

Saint Mary Church
One Church Square, Franklin MA 02038

Phone: 508-528-0020

Website: stmarysfranklin.org

St. Vincent de Paul Society
508-918-2291

Religious Education Office
Phone: 508-528-1450

201 Main Street



SUNDAY, JANUARY 15, 2023

2ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

“Now I have seen and testified that he is
the Son of God.” - Jn 1:34

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

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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.

PASTORAL STAFF

Pastor

Rev. Brian F. Manning

bmanning@stmarysfranklin.org

Parochial Vicar

Rev. John Sullivan

jsullivan@stmarysfranklin.org

In Residence

Rev. Frank Campo

fcampo@stmarysfranklin.org

Deacons

Deacon Ron Gerwatowski

deaconron@stmarysfranklin.org

Pastoral Associate

Leo Racine

pastoralassociate@stmarysfranklin.org

STAFF

Religious Education

Karen Ackles — Director

Grades 1-8 and Confirmation Program

reled.director@stmarysfranklin.org

Liz Bertoni — Secretary

reled.secretary@stmarysfranklin.org

Rectory Office

Patricia Murphy — Business Manager

businessmanager@stmarysfranklin.org

Jennifer Lance — Secretary

secretary@stmarysfranklin.org

Bulletin

parishpublishing@stmarysfranklin.org

Music Director

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

Mass Schedule

Weekend Masses: Saturday: 4:00 Sunday: 7:30, 10:30, and Noon

Daily: Monday-Friday: 7:00am

Confession : Saturday: 8:00am

SACRAMENTS

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

Penance: Saturdays 8 to 9 a.m. in Reconciliation Room in Chapel, 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.

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 and in-person learning

Confirmation Preparation

(Confirmation 1 + Confirmation 2)

Guided independent, remote and in-person learning

Programs run from September—April

Adults

RCIA - Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults

Wednesdays 7:00 p.m.

October to Easter

Dear Parishioners,

Some of us practice medicine without a license or any formal medical education. I am an excellent diagnostician for others, but very poor one for myself. Some of you may be aware that I had a health emergency at the past Sunday's NOON Mass. I had a near fainting spell. I was taken to the hospital where I was diagnosed with COVID. I thought I was recovering from the Flu. So my apologies to the people who were alarmed, my gratitude to those who expressed concern and said a little pray for me. I am now recovering, but will allow a doctor to diagnose me from now on.

God bless.

Fr. Brian

PS: Below is a Reflection from a few years ago on the Baptism of the Lord Sunday.

Pastoral Reflections: We begin this Sunday with the return to the ordinary schedule of Sundays with this Feast of the Baptism of the Lord. Note that the beginning of the public ministry and life of Jesus occurred with his baptism in the River Jordan and that is why we begin our ordinary Sunday time of the church year with this feast. In fact, in the three synoptic (eyewitness point of view) Gospels, namely Matthew, Mark and Luke, this scene of the Baptism of the Lord is the first common story for all which launches the Ministry and Mission of Jesus in direct and clear ways. Ironically, as baptism signaled the beginning of Jesus' ministry and life of faith, it also signals the beginning of ours as well.

For most of us, baptism begins at the font when we are an infant and held in our parents' arms. However, it does not all end there. Note clearly that Baptism is promise with a future, not fulfillment with an end. Baptism is for growth and life, growth into communion with all others and sharing of life with those who have been baptized. When we are immersed in the waters of baptism, we rise because of God's grace and power. We call that power now in us the Holy Spirit.

In our Gospel today the people who approached John for baptism were all set and ready to go. They were searching for a new leader who would be both king and liberator. John barked at them that he was not the one they were seeking, for a mightier one than he would be coming soon with a baptism of Spirit and fire. The fire reference recalls the ceremony of fire linked with ancient agreements. God's presence, also, was recognized with fire. John desired the folks to realize that baptism with fire means not only a complete purification but also the presence of God (the Holy Spirit).

In the Gospel passage, we learn that the Holy Spirit comes upon Jesus and designates him the long-awaited Messiah. Most of the people at this time did not understand this truth about Jesus, but after Pentecost they certainly did. Needless to say the author of this passage certainly understood clearly.

As the new calendar year begins, the story of the necessary baptism of Jesus signals his journey from life to death. This first very revealing chapter of Jesus' life story and its meaning is set before us. This story will be told and understood through the bright light of the Resurrection. We are invited to take it all in and make it ours.

This Sunday brings the Christmas season to a close. This weekend our scripture invites us to think about our own identity as a believer in Christ. This Feast is meant for us to reflect upon our own Baptism and what it should mean as we grow and live life. This weekend we are asked to consider how we accept the reality of Christ "Emmanuel" and live his life and message. Ultimately we realize as the story of Christ is told, that we have also been baptized into his Death and Resurrection and are, indeed, his daughters and sons. We need to remember that we are God's beloved despite how well or poorly we act as God's beloved. Indeed we need to pray and strive to be faithful to our baptismal identification with God's Son, to follow his path of service, and to be as open to God as God is to us.

As baptized Christians, we have been favored with a share of the light and life of Jesus, God's "favored One." We often forget this great gift of God to us. The light of Christ that shines at Christmas always guides our steps and path, especially when we are lost and seeking the way or looking to be found. Remember always to live in the Light of Christ and share it with others.

Fr. Brian

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, January 14

4:00 pm Daniel and Barbara Lyons and Edmond and Irene Kazuschyk—Memorial

Sunday, January 15

7:30 am Laura Hogan

10:30 am Jonathan Davis—14th Anniversary

12:00 pm Paulette Roccamo— Memorial

Monday, January 16

7:00 am Gildo Caruso—Memorial

Tuesday, January 17

7:00 am John C. Hanlon

Wednesday, January 18

7:00 am Catherine Lee Deem

Thursday, January 19

7:00 am Joe Ostroff

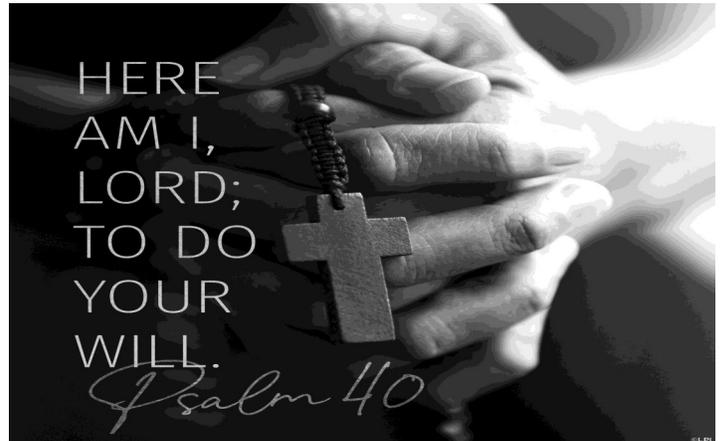
Friday, January 20

7:00 am

SACRIFICIAL GIVING

Thank you for your faithfulness and generosity.

Grand Annual 102% \$154,187.00



INTRODUCTORY BIBLE STUDY CLASS

St. Mary’s Parish will sponsor a five-session Bible Study series, led by Leo Racine, at Magnolia Heights Retirement Center at 485 East Central Street in Franklin. The series begins on **Monday, January 23 from 11:00 to 12:00 noon**; the additional sessions will be held on Mondays, February 13, February 27, March 13 and March 27, all from 11:00 to 12:00 noon.

This series will be an introduction to the Bible; we will use materials from the Little Rock Scripture Study program. All St. Mary’s parishioners are invited to attend this introduction to the Bible series. Please contact Leo Racine at pastoralassociate@stmarysfranklin.org or 508-528-0020 for more information or to register. There may be a cost of up to \$14 for materials for this series; financial assistance is available if needed.

Readings for the week of January 15, 2023

Sunday: Is 49:3, 5-6/Ps 40:2, 4, 7-8, 8-9, 10/1 Cor 1:1-3/Jn 1:29-34

Monday: Heb 5:1-10/Ps 110:1, 2, 3, 4/Mk 2:18-22

Tuesday: Heb 6:10-20/Ps 111:1-2, 4-5, 9 and 10c/Mk 2:23-28

Wednesday: Heb 7:1-3, 15-17/Ps 110:1, 2, 3, 4/Mk 3:1-6

Thursday: Heb 7:25—8:6/Ps 40:7-8a, 8b-9, 10, 17/Mk 3:7-12

Friday: Heb 8:6-13/Ps 85:8 and 10, 11-12, 13-14/Mk 3:13-19

Saturday: Heb 9:2-3, 11-14/Ps 47:2-3, 6-7, 8-9/Mk 3:20-21

Next Sunday:Is 8:23—9:3/Ps 27:1,4, 13-14 (1a)/1 Cor 1:10-13, 17/Mt 4:12-23 or 4:12-17



St Vincent De Paul Society St Mary Franklin
Year at a glance: Fiscal year ending 9/30/2022

“We ourselves feel that what we are doing is just a drop in the ocean. But the ocean would be less because of that missing drop.” Mother Teresa

Thank you to all the parishioners, the Knights of Columbus and all the other organizations for their support of SVDP by generously donating food and financial assistance so we could offer assistance to Franklin residents in need. Special thanks to Fathers Brian, Jack and Frank and Deacon Ron for spreading God’s message of the importance of helping others.

Our 38 members volunteered almost 5,700 hours meeting with families in need a total of 1,235 times, with 3,239 people helped. Covid impacted us again for the majority of the year in 2022. We used procedures to keep Vincentians and people we serve safe. Volunteers met in pairs in the lower church or over the phone with people seeking assistance to thoroughly assess the need. Any financial assistance is paid directly to the provider of services and not to the person seeking assistance.

Your support helped us:

- Distribute 810 bags of donated food & 182 personal hygiene bags
- Give out 55 Complimentary SVDP Thrift Store vouchers worth \$2,900
- Caring Tree 102 families / 254 people with Gifts cards of \$8,100
- Provide Gifts for Mother’s Day (48), Father’s Day (13) and Veterans (6)

Financially, your donations served families 392 times for a total of over \$ 76,000

- Housing assistance 49 times for almost \$38,000
- Utilities 45 times for \$14,500
- Grocery store, Gas & Other gift cards 196 times for \$7,800
- Automobile related assistance 8 times for \$4,200
- Easter Meal Food Cards 59 families for \$2,900
- Other: Medical, Furniture, Heating Repairs, Insurance

We continue to have strong relationships with other town organizations and businesses. We gave families 255 referrals to town, state and federal agencies that might help them.

In the coming year neighbors in need will face significant **challenges** due to increases for housing, utilities, food & gas. These costs put added pressure on them to make ends meet.

The most important members of this Ministry are each of you, our Contributing members, without whom we would not be able to serve. We thank you for your generosity, and want you to know your contributions are very appreciated by the people we serve.

Promoters of Hope, Apostles of Charity and Advocates of the Dignity of the human person

For the weekly Missalette of the Mass readings, you can order a “St. Joseph Sunday Missal Prayer Book and Hymnal for 2023” for \$9.95 at Amazon.com

If you would like “Give Us This Day—A Daily Prayer for Today’s Catholic” with each day’s Scripture and weekend mass readings, you can subscribe for \$46.95 a year. You can either: Call 888-259-8470 or Order online at www.giveusthisday.org.

Or subscribe to “Word Among Us” at <https://wau.org/subscribe/> for \$37.95.

The Holy Father’s Prayer Intentions For Educators

We pray that educators may be credible witnesses, teaching fraternity rather than competition and helping the youngest and most vulnerable of all.

SVDP reminder of Food Resources for Franklin Residents Information as of 1/15/2023

Franklin Food Pantry New hours as of Nov 1, 2022

Monday: Closed
Tuesday: Indoor shopping 9:00 am – 1:00 pm, Appointment Required
5:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. Curbside Pickup No appointment needed
Wednesday: Closed
Thursday: Indoor shopping: 9:00 am – 1:00 pm Appointment Required
Friday: Indoor shopping: 9:00 am – 1:00 pm Appointment Required
*No walk-ins. *No curbside distribution

YMCA: “Drive up Groceries”
Nonperishable food Wednesday 1PM to 2PM
Expanded time for Senior Citizens 12:30-1:00 pm
Some Delivery available—Need to sign up 508-528-8708.

Meals on Wheels for seniors and homebound Call 800-286-6640

St. Vincent de Paul Society: Non-perishable food, hygiene items and paper products. Delivery available.

Call 508-918-2291 and
leave a message.



WOMEN’S FAITH FORMATION

The Women's Faith Formation group is pleased to announce that we will be viewing the Symbolon series: "The Catholic Faith Explained" by Dr. Edward Sri. This series from the Augustine Institute consists of ten videos on a variety of topics. We will view one 1/2 hour video each session and allow time for discussion and sharing. Our meetings will be via Zoom and are held on the second Wednesday of the month from 7 - 8 pm. Our next meeting is scheduled for February 8th. Please visit our web page (<https://www.stmarysfranklin.org/womens-faith-formation>) for further information and to access the Zoom link. All women are welcome to attend!

St. Vincent de Paul Notice for January 2023 Bulletin

CURRENT NEEDS

Food Pantry Collection

The St. Vincent de Paul Society cannot thank you enough for your donations to our food drives. It is a blessing for us to be able to serve our neighbors and for them to experience the support of our parish. At this time the pantry is quite full with food donations. For the pantry’s current needs, we would like to request:

paper towels, toilet paper and tissues

SVdP members will put together grocery bags including paper produces and laundry detergent for those who call St. Mary’s in need of help.

Thank you in advance from all who will benefit from your generosity. Donations may be placed in the boxes at the doors of the church any-time during the month.

Dear Parishioners:

As we all know, the economy continues to be deeply affected by inflation and the COVID pandemic. This has in turn affected all of us personally and the St. Vincent de Paul Society was unsure what financial response would be possible from our parishioners for this year's St Mary's Caring Tree. The response was outstanding! Donations of gift cards and checks were close to \$10,000. We are so blessed to have such a caring and generous parish. As a result of this overwhelming charitable response, we were able to assist over 98 Franklin families (155 adults & 74 children) this holiday season. Current events have created financial stress on so many Franklin families. Without the financial support and wonderful Christmas notes and prayers that accompanied the gift cards, we would not have been able to bring assistance and happiness to so many Franklin families. We thank you!

Our thoughts and prayers are with all the parishioners of St. Mary's and we pray for a safe and healthy 2023 for everyone. God Bless and keep the Christmas Spirit of Jesus thriving during these demanding times.

Sincerely,
St. Mary's St. Vincent de Paul



Take a risk for God! Enter the mission field where bold action meets lasting outcomes. Over 750 priest alumni discerned a sacred call later in life. Maturity with God's grace can move mountains. Can you leave it all to follow Christ? Pope St. John XXIII National Seminary, Weston, MA is offering 'First Friday Visits' on: February 3rd, 2023 at 5:00 p.m. Option to attend virtually or in person. Holy Hour and Evening Prayer. In Person includes dinner with the seminarians and a tour. Virtual includes a Zoom visit following Holy Hour. Make a resolution to be courageous.

Consider a priestly call. Contact: msgr.fay@psjs.edu or 781.899.5500 ext. 134. www.psjs.edu.

WE WELCOME

Logan Daniel Merrimam and Henry Michael Cadoret who received the Sacrament of Baptism at St. Mary in the month of January.
May the Lord watch over them always

The next Zoom Baptismal Catechesis class is on Wednesday, February 8th 7-8pm for first-time parents. Sign up at secretary@stmarysfranklin.org.

The parish website, <https://www.stmarysfranklin.org/>, has recently undergone some major updates. As time goes on and changes occur, additional updates will be made.