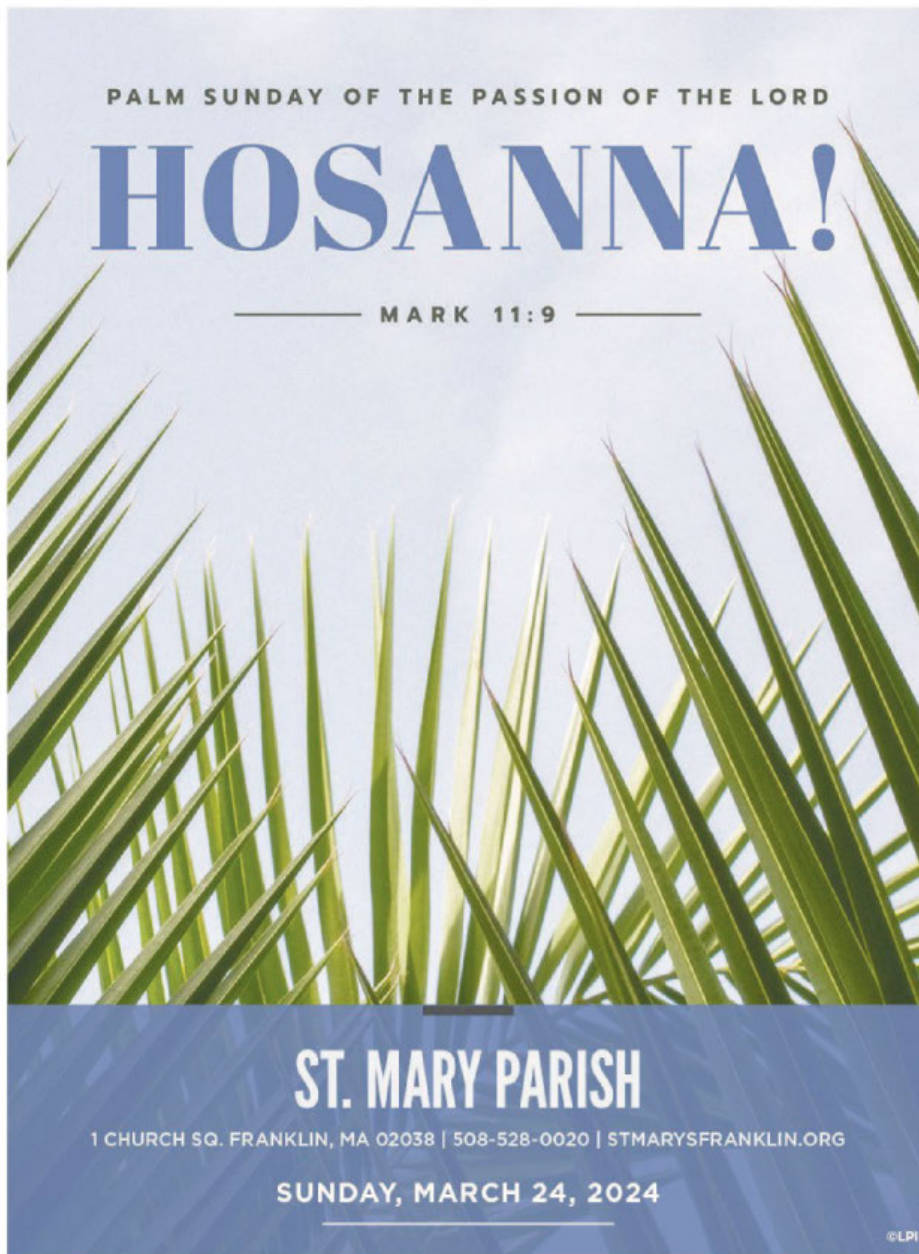


Saint Mary Parish



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

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

PASTORAL STAFF

Pastor

Rev. Robert A. Poitras
pastor@stmarysfranklin.org

Parochial Vicar

Rev. John Sullivan
jsullivan@stmarysfranklin.org

Deacon

Deacon Ron Gerwatowski
deaconron@stmarysfranklin.org

Pastoral Associate

Leo Racine
pastoralassociate@stmarysfranklin.org

RECTORY STAFF

Finance & Operations Manager

Patricia Murphy
businessmanager@stmarysfranklin.org

Secretary

Jennifer Lance
secretary@stmarysfranklin.org

Music Director

Terry Kerr
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

Secretary

Liz Bertoni
reled.secretary@stmarysfranklin.org

www.stmarysfranklin.org
508-528-0020

MASS INTENTIONS

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

Monday, March 25

7:00am Antonio Pereira

Tuesday, March 26

7:00am Juliana Kyungwoo Lee

Wednesday, March 27

7:00am Ester Pisani

Thursday, March 28

7:00 am Holy Thursday - No Intentions

Friday, March 29

7:00 am Good Friday - No Intentions

Saturday, March 30

7:00 pm Easter Vigil - No Intentions

Sunday, March 31

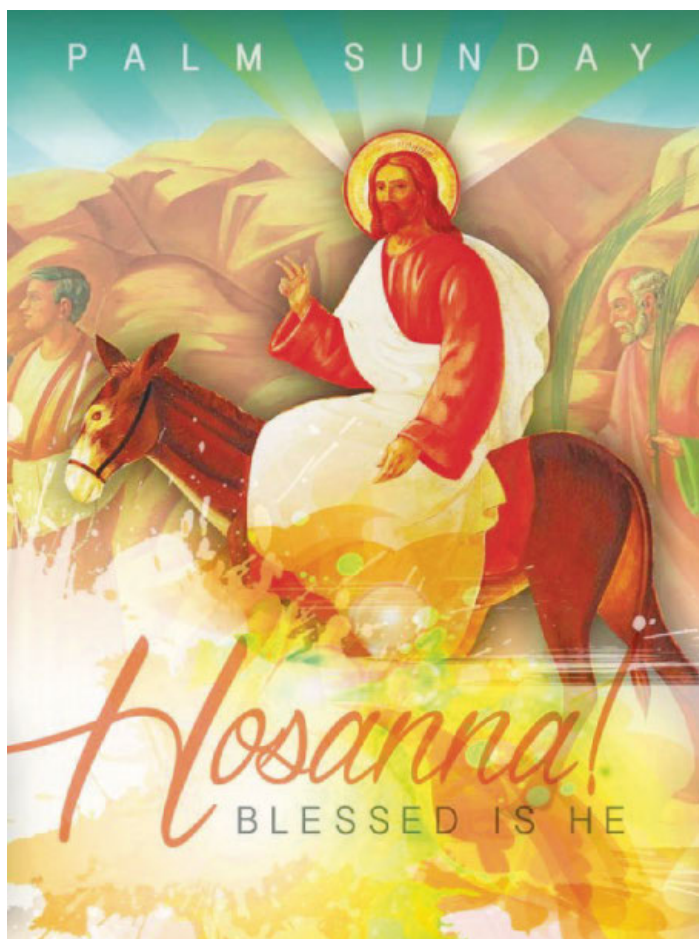
7:30am Easter - No Intentions

9:00am Easter - No Intentions

10:30am Easter - No Intentions



Last weekend, Ava Grace Hardy, Erin Katherine Regan and Elizabeth June Savage were Baptized at St. Mary Parish by Deacon Ron. May the Lord watch over them always.



READINGS THIS WEEK

Readings for the week of March 24, 2024

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

Monday: Is 42:1-7/Ps 27:1, 2, 3, 13-14/Jn 12:1-11

Tuesday: Is 49:1-6/Ps 71:1-2, 3-4a, 5ab-6ab, 15 and 17/Jn 13:21-33, 36-38

Wednesday: Is 50:4-9a/Ps 69:8-10, 21-22, 31 and 33-34/Mt 26:14-25

Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper: Ex 12:1-8, 11-14/Ps 116:12-13, 15-16bc, 17-18 (see 1 Cor 10:16)/1 Cor 11:23-26/Jn 13:1-15

Friday: Is 52:13—53:12/Ps 31:2, 6, 12-13, 15-16, 17, 25 (Lk 23:46)/Heb 4:14-16; 5:7-9/Jn 18:1—19:42

Saturday: Easter Vigil: Gn 1:1—2:2 or 1:1, 26-31a/Ps 104:1-2, 5-6, 10, 12, 13-14, 24, 35 (30) or Ps 33:4-5, 6-7, 12-13, 20-22 (5b)/Gn 22:1-18 or 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18/Ps 16:5, 8, 9-10, 11 (1)/Ex 14:15—15:1/ Ex 15:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 17-18 (1b)/Is 54:5-14/Ps 30:2, 4, 5-6, 11-12, 13 (2a)/Is 55:1-11/Is 12:2-3, 4, 5-6 (3)/Bar 3:9-15, 32—4:4/Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 11 (Jn 6:68c)/Ez 36:16-17a, 18-28/Ps 42:3, 5; 43:3, 4 (42:2)/Rom 6:3-11/Mk 16:1-7

Next Sunday: Acts 10:34a, 37-43/Ps 118:1-2, 16-17, 22-23 (24)/Col 3:1-4 or 1 Cor 5:6b-8/Jn 20:1-9 or Mk 16:1-7

- SACRAMENTS -



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.

To schedule a Baptism, please email: 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

Sacrament to the Sick for the Homebound

Please call the rectory or email the Pastoral Associate (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 or call the Rectory at 508-528-0020.



Holy Week Schedule

*Masses & Services in the Main Church
will be Live-Streamed*

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

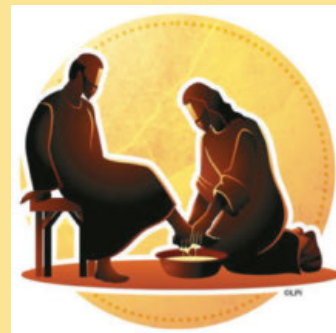
Easter Sunday - March 31*

7:30am Mass in the Main Church

9:00am Mass in the Main Church

10:30am Mass in the Main Church

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



RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS

The Whole Story

By Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

The Whole Story

The Bible is a strange book.

It's one of the only books that most people never read in its entirety, even those who claim it as one of their favorites. It's also one of the only books that we feel comfortable chopping up and sectioning out. There's nothing wrong with that, really, until people start making wholesale judgments of divine revelation based on one tiny part of it. You can't base your belief system on a few lines from Leviticus and ignore the Gospels, just like you can't embrace the teachings of Jesus and ignore the Old Testament. You need to accept the whole story, in its entirety, or none of it means anything.

But it's hard, because accepting the whole story means patience. It means critical thinking. It requires endurance. It's easier just to throw a line from Leviticus at a problem and be done with it.

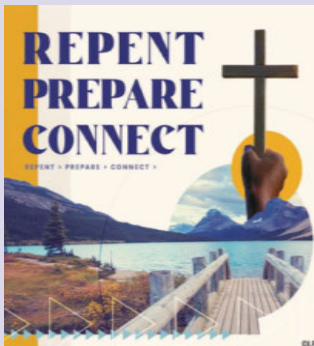
Holy Week reminds us that salvation history is a tapestry, not a collection of threads. As beautiful as the individual stitches might be, you won't appreciate the message unless you back up and look at the complete product. If we didn't have the whole story, Holy Thursday and Good Friday would be neither holy nor good. And without Holy Week, Easter morning means nothing — it's just a guy waking up.

How often in life do we find ourselves confused to the point of hopelessness, unable to make sense of it all? Overwhelmed by the pain and suffering that exists in this world, and for seemingly no reason. Some of us become so frustrated we throw up our hands and despair.

We need Easter. We need the whole story. We need to be patient.

"His disciples did not understand this at first, but when Jesus had been glorified they remembered that these things were written about him and that they had done this for him." — John 12:16

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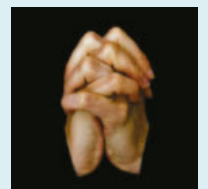
Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

This Wednesday, March 27 from 7:00 to 8:00pm in the Chapel, our parish will celebrate the final Lenten 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.

Year of Prayer

In his fourth teaching on prayer, Pope Francis speaks first of the waves of evil and violence that flow over the first generations of humankind, "making hatred and conquest the great engine of human affairs." However, he also speaks of the "release of hope," which he sees as the righteous one's prayer to God, which is "capable of writing mankind's destiny in a different way." Pope Francis believes that prayer "opens the heart to God, turning our often stony hearts into a human heart." Thus, prayer is both a "bulwark" against evil and a means for us to ask to be "saved from ourselves." This teaching on prayer can be read at <https://bit.ly/PFPrayer4>.





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 the 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 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 season!



The 2024 Catholic Appeal

Once a year, Catholics throughout the Archdiocese are asked to contribute to the Catholic Appeal and partner with one another to support their parish and the many outreach ministries we provide. 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 donate online at www.bostoncatholicappeal.org. If you 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.

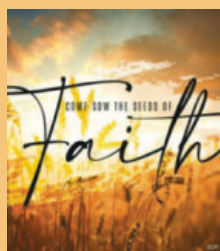


Bible Study



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. There will be a cost of \$14 for materials for this series; financial assistance is available.



Prayer, Formation, and Fraternity for Men

St. Mary's Parish is relaunching our men's faith formation group (COR-Communication Resources). All men, wherever you are on your faith journey are welcome. We meet on the first Saturday of each month at 8:00 am in St. Mary's Hall for an hour. The next session is April 6.

The program has no cost and is a great way for men to connect. In addition to faith formation, we build in plenty of time to socialize over coffee and bagels. If you have additional questions, please reach out to Regis Schratz at: rschratz@comcast.net.



Congratulations!

Congratulations to artist, Leonora Vendetti! Leonora'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!



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.



508-918-2291

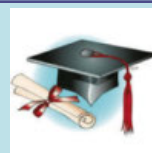
The St. Vincent de Paul Society would like to thank all of the parishioners who have so generously donated to the SVdP Food Pantry. Donations may be placed in the boxes at the doors of the church anytime during the month. The current needs of the pantry are:

Laundry detergent

Regular

Free and Clear

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



College-Bound HS Seniors LAST WEEK for Applications

This is the last week for the Knights of Columbus to accept 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 this Thursday, **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. 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 1st semester of studies and upon proof of enrollment in the 2nd semester. Call Mike Swan for more info 508-404-4792.



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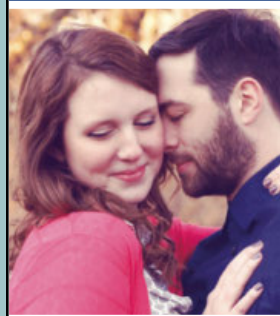
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