

Saint Mary Church
One Church Square, Franklin MA 02038

Phone: 508-528-0020

St. Vincent de Paul Society
508-918-2291

Religious Education Office
Phone: 508-528-1450

Website: stmarysfranklin.org

201 Main Street
Fax: 508-528-0043



PASTORAL STAFF

Pastor

Rev. Brian F. Manning
bmannning@stmarysfranklin.org

Parochial Vicar

Rev. John Sullivan
jsullivan@stmarysfranklin.org

Deacons

Deacon Guy St. Sauveur
deaconguy@stmarysfranklin.org

Deacon Ron Gerwatowski
deaconron@stmarysfranklin.org

Pastoral Assistant

Deacon Stephen May
smay@stmarysfranklin.org

STAFF

Religious Education

Karen Ackles - Director Grades 1-8
reled.director@stmarysfranklin.org

Deacon Stephen May - Confirmation Director
confirmation.director@stmarysfranklin.org

Liz Bertoni - Secretary

reled.secretary@stmarysfranklin.org

Rectory Office

Patricia Murphy - Business Manager
businessmanager@stmarysfranklin.org

Mary Ann McSweeney - Secretary
secretary@stmarysfranklin.org

Bulletin

parishpublishing@stmarysfranklin.org

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. We will send you a Welcome Package that will help you register.

SACRAMENTS

Baptism: By appointment only. Consult our website: stmarysfranklin.org

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 (Grades 1-8):
Guided Remote Learning

Confirmation Preparation (after Grade 8):
Guided, Independent, Remote Conferences

Programs run from October through May

Adults

RCIA - Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults
Wednesdays • 7:00pm
October to Easter

Pastoral Reflections:

Advertisers often try to engage our attention by using words like “quick”, “fast”, “convenient”, “prepared”, “saves time”, or similar words. We are encouraged to buy many things so that we have more “free time” to pursue what interests us to be our “better self”, which usually means less than what it says. We are to use all sorts of products to give us all the time necessary for ourselves. Things are to help us be a better person. How we are better usually has to do with looks or physique or somethings similar. It does not have to do with our inner qualities. Rarely does all this “new time” have to do with the meaning or purpose of our life.

The reading from Wisdom; our first reading, is the most recent of all the Old Testament Books. It was composed in Egypt, not Israel, about a half-century before the birth of Jesus Christ; it is the “newest” Old Testament book. It was written in Alexandria, Egypt somewhere between 50 and 30 B.C. The author is a Jewish scholar and philosopher who writes from the perspective of his minority faith to a majority Greek culture in a non-Jewish country. In this Book the author makes Wisdom to be a personified attribute of God. He tells his readers and listeners that the Lady Wisdom that is the object of concern for the seeker is readily available. He clearly says that the person who loves, seeks, and watches for Wisdom will find her right nearby. Bear in mind this “Wisdom” is actually God because God is not hidden or elusive or even deceptive or tricky. Wisdom—that is, God—wants to be found; God in the image of Wisdom is open to the seeker.

This image of seeking, vigil keeping or attentiveness is also found in our Gospel passage and story. The Gospel of Matthew was composed almost 50 to 70 years after the Death and Resurrection of Jesus. The people were now struggling with questions about death and its meaning and, more graphically, the question of the end times of the world. The followers of Jesus were tired of waiting for him to return and no longer knew what to think or do. Thus the story of the foolish virgins, found only in Matthew, is to help with the issue of waiting for the coming of the Lord and also to know that that we need to have foresight about our purpose and meaning.

This parable in Matthew is loaded with dramatic detail and exaggeration to help reinforce its message. We are being directed towards a practical approach to living our faith. We are being told that we need to look not just at today in our life, but also at its end and purpose. We are to see that our life is to be about seeking God. It is clear from the words of Jesus we do not know the time or hour of his return and that we do not need to know it. We are to live our daily life with faith, meaning, and purpose. This purpose is about finding God in our lives and living in light of his message of hope and light. It is not really about ourselves, but about how we share the life of God himself. Clearly we hear in our culture “it is about me” but we need to hear instead “it is about you, O Lord.”

Fr. Brian

READINGS THIS WEEK

Readings for the week of November 8, 2020

Sunday: Wis 6:12-16/Ps 63:2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8 [2b]/1 Thes 4:13-18 or 4:13-14/Mt 25:1-13

Monday: Ez 47:1-2, 8-9, 12/Ps 46:2-3, 5-6, 8-9 [5]/1 Cor 3:9c-11, 16-17/Jn 2:13-22

Tuesday: Ti 2:1-8, 11-14/Ps 37:3-4, 18 and 23, 27 and 29 [39a]/Lk 17:7-10

Wednesday: Ti 3:1-7/Ps 23:1b-3a, 3bc-4, 5, 6 [1]/Lk 17:11-19

Thursday: Phlm 7-20/Ps 146:7, 8-9a, 9bc-10 [5a]/Lk 17:20-25

Friday: 2 Jn 4-9/Ps 119:1, 2, 10, 11, 17, 18 [1b]/Lk 17:26-37

Saturday: 3 Jn 5-8/Ps 112:1-2, 3-4, 5-6/Lk 18:1-8

Next Sunday: Prv 31:10-13, 19-20, 30-31/Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5 [cf. 1a]/1 Thes 5:1-6/Mt 25:14-3

©LPI



**St. Mary Parish
2020 Grand Annual**

Our 2020 Grand Annual Appeal continues with many families having made their gift. Thank you for your continued generosity.

If you have not already done so, please place your completed “Grand Annual Envelope” in the regular collection at Mass or mail it directly to the parish office. Additional envelopes are available at the entrance to the church.

If you are not a regular envelope user, there are additional Grand Annual envelopes available at the entrance to the church.

Please consider a one-time gift of \$350 or more this year. All contributions, from the smallest to the largest, will be gratefully appreciated.

Thank you to the many families that have already returned their initial Grand Annual Gift.



Consider making your gift Online:

stmarysfranklin.org

This is
OUR CHURCH

from the Archdiocese's Faith Community Nurses and Chaplains program. Our Pregnancy Help Centers continue to provide resources for women facing crisis pregnancies. Those suffering from addiction still need support and guidance and many have greater need for counseling and spiritual support during this time of heightened anxiety.

Your support of the Archdiocese's **Catholic Appeal** ensures that these programs and services continue. With the knowledge that many of you are also facing challenging financial realities, and with concern for the people we serve, your prayerful consideration is greatly appreciated. Your donation will make a **significant difference** as we continue serving the Catholic faithful and all our brothers and sisters in need.

To learn more about **Your Church at Work** or to make a donation, visit www.bostoncatholicappeal.org

Thank you!

2020 St Mary's SVdP Caring Tree



St. Vincent de Paul is once again sponsoring the Christmas Caring Tree gift giving program. Due to your generosity, last year we were able to help 122 Franklin families in need and provide over 500 gifts to these families.

Due to the pandemic, we need to make some major changes to the program. There will be no Caring Tree in the church. Instead of gifts as in prior years, we will be providing gift cards to those in need to purchase Christmas gifts.

Our request to St. Mary parishioners is to donate a \$25 gift card to either Walmart or Target. If you would rather, a monetary donation of any amount would be appreciated. Checks should be made out to St. Mary's SVdP. Checks, gift cards, or cash donations can be placed in an envelope inscribed with the address below or dropped in the collection basket at Mass. If dropping off a donation, please mark it "Caring Tree Program".

Thank you all for your willingness to help those in our community who will benefit from our support during the holiday season!

Please mail or drop off all gift cards and monetary donations by **November 29th** to:

**St Mary Parish
c/o SVdP Caring Tree Program
One Church Square
Franklin, MA 02038**



The Knights of Columbus will have the pies you ordered for Thanksgiving ready for pickup on Tuesday, November 24 from 2:00 - 8:00 pm in the modular classrooms at St. Mary Center, 201 Main Street.

Any questions, call Jim Campbell at 508-848-8681, Jim Lane at 774-571-9804, or Mike Swann at 508-404-4792. See St. Mary's website for more details: stmarysfranklin.org



Franklin Knights of Columbus - Council 1847

Holiday Food Card Drive
November 7th through December 14th

We are holding our Sixth Annual Holiday Food Card Drive. Proceeds will support the ongoing charitable efforts of the Knights of Columbus and help feed those “in need”. This need is particularly critical due to COVID 19. This year there will be 2 ways by which you may **purchase and donate a Stop & Shop Food Card** for those in need:

Please visit our website (kofc1847.org). You will find a link to order and donate Food Cards. Online orders will accept Credit Card (only).

Or you can **Mail** your check and order form (below) to:

**Knights of Columbus
c/o Food Card Drive – PO Box 465
Franklin, MA 02038**

This is how it works:

Purchase a \$10 Stop & Shop Food Card and 5% of the sales help feed those in need.

Donate one or more of the food cards you purchase and 100% of the donated card(s) help feed those in need.

Contact: Scott Kyle – 508-736-8944 – d_scott13@comcast.net

Thank You for your Caring

NAME: _____ PHONE: _____

EMAIL: _____

_____ Donate a \$10 Food Card and 100% of sales helps feed people in need.

_____ Purchase a \$10 Food Card and 5% of sales helps feed people in need.

Purchased cards will be mailed to you by 12/15

_____ Total @ \$10 each = \$ _____

Make checks payable to: Knights of Columbus Council 1847

OR

Visit our website www.kofc1847.org to pay by Credit Card