

## Saint Mary Parish

### Mass Schedule

#### Saturday

4:00 p.m.

#### Sunday

7:30 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.  
12 Noon

#### Daily Masses

Monday-Friday  
7:00 am

All weekend Masses are  
Live Streamed at:

[stmarysfranklin.org](http://stmarysfranklin.org)

#### Confession

Saturday: 8:00 a.m. – 9:00a.m.

#### Emergency Anointing of the Sick

508-528-0020, #4

#### Rectory Hours

Monday - Thursday  
9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

508-528-0020

St. Mary's Church Wi-Fi is:  
**StMarysChurchMesh**  
Password: **STMarysGuest**

#### St. Vincent De Paul

Assistance  
508-918-2291

FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

# PRODUCES MUCH FRUIT.

— JOHN 12:24 —

## ST. MARY PARISH

1 CHURCH SQ. FRANKLIN, MA 02038 | 508-528-0020 | [STMARYSFRANKLIN.ORG](http://STMARYSFRANKLIN.ORG)

SUNDAY, MARCH 17, 2024

### PASTORAL STAFF

#### Pastor

Rev. Robert A. Poitras  
[pastor@stmarysfranklin.org](mailto:pastor@stmarysfranklin.org)

#### Parochial Vicar

Rev. John Sullivan  
[jsullivan@stmarysfranklin.org](mailto:jsullivan@stmarysfranklin.org)

#### Deacon

Deacon Ron Gerwatowski  
[deaconron@stmarysfranklin.org](mailto:deaconron@stmarysfranklin.org)

#### Pastoral Associate

Leo Racine  
[pastoralassociate@stmarysfranklin.org](mailto:pastoralassociate@stmarysfranklin.org)

### RECTORY STAFF

#### Finance & Operations Manager

Patricia Murphy  
[businessmanager@stmarysfranklin.org](mailto:businessmanager@stmarysfranklin.org)

#### Secretary

Jennifer Lance  
[secretary@stmarysfranklin.org](mailto:secretary@stmarysfranklin.org)

#### Music Director

Terry Kerr  
[Terry.kerr@att.net](mailto:Terry.kerr@att.net) or 508-541-3286

#### Cemetery Caretaker

Joe Spencer  
508-498-8271

### RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

201 Main Street  
Franklin, MA 02038

508-528-1450

#### Director

Karen Ackles  
[reled.director@stmarysfranklin.org](mailto:reled.director@stmarysfranklin.org)

#### Secretary

Liz Bertoni  
[reled.secretary@stmarysfranklin.org](mailto:reled.secretary@stmarysfranklin.org)

[www.stmarysfranklin.org](http://www.stmarysfranklin.org)  
508-528-0020

## MASS INTENTIONS

### Saturday, March 16

4:00 pm Tino, Alma & Vincent Debaggis

### Sunday, March 17

7:30am Linda Padula

10:30am Michael Canty

12:00 noon John and Claire Moran

### Monday, March 18

7:00am Donna Baker

### Tuesday, March 19

7:00am Eleanor Merullo

### Wednesday, March 20

7:00am Makayla M.

### Thursday, March 21

7:00 am Juliana Kyungwoo Lee

### Friday, March 22

7:00 am Paul Ficco

### Saturday, March 23

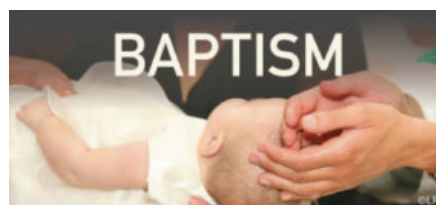
4:00 pm Paul Hannon

### Sunday, March 24

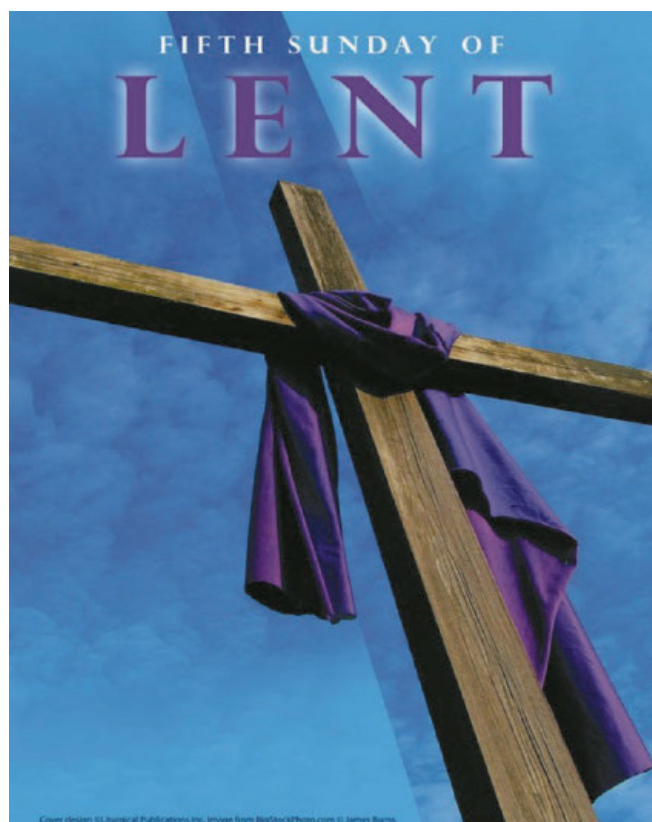
7:30am Juliana Kyungwoo Lee

10:30am Juliana Kyungwoo Lee

12:00 noon Elizabeth Prendergast &  
Dorothy Arnold



Last weekend, Charlotte Grace Flaherty and Liam Michael Kasberg were Baptized at St. Mary Parish by Fr. Jack. May the Lord watch over them always.



## READINGS THIS WEEK

### Readings for the week of March 17, 2024

Sunday: Jer 31:31-34/Ps 51:3-4, 12-13, 14-15 (12a)/Heb 5:7-9/Jn 12:20-33

Scrutiny: Ez 37:12-14/Ps 130: 1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8 (7)/Rom 8:8-11/Jn 11:1-45 or 11:3-7, 17, 20-27, 33b-45

Monday: Dn 13:1-9, 15-17, 19-30, 33-62 or 13:41c-62/Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6/Jn 8:1-11

Tuesday: 2 Sm 7:4-5a, 12-14a, 16/Ps 89:2-3, 4-5, 27 and 29/Rom 4:13, 16-18, 22/Mt 1:16, 18-21, 24a  
or Lk 2:41-51a

Wednesday: Dn 3:14-20, 91-92, 95/Dn 3:52, 53, 54, 55, 56/Jn 8:31-42

Thursday: Gn 17:3-9/Ps 105:4-5, 6-7, 8-9/Jn 8:51-59

Friday: Jer 20:10-13/Ps 18:2-3a, 3bc-4, 5-6, 7/Jn 10:31-42

Saturday: Ez 37:21-28/Jer 31:10, 11-12abcd, 13/Jn 11:45-56

Next Sunday: Mk 11:1-10 or Jn 12:12-16/Is 50:4-7/Ps 22:8-9, 17-18, 19-20, 23-24 (2a)/

Phil 2:6-11/Mk 14:1—15:47 or 15:1-39



### Baptism

Baptisms are held on Sundays at 1:30pm. First time parents need to attend a Baptism Catechesis Class held by Deacon Ron via Zoom. Classes are held the 2nd Wednesday of each month. The next Zoom Baptismal class is on Wednesday, April 10, 2024 at 7-8pm. Contact Deacon Ron [deaconron@stmarysfranklin.org](mailto:deaconron@stmarysfranklin.org).

To schedule a Baptism, please email: [Baptism@stmarysfranklin.org](mailto:Baptism@stmarysfranklin.org) or call the office at 508-528-0020.

### Penance

Penance/Confession is held each Saturday from 8 to 9 a.m. in the Chapel's Reconciliation Room and by appointment, anytime.

### Marriage

Couples planning to be married at St. Mary should schedule their wedding one year in advance and attend a Marriage Preparation program. Please call the Parish office at 508-528-0020 to schedule the wedding and rehearsal date and to arrange a meeting with the priest in preparation for marriage.

### RCIA

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults. If you are interested in become a Catholic, please email Father Jack at [jsullivan@stmarysfranklin.org](mailto:jsullivan@stmarysfranklin.org)

### Sacrament to the Sick for the Homebound

Please call the rectory or email the Pastoral Associate ([pastoralassociate@stmarysfranklin.org](mailto:pastoralassociate@stmarysfranklin.org)) if you have a family member, friend, or neighbor who is unable to attend church due to age or infirmity. We will provide pastoral visits, with administration of the Sacraments.

### Anointing of the Sick

If you or a loved one would like the Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick, please call the Parish Offices at 508-528-0020. For after hours Emergency Anointing of the Sick please call 508-528-0020, option 4. Please do not leave messages on this line.

### Become a Parishioner of St. Mary Parish

Register Online at [stmarysfranklin.org](http://stmarysfranklin.org) or call the Rectory at 508-528-0020.



### The 2024 Catholic Appeal

Once a year, Catholics throughout the Archdiocese are asked to partner with one another to support their parish and the many outreach ministries by contributing to the Catholic Appeal. Many of you have received a letter from Cardinal Seán requesting your participation and early support of the 2024 Appeal. We hope that you will respond to his invitation with a generous gift, knowing that each contribution has a significant impact on the lives of thousands across the Archdiocese.

You can make a gift by returning your pledge card or by making an online donation at [www.bostoncatholicappeal.org](http://www.bostoncatholicappeal.org). For those who have already made a gift, thank you for your early support! The Appeal is a primary means by which we care for our brothers and sisters and move forward in our faith together.

### Easter Flower Donations

Envelopes for Easter Flower Donations are available at each entrance of the church.

Envelopes can be returned in the collection boxes until March 24 or dropped-off at the Rectory. You may also donate online via the parish website at: [www.stmarysfranklin.org](http://www.stmarysfranklin.org)



### YEAR OF PRAYER

This week's summary of Pope Francis' teaching on prayer is about the mystery of Creation. The pope, referencing the Catholic Catechism, teaches that prayer arises from the impulse in the human heart that is created by the beauty and mystery of Creation. He mentions Psalm 8, which expresses the psalmist's amazement of God's work in nature.

In this session, he talks about wonder, thanksgiving, hope, praise, and joy, all of which are placed in the context God's gift of life to us and all of creation. Prayer is a response to this gift! Go to <https://bit.ly/PFPrayer3> to read the pope's teaching.





## Holy Week Schedule

**All Masses & Services will be Live-Streamed**  
EXCEPT the 7am Weekday Masses & Services

### Palm Sunday - March 23 & 24

- 4pm Mass with Blessing of the Palms
- 7:30am Mass with Palms
- 10:30am Mass with Palms
- 12:00 Noon Mass with Palms

### Wednesday - March 27

- 7:00 pm Adoration, Prayer & Confession

### Holy Thursday - March 28

- 7:00am Morning Prayer in Chapel
- 7:00pm Mass of the Lord's Last Supper with Washing of the Feet in Main Church

### Good Friday - March 29

- 7:00am Morning Prayer in Chapel
- 3:00pm The Passion of the Lord Service with Stations of the Cross to Follow in the Main Church
- 7:00pm The Passion of the Lord Service in the Main Church

### Holy Saturday - March 30

- 7:00am Morning Prayer in the Chapel
- 8:00-9:00am Confession in the Chapel
- 7:00pm Easter Vigil in the Main Church

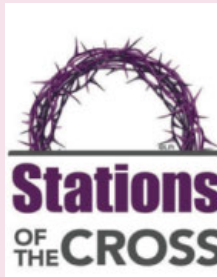
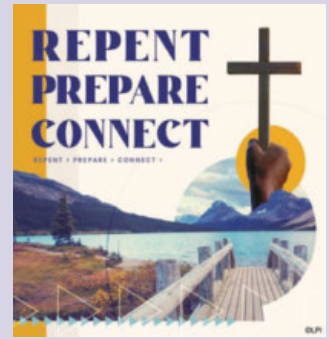
### Easter Sunday - March 31\*

- 7:30am Mass in the Main Church
- 9:00am Mass in the Main Church
- 10:30am Mass in the Main Church

\* **NOTE:** Mass addition of the 9:00am Mass and the elimination of the Noon Mass. This is ONLY for Easter Sunday. Masses will go back to 7:30, 10:30 and 12 Noon next weekend, April 7.

## Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

This Wednesday, March 20 from 7:00 to 8:00pm in the Chapel, our parish will celebrate an Evening of Prayer in conjunction with Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, along with the opportunity to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Join us for some quiet, reflective time during this season of Lent.

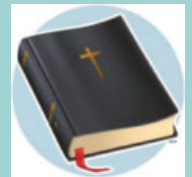


Our final **Friday Stations of the Cross** will be held this Friday, March 22nd at 7pm in the Chapel. The St. Vincent DePaul Society will lead the Stations.

On Good Friday, March 29 at 3pm in the Main Church, we will have **The Passion of the Lord Service** with **Stations of the Cross** to follow.

## Bible Study

St. Mary's Parish will sponsor a six-session Bible Study series on ***the Book of the Prophet Isaiah***, led by Leo Racine, at Magnolia Heights Retirement Center at 485 East Central Street in Franklin. The series begins on **Monday, March 25, from 11:00 to 12:00 noon**; additional sessions are on Mondays, April 1, 8, 22, 29, and May 6.



All parishioners are invited to attend the study of this vital Book of the Old Testament. For more info or to register, please contact Leo Racine at 508-528-0020 or [pastoralassociate@stmarysfranklin.org](mailto:pastoralassociate@stmarysfranklin.org). There will be a cost of \$14 for materials for this series; financial assistance is available.

## Zoom Rosary

Deacon Guy continues a Zoom Rosary every Monday night at 7:00pm. This is open to parishioners, family & friends from all communities. You are welcome to join, relax, and just listen. *Link info* is on the Parish Web Site under Parish Life and Prayer. For more information contact Deacon Guy: [deaconguy@verizon.net](mailto:deaconguy@verizon.net).



## Knights of Columbus Gift Card Drive Palm Sunday - March 23 & 24

The Knights of Columbus Sacred Heart Council 1847 at St. Mary Church in Franklin, MA, is holding our annual **Easter Fundraiser** for those in Franklin and surrounding communities who are "in need" during the Easter season. **ALL** proceeds from the event will benefit the *St. Vincent de Paul Society*. **After each Palm Sunday Mass (March 23 & 24)**, the Knights will have a table set up outside the church selling Stop & Shop gift cards (5% of sale benefits St. Vincent DePaul Society).

In recognition of significant need, we are also suggesting a second way you can share your generosity: by donating *one or more* of the gift cards you purchased...**Simply drop a purchased gift card or other donation into the Donation Box.** 100% of donated cards, cash & checks benefit The St. Vincent DePaul Society.

**ONLINE GIVING OPTION:** If people would prefer to contribute online, please visit our Website: [kofc1847.org/food-card-drive-donations](http://kofc1847.org/food-card-drive-donations) or use the QR code below. **Please note that the website will accept donations for the food card drive from March 16 to April 15th.**

We thank you in advance for your continued support and charitable donations for those less fortunate, especially during the Easter



during the season!



## Knights of Columbus Sacred Heart Council

### St. Patrick's Day PANCAKE BREAKFAST

Sunday, March 17 from 8am - 10am  
Sacred Heart Hall (Lower Church)

\$5 donation per person  
children under 12 are free



Pancakes, Sausage,  
Juice, Coffee, Water



## Fill a bottle - Save a Life!

Once again, our St. Mary's **Knights of Columbus** and **Respect Life Commission** are helping the Abundant Hope Pregnancy Resource Center bring hope to expectant mothers and families in great need. During Lent we are holding a Baby Bottle Drive to collect much needed funds for services. This is the last weekend bottles are available in baby baskets at the church doors.

Please join us by taking a bottle to fill with your thoughtful gift of change, cash or check, and return to the baskets this weekend. Religious Education Students can receive service hours for making a sacrificial gift!

*'Do small things with great love'* St. Teresa of Calcutta



RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS

We parents know that it's tricky, tackling the topic of fear with our kids. We want them to know that it's okay to be scared, that it's something we all feel from time to time. We want them to understand that bravery isn't the absence of fear, but the choices we make in persevering despite that feeling.

Most of all, we want to model the right kind of behavior for our kids. Whatever our scary situation is — illness, a job loss, life changes — we want them to see us make a choice to face that fear head-on.

Jesus seems to be the parent who is gently broaching the topic of fear with his children. A great sense of foreboding hangs over these readings. Jesus knew what was coming. He knew it was going to be hard, both for him and for his followers, who did not have his courage. Even he admits to being "troubled" and he speaks of "the time of judgment." There is the dramatic raising of Lazarus, the talk of how a grain of wheat must die in order to bear fruit, the depiction of Christ as an obedient student of his own suffering.

"Yet what should I say?" he asks them. "'Father, save me from this hour?' But it was for this purpose that I came to this hour." This week, Christ gives us a very parental gift: He shows us his fear, and he shows us how to conquer it. He challenges us to embrace the purpose for which we came to this hour — whatever that hour may hold.

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS ©LPI



Congratulations to artist, Leonora Vendetti! Lenora's depiction of "Keep Christ in Christmas" won first place at the Knights of Columbus state level and has moved onto the international competition. Her beautiful picture was one of 3 that won at both local and district level. Good luck Leonora!



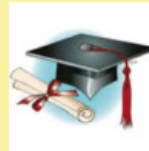
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The St. Vincent de Paul Society would like to thank all of the parishioners who have so generously donated to the SVdP Food Pantry. Donations may be placed in the boxes at the doors of the church anytime during the month. The current needs of the pantry are:

**Spaghetti Sauce, Laundry Detergent  
Cereal, Crackers and Snacks**

Thank you for joining us to serve those in our Community with the greatest needs. God Bless.



Attention College-Bound High  
School Seniors

The Knights of Columbus is accepting applicants for 2024 ***The Robert Simmler PGK, Knights of Columbus Sacred Heart Council #1847 Scholarship*** award program.

Applicants must be a registered member of St. Mary's Parish in Franklin and must be graduating from High School in spring 2024 and progressing onto their first year of study at a 2 or 4 year college/university. Please submit a completed scholarship application to be postmarked on or before the application deadline of **March 28, 2024**. **We are awarding 2 scholarships this year a \$3000 and \$1000!**

The application is available on the banner at the St. Mary's Parish website **[www.stmarysfranklin.org](http://www.stmarysfranklin.org)**. Please fill in ALL information accurately and clearly, and then submit the completed application to: ***The Robert Simmler PGK Knights of Columbus, Sacred Heart Council 1847 Scholarship Committee, St. Mary's Parish c/o Michael Swan 38 Madison Ave Franklin MA 02038***. The award will be given to the recipients upon completion of their 1<sup>st</sup> semester of studies and upon proof of enrollment in the 2<sup>nd</sup> semester. Call Mike Swan for more info 508-404-4792.





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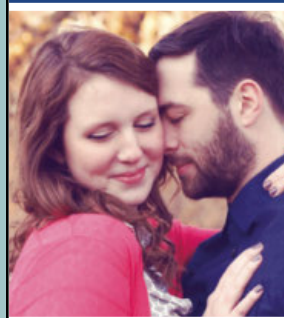
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