

Saint Mary Church
One Church Square, Franklin MA 02038

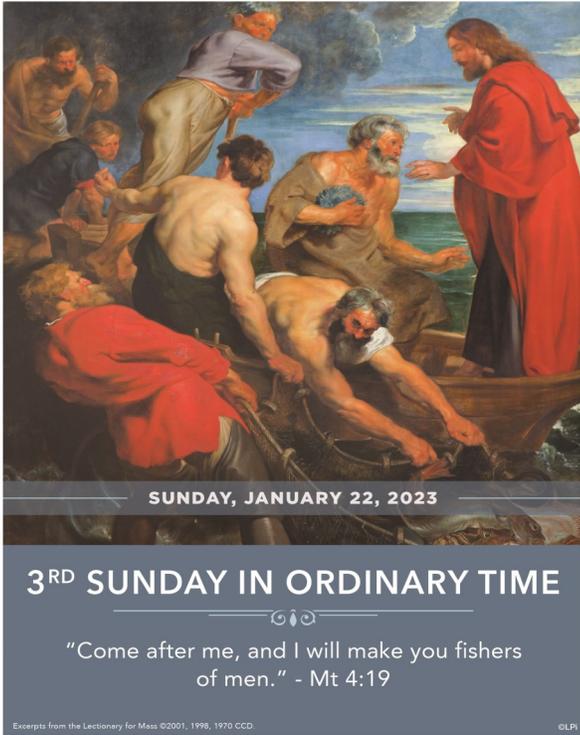
Phone: 508-528-0020

Website: stmarysfranklin.org

St. Vincent de Paul Society
508-918-2291

Religious Education Office
Phone: 508-528-1450

201 Main Street



SUNDAY, JANUARY 22, 2023

3RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

“Come after me, and I will make you fishers of men.” - Mt 4:19

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,

I have made great improvement in recovery. I decided that it was better to offer you a Reflection from a few years past because I am not yet functioning at full capacity. Recovery takes time.

**Thanks and God bless,
*Father Brian***

Pastoral Reflections:

We launch out this Sunday on our Church's yearlong proclamation and reflection upon on the Gospel according to Matthew is proclaimed to us each Sunday for the thirty-three Sundays in Ordinary Time. This Gospel directly links Jesus to the Old Testament. The narrative of the nativity of Jesus always adds frequently the refrain: "All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet ..." (Matthew 1:22). Thus in today's Gospel reading, Matthew tells us that Jesus carries out his mission to fulfill an Old Testament prophecy.

In this passage, Jesus is compared to Isaiah's prophecy of a great light flooding the land of Galilee, that "far way" place of the Gentiles. Recall that in this region on the seashore of the Sea of Galilee, Jesus began gathering disciples. The four fishermen, Peter and his brother Andrew, along with the Zebedee brothers, James and John, abandoned their nets and followed Jesus immediately. With our translation removed by many cultures, languages and centuries, Scripture scholars tell us that the original language of this passage offered a sense of inevitability and urgency in Jesus' call to these four men and also in their spontaneous, unquestioned response. There clearly was no dilly-dallying. The four fishermen knew deeply that this was their "it." They immediately abandoned everything to follow Jesus.

Almost all of the people of Israel expected a messiah who would act in clear, specific, recognizable ways, such as bringing about health and healing and freedom from the oppression and anguish. The words of the prophet Isaiah that we read today rang a bell in Jesus' time. The sound of the smashing of all instruments of bondage was music to their ears. The false power of the taskmaster would finally cease.

Finally, a new song could be heard in the land. The proclamation of Jesus was indeed good news. Something was new in the land and also *someone* was new, and he would make all things new. Words were followed by effective deeds—people were cured of every disease and affliction of body and soul. The messianic expectations were being fulfilled.

With all this good news and freedom we learn about in the Gospel of today, with all this light and salvation, what is off kilter in Corinth in our second reading? Paul has preached the good news to this town a year and half earlier, but now, a few years later, the hearers had forgotten. The freshness had worn off; it was no longer new and exciting. The assembly experienced stresses and strains which threatened to tear it apart. The Corinthians now drew their worth from light reflected from this or that authority figure. The cult of personality had started.

Paul reminds the Corinthians of the primacy of Christ. He emphasizes clearly them, to whom they belong, in whose life they share, to whom they owe their salvation. Paul is very blunt. He reminds them that they all belong to Christ. This is it as far as he is concerned. In the cross of Christ alone they are saved. This is the faith they must live by.

Paul is also reaching across the centuries to us to remember that our faith is in Jesus Christ, crucified and risen. We should be careful to know what is truly transitory and fleeting and what is enduring and everlasting.

Fr. Brian

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, January 21

4:00 pm John Dexter—Birthday Memorial

Sunday, January 22

7:30 am Sabino Coscia

10:30 am Mary H. Rebello—5th Anniversary

12:00 pm Lucille Balzarini - 1st Anniversary

Monday, January 23

7:00 am Linda Padula, Ronald Trenouth, David Trenouth and Angelina and William Trenouth

Tuesday, January 24

7:00 am Irene Atkinson - 3rd Anniversary

Wednesday, January 25

7:00 am Antonio Pereira Memorial

Thursday, January 26

7:00 am

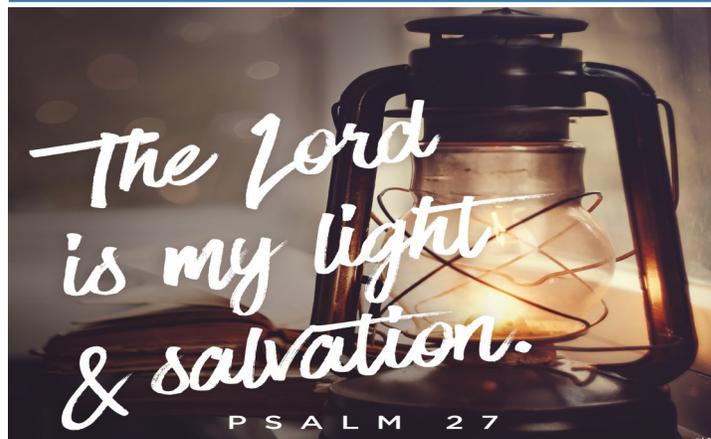
Friday, January 27

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 22, 2023

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

Monday: Heb 9:15, 24-28/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4, 5-6/Mk 3:22-30

Tuesday: Heb 10:1-10/Ps 40:2 and 4ab, 708a, 10, 11/Mk 3:31-35

Wednesday: Acts 22:3-16 or Acts 9:1-22/Ps 117:1bc, 2/Mk 16:15-18

Thursday: 2 Tm 1:1-8 or Tit 1:1-5/12/Ps 132:1-2, 3-5, 11, 12, 13-14/Mk 4:21-25

Friday: Heb 10:32-39/Ps 37:3-4, 5-6, 23-24, 39-40/Mk 4:26-34

Saturday: Heb 11:1-2, 8-19/Lk 1:69-70, 71-72, 73-75/Mk 4:35-41

Next Sunday: Zep 2:3; 3:12-13/Ps 146:6-7, 8-9, 9-10 (Matthew 5:3)/1 Cor 1:26-31/Mt 5:1-12a



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

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.



The Sacred Heart Council of the Knights of Columbus want to congratulate our winners in the **Keep Christ in Christmas** poster contest. Children in the parish were welcomed to participate in this poster contest identifying how they portray **Keeping Christ in Christmas**. Thank you to the many children that participated. There were 3 age groups in the contest.

The winners were:

Mollie Brenn (5-7 division),

Clare Fisk (age 8-10 division)

Lucy Rovani (age 11-14 division).

They received gift cards to a local store, and their artwork moved on to the Knights of Columbus District contest. We want to thank all that participated and big thanks to Religious Education team that help us promote this event for our children of the parish.

Do you have a passion for eco-justice? *Sacred Water: Oceans & Ecosystems* is a small group program that guides groups in discerning how they can better care for the earth's waters, as well as the creatures and communities who live around them. This 8-week program is being offered via Zoom on Monday evenings from 7-9pm. Start date is February 13, 2023. There is no registration fee for this program, as it is being co-sponsored by St. Mary's Parish in Franklin and St. Mary's Parish in Holliston.

For more information or to register, contact Leo Racine at 508-429-7476 or leoaracine@msn.com. You can also visit the JustFaith website at <https://bit.ly/SACREDWATER> to learn more about the *Sacred Water* program.

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.

SVDP reminder of Food Resources for Franklin Residents

Information as of 1/22/2023

Franklin Food Pantry New hours for 2023

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 anytime during the month.

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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

Vincent Matthew Logano, Nya Marie Ward and Landon Andrew Garwood and Tessa Charleen Garwood, 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.