



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



June 4, 2023

Most Holy Trinity

God so loved the world that He gave His only son, so that everyone who believes in him might not perish but might have eternal life.

-John 3:16



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 • 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
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, June 5

Chaplet of Divine Mercy • 3 pm • SJE Church and LIVEVIEW
 Confession • 4:30 - 5:30 pm • SJE Church
 Rosary • 7 pm • SM Church and LIVEVIEW
 SJE SVdP Meeting • 7 - 8:30 pm • SJE OPC

Tuesday, June 6

Chaplet of Divine Mercy • 3 pm • SJE Church and LIVEVIEW
 Confession • 4:30 - 5:30 pm • SMS Church
 Bible Study • 7 - 9 pm • SM PC Conf Room 1
 Rosary • 7 pm • SM Church and LIVEVIEW
 SMS Choir Practice • 7 - 8:45 pm • SMS Choir Loft

Wednesday, June 7

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
 SM Youth Music Ministry Rehearsal • 4:45 - 5:45 pm • SM Hall
 Faith Community Nursing Meeting • 6 - 7:45 pm • SJE Mariotti
 God, Pizza, Beer • 7 - 8:30 pm • SJE OPC
 Rosary • 7 pm • SM Church and LIVEVIEW

Thursday, June 8

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
 Women's ACTS Meeting • 6:45 - 8:45 pm • SJE OPC
 Rosary • 7 pm • SM Church and LIVEVIEW
 SM 11 am Choir Rehearsal • 7:30 - 8:30 pm • SM Church

Friday, June 9

Knitting and Crocheting • 3 - 5 pm • SM Hall
 Chaplet of Divine Mercy • 3 pm • SJE Church and LIVEVIEW
 Rosary • 7 pm • SM Church and LIVEVIEW

Saturday, June 10

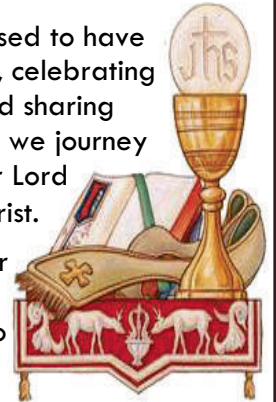
Saturday Men • 7 - 8:45 am • SJE NPC Linehan
 CHWC Car Wash Fundraiser • 9 am - 2 pm • SM Side Parking Lot
 Confessions • refer to cover
 St. Mary Bell Choir Rehearsal • 2:30 - 3:30 pm • SM Choir Loft
 Hawaiian Delight Dinner • 5:15 - 7 pm • SMS Sacred Heart Hall

Congratulations

Join us in congratulating Fr. Ray as he celebrates 34 years of priestly ministry on June 3!

We are so very blessed to have him in our community, celebrating the liturgy with us and sharing his wisdom with us as we journey together towards our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

Thank you Fr. Ray for your dedication to our community and to all God's people.



Not getting FLOCKNOTES?

Subscribe today so you can stay informed!

- Email christine@theholyrood.org.
- Type **FLOCKNOTE** in the subject line.
- Include your First Name, Last Name and Parish you are registered in within the body of the email.

Weekend Mass Attendance

Weekend Of May 27/28

St. Mary		
4 pm	7 am	11 am
151	102	158

St. Margaret of Scotland		
4 pm	7:30 am	10 am
85	52	185

St. John the Evangelist		
4 pm	9:30 am	6 pm
138	226	126



What do you call a bee that can't make up its mind?

(answer on page 6)

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 Patrick Alemayo, PAROCHIAL VICAR
fr.patrickalemayo@theholyrood.org | (978) 451-6767

Reverend Arnold F. Colletti, SR. PRIEST IN RESIDENCE
frcolletti@theholyrood.org | ext 116

Reverend Raymond Benoit, SR. PRIEST IN RESIDENCE
fray@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 | ext 220

Tina Sousa, FINANCE COORDINATOR
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 | 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.

Each parish in the Archdiocese of Boston is required to have a parish pastoral council.

The PPC's role is to assist the pastor in his leadership role of planning, organizing, initiating, promoting, coordinating and reviewing the evangelization, worship, religious education and service activities within the parish.

Collaborative Parish Council

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

Scott Davidson (SJE) - Chair

Rob Donnelly (SM)

Hilde Gilman (SMS)

Beth Jacavano (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

Celeste Dunn

Paul Brzezinski

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

Betty McKiernan

St. Mary Finance Council

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

Lauren Desforge - Chair

Armand DiLando

Paul Therrien

Ted Powers

Paul Rigazio

here's what's happening in The Holy

DO YOU REQUIRE THE USE OF OUR FACILITIES?

If you require the use of facility space at any time from July 1 2023 through June 30 2024, you can now begin submitting reservation requests at...

www.theholyrood.org/reserve-a-room.

The entire 'how-to' process is outlined on this webpage, so in order to minimize questions that would potentially cause a delay in the processing of your request, we suggest that you familiarize yourself with this information before completing and submitting the form.

All requests will be considered on a first-come/first-served basis and processed **ONLY AFTER** the staff meets in early June to finalize the parish event calendar.

For those who do not have access to a computer, please contact Jamie at (978) 256-2374, ext 239.

Again, we ask **those who do have access to a computer, to please complete their requests on line**, as this is the most efficient way to book your space.

PROTECTION GOD'S CHILDREN WORKSHOP

The Archdiocese of Boston requires ALL volunteers and employees aged 18 and over, regardless of the ministry in which they volunteer, to attend and complete a one-time "VIRTUS-Protecting God's Children" workshop. In order to assist our volunteers in fulfilling this requirement, we have scheduled two workshops here in the Collaborative:

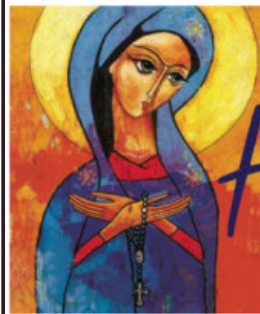
Saturday, June 24

9 am – 12 pm • St. Mary Parish Hall

Tuesday, June 27

6 – 9 pm • St. Mary Parish Hall

REGISTER BY JUNE 20TH!



Sixth Annual

Hail Mary challenge

Monday, May 1 - Tuesday, October 31, 2023

Report your Hail Mary Counts—weekly or monthly—via email to psidari@ymail.com or call into Christine at (978) 254-4406.

MAY 22– 28	TOTAL-TO-DATE	%AGE OF GOAL
36,070	104,284	10.43%

If you haven't already, please complete a registration form by contacting us in the parish office, or by visiting us at...



www.theholyrood.org/register-in-the-collaborative

CORI FORM WEEKENDS

It's That Time of the Year Again!

As you may remember, ALL volunteers 18 years or older are required to complete a CORI form on an annual basis. To make it easier for you, we have set up three CORI weekends, where someone will be available after Masses to receive your form.

- **THIS WEEKEND... June 3rd/4th: St. Mary Hall**
- June 10th/11th: St. John the Evangelist Mariotti Room
- June 17th/18th: St. Margaret of Scotland Sacred Heart Hall

Note that you can print the form ahead of time by visiting www.theholyrood.org/protecting-gods-children. **Please remember to not sign upon downloading**, as your signature requires the presence of a parish staff member to serve as your witness.

If none of these dates work for you, please know that you can stop by the parish offices during regular office hours and a staff member will be able to assist you.

Rood Collaborative community

CURRENT AND NEW ALTAR SERVER TRAINING



The actions of the Altar Server in the Mass are symbolic of much more than you think, and the way they serve can lead people closer to God!

Fr. Fernando will be hosting 9 Altar Server Training Sessions for both CURRENT Altar Servers and those who would like to BECOME an Altar Server. **Both CURRENT and NEW Altar Servers MUST ATTEND THREE of these trainings!** Each training will cover the same content, thereby allowing date and time opportunities that give options to fit into the many different schedules of our families. Simply put... this means one can attend any of the individual training sessions at ANY of the churches, all long as a total of three are attended.

- Friday, June 9 • 4:30 pm • St. John the Evangelist
- Saturday, June 10 • 12 pm • St. Margaret of Scotland
- Sunday, June 11 • 12 pm • St. Mary Church
- Friday, June 16 • 4:30 pm • St. John the Evangelist
- Saturday, June 17 • 11 am • St. Margaret of Scotland
- Friday, June 23 • 4:30 pm • St. John the Evangelist
- Sunday June 25 • 12 pm • St. Mary Church

To sign up for training, please visit...

<https://theholyrood.org/be-an-altar-server>

Catholic Heart Work Camp Car Wash Fundraiser!



\$10 per car

Saturday, June 10 • 9 am - 2 pm
St. Mary Parish Center Parking Lot

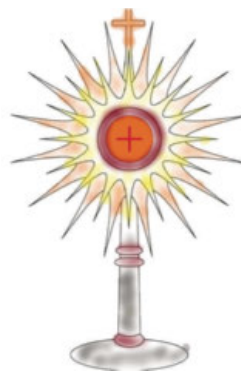
*between Parish Center and St. Mary Church Main Parking Lot
...just follow the signs!*

HOLY HOUR

NEXT Sunday, June 11: Feast of Corpus Christi
3:30 - 4:30 pm at St. Mary Church

Fr. Colletti has a habit of making off-handed statements during his homilies that stick with me. I recall one homily when he said, "if Catholics really believed in the presence of Christ in the Eucharist, they'd be lined up around the block every Sunday." And he's right. The Eucharist is a gift from God to the Church; the True Presence of Christ, shared with us every Sunday. Why aren't Catholics lined up around the block?

A couple weeks ago, I was doing some reading about Corpus Christi celebrations around the world and I read about processions of the Eucharist displayed in a monstrance, sometimes miles long, followed by Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament. Wow, that sounds amazing! I was excited by the idea, but didn't think we could do it justice with the short time we have for planning it. Still, I wanted to find a way to celebrate Corpus Christi and I thought of how moving my recent experiences have been in Eucharistic Adoration, so I suggested to Fr. Brian that we hold a Holy Hour. Fr. Fernando, who told me he misses the Corpus Christi processions in his home country of El Salvador, graciously agreed to be the celebrant.



I'd like to invite all of you to join Fr. Fernando and I at a Holy Hour on the Feast of Corpus Christi; the day the Church sets aside to celebrate the True Presence of Christ.

Fr. Fernando will lead us in prayer, I will be there to sing songs with you, and together we can all celebrate the Eucharist as a community. You can bring your Bible and your Rosary in case inspiration strikes, or just bring yourself to spend an hour in the True Presence of Christ. I hope you'll join us.

- Mike Stack
St. Mary Music Director



The purpose of The Holy Rood Collaborative Emergency Management Planning Committee is to create documented plans for **ANY** emergency that may happen on any of our properties, and more importantly, for the execution of those plans. For instance; what steps to take during a Power Outage, Blizzard, Hurricane, Lightning Strike or Medical Emergency, many of the issues we have previously experienced in our parishes.

They are also preparing for the improved security of all our buildings—inside and out—for staff, and for all of you—the parishioners—as well as for the many events that take place in all ten buildings of our Collaborative.

The Committee consists of two (2) representatives from each parish and three (3) individuals who serve in the role of communication liaisons.

St. Margaret of Scotland Representatives

Chad Groenwoldt and Patricia Strizak

St. John the Evangelist Representatives

Mary Drew and Drew Jubinville

St. Mary Representatives

Jim Potter and Sue Potter

Communications Liaisons

Sr. Lori Fleming: THR Staff Member

Chris Goglia: THR Staff Member

Jeanne Paolilli: SM Parish Member

Accomplishments over the last 12 months:

- Obtained a grant for the purchase of eight (8) additional AED's to supplement the current three (3)
- Obtained a grant for door security for all ten (10) buildings, including badge readers and computer server mainframe
- CPR/AED and First Aid certification classes offered to parish staff and volunteers
- Created Standard Incident Reports at all parishes

Next Weekend, we will be hearing from one of these committee members as they formally introduce their committee and further explain the role in which they will be serving our community. May we warmly welcome them and express our gratitude for their very important work on our behalf.

Should you have any questions or concerns, please contact Patricia Strizak, Chair of the Emergency Management Planning Committee via email at pstrizak@theholyrood.org.

BAPTISM

We joyfully welcome the following children into our collaborative family.

May the Lord continue to bless these children and their parents and fill their homes with the light of faith.

BAPTIZED AT ST. MARY

Nash Warren Ames
Henry Robert Asiello
Samson Francis Daigle
Casimiro Rock DeMoura
Theodore David DeMoura
Jackson Ryan Gray
Thomas Matthew Keeley
Sophia Rose Rego



BAPTIZED AT ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST

John-Sylvanus Ofosu Boateng
Noah Berardi Gazola
Jayleigh Annalise Queenan
Oliver Michael Queenan

BAPTIZED AT ST. MARGARET OF SCOTLAND

Emilio Manuel Arteaga
Carson Jack DaSilva
Patrick Tochukwu Schmidt
Anita Claire Szerszunowicz
Ava Elizabeth Szerszunowicz



STRESS IN YOUR MARRIAGE?

Retrouvaille is a program for married couples who want better marriages. Most don't know how to change the situation or even communicate with their spouse about it. If you feel bored, lonely, frustrated, or angry in your marriage, we can help. This program has helped thousands of couples experiencing marital difficulty at all levels including disillusionment and deep misery.

For information visit www.HelpOurMarriage.org or call 800-470-2230 or email us at NewEngland@helpourmarriage.org.



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the Financial Page

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

ST. MARY WEEKLY OFFERTORY	Weekend of May 27/28	Fiscal Year-To-Date May 28	Fiscal YTD Average/Week
Offertory Required to cover Budgeted Expenses	\$15,000	\$690,000	\$15,000
Actual Received	\$11,638	\$652,718	\$14,190
Shortfall/ Overage	-\$3,362	-\$37,282	-\$810

ST. JOHN WEEKLY OFFERTORY	Weekend of May 27/28	Fiscal Year-To-Date May 28	Fiscal YTD Average/Week
Offertory Required to cover Budgeted Expenses	\$10,300	\$473,800	\$10,300
Actual Received	\$6,432	\$417,372	\$9,073
Shortfall/ Overage	-\$3,868	-\$56,428	-\$1,227

ST. MARGARET WEEKLY OFFERTORY	Weekend of May 27/28	Fiscal Year-To-Date May 28	Fiscal YTD Average/Week
Offertory Required to cover Budgeted Expenses	\$4,800	\$220,800	\$4,800
Actual Received	\$3,864	\$202,893	\$4,411
Shortfall/ Overage	-\$936	-\$17,907	-\$389

ST. MARY/ ST JOHN SVDP COLLECTION	St. Mary: \$5,627	St. John: \$2,691
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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.

Faith into Action
CATHOLIC APPEAL AS OF MAY 30

	Goal	Pledged	%age of Goal
St. Mary	\$66,931	\$60,695	90.68%
St. John	\$44,343	\$52,998	119.52%
St. Margaret	\$29,548	\$33,399	113.03%

The Grand Annual Campaign at each of our parishes is an important part of our fiscal year 2023 operating budgets. We ask anyone who has not had a chance to donate, please consider doing so. Please visit our website at the link below for updates on how the collection is progressing, summaries on how the funds collected will be used, and to donate using Online Giving as an easy and convenient option.

<https://theholyrood.org/grand-annual-campaign-2023>

FY 2023 GRAND ANNUAL: AS OF MAY 28			
	Goal	Raised	%age of Goal
St. Mary	\$100,000	\$82,285	82.29%
St. John	\$70,000	\$57,136	81.62%
St. Margaret	\$65,000	\$61,687	94.90%



Saints be to God presents...

The Divine Physician

Relics of Jesus and His Saints

Over 100 Relics including...

Veil of Mary	St Vincent de Paul	St Therese Lisieux
True Cross	St Martha, Friend of Jesus	St Lazarus, Friend of Jesus
St John the Evangelist	St John the Baptist	St Peter, Apostle
Title from the Cross	St Pope John Paul II	St Joseph, Blessed Spouse
St Mary Magdalene	Table of the Last Supper	St Thomas, Apostle

Friday, June 16 • 7–9 pm St. John Church

Relic Presentation and Veneration • Intercessory Prayers with the Saints

Everyone in the crowd sought to touch Him because the power came forth from Him and healed them all. –Luke 6:19



** UPDATE **

I apologize if some of this letter is redundant, however, we would like to reach out to our wide network of kind and concerned friends in order not to leave anyone out from this endeavor. We know many people would like to help, if only they were informed!

We have been in contact with this family since March, getting to know them, their experiences and their needs, introducing them to details of our lives here, filing paperwork, and preparing for their arrival -- by improving a private area of our house, and building networks to assist with needs. We didn't do this alone. Many friends have volunteered their skills and experience to help us, and many others also donated both materials and funds for the family's initial transition here.

After a lot of preparation, the family is arriving this week: on Thursday, June 1st. As you can imagine we are both excited and anxious about the many unknowns. However, in every step of the way, small moments have confirmed to us again and again of God's Providence and guidance in this endeavor. We honestly feel very grateful for having this Ukrainian family in our lives -- at this point, they may be edifying and enriching us more than we are them! But that is the beautiful thing about reciprocity in supporting others: it's never a one-way street. Mother Teresa put the relationship this way: "Charity isn't about pity; it's about love."

Again, we invite you to be involved. Here are some ways that you can help:

1. Prayer! No matter what good we hope to do, nothing of lasting value can be achieved without prayer. You can help a lot by keeping us all lifted up daily in prayer. Thank you!!
2. Reach out to Marianne if you have other skills that could be useful. For example, if you have pandemic experience working over Zoom, you can still help if you are a teacher of ESOL or have expertise in Immigration Law.
3. Please consider donating to the funds for this family. We are not asking for large donations. Instead, we are asking for a large network of supporters to each give something manageable, such as \$20 per month. You can read more and donate here:

<https://www.gofundme.com/f/help-for-ukrainian-family-in-billerica>

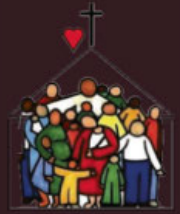
Share this news! As two natural introverts, Steve and I are sure that our friends can create a larger ripple-effect than we ever could by ourselves :) This GoFundMe is public, and you are more than welcome to share it with your network.

Thank you for reading all the way to the end! Whether you can or can't be involved, please know how grateful we are for your friendship in our lives. Don't be a stranger, we love you! :)

With gratitude,
Marianne and Steve Hudelson

Family Faith Formation

Uniting the Heart of the Church with the Heart of the Home



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 • lynanne@theholyrood.org • ext 240

As of June 1, Registration Fees are as follows...

\$175* for 1 child/ \$260* for 2 children/ \$290* for 3 or more children

**Please add \$50 to First Eucharist, Confirmation I and Confirmation II registrations.*

When registering, please remember that Sacramental years—First Eucharist and Confirmation—are 2-year programs, regardless of your child's grade in either public or Catholic school.

Please do not delay in registration due to finances. No deposit required
- Payment plans can **always** be arranged, and financial aid **may** be available



scan the qr code or visit us at... www.holyrood.org/faith-formation-registration

Might you Consider Being a Tuition Angel?

Tuition Angels are those generous individuals who make our Scholarship Fund possible... the fund that is used to assist in the covering of registration costs for those families who are not in the position to do so on their own. Please make checks payable to the parish in which you wish to donate and note SCHOLARSHIP FUND on the memo line. You can either drop off your donation

in person to the parish offices or into any of our secure black drop boxes, or you may mail it to the parish offices, ATTN: FAITH FORMATION SCHOLARSHIP FUND. Thank you!



Our program is successful in large part because of volunteers! Please consider becoming a parent mentor or table facilitator. To learn more, visit us at...

www.theholyrood.org/intent-to-volunteer



TOOLS 4TEENS

A Catholic Heart  Workcamp Fundraiser

From July 16-21, a group of 11 teens, 4 adult chaperones and 2 priests from the Collaborative will be heading to New Jersey to serve the less fortunate in the name of Jesus, while deepening their connection to Christ through daily Mass, Adoration, and Christ-centered fun! This weekend, June 3rd/4th, some of these youth will be speaking at each of our Masses. One of the things they will address is our annual CHWC Fundraising Campaign: Tools4Teens! Below is a full explanation of how this fundraiser works.

Beginning this weekend, you will find images of 17 toolboxes on the bulletin boards in each of our churches... 1 per camper. On each toolbox is a list of the tools needed to fill it; each assigned a donation amount. Our goal is to fill all toolboxes at each church!

To make your donation, pick the tan envelope that has the picture of the tool you wish to 'purchase.'

PLEASE NOTE: When you decide on a total donation amount, **please choose a tool or tools, that in combination, correspond with that amount.**

for example...

\$20 = measuring tape (\$20)

\$80 = paintbrush (\$50) + pliers (\$30)

\$150 = toolbox (\$100), hammer (\$40) + gloves (\$10)

In the envelope, you will find the directions as to how to make your donation.

For those who are not in a financial position to make a monetary donation, each toolbox is also asking for a Rosary—i.e. prayer—which is at zero cost; it costs nothing to pray! When you choose the white Prayer envelope (indicated by praying hands), the name of the camper to pray for will be included. With or without a Prayer envelope, prayers are ALWAYS WELCOME!

This information can also be found on our website...
www.theholyrood.org/tools-4-teens.

VACATION BIBLE FUN 2023 July 31–August 4



Register by clicking on the VBF link on the homepage of our website or enter this link into your browser...

<https://theholyrood.org/vacation-bible-fun>

REGISTRATION DEADLINE IS JULY 7!

FUNSTERS:

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The Family Connection is a parish-based ministry that has been in existence since 2017. It provides support for families dealing with alcohol and/or drug abuse of a child, spouse, grandchild or friend. Our aim is to provide families/friends with a better understanding of the disease of addiction through educational reading materials, videos, and discussions. We also have speakers who share their stories of recovery and how they are now living healthy, happy lives.

This confidential meeting provides a compassionate and supportive environment that encourages those in attendance to share their questions, feelings and concerns in order to learn from each other and gain hope during a very difficult time.

Have questions? Need more information?
Want to join us?

Contact nancyk@theholyrood.org.

Over the last several months, we have worked together as a community to devise a new weekend Mass schedule. We are doing this to be proactive for future needs. Our current weekend Mass schedule—ten Masses between our three communities—is workable based on the clergy support we currently have. The reality is that in a few years that clergy support will not be available and as such we need to prepare for what will be feasible for two priests to handle. We must also realize that in the current situation we have 15 daily Masses—three per weekday at each church—two nursing home Masses, and an average of five funeral Masses each week. Add Sunday celebrations to this and we are averaging 32 Masses a week! Obviously, this is not something that is sustainable with just two priests. That is why we began the process of looking at what a new weekend Mass schedule would need to look like.



The parish council started with devising a survey to collect information on what our communities deemed as important issues that should impact the decisions needed for crafting the new schedule. After analyzing what over 600 people had to say we put forth what seemed the most optimal schedule. The idea was that there would be only six Masses on the weekend, with each parish celebrating two. We also felt it was important to have a Sunday evening Mass and at least one Sunday morning Mass for each parish. It was also determined that we could not have two Masses at the same time and that Masses would need to be at least ninety minutes apart. The reason for this is that the schedule needs to be set up in such a way that a single priest can cover all the Masses over a weekend. Even when we have two priests there will be weekends where only one priest will be available, i.e., vacation time or illness. Based on your feedback and these facts, the parish council assigned the times for the new schedule; this was then sent back out to the community, in the form of another survey, for your further input.

After hearing from over 600 people again the parish council worked together to assign these particular times to the particular churches. The decision was made that in assigning the Mass times certain criteria would be followed:

- each church would get one and only one of the following Masses: 4 pm on Saturday, 9:30 am on Sunday and 11 am on Sunday
- each church would get one Sunday morning Mass

The schedule we are proposing—which can be found within the survey—is one that we believe is the fairest one to meet the needs of the Collaborative. We all must recognize that people will not be happy about losing “their” Mass. The Mass you go to is not simply about the attendance at Mass, but it is about being part of a community. Changing Mass times creates a deep emotional turmoil for many people. However, even with all that being true, the situation we are moving towards is an inevitable reality. While we are not in a time of pressing need at the current moment, be assured that it is coming.

It is also important to understand that what we are presenting in this last part of the conversation on a new weekend Mass schedule is not going to be implemented immediately. The earliest that it should happen would be June 1, 2024. In January we will look at the clergy support to see if the current schedule remains feasible and if it does, we will continue with it.

We all must also realize that clergy support is something that could change quickly and dramatically. In November and December, two of our assisting clergy stopped serving here based on their own personal issues. Although the hope is that we can transition to a new schedule in a seamless way, we recognize that it may not be possible, but that is what we are planning for at this time.

We hope that as you look at this final proposal that your responses will be done in a Christian way. We cannot look simply at what is best for an individual person or community. We are all brothers and sisters in Christ and are called to work together to build up the Body of Christ.

Thank you for your input on this important conversation in our communities.

The above letter, with survey, was recently sent via FLOCKNOTE. We are including it here as we have many parishioners who don't subscribe to FLOCKNOTE nor have access to a computer.

For those who **have computer access**, the survey can be found at www.theholyrood.org/mass-time-survey-part-3.

For those who **do NOT have computer access**, you will find hard-copies of the survey at the entrances of all our churches. Once completed, please place it in an envelope marked “SURVEY—ATTN CHRISTINE TRZNADEL” and place in the weekly offertory basket, any of our secure drop boxes or drop off to the parish offices. Additionally, you can mail it to the parish offices; again, please note ATTN: SURVEY/CHRISTINE TRZNADEL.



A couple of years ago during the pandemic, I walked into Paul Firicano's office and he handed me a sheet of paper he was holding. It was a letter from the Massachusetts unemployment office asking for more information on my claim for unemployment benefits. Obviously, I was not unemployed, and so we immediately got in touch with the appropriate person to find out what was going on. They informed us that someone was using my social security number to apply for benefits. After we confirmed that this was a fraudulent claim, they told me what I needed to do. One of the things I needed to do was freeze my credit reports, to prevent someone from taking out credit cards or getting loans in my name. I immediately did that. I got in touch with each reporting agency, and they helped me get it all set up. The only time this would be an issue is when I may need to do those things, but it really is not that hard to unblock and re-block my reports.

After dealing with all the nuisances this created, I remember the feeling of being violated in a sense. It was obviously not to the level of what people encounter from real trauma, but it still felt like a piece of me was taken away. Of course I got over it, but it was still pretty unsettling. Someone got hold of a piece of my identity and was using it fraudulently, and that could have caused me real headaches moving forward.

As I reflect on this scary moment in my life, it calls to mind a really important question: what makes up a person's identity? This has become an important cultural question. We use the word 'identity' in a lot of different ways in our society. We have, of course, our financial identity which can be put at risk so easily in this day and age. I would call that simply a practical identity. It does not really determine who we are; it simply helps us to communicate certain information in a convenient way. We have other identities, such as those we use on social media, but what many people present on social media is not really a true snapshot of themselves. Rather, it is something they create in order to present to people how they want to be perceived, but that still does not truly identify who they are.

The real question that most of us need to ask is: how do we get at the heart of what it means to be me? The world has a lot of answers to this question, but in general the path put forth by the world tends to center around the person creating their own truth about who they are. The world believes that people should be able to self-identify, and we must of course accept this 'truth' as being valid. We are called to affirm people and accept whatever personal truth they create for how they choose to experience life.

As Christians this is *not* how we are called to discover the truth about ourselves. Truth is not subjective, nor

is it changeable or fluid. There is One, and One alone, who knows the truth of who we are and it is *not* ourselves. Human beings are very good at lying to themselves and that is called self-deception. There are many factors that can create this self-deception but ultimately it lies in sin. If we want to discover the true nature of who we are, we need only turn to God. The truth can only be known when we are in proper relationship with Jesus, who told us He is the way and the truth and the life. He also was clear that He is the *only* way to the Father.

Human beings are created to be in union with God. That is at the essence of what it means to be human. When we deny this truth and start to create an identity apart from our relationship with Christ, we are creating a fraudulent identity. Our true nature is only revealed when Christ is the foundation of our entire life. Christ and Mary are the only human beings who lived a fully human life. Mary did it by living her life centered in Christ. Christ did it by living his life centered in the will of the Father. Mary showed us what we need to do to discern the meaning and purpose of our life. When the angel came to Mary, she spoke those powerful words, "I am the handmaid of the Lord, let it be done to me according to your word." And as she watched over Jesus and all that occurred during his childhood years, she pondered over them and treasured them. She gave the best possible advice at the wedding of Cana: "Do whatever He tells you." She stood at the foot of the cross to be with Christ in his suffering and to unite herself with his suffering. She was with the Apostles in the upper room afterward where they gathered in prayer.

Mary gives us direction about how to discover our true identity. It begins by saying 'yes' to God and accepting Christ as our Lord and Savior. We then need to ponder all that Christ has done and follow his example. We must always be ready to say 'yes' to whatever Jesus calls us to do. And, of course, at the heart of the Christian life is taking up our cross daily and following Christ. Like Mary, we must unite ourselves with Christ on the cross. It is only by dying to ourselves that we can experience the reality of the resurrection. All this is grounded in a prayer life that is united with the people of God.

It is not possible to truly know ourselves apart from Christ. May we seek to follow the example of Mary and come to be the person God created us to be, which is our true identity.

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.

From our Pastoral Associate

Sr. Lori Fleming, SNDdeN

Make Time to Value what is Within – Interiority

“People set out to wonder at the heights of the mountains, at the mighty waves of the sea, at the broad waterfalls of the rivers, at the vast extent of the oceans, at the movements of the stars. But themselves they pass by.” -St. Augustine, *Confessions*

Interiority is a term familiar to those actively seeking to develop an awareness of their need for inner focus on the awesome gift of God in their own person—the desire to find and be in one’s center, to be in touch with one’s inner stillness and peace. This is an experience of contemplation that some spiritual writers name as an encounter with the *Other* in whom we find a true unity with ourselves, and therefore with all others.

“You have made us for yourself, O Lord,
and our hearts are restless until they rest in you.”

-St. Augustine, *Confessions*

So much is felt deeply and pulsed through our beings by the human heart! Openness and conversion of the heart are calls echoed in both the Hebrew and Christian Scriptures. We are continually reminded that living Christianity is something that comes from within—a call from within which impels expression in how we choose to live.

Augustine tells us clearly that when looking into our hearts for knowledge of who we are, we must be honest and listen to what God wants to reveal to us. Self-knowledge has to be learned by oneself, but one cannot learn it without listening to the *Other* and some “others” who are blessed to be companions on the journey.

To develop *Interiority*, make time:

- to find space in our day for solitude
-be alone and undisturbed.
- for silence
-quiet the sounds around us and within us.
- to be at peace
-touch your inner center, a place where you are still.

We experience the presence of God in our being. Let us pray for one another that the Spirit, sent by the God who knows us and loves us, will prompt us to see what is within and not pass by the wonder of who we are.

From our Senior Priest in Residence

Fr. Arnold Colletti

Wholeheartedness

When a lawyer came up to Jesus and asked: “which is the most important commandment in the law of Moses,” Jesus replied, “Love the Lord your God with all your heart, soul, and mind. This is the first and the greatest commandment. The second most important is similar love your neighbor as much as you love yourself.” (Matthew 22:37, Mark 12:30, and Luke 10:27.)

Have you ever loved anything or anyone wholeheartedly? Perhaps when we first fell in love but then life goes on and we are taken up with many distractions.

Some people I know who are wholehearted are alcoholics and drug addicts. They spend their whole time thinking about these things. They risk their life and the lives of others in order to obtain the next “new hit.” But I have also met priests, religious, parents and individuals who are wholehearted. These are my heroes.

Sometimes we are more like the people of Ephesus. John, in the Book of Revelation, is asked to write a letter to the leader of the Church at Ephesus and tell him this: “I write to inform you of a message from him who walks among the churches and holds their leaders in his right hand. He says to you, I know how many good things you are doing. I have watched your hard work and your patience. I know you don't tolerate sin among your members, and you have carefully examined the claims of those who say they are apostles but are not. You have found out how they lie. You have patiently suffered for me without quitting.”

“Yet there is one thing wrong. You don't love me as you once did, but you have become lukewarm and I vomit you out of my mouth. Think about those times of your first love—how different now. Turn back to me again and work as you did before, or else I will come and remove your candlestick from its place among the churches.” (Revelation 2).

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

Mass Intentions

St. John the Evangelist

SAT, JUN 3	4:00 pm:	Fr. Ray's 34th Anniversary of Ordination
SUN, JUN 4	9:30 am:	Clarence Brien: 3rd Anniversary Cole Family: Memorial Theresa Corkery: Memorial Janice McDermott: 20th Anniversary Mauricio Valencia: Memorial
	6:00 pm:	People of the Parish
MON, JUN 5	9:00 am:	Fred Fenlon: Memorial
TUE, JUN 6	9:00 am:	LIVING INTENTION: Healing for Scott and Sue
WED, JUN 7	9:00 am:	LIVING INTENTION: Healing for Kevin Bailey
THU, JUN 8	9:00 am:	David Charles Wilson: Memorial
FRI, JUN 9	9:00 am:	Valerie Ouellette: Memorial
SAT, JUN 10	4:00 pm:	People of the Parish
SUN, JUN 11	9:30 am:	Roger Ducharme: Memorial
	12:00 pm:	LIVING INTENTION: Tweneh Family giving Thanks for Ann's Graduation and for all the Graduates in the Community
	6:00 pm:	Pamela Ann Woessner: 10th Anniversary

St. Margaret of Scotland

SAT, JUN 3	4:00 pm:	Fr. Ray's 34th Anniversary of Ordination
SUN, JUN 4	7:30 am:	People of the Parish
	10:00 am:	Margaret and James Durkin: Memorial Elaine Holland: Memorial Ann Marie Langan: Memorial Millie Levasseur: Memorial Joseph Wakeham: Memorial Robert Wakeham: Memorial
MON, JUN 5	8:00 am:	Collaborative Members of Spiritual Society and Sanctuary Fund
TUE, JUN 6	8:00 am:	Vincent Latham: Memorial
WED, JUN 7	8:00 am:	John DeMatties: Memorial
THUR, JUN 8	8:00 am:	Fr Paul F Manning: Memorial
FRI, JUN 9	8:00 am:	Rita Doherty: Memorial
SAT, JUN 10	4:00 pm:	Richard T Ryan: 11th Anniversary
SUN, JUN 11	7:30 am:	For those who have no one to Pray for them
	10:00 am:	People of the Parish

St. Mary Parish

SAT, JUN 3	4:00 pm:	Fr. Ray's 34th Anniversary of Ordination
SUN, JUN 4	7:00 am:	People of the Parish
	11:00 am:	Maureen Frost: Memorial Louise LaChance: Memorial Alice Martin: 1st Anniversary Frank Quadros: Memorial William Tucker: 13th Anniversary Brenda Waldron: 5th Anniversary
MON, JUN 5	7:00 am:	Theodore R Wolnick: Memorial
WED, JUN 7	7:00 am:	Albin A and Ruthellen Hastbacka: Memorial
THUR, JUN 8	7:00 am:	James Daniel Doyle: 35th Anniversary
FRI, JUN 9	7:00 am:	Melody Ivie and Gwen Schofield: Memorial
SAT, JUN 10	4:00 pm:	Andrew Zabierek: 19th Anniversary
SUN, JUN 11	7:00 am:	Louise and Raymond Fuller: Memorial
	11:00 am:	People of the Parish

St. Mary Altar Flowers

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 the dedication will be published in the weekly bulletin. If you would like to donate altar flowers, call the parish office. A 2-week notice is required.



In Memory of William Tucker
13th Anniversary



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 Blessed Mother Lamp
In Memory of Madeline Finneral

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. Your dedication published in the bulletin.



In Honor Of Fr. Ray Benoit's
34th Anniversary of Ordination

Recent Funerals

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



Helen Constantineau
Friday, June 2 • St. Mary

Kathy Fahey
Saturday, June 3 • St. John

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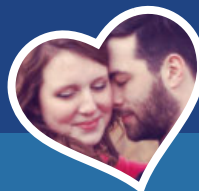


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