Just as our Blessed Mother Mary and the Evangelist, called John, came together at the foot of the cross to serve Christ crucified, so also do the parish families bearing their names come together to serve God by serving each other and all who make up the body of The Risen Lord.
**at St. Mary’s**

**MONDAY, JULY 22**
Knights of Columbus Meeting • 6:00 pm • PC Conf Room 1

**THURSDAY, JULY 25**
Rosary • 12:00 - 1:00 pm • MOVED to Family Prayer Room
Adoration • 3:00 - 9:00 pm • MOVED to Family Prayer Room

**FRIDAY, JULY 26**
Adoration • 7:00 am - 9:00 pm • MOVED to Family Prayer Room

**SATURDAY, JULY 27**
Adoration • 9:30 am - 3:00 pm • PC Chapel
Reconciliation • 11:00 am - 12:00 noon • Church
Anointing of the Sick, following 4 pm Mass • Church

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**2ND ANNUAL HAIL MARY CHALLENGE**

Tally slips and collection containers are available in the entrances of both churches in order to assist you in turning in your weekly Hail Mary count. These containers will be emptied and tabulated weekly, and the count published in the bulletin and on our website.

**The July Petition**

Our communities pray together for our priests and for all the priests of our diocese and throughout the world:

“That priests, who experience fatigue and loneliness in their pastoral work, may find help and comfort in their intimacy with the Lord and in their friendship with their brother priests.”

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week Ending July 14</th>
<th>43,699</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Grand Total To Date</td>
<td>314,640</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>%age of Goal</td>
<td>31.5%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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**Rosary and Adoration**

Due to the waxing of the floors in the New Parish Center this week, the Thursday Rosary and Eucharistic Adoration and Friday Eucharistic Adoration will be moved from the Chapel to the Family Prayer Room in the church.

Eucharistic Adoration will resume in the PC Chapel on Saturday morning at 9:30 am.

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**The St. Mary Table Ministry**

**what is your FAVORITE biblical animal**

Did you know that God protected Daniel from the jaws of the lions because Daniel knew and loved Him? You, likewise, could help protect people from the jaws of secular society by being a catechist in faith formation! If interested in learning more about this fulfilling ministry, contact Heather Hannaway at (978) 256-2374/ 251-8571, ext 226.

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**One Day Retreat for Grieving Parents**

Saturday, September 14
St. John Church
9:00 am - 6:30 pm

This retreat offers spiritual support for grieving parents who have experienced the death of a child, no matter the age or reason. For more information, or to register, contactphassett99@gmail.com.

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“Never miss an opportunity to do good”

- St. Francis de Sales

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“The Lord’s call is not an intrusion of God in our freedom; it is not a “cage” or a burden to be borne. On the contrary, it is the loving initiative whereby God encounters us and invites us to be part of a great undertaking. He opens before our eyes the horizon of a greater sea and an abundant catch.”

- His Holiness, Pope Francis

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**Shepherds Needed**

PRAY FOR LOCATIONS

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**Responsorial Psalm 15**

“He who does justice will live in the presence of the Lord.”
St. Mary Music Ministry Accompanist Concert
Saturday, August 10, 2019 1:45 pm at St. Mary Church
Join us for an afternoon of beautiful music as our St. Mary Music Ministry Accompanists showcase their amazing talent! Featuring...
- Margie Sidari
- Arline Carbonneau
- Larry Clawson
- Nora Mello!
Hope to see you there!

St. John the Evangelist
ANNUAL Harvest
OF ABIDING LOVE AND UNITY
Sunday, September 22, 2019
12:30 pm at St. John Church

In Jesus’ visit to the home of Martha and Mary, with whom do you more closely identify:

Martha or Mary?

Today’s Gospel
Luke 10: 38-42

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 6 • 6:30
BOSTON OPERA HOUSE
Contact Lynne TODAY for your tickets! (978) 590-7863
first come—first serve

ANNUAL of Abiding Love and Unity
Sunday, September 22, 2019
12:30 pm at St. John Church

Boston Opera House
50 Tickets
Mezzanine Rows F-I
$120/ticket *
* includes ticket, transportation and tip
Departs St. Mary at 4:30 pm

at St. John’s

SUNDAY, JULY 21
NO 9:00 am Mass: Mass at St. Mary this week
Children’s Liturgy of the Word, during 8:30 am Mass
Coffee and Donuts, following 8:30 am Mass • Hall
Prayer Shawl Ministry, following 8:30 am Mass • Hall

MONDAY, JULY 22
Eucharistic Adoration • 9:30 - 11:30 am • OPC Chapel
Families w/Addiction Support Group • 7:00 pm • Mary Gill

TUESDAY, JULY 23
Eucharistic Adoration • 9:30 - 11:30 am • OPC Chapel
Open Music Rehearsal • 6:30 pm • Church

WEDNESDAY, JULY 24
Eucharistic Adoration • 9:30 - 11:30 am • OPC Chapel

THURSDAY, JULY 25
BINGO • 6:45 pm (doors open at 3:00 pm) • Hall

SATURDAY, JULY 27
NO 9:00 am Mass: Mass at St. Mary this week
Sierra Leone Goods Collection
Reconciliation • 3:00 - 3:45 pm • Church

SUNDAY, JULY 28
Sierra Leone Goods Collection
Children’s Liturgy of the Word, during 8:30 am Mass
Coffee and Donuts, following 8:30 am Mass • Hall
Hospitality Meeting • 9:30 am Mass • Hall
African Liturgy • 12:30 pm • Church

We apologize, but we were given incorrect information for Fr. Tom, which we passed on to you. Below is the correct contact information:

Saugus Catholics
St. Margaret and Blessed Sacrament Parishes
(781) 233-2497
frtom@sauguscatholics.org
Goods Collection to Support our Sister Parish: July 20 - July 28

Thank you to all those who donated on Holy Thursday to support our Sister Parish, Our Lady Star of the Sea, in Sierra Leone, West Africa! This summer, we are taking up a material goods collection for items that cannot easily be purchased locally in-country. The goods will help stock the parish health clinic, provide school supplies for students in the pre-school and elementary schools, and provide sewing supplies for the vocational school.

Below are suggested items that are in need:

**First Aid Supplies**
- Antibiotic Ointment
- Antiseptic solution or towelettes
- Anesthetic spray (Bactine) or lotion (Calamine)
- Adhesive tape
- Adhesive bandages in assorted sizes
- Elastic wrap bandages
- Large triangular bandages
- Non-adhesive wound pads/ sterile gauze pads
- Disposable gloves (non-latex) in assorted sizes
- Hydrogen peroxide

**Toiletries**
- Deodorant
- Toothpaste
- Floss
- Toothbrushes
- Hand sanitizer
- Soaps and shampoos

**School Supplies**
- Backpacks
- Pens and pencils
- Crayons
- Glue Sticks
- Notebooks

**Over-the-counter Medications**
- Antacids
- Anti-diarrhea medication, such as Imodium or Pepto-Bismol
- Oral antihistamines, such as Benadryl
- Cough and cold medications
- Hydrocortisone cream
- Laxatives

**Sewing Supplies**
- All-purpose thread
- Fabric
- New sewing machines
  please contact the parish office if you are interested in donating a sewing machine

Please look for collection bins at the entrances of each church.
Please pay attention to expiration dates. Thank you.

**Vacation Bible Fun**

is in need of
11 oz coffee cans with the
THIN flexible
plastic
covers for a funster
craft project!
Boxes are available at
the entrance of each
church to place your
CLEAN can WITH cover.

of what's happening in our Collaborative!

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"The Lord God Planted a garden in Eden... The Lord God then took the man and settled him in the Garden of Eden, to cultivate and care for it." - Genesis 2

Garden enthusiasts are critically needed for Saint Mary’s grounds. Our hope is to form a team of skilled parishioners who would be interested in helping to maintain and cultivate the grounds of the church, particularly the Grotto and front of the Church. We are aware that many of you possess this passion and ability... your assistance in beautifying our parish grounds would be truly appreciated. Saint Mary’s has a signature mark on the edge of the town square. The front yard and grotto provide great space to develop gardens which would reflect the beauty of the parish and the unique gifts and stewardship of the skilled gardeners in our midst.

If you have gardening skills or have the desire to help with the maintenance of the grounds, please join St Mary’s Paradise Gardening Club by contacting Tina at (978) 256-2374, ext 219 or tsousa@chelmsfordcatholic.org.
Our local Knights of Columbus Council will be running its annual Summer Fair. The fair is free to kids with special needs and their families.

Sunday, August 11 • 9:30 - 11:30 am
The Paul Center • 39 Concord Road, Chelmsford

Rain or Shine • Grounds are Wheelchair Accessible

The fair includes 17 fun games, craft-making, parachute activity and prizes for all.

Families interested in attending are asked to register by contacting Ken Desilets at (978) 692-6866 or kgdesigned@gmail.com ON OR BEFORE AUGUST 1st

Come and Enjoy this Great Event!

A BRAND NEW ministry is about to be unveiled in our Collaborative!

St. John’s very own Charlene Muscato, a registered nurse with over 40 years of community nursing experience with the VNA (now known as Circle Health), has just graduated from the Foundation of Faith Community Nursing course, sponsored by the Archdiocesan Office of Chaplaincy. The completion of this program will allow Charlene, as a Faith Community Nurse, to build a team of dedicated volunteers to assist in the healthcare needs of our collaborative family. Some of the services that she is hoping to provide are:

♥ Blood Pressure Clinics / Health Promotions
♥ Arrangement of transportation to/from medical appointments
♥ Companion Visits
♥ Advocacy Services
♥ … and more!

We are looking for nurses who are able to assist with this ministry. There is no requirement to attend any of the Archdiocesan training…. your experience is enough! Also, please note that one DOES NOT NEED to be a nurse to be part of this ministry, as this ministry is more than providing for the physical well-being of our parishioners. If you have a compassion for others, a patient and kind spirit, ability to organize and pay attention to detail, then we’d love to hear from you!

If you are interested in learning more, contact Charlene at (978) 251-8571 / 256-2374, ext 218 or fcn@chelmsfordcatholic.org.
Last week’s column got me thinking that people might wonder how we Catholics understand the meaning of suffering? One of the most persistent questions throughout human history has been, “From where does suffering come?” How one answers this question reveals much about a person’s view of the world and God’s role in it. The struggle of coming to terms with the destructive nature of suffering, and trying to find meaning in the midst of its effects, has troubled humanity almost from the beginning.

A Christian must accept one solid truth: that God, in His very nature, is good with no evil attached to Him in any way. Therefore, no evil can ever proceed from God. We must also understand that everything that exists came into existence only through the direct and conscious will of God. God, and God, alone is the true creator. We may help to bring life into the world, but that life only comes to fruition based on God’s will. And we can never force God to act in a way contrary to his will. All creation, therefore, comes into existence as an act of God, and both its nature and existence is good. But we must juxtapose this truth to the fact that human beings suffer on account of evil, which is a certain lack, limitation, or distortion of good. If evil and suffering do not come about through any act of God, then how does suffering occur?

Essentially, suffering and evil came about through human choice; it is ultimately the result of sin. The brokenness of the world is the result of Original Sin, which brought about what we call the human condition. We can differentiate between human nature and the human condition in this way: human nature is created by God and at its essential core is good and always retains that inherent goodness; the human condition comes about through human choice and is a mixture of good and evil. The good is the result of following the divine will, and the evil is a result of choices that contravene the divine will. We must recognize that all choice has ripple effects, and those effects do not just affect the individual but can go far and wide and even impact future generations. When we look to the Fall, it is there that Adam and Eve’s choice “created” the chaos that we currently experience. The Fall brought about the random evil and suffering that plagues humanity to this day. It is why the 2-year old will contract leukemia, or a hurricane may destroy lives and property, or why the natural occurrences of drought and famine occur. All of these tragic experiences are not the result of a particular human choice, but rather, they are the ripple effects of the Fall. But there are also evil realities that come about through concrete and current human decisions that create true suffering. These sinful choices bring about pain in the lives of so many. Ultimately, we must realize that suffering is a world unto itself in which all who suffer share and take on as their own. It matters not whether the suffering is a result of the human condition or some concrete choice that an individual makes. Suffering has consequences that bring the person or persons to define the world and life through that prism of pain. Most people need to find some level of meaning in and through the tragic events that they are experiencing.

How do we find meaning in suffering if God is not the cause? The first thing we must recognize is that the suffering of human beings is not the same as that of the animals. We are able to bring about meaning through the very fact that we, and we alone, are made in the image and likeness of God. We have within ourselves the capacity for transcendence, which helps us see what is possible and how God can and will transform our suffering if we allow Him. God does not cause the suffering, but God can and will transform it. As part of the human condition all people, in some moment, dimension or level, will confront suffering in their lives, and this suffering can obscure the true image of God for them. Therefore, it is important to understand how we can confront suffering and bring meaning out of such events in our lives.

How do we find meaning then, since suffering has no meaning in itself? The meaning of suffering manifests itself through how a person chooses to come to terms with it. And this, at its heart, is part of the subjective reality of suffering. Each person must discover within himself or herself how God is particularly choosing to transform them through the suffering they are experiencing. The meaning of suffering is therefore realized through how a person responds to that call from God. For us, the greatest witness of suffering is Christ and how He responded to God the Father in the midst of his passion.

Next week we will look at Jesus’ response to suffering.

If you have any questions about anything, please do not hesitate to ask me directly, or send your questions to me at fr.brian@chelmsfordcatholic.org.

Please keep me in your prayers.
FROM OUR DIRECTOR OF ST. MARY MUSIC MINISTRY

JOHN ANTHONY VOLPE

St. Fiona a Fable?

Music Ministry members at St. Mary’s know of my little 4-pound Yorkshire Terrier, Fiona Grace, from visits at some of our rehearsals. However, Grace is not the name that comes to mind when I think about Miss Fiona. While she is always by my side for our four-mile runs, and always assists me patrolling the chickens and ducks at my home, Fiona can be a handful. She reminds me of a poem, written by Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, that my grandmother, Concetta Volpe, used to tell my sister Danielle.

There was a little girl,
And she had a little curl
Right in the middle of her forehead.
When she was good
She was very, very good,
And when she was bad she was horrid.

This little poem summarizes Fiona perfectly; when she is good, she is good, but when she is bad, she is terrible.

So one day I jokingly said to her, after finding a little present she left me in the living room, “Fiona! I’m going to need to say a prayer to St. Fiona that your behavior improves!” Then I said to myself, “John, there ain’t no such saint as St. Fiona.” So, doing what my generation does best, I asked Google. I found that there may have actually been a St. Fiona, canonized on April 1st, although not recognized by the Catholic Church.

St. Fiona O’Shniggy, a devout Catholic of the Village Kincaid and the Patron Saint of drunkards, poets and stargazers, was most famous in Ireland during the tenth century. She was an author/composer of music and poetry about the star constellation, Orion. St. Fiona also journaled on topics regarding women’s rights. Being the daughter of alcoholic parents, she always felt compelled to advocate for those less fortunate, for example, the town drunks. Fiona’s philosophical thoughts, ideals and racy works were far beyond her time, which left her excommunicated from the Catholic Church. Sadly St. Fiona’s love of the constellation Orion, and star gazing, lead to a deadly fall at the young age of 23.

Whether or not St. Fiona existed remains to be seen. However, like Fiona Grace, a little mischief is good for the soul. Fiona possesses the power to turn a tear to laughter, and my worries to peace. While Fiona could never replace the power of prayer, she reminds me that God’s love exists in his creations both big and small.
Believe it or not, back-to-school sales have started! This is always a good time of year to pick up items needed for the students in our Collaborative Family Faith Formation programs. If you can, please pick up some of these items for our classes. They can be left in the designated bins located in the St. John New Parish Center Foyer or in St. Mary’s Parish Hall on the pew below the Faith Formation bulletin board. Thank you so much for any & all donations!

- 24-count crayons
- washable primary-color broad-line markers
- washable primary-color thin-line markers
- colored pencils
- retractable ball point pens
- yellow No. 2 pencils
- small glue sticks
- child-safe scissors
- lined colored index cards
- tape dispensers
- 12 oz bottle of hand sanitizer
- sanitary wipes
- boxes of tissues
- rolls of paper towels
- zip-lock-style snack/quart/gallon bags

Early Bird Registration may be over, but Faith Formation Registration continues

Help us make sure we have enough catechists for your children by registering as soon as you can. Please do NOT delay due to finances. Visit chelmsfordcatholic.org/faithformation, then click on Registration under the church in which you are registering. Easy-to-follow directions and guidelines are provided to make your registration quick and easy!

FAITH FORMATION TEAM ASSOCIATE

This part-time position contributes substantially to the collaborative Faith Formation team and execution of its programs. This role includes many items, such as resource development, maintenance of Faith Formation resources, and implementation of curriculum. Prospective candidate must have excellent people skills, be able to multitask and prioritize in a busy environment and be able to work well with staff and various demographic groups. Intermediate computer proficiencies in Microsoft 365, Word, Excel, Outlook and other parish software preferred. Visit our website under Parish Life for a full job description: www.chelmsfordcatholic.org. Please provide cover letter and resume to the attention of Heather Hannaway, Director of Family Faith Formation at hhannaway@chelmsfordcatholic.org or by mail to 115 Middlesex Street, North Chelmsford, MA 01863.

Collaborative Youth Ministry Program

Courtney Callanan, Youth Minister • ext 227 • ccallanan@chelmsfordcatholic.org

Signed, Sealed, Delivering God’s Love

Thank you to those who have donated and helped us to raise $7,983 for our summer missions!

May they may be safe in their travels;
May they may touch and be touched by those they serve;
May they may return to us inspired to continue to reach out, in the name of Christ, to all they meet.
St. Mary’s New Elevator (LIFT)

At St. Mary’s, we are planning for the installation of a new elevator (LIFT) to replace the old one, which has been out of service for just about 2 years. This new elevator would allow, once again, easy access into the church for our handicapped parishioners and visitors.

Based on quotes we have received, this project carries a cost of $55,000. Although it is not our desire to ask for further financial support, we have an opportunity at this time to complete this important project. If we, as a parish family, are able to raise $27,500, a few very generous parish families have committed to matching that amount, which will result in raising the total amount of funds needed to complete this project.

If you are able to donate to this important and necessary cause, please contact Paul Firicano. All checks can be made payable to St. Mary Parish, with “new elevator (LIFT)” listed in the memo section. If you choose to donate via Online Giving, please visit our website, www.chelmsfordcatholic.org, and click on the Online Giving link where you can choose the fund, New Elevator (LIFT).

Thank you in advance for your continuing support! We are truly blessed!
If you would like to request that a Mass be celebrated for a specific intention or person, please call the parish office. A donation of $10 per Mass intention is requested to be made at the time that you schedule your intention.

**St. John**

**SAT, JUL 20**  4:00 pm: Meghan Gerri Fahey: Memorial  
**SUN, JUL 21**  8:30 am: For the People of the Parish  
10:30 am: Peter J. Kent: Memorial  
6:00 pm: Jonathan Perez: Living Intention  
**WED, JUL 24**  9:00 am: John Lewis: Memorial  
**SAT, JUL 27**  4:00 pm: Valeria Ferencz: 2nd Anniversary  
**SUN, JUL 28**  8:30 am: J. Edward Clancy: Memorial  
10:30 am: For the People of the Parish  
6:00 pm: Jeremy Joseph Clifford Jr., Richard Allen Clifford & Veronica Anne Clifford: Memorial

**St. Mary**

**SAT, JUL 20**  4:00 pm: Jeannine Bilodeau: 5th Anniversary  
**SUN, JUL 21**  9:00 am: For the People of the Parish  
11:00 am: Edna Lezotte: Memorial Mass  
**MON, JUL 22**  7:00 am: Philip Degan: 53rd Anniversary  
**TUE, JUL 23**  7:00 am: Ellen M. Hartley: 32nd Anniversary  
**THUR, JUL 25**  7:00 am: Emma Sarno: 20th Anniversary  
**FRI, JUL 26**  7:00 am: Marguerite Farley: Memorial  
**SAT, JUL 27**  4:00 pm: Ralph B. Hickey: 2nd Anniversary  
**SUN, JUL 28**  9:00 am: William B. Watt: Memorial  
11:00 am People of the Parish

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**FUNERALS recently celebrated**

“There is an appointed time for everything” - Ecclesiastes 3:1

* Dolores Claire Carroll: July 11 at St. Mary  
* Marilyn Ann Caruso: July 18 at St. John  
* Carol Sciarrella: July 20 at St. Mary

May the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

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**DOLAN FUNERAL HOME**  
James F. Dolan • James F. Dolan II  
Active Supporters & Parishioners of the Chelmsford Catholic Collaborative  
978-251-4041  
www.dolanfuneralhome.com  
106 Middlesex St. Chelmsford

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**“YOUR WORD IS A LAMP UNTO MY FEET AND A LIGHT UNTO MY PATH” - PSALM 119:105**

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**MONDAY, JUL 22**  
Songs 3: 1-4  
Psalm 63  
John 20: 1-2, 11-18

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**TUESDAY, JUL 23**  
Exodus 14:21-15:1  
Exodus 15 (Psalm)  
Matthew 12: 46-50

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**WEDNESDAY, JUL 24**  
Exodus 16: 1-5, 9-15  
Psalm 78  
Matthew 13: 1-9

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**THURSDAY, JUL 25**  
2 Corinthians 4: 7-15  
Psalm 126  
Matthew 20: 20-28

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**FRIDAY, JUL 26**  
Exodus 20: 1-17  
Psalm 19  
Matthew 13: 18-23

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**SATURDAY, JUL 27**  
Exodus 24: 3-8  
Psalm 50  
Matthew 13: 24-30

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**SUNDAY, JUL 28**  
Genesis 18: 20-32  
Psalm 138  
Colossians 2: 12-14  

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**ST. MARY MEMORIAL ALTER FLOWERS**

Parishioners are invited to donate a floral arrangement in memory of, or in honor of, a loved one, which will be placed on the altar. The requested donation is $40 and includes an acknowledgement in the bulletin. If you would like to donate altar flowers, please call the parish office.

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**ROSE FOR LIFE**

Someone special you’d like to honor? You can do that by having a rose signifying your intention placed in the church, as well as having your intention published in the bulletin. To book a Rose for Life, contact the parish office. Be sure to let them know at which parish you would like the rose placed. The suggested offering for a rose is $5.00.

Roses Provided by Mahoney's Garden Center
Ad info. 1-800-477-4574 • Church Support 1-800-888-4574 • www.4lpi.com Chelmsford Catholic Collaborative 03-0756
Pauline Rita Leedberg of Chelmsford

Pauline Rita Leedberg, 80, of Chelmsford, MA died Sunday, June 16, 2019 at Lowell General Hospital.

She was married to Lennart Leedberg with whom she would have celebrated their 61st wedding anniversary on Sept 1, 2019.

Born in Lowell on April 29, 1939 the daughter of the late Armand and Alice Jutras, she attended Lowell public schools.

She owned and operated Lena’s Restaurant of Lowell, MA.

She was a communicant of St. John the Evangelist Church of Chelmsford.

Pauline enjoyed Duckpin bowling, cooking, vacationing in Florida, traveling, spending time at Mohegan Sun, and family cookouts.

She is survived by her sons, Mark Leedberg and his companion Christine Byrne of Dracut, MA, Scott and his wife June Leedberg of Chelmsford, daughter, Cathy Gerlach and her companion Lori Stillson of Claremont, NH, sister Cecile and her husband Richard Marion of Lowell, sister in law Chris Jutras of Lowell, She was the sister of the late Robert, Donald and Raymond Jutras, and Lorraine Leduc, and Doris Arsenault.

She is also survived by eight grandchildren, eight great grandchildren and many nieces and nephews.

Pauline’s visiting hours were Thurs., June 20th from 4 to 8 P.M. Funeral was Fri. June 21st at 8am from the DOLAN FUNERAL HOME, 106 MIDDLESEX ST. CHELMSFORD, with a funeral Mass at 9am at St. John the Evangelist Church in Chelmsford. Burial in Fairview Cemetery, Chelmsford. ARRANGEMENTS BY DOLAN FUNERAL HOME 978-256-4040.