

ST. JOHN
THE EVANGELIST PARISH
115 MIDDLESEX STREET
NORTH CHELMSFORD

ST. MARGARET
OF SCOTLAND PARISH
374 STEVENS STREET
LOWELL

ST. MARY PARISH 25 NORTH ROAD CHELMSFORD

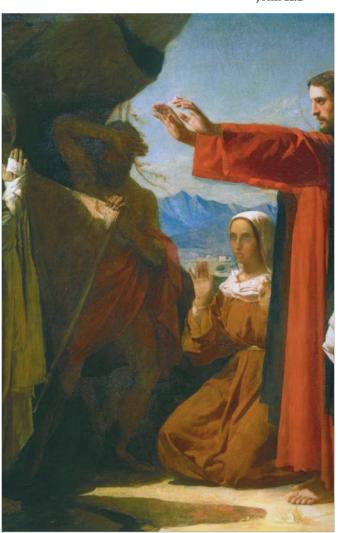


# March 26, 2023 Fifth Sunday of Lent

Jesus told her,

"I am the resurrection and the life; whoever believes in me, even if he dies, will live."

- John 11:2



# 厄 Parish Office Location and Hours

115 Middlesex Street • North Chelmsford, 01863 (978) 256-2374 | www.theholyrood.org

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday • 9:00 am - 5:00 pm Wednesday • 9:30 am - 5:00 pm Friday • 9:00 am - 3:00 pm

### **Weekend Mass Schedule**

St. John • Saturday, 4 pm/ Sunday, 9:30 am and 6 pm • African Liturgy, Sunday, 12 pm St. Margaret • Saturday, 4 pm/ Sunday, 7:30 and 10 am

St. Mary  $\bullet$  Saturday, 4 pm/ Sunday, 7 and 11 am

### Daily Mass Schedule

Monday - Friday

7 am at St. Mary • 8 am at St. Margaret • 9 am at St. John

### Sacrament of Reconciliation

Monday • 4:30 - 5:30 pm • St. John Tuesday • 4:30 - 5:30 pm • St. Margaret

Wednesday • 4:30 - 5:30 pm • St. Mary

• through Lent: 6:30 - 8 pm • all churches

Saturday • 11 am - 12 noon at St. Mary

- 1 pm 2 pm at St. Margaret
- 3 pm 3:45 pm at St. John

### **Eucharistic Adoration**

Wednesdays (sep-Jun) • 9 am - 3 pm • St. Margaret OLL Chapel Thursdays • 12:00 - 9:00 pm • St. Mary Adoration Chapel First Fridays • 3:00 - 9:00 pm • St. John OPC Chapel

### LIVEVIEW Devotions

Monday - Friday

3 pm • Chaplet of Divine Mercy at St. John

7 pm • Rosary at St. Mary

# **Prayer Line**

To have prayers said for yourself or a loved one, call the parish office and ask for ext. 223. After hours, press 5.

\*Please read entire bulletin for potential schedule changes

# weekly calendar

# Monday, March 27

Chaplet of Divine Mercy • 3 pm • SJE Church and LIVEVIEW Confession • 4:30 - 5:30 pm • SJE Church SM 4 pm Choir Rehearsal • 7 pm • SM Hall Fr. Brian: Passion Narratives • 7 pm • SM Church

# Tuesday, March 28

Chaplet of Divine Mercy • 3 pm • SJE Church and LIVEVIEW Confession • 4:30 - 5:30 pm • SMS Church Rosary • 7 pm • SM Church and LIVEVIEW Easter Vigil Music Rehearsal • 7 - 9 pm • SM Hall

# Wednesday, March 29

Adoration • 9 am - 3 pm • SMS OLL Chapel Chaplet of Divine Mercy • 3 pm • SJE Church and LIVEVIEW Confession • 4:30 - 5:30 pm • SM Church The Light is on for You (Confession) • 6:30 - 8 pm • All Churches Rosary • 7 pm • SM Church and LIVEVIEW

# Thursday, March 30

Charismatic Prayer Group • 10 -11 am • SJE OPC
Rosary Makers • 10:30 am - 12 pm • SM PC Conf Room 2
Adoration • 12 - 9 pm • SM PC Adoration Chapel
Chaplet of Divine Mercy • 3 pm • SJE Church and LIVEVIEW
BINGO • doors open 3:30 pm/ first game 6:45 pm • SJE Hall
Rosary • 7 pm • SM Church and LIVEVIEW
St. Mary 11 am Choir & Ensemble Rehearsal • 7:30 pm • SM Church

# Friday, March 31

Knitting and Crocheting • 3 - 5 pm • SM Hall Chaplet of Divine Mercy • 3 pm • SJE Church and LIVEVIEW Soup and Stations • 6 pm Soup/ 7 pm Stations • SM Church/Hall

# Saturday, April 1

Saturday Men's Group • 7 - 8:45 am • SJE NPC Linehan SMS Prayer Shawl Ministry • 9:15 am - 12 pm • SMS SVdP Rm Confessions • refer to cover for times and locations St. Mary Bell Choir Rehearsal • 2:30 - 3:30 pm • SM Choir Loft Family Movie Night • 5 - 7 pm • SJE Hall



# April 2

Easter Cantata • 3 pm • SJE Church reception following

# FIFTH WEEK OF LENT

With the Lord, there is mercy and fullness of redemption.
-Psalm 130

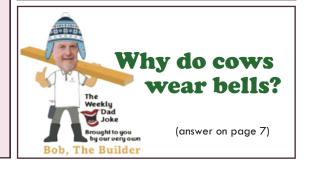




Registration Opens Next Saturday

### Weekend Mass Attendance

	Weekend Of March 18/19				
	St. Mary				
_	4 pm	7 am	11 am		
	178	106	299		
/ _ \	St. Margaret of Scotland				
	4 pm	7:30 am	10 am		
20000	93	58	170		
於公島	St. John the Evangelist				
138 M	4 pm	9:30 am	6 pm		
W III M	138	209	142		



### Clergy

Reverend Brian E. Mahoney, PASTOR fr.brian@theholyrood.org | (978) 254-0560

Reverend Fernando Ayala, PAROCHIAL VICAR frfernando@theholyrood.org | (978) 401-9844

Reverend Antonio de Souza, PAROCHIAL VICAR frantonio@theholyrood.org | ext 310

Reverend Patrick Alemayo, Parochial Vicar fr.patrickalemayo@theholyrood.org

Reverend Arnold F. Colletti, Sr. Priest in Residence freolletti@theholyrood.org  $\mid$  ext 116

Reverend Raymond Benoit, Sr. Priest in Residence frray@theholyrood.org | ext 115

Deacon John C. Hunt, Jr., PERMANENT DEACON deaconjohn@theholyrood.org | (978) 254-2696

Deacon Frank Perez de Alderete, PERMANENT DEACON deaconfrank@theholyrood.org | (978) 633-5408

Deacon Barry V. Lloyd., SR. PERMANENT DEACON deac5@comcast.net | (978) 454-6505

### Outreach & Parish Ministry

Sr. Lori Fleming, SNDdeN, PASTORAL ASSOCIATE srlori@theholyrood.org | ext 225

### **Business Office**

Paul Firicano, Collaborative Business Manager pfiricano@theholyrood.org  $\mid$  ext 220

Tina Sousa, Finance Support tsousa@theholyrood.org | ext 219

### **Family Faith Formation**

Heather Hannaway, MA , DIR OF FAITH FORMATION hhannaway@theholyrood.org | ext 226

Courtney Callanan, MA, ASST DIR OF FAITH FORMATION courtney@theholyrood.org | ext 227

Shaun Bradley, FAITH FORMATION ASSOCIATE sbradley@theholyrood.org | ext 232

Elaine Kindler, Faith Formation Program Administrator ekindler@theholyrood.org  $\mid$  ext 216

Lynn Anne LaDuke, Faith Formation Coordinator lynnanne@theholyrood.org | ext 240

### Office Administration

Sue Beechin, Administrative Assistant sue@theholyrood.org | ext 236

Jamie Brown, Part-time Scheduling Coordinator jbrown@theholyrood.org | ext 239

Donna Gambon, PART-TIME ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT dgambon@theholyrood.org | ext 248

Rae Russo, part-time Funeral Coordinator rae@theholyrood.org | (978) 306-5882

### **Facilities**

Dan Heider, Facilities Manager dheider@theholyrood.org | ext 213 Chris Goglia, Facilities Specialist chris@theholyrood.org | ext 233

### Bulletin, Website, Social Media

Christine Trznadel, Communications Director christine@theholyrood.org | (978) 254-4406

To promote communication and transparency throughout The Holy Rood Collaborative, you are encouraged to forward any comments and concerns you may have directly to the Parish Pastoral and Finance Councils.

# Collaborative Parish Council

Parish Council matters can be sent to: collaborativeppc@theholyrood.org

Scott Davidson (SJE) - Chair

Rob Donnelly (SM) Hilde Gilman (SMS) Beth Jacavanco (SJE) Cathy Latina (SM) Ellen St. George (SJE) Steve McMillan (SM) Lorraine Freitas (SMS) Chad Groenwoldt (SMS) Drew Jubinville (SJE) Lori McDonald (SM) Paul Sneeringer (SMS)

# St. John Finance Council

Finance matters concerning St. John can be sent to: SJ.FC@theholyrood.org

Jeff Brown - Chair

John Bagni Paul Brzezenski Celeste Dunn Grace Ann Steed

# St. Margaret Finance Council

Finance matters concerning St. Margaret can be sent to: SMS.FC@theholyrood.org

Robert Gilman - Chair

Thomas Kirwin Marc Trudel

# St. Mary Finance Council

Finance matters concerning St. Mary can be sent to: SM.FC@theholyrood.org

Lauren Desforge - Chair

Armand DiLando Ted Powers Paul Therrien Paul Rigazio

If you would like to submit a notice for the bulletin, please do so no later than 12 noon, **TWO** Fridays prior to the weekend in which you would like it published. Submittals should be emailed to christine@theholyrood.org or via US Mail to the Parish Offices at 115 Middlesex Street, North Chelmsford, MA, 01863, ATTN Christine. We will do our best to accommodate your request.

# here's what's happening in he Hol



Presented by Fr. Brian!

Final Evening... Monday, March 27
St. Mary Church at 7 pm • IN-PERSON OR LIVEVIEW

# **SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES**



The Knights of Columbus, Bishop Ruocco Council is sponsoring a \$1000 Scholarship to be awarded to a high-school, graduating senior from The Holy Rood Collaborative that will be attending an accredited

school or institution of higher education (2 or 4-year college or trade school) in the fall of 2023.

The application and directives can be found online at www.knights9275.com. Click on COUNCIL SCHOLARSHIP in the left-hand sidebar, and the document will be saved to your computer.

To be considered for this scholarship, your application package must be received by the council by April 30, 2023.

Questions? Email knights9275@gmail.com

The St. Margaret St. Vincent de Paul Society is now accepting applications for grammar and high school scholarships for the upcoming 2023/24 school year.



Students must live within St.

Margaret Parish or their family must be registered members of St. Margaret. Additionally, they must currently attend a Catholic grammar or high school.

The deadline to apply is March 31st. Please call (978) 459-0175 for more information.

# **2023 CATHOLIC HEART WORK CAMP JULY 16-21 • NORTH HALEDON, NJ**

**COST**: \$525 plus Fundraising Participation Scholarships are available contact Courtney

# REGISTRATION **DEADLINE**

NEXT SATURDAY, APRIL 1

www.theholyrood.org/catholic-heart-work-camp



JOIN US THIS SUMMER AND EXPLORE HOW WE ARE MADE FOR MORE.

Jesus came so we could have life to the fullest. Life with Him offers MORE. Because of Jesus, we can have a life of abundance. Of greatness. A life MORE fulfilling, satisfying, and remarkable than we can imagine.

A life with Christ is what we were made for.

We are God's masterpiece, created for a purpose and destiny. Scripture is filled with Him telling us of the great works we are capable of. We were created to be more than bystanders. Christ invites us into a beautiful existence of being loved by Him and calls us to share that love with others through the unique gifts He has given each of us. He fills us up so we can overflow into the lives of others.

**Join us this summer and discover MORE ways** to use your gifts, experience MORE self-love, & embrace MORE of a relationship with Jesus Christ.

MORE LOVE.

MORE SERVICE.

MORE CONNECTION.

MORE HOPE.

MORE JOY.

**MORE** FULFILLMENT.

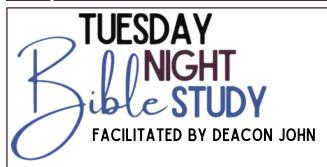
**MORE** PEACE.

WE WERE **MADE FOR MORE**.

**MORE** THAN THIS

EARTHLY WORLD ASKS OF US.

# Tood Collaborative community



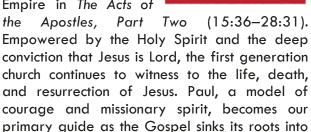
#### PART ONE:

What does it mean for a community to follow Jesus? With full benefit of the Holy Spirit, the earliest believers shaped communities of faith from Jerusalem to Rome and all points in between. The Acts of the Apostles, Part One (Acts 1:1–15:35) invites us to witness the Spirit at work as the apostles of Jesus become evangelists and pastors, as communities of believers expand to include Gentiles, and as local challenges test the staying power of the young church.

#### PART TWO:

Marvel at the spread of Christianity throughout the Roman Empire in *The Acts* of

the soil of our world.



APOSTLES

Commentary, study and reflection questions, prayers, and access to online lectures are included.

- Tuesdays, 7 9 pm... IN PERSON ONLY April 11, 18, 25 | May 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 | June 6
- St. Mary PC Conference Room 1
- Registration Deadline: Sunday, April 9
- Order Course Materials by: April 1

To register and order materials, please visit our website:

www.theholyrood.org/adult-bible-studycurrent



invites you to...

# Social Justice IMMIGRATION and RESETTLEMENT PRESENTATION

Returning after an extended break because of the pandemic, our Social Justice Committee is happy to announce their return, alongside the International Institute of New England (IINE).

### "COME AND SEE"

A Look at Immigration and Refugee Resettlement Tuesday, April 25 • 7 pm • St. Mary Parish Hall

Imagine living in a war-ravaged country where the destruction of hospitals, homes, historic landmarks, schools, and once bustling downtown centers is a daily occurrence. Or living in a country ravaged by a natural disaster or political unrest and unable to provide safety and stability for its citizens. You must leave behind the only home you have known to make a better life for you and your family. Currently, 100 million people worldwide have been forcibly displaced from their homelands—the greatest number in recent history.

The Collaborative Social Justice Committee is currently exploring ways our community can support refugees and recent immigrants. We will learn more about immigration and refugee resettlement—what it is like for those displaced people restarting their lives in our communities. Founded in 1918, the IINE is one of the regions oldest and largest non-profits serving new Americans.

If you are interested in simply learning more about these issues, interested in ways to get involved, or interested in opportunities to have a life-changing impact on a refugee family, please join us! Refreshments will be provided.

Since the passing of Sandy Donovan—a devout Catholic, dedicated parishioner of St. Mary, and founder of the



Chelmsford Food Pantry—in 2019, Linda and Bob LaPorte have stepped up to carry on her selfless work and powerful ministry. Two and a half years later, they are needing to retire and are hoping to find replacements with the time, energy, and more importantly, the passion to continue Sandy's legacy. If interested, please contact them at (978) 833-0097.

Paul Firicano, Business Manager ext 220 or pfiricano@theholyrood.org

Fiscal Year 2022: July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2023

To view this and ALL past financial reports, visit www.theholyrood.org; click on the stewardship tab

When sending in checks, please make it payable to

IMPORTANT DONATION REMINDER when sending in checks, please linke it payable to the specific parish—St. John the Evangelist, St. Margaret of Scotland or St. Mary—to which you are making your donation. As each parish maintains their own financial entity, checks made out to The Holy Rood Collaborative cannot be cashed as The Holy Rood Collaborative is NOT a financial entity.

ST. MARY WEEKLY OFFERTORY	Weekend of March 18/19	Fiscal Year-To-Date March 19	Fiscal YTD Average/Week
Offertory Required to cover Budgeted Expenses	\$15,000	\$555,000	\$15,000
Actual Received	\$13,710	\$524,471	\$14,175
Shortfall/ Overage	-\$1,290	-\$30,529	-\$825
ST. JOHN WEEKLY OFFERTORY	Weekend of March 18/19	Fiscal Year-To-Date March 19	Fiscal YTD Average/Week
Offertory Required to cover Budgeted Expenses	\$10,300	\$381,100	\$10,300
Actual Received	\$8,152	\$331,943	\$8,971
Shortfall/ Overage	-\$2,148	-\$49,1 <i>57</i>	-\$1,329
ST. MARGARET WEEKLY OFFERTORY	Weekend of March 18/19	Fiscal Year-To-Date March 19	Fiscal YTD Average/Week
Offertory Required to cover Budgeted Expenses	\$4,800	\$1 <i>77,</i> 600	\$4,800
Actual Received	\$4,527	\$162,512	\$4,392
Shortfall/ Overage	-\$273	-\$15,088	-\$408

Supporting the Catholic Appeal is the most effective way to carry out the work of the Church, both within and beyond our parish boundaries. To learn more about this year's appeal, visit https://bostoncatholicappeal.org/ then please prayerfully consider making a gift by mailing back your pledge card or making an online gift at https:// bostoncatholicappeal.org/ways-to-give/. Your gift will help put faith into action in countless and far-reaching ways.



	Goal	Pledged	%age of Goal
St. Mary	\$66,931	\$32,358	48.35%
St. John	\$44,343	\$21,460	48.40%
St. Margaret	\$29,548	\$9,853	33.35%





Visit our website and click on the WeShare logo located at the bottom of the homepage, or simply scan this QR code with your Android or iPhone.



Visit our website and click on the Online Giving logo located at the bottom of the homepage, or simply scan this QR code with your Android or iPhone.





Visit our website and click on the VANCO logo located at the bottom of the homepage, or simply scan this QR code with your Android or iPhone.



# The Elect

The last of these scrutinies will be celebrated THIS Saturday, March 25 at the St. John 4 pm Mass.

Again, please keep the Elect-Blitz, Grayson, Mary

Jane and Treasure—as well as Laurie, who is preparing to come into full communion with the Catholic Church through the Sacrament of Confirmation—in your prayers as they prepare to be welcomed fully into the Church at Easter.

### NOTE ABOUT THE EASTER VIGIL:

We are extremely grateful to announce that we will be welcoming these 5 individuals into

full communion with the Catholic Church at the Easter Vigil. As a result of this joyous occasion, the vigil will last approximately  $3\frac{1}{2}$ —4 hours. We hope you can join us, but understand if you cannot.



# Easter Youth and Children's Choir

Children and youth in grades 2-12 are invited to join in singing in the St. John Easter Youth and Children's Choir on Easter Sunday, April 9th at the 9:30 am Mass. If interested, please contact Theresa at stjohnmusic@theholyrood.org.





### UPDATED CLEANING SCHEDULE

If for one reason or another you are up and about into the later evening hours, and notice that the lights are on in any of our churches, please don't call Fr. Brian... or the police! Our cleaning company cleans our buildings after hours according to the following schedule:



St. Mary: Mondays and Thursdays St. Margaret: Tuesdays and Fridays

St. John: Tuesdays and Fridays Parish Offices: Wednesdays



answer: because their horns don't work







Jim Effner presents...

Importance of Whole Life as Part of a Retirement Plan

April 26 at 7:30 pm EST

RSVP RQUIRED... https://tinyurl.com/KofCEffnerApril26

When registering for this event, please enter 'Council 9275' so that our council will receive credit for your attendance.

Jim Effner is founder and president of P2P Group and specializes in training financial services professionals. Previously, Jim was Managing Partner of one of the largest Northwestern Mutual offices in the country. He built the Effner Group to nearly 150 full-time and college advisors, insuring over 65,000 policyholders.



We warmly welcome all new parishioners to our family!

Please complete a registration form by contacting

us in the parish office, or by clicking on Register in the Collaborative under the I Would Like To tab on the home page of our website: www.theholyrood.org.



Heather Hannaway, MA • Director of Faith Formation • hhannaway@theholyrood.org • ext 226 Courtney Callanan, MA • Assistant Director of Faith Formation • courtney@theholyrood.org • ext 227 Shaun Bradley • Faith Formation Associate • sbradley@theholyrood.org • ext 232 Elaine Kindler • Faith Formation Program Administrator • ekindler@theholyrood.org • ext 216 Lynn Anne LaDuke • Faith Formation Coordinator • lynnanne@theholyrood.org • ext 240

# MARCH CLASS SCHEDULE

# GRADE 1 SUNDAY, APRIL 2 FAMILIES GATHER TOGETHER

EASTER WEEK

9:15 - 10:45 AM St. Mary Parish Hall

# GRADE 2 SUNDAY, APRIL 2 FAMILIES GATHER TOGETHER

EASTER WEEK IN CONNECTION TO EUCHARIST

9:15 - 10:45 AM St. Mary Parish Hall

At Home: Follow Blessed First Holy Communion Parent Guide

Online: Continue watching Blessed First Holy Communion Videos

#### **CONFIRMATION I**

4:15 - 5:45 PM St. John Parish Hall

### SUNDAY, APRIL 2

Prayer:

Physical Aids for Prayer

#### SUNDAY, APRIL 30

Chosen Lesson 7 "Where am I Going?

#### **CONFIRMATION II**

4:15 - 5:45 PM St. John Parish Hall

**SUNDAY, APRIL 23** Chosen Lessons 20 & 24

# GRADES 3 - 6 SUNDAY, APRIL 23 FAMILIES GATHER TOGETHER PLEASE ATTEND YOUR SESSION

St. Mary Session A 9:15 - 10:45 AM St. Mary Parish Hall

St. Mary Session B 12:15 - 1:45 PM St. Mary Parish Hall

St. John Session A 10:45 AM - 12:15 PM St. John Parish Hall

CHILDREN will remain in the hall to learn about The Bible Today and Why it Still Matters

PARENTS will move into Discipleship Groups for an introduction to the New Testament.

### GRADES 7-8

11:15 AM - 12:45 PM St. Margaret Hall

### SUNDAY, APRIL 2

Students: Session 7 "Messianic Fulfillment"

# Parents: Third Parent Session in the Changl

in the Chapel

### SUNDAY, APRIL 30

Session 8: "The Church"

# **UPCOMING DEEP DIVES**

Each student is required to participate in 4 Deep Dive events throughout the year. To download the calendar, visit... www.theholyrood.org/calendar-schedules

For descriptions, please visit ... www.theholyrood.org/deep-dives

Family Movie Night: The Lion King Saturday, April 1 • 5—7 pm • St. John RSVP at bit.ly/3Z4DaJ7

> Palm Sunday Cantata Sunday, April 2 • 3 pm • St. John

Tenebrae Wednesday, April 5 • 7 pm • St. Margaret

Holy Thursday Mass Thursday, April 6 • 7 pm • St. Margaret

Youth-Led Stations of the Cross Friday, April 7 • 3 pm • St. John

Good Friday Passion Service Friday, April 7 • 7 pm • St. John

Easter Vigil Saturday, April 8 • 8:30 pm • St. Mary

Divine Mercy Sunday Sunday, April 16• 3 pm • St. Margaret

Faith and Fire Saturday, April 22 • 5 pm • St. John

### **APRIL FAITH IN ACTION**

## Challenge of the Month

Write a sort letter or note to someone you love or care about. Whether you drop it in the mail, hand-deliver or leave it on their pillow, it doesn't matter. Just them know that you care for them and are thankful to have them in your life. "

Grades

3-6

If it doesn't challenge you, it doesn't change you."

# Heavenly Hall of Fame St. Catherine of Sienna

Catherine was born in the late Middle Ages, a time of great change in the world and the Church. The bubonic plague, a deadly and contagious disease, spread across Europe and killed one third of the population. When she was very young, Catherine began to find quiet places where she could pray and talk to God. Catherine wrote letters to all kinds of people, from the poorest in the land to the richest. It was considered a miracle that Catherine was able to write well because she never attended school. Catherine encouraged people to live in peace. She wrote that no matter where people lived or who they were, they should realize that all their talents and everything they have is from God. She is the patron saint of nurses and many other causes. She was declared a doctor of the Church by Pope Paul VI in 1970.

# Devotion of the Month

### Prayer to the Holy Spirit

Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful.
And kindle in them the fire of your love.
Send forth your Spirit and they shall be created.
And you will renew the face of the earth.

Lord, by the light of the Holy Spirit you have taught the hearts of your faithful. In the same Spirit help us to relish what is right and always rejoice in your consolation.

We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

# Bible Story The Story of Pentecost [Acts 2]

The day the Church was born- the birthday of the Church! Jesus sent the Holy Spirit to equip each believer, to work and spread his message of love, mercy, and peace.

The Dove is the traditional symbol of the Holy Spirit

www.openbible.info/labs/kids-bible-stories/

# 2023/24 FAITH FORMATION REGISTRATION OPENS NEXT WEEKEND, APRIL 2

# **BUT PLEASE...**

# CREATE YOUR MOC ACCOUNT NOW IF YOU DON'T HAVE ONE ALREADY!

- You will NEED a My Own Church account in order to register.
- If you do NOT have one, please create one BEFORE next weekend by visiting us at: https://theholyrood.org/create-moc-account
- By setting up your account now, you will be all 'ready to go' when registration opens NEXT weekend!

# RECISTER ON APPRIL 2

AND BE ENTERED TO WIN AN ADULT EASTER BASKET VALUED AT \$100+

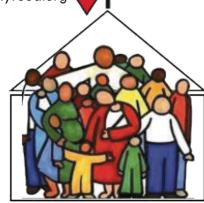


# **QUESTIONS?**

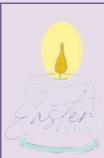
For St. John & St. Margaret contact... Lynn Anne LaDuke at lynnanne@theholyrood.org

For St. Mary, contact... Elaine Kindler at ekindler@theholyrood.org

Uniting the Neart of the Church with the Neart of the Nome.







# A NOTE FROM FR. BRIAN ABOUT THE EASTER VIGIL

I know there are questions about the late start of the Easter Vigil as compared to both Holy Thursday and Good Friday. In answer, it is because the Church calls for us to start

the Easter Vigil one hour after sunset. The reason for this seemingly random rule is the actual nature of this particular celebration and the meaning of what we are celebrating.

Here's a little history lesson: In the ancient Church, this celebration would actually start at midnight and continue until sunrise, at which point the Liturgy of the Eucharist would be celebrated. The service started in the dark as a sign of the world being in darkness without Christ. In contrast, the dawning light was a sign of the power of the resurrection to overcome the darkness of night and the triumph of Christ.

Today we continue this theological tradition by beginning in complete darkness with the same understanding. We begin the Vigil outside the Church with the blessing of the Easter Fire, signifying the Light of Christ piercing the darkness and overcoming the power of sin. The Easter Candle is then carried into the dark provides lighting church and individual candles, clearly illustrating the spreading of the Light of Christ, which overcomes the power of sin as the light continues to grow. We then sing the Exsultet: a hymn of praise to God and Christ for his saving actions. In a real sense, this hymn is sung to the Easter Candle as it symbolizes Christ. It makes clear Christ's presence through his light shining as pillar before us.

As a result of welcoming 5 individuals into full communion with the Catholic Church at the Easter Vigil, the Vigil will be longer than a typical weekend liturgy. Please join us for this wonderful celebration... especially if you have not done so before!

# SOUP AND STATIONS OF THE CROSS



St. Mary • March 31
Soup at 6 pm; Stations at 7 pm

# LENTEN CONFESSION SCHEDULE

in addition to our regular confession schedule...

<u>The Light is on For You: Wednesday Evenings</u> 6:30 - 8:00 pm at all three churches • March 29/ April 5

# PALM SUNDAY CANTATA

3 pm • Sunday, April 2 • St. John Church Join us afterwards for refreshments and fellowship.

# TENEBRAE A SERVICE OF SHADOWS

7 pm • Wednesday, April 5 • St. Margaret Church



# HOLY THURSDAY APRIL 6 AT ST. MARGARET

Morning Prayer • 9 am
Mass of the Lord's Supper • 7 pm
Solemn Reservation and Adoration until Midnight

# GOOD FRIDAY APRIL 7 AT ST. JOHN

Morning Prayer • 9 am
Youth-Led Stations of the Cross • 3 pm
Passion of Our Lord • 7 pm

# HOLY SATURDAY APRIL 8 AT ST. MARY

Morning Prayer • 9 am Easter Vigil • 8:30 pm

# EASTER SUNDAY APRIL 9

St. Mary: 7 & 11 am

St. John: 9:30 am & 12 noon (African Liturgy)

St. Margaret: 7:30 and 10 am

# God's Call on Your Life

UNDERSTANDING The idea of vocation is central to the Christian belief that God has created each person with gifts and talents oriented toward specific

purposes and a way of life. It is defined as a call from God to a distinctive state of life, in which the person can reach holiness. God calls us through Baptism and Confirmation to serve Him in a specific way of life... single person, married person, ordained priest or a vowed religious. The process of determining God's call for our lives is known as discernment, and the best way to discern our vocation is through prayer.

### PRAYER TO KNOW ONE'S VOCATION

Lord, my God and my loving Father, You have made me to know You, to love You, to serve You, and thereby to find and to fulfill my deepest longings. I know that You are in all things, and that every path can lead me to You.

But of them all, there is one especially by which You want me to come to You. Since I will do what You want of me, I pray You send Your Holy Spirit to me: into my mind, to show me what You want of me; into my heart, to give me the determination to do it, and to do it with all my love, with all my mind, and with all of my strength right to the end. Jesus, I trust in You. Amen.

[prayer source: USSCB]

# Clothing Collection T T 👚 📤



# to Benefit the Epilepsy Foundation and BSA Troop 77 Chelmsford

When: Now thru April 15th

**What:** We are collecting used clothing, shoes, and linens

(towels, sheets, curtains, etc.)

Where: Drop off in bins are located at:

**Drum Hill Storage Solutions** 59 Parkhurst Road, Chelmsford Monday - Friday / 8:30 am - 5 pm Saturday / 8 am - 3 pm Sunday / 9 am - 1 pm

St. Mary Parish Hall Wednesday Nights / 7:00 - 8:30 pm

Thank you for supporting this worthy cause!

Questions? Please contact Liz Tighe Troop 77 Fundraising Coordinator at (978) 606 3732

# \*\*important notice\*\*

FOR CURRENT PGC FACILITATORS AND THOSE WHO WISH TO BECOME ONE!



If you are a current facilitator of Protecting God's Children workshops, please be advised that previous versions of PGC can NOT BE used after June 30, 2023.

This means that all current PCG Facilitators MUST undergo training in the newest version, PGC 4.0. Below you will find dates of the ONLY remaining training and launch events. NOTE that these sessions are in-person ONLY. If you do not attend one of these training sessions, you will no longer be allowed to facilitate.

### March 29 & 30 | 1 – 5 pm

RCAB Pastoral Center | 66 Brooks Drive | Braintree

### April 15 | 9 am - 5 pm \*

St John the Evangelist | 20 Church Street | Hopkinton,

### April 24 & 25 | 6 - 10 pm

RCAB Pastoral Center | 66 Brooks Drive | Braintree

### May 6 | 8:30 am - 4 pm \*

St Augustine Parish | 43 Essex Street | Andover

### May 20 | 9 am - 5 pm \*

Holy Family Parish | 601 Tremont St | Duxbury

### June 10 | 8:30 am - 4 pm \*

St Joseph Parish | 173 Albion Street | Wakefield

### June 24 | 8:30 am – 4:30 pm

RCAB Pastoral Center | 66 Brooks Drive | Braintree

\*Mass to follow

### **HOW DO YOU REGISTER?**

- Log into/create your account by visiting http://www.virtusonline.org/virtus/
- In the box entitled "Current Training," click the "Register for Training" link.
- Choose the "Protecting God's Children for Facilitators 4.0" training that meets your schedule



In my sophomore year of high school, I remember my mom telling me that I would be the tallest person in my family. I told her that I thought she was nuts. I was about 5'5" and had not put on any height in the last few

years. I was one of the shortest boys in my class, and I thought at that point I was done growing. My mom assured me that this was not true. Not really sure why she thought this, but it turned out that she was right. During my junior and senior years, I grew six inches and then almost another two inches in my freshman year of college. At that point I was the tallest person in my family. My mom saw something in me that I didn't.

We often see ourselves in a particular way and understand our life through a lens of our own design. We work hard at trying to define for ourselves the person we think we can and should be. We can look in a "mirror" that often distorts the truth about our real selves. It's much like being in a fun house at a carnival: they will have mirrors that are convex and concave which make us look shorter, taller, fatter, or thinner. The mirrors we make for ourselves are like that—always either convex or concave so that we never really see our true selves.

Lent is about helping us find the true mirror. It is not one that we can make; rather, it is the mirror God has made for us. The world wants us to make our own mirror. The world believes we must self-determine our own identity. We are masters of our truth and no one has the right to tell us we are wrong. We are autonomous individuals who have the capacity to mold ourselves into any shape that we want. If someone disagrees with us, they are simply haters and, of course, have some level of prejudice against our way of seeing ourselves and the world. The way of the world perpetuates the sin of Adam and Eve. The snake said to Eve: "You certainly will not die! God knows well that when you eat of the tree, your eyes will be opened and you will be like gods who know good and evil." At that moment their eyes were opened and they saw themselves differently than before.

While they followed God's plan for them they were naked, but it was not a problem. They saw the beauty of their bodies and the holiness of what God had created, and it was good. But when they chose to create the world in *their* image and redefine themselves, the world changed for them. They now felt shame in being naked. Their bodies were no longer something pure, beautiful, and holy, but

something to hide. They even tried to hide themselves from God: they no longer wanted to be seen by God. They also had to change their impression of how the world would be useful to them. Before the fall, they walked freely and joyfully. But now that they created their own sense of the world, they became fearful and wanted only to hide. The more we try to create our own mirror and determine what we should see, the more we hide ourselves from God and the person He created us to be

The way of discipleship, or in other words the way of following Christ, is only discovered when we are willing to give up control. We must be willing to truly speak the words of Christ: "Not my will but your will be done." Or, the words of Mary: "I am the handmaid of the Lord. Let it be done to me in accord with your word." Adam and Eve refused to humble themselves before God and that was their downfall. It is only through humility that we can discover that person we were created to be. It is only when we seek God's will for us that we begin to understand the truth of who we are.

We are now living in a period of history where more and more people are rejecting the idea of religion. They will often say that they are spiritual but not religious. They do not need to have a religion to get close to God. They can do it on their own. But the problem with this kind of thinking is that once again it is about the individual defining for themselves who they are. The reality is that we are made in the image and likeness of God, and God, by his very nature as Trinity, is communal. Then, we must also be communal in our approach to ourselves, life, and God.

God knows what is best for us and how we can find the path to our true selves and to Him. We do not get to determine this for ourselves. We must use the same path that Christ did as He discovered what it meant for Him to be the Messiah. He used prayer, scripture, and the faith of his fathers—what today we call religion. If this process was good enough for Christ, it should be good enough for us.

If you have any questions about anything, please do not hesitate to ask me directly, send your questions to me at fr.brian@theholyrood.org, or call me at (978) 254-0560.

Please keep me in your prayers.

The Paris

# From our Director of Faith Formation

Heather Hannaway

### The Scrutinies

On the Third, Fourth, and Fifth Sundays of Lent Catholic parishes, who are preparing adults and children to be baptized at the Easter Vigil, celebrate what are called the "Scrutinies." These rites are celebrated at liturgies attended by the Elect—those who are preparing for Baptism, Eucharist, and Confirmation through the Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA).

The Scrutinies can be a wonderful way to reflect upon the journey the Elect are making during Lent and an inspiration for us to consider our own Lenten journey. The Scrutinies are ancient and profoundly rooted in our human experience. We need to examine, or scrutinize, how we are living our lives, the ways we can improve our behaviors, and to ask for the healing and strength that comes from the support of our sisters and brothers as we continue to undergo conversion. There are special gospel readings for each of the three Scrutinies that reflect what is taking place. The story of the Samaritan Woman, for looking at how we live our lives. The story of the Man Born Blind, for the ways we can improve our lives. And the story of Lazarus, for asking to be unbound from the things that are keeping us from God, with the help of our sisters and brothers.

Our religious understanding of conversion comes from the Greek word metanoia. In ancient Greece, metanoia meant "the shifting of minds" and referred to the way a person or group of people arrived at a new way of looking at a situation or a new understanding of an issue. Conversion can be thought of as a transformation of who we are and the way we see the world. Normally, it is a long process that takes time and is marked by a few momentous occasions and critical decisions. Conversion is a change of course or direction. It is as if our eyes are opened and our old-world fades and falls away. What emerges is a new person, a new life. The conversion of our hearts will rarely take place effectively in a day or in a moment. The conversion of heart takes place little by little. We consciously allow the Holy Spirit to take control and, as we do, we grow in holiness. Conversion must be ongoing to enable the soul to progress to that place prepared for it by God.

As we join the Elect, in prayer if not in person, as they experience the Scrutinies, let us recognize and celebrate God's good work begun in the Elect and carried on in us.

Lord,

I do desire to become holy. I desire to be transformed little by little every day. Help me to allow You to change me every moment of my life so that I can continually walk the path You have laid out for me.

# From our Sr. Priest in Residence

Fr. Arnold Colletti

### A Philosophy of Life

"Everything can be taken from a man but one thing-the last of the human freedoms: to choose one's attitude in any given set of circumstances, to choose one's own way." Viktor Frankel, in his book Man's Search for Meaning, wrote a meditation on what the gruesome experience of Auschwitz taught him about the primary purpose of life, the quest for meaning, which sustained those who survived. For Frankel, meaning came from three possible sources, purposeful work, love, and courage in the face of difficulty. Frankel himself survived the prison camp because he had a purpose he wanted to publish his book.

Everyone has a philosophy of life, whether they know it or not. It is a set of beliefs, values, and principles that guide an individual's behavior. It encompasses everything about how a person views the world, himself and others.

Christ had a philosophy of life:

"I must be about my Father's business."

### Saint Paul had a philosophy of life:

"I can do all things in Him who strengthens me."

### Oscar Wilde:

"Be yourself; everyone else is already taken."

### **Ernest Hemingway:**

"The best way to find out if you can trust somebody is to trust them."

#### Mae West:

"You only live once, but if you do it right once is enough."

#### Gandhi:

"Be the change you want to see in the world."

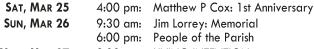
### My philosophy of life is:

"If I walk into loneliness I find myself; if I walk into silence I find God."

What is your philosophy of life?

# Mass Intentions

# St. John the Evangelist



MON, MAR 27 9:00 am: LIVING INTENTION:

Healing and Strength for Kevin and Maureen Bailey

TUE, MAR 28 9:00 am: Carol O'Shea: Memorial WED, MAR 29 9:00 am: LIVING INTENTION:

Healing and Strength for Lorraine Growney

THU, MAR 30 9:00 am: Susan Much: Memorial

FRI, MAR 31 9:00 am: LIVING INTENTION: Special Intention

SAT, APR 1 4:00 pm: Fran Hassett: Memorial Margaret M Locke: Memorial Powell Family: Memorial

Antonio Santos: 6th Anniversary Josephine Skamarycz: Memorial

**SUN, APR 2** 9:30 am: Edward Clancy: Memorial

James Kenrick: Memorial Walter John Lisien: Memorial Marie O'Connell: Memorial Mauricio Valencia: Memorial

6:00 pm: People of the Parish

# St. Margaret of Scotland

SAT, MAR 25 4:00 pm: Irene King: 4th Anniversary
7:30 am: People of the Parish

10:00 am: Leo Carbonneau Sr: 15th Anniversary

WED, MAR 29
THU, MAR 30
8:00 am: Linda Mattsen: Memorial
8:00 am: Marilyn Leahy Gill: Memorial
8:00 am: Ruth O'Donnell: 7th Anniversary
4:00 pm: Deacon Bernard Phaneuf: Memorial
Jean Krystof: Memorial

Carol A McCarthy: Memorial
Dan and Grace Moynihan: Memorial

SUN, APR 2 7:30 am: People of the Parish 10:00 am: Frank LaPan: Memorial

Deceased Members of the Nangle Family

# St. Mary Parish

TUE, MAR 28

SAT, MAR 25 4:00 pm: Mildred J LaRock: 6th Anniversary

**SUN, MAR 26** 7:00 am: People of the Parish

11:00 am: Robert Gosselin: 4th Anniversary
7:00 am: Frances E Murphy: Birthday Memorial

WED, MAR 29 7:00 am: Deceased Members of the Albin A Hastbacka Family

SAT, APR 1 4:00 pm: Mary Conti: 4th Anniversary

Barry Crafts: 2nd Anniversary Helen Crafts: 10th Anniversary Ann L Knower: 3rd Anniversary Priscilla M Quinn: 5th Anniversary

**SUN, APR 2** 7:00 am: People of the Parish

11:00 am: Judith Delaney: Memorial

Louise LaChance: Memorial O'Neil LeBlanc: Memorial Alice Martin: 1st Anniversary Helen O'Connor: Memorial Thomas J O'Connor: Memorial Leonard R Richards: 1st Anniversary For details on all available ways to remember a loved one, visit us at

www.theholyrood.org/ remember-a- loved-one

NOTE: Flowers are not permitted to be displayed during Lenten Season



# Lamps

Each of our churches offers the opportunity to have the sanctuary lamps burn In Memory of a loved one.

St. Margaret also has two additional lamps—the Blessed Mother Lamp (found to the left of the altar) and the Sacred Heart Lamp (found to the right of the altar). The stipend for any of these lamps is \$25, and your dedication will be published in the bulletin.

# St. Margaret Bells

The steeple bells at St. Margaret toll daily at 12 and 6pm, followed by the ringing of the Angelus bell and 2 hymns. At 3pm, they play 2 hymns, and 15 minutes prior to each weekend Mass, the bells



toll a 'call to worship.' If you would like to dedicate the Ringing of the Bells In Memory/In Honor of someone, please contact the parish offices. The \$25 stipend includes your dedication published in the bulletin.

In Memory of John Abraham, Jr.

# Recent Funerals

May the souls of the faithful departed,

through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.

#### Irene DeLorme

Monday, March 20 • St. Mary

#### Judith Monahan

Monday, March 20 • St. Margaret

### **Nancy Picanso**

Monday, March 20 • St. Margaret

### Frederick Hannagan, Jr

Tuesday, March 21 • St. Mary

### Daniel Keaney

Wednesday, March 22 • St. John

### Lesley Sullivan

Wednesday, March 22 • St. Mary

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Stanley J. Wolnik

Communicant of St. Mary Church Scan to read Stanley's obituary.







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