

FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

HE WENT UP THE MOUNTAIN AND BEGAN TO TEACH.

— MATTHEW 5:1 —



ST. MARY PARISH

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

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 2026



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 V.F.
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:
businessmanager@stmarysfranklin.org

Secretary: Jennifer Lance
secretary@stmarysfranklin.org

Music Director: Krishan Oberoi
krishan.oberoi@gmail.com

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.

- SACRAMENTS -



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.

**A Special Welcome
to our New Director of Music**

This weekend I am happy to welcome our new Director of Music and Organist, *Krishan Oberoi*, to St. Mary Parish. Last October, I invited five parishioners to help me form a search committee for our next Director of Music and Organist.

Our first order of business was to create a job description and a job opening ad. After posting the ad, I received many applications and from those applications, the committee and I invited four applicants for an interview. Each interview was exceptional. We then invited the four candidates to join us for an audition with members of our choir. The candidates played a piece of music for us on the organ and then ran a brief choir rehearsal with the choir members present.

After each audition I had the opportunity to listen to the committee and choir member's thoughts, reactions and observations of each candidate. I took those recommendations to prayer, and it was clear there was one candidate who truly stood out from the rest. I'm excited to see where the future of St. Mary's Music Ministry goes under the direction of *Mr. Krishan Oberoi*.

We have been blessed to have beautiful music here at St. Mary Parish in the past and it was important to me to be sure our next Director of Music would continue the good work begun for us by Mr. Terry Kerr and the Directors of Music before him. Under the direction of Mr. Krishan Oberoi I'm certain we will continue to be blessed with music that enhances our liturgical worship at St. Mary Parish. Please join me in welcoming *Mr. Krishan Oberoi*.

Peace and
Blessings,

Fr. Bob



**MASS
INTENTIONS**

Saturday, January 31

4:00pm Marie & James Leary

Sunday, February 1

7:30am Mona Ghiringhelli

10:30am Allison Kane

Monday, February 2

7:00am

Tuesday, February 3

7:00am

Wednesday, February 4

7:00am John Proctor

Thursday, February 5

7:00am Nola Lisa Michel

Friday, February 6

7:00am

Saturday, February 7

4:00pm Mary Preskenis

Sunday, February 8

7:30am Peter Favara

10:30am Jonathan Davis and James Lennon

READINGS THIS WEEK

Readings for the week of February 1, 2026

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

Monday: Mal 3:1-4/Ps 24:7, 8, 9, 10/Heb 2:14-18/Lk 2:22-40 or 2:22-32

Tuesday: 2 Sm 18:9-10, 14b, 24-25a, 30-19:3/Ps 86:1-2, 3-4, 5-6/Mk 5:21-43

Wednesday: 2 Sm 24:2, 9-17/Ps 32:1-2, 5, 6, 7/Mk 6:1-6

Thursday: 1 Kgs 2:1-4, 10-12/1 Chr 29:10, 11ab, 11d-12a, 12bcd/Mk 6:7-13

Friday: Sir 47:2-11/Ps 18:31, 47 and 50, 51/Mk 6:14-29

Saturday: 1 Kgs 3:4-13/Ps 119:9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14/Mk 6:30-34

Next Sunday: Is 58:7-10/Ps 112:4-5, 6-7, 8-9/1 Cor 2:1-5/Mt 5:13-16



FAITH FORMATION

Women's Faith Formation February 14th Meeting

All women are invited to attend our next Women's Faith Formation meeting scheduled Saturday, February 14th from 9:00 - 10:00 am.

We will be viewing a video to prepare us for the start of Lent. The meeting will be held in the school building (accessible by the ramp from the parking lot). Light refreshments will be served. All women are welcome!"



Knights of Columbus Basketball Free Throw Champions

The Knights of Columbus, Sacred Heart Council 1847 are proud to announce our Champions from the Basketball Free Throw Contest.

Champions

Boys 10 Year Old

Daylan Chu

Boys 11 Year Old

Liam Sebastian Pierre-Canel

Boys 12 Year Old

Joe La Paglia

Boys 13 Year Old

Chris B. Naydenov

Runners Ups

Boys 10 Year Old

Cameron Gregg

Boys 13 year Old

Masai Lafontant

The Knights of Columbus, Sacred Heart Council 1847, Franklin, MA are so proud of all participants and their parents. Later this month, we will invite each our Champions, to participate in the K of C Districts' Championship where you will the opportunity to compete with other Champions from other parishes.

The projected date for the **Districts is January 31, 2026**. Our District Deputy Mike Perkins will email all the champions with the date, place and time of the District competition. If a Council Champ cannot attend the Districts, then we will call you or email you to ask if you want to attend in their place. If you have any questions, please email Jim Lane JDLane58@hotmail.com or call 774-571-9804.

Congratulations to all who participated in a fun event!

AVAILABLE NOW! PRINT & DIGITAL AD SPACES

Build your business and help us grow a vibrant faith community!

Mac Economy from LPi, our bulletin printer, will be securing new ads for our church in the coming weeks. As a valuable member of the business community, we invite you to expand your reach and grow your business with a print ad in our parish bulletin and/or a digital ad featured on ParishesOnline.com.



Mac Economy
(207) 691-5680
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CPR & FIRST AID TRAINING

USING 2025 AMERICAN HEART ASSOCIATION GUIDELINES

**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 1ST
12:30 P.M. TO 2:30 P.M.**

TRAINING INCLUDES

- CPR
- AED
- Narcan
- First Aid

IMPORTANT INFO

- Maryellen McNally - Trainer
- Must be signed up by Jan. 25
- Cost is only \$50.00
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- Open to all parishioners starting at age 12



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Protecting God's Children

Sunday, February 1, 2026
1:30-4:30pm

Protecting God's Children® for Adults is a program designed to assist members of the Catholic community in creating safe environments for our children and vulnerable adults.

This program will be offered on February 1 at 1:30 to 4:30pm in the Parish Pastoral Center (school). You only need to attend one session. To reserve a spot in the session or for more information, please call Leo Racine, Pastoral Associate, at the parish office (508-528-0020) or email: pastoralassociate@stmarysfranklin.org. Registration will be online.

Catholic Social Teaching

This month we take up the Catholic Social Teaching Theme of Call to Family, Community, and Participation. The United States Bishops' document on the seven themes of Catholic Social Teaching notes that "The person is not only sacred but also social." (<https://bit.ly/USCCBSeven>)

"Marriage and the family are the central social institutions that must be supported and strengthened, not undermined." The bishops also write that "we believe people have a right and a duty to participate in society, seeking together the common good and well-being of all, especially the poor and vulnerable." To support the theme of participation, the bishops have put together a listing of scriptural passages and writings <https://bit.ly/CSTParticipation>.

Finally, it may be interesting to note how interdependent these themes are; the bishops' writing on the theme of participation refers to the common good/well-being of all and the poor and vulnerable. You can view the US Bishops' video on participation at <https://bit.ly/USCCBVideo>.



Upcoming High School Youth Ministry Events

1st Sunday of the Month - YM Event

(Social, Christian Service, Prayer, Speaker)
February 1, March 1st, April 12th (2nd Sunday),
May 3 & June 7th

Contact Jim Flanagan at:

jflanagan@stmarysfranklin.org

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



Bible Study

Have you noticed that John's gospel is very different from the others? If you are interested in learning more about the Gospel of John, please join our Bible Study group. We have our study on **Mondays**, from **11am to 12 noon** in the chapel at Magnolia Heights, the retirement residence at 485 East Central Street, Franklin. There is no cost for the group.

Contact Leo Racine, our pastoral associate, for more information and to register. He can be reached at pastoralassociate@stmarysfranklin.org or call 508-528-0020.

Sock and Underwear Drive

Last Weekend!

During this season of good cheer, please consider supporting our neighbors in need by contributing to the Sock and Underwear Drive, sponsored by the Respect Life Commission. We are requesting new prepackaged items in a variety of sizes for adults and children. These donations will benefit families and individuals in area homeless shelters as well as members of our own Franklin community. Bins will be available near the entrances of the church to collect your donations this weekend, **Jan 31 & Feb 1**. Thank you for your generosity. We are looking for donations of :

Boxer shorts: boys and men, all sizes

T- shirts: children and adults

Socks: children and adults, all sizes

Underwear, sports bras and panties: girls and women all sizes



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

Paper products (esp. Tissues/Kleenex)
Jam/Jelly
Pasta
Spaghetti sauce
Laundry detergent

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



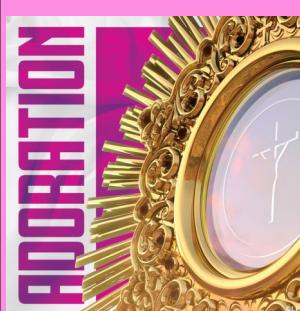
Dear Parishioners:

2025 has been a difficult year for many of our neighbors in Franklin due to inflation, weather, political and world challenges. 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 remarkable! Donations of gift cards and checks were \$16,226. 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 121 Franklin families (194 adults & 109 children) this holiday season. The continued increases in rents, utilities, food prices and medical care have created financial stress for 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. Thank you!

Our thoughts and prayers are with all the parishioners of St. Mary's, and we pray for a safe and healthy 2026 for everyone. God Bless and keep the Christmas Spirit of Jesus thriving during these demanding times.

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



Weekly Adoration Thursday Mornings & Evenings

Weekly Adoration will take place in the Chapel on Thursday morning from 7:30-8:30am and also on Thursday evening from 6:30-7:30pm. All are welcome.

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