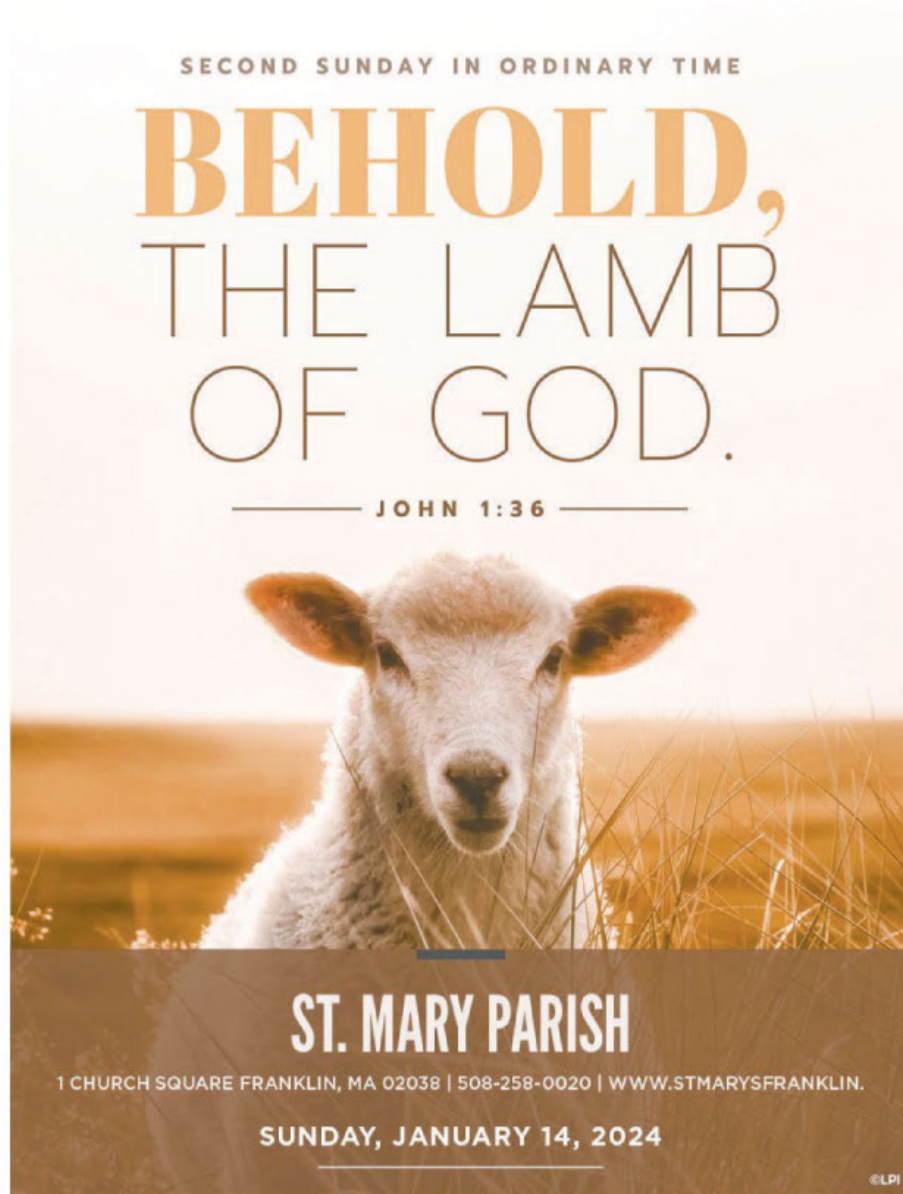


Saint Mary Parish



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 am

All weekend Masses are
Live Streamed at:

stmarysfranklin.org

Confession

Saturday: 8:00 – 9:00 a.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

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

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, January 13

4:00 pm John C. Hanlon

Sunday, January 14

7:30am Carissa Langille Saunders

10:30am Barbara McGovern

12:00 noon Louis Frascotti

Monday, January 15

7:00am Edward Fitzpatrick

Tuesday, January 16

7:00am Susan Strittmatter

Wednesday, January 17

7:00 am Clare Marie Flynn

Thursday, January 18

7:00 am Helen Novak

Friday, January 19

7:00 am Holy Souls in Purgatory

Saturday, January 20

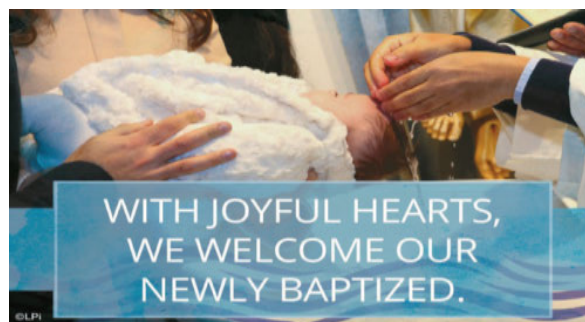
4:00 pm Paul Hannon

Sunday, January 21

7:30am Jonathan Davis

10:30am Eileen Determan, 50th Anniversary

12:00 noon Mary H. Rebello



Sloane Siena Rich and Hadley Mae Jarvis received their Baptisms the week of December 25th, and Grace Carolyn Cassidy was Baptized last weekend at St. Mary Parish. May God watch over them always.



READINGS THIS WEEK

Readings for the week of January 14, 2024

Sunday: 1 Sm 3:3b-10, 19/Ps 40:2, 4 7-8, 8-9, 10 (8a, 9a)/1 Cor 6:13c-15a, 17-20/Jn 1:35-42

Monday: 1 Sm 15:16-23/Ps 50:8-9, 16bc-17, 21 and 23/Mk 2:18-22

Tuesday: 1 Sm 16:1-13/Ps 89:20, 21-22, 27-28/Mk 2:23-28

Wednesday: 1 Sm 17:32-33, 37, 40-51/Ps 144:1b, 2, 9-10/Mk 3:1-6

Thursday: 1 Sm 18:6-9; 19:1-7/Ps 56:2-3, 9-10a, 10b-11, 12-13/Mk 3:7-12

Friday: 1 Sm 24:3-21/Ps 57:2, 3-4, 6 and 11/Mk 3:13-19

Saturday: 2 Sm 1:1-4, 11-12, 19, 23-27/Ps 80:2-3, 5-7/Mk 3:20-21

Next Sunday: Jon 3:1-5, 10/Ps 25:4-5, 6-7, 8-9 (4a)/1 Cor 7:29-31/Mk 1:14-20

- 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, February 7, 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 email Father Jack at jsullivan@stmarysfranklin.org

Sacrament to the Sick for the Homebound

Please call the rectory to speak to the Pastoral Associate 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.

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.



On December 30, 2023, **Hanna Contrino** and **Joseph Swan** were united in Holy Matrimony at St. Mary Parish by Fr. Brian Manning. We wish the couple a long, happy, love-filled and healthy life together.



Warm Hands – Warm Hearts

A little bit of dignity... a little bit of love... is all some need to heal.

-Dr. Jim O'Connell

St. Mary's Respect Life Committee is sponsoring a winter clothing drive for the Homeless in our area. You can help our neighbors in need this winter by donating ***new* Socks, Gloves, Hat or a Warm Scarf !** On the weekends of January 13 & 20th, there will be donation boxes at the entrance of the church.

All donations will immediately be distributed to area shelters and other programs that serve the homeless, as the need is great.

Thank you for warming another's heart!



Are you or anyone you know interested in becoming a Catholic? St. Mary's would be delighted to prepare and accompany you on this journey. The RCIA or Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults, is offered by Fr. Jack Sullivan. If you are interested, please e-mail Father Jack at jsullivan@stmarysfranklin.org

**Calling all Boys and Girls
3rd - 12th grade to be Altar Servers**

First Meeting this Week!

St. Mary Parish is happy to announce the return of altar servers to our weekend Mass celebrations. This is a wonderful ministry for all children who have received their First Communion and are currently in grades 3 through 12. The First Training session for Altar Servers will be on Wednesday, January 17th from 4-5pm in the Main Church.

Families who are interested should email Father Bob at: pastor@stmarysfranklin.org.



The Knights of Columbus, Sacred Heart Council 1847 is proud to announce the winners of this years Keep Christ in Christmas Contest. Though they were all great, we had to pick a winner in each age grouping.

This year's winners are **Daniel McCahill, Leonora Vendetti** and **Lucy Rovani**. Their artwork will travel to the K of C state office to be entered into the statewide contest. The posters not moving on, will be on display in the Religious Ed office. Many thanks to Ms. Ackles and Ms. Bertoni for their support of this great project. Congratulations to all the students that participated in this years **"Keep Christ in Christmas"** poster contest.

St. Mary's Parish Prays For Life
A Holy Hour for Life, Forgiveness and Healing

A Holy Hour for Life, Forgiveness and Healing will be held on **Friday Evening, January 19, 2024 at 7pm** in the Chapel at St. Mary's Church, as part of the Archdiocesan observance of the National Day of Prayer and Penance.

Led by Deacon Ron Gerwatowski, we will pray together for respect for the dignity of human life from conception to natural death; for those who have been wounded by abortion; for those facing death; and for increased holiness in the Church.

The Holy Hour for Life, Forgiveness and Healing is organized by Boston Deacons for Life in collaboration with the Office of Diaconal Life and Ministry and The Pro Life Office of the Archdiocese of Boston. Please join us, all are welcome.

"...that I should not lose anything of what he gave me..."
John 6:39





St. Vincent De Paul Current Food Pantry Requests 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.

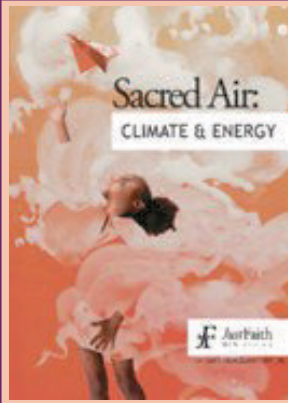
Donations may be placed in the boxes at the doors of the church anytime during the month. The current needs of the pantry are:



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



Sacred Air: Climate & Energy

Do you have a passion for eco-justice? *Sacred Air: Climate & Energy* is an eight-session JustFaith Ministries' small group program that explores the impact of the climate crisis on God's

creation and God's people. In order to discern ways to restore the health of our planet and those who live on it, your small group will learn about causes and effects of the climate crisis.

Our pastoral associate, Leo Racine, will be one of the facilitators for this engaging program which will be held via Zoom on Sunday evenings from **7:00 to 9:00 beginning on February 4, 2024**. The program is free to St. Mary parishioners. for more information and to begin the registration process, please contact Leo Racine at 508-528-0020 or pastoralassociate@stmarysfranklin.org.



Thank You.

Dear Parishioners: The economy continues to be deeply affected by inflation, weather, and world events. This has in turn affected all of us personally, and the St. Vincent de Paul Society was unsure what the financial response would be from our parishioners for this year's St Mary's Caring Tree.

We were pleased to see that the response was exceptional! Donations of gift cards and checks were \$11,345. 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 103 Franklin families, (161 adults & 86 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 2024 for everyone. God Bless and keep the Christmas Spirit of Jesus thriving during these demanding times.

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



RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS

By Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

Those Who Seek the Truth

In my work as a freelance writer, I have a regular column in the archdiocesan paper writing profiles of ordinary people in the local church. Laity, religious, and clergy alike — I hound them all to give me an interview, and when I do, the answer is almost always this: “You don’t want to talk to me. There’s nothing special about me.”

I always try to convince them that there is something remarkable about everyone who is searching for the truth. It is easy to think we are not made for holiness because we are ordinary people with ordinary habits, ordinary abilities, and ordinary sins. It is easy (and very convenient) to designate holiness as something belonging to Better People. People like the saints. People like the Disciples.

The Bible gives us next to no personal information about the disciples. There is no archdiocesan newspaper profile on Andrew and Simon that can give us insight into who they were before they became St. Andrew, Inaugural Disciple and Announcer of the Messiah, and St. Peter, First Pope and the Rock-Upon-Which-Christ-Built-His-Church.

Yet I find myself insatiably curious about it. What was their childhood like? What games did they play with each other as the sun set, before their mother called them into bed? What did they think of as they fell asleep at night? What secret jokes did they share to make each other laugh? What were they afraid of? What did they hope for? Who did they want to be?

Before they were towering figures of salvation history, Simon and Andrew were just two men searching for the truth. When they looked at Christ, there was something that made it click. Perhaps they themselves could not identify what it was, but their hearts whispered it nonetheless: There it is. We finally found it.

Isn’t that the best we can all hope for?

“Jesus turned and saw them following him and said to them, ‘What are you looking for?’” — John 1:38

©LPi



Zoom Rosary - Monday nights at 7:00PM

Deacon Guy continues a Zoom Rosary every Monday night at 7:00pm. This is open to parishioners, family & friends from all communities. The Zoom Rosary takes about 30 minutes and has a different Mystery each week. There is no expectation of attendance or level of participation. You are welcome to join, relax, and just listen. *Link info* is on the Parish Web Site under **Parish Life and Prayer**. For more information contact Deacon Guy deaconguy@verizon.net.

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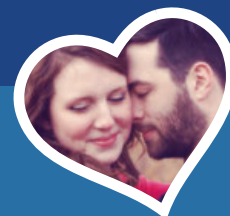
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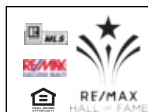
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