

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 a.m.

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, April 20

4:00 pm Paul Hannon

Sunday, April 21

7:30am Lorraine McCarthy
10:30am John and Carol Donaghy
12:00 pm Anthony Alessi

Monday, April 22

7:00am Donald J. Horan

Tuesday, April 23

7:00am Brian St. Peter

Wednesday, April 24

7:00am Brian O’Friel

Thursday, April 25

7:00 am Antonio Pereira

Friday, April 26

7:00 am Brian St. Peter

Saturday, April 27

4:00 pm Joanne Reilly

Sunday, April 28

7:30am Bob and Leslie Rappa
10:30am James and Marjory Dolan
12:00 pm Giovannina Narducci



On Sunday, April 14th, Chloe Brooke Fox, Trevor Gary Niland, Dean Kent Turnbull and Aubree Eleanor and Emilia Maria Sciortino were baptized by Fr. Bob. May God watch over them always.



Get the latest Parish updates and news on our Facebook site!

Follow us on Facebook at **St. Mary Parish, Franklin, MA**

READINGS THIS WEEK

Readings for the week of April 21, 2024

Sunday: Acts 4:8-12/Ps 118: 1, 8-9, 21-23, 26, 28, 29 (22)/Jn 3:1-2/Jn 10:11-18
Monday: Acts 11:1-18/Ps 42:2-3; 43:3, 4/Jn 10:1-10
Tuesday: Acts 11:19-26/Ps 87:1b-3, 4-5, 6-7/Jn 10:22-30
Wednesday: Acts 12:24—13:5a/Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6 and 8/Jn 12:44-50
Thursday: 1 Pt 5:5b-14/Ps 89:2-3, 6-7, 16-17/Mk 16:15-20
Friday: Acts 13:26-33/Ps 2:6-7, 8-9, 10-11ab/Jn 14:1-6
Saturday: Acts 13:44-52/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4/Jn 14:7-14
Next Sunday: Acts 9:26-31/Ps 22:26-27, 28, 30, 31-32 (26a)/1 Jn 3:18-24/Jn 15:1-8

- 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, May 8, 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 call the Rectory at 508-528-0020.

Eucharist 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.

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.



Next Saturday, April 27, our Religious Education Second Graders will be making their First Holy Communion. Please keep these children in your prayers as they receive Jesus for the First time. May God's light shine upon them all.



**Catholic Women's Club Scholarship
One More Week to Accept Applications!!!**

The Catholic Women's Club Scholarship is given to a graduating senior, who is a registered member of St. Mary's Parish Franklin and planning on attending a **2 or 4 year College, Certification Program or Trade School**. Preference is given to those candidates who have a relative in the Catholic Women's Club.

The Application is on the St. Mary's website under Catholic Women's Club. The deadline is Monday, April 29, 2024. For more information, contact Claudia Brennick at Claudia.brennick@gmail.com.

The scholarship award will be in the amount of \$1000. The award will be presented at the Catholic Women's Club Scholarship Dinner and end of year banquet, which will be held on Thursday May 16, 2024 at 6:00 pm at the Restaurant 45, 45 Milford St, Medway, MA.

GOSPEL MEDITATION ENCOURAGE DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE

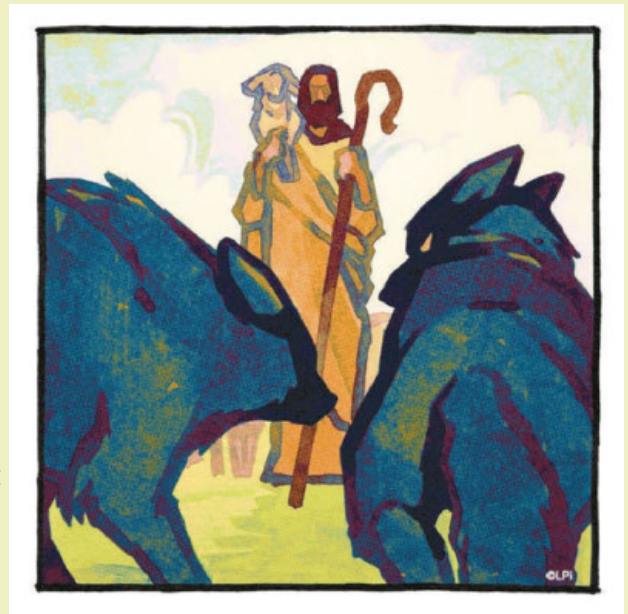
Recently I was with my little dog Libby at a retreat center in the Arizona desert. I sat in a chair near a ravine filled with shrubs. Unbeknownst to me, Libby wandered down there and disappeared. Suddenly an animal's wild shriek erupted from the area. Without thinking, I bolted down into the ravine fully expecting to see coyotes, javelinas, or rattlesnakes. I didn't care. I desperately wanted to get Libby out of there, without any self-regard. Before I could face whatever danger lay hidden, my dog blissfully trotted out from an entirely different area, utterly unaware that I had (quite heroically) just placed my life on the line.

When the adrenaline wore off, I thought to myself: how far would I have been willing to go to save her? I don't know. But I do know, if I had literally died, my friends and family would have certainly thought me insane for dying for a dog. No offense, Libby.

How passionately Jesus wants us to know him and his willingness to die for us! This week he says, "I know my own and my own know me," and "I lay down my life for the sheep." Here we encounter an insanely excessive love for us. Christianity is a relationship and not simply a religion or ethical code. In Jesus, God rescues and saves us. He laid down his life for you and me — and he has taken it up again. So often we are like Libby — blissfully ignorant of the reality of both our spiritual danger and his saving love. This Easter season, the risen Jesus calls us to be more conscious than ever before about his love. He never ceases to lay down his life for us.

— Father John Muir

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MEN'S Ministry

Prayer, Formation, and Fraternity for Men

This next meeting of the St. Mary's Parish Men's Faith formation group (COR— Communication Resources) is on Saturday, May 4 at 8am in the Sacred Heart Hall. All men, wherever you are on your faith journey are welcome. We meet on the first Saturday of each month at 8:00 am.

The program 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.

Year of Prayer

In this, his seventh teaching on prayer, Pope Francis continues his commentary on the legacy of prayer found in the Old Testament. He now speaks about Moses, who, with God's grace, led God's people out of slavery in Egypt.



The pope reminds us that Moses never gave up on the Hebrew people; he never rejected God, nor did he ever reject his people. The pope says that, according to the Catechism (#2574), "intercession" is the most proper type of prayer to be attributed to Moses. Moses is the "bridge" between God and the Hebrews and he urges us to "remember that despite all of the world's frailties, it still belongs to God". Read Pope Francis' teaching at <https://bit.ly/PFPrayer7>.



MOTHER'S DAY OUTREACH

The St. Mary's **St. Vincent de Paul Society** will once again be sponsoring a **Mother's Day Gift Bag Drive**. The SVdP Society will be reaching out to make Mother's Day a special day for some mothers who presently are having a difficult time. Parishioners are invited to put together **Mother's Day gift bags** containing three cheerful items.

Suggested inexpensive items to place in the bag include a scarf, decorative kitchen towels, hand sanitizer gel, magnetic "to do" list with pen, hand towel & washcloth, lip balm, hand cream, socks, picture frames, and adult coloring books and colored pencils. A Mother's Day card is also a nice touch. Please do not include earrings, candles, or candy. It is always fun to see the creative items that our donors place in the bags.

Members of the Society will distribute the gift bags to mothers in town. The gift bags may be dropped off at boxes at the doors of the church this weekend, **April 20 & 21** and next weekend, **April 27 & 28**.

Thank you for your generosity and for continually helping us to reach out to our neighbors in need.



Parish Pastoral Council Elections

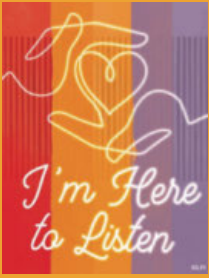
St. Mary Parish will be holding our Parish Pastoral Council (PPC) elections the weekend of **June 1st and 2nd**. Parishioners will be invited to nominate individuals during the weekend of Saturday and Sunday, May 4th & 5th, by filling-out Nomination papers (in the pews), and then placing them in the baskets at the doors of the church, or mailing Nominations to 1 Church Sq., Franklin, MA 02038

Suggested candidates will be asked if they wish to accept the nomination and commit by Wednesday, May 15th at 12 noon, and then send a digital photo and brief self-description/biography to the parish office. These introductions will be placed on display boards in the church and on the parish website. The election will be held on the weekend of Saturday and Sunday, June 1st and 2nd in church.

Members of the Parish Pastoral Council assist the Pastor in keeping our Parish Vision as reflected by our Mission Statement. Members provide prayerful reflection and insight to the Pastor as he seeks to foster a growing and thriving community of faith.

To be eligible for election a person must be:

- A registered and actively engaged member of our Parish
- Be able to pass an Annual CORI Review
- Sign and commit to a Code of Conduct for all Parish Volunteers
- Attend a Protecting God's Children Program once
- Attend approximately 5 meetings a year (in person)
- Be willing to prepare by praying, reading and reflecting for PPC Meetings
- Be willing to listen without judgement or decision, to the words and ideas from all parishioners
- Be a positive advocate for the parish and parishioners.



Bereavement & Caretaker Support Groups

The Franklin Senior Center is offering a **Caretaker's Support Group** and **Pathways to Healing, Bereavement Group**. These groups are open to all ages, not just seniors.

The **Pathways to Healing Bereavement Group** meets at 1pm on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of each month. The meeting is Wednesday, April 24th at 1pm.

The **Caretaker's Support Group** meets at 1pm on the 1st Thursday of each month. The next meeting will be held on May 2nd at 1pm.

Both groups are run by Trish Collatos, Health and Wellness Nurse at the Senior Center and Nan Rafter. For more information, please call Trish Collatos at the Senior Center at **508-520-4945** or collatos@franklin.ma.gov.



Parishioner, Nan Rafter is leading a seven week, **Faith-Based Bereavement Group** at St. Jude's Church in Norfolk. The group's second meeting is Thursday, April 25th at 1:30pm

There is no charge to attend, but you must register. Please call Nan at 774-571-0092 for more information and to register.

St. Vincent DePaul 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 from these lists help us to keep the pantry well stocked with many items for our neighbors in need.

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 and Free and Clear Paper Towels Tissues

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

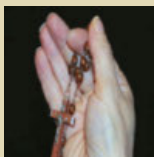
Women's Faith Formation



The Women's Faith Formation group will be holding our next meeting on Wednesday, May 8th at 7pm via Zoom. They plan to watch a video on Catholic Social Teaching from the SYMBOLON series through the Augustine Institute. Discussion will follow.

To receive the Zoom Link or to be added to our email list, please email: womensfaithformation@gmail.com. All women are welcome and encouraged to attend.

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, pray and/or just listen.

Link info is on the Parish Web Site under Parish Life and Prayer. For more information contact Deacon Guy at: deaconguy@verizon.net.

The 2024 Catholic Appeal



Once a year, Catholics throughout the Archdiocese are asked 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 donate online at www.bostoncatholicappeal.org. For those who have already made a gift, thank you for your early support!

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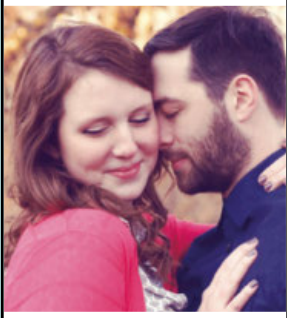
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