

ST. MARY PARISH

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

SUNDAY, AUGUST 2, 2026



EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

ALL WE
HAVE.

— MATTHEW 14:17 —



MASS SCHEDULE

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

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

Weekend Masses 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: Dr. Krishan Oberoi
krishan.oberoi@gmail.com

Cemetery Caretaker: Joe Spencer
508-498-8271

150th Anniversary Director: John Ristaino
150director@stmarysfranklin.org

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 TO THOSE IN NEED

St. Vincent De Paul: 508-918-2291

PARISH REGISTRATION

Online at www.stmarysfranklin.org or call the office.



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 or friend who is unable to attend church due to age or infirmity, we will provide pastoral visits. To set-up visits, please call the rectory or email the Pastoral Associate at: pastoralassociate@stmarysfranklin.org.

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.



To make a donation online, you can go to the St. Mary Parish Website at www.stmarysfranklin.org and choose "Online Giving," and set-up donations to St. Mary Parish. You can also access this feature by scanning the QR Code below.

NOTE: If you decide to give online, please call the Rectory to stop having envelopes mailed to your home. Thank you.



Saturday, August 1

4:00pm John William Sullivan, Jr.

Sunday, August 2

7:30am Francis Maureen Dick

10:30am Mary Canty

Monday, August 3

7:00am Frank DiPrete

Tuesday, August 4

7:00am Joyce and Steve Pedersen

Wednesday, August 5

7:00am Esther Chirinos Manzanillo

Thursday, August 6

7:00am Karen Simmons

Friday, August 7

7:00am Christopher Goulart

Saturday, August 8

4:00pm Charles and Rae Ann Donoghue

Sunday, August 9

7:30am Stephen Gallagher

10:30am Ricky Melanson

READINGS THIS WEEK

Readings for the week of August 2, 2026

Sunday: Is 55:1-3/Ps 145:8-9, 15-16, 17-18/Rom 8:35, 37-39/Mt 14:13-21

Monday: Jer 28:1-17/Ps 119:29, 43, 79, 80, 95, 102/Mt 14:22-36

Tuesday: Jer 30:1-2, 12-15, 18-22/Ps 102:16-18, 19-21, 29, 22-23/Mt 14:22-36 or Mt 15:1-2, 10-14

Wednesday: Jer 31:1-7/Jer 31:10, 11-12ab, 13/Mt 15:21-28

Thursday: Dn 7:9-10, 13-14/Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 9/2 Pt 1:16-19/Mt 17:1-9

Friday: Na 2:1, 3; 3:1-3, 6-7/Dt 32:35cd-36ab, 39abcd, 41/Mt 16:24-28

Saturday: Hb 1:12-2:4/Ps 9:8-9, 10-11, 12-13/Mt 17:14-20

Next Sunday: 1 Kgs 19:9a, 11-13a/Ps 85:9ab and 10, 11-12, 13-14/Rom 9:1-5/Mt 14:22-33



Last weekend Steven Anthony Candido III, Nolan Jay Jones, Mary Catherine Kenny, Violet Angelina Roche, Luca Joseph Tosi, Giada Rose Tosi and Vincent Alexander Welshoff were Baptized by Deacon Ron. May God bless these children.



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508-520-4945



Visit our website:
**[www.franklinma.gov/587/
Dementia-Alzheimers](http://www.franklinma.gov/587/Dementia-Alzheimers)**
Learn more about local resources and support.



SAVE THE DATE!

**St. Vincent DePaul
Friends of the Poor Walk
Saturday, September 26, 2026**

Registration at 8:30 am on the
Town Common followed by a
Blessing for the Walk at 9:00am.
Participants can **Collect donations**
and **Walk with us** or **donate online**
with the QR Code:



Knights of Columbus Blood Drive

**Saturday, August 29, 2026
9am to 3pm**

St. Mary School, Franklin, MA

To register call 1-800-RED-CROSS or
www.redcrossblood.org



AUGUST 2, 2026



St Vincent De Paul Society St Mary Franklin
Interim Results 10/1/25 to 5/31/26

"I can do things you cannot, you can do things I cannot; together we can do great things." Mother Teresa

Thank you to all the parishioners, the Knights of Columbus, Family Faith Formation classes and all the other organizations for your continued support of SVDP by generously donating food and financial assistance so we can help Franklin residents in need. Special thanks to Fr. Bob, Fr. John, and Deacon Ron for spreading God's message of the importance of helping others.

In the first eight months of our Fiscal Year 2026 we continued our mission of serving Neighbors in need. We meet in pairs with people seeking assistance to thoroughly assess the need either in their homes or at the church. Our 38 volunteers had calls with neighbors in need over 1,000 times, with 2,900 people helped.

Altogether financially, your donations served families 287 times for over \$95,000 with the largest items being housing, utilities, automobile related, furniture and gift cards for Easter meals/food/gas. Any financial assistance was paid directly to the provider of services and not to the person seeking assistance.

Your generosity also helped our day-to-day operations as follows:

- Distribute over 383 bags of donated food and 56 Hygiene bags.
- Give out Complimentary SVDP Thrift Store vouchers worth almost \$1,850
- Caring Tree 121 families, 303 people helped for a total of over \$16,000 in Gift Cards
- Mother's Day Bags for 62 people worth over \$3,100

We continue to have strong relationships with town organizations and businesses. In total we gave families 126 referrals to town, state and federal agencies that might help them.

The most important members of this Ministry are each of you, our Contributing members, without whom we would not be able to serve. We thank you for your generosity, and want you to know your contributions are very appreciated by the people we serve.

Promoters of Hope, Apostles of Charity and Advocates of the Dignity of the human person

Dear Friends,

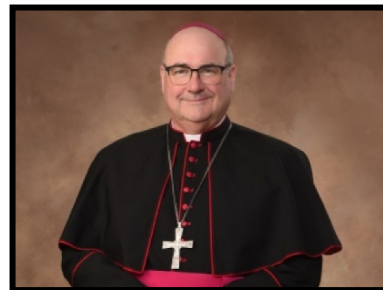
Congratulations to you, the parishioners of St. Mary Parish, on meeting your 2026 Catholic Appeal goal. I am continually moved by the faith, generosity, and the goodness of the people here in the Archdiocese of Boston.

This year's theme, **"Together We Are One"**, has been a reminder of our communion in the Lord Jesus and our call to be united to the Body of Christ.

Thank you for partnering with me as co-workers in the Lord's vineyard as we support and sustain His work and His ministry.

Yours in Christ,

Most Reverend Richard G. Henning
Archbishop of Boston



Together we are **One**
ARCHDIOCESE OF BOSTON | CATHOLIC APPEAL

(PRACTICING) CATHOLIC - RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS

By Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

“Why aren’t there miracles anymore?” I’ve heard people say this more than once. Usually, it is someone who is a believer in Christ but not a Catholic, because Catholics understand that miracles happen at every Mass, to say nothing of the other miracles the Church recognizes. But even some Catholics often find themselves wondering why it’s been so long since God gave us a good show. A good sun-dance in the sky. A good, flashy reason to believe.

I don’t know what it looked like when the loaves and the fishes were multiplied. I believe it happened, and I have envisioned it often, but I just can’t picture it. Did everyone blink, and there was a giant pile of food? Did they just keep finding more? Was it all the same kind of bread, or did Jesus mix it up?

I think the Gospel is deliberately vague on this to test the patience of pathologically nosy people like myself. It’s not important what it looked like. If those details mattered, they would be spelled out in Scripture. How often we find ourselves unsatisfied with the answers God has for us.

I wonder if that’s what Christ was thinking when he savored those last few minutes of solitude on the boat, where he had gone to be alone after hearing the crushing news of his cousin’s execution. Was he imagining the crowds gathering on shore? Was he contemplating their enormous expectations for God — for him! — and anticipating their disappointment when every wish could not be granted?

Maybe. But that’s not what the Scripture says. “His heart was moved with pity,” we are told. I think of him looking at them all, so weary and uncertain and hungry. Pity — this is what he felt. Not resentment, exhaustion or frustration. Pity. And his precious heart was moved. What a miracle. No details, no explanation. No dancing sun. But what a miracle. ©LPI



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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.

Spaghetti Sauce
Canned vegetables
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Thank you for your help in supporting those most in need in our community. God bless.

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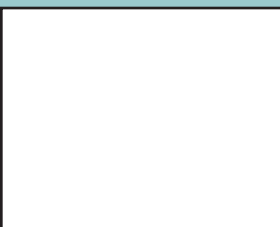



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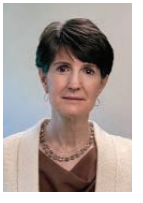
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