

Saint Mary Parish

EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

A GOOD
TREE DOES NOT
BEAR ROTTEN FRUIT.

LUKE 6:43



ST. MARY PARISH

1 CHURCH SQUARE | FRANKLIN, MA 02038 | 508-528-0020 | STMARYSFRANKLIN.ORG

SUNDAY, MARCH 2, 2025

©LPI

Mass Schedule In the Chapel

Saturday

4:00 p.m.

Sunday

7:30 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.

Daily Masses

Monday-Friday

7:00 a.m.

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.

St. Mary's Church Wi-Fi is:

StMarysMesh

Password: **STMarysGuest**

St. Vincent De Paul

Assistance

508-918-2291

PASTORAL STAFF

Pastor

Rev. Robert A. Poitras
pastor@stmarysfranklin.org

Parochial Vicar

Rev. John Tanyi
parochialvicar@stmarysfranklin.org

Deacon

Deacon Ron Gerwatowski
gerwat@verizon.net

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 Caretaker

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 1

4:00pm Richard and Stephen Tomasetti

Sunday, March 2

7:30am Shirley Donahue

10:30am St. Mary Parish

Monday, March 3

7:00am Bernard F. Butkevich Jr.

Tuesday, March 4

7:00am

Wednesday, March 5 Ash Wednesday

7:00am Roland DeMerchant

12 Noon Ash Wednesday Service

4pm Ash Wednesday Service

7:pm Ash Wednesday Mass

Thursday, March 6

7:00am For All Priests

Friday, March 7

7:00 am Triumph of the Sacred Heart of Jesus

Saturday, March 8

4:00pm Norbert and Doris Beaulieu

Sunday, March 9

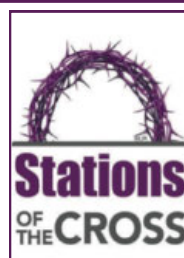
7:30am Bob and Leslie Rappa

10:30am Andrew & Louise Decina and Donald and Lucille Swan



**Ash Wednesday Masses & Distribution of Ashes
Wednesday, March 5, 2025**

- 7am **Mass** with Distribution of Ashes
- 12 Noon **Service** w/Distribution of Ashes
- 4pm **Service** w/Distribution of Ashes
- 7pm **Mass** with Distribution of Ashes



During Lent, Stations of the Cross will be held on Friday nights at 7pm in the Chapel. The first Stations begin on March 7, completing on Good Friday. Each week, a different Parish group will lead the Stations.

- March 7 – St. Mary’s Clergy
- March 14 – St. Mary’s Men’s Group
- March 21 – Knights of Columbus
- March 28 – St. Vincent de Paul Society
- April 4 – St. Mary’s Religious Education
- April 11 – St. Mary’s Woman’s Group

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 or dropped-off at the Rectory by April 11. You may also donate online via the parish website at: www.stmarysfranklin.org



READINGS THIS WEEK

Readings for the week of March 2, 2025

Sunday: Sir 27:4-7/Ps 92:2-3, 13-14, 15-16 (see 2a)/1 Cor 15:54-58/Lk 6:39-45

Monday: Sir 17:20-24/Ps 32:1-2, 5, 6, 7/Mk 10:17-27

Tuesday: Sir 35:1-12/Ps 50:5-6, 7-8, 14 and 23/Mk 10:28-31

Wednesday: Jl 2:12-18/Ps 51:3-4, 5-6ab, 12-13, 14 and 17/2 Cor 5:20—6:2/Mt 6:1-6, 16-18

Thursday: Dt 30:15-20/Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6/Lk 9:22-25

Friday: Is 58:1-9a/Ps 51:3-4, 5-6ab, 18-19/Mt 9:14-15

Saturday: Is 58:9b-14/Ps 86:1-2, 3-4, 5-6/Lk 5:27-32

Next Sunday: Dt 26:4-10/Ps 91:1-2, 10-11, 12-13, 14-15 (see 5b)/Rom 10:8-13/Lk 4:1-13

- SACRAMENTS -



Baptism

Baptisms are held on Sunday afternoons. 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 12, 2025.

To schedule a Baptism, please call: 508-528-0020 or email: baptism@stmarysfranklin.org. You can reach Deacon Ron at gerwat@verizon.net

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 call the Rectory at 508-528-0020.

Eucharist for the Homebound

Please call the rectory or email the Pastoral Associate (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.

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

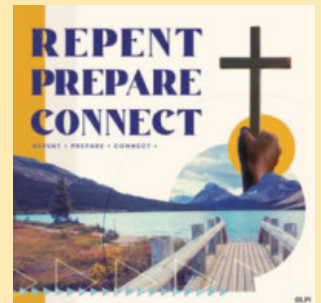
Register Online at stmarysfranklin.org or call the Rectory at 508-528-0020.

Weekly Lenten Prayer Service Wednesdays in During Lent

This week, Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, March 5, and invites each of us to return to God with our whole heart.

During the six Wednesdays of Lent, our parish will celebrate Evening Prayer, along with Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and the opportunity for individual confession (Sacrament of Reconciliation). The Prayer services are on Wednesday's from 7:00pm - 8:00pm, and will run from March 12 through April 16 in the Chapel. The Service will begin with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament at 7:00pm, followed by Evening Prayer.

Evening Prayer is one facet of the Liturgy of the Hours, the Church's official daily prayer. It consists of psalms and canticles, prayers, petitions, a reading and songs. Following this prayer, participants will have the opportunity to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation. A simple Benediction just before 8:00pm will complete the service. Join us for some quiet, reflective time during this season of Lent.



What is an Indulgence?

An indulgence remits the temporal punishment of sin already forgiven. Sorrow for sin can lead to repentance and forgiveness, but the disruption of God's order and the effect of the sin on others remains. For the sake of justice, there must be a mitigation of the evil effects of the sin; an attempt to "make up" for the evil caused.

Temporal punishment is a consequence of the sin which helps to purify our souls and restore, as possible, God's order. *An indulgence, indulges us.* It provides for our spiritual purification without pain or difficulty because the merits of Christ's death and those of the saints are applied on our behalf. www.bostoncatholic.org/jubilee-2025.

Catholic Women's Club Annual Brunch

St. Mary's Catholic Women's Club will be hosting our annual brunch on Laetare Sunday, March 30th after the 10:30 Mass at Restaurant 3, 461 W. Central St. Franklin. The cost is \$30. All women members of the parish are invited to attend.

Please email Pat Tomasetti if you are planning to attend at ptoma2245@gmail.com. Make your check out to "St. Mary's Catholic Women's Club" and mail it to: Patricia Tomasetti, 3 Mackintosh Street, Franklin, MA 02038.



Knights of Columbus 2025 Scholarship

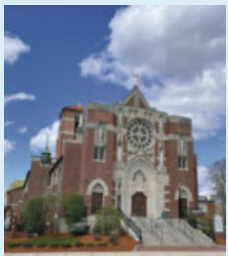
The Knights of Columbus is accepting applicants for its 2025 *Robert Simmler PGK, Knights of Columbus Sacred Heart Council #1847 Scholarship*.

Applicants must be a registered member of St. Mary's Parish in Franklin, graduating from High School in spring 2025 and progressing onto their first year of study at a 2 or 4 year college/university. **We are awarding 2 scholarships this year (\$3000 and \$1000).**

Please submit a completed scholarship application postmarked on or before the **application deadline of March 28, 2025**. The award will be given to the recipients upon completion of their 1st semester of studies and upon proof of enrollment in the 2nd semester.

The application form is available from the banner on the parish website 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*

For more information, please contact Michael Swan at 508-404-4792



St. Mary Fire Damage Fund

Please consider supporting Saint Mary Parish during this very difficult time and contribute to the *Saint Mary Parish Fire Fund*. All proceeds will go directly towards the reconstruction and repair of our beautiful and sacred church.

You can donate by using the QR Code below, or by mailing checks to **St. Mary Parish, 1 Church Square, Franklin, MA 02038**, or donate online to the *St. Mary Fire Fund* at: <https://www.osvhub.com/stmarysfranklin/giving/funds>.



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, pray and/or and just listen. *Link info* is on the Parish Web Site under Parish Life and Prayer. For information contact Deacon Guy at: deaconguy@verizon.net.



SVDP Food Pantry Crucial Donations Needed!

It's exciting that St Mary Church will be opening on March 1 after our parish suffered significant financial and spiritual challenges due to the fire.

Unfortunately, although we did not sustain damage, our food pantry suffered as donations significantly decreased. **Our pantry shelves are sparse or empty.** This makes it difficult to assist our Neighbors in Need and provide the roughly 750 bags of food, paper goods, laundry detergent and hygiene goods to them annually.

We are a *Supplemental* pantry and encourage Neighbors to utilize the Franklin Food Pantry with whom we have a very close relationship. Our pantry assists families who may have transportation or medical issues, access issues or need to supplement what they can get. Almost all our pantry items are delivered to neighbors' homes.

In the past, during the weeks of Lent, we have asked parishioners to donate a little more to the SVDP pantry as part of sacrifice during this holy season. We are asking again to **help fill our depleted shelves.** We are requesting that parishioners donate the following items based on the beginning letter of your last name and leave them in the boxes at the entrances to the church.

<u>Last Name</u>	<u>Items</u>
A-G	toilet tissue, spaghetti sauce, pasta
H-L	paper towels, cereal, large apple and cranberry juice bottles
M-R	tissues, Progressive chicken noodle soup, peanut butter, and strawberry and grape jelly
S-Z	laundry detergent including 'free and Clear,' Kraft macaroni and cheese

We always tell our Neighbors in Need that they are receiving items due to the generosity of St Mary's Parishioners. **Thank you for your donations.**



Women's Faith Formation March 8th Meeting



The next Women's Faith Formation meeting will be held on Saturday, March 8th from 9:00-10:00am at the school building (accessible by the ramp from the parking lot). We plan to watch another short video from "The Wild Goose" series and will have time for discussion afterwards.

As each session in this series is independent of the others, women are welcome to join even if you have not attended previous meetings. Light refreshments will be served. This is an informal, welcoming group of women open to sharing insights with each other. We are looking forward to seeing old friends and meeting new ones!

Boston Catholic Men's Conference 2025

A Man After God's Own Heart
Human & Holy

Save the Date
March 22, 2025



Speakers

More exciting info to come

The Boston Marriott Quincy
1000 Marriott Drive, Quincy, MA 02169

Ticket's are now available at
www.bostoncatholicmen.com

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The Men of Divine Mercy & The Flatley Foundation

Gathering for Those with Disabilities/All Abilities

St. Mary's Dedham offers a monthly gathering for those with Disabilities/All Abilities on the 2nd Saturday of each month! The event begins with Mass at 4:00 PM in the church followed by the Rosary, Pizza and Snacks at 5:00 PM in Mary Hall/The Life House. **The next gathering will be on Saturday, March 8.** Please consider joining us. All are welcome!

For more information, please contact, Nancy McCormick at St. Mary's Dedham, 781-326-0550 x139



Many Thanks!!!

On behalf of the Respect Life Commission we wish to express our sincere appreciation for the overwhelming generosity of our parishioners for all the donations we received for our Warmth and Comfort Collection. The Conference Room was filled with bags of items to donate. We distributed the collections to many organizations who serve the poor and homeless. (St. Blaise, Loaves and Fishes Food Pantry, Boston Health Care for the Homeless, Franklin Public Schools, Gilly's House, St. Mary's of Milford Lunch Program, Women's Shelter Medway, Medway Food Pantry, SAFE Coalition, St. Joseph's Medway Homeless Program, St. Francis House and United Methodist Church Franklin.)

We are very grateful for the help and support we received from the CCD Students and teachers, CYO Students and coaches, Knights of Columbus, the priest and staff of St. Mary's Church.

"A little bit of dignity... a little bit of love... is all some need to heal." Dr. Jim O'Connell, founder of the Boston Health Care for the Homeless



THE LOG IN YOUR EYE

By Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman



Mini Reflection: If we see a splinter in another person's eye, or a problem in the world that needs to be fixed, what Jesus is saying is not that we should ignore it and move on. He's merely saying that, when we see these things, we must take them first as a challenge to examine ourselves.

The Log in Your Eye

Today's Gospel is a big favorite of non-Christians — or Christians who don't like being told what to do. That trusty ol' remove the wooden beam from your own eye line is a classic. Mind your business, Christians! You're not perfect either.

And that's entirely true. None of us are perfect. We've all got logs in our eyes. We can't approach life acting like we have the answers simply because we follow Jesus.

Jesus has the answers, and we have Jesus.

The real problem with having someone remove a splinter from my eye, if he himself has a log in his eye, is not that he has no business removing the splinter from my eye. It's that he can't see clearly to do it. His own eyesight is occluded.

If we see a splinter in another person's eye, or a problem in the world that needs to be fixed, or a scandal in the community that should be addressed, what Jesus is saying is not that we should ignore it and move on. He's merely saying that, when we see these things, we must take them first as a challenge to examine ourselves. To address the problem as it exists within our own souls, so that we ensure we are seeing clearly. Then, if we reach out to pluck the splinter, we will do so with clear eyesight.

He wants us to worry as much about our own souls as we do about other people's. We tend to look at the world and feel anxious — so much evil! So much hate! So much sin! We pray, God, when will you change it?

And He whispers back: I will change it here. Now. In your own heart. You just have to ask. ©LPi

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