

# ST. MARY'S PARISH

Corner of Main & Summer Streets, Shrewsbury, Mass. 01545 • Website: [www.stmarysparish.org](http://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*

Victor Henao, *Seminarian Intern*

## CONTACT US

Pastoral Center ..... 508-845-6341

School Office ..... 508-842-1601

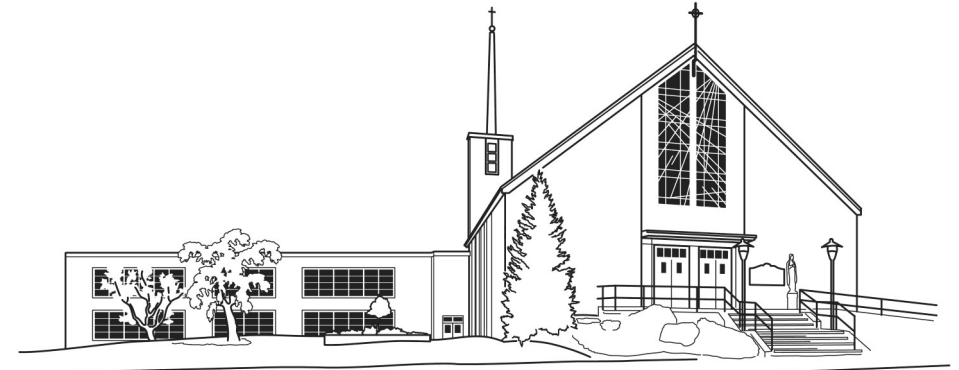
Religious Ed. Office ..... 508-925-7801

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

Lynne Grden ..... 508-363-3636

Samer Hannoush ..... 508-615-2760

Matthew Hastings ..... 508-845-5012

Adib Karam ..... 774-253-9814

Silvester Noronha ..... 508-925-4581

Kelly Paulina ..... 774-275-1911

Sheila Seed ..... 508-842-6326

Robert Terry ..... 508-798-8734

Sheryl Zarozny ..... 508-842-2159

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:** Maryanne Damico ..... 508-845-9674

**Stewardship:** Kelly Paulina ..... 774-275-1911

**MASS INTENTIONS**

Date	Time	Intention
<b>Saturday, Oct. 12</b>	8:30 am	† <b>John W. Connors</b> By the O'Malley family
	4:30 pm	† <b>Diane O'Leary</b> By St. Mary Faculty and School
<b>Sunday, Oct. 13</b>	7:30 am	† <b>Eugenia Ross</b> 13th Anniversary By Paul and Elsie O'Dell
	9:00 am	† <b>Grace and Buck Condon</b> By the family
	11:00 am	† <b>Danielle Simas</b> By the family
	5:30 pm	† <b>Laura D'Amelio</b> By a friend
<b>Monday, Oct. 14</b>	8:30 am	† <b>James Broquist</b> By the family
<b>Tuesday, Oct. 15</b>	8:30 am	† <b>Delores Paladino-Peters</b> Birthday Remembrance by the family
<b>Wed., Oct. 16</b>	8:30 am	† <b>Blanche Zukowski</b> By the Gendron family
<b>Thursday, Oct. 17</b>	8:30 am	† <b>Helen Trank</b> 1st Anniversary by her daughters
<b>Friday, Oct. 18</b>	8:30 am	† <b>Millie Centannie</b> 3rd Anniversary by the family
<b>Saturday, Oct. 19</b>	8:30 am	† <b>William Ferguson and Mary Kelly Ferguson</b> By the family
	4:30 pm	† <b>Ellen M. Carey</b> By the family
<b>Sunday, Oct. 20</b>	7:30 am	† <b>Anne Hurley</b> By the family
	9:00 am	† <b>Robert F. Manna</b> Birthday Remembrance by the family
	11:00 am	† <b>Jose &amp; Theresa Fernandez, Manny Chaves, Alipio Martins, Hilda Corriea, Armando Sousa, Filomena Sousa, Paul Dirth, Ruth Foley, Pam Cawley, Carol Singh and Anne Dealy</b> By Joe and Elisa Sousa
	5:30 pm	† <b>Gerald Edward Bowen</b> By the family



**PRAY FOR . . .**

Repose of the souls of Retired Fire Dept. Captain Michael Bird, Bob Dwyer and Mary Sue Atkins and peace for their families; special intention for Virginia; safe travel for many over the holiday weekend; appropriate hospitalization for Francis; for those with the burden of leadership to lead well; all those with any diminishment of mind or body; a family following a horrible loss and an honoring of their request to extend forgiveness; a teenage girl and her living situation; Linda as she completes her chemotherapy regimen; employment for several; CCD classes beginning this coming week; a woman; Claire; Marilyn; Anne; Nancy; SW; SH; Sally; G.; and for all those who are or have been abused in any way to fully heal.

**Continued prayers for:** K's health; Jim; Bailey; Meghan; Mark; James; Marcia; Mike; BK; SS; Richard; Daniel; Mary and Kathy; Jack; Callan; Heather; Hannah; Sandy N.; Kathy M.; Sandy B.; George; Gail P.; Mason; SW; Martha; Tim H.; Susan; Claire; Maggie C.; Anita; John; Ethan; Glen; Susan; Jim; Wesley; Paul; Jean; Tim M.; Tim C.; Lynne; Sarah; David; Marianne; SW; DT; Sue; Amalia; Jerome; Jerry; David; Mark; Mrs. C.; Deborah; VKM; Leslie; Caleb; Sarah W.; Chuck; Bill; Peter; Effie; Jan; Linda; Andrew; John; Christine; Helen; Charles; Stanley; Jacob; and those with no one to pray for them.

**Thanksgiving for:** Mason's full recovery from pneumonia; Sue for improved health; Kathy's successful medical procedure; the many coordinators and volunteers as well as participants in the successful Sprit of Shrewsbury weekend; a new job and life path for a man; Sean P's aid; Larry Cook; 57 years; SHS's Unified Sports Program's national recognition for it's efforts to provide inclusive sports and activities for students of all abilities; KC's and Paul's generosity; Stefani's, Kevin's, Brendan's and Michael's help; SYFS and their collaboration with One Love Foundation to promote healthy relationships, particularly during this Domestic Violence Awareness month along with all the agency resources they have; and all answered prayers.

**Prayer Line:** Tracy at 508-450-0137



*Rest in Peace*

Susan Lorden, Virginia Sheehan and Ruth Wheeler

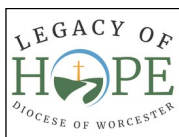
**CELEBRATE PRIESTHOOD**

Tuesday, October 22 5:30 – 7:30 pm  
St. Vincent Hospital Atrium, Worcester

Join us at the St. Vincent Hospital Atrium as we gather for a celebration of the gift of the diocesan priesthood in the Diocese of Worcester and raise funds to benefit the retirement care of our priests who have given a lifetime of service to our parishes and our diocese. Donation is \$100 per person (advance registration). Reserve your attendance on-line at [www.worcesterdiocese.org/celebrate-priesthood](http://www.worcesterdiocese.org/celebrate-priesthood).

**Liturgical Ministry Schedule October 19-20**

Date	Lector	Eucharistic Minister	Server	Sacristan
Saturday 4:30pm	G. Kuruvilla	M. Damico, C. Engdahl, S. Gallerani, M.L. Lordan, S. Seed	E. Clifford, C. Jarry, J. Karam, N. Podlipec	
Sunday 7:30am	N. Hughes	M. Benbenek, M. Blute, P. Caouette, T. Keegan, P. Kelly, G. McNamara S. Puthanangady	T. Hruskoci, R. White	M. Gulino
Sunday 9:00am		J. MacDonough, K. Contreras, F. St. Pierre, M. Coghlin	E. Jorda, B. Jorda, J. MacDonough, A. Scheffel, E. Perkins, M. Larkin	R. St.Pierre
Sunday 11:00am	G. Morelli	J.M. Carey, J. Ellis, S. Howard, E. Korpi, J. McAdam, M. Minnucci, M. Page J. Sousa	M. Farrell, M. Johnson, J. Sweetwood	J. M. Carey
Sunday 5:30pm	M.L. Nevins	C. Cruz, J. Garcia, R. Lopez, M.L. Nevins, S. Pegg, M. Serafin	T. Buricatu, E. Ferguson	S. Pegg



**YOU ARE INVITED TO A  
LEGACY OF HOPE RECEPTION**

**Tuesday, October 15 at 6:30pm  
in the parish hall**

Please RSVP to Kerry at the Pastoral Center – 508-845-6341 or Kerry.martineau@stmarysparish.org. The Receptions will last for one hour and refreshments will be served.

Msgr. Michael Rose and the Legacy of Hope Chair couple, Richard & Susan Leahy, along with the Campaign Committee (Mary Aicardi, Ann Marie & Bob Holland, Dan Malo, John Murphy, Kathy O'Donnell, Kelly Paulina, Tim & Heather Sena) invite and encourage you to attend one of the upcoming receptions to learn more about this important diocesan wide Campaign.

**Legacy of Hope** seeks to raise \$32 million over the next 4 years to prepare our faith community for the future. At its heart, this campaign is about creating a legacy by focusing on our parishes, our retired priests, Catholic education, outreach, evangelization and our beautiful Cathedral. St. Mary's parish will retain 40% of every dollar raised in our parish campaign effort to be used for our own local needs. Our goal is to make sure every parishioner knows what this campaign is about and how we are being called to participate.

St. Mary's Parish Presents  
**LIGHT OF THE WORLD**  
**A Parish Weekend Retreat**  
*Bringing the light of the Gospel alive within our parish through a living encounter with Jesus Christ.*  
November 15-18, 2019



**Light of the World**

IS YOUR LIFE MISSING SOMETHING?  
DO YOU HAVE A SENSE OF PURPOSE?  
THINK YOUR FAITH HAS TAKEN YOU AS FAR AS YOU CAN GO?

**GOD ALWAYS HAS MORE FOR YOU**

Join us at our next Light of the World retreat. The retreat weekend will be held right here at St. Mary's and starts with an opening session of Friday (after work). It continues from 8am - 7pm on Saturday & Sunday and concludes with a final session on Monday evening (after work).

**NOVEMBER 15 - 18, 2019**

Friday, November 15 - 7:00PM - 9:00PM  
Saturday, November 16 - 8:00AM - 7:00PM  
Sunday, November 17 - 8:00AM - 7:00PM  
Monday, November 18 - 6:30PM - 9:30PM

More information can be found on the parish website at [www.stmarysparish.org](http://www.stmarysparish.org)

Registration Forms can be found by the bulletins today.

Forms can be placed in the Sunday offertory basket or dropped off/mailed to the Pastoral Center.

**SYFS Save the Date! Tuesday, October 29 at 7:00pm  
St. Mary's Church Hall**

1 in 5 teens will experience a mental illness and 50% have an onset by age 14. SYFS Executive Director, Christine Mowry, will discuss the early signs and symptoms of mental health challenges in youth and how to decipher normal behavior for a potential health issue. Parents need to know what these risks are, how they can keep their child safe and how to identify and respond to mental health challenges.

Tina Grosowsky, UMAS's Central Massachusetts Tobacco-Free Community Partnership Coordinator, will educate parents about the dangers of vaping, how the epidemic started, the latest vaping devices and what parents can do to help their children.



**Sunday, October 13**

9:00 St. Mary's Adult Choir-Media Center

**Monday, October 14**

9:15 Weight Training-Large Meeting Room

7:00 Baptism Class-Mary's Room

**Tuesday, October 15**

9:30 Bible Study-Large Meeting Room

3:30 Commission for Women-Large Meeting Room

6:00 Eucharistic Adoration-Church

6:00 Legacy of Hope Reception-Hall

6:00 Daughters of Isabella-Large Meeting Room

6:45 Our Lady Undoer of Knots-Church

**Wednesday, October 16**

11:00 Mass at Orchard Grove

4:15 Children's Choir-Church

4:15 Grades 3 & 4 CCD-Hall, School, LMR

5:45 Gentle Yoga-Large Meeting Room

6:00 Brownies-Hall

6:30 Respect Life Movie-Gathering Space

7:00 Haiti Committee-St. John

**Thursday, October 17**

9:15 Weight Training-Large Meeting Room

6:30 Bears Den 1-Hall

6:30 CMSC Parent Class-Gathering Space

7:00 Boy Scouts -Hall

**Friday, October 18**

9:00 Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament-Chapel

2:30 Mass at Shrewsbury Nursing Home

5:00 Light of the World Potluck-Large Meeting Room

6:00 Girl Scouts-Gathering Space

**Saturday, October 19**

8:00 Commission for Women-Hall

9:00 Grades 1 & 2 CCD-Hall, School, LMR

11:00 Grades 1 & 2 CCD-Hall, School, LMR

4:30 Anointing of the Sick-Mass

**Sunday, October 20**

9:00 St. Mary Adult Choir-Media Center

9:00 Grade 6 Mass

9:00 Children's Choir


10:15 Grades 3 & 4 CCD-Hall, School, LMR

12:30 Households of Faith-Hall, LMR

12:30 Baptisms-Church

4:30 God Squad-Large Meeting Room

6:30 Grade 9 & 10 CCD-Hall, School, LMR, GS, PC



**MARY'S FLOWERS**  
The flowers adorning the statue of our Blessed Mother are in memory of  
*Cliff Jefferson*  
In Remembrance of his birthday  
Donated lovingly by the family

**Adult Faith Formation Movie Night  
October 23 at 7pm in the Large Meeting Room**

*An Interview with God*

An up-and-coming journalist returns home from covering the war in Afghanistan and struggles to deal with the after-effects of his experiences, a failing marriage and his dying faith. But, Paul's life takes a strange twist when he's offered an interview that he finds impossible to resist-an interview with someone who claims to be God.

For more information contact Rita St. Pierre at 508-373-2678.



**Saint Mary School  
Save the Date!**

**Fall Open House: Thursday,  
November 7, 2019 8:30 am – 10:30 am**

Visit our Open House to see how

Saint Mary School is making a difference for our students and our community as you witness 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.

For more information, please contact our Admissions Director, Cheryl Dolan at Cheryl.Dolan@stmarysparish.org or 508 842-1601.

Visit our website to learn more about Saint Mary School: <https://school.stmarysparish.org/>

**HELP WANTED**-Saint Mary School is looking for an evening custodian to vacuum classroom rugs and clean the hallways and stairwells. Hours are flexible, totaling about 10 hours per week. Please contact Jeannie MacDonough at jeannie.macdonough@stmarysparish.org if you are interested.

*Parish Support*

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

Month of September (weekly average)      \$13,829



**St. Mary's Parish Boys Basketball** is now accepting registrations for the upcoming 2019-2020 season. Open to boys in grades 5 through 8 with two divisions, 5th and 6th grade and 7th & 8th grade. It is first come first serve. The cost remains at \$135.

Practices will be on Friday nights at either Oak or

Sherwood and games are on Saturday or Sunday at St. John's each week depending on gym availability.

Contact stmarysball01545@gmail.com for additional info or check us out on Facebook at (<https://facebook.com/St-Marys-Basketball-League-Shrewsbury-2034272566794223/>)

**Called to Serve:** As a community, we are all called to actively participate in our liturgies through song, prayer, and ritual action. Some of the faithful are called to serve in a more particular way through one of the many liturgical ministries we have. At St. Mary's some of these ministries include Lector, Extraordinary Minister of the Eucharist, Altar Server, Greeters, and Ushers. Those who serve in these ministries as well as our families who present the Gifts at Mass, all add to the heart of the Eucharistic celebration. Our liturgy is greatly enriched by the participation of all of our liturgical ministers who bring their special gifts.

If you feel God is calling you to serve in one of the liturgical ministries, please visit the parish website ([stmarysparish.org](http://stmarysparish.org)) and click on the **Liturgical Ministries** link found under the **Ministries** tab to learn more and to sign-up. A sign-up sheet will also be available in the Sacristy during the weekends of **October 5-6** and **October 12-13**. A training and guidance session will be scheduled in the coming weeks for everyone interested in serving in these special ways.

If you have any questions contact Fr. Javier at 508-845-6341 or [Javier.julio@stmarysparish.org](mailto:Javier.julio@stmarysparish.org)

**OPPORTUNITIES FOR PRAYER AT  
ST. MARY'S**

**EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION**

Tuesday evenings in the church from 6:00 – 9:00 pm

Fridays from 9:00 am – 1:00 pm in the Pastoral Center Chapel



**NOVENA TO OUR LADY UNDOER OF KNOTS**

Mary is the Mother who patiently and lovingly brings us to God, so that he can untangle the knots of our soul.....Pope Francis

Nine Tuesday evenings from October 8 thru December 3 at 6:45pm in St. Mary's Church during Eucharistic Adoration from 6:00-9:00 pm.

During the nine weeks of the Novena to Our Lady Undoer of Knots, we will lift up the "knots" in our lives to Mary and pray that God's grace and mercy will untangle them.

**COMMUNAL ANOINTING OF THE SICK**

Saturday, October 19 during the 4:30 pm Mass

In the renewal of the celebration of the sacraments following the Second Vatican Council, many new opportunities have been made available for our spiritual strength and growth. In the Anointing of the Sick, once called the "Last Rites" or "Extreme Unction", the emphasis has changed from a preparation for death to a prayer for life and health. It is no longer a sacrament reserved only for those who are at the point of death, but is also intended for those persons who are aged, undergoing surgery or experiencing a serious or chronic illness. Elderly people may be anointed if they have become notably weakened even though no serious illness is present.

The celebration of the sacrament will take place after the Liturgy of the Word at Mass and includes the "laying on of hands" which is a calling on the Holy Spirit to rest upon each person, followed by the anointing of the forehead and palms of the hand.

**WORLD ROSARY on the FEAST OF  
ST. POPE JOHN PAUL II**

On Tuesday, October 22 at 7:00 pm we will gather in our parish church to honor St. Pope John Paul II through the celebration of the



World Rosary as we continue our Novena to Our Lady, Undoer of Knots during our weekly Eucharistic Adoration.. Pope John Paul II traveled to more countries than any other pope in history as he highlighted the universality of the church. Our Catholic faith is rich in its diversity as it is lived out in different countries and culture. Our Prayer Service will reflect the unity and diversity present in our parish community as we pray the Rosary in five different languages. Please JOIN US.

**VIGIL FOR VICTIMS AND SURVIVORS  
OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE**

A vigil to remember victims and survivors of domestic violence and to raise awareness about domestic violence will be held on Wednesday, October 16, 2019 from 6:30 to 7:15pm at the Shrewsbury common at the intersection of Main Street and Route 140. The rain location will be the First Congregational Church of Shrewsbury located adjacent to the common. The vigil is sponsored by ADVISE (Against Domestic Violence in Shrewsbury Education project). Additional details and updates on this event may be found by calling the ADVISE Hotline, (508) 842-0056.

## October is Respect Life Month

**Today, Sunday, October 13th**, at 4pm at St. Mary's Church in Shrewsbury we will join with the national Rosary Rally in prayer for the return of our nation to God and to Holiness for our Church. We will continue with the Chaplet of Divine Mercy and Devine Praises!

### Wake Up Call! The Movie You Won't Want to Miss

**The movie: UnPlanned**

**When: Wednesday, October 16, 2019, 7pm**

**Where: St. Mary's Gathering Space**

This is the true story of Abby Johnson, a former Planned Parenthood director, leading up to the life changing moment she quit and became pro-life. The movie is about the reality of abortion and shows the physical, mental and emotional trauma it causes women. UnPlanned also conveys the reality of hope and healing for both women who have had abortions along with individuals who work in the abortion industry and want out or want healing. The movie ends with the most powerful message of all: "Your Life Matters."

### MASS CITIZENS FOR LIFE

#### SAVE THE DATE

Wednesday, October 30, 2019~7:00 pm St. Mary's Large Meeting Room. Please come to hear a very informative talk by Myrna Flynn, president of Mass Citizens for Life. Light refreshments will be served.



**The Shrewsbury Daughters of Isabella Adelphe Circle 1089** will be having their annual Penny Sale, Basket raffle & \$500 Scratch ticket drawing on Thursday, Oct. 17th, 2019 at the Eastern Shore Club (formerly KOC), 206 South Quinsigamond Ave., Shrewsbury. Doors open at 6 pm, drawings at 7:30

pm. Everyone is welcome. All proceeds go to charity. Coffee and light refreshments will be served.

**Saint John's High School Open House** Tuesday, October 22 at 5:30 p.m. The Placement Test for current 8<sup>th</sup> graders will be held on Saturday, October 26, 2019. Visit [www.stjohnshigh.org](http://www.stjohnshigh.org) or contact the Admissions Office at (508) 842-8934, ext. 266, for further information.

### Notre Dame Academy Open House

Sunday, October 27 2pm-4pm and Thursday, October 30 6pm-8pm. Register online at [www.nda-worc.org](http://www.nda-worc.org)

Now accepting grades 7-12. Register today at [www.nda-worc.org/admissions](http://www.nda-worc.org/admissions).

### SAVE THE DATE! Saturday, November 2

Drive-through re-use, and recycle event at  
Tufts Cumming's school, 200 Westborough Road, Grafton MA.  
**10:00 a.m.- 1:00 pm**

#### **Items accepted for a small fee (Cash only)**

Liquid latex paint & Electronics

#### **Free drop-off for the following items:**

**Styrofoam** packaging (no peanuts and no food containers).

**Textiles** good bad and ugly - worn and torn accepted!

Old, CLEAN used towels - labelled 'Animals' (for use in veterinary hospitals).

**Linens, gently used kitchen essentials, & small countertop appliances** (especially lamps) for *Fresh Start*.

**Gently used books, CDs, DVDs, and Video Games accepted.** NO encyclopedias & VHS tapes, please.

NEW unwanted **craft and office supplies** (NO BINDERS).

Expired **markers and highlighters** for mail-back recycling.

Scrap buckets on sale for \$5. For more info visit [www.WECAN-ma.org](http://www.WECAN-ma.org).

My dear friends in Christ,

Pope Francis has set October 2019 as an Extraordinary Missionary Month (EMM) to foster greater awareness of our mission to all peoples and to animate the missionary transformation of Church life and pastoral activity. World Mission Sunday will be celebrated in our diocese on October 20. In his message for World Mission Sunday, the Holy Father noted that this year marks the 100th anniversary of the Apostolic Letter, *Maximum Illud* of Pope Benedict XV. The title, "that momentous and holy charge" refers to the mission set forth in the Gospel of Mark, "Go into the world and preach the Gospel to all creation." (Mk 16:15)

Your donations on the weekend of October 20 are critical. The Pontifical Mission Societies serve the Church's universality as a global network of support for the Pope in his missionary commitment by prayer, the soul of mission, and charitable offerings from Christians throughout the world. These donations assist the Pope in the evangelization efforts of particular Churches (the Pontifical Society for the Propagation of the Faith), in the formation of local clergy (the Pontifical Society of Saint Peter the Apostle), in raising missionary awareness in children (Pontifical Society of Missionary Childhood) and in encouraging the missionary dimension of Christian faith (Pontifical Union).

In a world where so much divides us, World Missions Sunday rejoices in our unity as missionaries by our Baptism. And it provides an opportunity to support the life-giving presence of the Church among the poor and marginalized in more the 1,111 mission dioceses. Thank you for prayerfully reflecting on how you are mission, and support World Mission Sunday in your parish.

With every prayerful wish, I remain

Sincerely yours in Christ,  
Most Reverend Robert J. McManus  
Bishop of Worcester

**Environmental Stewardship Roundtable.** The Diocese of Worcester will be kicking off a new program to support parishes and individuals learning more about Catholic social teaching on environment. Please join in the discussion and bring your experiences and creative ideas to share with others.

Registration - <https://environment.worcesterdiocese.org/roundtable-1>

Roundtable Meeting - October 16th, 7-8PM at St Anne's Parish Center, 130 Boston Turnpike, Shrewsbury, MA 01545

**St. Mary's Refugee Welcome Ministry** continues to actively welcome and support newly arriving refugees to our community. Although the U.S. has drastically reduced the number of refugees allowed to enter our country, refugee families continue to arrive in Worcester at a rate of approximately one family a month. They arrive through the Preferred Communities Program of RIAC -Refugee and Immigration Assistance Center in Worcester. Families come from many countries including Somalia, Congo, Iraq, Syria, Afghanistan, Ethiopia, and Bhutan.

St. Mary's Refugee Welcome Ministry assists these families through our partnership with WARM-Worcester Alliance for Refugee Ministry. We invite you to join us in this rewarding work. There are many opportunities to lend support, including apartment setup - - arranging furniture, making beds, hanging curtains, etc.; greeting arriving families at the Worcester Airport; befriending one particular family to visit occasionally; helping with homework and English language skills; or preparing a welcome basket. To learn more, contact Cecile at [cecile.m.cote@gmail.com](mailto:cecile.m.cote@gmail.com) / 508-667-7854 or visit [warmwelcoming.org](http://warmwelcoming.org) and discover the joy of welcoming refugees to our community.