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.
St. Mary Calendar

• Thursday, August 15 •
Solemnity of the Assumption of Mary: See page 4
Rosary Makers • 10:30 am • PC Conf Room 2
Rosary • 12:00 - 1:00 pm • PC Adoration Chapel
Adoration • 3:00 - 9:00 pm • PC Adoration Chapel

• Friday, August 16 •
Knitting and Crocheting • 3:00 - 5:00 pm • PC MR 1 & 2
Adoration • 7:00 am - 9:00 pm • PC Adoration Chapel

• Saturday, August 17 •
NO 9:00 am Mass: Mass at St. John this week
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

St. Mary Adorer Needed

Jesus would love to have some time with you!

One adorer is needed for Thursdays from 4:00 - 5:00 pm.
Adoration is held in the St. Mary Parish Center Chapel.

If you are the one to accept this invitation contact
Heather Hannaway at hhannaway@chelmsfordcatholic.org.

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 August Petition

“For the safety of our children and grandchildren, and for young families, that they find and cherish the true meaning of our faith and the graces that come from following the Lord’s path, and for all children of the world who struggle day after day that God may lead them to a better life.”

Week Ending August 2 46,539
Grand Total To Date 428,329
%age of Goal 42.83%

!! ATTENTION !!
St. Mary 4 pm MASS GOERS

Please be aware that the duration of the 4:00 pm Mass next Saturday, August 17 will be slightly extended due to our welcoming of a new child into the family through the Sacrament of Baptism.

We do hope you will decide to celebrate this joyous occasion with us.

DO YOU LOVE BOOKS? DO YOU LOVE ORGANIZING?

Maureen Foley, our volunteer Library Coordinator, is looking for two to three people to help her get—and keep—St. Mary’s Catholic Library in tip-top shape. Your commitment would be about 2 hours a month; no heavy lifting involved. Want to know more? Send an email to Elaine at ekindler@chelmsfordcatholic.org with the best daytime phone number at which to reach you.

If you love books and you love organizing, then...

THIS IS FOR YOU!

Chelmsford Catholic Collaborative

5th Annual Outdoor Mass & BBQ

Sunday, September 15
10:30 am on St. John’s Great Lawn!

followed by good food, good old fashion fun, and a visit from...

the Ice Cream Truck!

If you are willing and able to help in the planning of the day’s activities, please let us know via the sign-up sheets that can be found at the entrance of both churches.
!! ATTENTION !!
St. John 10:30 am MASS GOERS

Please be aware that the duration of the 10:30 am Mass next Sunday, August 18 will be slightly extended due to our welcoming of a new child into the family through the Sacrament of Baptism.

We do hope you will decide to celebrate this joyous occasion with us.

Deacon Fran Burke...

has accepted an employment opportunity in Maine, making it unfeasible for him to continue his assignment here in the collaborative.

Deacon Fran has been a wonderful part of our community and his absence will be a big loss for our people. Please keep him and his family in your prayers.

WANTED YOU!
ALIVE AND WELL AND WILLING to explore and discover new frontiers in volunteer ministry

introducing the 2019 Ministry Fair...

THE WESTERN FRONTIER discovering what’s beyond

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 7
AFTER 4 PM MASS
SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 8
9 AM - 1 PM

St. John Calendar

• Sunday, August 11 •
Children’s Liturgy of the Word, during 8:30 am Mass
Coffee and Donuts, following 8:30 am Mass • Hall

• Monday, August 12 •
Families w/Addiction Support Group • 7:00 pm • NPC

• Tuesday, August 13 •
Taize Prayer and Fellowship • 7:00 pm • Church and Mariotti

• Wednesday, August 14 •
ACTS Meeting • 6:30 pm • Linehan and Chevalier

• Thursday, August 15 •
Solemnity of the Assumption of Mary: See page 4
BINGO • 6:45 pm (doors open at 3:00 pm) • Hall

• Saturday, August 17 •
Reconciliation • 3:00 - 3:45 pm • Church

• Sunday, August 18 •
Coffee and Donuts, following 8:30 am Mass • Hall
Prayer Shawl Ministry, following 8:30 am Mass • Hall
African Liturgy • 12:30 pm • Church

St. John St. Vincent de Paul
Weekend of August 17/18 Food Collection

The St. John St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry is in special need of the following specific food items:

- peanut butter & jelly
- spaghetti sauce
- macaroni and cheese
- apple sauce/canned fruit
- crackers
- pancake mix and syrup
- hamburger helper
- rice
- pasta

As always, we thank you for your kind and faithful generosity. The food pantry collection occurs on the 3rd Sunday of every month.

NOTE: Please watch for expiration dates.
Fall Bible Studies at St. Mary’s

A 24-week study of Matthew: September 16, 2019 - March 30, 2020 (w/holiday break)
Monday Mornings… 10:00 am - 12 noon
Registration and $45 fee due no later than Aug 25th

In this exciting study, you will see Jesus as the awaited Messiah who fulfills the promises and prophecies of the Old Testament, establishes the New Law, and inaugurates the Kingdom of Heaven. We will be shown who Jesus is and what his life and teachings mean for us today.

A 20-week study of Church History: October 1, 2019 - March 30, 2020 (w/holiday break)
Tuesday Evenings… 7:00 - 8:30 pm
Registration and $45 fee due no later than Sept 9th

The history of our Faith is a fascinating story of adventure, rebellion, tragedy, and triumph. We will learn about the major people, places, and events that comprise the captivating story of Christianity, and will come to an understanding of Church history that enables us to have a greater sense of meaning and identity as Catholics.

Registration forms can be found at St. Mary Church entrances, St. John New Parish Center and the Parish Office. Online registration at www.chelmsfordcatholic.org. Click on Faith Formation then Bible Studies.

Family Faith Formation

(978) 256-2374 or (978) 251-8571

~ Heather Hannaway ~
Director of Faith Formation, ext 226
hhannaway@chelmsfordcatholic.org

~ Elaine Kindler ~
Office Manager, ext 218
ekindler@chelmsfordcatholic.org

~ Courtney Callanan ~
Coordinator of Grades 7-10, ext 227
ccallanan@chelmsfordcatholic.org

~ Lynn Anne LaDuke ~
Administrative Assistant, ext 240
lynnanne@chelmsfordcatholic.org

Faith Formation Registration Continues at Both Parishes

Visit chelmsfordcatholic.org/faith formation, 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!

Please do not let finances hinder your child’s faith formation. Both parishes offer financial assistance.
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, AUG 10**
4:00 pm: Philippe & Emiligina Tellier: Memorial

**SUN, AUG 11**
8:30 am: For the People of the Parish
10:30 am: The Giampa Family, Pat Vela and Daniel O. Vela: Memorial

**TUE, AUG 13**
9:00 am: Thomas Redlinger: Memorial

**SAT, AUG 17**
4:00 pm: Joseph F. Lynch: 2nd Anniversary

**SUN, AUG 18**
8:30 am: LIVING INTENTION: Jonathann Perez, being well from sickness, 10:30 am: For the People of the Parish

St. Mary

**SAT, AUG 10**
4:00 pm: Florence Mulken: 8th Anniversary

**SUN, AUG 11**
9:00 am: For the People of the Parish
11:00 am Paul Clark: 12th Anniversary

**MON, AUG 12**
7:00 am: LIVING INTENTION: Mary & Mike Weston

**WED, AUG 14**
7:00 am: Jeanine Blodeau: Birthday Remembrance

**FRI, AUG 16**
7:00 am: John J. and Mary T. O’Rourke: Memorial

**SUN, AUG 18**
7:00 am: Marguerite Farley: Memorial
9:00 am: William Tucker: 9th Anniversary
11:00 am For the People of the Parish

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

St. Mary Memorial Altar Flowers

**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.

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

**MONDAY, AUG 12**
Deuteronomy 10:1-22
Psalm 147
Matthew 17:22-27

**TUESDAY, AUG 13**
Deuteronomy 31:1-8
Deut (Psalm) 32
Matt 18:1-5, 10, 12-14

**WEDNESDAY, AUG 14**
Deut 34:1-12
Psalm 66
Matthew 18:15-20

**THURSDAY, AUG 15**
Rev 11:19; 12:1-6, 10
Psalm 45
1Corinth 15:20-27
Luke 1:39-56

**FRIDAY, AUG 16**
Joshua 24:1-13
Psalm 136
Matthew 19:3-12

**SATURDAY, AUG 17**
Joshua 24:14-19
Psalm 16
Matthew 19:13-15

**SUNDAY, AUG 18**
Jeremiah 38:4-6, 8-10
Psalm 40
Hebrews 12:1-4
Luke 12:49-53

May the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.
While using my iPad, a rather disturbing headline came onto my screen from my news feed. It read, “An unprecedented 24 hours: Two mass shootings leave at least 29 dead. There have been 251 mass shootings in the US in the last 216 days.” As I read that line and processed just what it meant, it brought many questions to mind. And I have little doubt that the questions that arose in my mind were not very different from those in yours. As I read the news about these last two incidents, it was followed by the normal barrage of trying to figure out why it happened and what we can do about it. And, generally, I heard the same cases being made as in the other, past horrible events.

As I sat and prayed about ‘the why’, what came to mind was not what I anticipated. I thought of the story of Cain and Abel. In the course of time Cain brought an offering to the LORD from the fruit of the soil, while Abel, for his part, brought one of the best firstlings of his flock. The LORD looked with favor on Abel and his offering, but on Cain and his offering He did not. Cain was very angry and felt dejected. So, the LORD said to Cain: Why are you angry and why do you feel dejected? If you act rightly, you will be accepted; but if not, sin is a demon lurking at the door: his urge is for you, yet you can be his master. Cain said to his brother Abel, “Let us go out in the field.” When they were in the field, Cain attacked his brother Abel and killed him.

The reality is that what we are dealing with in this day and age is as old as human history itself. Cain blamed Abel for all his problems. If Abel was not there, then his problems would be gone. The reality is that, as human beings, we believe our problems always reside with the other. The whole history of our own nation shows this to be true. For some 200 years many believed it was perfectly reasonable to own slaves, simply based on their skin color. And even after slavery was outlawed, you had the Jim Crow era when lynchings occurred to keep those people in their place. Almost from the establishment of the first English colonies, anti-Catholicism was a norm. When the country established its independence, many states purposely wrote their oaths of office in such a way that Catholics could not take the oath and remain faithful to the Church. You had an entire party created for the sole purpose of keeping Catholics out of the country because ‘they would destroy it’. And there were many violent actions against Catholics, such as in 1834 when an Ursuline convent in Somerville was burnt to the ground.

What is true of our own nation is quite frankly true of every nation. It comes down to the simple truth that we need to start treating the other with the respect and dignity they deserve. We so easily see our differences and see them as a problem. We lose sight of our common humanity. Each person is different and that is a good thing. We are all created by God with the same sacredness and dignity, and we need to recognize that in each person. There are many issues we can disagree on, and we so easily put labels on the other that allow us to be separate from them. How often do we hear pro-life and pro-choice demonize each other? How often does the issue of immigration bring more heat than light? How often do we look at what the other says—no matter how offensive—and find that as a reason to simply dismiss them? But the reality is that we are called to a different standard.

It is not a question of politics. It is not a question of simple decency. It is not a question of civility. It is not a question about being politically correct. It is about being a Christian! As we read in Romans, “Bless those who persecute [you], bless and do not curse them. Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. Have the same regard for one another; do not be haughty but associate with the lowly; do not be wise in your own estimation. Do not repay anyone evil for evil; be concerned for what is noble in the sight of all. If possible, on your part, live at peace with all. Beloved, do not look for revenge but leave room for the wrath; for it is written, ‘Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord.’ Rather, ‘If your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him something to drink; for by so doing you will heap burning coals upon his head. Do not be conquered by evil but conquer evil with good.’”

We must, of course, always stand for the truth, but we must do so in love. In our disagreements it cannot be about denigrating the humanity of the other. Each person is loved by God equally, and we must have that same level of unconditional love. It is not an option for the Christian. If we want to see a change in the world, then we must change through the grace of God. We must allow God’s unconditional love to shine through us. It does not mean we do not speak the truth. It does not mean we do not challenge people when their choices are not in line with the will of God. But it does mean that we always do so in charity. We do so with no judgement about the person: for judgement of another belongs to God alone. No matter the choices they make or the opinions they hold, each and every person is a unique creation, created in love and sustained in love by our God. May we become the force of change that allows that love to be seen and realized.

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.

In Christ,
I would like to take this opportunity to share with you an exciting event that will be taking place at my former seminary, Pope St. John XXIII National Seminary in Weston. Pope St. John, unlike many other seminaries, has a particular charism and mission in the Church. Founded by Cardinal Cushing in 1964, Pope St. John Seminary (PSJS) is a house of formation that responds to the call of men who are older—in their 30’s-60’s—and who are discerning a priestly vocation. I was blessed for five years to have spent my time in formation there, and upon leaving I truly felt prepared for ministry in the Church.

Beginning this fall (see information below), PSJS will be hosting a “First Friday” event. If you are between the ages of 30 and 60 and feel you are being called to the priesthood, and would like to more actively discern what it is that God is calling you to, then this event is for you. It would begin with arrival in the late afternoon, Holy Hour, Evening Prayer, and Benediction, followed by supper and conversation with the men of the house. It would be an opportunity to be part of the community at prayer and recreation and give one a better sense of what seminary life is like for an older man.

PSJS, over these last five years, has deepened my faith and has given me the opportunity to discern what God is asking of me in a house filled with so many fine men doing the same thing. The mutual witnessing and brotherhood on the journey to priesthood will be the biggest thing I will recall fondly and will miss. It has been an honor and privilege to pray, work, relax, and minister with the men in this house. I leave with a renewed sense of joy and hope for the Church, knowing that so many fine men being formed that are on the journey to become Shepherds of Christ. It is with a full heart and with great thanksgiving for this inspiration that I feel ready for service in Christ and his Church, and I pray that PSJS will continue forming men in excellence of ministry and the salvation of souls.

So, if you are free on a “First” Friday and would like to explore this opportunity, contact the seminary with the information provided below, or speak to me directly. God is calling each of us to something special in his service. Maybe this is an opportunity to more deeply discern what it is he is asking of you.

God needs priests. Is He calling you? If you are 30-60, you may be surprised!

“First Friday Visits” Pope St. John XXIII National Seminary 558 South Ave | Weston, MA

Join the Seminary Community for Prayer and Fellowship
Holy Hour and Evening Prayer • Dinner with the Seminarians
Tour of the Seminary

Friday, September 6th… 4:30 - 7:30 pm

RSVP Msgr. Fay at (781) 899-5500, ext 127 or msgr.fay@psjs.edu
To learn more about the seminary, visit www.psjs.edu
Visit www.chelmsfordcatholic.org. Links to both programs can be found on the right-hand side of home page.

After-Hours Answering and Voice Mail Services Out of Service

Our Night A/g425endant and Voice Mail systems are not working. When the office is not staffed, callers receive no answer when any of our office numbers are called. Because we are in the process of updating our phone system, we are not in a financial position to incur the exorbitant cost of equipment replacement, but please be assured that we are exploring options so that we may be able to continue serving you to the best of our ability. We are grateful for your patience throughout this process, and apologize for any and all inconveniences.

The following hymn will be sung at both the 7:00 pm vigil Mass and 7:00 am morning Mass celebrating the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

Mary, You Raised a Child

Mary, you raised a child,
Raised him in love and faith,
Dreamt a mother’s dreams,
Saw in him the future
Prepared for Israel by God’s grace.
And yet he died a shameful death,
Found his end a stranger’s grave.

Mary, from you he came,
God to human gaze,
God in our weakness,
God embracing suffering and death.
Woman tried in faith,
Lead us to his everlasting glory.

© Suzanne Beebe, 2016

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 ext 219 or tsousa@chelmsfordcatholic.org.
**St. Mary Parish #139 Operating Budget**
**Fiscal Year 2020: July 1, 2019 - June 30, 2020**

### ST. MARY BUDGET SUMMARY:
- The actual Offertory for fiscal year 2019 was $784,850, which calculates to $15,100/week over 52 weeks (Sundays). The proposed offertory budget amount of $874,200 includes a 13.5% increase. This represents an amount of $17,140/week over 51 weeks (Sundays), and is vital to meet the needs of all budgeted expenses, including the loan repayments. Please consider using offertory envelopes or Online Giving for your donations.
- A reminder that your generous and consistent giving during the year will allow us to continue to provide our parishioners with the service and programs that help us to grow in our faith and continue to build our parish community. Faith Formation has been budgeted for 600 children. This decision is based on the declining number of children that have registered for the last 3 years.
- Some Operating/Acquisition improvements that are planned for the new fiscal year are: to seal the cracks and re-line the parking lots, paint the parish hall, repairs/replacement of old plumbing in rectory, and an upgrade (but a savings) to the office phone system to better serve you.
- During fiscal year 2020, the rental property at 11 Crosby Lane will go on market to be sold to help us with the loan repayments ($61,000). This is based on an expected loan balance of $695,000 to be paid over 15 years with a variable rate of 3.875%. We are always very grateful for the financial support that we receive from our parishioners.
- We will continue to review and analyze better ways to use the financial resources entrusted to us by the parishioners. Thank you for your prayers and your support!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>FYR 2019 Actuals</th>
<th>FYR 2020 Budget</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>PARISH REVENUE:</strong></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Offertory</td>
<td>$784,850</td>
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<td>Faith Formation</td>
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<td>Sacramentals</td>
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<td>Gifts and Bequests</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gifts - Deficit Donations</td>
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<td>Gross Lease Properties Income</td>
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<td>Catholic Appeal Rebate</td>
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<td>All Other Operating Revenue</td>
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<td><strong>TOTAL PARISH REVENUE</strong></td>
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<td><strong>PARISH EXPENSES:</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Clergy/Lay Employees Compensation and Benefits</td>
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<td>Pastoral/Liturgical</td>
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<tr>
<td>Faith Formation</td>
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<td>Lease Properties expenses</td>
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<td>Parish Office &amp; Related</td>
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<td>Operating Acquisition/ Improvements</td>
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<td>All Other Expenses</td>
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<td><strong>TOTAL PARISH EXPENSES</strong></td>
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<td><strong>NET REVENUE/(NET EXPENSES)</strong></td>
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<td>Less Parish Center Monthly Loan Repayments</td>
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The actual Offertory for fiscal year 2019 was $497,227, which calculates to $9,562/week over 52 weeks (Sundays). The proposed Offertory budget amount of $563,040 includes a 15.5% increase. This represents an amount of $11,040/week over 51 weeks (Sundays) and is vital to meet the needs of all budgeted expenses. As a convenient option, please consider using offertory envelopes or WeShare for your donations. A reminder that your generous and consistent giving during the year will allow us to continue to provide our parishioners with the service and programs that help us to grow in our faith and continue to build our parish community.

Also, the Grand Annual budget has been set at $50,000, and is based on the average donations received from the last 2 years.

Some maintenance and improvement items that are planned for the new fiscal year are: painting of the parish hall, air conditioning repairs in the church and old parish center, and a project to landscape & create a Memorial for the Unborn in the area by the handicap entrance.

The Central Ministry tithe of 10% ($55,120) is the annual support to the Archdiocese. This tithe is assessed to all parishes, and is the funding mechanism to support the services that the Central Ministries provide to Parishes. The 10% is calculated using a 3 year average of the parish’s Offertory and Grand Annual.

We will continue to review and analyze better ways to use the financial resources entrusted to us by the parishioners. Thank you for your faithful support and prayers to St. John the Evangelist Parish.
Karen E. Brace of Chelmsford

Karen Elizabeth Brace, 75, of Chelmsford, Mass., died Saturday, July 13 at Lowell General Hospital.

Born in Quincy, she was the daughter of the late Eugene and Bernice (Walker) Richter.

She graduated from Lexington High School with the class of 1961 and furthered her education, earning her Associates Degree from Lasalle College. Ms. Brace retired from the Middlesex Human Services in 2007 and previously worked at Safety Insurance Co of Chelmsford.

She was a communicant at St. Mary Church in Chelmsford, MA and enjoyed summers at Wells Beach, ME, watching Jeopardy every night and spending time with her family and friends.

She was the sister of the late Stephen Richter.

Ms. Brace is survived by three sons, Mark and his wife Cindy Beaupre of Derry, NH, Scott and his wife Linda Beaupre of Billerica, MA, and Peter and his wife Maria Beaupre of Hudson, NH, a daughter, Pamela and her husband Jon Barcroft of Reading, two sisters, Denise “Denny” and her husband Dan Downing of Rockland and Gretchen and husband Robert Mitchell of The Villages, FL, seven grandchildren, Ryan, Shannon, Tiana, Hunter, Nicholas, Ashley and PJ, as well as many nieces and nephews.

Her calling hours were Thursday, July 18, 2019 from 3pm to 6pm at the DOLAN FUNERAL HOME, 106 MIDDLESEX ST., CHELMSFORD followed by her Funeral Service at 6pm. Interment will be private and at the convenience of her family. Guestbook at www.dolanfuneralhome.com. ARRANGEMENTS BY DOLAN FUNERAL HOME 978-256-4040.