

Saint Mary Church
One Church Square, Franklin MA 02038

Phone: 508-528-0020

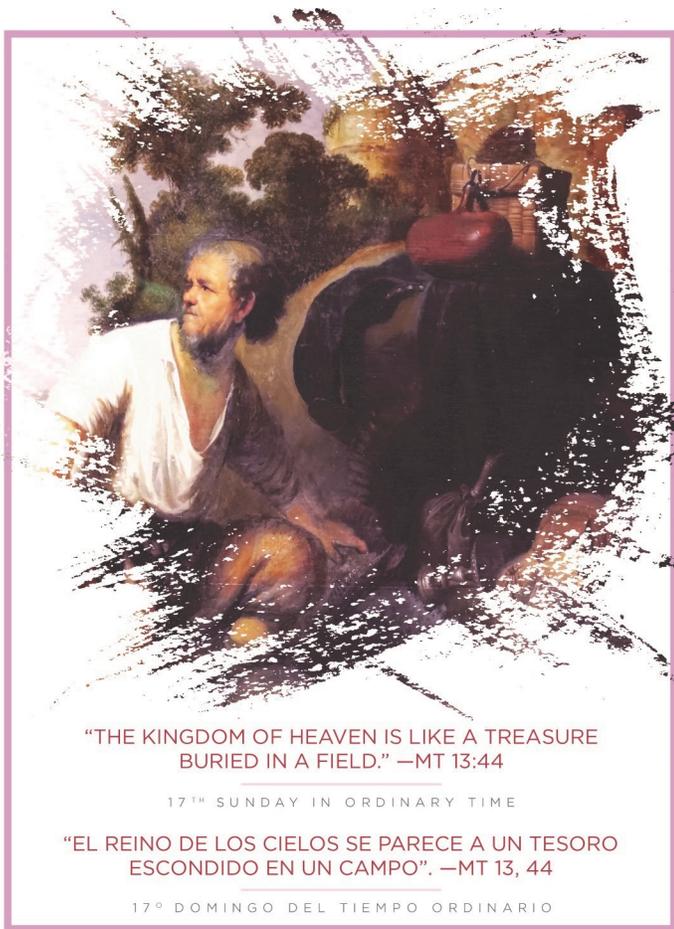
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Website: www.stmarysfranklin.org

St. Vincent de Paul Society
508-918-2291

Religious Education Office
Phone: 508-528-1450

201 Main Street
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"THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN IS LIKE A TREASURE
BURIED IN A FIELD." —MT 13:44

17TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

"EL REINO DE LOS CIELOS SE PARECE A UN TESORO
ESCONDIDO EN UN CAMPO". —MT 13, 44

17^º DOMINGO DEL TIEMPO ORDINARIO

PASTORAL STAFF

Pastor

Rev. Brian F. Manning
bmanning@stmarysfranklin.org

Parochial Vicar

Rev. John Sullivan
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Deacons

Deacon Guy St. Sauveur
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Pastoral Assistant

Stephen May
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STAFF

Religious Education

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Music Director

Terry Kerr terry.kerr@att.net 508-541-3286

WELCOME

If you are new to the parish, please introduce yourself to the priests after Mass. We want to know and serve you. To register, please email your name and address to parishpublishing@stmarysfranklin.org and we will send you a Welcome Package which will help you register.

SACRAMENTS

Baptism: Sunday at 1:30pm by appointment only.
Baptism Preparation meeting required.

Penance: By appointment; please call 508-528-0020

Marriage: Couples planning to be married at St. Mary's should schedule their wedding one year in advance and attend a Marriage Preparation program.

Sacrament of the Sick: Please call the rectory 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.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Children

Grade 1: Call the Religious Education Office for info
Grades 2-10 held in the St. Mary Center

Monday through Thursday

Classes suspended for the rest of the 2019-2020 school year

Adults

RCIA

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults
Meeting Wednesday 7:00pm
October - Easter

Pastoral Reflections:

Back in “the olden days” when I was young, we did not have to know what our vocation and profession would be. We were encouraged, instead, to pursue knowledge and education so that we would become whole and good people who understood the meaning and purpose of life. Our work, whatever it would be, would come along as time shed light on our steps. If we asked the larger questions of our life and tried to pursue the meaning of our existence as given by God, we would be where we were supposed to be. Helicopter or drone parents were not necessary for us; instead parents who led lives that were examples of being a Catholic and an adult were the only requirements. I suspect if we were given the one question that Solomon had in our first reading of “what did he want,” I suspect we would have asked for the same gift, that of wisdom.

We learn that God was very pleased with King Solomon. This great king of Judah was a good and just ruler and devoted to God. He also felt limited as a successor to David and was concerned about his leadership skills. And thus we hear how God came to Solomon in a dream, offering Solomon a gift of his choice. The extremely wealthy and powerful Solomon might have asked for a long life, more riches, and more power. This man instead asked for wisdom so that he might distinguish between right and wrong.

Our gospel passage is actually about the gifts of the kingdom of heaven being greater than anything we know. The image Jesus uses compares the kingdom to the finest jewels. Indeed, does not the story tell us if we found one such jewel in a field, we would sell all that we own in order to buy the land?

The wisdom of the little parable stories by Jesus is clearly this: we are to renounce all that we have in order to acquire the kingdom of heaven because the kingdom is more precious than anything we know.

Many of us amass a lot in life; we have a lot of “stuff.” But when we have the wisdom to know what matters, we know it is faith, love, goodness, kindness, and many of the other intangible virtues. To be sure, we need to provide for our spouses and perhaps a dependent (adult) child, but no matter what, we will be remembered for the wisdom of how we lived our lives and how we shared the more important pearls and treasures of our hearts.

Fr. Brian

READINGS THIS WEEK

Readings for the week of July 26, 2020

Sunday: 1 Kgs 3:5, 7-12/Ps 119:57, 72, 76-77, 127-128, 129-130 [97a]/Rom 8:28-30/
Mt 13:44-52 or 13:44-46

Monday: Jer 13:1-11/Dt 32:18-19, 20, 21 [cf. 18a]/Mt 13:31-35

Tuesday: Jer 14:17-22/Ps 79:8, 9, 11 and 13 [9]/Mt 13:36-43

Wednesday: Jer 15:10, 16-21/Ps 34:2-3, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9, 10-11 [2]/Jn 11:19-27 or Lk 10:38-42

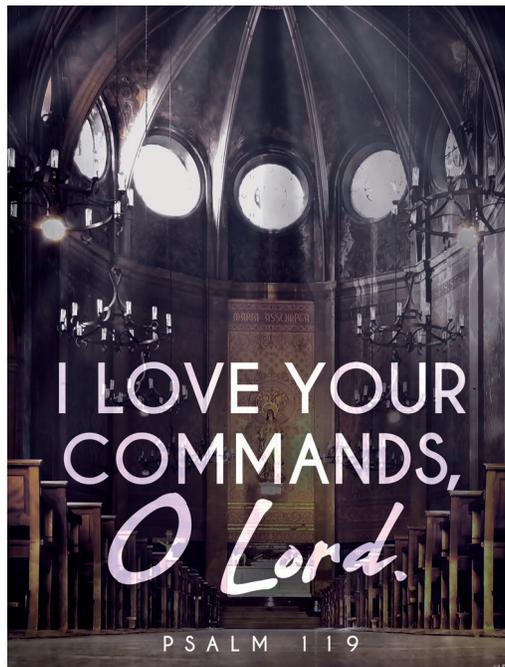
Thursday: Jer 18:1-6/Ps 146:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6ab [5a]/Mt 13:47-53

Friday: Jer 26:1-9/Ps 69:5, 8-10, 14 [14c]/Mt 13:54-58

Saturday: Jer 26:11-16, 24/Ps 69:15-16, 30-31, 33-34 [14c]/Mt 14:1-12

Next Sunday: Is 55:1-3/Ps 145:8-9, 15-16, 17-18 [cf. 16]/Rom 8:35, 37-39/Mt 14:13-2

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