

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

Summer 2025 Newsletter
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**FEAST OF THE
ASSUMPTION OF MARY
A HOLY DAY OF
OBLIGATION**



**Vigil Mass, Thursday,
August 14, at 5:30 PM.**

**Feast Day Masses, Friday,
August 15,
at 9:00 AM & 6:00 PM.**



**JUNE 21 PARISH
FAMILY BBQ!**

St. Mary's Parish Newsletter

Summer, 2025 ~ Volume 51, Number 7



PARISH FAMILY BBQ!

Saturday, June 21 was an amazing night of food, friendship, live music, and celebration! What a joy to have Country Singer Shanna Jackman with us. Shanna sang her heart out, danced with the kids, and even let some of them sing along with her on her silver sequined microphone. Did you know that Shanna was Baptized right here in Holliston?!

Real saddles and rideable toy horses, courtesy of Linda and Devin Scruton, were a hit with the little ones, while bales of straw, antique soda bottles with carnations, and red and white checked country table runners completed the décor.

As always, St. Mary's Knights of Columbus served the delicious, fresh barbecued food - not an easy job with over 200 parishioners in attendance! Thank you also to the parish teens who ran the beverage bar, and to all who made this a night to remember. More pics on the Newsletter cover!

St. Mary's Parish
8 Church Street
Holliston, MA 01746
Rectory: 429-4427
Religious Education Center: 429-6076
Music Program: 429-6076
Religious Education Email: st.marysre1870@gmail.com
Parish Email Address: st.marys1870@gmail.com
Website: www.stmarysholliston.com
Mission: "To Know Christ and to Make Him Known!"





FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

Dear Good People of St. Mary's,

This summer, the long-awaited replacement of our church sanctuary skylight was finally accomplished. The original thirty-year-old unit had failed, with ruptured seals allowing dirt and water to get between the interior glass that we see at Mass, and the protective plexiglass barriers on the roof. If not replaced, it was only a matter of time before water started leaking into the sanctuary itself.

This was an extremely expensive project, coming in at \$60,000. I want to thank every single family who gave to the Fall 2024 Grand Annual Collection, which among other things funded this work. I hope that when you look up at the new skylight, you will take pride in knowing you helped make it possible.

The contrast is striking, as the old, damaged skylight had significantly darkened the sanctuary. It is especially bright in the morning, as our church's sanctuary faces east. This orientation is quite deliberate, as Matthew 24:27 speaks of Christ's return from the east. The rising sun in the east also symbolizes Christ's resurrection and the promise of new life for believers. Facing east during Mass symbolizes the journey of the faithful towards heaven and the coming of Christ.

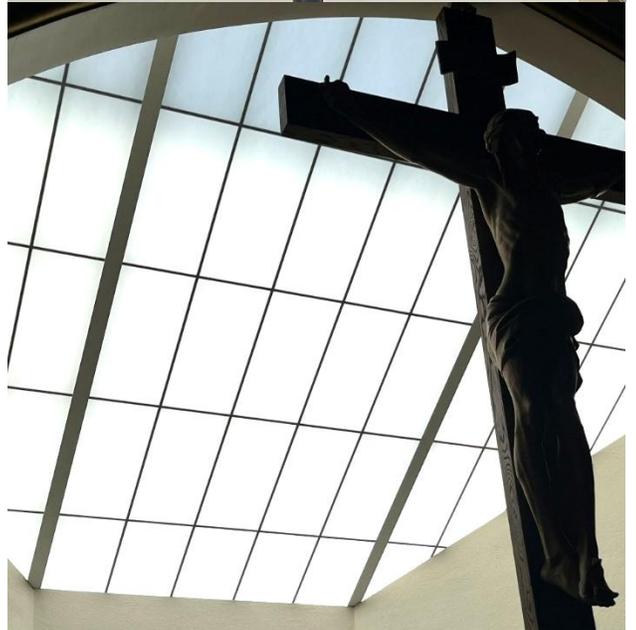
We are above all a people seeking to move from the shadows of sin and death into the light of holiness and hope. May the transformation of our sanctuary be mirrored by the ongoing transformation of our souls.

God bless you.

Rev. Mark J. Coiro

"See with your bodily eyes the light that shines on earth, but embrace with your whole soul and all your affections the true light which enlightens every person who comes into this world."

- Pope Saint Leo the Great



WELCOME TO ST. MARY'S NEW FAMILIES!

The Keavany Family - Luke, Betsy, Megan, Nora
and Emma

The Santos Family - Fernando, Flavia and Felix

The McLellan Family - David, Kristen and Lucas

The McKee Family - Bob, Christina and James

The Shea Family - Owen, Caroline and Wilson

The Suhajda Family - Ethan

The Moran Family - Max

The McEntegart Family - Aidan

The Hernberg Family - Daniel, Susanne, Emma
and Jonathan

The Watkins Family - DJ, Shannon and David

The Pirelli Family - Nathan

The Juliao Family - Vanessa, Nicole, Kayleen,
Ivano, Johann and Camila

The Elekwachi Family - James, Lilian, Chidum,
Ihechukwu and Nnechi

The McCann Family - Kevin, Anna and Oliver

The Labberton Family - Garrett, Kaitlyn, Wesley
and Charlotte

The Henault Family - Michael, Tiffany, Lillian,
Michael and Theadora

The Halfelder Family - Anthony, Lindsey, Zoe
and Nico

The Lechner Family - Andrew, Emily and William

The DeAngelis Family - Gregory, Sydney, Owen
and David

The Rivers Family - Jonathan, Angela and Julian

The Coogan Family - Christine

The De La Noval Family - Roberto

The Goudreault Family - Linda

The Vail Family - Andrew



Our Growing Church

WELCOME TO THE FAITH NEWLY BAPTIZED!

Cruz Denis Cashman

Nina Jean Sinclair

Henry Drury Waterman

Joseph Raymond Perrault

Lilah Grace McLaughlin

James Michael McKee

Theodore Henry Price

Francis Jacob St. Amant

Isabella Mae Grace

Oivia Maria Santos

James Francis Haas

Camila Victoria Aguilar

Antonio Jose Albornoz

David James Watkins III

Cheryl Luise Prescott

Laurel June Carroll

Cecilia Hope Mulhern

Lucas Timothy McLellan

Wilson John Shea



Two more First Communion Masses were celebrated at St. Mary's, one each on June 7 and 14. We congratulate all the children who met Jesus in the Eucharist for the first time. May it be the beginning of a deeper relationship with Jesus for them, and a source of unity, love, and peace for all their families. Welcome at last to the Table of the Lord!



FALL 2025 CLASSES



Registration for Fall Religious Education Classes is NOW OPEN!

We have made both registration and payment of tuition wholly electronic. Just visit our website <https://stmarysholliston.com/>, or use this QR Code to get started.



The full class schedule was mailed out and may also be viewed by clicking [HERE](#). As always, class day choices are first come, first served.

Class registration closes on Monday, August 18, 2025 - so please do not delay.

If you have any difficulties or questions, please contact Jennifer at 508-429-6076 or at st.marysre1870@gmail.com. God bless you!

Opportunities For You! Catechists, Group Leaders & Monitors For 2025 - 2026.

Have you ever considered offering your time to teach a class? Please pray as to how you can help St. Mary's Parish Religious Education Program become more vibrant and joyful for our young children and teens. Our program depends on volunteers to help the many families live out their faith actively.

There will be training sessions offered in September for teachers for all grade levels. Come and join us and bring the Good News of Christ to our children and youth by tithing your time and talents to serve Christ and His family. Volunteer at <https://stmarysholliston.com/all-parish-forms-2/>.

CATECHESIS OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD!

Catechesis of the Good Shepherd is new this fall, for three-year-old, Pre-K, and Kindergarten children. Children who are three years old by September 1, 2025, or are in Pre-K or Kindergarten, are eligible to register.



The Catechesis of the Good Shepherd is a new Montessori-based curriculum that helps young children and their teachers develop a personal relationship with Jesus.

In a sacred space called the Atrium, children work with concrete materials that help them learn about the life and teachings of Jesus with particular emphasis on the parable of the Good Shepherd. An Atrium in the upper rooms of Sister Ricci House is being developed, as well as an outdoor garden. Sessions will meet twice a month for about 75 minutes.



Two more Catechists in the CGS program are needed. CGS Catechists receive special training. If you are interested, please contact the Religious Education Office at 508-429-6076 or st.marysre1870@gmail.com. Go to <https://www.cgusa.org/course> and select the state or area the Level I courses are offered. Teens in the Confirmation Program are welcome to be CGS assistants.

Help wanted - skilled sewers, woodworking or calligraphy talents. Since the children and their teachers in the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd Program work with their hands on materials, a unique feature is that many of these materials are handmade by the adults of our parish and CGS Program.

The children use the materials and forms to touch and work with their teacher. Most of the materials have specific instructions and patterns. This will be a very short-term commitment if you can help us. For more information or to volunteer contact st.marysre1870@gmail.com.



JUBILEE YEAR 2025: PILGRIMS OF HOPE - WHAT DOES HOPE MEAN? Hope is a virtue, meaning a good habit where we become used to acting hopefully in a balanced manner, not foolishly optimistic but rooted in trust in Jesus. It is a theological virtue, meaning we need God's grace to allow us to live hope in the manner of children of God.

"Hope is the theological virtue by which we desire the kingdom of heaven and eternal life as our happiness, placing our trust in Christ's promises and relying not on our own strength, but on the help of the grace of the Holy Spirit." (Catechism of the Catholic Church, 1817).

PARISH PILGRIMAGE TO NATIONAL SHRINE OF THE DIVINE MERCY: St. Mary's is organizing this Jubilee Year Pilgrimage to Stockbridge, MA on Monday, October 6. ALL are welcome. We will enjoy a visit with prayer and time for meditation at the Shrine Grounds. We will also attend afternoon Mass at the National Shrine of the Divine Mercy at Eden Hill. Our day includes a visit to the downtown shopping area, and a luncheon at the world famous Red Lion Inn. We will depart from St. Mary's parking lot by luxury motor coach at 7:15 AM and will return at 6:30 PM. The cost of this trip is \$75/person, payable by check or Venmo. Your seat is reserved when payment is received. This covers both transportation and lunch.

To reserve / pay for your spot use the QR Code or visit <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/805094DA5AB29A3FC1-57460662-jubilee>. Questions? Contact Deacon Ron at Ronald.dowding@verizon.net, or 508-429-3961.



Join the Superior General of the Marian Fathers, Fr. Joe Roesch, MIC, as he gives a tour around Eden Hill, the campus of The National Shrine of The Divine Mercy in Stockbridge, Massachusetts. Learn about the history of the building of the National Shrine and the legacy of the Marian Fathers. Tour through the National Shrine and other parts of the grounds such as the Stations of the Cross, the Shrine of the Holy Innocents, and much more! Just click here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ji-bz2HJv8k>.

Why Join Choir?

- ❖ Praise God through life-memorable songs of Faith
- ❖ Join in the fun of singing fellowship
- ❖ Lead our worship through music
- ❖ Spread joy in our home Parish

ST. MARY'S MUSIC MINISTRY

2025-2026

Choirs for Young Singers

When we sing, we pray twice!



Singer Performance Opportunities:

3rd Advent Sunday evening concert with the Adult Choir

Easter Sunday

9:30 AM special Sunday Mass

Spring Choir Concert

Friday evening in the spring with the Adult Choir



Children's Choir

Open to children grades 3 - 6.

Rehearsals: Wednesdays 3:30 - 4:20 PM, Lower Church.

Sings periodically for 9:30 AM Sunday Masses.

Youth Choir

Open to youth grades 7 and higher.

Rehearsals: To be determined in the fall of 2025!

Sings periodically for 9:30 AM Sunday Masses.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT:

Abbey Kelley-Lanser, Director of Music

MusicAtStMarysHolliston@gmail.com

508-429-6076, ext. 224



Save the Date: The WINGS Fall Season Begins October 8!



What is WINGS?

WINGS is an opportunity for women of all ages to grow in faith wherever they are on their spiritual journey. Lifelong Catholic, new Catholic, or just curious - come learn and grow!

The Fall Season explores Catholic tradition and teaching through inspiring speaker presentations with time for discussion, fellowship, and friendship.

Join us in Person or on Zoom!

Meetings are held on Wednesdays beginning October 8 from 9:45 - 11:15 AM in Fr. Haley Hall and on Zoom.

Free Childcare
Drop-ins are welcome!

Inspiring Past Speakers (to name a few!)



Dr. Aldona Lingertat,
Adjunct Faculty, St. John's Seminary

Ann Chiango, WINGS advisor & St. Mary's parishioner, fmr. Religious Ed. Director



Fr. Carl Chudy, D. Min.,
Interfaith Outreach Coordinator, Fatima Shrine

Sr. Colleen Gibson SSJ,
Pastoral Care Coordinator, St. John-St. Paul Collaborative



Matthew Vale, Professor, BC School of Theology & Ministry; St. Mary's parishioner



Contact Us to Join



stmaryswingssecretary@gmail.com



scan for our Facebook page



Knights of Columbus

St. Mary's Council #14224 Summer, 2025

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



K OF C COUNCIL #14224 SEVENTEENTH ANNUAL CHARITY RAFFLE-PRIZE

WINNERS: The drawing was held at the golf tournament on June 20. First prize winner was Helen Hartnett who purchased her ticket at St. Mary's after Mass. The second prize winner was Katy Wilson, the third prize winner was Susan Sloat, the fourth prize winner was Todd Miegs and the fifth prize winner was the Fatima Shrine. Our Council thanks all who bought raffle tickets. All proceeds go to worthy local charities such as the Doug Flutie Foundation for Autism, various veterans charities, and local food pantries.

THIRD ANNUAL "SWING FOR CHARITY" GOLF TOURNAMENT ON JUNE 20: Ninety two golfers participated in this great golf outing. The winning team was Steve Snow, Dan Higgins, Brian Sanford and Tim Smith with a best ball score of 10 under par. The Council thanks all who played and the 36 sponsors and 18 gift donors. All proceeds from the tournament went to the Holliston Pantry Shelf and the MetroWest Veterans Emergency Assistance Fund.



COUNCIL ELECTION OF OFFICERS: The Council elected new officers for the fiscal 2025/2026 year. They are: Grand Knight Thomas Brodo; Deputy Grand Knight Charles Paradie; Chancellor John Abucewicz; Advocate Michael Kerrigan; Treasurer Anthony Polise; Recorder Tim Daly; Warden Rod Burgett; Inside Guard Kevin Crocker; Outside Guard Fred Sheehan; Trustee 3-year William Duffy; Trustee 2-year Paul Lawless; Trustee 1-year Henry Febo. The Financial Secretary appointed by K of C Supreme Council for another three years is Joseph Mongelli. The Council thanks the 2025/2026 officers for their commitment to continuing the good works we do for St. Mary's and our local charities.



SILVER ROSE PRESENTATION AUGUST 21: The Council will display the Silver Rose in honor of Our Lady of Guadalupe at St. Mary's on Thursday, August 21 at 7:00 PM in the church. The Silver Rose on display is one of eight that tour the country each year with the intention of "expressing both international unity and dedication to the sanctity of life." Past Supreme Knight Carl Anderson in 2001 stated "as we think in terms of One Life, One Rose, it is most important that we turn to Our Lady of Guadalupe who made known her will through Juan Diego and the miracle of the roses." Council Knights will explain and lead prayers for the sanctity of life while displaying the Silver Rose. All St. Mary parishioners are invited. (Quotes from THE PILOT of 2Aug24, pg. 20)

MONTHLY ROSARY: The next Rosary will be Wednesday, September 17, in the church at 7:00 PM. Any and all persons are welcome to attend. *"Say the Rosary every day to obtain peace for the world."*
- Our.Lady.of.Fatima, 1917

MEMBERSHIP DRIVE FOR 2025: For membership information contact Grand Knight Tom Brodo at StMarysHollistonKofC@gmail.com OR you can now join ON-LINE by going to the Supreme K of C website kofc.org/joinus. Our Council respects members limited time but needs new members to share our faith journey as Catholic men.

i**THIRST** | Boston



HDAAC

The Holliston Drug & Alcohol Awareness Coalition



ST. MARY'S
CATHOLIC
CHURCH

Holliston



**WEDNESDAY,
AUGUST 27TH,
6-7:30 PM**

NARCAN TRAINING

Join the Holliston Drug & Alcohol Awareness Coalition and St. Mary's Church as we welcome Officer Waugh from the Holliston Police Department for a **FREE community Narcan training**.

Participants will all walk away with **FREE knowledge, Narcan, and Deterra bags**; a small pouch that deactivates prescription drugs, pills, patches, liquids, creams and films.

JOIN US AT ST. MARY'S CHURCH
(8 CHURCH ST.)

REGISTER USING THE QR CODE



Contact Zoe at moreauz@holliston.k12.ma.us or call 508-429-0620 ex. 3 with any questions!

Spend An Hour, Save A Life

By Deacon John Barry

On August 27, in honor of Overdose Awareness Day (August 31), St. Mary's Church will host an event to raise awareness and provide resources for those impacted by Substance Use Disorder and unnatural attachments. This gathering is designed to support individuals and their loved ones who are affected by these challenges and to promote healing within our community.

Save A Life



The event will commence at 6:00 PM in Fr. Haley Hall, where the distribution of Narcan and Deterra bags will be conducted. Narcan is a pivotal instrument in the reversal of opioid overdoses, and the Holliston Police Department will be present to provide training on its effective utilization. Deterra bags are used for the responsible disposal of unused medications. These resources are of paramount importance in the ongoing battle against substance misuse and the prevention of overdose fatalities. Beyond the practical training sessions, the evening will feature a moving prayer session dedicated to those affected by substance use disorder and their cherished loved ones, as well as a brief witness from Phil Bonasia, the iThirst Boston Central Region Coordinator. Prior to 2022, Phil worked in pharmaceutical development for 30 years, and subsequently joined the staff at St. Joseph

Parish in Needham, where he has supported elementary and both Middle and High school Faith Formation Programs and the Business Office. Having dealt with Substance Use Disorder and mental illness in his own family, Phil will briefly share his experiences and insights into the ongoing battle against addiction.

The event is sponsored by the Holliston Drug & Alcohol Awareness Coalition (HDAAC) and iThirst Boston, organizations in Holliston dedicated to education, prevention, and support in the realm of substance misuse. It is open to all, and we encourage everyone to attend, whether you are directly affected, supporting a loved one, or simply want to learn more about how to make a difference in the community. Stand and pray with us in solidarity, offer your support and gather skills. Help to inspire hope for those who are in need. Your involvement might one day save a life!

The Disciple Jesus Loved

By Jane Lebak

When my kid asked why John calls himself as “the disciple Jesus loved,” I replied with the answer I’d been given: “He was humble and didn’t want to name himself.” My kid snorted. “‘The disciple Jesus loved’ is the opposite of humble.”

Point taken. That’s when I realized I’d framed it all wrong. John likely wrote his Gospel at the end of his life. He’d seen Christianity grow from a small Jewish movement to a faith of its own. Belief in Jesus had spread to the gentiles. Rome had begun its persecutions. Paul had written over a dozen letters. Thomas had traveled all the way to India. Every other apostle had been martyred for his faith.

John, on the other hand, was not chosen for martyrdom. He must have thought all the others were great men, men who had struggled, and sacrificed, and in the end gave their lives. He admired them. Maybe he thought they were better than him. John might have concluded Christ chose them because they deserved the honor of being apostles.

So why had Jesus chosen him? Maybe John thought, well, since he didn’t deserve it, then Jesus must have chosen him because He loved him.

I feel that keenly. I don’t merit any of what I’ve been given. I’m not great, and I could never earn the privilege of salvation. Jesus must have chosen me because He loves me.



COR ~ St. Mary's Faith Enrichment Program for Men

Men of St. Mary's Parish, we encourage you to join Cor this Fall for faith enrichment, scripture, catechesis, prayer and brotherhood.

Following Cor's successful inaugural season, the Core Team conducted a survey of the participants. Here are some key results:

- 89% said they would definitely return in the Fall.
- 100% said they would recommend Cor to a family member or friend.

Cor's Fall Session will continue to be a spiritual enrichment and fraternal opportunity for men, drawing them into a deeper relationship with Jesus Christ through prayer, faith formation, and fraternity. The Fall Session will have a focus on Scripture and Catechesis, as well as several guest speakers. The Salvific Story of the bible is the planned topic of our first meeting on September 11. Watch the bulletin for location!

The Fall 2025 season begins September 11 and continues on the second and fourth Thursdays through December 11. For more information, or to sign up for the Fall season, email StMarysCor@gmail.com.



St. Mary's High School Youth Group Teens Gather In Faith ~ See you on September 14!

Save the date now for the Fall TGIF Kick Off, Sunday, September 14 from 7 - 8:45 PM in Fr. Haley Hall. Open to all, Grades 9 - 12.

At the end of June, TGIF embarked on an unforgettable overnight white-water rafting adventure on the Kennebec River in Maine. On the first day, we stopped at Houston Brook Falls to take in the beauty of the waterfall and spend time in nature. That evening, we joined the Middle School Youth Group with Fr. Mark for Mass, enjoyed a delicious cookout, and ended the night with a campfire and s'mores. The next morning began with a hearty breakfast before heading for an exciting white water rafting experience. The weather was perfect, the adventure was thrilling, and fun was had by all!





Be sure to follow us on Instagram
[@STMARYS_TGIF](https://www.instagram.com/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!



[STMARYS_TGIF](https://www.instagram.com/STMARYS_TGIF)

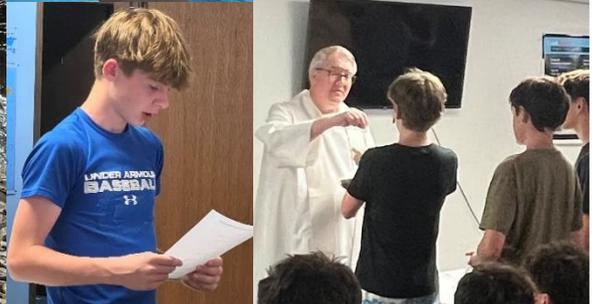




St. Mary's Parish Middle School Youth Group

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

KENNEBEC RAFTING TRIP DAY ONE: Tuesday, June 24, found forty-two of our MSYG teens 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. 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. Next it was off to the Crabapple Lodge in the Forks, Maine, where our group checked in to their overnight accommodations. Fr. Mark has been bringing groups there since 1996, and they had a special welcome sign out for him. Volleyball and a large (heated) outdoor pool filled the time until dinner, which included our traditional "Rafting Cake", 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 - Fall Kick Off is Sunday, October 5!

KENNEBEC RAFTING TRIP DAY TWO: The adventure continued on Wednesday, June 25, with a full day of Class III - V Whitewater Rafting on the Mighty Kennebec. The day was hot and sunny - the best weather we've had on this trip in *years!* St. Mary's filled eight 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 and the Three Sisters. The group pulled out at Magic Falls for a quick snack, 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!



*"Deep is calling on deep in the roar of mighty waters.
Your torrents and all your waves swept over me." Psalm 42:7*





Troop 14 Holliston

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

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

Contact: Chris Baribeau, Scoutmaster
508-579-4357

Email: Troop14Holliston@yahoo.com

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

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

EAGLE SCOUT! St. Mary's Parishioner Luke Roberto earned the rank of Eagle Scout this year from Troop 14 after completing his project here at St. Mary's. Luke's project is the new patio area with benches located between the Parish Center and Sr. Ricci House. This was previously an unsightly, barren patch of sand adjacent to a rusty electrical box. Thanks to donations from many families, WINGS, and the Knights of Columbus, Luke's project totally remade the area into a wonderful outdoor gathering place. Additionally, the electrical box beside it became a beautiful painting of Jesus the Good Shepherd. Luke engaged parishioner Kasia Snyder to create the artwork. The Roberto family was happy to host Luke's Eagle Scout Court of Honor in Father Haley Hall on March 30. Luke extends his sincere gratitude to Troop 14, his parents Michael and Kristin, Fr. Mark, and the countless parishioners who helped him complete this incredible journey.



Troop 14 had a busy June, finishing up the official Scouting year, while also preparing for summer events at Camp Squanto in Plymouth and a high adventure trek to Philmont Scout Ranch in New Mexico.

CAPE COD CAMPOUT AND BIKE TRIP: Troop 14 Scouts continued their annual bike trip and campout this year with a weekend at Boy Scout Camp Greenough in Yarmouth, MA, on Cape Cod from June 6 to June 8. On the morning of Saturday, June 7, the Troop began their 25 mile bike ride at Nickerson State Park in Brewster and biked to Lecount Hollow Beach in Wellfleet, where they stopped for lunch. After lunch and a refueling stop for ice cream, the Troop pedaled back. Troop 14 Scouts returned to camp for dinner, and a campfire that included card games, music, and lots of laughter.



COURT OF HONOR AND END OF YEAR BARBECUE: In recognition of the Scouts' hard work and advancements since the February Court of Honor, the end of year Court of Honor and Barbecue was celebrated on June 9, in Father Haley Hall. A week later, on June 16, Troop 14 played a round of mini golf at Putts and More in Ashland to celebrate a successful Scouting year!



Cross Walk

Snapshots of Summer: Taking God with You

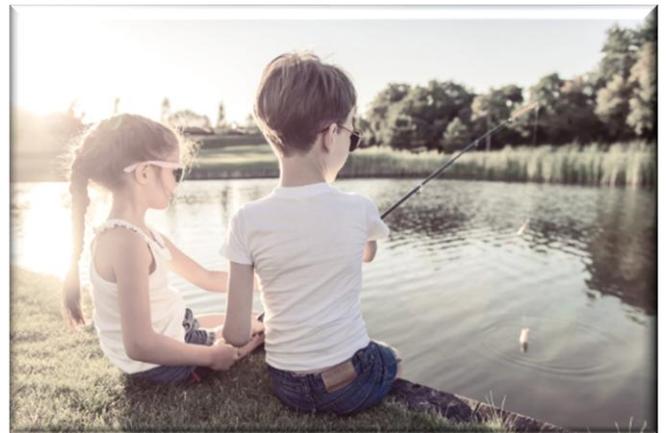
When toes curl
in the warm sand,
close your eyes,
and lift your face to the sun.
Breathe deep, the salty air.
Listen to the heartbeat of the ocean,
tumbling onto the shore.
Wave by gentle wave,
feel my gift of peace
taking you away.



When the boat hums
and bounces over each wave,
sweep your eyes across the water.
Ponder the clouds
sailing on a sky-blue sea.
Feel the wind rushing past your face,
hair waving like a flag.
Feel joy in my gift of life and nature,
with every sense of your being.



When Sunday comes,
I invite you to my home.
The local church may feel
new and unfamiliar,
But I am there,
gathered with you,
nourishing you, as I always do,
in Word and Eucharist.
Surprisingly, you will see
the unfamiliar, become familiar.
And with the shake of a hand,
no longer strangers,
but one body in Me.



When your legs
hang over the edge of the dock,
toes dipping in the refreshing coolness,
and it's just you,
and the red bobber at the end of your line
waiting for a bite,
you may not see me,
but I'll be sitting right beside you,
waiting,
savoring your company.

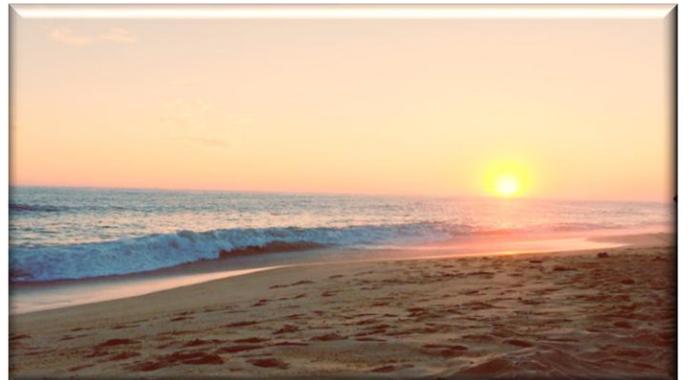
When the hickory smell of the grill
tickles your nose,
and bowls of cool salads,
and sweet watermelon
take their place on your table,
Take just a beat...
to notice the gift of family and food,
both nourishing your soul.
Invite me to your table
with a prayer of thanksgiving.



When day is done,
and children climb into their bunks,
hold their little sun-kissed hands
for just a few minutes,
inviting me in
for an evening prayer of thanks.
Tell them, how every moment today
was a gift from above.
They are watching you,
they are listening to you,
they are learning from you.



When you raise a glass at sunset
over a crackling fire,
I am there, in the children's laughter,
as marshmallows brown and soften
into a gooey delight
over golden embers.
I hear you in the strum of the guitar
as owl and loon join in
your evening song.



Then, sit with me
in the stillness of a velvet sky
sprinkled with diamonds.
Take in my handiwork,
as each jeweled color of the sunset,
melts into the next,
and the silver moon rises
in its crystal path across the water.
I am peace.
I am with you...
always.

Walking in His Name, Cathy Stenquist