

ST. MARY'S PARISH

Corner of Main & Summer Streets, Shrewsbury, Mass. 01545 • Website: www.stmarysparish.org

LITURGICAL SCHEDULE

Mass

Saturday Vigil: 4:30 pm.

Sunday: 7:30 a.m., 9:00 am, 11:00 am
& 5:30 pm.

Weekdays & Saturday: 8:30 am.

Holy Days: 8:30 am., 12:00 pm. & 7:00 pm

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday: 3:30–4:00 pm.; anytime by
appointment

Eucharistic Adoration

Tuesday: 6:00–9:00 pm, Church

Friday: 9:00–1:00 pm, Pastoral Ctr. Chapel

PARISH STAFF

Rev. Msgr. Michael F. Rose, *Pastor*

Rev. Javier Julio, *Parochial Vicar*

Philip E. Devine, *Deacon*

Jeannie MacDonough, *Principal*

Gina Kuruvilla, *Director of*

Religious Education & Youth Ministry

Kathy Canfield, *Gr. K–8 Rel. Ed. Coord.*

Richard Vacca, *Director of Liturgical Music*

Viola Jefferson, *Parish Nurse*

Juan David Parra, *Seminarian Intern*

CONTACT US

Pastoral Center 508-845-6341

School Office 508-842-1601

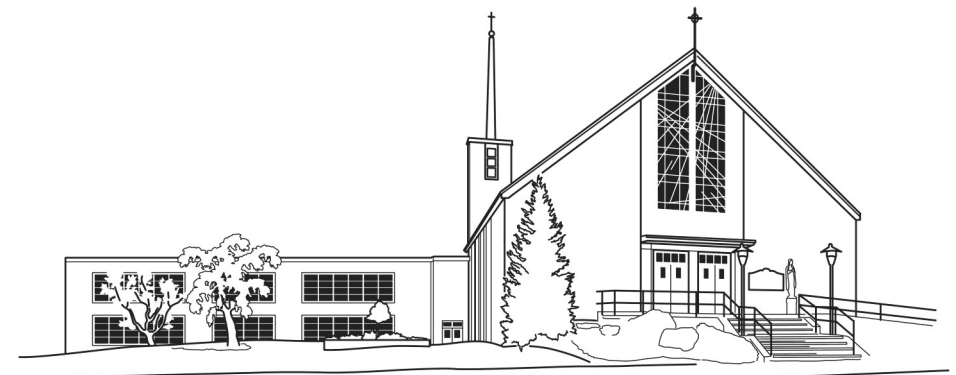
Religious Ed. Office 508-925-7801

Youth Ministry 508-925-7801

Parish Health Ministry..... 508-925-7647

Our Parish Mission

We, the people of St. Mary's, strive to be a community united with God, dedicated to continuing growth in knowledge and faith, giving witness to Christ through love, worship, education, and service. So that we may fulfill this mission and integrate spirituality with life, we shall reach out to all peoples within and beyond our faith community.



NEW PARISHIONERS: We are always happy to welcome new people into our parish family. Please contact the Pastoral Center to register or for more information.

BAPTISMS: Baptisms at St. Mary are held on the first and third Sundays of the month at 12:30 PM. Parents may also schedule to have their child baptized during one of the Sunday Masses. A preparation session for parents preparing for the baptism of their first child is held on the second Monday of the month in the Pastoral Center. Call the Pastoral Center for more information.

MARRIAGES: The policy for the Diocese of Worcester requires a period of one year preparation for the Sacrament of Marriage, which includes sessions with the parish priest and participation at either the pre-cana conferences or the Engaged Encounter weekend. Contact one of the priests for arrangements.

PASTORAL CARE: Arrangements for the reception of the Sacraments for homebound parishioners can be made by contacting the Pastoral Center. Please also notify the Pastoral Center when a parishioner is in the hospital or otherwise confined. Emergency sick calls at anytime.

PASTORAL COUNCIL

Marilyn Blanchard 508-845-1567

Jean Campaniello 508-842-8288

Robert Doiron 978-568-3696

Jim Farrell 508-330-6153

Lynne Grden 508-363-3636

Samer Hannoush 508-615-2760

Matthew Hastings 508-845-5012

Silvester Noronha 508-925-4581

Kelly Paulina 508-845-8557

Sheila Seed 508-842-6326

Robert Terry 508-798-8734

Susan Zybert 508-842-7554

COUNCIL OF MINISTRIES

Finance: Maria Lemieux 508-845-8732

Respect Life: Kurt Brenner 508-842-0322

Seniors Jet Set: Evelyn Baroni 508-845-3511

Social Justice: Gina Kuruvilla 508-925-7801

Outreach: Mary Daly 508-845-6819

Stewardship: Kelly Paulina 508-845-8557

MASS INTENTIONS

Date	Time	Intention
Saturday, Dec. 15	8:30 pm	Emily , in honor of her 1st Birthday By her grandparents
	4:30 pm	† Muriel Babigian 3rd Anniversary by the family
Sunday, Dec. 16	7:30 am	† Robert Ardifff By the family
	9:00 am	† Mr. and Mrs. Edwin B. Coghlin, Sr. † Edwin B. Coghlin, Jr. By the family
	11:00 am	† Robert F. Manna 29th Anniversary by Theresa Manna
	5:30	† Cliff Jefferson 3rd Anniversary by the Jefferson family
Monday, Dec. 17	8:30 am	† James Broquist By the family
Tuesday, Dec. 18	8:30 am	† Rev. Edward Moran
Wed., Dec. 19	8:30 pm	Special Intention By a parishioner
Thursday, Dec. 20	8:30	† Don Filiere By his wife and family
Friday, Dec. 21	8:30 am	† C. Marie Walsh and Joseph Walsh By the family
Saturday, Dec. 22	8:30 am	† Robert Labonte By the family
	4:30 pm	† Mary Forde-Mathieu † Vincent Forde By the family
Sunday, Dec. 23	7:30 am	† Mary Kelley By her nieces and nephews
	9:00 am	† Joseph Moura By his loving siblings and family
	11:00 am	† Jose & Theresa Fernandez, Manny Chaves, Alipio Martins, Hilda Corriea, Armando Sousa, Filomena Sousa, Paul Dirth, Ruth Foley, Pam Cawley, Carol Singh and Anne Dealy By Joe and Elisa Sousa
	5:30 pm	† Josephine Notarangelo By the family



PRAY FOR . . .

Repose of the souls of Maribeth Gentile, Louisa Vallejo and Otto (a 13-year old boy from leukemia); Linda suffering with her third round of cancer; Bishop Reuger's full recovery from illness; Tim C's recovery from serious illness; consolation and aid for all those suffering human and property loss as a result of the California fires; Yli's recovery from an illness; Kathy and her Dad; Lydia, undergoing serious tests to have great care and comfort; a church family for GU; successful back surgery for Molly 12/19; Reilly West recently diagnosed with cancer; safe travel for all during the holiday season; and interior peace to create and promote outer peace.

Continued prayers for: Matthew with cancer; Betty; Carly, Chase, Anne-Marie; Kathy; Christine; Christine F.; Christine O.; Ivan and Jacob; BC; Sarah W.; Jeff H.; the Towers residents; Marianne; Tim M.; Orene; David; our country; baby Owen; Betsy C.; Bonnie; Gail; Sue; Theresa; Norma; Judy; Jim; Susan; Dean; Carol; Andrea; Thomas; Jacqueline; Julie; Vin; Josephine; CJ; Patrick; Chris; Mary; Sean; Lukas; Larry Sr. ; Harry; Steve; baby L.; Angelo; Aileen; Justin; Ted; DJ; AG; DD; Shannon; Logan; Janice; Robert; Allison; Katie; Maddie; Chico. and safe pregnancies for several.

Thanksgiving Joanne's much improved health and for her medical team; good medical news for Marianne; Becca's and Elaine's presence; all those who volunteered for and participated in the recent Holiday Caroling event; Paul's greatly improved health; the Shrewsbury Police effort to "Fill the Wagon" and all those involved; Patti Shaker's support for cancer victims on 12/9 to enrich the Adam Bullen Foundation and/or Dr. Enzinger's Cancer Research Fund at Dana Farber; all the participants and volunteers for Turkey Trot for the Memory held Thanksgiving morning; everyone who supported our parish giving tree; and for all answered prayers.

Prayer Line: Tracy at 508-450-0137

LOST AND FOUND

Found— a set of rosary beads in St. Mary School about four weeks ago. Call Kerry at the Pastoral Center 508-845-6341.



Rest in Peace

Genevive Pandolfi, Louisa Vallejo and Christopher Roy

Liturgical Ministry Schedule December 22-23

Date	Lector	Eucharistic Minister	Server	Sacristan
Saturday 4:30pm	T. Estaphan	K. VanAtten, M/M Blanchard, M.L. Lordan, S. Goodwin	N. Podlizec, J. Karam	L. Nelligan
Sunday 7:30am	T. Pitney	M. Blute, M. Lemoine, A. Noone, R. Mungovan, W. Gooley, M. Gulino, T. Keegan	A. Corazzini, J. Thomas	M. Gulino
Sunday 9:00am	M. Dupont	B. Randazzo, M. Coghlin, S. Zybert, S. Landry, J. Barry	A. Harasim, S. Boyle, L. Perkins, N. Daley, G. Morris, E. Chillo	R. St. Pierre
Sunday 11:00am	M. Connors	I. Berkowitz, M. Vallejo, M. Minnucci, J. McDonald, J. Sousa, S. Howard M/M Page, D. Malo	J. Malo	J. McAdam
Sunday 5:30pm	E. Keck	A.M. Blute, M.L. Nevins, E. Keck, C. Cruz, N. Duquette, L. Ferguson	S. Damle, T. Buricatu	V. Moskowitz

THE THIRD WEEK OF ADVENT
BLESSING OF THE CRECHE



God our Father, bless all who gaze
Upon this scene of your Son's birth.

Fill our hearts with the song of angels,
The humility of the creatures,
The eagerness of the shepherds,
The longing of the Magi,
And the love of your Holy Family.

This Advent, grant us the virtue of hope,
and bless us throughout the Christmas season
With the joy of your presence.

Help us to discern the signs of your Spirit,
And grant us the courage to follow wherever you lead.

Make of our home a new Bethlehem
Where you are ever welcome
And all are welcome in your name.

SACRAMENT OF PENANCE—Prepare yourselves for Christmas by celebrating the Sacrament of Penance (Confession) this Advent season. Confessions are heard on Saturday afternoon from 3:30 – 4:15 pm. Confessions will also be heard on Sunday, December 23 from 1:00 – 2:30pm

**LIGHTING & BLESSING OF
OUTDOOR NATIVITY**



The blessing of the parish outdoor nativity scene and manger will take place on **Sunday, December 16th** immediately following the 9:00 am Mass. The lighting of the outdoor manger will take place following the 4:30pm Mass on Saturday, December 15th.

BLESSING OF HOME NATIVITY

On **Sunday, December 16th** we invite children to bring a figure of the Christ Child to the 9:00 am Mass for a special blessing before placing it in their family nativity scene.

ST. MARY CHRISTMAS PAGEANT

December 24, 2018 at 7:00pm
Christmas Eve Mass



Children and parents share the special meaning of Christmas while participating in the pageant each year. Family involvement is needed as we bring the Christmas story to life during Mass on Christmas Eve. Join us for rehearsal on Monday, December 17 and Thursday, December 20 at 6:30 in the church. Costumes will be provided. Contact Jamie Horvath at 719-322-3532 if you would like to participate. There will be sign-up sheets in the sacristy.

**MAKE PLANS TO JOIN US
FOR CHRISTMAS AT ST. MARY'S**



The Christmas Mass schedule will remain as it has been for the past several years. We are grateful to St. John's High School for allowing us to use the school cafeteria (Salem Commons) for the addition 4:30pm Vigil Mass where there is more handicapped parking and easily accessibility.

Monday, December 24

- 4:30pm Mass in Church
- 4:30pm Mass at St. John's High School (Salem Commons)
- 7:00pm Mass with Children's Pageant
- 12:00 am Midnite Mass with Adult Christmas Choir

Tuesday, December 25

- 9:00am Christmas Mass
- 11:00am Christmas Mass

BLESSING OF A CHRISTMAS TREE

Lord our God, we praise you for the light of creation:
the sun, the moon, and the stars of the night.

We praise you for the light of Israel:
the Law, the prophets, and the Scriptures.

We praise you for Jesus Christ, you Son:
He is Emmanuel, God-with-us, the Prince of peace,
who fills us with the wonder of your love.

Lord God, let your blessing come upon us
As we illumine this tree, may the light and cheer it gives
Be a sign of the joy that fills our hearts.

May all who delight in this tree come to the knowledge and joy of salvation. We ask this through Christ our Lord



St. Mary's Christmas Choir Invitation



The St. Mary's Christmas Choir, which includes St. Mary's Adult Choir will be providing music for the midnight Christmas Eve liturgy this year. Anyone who would like to be part of the festivities and celebrate the gift of Christmas – All Are Welcome!!! Rehearsals for the Christmas midnight liturgy will take place in the church choir loft on the following date:

Wednesday, December 19, 2018 – 7pm

As in the past, Christmas Eve liturgy (December 24th) will begin with L'essons and Carols" at 11:30pm followed by Midnight Liturgy celebration at 12:00 welcoming in Christmas, 2017. If you have any questions please contact Rick Vacca, rpav21@gmail.com or Christine Carter, cmdunn04@yahoo.com

BLESSING OF THE HOME NATIVITY



Mary: May our mother Mary help us to love her Son as much as she did.

Joseph: May Joseph watch over us and protect us as he did for the Holy Family.

The Shepherds: May we approach the Lord with as much wonder and awe as did those poor shepherds from the fields.

The sheep: May we follow Christ our whole lives, dependent on him as sheep are on their shepherd.

The donkey and other animals: May we be willing to carry our burdens in life just as the donkey carried Mary and her baby.

The Magi: May we offer our gifts and adoration to Christ, the Lord, every day of our lives.

The Angel: May the light of Christ radiate from our lives like an angel's halo.

Finally as you place the infant in your manger scene sing "Away in the Manger". Then conclude with the following prayer.

The Christ child: Lord, just as you graces this manger scene, bless our home with your constant care and presence among us.

Amen

CHRISTMAS FLOWERS

The December packet of offertory envelopes contains one marked Christmas Flowers. Your offerings will assist us in decorating the church for the Christmas season. Please write the names of family members on the envelope so that we may remember them at Mass.



ALTAR SERVERS & EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS FOR CHRISTMAS

Altar Servers and Eucharistic Ministers who would like to serve at one of the Christmas Eve or Christmas Day Masses are asked to sign-up in the sacristy after Mass today.

2019 CALENDARS



New calendars for 2019 are available this weekend in the front and side vestibules of the church. We are grateful to Shannon Henry and Britton Funeral Home for making these calendars available to us each year.

december



Sunday, December 16

- 8:00 Sunday Coffee
- 9:00 St. Mary's Adult Choir-Media Center
- 9:00 New Altar Server Installation Mass
- 9:00 Children's Choir
- 10:15 Grades 3 & 4 CCD-Hall/School/LMR
- 12:30 Baptisms-Church
- 6:30 Grades 9 & 10 CCD-LMR, GS, School, PC

Monday, December 17

- 9:15 Weight Training-Large Meeting Room
- 1:45 Mass at Shrewsbury Crossings
- 5:30 Eastpoint Services-Large Meeting Room
- 6:30 Christmas Pageant Rehearsal-Church
- 6:30 AOL Den 9-St. John
- 7:00 Cub Scout Pack Meeting-Hall
- 7:00 Light of the World-Media Center

Tuesday, December 18

- 9:30 Bible Study-Large Meeting Room
- 3:30 Commission for Women-Large Meeting Room
- 6:00 Eucharistic Adoration-Church
- 6:00 Daughters of Isabella-Large Meeting Room

Wednesday, December 19

- 4:15 Children's Choir-Church
- 4:15 Grades 3 & 4 CCD-Hall/School//LMR
- 5:30 Eastpoint Services-Large Meeting Room
- 6:00 Brownies-Hall
- 6:30 CMSC Parent Class-Gathering Space
- 7:00 Respect Life Ministry—Mary's Room
- 7:00 Christmas Choir Rehearsal-Church

Thursday, December 20

- 9:15 Weight Training-Large Meeting Room
- 6:00 AOL Den Meeting-Hall
- 6:15 Christmas pageant Rehearsal-Church
- 6:30 Gentle Yoga-Large Meeting Room
- 7:00 Boy Scouts-Hall
- 7:00 Men's Group-Media Center

Friday, December 21

- 9:00 Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament-Chapel
- 2:30 Mass at Shrewsbury Nursing Home
- 6:00 Girl Scouts-Hall

Sunday, December 23

- 9:00 St. Mary's Adult Choir-Media Center
- 1:00 Confessions
- 6:30 Church Decorating for Christmas



MARY'S FLOWERS

The flowers adorning the statue of our Blessed Mother are in memory of

Cliff Jefferson

In Honor of his 3rd Anniversary

Donated lovingly by the family

DAILY ROSARY Please join us at Mary's statue after the 8:30 am Mass Monday through Saturday to pray the Rosary and Divine Mercy. All are welcome!

Parish Support

Thank-you for your ongoing support of St. Mary's Parish

Month of November (weekly average)	\$15,600
Mission Sunday	\$3,149.55
Catholic Schools	\$4,188.55
Hurricane Relief	\$265

YEAR END GIVING

Many people enjoy using Christmas and year's end as a special time to give to their favorite Catholic institutions and also positively impact their federal and state income taxes. Christmas and year end giving provides many advantages to you.

- All gifts made on or before December 31 are tax deductible for the tax year in which your gift is made.
- The knowledge that your gift is assisting a favorite Catholic institution and advancing the mission of the Catholic Church.
- A last reminder to make that special gift or increased gift that you've wanted to.

THANK-YOU FOR YOUR GENEROUS SUPPORT OF ST. MARY'S THROUGHOUT THE YEAR



CONGRATULATIONS to DONALD PEGG

St. Mary's Parish extends our congratulations and prayers to DONALD PEGG as he completes his second year in the Permanent Diaconate Formation Program. Don was installed as a READER at a Mass Bishop McManus celebrated last week at St. Anne's Church. Let us continue to pray for Don and his family as he continues his classes and formation over the next two years.

SIMBANG GABI - A FILIPINO CHRISTMAS TRADITION

The Simbang Gabi tradition was introduced to the Philippines by the Spanish friars to allow the farmers to hear Mass before going to the fields early in the morning. Simbang Gabi is also known by its popular Spanish name as the Misa De Gallo or "Mass of the Rooster". Church bells would start ringing as early as 3:00am, waking people up so they could get ready for the 4:00am dawn Mass which they would attend for the nine days before Christmas. Today the tradition continues although it is celebrated in new ways. Churches are decorated with colorful lights and beautiful parol lanterns to welcome church goers. After the Mass traditional delicacies are served.

On **SATURDAY, DECEMBER 15** this Filipino tradition will continue at the 4:30pm Mass here at St. Mary's. Some Filipino parishioners will lead the music at this Mass and will offer a taste of Filipino treats after the Mass. Please join us.



The Prayer Shawl Ministry of St. Mary Parish offers you a source of comfort and God's love. If you or someone you know would like to receive a shawl, please contact Deborah at 508-842-8653 and she will make arrangements to deliver a "hug from God."



Saint Mary School

Classroom Tours and Shadow Days Available

As you consider options for the next school year, schedule a visit to our Preschool, Kindergarten, Elementary and Middle School classrooms while school is in session. Meet our dedicated faculty, staff and students and explore our commitment to faith, academic excellence and authentic examples of service.

Our After-School Program is available for Kindergarten through Grade 8 students from 2:30 pm – 5:30 pm.

Saint Mary School welcomes students and families from all faiths and ethnic backgrounds.

SAVE THE DATES: January 2019 Open House & Registration

Sunday, January 27, 2019 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm

Thursday, January 31, 2019 8:30 am – 10:30 am

Please contact our Admissions Director, Cheryl Dolan at Cheryl.Dolan@stmarysparish.org or, (508) 842-1601

To learn more about our commitment to faith, academic excellence and service, please visit: <https://school.stmarysparish.org/>



It's time for Dining for Dollars with Bertucci's & Saint Mary School

Are you busy trying to get all your holiday shopping and baking done before Christmas? Join Saint Mary School this Wednesday, December 19th for lunch, dinner, business lunch orders and takeout too at Bertucci's, Rte. 9 in Westborough. Help us earn money for our school and let Bertucci's do the cooking for you!

Don't forget to grab a flier on the way out of church or mention Saint Mary School to your waiter.

Olive Wood Carvings from Bethlehem

Maysoon Khair will be at our church in the Gathering Space on December 15 & 16 representing the School of Joy for slow learning children and over one hundred Christian families who make their livelihood through the selling of their hand carved olive wood religious articles.

After all Masses there will be a display of these beautiful hand carved items. Please stop by to help and support our brothers and sisters in Christ and to keep their presence in the Holy Land of Jesus' birth. Thank you and God bless you



Welcome to the Catholic Men's Group -St. Mary Parish

We gather every 3rd Thursday of the month at 7pm in the school media center to discuss matters of faith and ever challenging roles of men in our society. The next meeting is Thursday, December 20 at 7:00 pm.

Schedule it and let the Lord be your guide. See you soon.