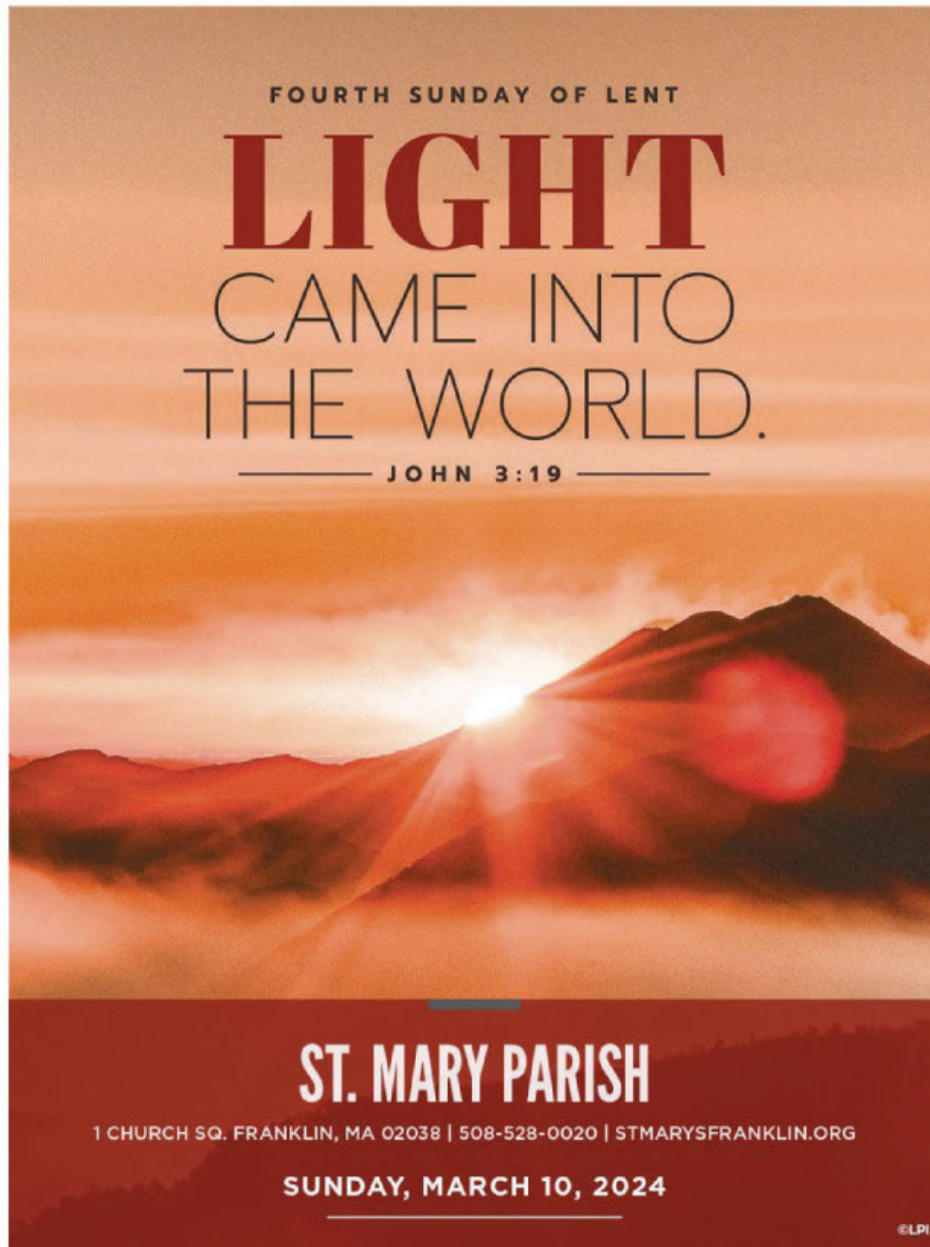


## Saint Mary Parish



### 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 a.m. – 9:00a.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

**www.stmarysfranklin.org**  
**508-528-0020**

## MASS INTENTIONS

### Saturday, March 9

4:00 pm Mark and Patricia O'Friel

### Sunday, March 10

7:30am Jose and Maria Pereira

10:30am Bianca Palmieri

12:00 noon Biagino Taddeo

### Monday, March 11

7:00am Kenneth & Doris Girard

### Tuesday, March 12

7:00am George Stanislovitis

### Wednesday, March 13

7:00am Souls in Purgatory

### Thursday, March 14

7:00 am Juliana Kyungwoo Lee

### Friday, March 15

7:00 am Kenneth C. Girard

### Saturday, March 16

4:00 pm Tino, Alma & Vincent Debaggis

### Sunday, March 17

7:30am Linda Padula

10:30am Michael Canty

12:00 noon John and Claire Moran

## WEEKLY GIVING

Online Donation: \$ 4,767.25

Offertory \$ 5,220.62

Drop-Off \$ 1,522.00

Grand Total \$ 11,509.87



Last weekend, Emerson Carolina True and Isla Anne Baia were Baptized at St. Mary Parish by Deacon Ron. May the Lord watch over them always.



## READINGS THIS WEEK

### Readings for the week of March 10, 2024

Sunday: 2 Chr 36:14-16, 19-23/Ps 137:1-2, 3, 4-5, 6 (6ab)/Eph 2:4-10/Jn 3:14-21

Scrutiny: 1 Sm 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a/Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6 (1)/Eph 5:8-14/Jn 9:1-41 or 9:1, 6-9, 13-17, 34-38

Monday: Is 65:17-21/Ps 30:2 and 4, 5-6, 11-12a and 13b/Jn 4:43-54

Tuesday: Ez 47:1-9, 12/Ps 46:2-3, 5-6, 8-9/Jn 5:1-16

Wednesday: Is 49:8-15/Ps 145:8-9, 13cd-14, 17-18/Jn 5:17-30

Thursday: Ex 32:7-14/Ps 106:19-20, 21-22, 23/Jn 5:31-47

Friday: Wis 2:1a, 12-22/Ps 34:17-18, 19-20, 21 and 23/Jn 7:1-2, 10, 25-30

Saturday: Jer 11:18-20/Ps 7:2-3, 9bc-10, 11-12/Jn 7:40-53



### 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, March 13, 2024 at 7-8pm. Contact Deacon Ron [deaconron@stmarysfranklin.org](mailto:deaconron@stmarysfranklin.org).

To schedule a Baptism, please email: [Baptism@stmarysfranklin.org](mailto: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](mailto:jsullivan@stmarysfranklin.org)

### Sacrament to the Sick for the Homebound

Please call the rectory or email the Pastoral Associate ([pastoralassociate@stmarysfranklin.org](mailto:pastoralassociate@stmarysfranklin.org)) 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](http://stmarysfranklin.org) or call the Rectory at 508-528-0020.



### The 2024 Catholic Appeal

We're very excited to launch the Catholic Appeal this weekend at St. Mary Parish. Thank you to those who have already responded generously to Cardinal Seán's invitation! Because of your early support, we are on the way to reach our goal.

As Catholics, each of us shares the responsibility of the Church community – both directly within our parish and to the greater Church. Thank you for responding in faith, hope, and charity by making a gift to the 2024 Catholic Appeal. We are stronger together and your generous participation is greatly appreciated!

### Easter Flower Donations

Envelopes for Easter Flower Donations will be available at each entrance of the church. Envelopes can be returned in the collection boxes for the next three weekends or dropped-off at the Rectory. You may also donate online via the parish website at: [www.stmarysfranklin.org](http://www.stmarysfranklin.org)



### St. Mary's Parish

### STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Stations of the Cross are held each Friday during Lent, at 7pm in the Chapel.

March 15

Men's Faith Formation

March 22

St. Vincent DePaul





## Holy Week Schedule

**All Masses & Services will be Live-Streamed  
EXCEPT the 7am Weekday Masses & Services**

### Palm Sunday - March 23 & 24

4pm	Mass with Blessing of the Palms
7:30am	Mass with Palms
10:30am	Mass with Palms
12:00 Noon	Mass with Palms

### Wednesday - March 27

7:00 pm	Adoration, Prayer & Confession
---------	--------------------------------

### Holy Thursday - March 28

7:00am	Morning Prayer in Chapel
7:00pm	Mass of the Lord's Last Supper with Washing of the Feet in Main Church

### Good Friday - March 29

7:00am	Morning Prayer in Chapel
3:00pm	The Passion of the Lord Service with Stations of the Cross to Follow in the Main Church
7:00pm	The Passion of the Lord Service in the Main Church

### Holy Saturday - March 30

7:00am	Morning Prayer in the Chapel
8:00-9:00am	Confession in the Chapel
7:00pm	Easter Vigil in the Main Church

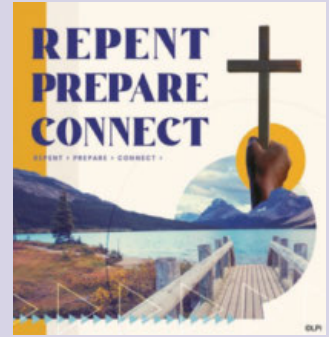
### Easter Sunday - March 31\*

7:30am	Mass in the Main Church
9:00am	Mass in the Main Church
10:30am	Mass in the Main Church

\* **NOTE:** Mass addition of the 9:00am Mass and the elimination of the Noon Mass. This is ONLY for Easter Sunday. Masses will go back to 7:30, 10:30 and 12 Noon next weekend, April 7.

## Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

This Wednesday, March 13 from 7:00 to 8:00pm in the Chapel, our parish will celebrate an Evening of Prayer in conjunction with Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, along with the opportunity to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Join us for some quiet, reflective time during this season of Lent.

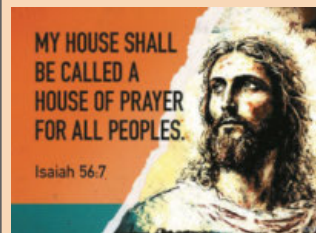


## Bible Study - Book of Prophet Isaiah



St. Mary's Parish will sponsor a six-session Bible Study series on the Book of the Prophet Isaiah (Part One), led by Leo Racine, at Magnolia Heights at 485 East Central Street in Franklin. The series begins on **Monday, March 25, from 11:00 to 12:00 noon**, with additional sessions held on **Mondays: April 1, April 8, April 22, April 29, and May 6.**

All parishioners are invited to attend this study of this vital Book of the Old Testament. Please contact Leo Racine at [pastoralassociate@stmarysfranklin.org](mailto:pastoralassociate@stmarysfranklin.org) or 508-528-0020 or to register. There will be a cost of \$14 for materials for this series; confidential financial assistance is available if needed.



## YEAR OF PRAYER

The prayer of Christians is the focus of this summary of the pope's May 13, 2020 teaching on prayer. The pope reminds us that prayer belongs to everyone, no matter his or her religion; it arises from that interior place in a person called the heart.

Prayer is about an encounter between "I" and a "You." In the case of Christians, the "You" is our God who became one of us in Jesus. We are not to be afraid, as our God is a "friend, an ally, a spouse". Pope Francis encourages us to "place ourselves through prayer into the merciful arms of God", a God who "knows only love." You can read the pope's teaching at <https://bit.ly/PFPrayer2>.

## GOSPEL MEDITATION

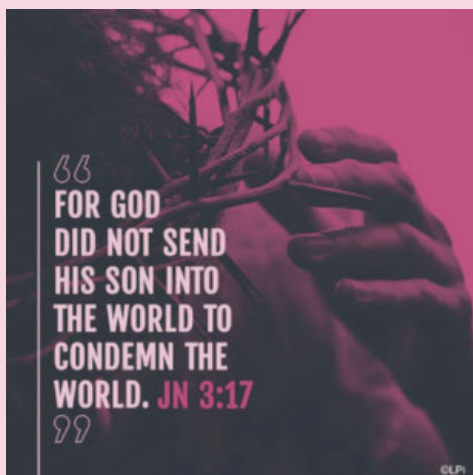
### ENCOURAGE DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE

Our national pastime isn't baseball. It's what the Bible calls "condemning the world." We generally enjoy pronouncing curses upon those whom we see as trouble, wrong, or evil. Don't believe me? Listen to almost any podcast, cable news network, or social media platform to hear it. It will be some version of: "We all agree that if they are eradicated, things will be great." Condemning is almost always clothed in virtue. It basks in its good intentions. That's why it is so attractive. Condemning seems like our best path to saving what is good.

What a shock, then, to hear Jesus announce: "For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through him" (Jn 3:17). He comes to save the world, as we all want, but he will accomplish it without an act of condemnation. How hard it is to accept this! Condemning feels godlike. I judge who and what must be lost to protect the good. But in the light of Jesus' endless mercy and love, this is the least godlike thing we can do.

Lenten challenge: This week, I invite you to give up the delicious experience of condemning whomever in the world you most would like to see gone. Perhaps write down their names. Secondly, I invite you to consider fasting from any media that feeds the tasty but deadly tendency to condemn.

Father John  
Muir LPI



## Fill a bottle - Save a Life!

Once again, our St. Mary's **Knights of Columbus** and **Respect Life Commission** are helping the Abundant Hope Pregnancy Resource Center bring hope to expectant mothers and families in great need. During Lent we are holding a Baby Bottle Drive to collect much needed funds for services. This is the last weekend bottles are available in baby baskets at the church doors.

Please join us by taking a bottle to fill with your thoughtful gift of change, cash or check, and return to the baskets by weekends of **March 10** and **March 17**. This is a great way to get your whole family involved in sharing God's love, especially during Lent. Religious Education Students can receive service hours for making a sacrificial gift!

*'Do small things with great love'* - St. Teresa of Calcutta



## Women's Faith Formation

The Women's Faith Formation group will be holding our next meeting on Wednesday, March 13th at 7pm via Zoom. We plan to view "*The Eucharist: Source and Summit of Christian Life*" from the SYMBOLON series through the Augustine Institute. Discussion will follow.

To receive the Zoom Link or if you would like to be added to our email list, please email: [womensfaithformation@gmail.com](mailto:womensfaithformation@gmail.com) to receive the Zoom link. All women are welcome and encouraged to attend.

thank you

### St. Vincent de Paul Easter Meal Program

This year the St. Mary's St. Vincent de Paul Society will be assisting about 70 of our neighbors in need with a Shaw's gift card to purchase a meal. Thanks to the generosity of the St. Mary's parishioners throughout the year, this Easter initiative will be funded by previous donations.

The SVdP would like to thank all of the generous donors who enable us to help our neighbors most in need. *"He who is generous will be blessed, for he gives some of his food to the poor."* Proverbs 22:9



Knights of Columbus  
Sacred Heart Council



### St. Patrick's Day PANCAKE BREAKFAST

Sunday, March 17 from 8am - 10am  
Sacred Heart Hall (Lower Church)

\$5 donation per person  
children under 12 are free

Pancakes, Sausage, Juice, Coffee, Water



### Attention College-Bound High School Seniors

The Knights of Columbus is accepting applicants for 2024 ***The Robert Simmler PGK, Knights of Columbus Sacred Heart Council #1847 Scholarship*** award program.

Applicants must be a registered member of St. Mary's Parish in Franklin and must be graduating from High School in spring 2024 and progressing onto their first year of study at a 2 or 4 year college/university. Please submit a completed scholarship application to be postmarked on or before the application deadline of **March 28, 2024**. **We are awarding 2 scholarships this year a \$3000 and \$1000!**

The application is available on the banner at the St. Mary's Parish website [www.stmarysfranklin.org](http://www.stmarysfranklin.org) or on the Knights of Columbus website <https://www.kofc1847.org/>. Please fill in ALL information accurately and clearly, and then submit the completed application to: ***The Robert Simmler PGK Knights of Columbus, Sacred Heart Council 1847 Scholarship Committee, St. Mary's Parish c/o Michael Swan 38 Madison Ave Franklin MA 02038***

The award will be given to the recipients upon completion of their 1<sup>st</sup> semester of studies and upon proof of enrollment in the 2<sup>nd</sup> semester.

Please contact Michael Swan if needed for more information: 508-404-4792



### 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:

**Spaghetti Sauce  
Laundry Detergent  
Cereal  
Crackers and Snacks**

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

### Zoom Rosary

Deacon Guy continues a Zoom Rosary every Monday night at 7:00pm. This is open to parishioners, family & friends from all communities. 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](mailto:deaconguy@verizon.net).



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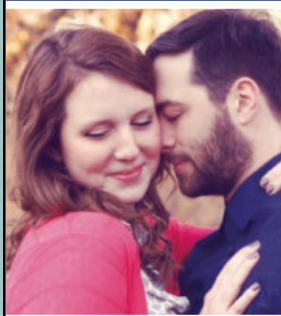
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