selling tickets after all Masses.**

MEMBERSHIP DRIVE FOR 2022: 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 kofc.org/joinus. On-line membership allows you to obtain all K of C benefits including outstanding insurance plans and optional membership in our St. Mary's Council.



St. Mary's Religious Education

"The Lord Jesus invites men and women, in a special way, to follow Him, as teacher and formers of disciples" (GDC 231). Please consider our Teacher and Monitor needs below:

**CLASSES BEGIN THE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 18, 2022.
TOGETHER MAY WE GROW IN OUR LOVE OF THE LORD!**

Teachers are required for classes to begin on time.

GRADES	DAY AND TIME	TEACHERS	MONITORS
SUNDAY			
PRE-K.	9:15 to 10:30 AM	3 Teens	Filled
Kind.	9:15 to 10:30 AM	4 Adults-4 Teens	Filled
GR-1A	8:10 to 9:20 AM	10 Adults-2/class	Filled
GR-2A	8:10 to 9:20 AM	4 Adults-2/class	1
GR-2A	10:45 AM to Noon	4 Adults -2/class	1
GR-3A	7:55 AM to 9:25	3 Adults	1
GR-3A	10:45AM-12:15 PM	2 Adults	1
GR-4A	10:45AM-12:15 PM	3 Adults	1
GR-5A	10:45AM-12:15 PM	1 Adults	1
GR-6A	4:00 to 5:30 PM	Filled	1
GR-7A	5:00 to 6:30 PM	4 Adults	1
GR-9A	11:30 AM- 2:30 PM	8 Adults	Filled
GR-10A	11:30 AM- 2:30 PM	8 Adults	1
MONDAY			
GR-8B	4:00 to 5:30 PM	2 Adults	1

Monitors are required for classes to begin in the fall.

GRADES	DAY AND TIME	TEACHERS	MONITORS
TUESDAY			
GR-3C	4:00 to 5:30 PM	3 Adults	1
GR-4C	4:00 to 5:30 PM	4 Adults	1
GR-5C	4:00 to 5:30 PM	4 Adults	1
GR-6C	4:00 to 5:30 PM	2 Adults	1
GR-8C	6:00 to 7:30 PM	4 Adults	1
WEDNESDAY			
GR-2D	4:15 to 5:30 PM	2 Adults	Filled
GR-7D	6:00 to 7:30 PM	1 Adult	Filled

Please Teach! The children of St. Mary's are counting on **YOU**. Teacher training is available on Sept. 13, 14 and 15 from 7 – 8 PM. Choose your day.

Confirmation: Saturday, October 8.



women in **WINGS** God's spirit

*Give yourself the gift of
friendship rooted in
faith. Come to WINGS!*

*"Therefore encourage one another and
build one another up, just as you are
doing." (1 Thess. 5:11)*

**Save the Date
WINGS Fall Kick Off**

Called to Relationship

Wednesday, October 12, 2022

9:45 to 11:15 AM

Father Haley Hall

What is WINGS?

WINGS (Women in God's Spirit) is a ministry of **encouragement and enrichment for women of all ages** who seek to deepen their Catholic faith and grow in their relationship with God and one another. A typical meeting lasts approximately 1.5 hours and includes time for prayer, an inspiring speaker presentation on a relevant topic of the Catholic faith and large or small group sharing with **WOMEN of ALL ages**.

Is Weekly Attendance Mandatory?

No. Each season lasts approximately 4 to 5 weeks. Come as often as you can, no pressure at all. The ministry is here to nourish your soul and we hope you can attend often but understand that life is busy.

Why Attend WINGS?

"As a woman in today's world as a wife and mother, life can sometimes seem overwhelming. For this reason, it is so important to me to **grow in faith** beyond the Sunday Mass. ***Wings is such a beautiful ministry that nurtures my weary spirit.*** The speakers each season breathe life into me. After each gathering **there is always a takeaway that spiritually nourishes me.** The women of Wings are a **beautiful mix of younger women and older women who walk side by side in faith.** There is such importance of multigenerational women fellowship. We need each other to model lives of grace and holiness, to speak truth and understanding. **I encourage all you exhausted, busy women to carve out the time to feed your soul by attending a Wings meeting!"**

- Lisa Dufault, St. Mary's Parishioner

What Does it Cost to Attend WINGS?

In order to attract reputable, inspiring speakers from local universities and beyond, WINGS suggested dues are \$20 per season (3 seasons) or \$50 for the year. All are welcome to attend, regardless of ability to pay. Email stmaryswingssecretary@gmail.com to discuss your confidential financial needs.

Is Childcare Available?

YES! We encourage women with young children to attend WINGS. Since this ministry was started in 2000, WINGS has always welcomed women of all ages. To plan for the appropriate number of caregivers, please email stmaryswingssecretary@gmail.com to share your plans to attend.

Email: stmaryswingssecretary@gmail.com to sign up or call Jennifer Schiller at 617-852-9632 or Diane Collins at 508-259-7795 with questions.

ST. MARY'S MUSIC MINISTRY

The Joy of God's People

Do you find yourself humming all day?

Maybe you miss playing guitar with friends?

Do your kids love to sing along?

We want you! Join us today!

No experience required!

THE CHOIRS OF ST. MARY'S

Children's Choir
Begins 9/21/22

Open to children grades 4-6.
Sings on 1st and 3rd Sunday at 9:30 AM.
Rehearsals: Wednesday from 3:30-4:15 PM in the lower church.

Youth Choir
Begins 9/21/22

Open to children/youth 7th grade and higher.
Sings on 1st and 3rd Sunday at 9:30 AM & Special Occasions.
Rehearsals: Wednesday from 4:00-5:15 PM in the lower church.

Viri Cantores
Begins 9/14/22

Open to all Lower-Pitched Voices ages 13 and older.
Sings on 2nd and 4th Sunday at 9:30 AM.
Rehearsals: Wednesday from 6:30-7:30 PM in the lower church.

Adult Choir
Begins 9/1/22

Open to all voices ages 13 and older.
Sings every Sunday at 11:30 AM.
Rehearsals: Thursday from 7:00-9:00 PM in the lower church.

THE ENSEMBLES OF ST. MARY'S

Modern Modes
Begins 9/14/22

Open to instrumentalists and singers ages 13 and above.
Provides contemporary music for 2nd and 4th Saturday at 5:00 PM.
Rehearsals: Wednesday from 7:30-8:30 PM in the lower church.

St. Mary's Orchestra

Open to Orchestral/Band Instrumentalists ages 13 and above.
Provides music for Holy Days, Concerts, and when called.
Rehearsals as needed. Solo's always available!



THE ROYAL SCHOOL OF CHURCH MUSIC EDUCATION PROGRAM

St. Mary's is proud to offer diverse educational opportunities for children and youth. Through our affiliation to the Royal School of Church Music in America (RSCM), St. Mary's offers an extensive training curriculum that teaches children and youth the fundamentals of singing, music theory, sight-reading, and liturgy. In addition, the more experienced singers get a chance to be involved in positions of leadership within the liturgy, serving as Youth Cantors for Masses, or leading services such as our monthly Wednesday Sung Vesper services. All of these activities allow our children and youth to become well-rounded musicians while enjoying the camaraderie that comes with making music together and sharing their faith!

WHY MUSIC AT MASS?

Music in the context of the liturgy is different than performance. In a concert or recital, the musicians perform a piece of music for the enjoyment of the audience, which is usually followed by applause. In liturgy, the music created functions as a prayer to God; a prayer that the entire congregation can participate in either by singing or actively listening.

Our music program is free, fun, and one of the best ways to connect with your community.

Come meet us on September 1 at 6 PM for a Welcome Back Pot-Luck Party!

RSVP by Aug. 28 here: <https://forms.gle/TeLEcJq2qS3rnRvK8>

For any questions, comments, and still more opportunities:

Chris Pelonzi, *Director of Music*

MusicAtStMarysHolliston@gmail.com

508.429.6076 ext. 224

The aim and final end of all music should be none other than the glory of God and the refreshment of the soul.

J.S. Bach

Living the Gospel in Gulfport

Discovering Christ while serving our neighbors in Mississippi



Teens kneeling in the chapel at the Retreat Center

Very early on Sunday, June 26, twenty-seven St. Mary's teens and chaperones began the long trip from Holliston to Gulfport, Mississippi. St. Mary's has spent over a dozen summers, since the devastation of Hurricane Katrina in 2005, helping residents who have been affected by storms and economic hardship in that region. In offering a week of hard work, fellowship and prayer, our teens have discovered Christ in others there, and shared His love and hope with the people they have served. This summer our group, working through Repair & Replenish Retreat Missions, stayed at the Sacred Heart Church, in Dedeaux, Mississippi; about 25 minutes north of Gulfport. Our host, Fr. Khoa Phi Vo, joyfully provided Masses for us each morning, and arranged for area priests to come for a Reconciliation service in the middle of our week when, as their friends were going to Confession, the teens prayed reverently for two hours in front of the Blessed Sacrament.

Throughout the week our St. Mary's teen missionaries worked at several sites, cleaning out an apartment complex for Youth for Christ, renovating the properties of Ms. Turner, Ms. Lee and the property of Ms. Karen Parker, who helped organize the first relief efforts of our missionary group after Hurricane Katrina. We also made improvements to the homes of two military veterans; Mr. Willy and Mr. Tom. At Mr. Willy's home our crew replaced a disintegrated wheelchair ramp, painted the exterior and sun porch, and repaired flooring and other much needed work inside his home. No one was afraid to get their hands dirty, even when it meant resetting and fixing a leaking toilet!



The home of Mr. Willy prior to our work there



Mr. Willy with our crew after completion

At Mr. Tom's home the teens did significant yard work, including the removal of an old shed, brick edging and root systems that had prevented him from cutting his grass with his mower. But the most notable change was the removal of nearly a dozen plywood storm panels that had blocked daylight from entering his home. In place of the plywood, the teens created hinged storm shutters, which will allow Mr. Tom to open and close them as needed for light, but still provide the protection the home needs from hurricanes and tropical storms. Turning to



The home of Mr. Tom prior to beginning our work



Stephen Corrou installing new shutters for Mr. Tom

me the morning after his plywood panels were removed, Mr. Tom said, “It was like a phrase out of your Bible where God proclaimed, ‘Let there be light!’” Even the animals participated in our mission objective. A stray kitten, who wandered about one of the job sites undaunted by all the commotion around him, received the nickname “Jesús” by the teens. “He reminded us of the (Gospel) Deacon John (reflected on) that morning; the ship in the storm with all the people panicking while Jesus lay sleeping,” said Mia Quinzani. “We found Jesus in the kitten at our worksite every day... he (sat) on the saws, crawled across the ramp, and laid at our feet; calm and unphased by all the chaos around him.”

The experiences the teens shared in six short days were remarkable. Many expressed their deep gratitude for the chance to help others and grow in their faith, and almost all have expressed a desire to continue the experience by participating next year in a return to Mississippi. “Leading up to the mission I had lots of expectations because of stories my older brothers and friends had told me,” said Josie Quinn. “Those expectations were (surpassed) the moment we arrived. The people we met and the places we saw just completely changed the way I saw things in my own life.” Hearing and reading the Gospel in a church setting can inspire us but for these teens, living the Gospel through acts of charity and physical prayer made the Gospels come alive. “Reflecting on the week,” said teen Kaden Dumas, “the work we did at the sites taught me a valuable lesson of putting others before ourselves and how important it is to help neighbors in need.”

Seeing the work that the teens performed was exceptional, but most extraordinary to me was watching the relationships develop between our teens and their newfound friends in Mississippi. On our final evening at the retreat center, our homeowners and beneficiaries were invited to share a meal with us and celebrate our week together. Turning to me with a tear in his eye as he said goodbye to our crew, Mr. Tom said, “You don’t know how much this has meant to me.” At St. Mary’s our mission statement is “To know Christ and to make Him known.” Certainly, our week in Mississippi was fruitful in that endeavor. “A lot of times ‘luck’ is used to describe how fortunate we are where we live. But I believe ‘blessed’ is a better way to put it,” said Josie.



Our mission group closing the day in prayer with Mr. Tom



St. Mary's Parish Middle School Youth Group

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

KENNEBEC RAFTING TRIP DAY ONE: Sunday, June 26 found twenty-eight of our MSYG 8th Graders plus their parent leaders heading out for adventure at the crack of dawn. A six hour drive brought the group to the Pine Grove Lodge in Bingham, Maine for a picnic lunch, and then it was off to nearby Houston Brook Falls. Reached by a forest trail of about a half mile, these Falls are a beautiful experience of nature. Teens braved the cold water to fight their way under the surging main waterfall, then spent hours exploring the brook and smaller upper falls. (Can you spot the two boys under the waterfall center left)? Next it was off to the Crabapple Lodge in the Forks, Maine, where our group checked in to their overnight accommodations. Volleyball and a large (heated) outdoor pool filled the time until dinner, which included two special "Rafting Cakes", made by Roche Brothers in Millis. The night concluded with Mass in the Lodge, celebrated by Fr. Mark with teens reading and altar serving.





St. Mary's Parish Middle School Youth Group

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

KENNEBEC RAFTING TRIP DAY TWO: The adventure continued on Monday, June 27, with a full day of Class III – V Whitewater Rafting on the Mighty Kennebec. St. Mary's filled seven rafts, each accompanied by a professional rafting guide. Their skill was needed as we faced such epic rapids as Whitewash, Magic Falls and Big Momma & the Three Sisters. The group pulled out at Magic Falls for a quick snack (photo previous page), then engaged in massive water bucket fights during the final, quieter stretch. A delicious barbecue at Crabapple concluded the river trip, then it was time for the long drive back to Holliston. Thank you to all the Middle School Youth Group teens for their excellent behavior, and to all the adult leaders for volunteering their time!





Troop 14 Holliston

Boy Scouts of America
St. Mary's Parish * Summer, 2022

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

Contact: Chris Baribeau, Scoutmaster
508.579.4357

Email: Troop14Holliston@yahoo.com

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

2022-2023: The Troop meets weekly during the school-year, Mondays from 7-8:30 PM. Our first fall meeting will be Monday, September 12 in the Lower Church Hall.

Coming this Fall: Nobscot Campout (September), Mt Lafayette Hike & Campout (October), Turkey Roast & Campout at Holliston Sportsman Association (November).

ANNUAL CAPE COD BIKE TRIP: From June 10-12, twenty Scouts and five leaders camped at Camp Greenough in Yarmouthport. They took the Ferry over to Martha's Vineyard to explore the island and bicycled over 30 miles, including some stops for ice cream and the beach.



FINAL COURT OF HONOR: On June 13, the accomplishments of the Scouts for the year were celebrated at the Year End Court of Honor and Annual Barbeque. Merit badges and Rank advancements were awarded. Eleven Scouts advanced in rank, including Colby Magoon to Life Scout. The Troop currently has three Life Scouts working towards the rank of Eagle.

YEAR END MINI GOLF: On June 20, thirty Scouts and six leaders spent the last Scout meeting of the year enjoying an evening of Mini Golf, supporting a local business - Putts n' More.



SUMMER CAMPS: On June 26-July 1, two of our older Scouts, Danny Baribeau and Aidan Carlson, attended a week of National Youth Leader Training Camp, where they learned valuable leadership skills that they will bring back to the Troop. On July 10-16, twenty Scouts and three leaders attended Camp Squanto in Plymouth MA. It was an incredible week for the Scouts. They spent the week outdoors completing a variety of merit badges including First Aid, Cooking, Electronics, Fishing, Swimming, Snorkeling, Sailing, Metalworking, Leatherwork, Photography, Search & Rescue, and Wilderness Survival. They also participated in camp-wide Theme Night activities and campfires. The Troop strategized and worked hard together to come in First Place in the camp-wide Apache Relay Race! This race included events such as swimming, canoeing, fireman's carry, archery, three-legged race, fire building, and pie eating. Fun fact – Troop 14 has placed first in this event eight times over the past eleven years. In addition, Troop 14 was named Camp Squanto "Honor Troop," based on the inspection of their impressive and immaculate campsite. Two

Troop 14 Scouts, Colby Magoon and Ben Goyette, were also elected by their fellow Scouts and nominated to join the Order of the Arrow (OA) - Scouting's National Honor Society. Well done and congratulations to all on your achievements!

ADULT FAITH RESOURCES

SUMMER 2022

got faith?



SUNDAY READINGS: During the next few weeks of Ordinary Time, we will continue our journey through St. Luke's gospel. We will hear Jesus tell his followers, and us, about the makings of a true disciple. Some of the qualities that Jesus highlights through his teachings are single-mindedness, humility, and a willingness to forgive. The Jesus of whom we hear in the next few weeks is one who challenges

the people around him to give discipleship their all. Perhaps a summary statement is from the gospel reading on August 21 where Jesus says: "Strive to enter through the narrow gate, for many, I tell you, will attempt to enter but will not be strong enough." You can prepare for the Sunday readings at

<https://liturgy.slu.edu/>.

"JUST" WONDERING: Are you wondering about the Church's stance on war and peace? See the US Bishops' *Catholic Catechism for Adults* at <https://bit.ly/USCCBWar> for a discussion of this issue. For the perspective of the Pax Christi USA organization on the crisis in Ukraine and other places that suffer the violence of war, see <https://bit.ly/PaxUkraine>. Pax Christi, as stated on its website, is "grounded in the Gospel and Catholic social teaching" and "is a membership organization that rejects war, preparation for war, every form of violence and domination, and personal and systemic racism".

THE ENVIRONMENT: September 1, the World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation and October 4, the feast day of St. Francis of Assisi, are the bookends for the annual ecumenical celebration of the Season of Creation. This year's Season of Creation theme is "Listen to the Cry of Creation" and its symbol is the burning bush, mentioned in the call of Moses in the Book of Exodus. The faith leaders' invitation to join in the Season tells us that "[d]uring the Season of Creation, our common prayer and action can help us listen for the voices of those who are silenced....In prayer we center the cry of the Earth and the cry of the poor." You can read about the Season of Creation, download a Celebration Guide and watch the launching video at <https://seasonofcreation.org/>.

IGNATIAN VOLUNTEER CORPS: The Ignatian Volunteer Corps (IVC) provides opportunities for mature adults (adults age 50 and older) "opportunities to serve others and to transform lives. IVC matches the talents of experienced Volunteers with the greatest social needs of our time" (IVC website). Integral to the IVC mission is the support of the spiritual lives of its volunteers. The IVC New England region offers many service opportunities in the Eastern and Central Massachusetts areas. For more information, see <https://ivcusa.org/>.



SAINTS: Among the saints we remember in August are mother and son, Saints Monica (August 27) and Augustine (August 28) and Saint Clare, friend of Saint Francis of Assisi and foundress of the Order of Poor Clare Nuns (August 11). We also celebrate the Solemnity of the Assumption of Mary on August 15. Check out the information about these important saints/feasts, and lots of others, using the calendar at the Franciscan Media *Saint of the Day* website, <https://bit.ly/FMSaint>.

PRAYER: This year we will be exploring the different types of prayer, along with various recognizable forms of prayer. We will look at the ACTS acronym for prayer: Adoration/Praise, Contrition, Thanksgiving/Gratitude and Supplication/Petition as well as at different forms of prayer such as the Mass, the rosary and Lectio Divina. You will find information about ACTS at <https://bit.ly/HallowACTS>. For general articles on prayer, see the Word Among Us website, <https://wau.org/prayer/>.

— Leo Racine