

ST. MARY PARISH

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SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 2025

THE DEDICATION OF THE LATERAN BASILICA

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OF HERE.

JOHN 2:16



MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday: 4:00pm Sunday: 7:30am and 10:30am
Monday - Friday 7:00am

Wi-Fi: **StMarysChurchMesh** Password: **STMarysGuest**

All weekend Masses are Live Streamed at:
stmarysfranklin.org

RECTORY HOURS

Monday - Thursday 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

PASTORAL STAFF

Pastor: Very 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

508-528-0020

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

FAMILY FAITH FORMATION

508-528-1450

201 Main Street, Franklin, MA 02038

Director:

Jim Flanagan - jflanagan@stmarysfranklin.org

Secretary:

Liz Bertoni - reled.secretary@stmarysfranklin.org

ASSISTANCE

St. Vincent De Paul: 508-918-2291

PARISH REGISTRATION

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



Baptism

Baptisms are held on Sunday at 12:30pm. First time parents need to attend a Baptism Class held by Deacon Ron. Classes are held one evening each month via Zoom. To schedule a Baptism email: baptism@stmarysfranklin.org or call: 508-528-0020. To schedule a Baptism Zoom Class, contact Deacon Ron at: gerwat@verizon.net

Penance

Penance/Reconciliation 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 arrange a meeting with the priest in preparation for marriage and schedule a date.

OCIA - Order 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

If you have a family member, friend, or neighbor who is unable to attend church due to age or infirmity, please call the rectory or email the Pastoral Associate (pastoralassociate@stmarysfranklin.org). 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 and select Emergency Anointing of the Sick. Please do not leave messages on this line.



READINGS THIS WEEK

Readings for the week of November 9, 2025

Sunday: Ez 47:1-2, 8-9, 12/Ps 46:2-3, 5-6, 8-9/1 Cor 3:9c-11, 16-17/Jn 2:13-22

Monday: Wis 1:1-7/Ps 139:1b-3, 4-6, 7-8, 9-10/Lk 17:1-6

Tuesday: Wis 2:23-3:9/Ps 34:2-3, 16-17, 18-19/Lk 17:7-10

Wednesday: Wis 6:1-11/Ps 82:3-4, 6-7/Lk 17:11-19

Thursday: Wis 7:22b-8:1/Ps 119:89, 90, 91, 130, 135, 175/Lk 17:20-25

Friday: Wis 13:1-9/Ps 119:1, 2, 10, 11, 17, 18/Lk 17:26-37

Saturday: Wis 18:14-16; 19:6-9/Ps 105:2-3, 36-37, 42-43/Lk 18:1-8

Next Sunday: Mal 3:19-20a/Ps 98:5-6, 7-8, 9 (see 9)/2 Thes 3:7-12/Lk 21:5-19



Saturday, November 8

4:00pm Vincent and Florence Keras

Sunday, November 9

7:30am Robert and Gwendoline Hirsch and
Pauline Padula

10:30am Francis Ribao

Monday, November 10

7:00am Albert Peter Palumbo

Tuesday, November 11

7:00am Mary Olsson

Wednesday, November 12

7:00am Robert Wirt

Thursday, November 13

7:00am Members of the Hale Family

Friday, November 14

7:00 am Betty Schilling

Saturday, November 15

4:00pm Carol Domenico & Carmina Pizzi

Sunday, November 16

7:30am Theresa Favara

10:30am Kathleen Finnegan



Last week, Bryella Mae Lovett was Baptized by
Fr. John. God Bless this child.

Grand Annual Collection

The Grand Annual Collection is still underway. Envelope users should have received a special Grand Annual envelope in the monthly envelope mailing. If you are not a regular envelope user, there are additional Grand Annual envelopes available at the entrance to the church.

Thank you to the many families that have already returned their Grand Annual Gift!

All families are being asked to consider a gift of \$500 or more. If you have not decided on your gift to the Grand Annual, we invite you to prayerfully consider making your gift this week. We truly appreciate any assistance you can give and are counting on the many, who are able, to support this appeal. **Thank you to the many families that have already returned their Grand Annual Gift.**



Online Giving

Consider making your gift Online:
www.stmarysfranklin.org



Blood Drive!



Saturday, December 6, 9am-2pm
At the St. Mary School

The next **Blood Drive** will be held on **Saturday, December 6th, 2025** from 9am to 2pm in the **Modular Classrooms in the St. Mary School**. Please consider giving blood to save a life.

Sign-ups are required. You can make a blood donation appointment now at redcrossblood.org/give, and search by Zip Code. Thank you from The Knights of Columbus, Sacred Heart Council #1847



Men's Faith Formation

The next meeting of the St. Mary Parish Men's Faith Formation group is on **Saturday, November 15 at 8am** in the Sacred Heart Hall. All men, wherever you are on your faith journey are welcome.

The program is a great way for men to connect. In addition to faith formation, we build in plenty of time to socialize over coffee and bagels. If you have any questions please reach out to Regis Schratz at rschratz@comcasat.net



St. Vincent DePaul Society
508-918-2291

The St. Vincent DePaul Society would like to thank all 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.

The St. Vincent DePaul Food Pantry is looking for the following items to help our Franklin neighbors in need.

Fruit Juice
Canned Fruit
Crackers and Snacks
Boxed potatoes
Rice
Baked beans

Thank you for your help in supporting those most in need in our community. God bless our neighbors.

Pietà Support Group for Bereaved Parents ***Lighting Service***

Pieta, an ongoing support group for bereaved parents, will be holding its Annual Lighting Service on **Sunday, November 30th, at 2:00 PM** at **Blessed Sacrament Church, Walpole MA**. Parents who have lost a child of any age, no matter how long ago, are welcome to come together in prayer, song, and support. Each parent will light a candle in memory of their child. Everyone is welcome. For further information, please call: Pauline Medeiros 508-359-2953 or Janet McLaughlin 508-272-5415.

A Note from the Pastor:

Dear Friends,

As the book of Ecclesiastes tells us, there is a time for everything. It also reminds us that there is good news, and God is involved in all of it, the events, the changes and the transitions of life. I'm writing to you this weekend to inform you that our Music Director, Terry Kerr has decided to retire from ministry. His retirement will be effective, at the end of the Christmas Season.

We at St. Mary's have been blessed by Terry's gift of music, his leadership and above all his friendship. The work of music director is a difficult job and it requires much sacrifice and skill. Terry has faithfully given so much to each of us through his gift of music, and he even made it look easy! I for one will miss Terry's great sense of humor and his friendship. I wish Terry all the best as he begins this new chapter of life.

Now it's onto the work of finding a new Music Director of St. Mary Parish. I have recently gathered a search committee made up of all parishioners, including, choir members, parish council members, and parish finance council members. Our first business was to prepare a job description and posting for this new opening at St. Mary's. We have now posted that Job Description, which can be viewed at, <https://bostoncatholic.org/employment-1>

The Search Committee and I will review the applications as they come in, and invite the applicants we decide upon for an interview. There will also be a phase of the interview process where the applicant will meet and run a mock rehearsal with the choir members. The search committee and I will then review all our interview notes and the council gathered from the choir and select our new Music Director.

As you can see we have a lot of work ahead of us. The top priority is prayer. Please keep the search committee, those who will apply, those we interview and me in your prayers. And in a simple gesture of thank you, let's keep Terry in our prayers as well. May God Bless Terry in his new chapter of life!

Peace and Prayers, **Fr. Bob**

**Knights of Columbus - Keep Christ in Christmas
Children's Artwork Contest**

The Knights of Columbus are sponsoring the **"Keep Christ in Christmas"** Poster contest. Boys and Girls ages 5-14, are eligible to participate. Each poster should carry the theme of **Christ in Christmas** and be the original artwork of the child creating the poster.

Applications and poster paper are available at the Religious Ed./Faith Formation office in the school. Deadline to turn in your artwork is **December 8th**. Prizes are awarded to the top winner in each age group (5-7, 8-10 and 11-14) with a chance to win at a state level in the Knights of Columbus Organization.

Questions, please stop by the Religious Ed./Family Faith Formation office, or call Mike Swan at 508-404-4792.





St. Vincent de Paul 2025 Caring Gift Tree



The Saint Vincent de Paul Society is once again sponsoring the Christmas Caring Tree gift giving program. Last year, due to your generosity, we were able to help 182 Franklin adults and 84 Franklin children in need for a total of 266 neighbors.

We are happy to continue with the Christmas Caring Tree that will be located in the front alcove of the church, left of the main altar. We provide gift cards to those in need so they can purchase gifts at the store of their choice for Christmas. The tree will go up on November 21st and the ornaments listing the stores from which to purchase a gift card, will be placed on the tree in time for the **November 22nd & 23rd** and then again for the **29th and 30th** Masses.

Please return all gift cards to a box located by the tree by the weekend of November 29th & 30th or December 6th & 7th. This will ensure that the committee can distribute all gift cards to families in time to shop before Christmas.

If you would rather make a check of any amount instead of purchasing a gift card, this would also be appreciated. Checks should be made out to St. Mary's SVDP and can be sent in an envelope to the address below or dropped into the collection basket at Mass. If dropping off a cash donation, please mark it for "Caring Tree Program" and drop the envelope into the collection basket at Mass. Gift cards should be placed in the marked box by the tree. As with the gift cards, please mail or drop off all monetary donations by **November 29th & 30th**.

Thank you all for your willingness to help those in our community who will benefit from our support during the holiday season!

SVDP Caring Tree Program

One Church Square
Franklin, MA 02038



This month we will look at the Catholic Social Teaching theme of **Option for the Poor and Vulnerable**. The US Bishops write on their website (<https://bit.ly/USCCBCSTresource>) that "a basic moral test is how our most vulnerable members are faring...our tradition instructs us to put the needs of the poor and vulnerable first." Several biblical passages and Church documents, such as the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* remind us of the moral imperative to assist our brothers and sisters in need. Our actions in light of this great responsibility do not have to place us in an "us vs. them" situation. In their 1986 pastoral letter, *Economic Justice for All*, The US Bishops say that "the "option for the poor," therefore, is not an adversarial slogan that pits one group or class against another. Rather it states that the deprivation and powerlessness of the poor wounds the whole community"

So, let's do our part in meeting the moral challenge in front of us to heal some of the wounds of our society. Involvement with the parish St. Vincent de Paul Society and Pastoral Visitors program as well as with various community boards, councils and organizations are ways to help provide for others. See the video on the **Option for the Poor and Vulnerable** at <https://bit.ly/USCCBCers>.

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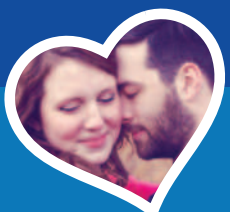


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