



THE HOLY ROOD COLLABORATIVE

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



July 2, 2023

13th Sunday in Ordinary Time

“Whoever gives only a cup of cold water to these little ones to drink because one is a disciple—amen, I say to you, he will surely not lose his reward.”
-Matt: 10:42



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

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, July 3

*** PARISH OFFICES CLOSED ***

LIVEVIEW Devotions and Confessions CANCELLED

Tuesday, July 4

*** PARISH OFFICES CLOSED ***

LIVEVIEW Devotions and Confessions CANCELLED

Wednesday, July 5

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

Thursday, July 6

Charismatic Prayer Group • 10 -11 am • ZOOM
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
Hope After Heartbreak • 6:30 - 8 pm • SJE OPC
Women's ACTS Meeting • 6:45 - 8:45 pm • SJE OPC
Rosary • 7 pm • SM Church and LIVEVIEW

Friday, July 7

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, July 8

Red Cross Blood Drive • 8 am - 2 pm • SM Hall
SMS Prayer Shawl Ministry • 9:15 am - 12 pm • SMS Rectory
Confessions • refer to cover
St. Mary Bell Choir • 2:30 - 3:30 pm • SM Choir Loft



St. Margaret of Scotland

Bernie Rivera Reyes & Amie Ramos
BANNS I



The Parish
Offices will be
closed on
Monday, July 3rd
and Tuesday,
July 4th.

LIVEVIEW
Devotions and Confessions will
also be cancelled on these days.



Sixth Annual

Hail Mary
challenge

May 1 - October 31, 2023

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

JUNE 19- 25	TOTAL-TO-	%AGE OF
30,111	267,131	26.71%

Weekend Mass Attendance

Weekend Of June 24th/25th

St. Mary		
4 pm	7 am	11 am
155	99	236

St. Margaret of Scotland		
4 pm	7:30 am	10 am
95	65	132

St. John the Evangelist		
4 pm	9:30 am	6 pm
129	218	157



**What beverage do you drink
on July 4th?**

(see page 5)

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
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ekindler@theholyrood.org | ext 216

Lynn Anne LaDuke, FAITH FORMATION COORDINATOR
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Office Administration

Sue Beechin, ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT
sue@theholyrood.org | ext 236

Jamie Brown, PART-TIME SCHEDULING COORDINATOR
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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

2024 Mass Intentions



The partial 2024 Mass Intention Calendar opens Monday, July 10 at 9 am. We are only able to schedule intentions for the time period of January 1 - May 31, 2024, as we anticipate the potential June 2024 change in Mass Schedule.

You can contact the parish offices during regular business hours at (978) 256-2374. **Mass intentions cannot be requested via voicemail or email message.**

A donation of \$10 per intention is suggested to be made at the time that you schedule your intention, and it/they will be published in the bulletin if scheduled with enough advance notice to meet the bulletin submittal deadline.

THE BELOW GUIDELINES APPLY TO MULTIPLE MASS WEEKENDS, which are earmarked for the first weekend (Friday through Sunday) of every month. If your intention request falls within this timeframe, we ask that you please familiarize yourself with the following guidelines before calling to schedule:

- Up to 10 intentions will be scheduled per each of the following Masses...
 - ♦ Friday 7 am St. Mary; 8 am St. Margaret of Scotland; and 9 am St. John the Evangelist daily Masses
 - ♦ Saturday 4 pm and Sunday 11 am St. Mary weekend Masses
 - ♦ Saturday 4 pm and Sunday 9:30 am St. John the Evangelist weekend Masses
 - ♦ Saturday 4 pm and Sunday 10 am St. Margaret of Scotland weekend Masses
- There is no stipend required for these Mass intentions
- The following Sunday Masses are strictly reserved for the People of the Parish...
 - ♦ St. Mary 7 am Mass
 - ♦ St. Margaret of Scotland 7:30 am Mass
 - ♦ St. John the Evangelist 6 pm Mass



NEW TO THE CALENDAR THIS YEAR!

In addition to St. Mary, Altar Flower Intentions will now be available at St. Margaret of Scotland and St. John. The cost of this intention is \$40. For additional ways in which to remember a loved one, please refer to the last page of the bulletin, or www.theholyrood.org/remember-a-loved-one

here's what's happening in The Holy



St. John the Evangelist Parishioner and Cub Scout Joseph Burdin, and mom Becky, reached out to us with an offer to do a Cub Scout project for the Collaborative.

On Friday, June 23rd, alongside little brother

Matthew, they cleaned ALL the tables in St. John's Hall. That's a LOT of tables!

Thanks Joseph, Becky and Matthew for your 'service with a smile!'

2023 Family of the Year



In the New Testament, Jesus taught His followers to serve others in need by using their spiritual gifts.



The higher purpose of the Family of the Year Award is to stimulate and support the development of strong and vibrant families. Although there are many families within the Holy Rood Collaborative that fulfill this very description, I am proud to announce that after

review the members of the Bishop Ruocco Council have chosen for the 2022/23 year, Knights of Columbus Family of the Year, the Melville Family; Alex, Katie, 10-year-old Evelyn, 8-year-old William and 5-year-old Niko.

Katie describes herself as a cradle Catholic, which is defined as one who is born and raised in the faith and continues to live their sacramental life today. Alex followed his love for Christ and converted into the Catholic Faith in 2013. Together, they formed a loving and faithful matrimonial bond which provided the foundation for their beautiful family. By example, they have taught their three children to follow in those same faithful footsteps.

A brief outline of the family's 'Faith in Action' within the parish of St. Mary, amongst all of us within The Holy Rood Collaborative, and within their daily life at home, is listed below:

Lector, Cantor, Choir Member, Cantor, Leader of the Children's Liturgy, singer at the 50's Sock Hop Ministry Fair and other Collaborative music events, Sang in NE District Treble Chorus, Member of Clark Hill Band that performed at Belmont Porchfest, takes drum lessons; Chelmsford Youth Soccer Intramural director, basketball coach, plays soccer, hockey, lacrosse and baseball, school track team, runs the Harpoon 5-miler in Boston; Wish Project volunteer, Precinct 10 Town Meeting Rep, talented artist with multiple displays at our public library; member of the Girl Scouts, plays piano, writes own piano songs, attends Vacation Bible Fun, participated in Angel Alert-a Christmas Musical, Altar Server; prays together before dinner and bedtime, family movie nights, family bikes and hikes, reads the Action Bible before bed, lights Advent wreath with nightly readings, displays religious art including the crucifix at home, and last but not least, prays and attends Mass together as a family.

Thank you, Melville Family, for living by example for all of us, but mostly for your outward dedication to our faith and our Lord Jesus Christ.

Paul Sidari- PGK, PFN
Chancellor/Faith Director



This year's collection will begin on the weekend of July 15/16.

You will find ALL details of this extremely successful event in NEXT WEEK'S BULLETIN!!!

VACATION BIBLE FUN 2023 July 31–August 4

WE NEED YOU!

- (1) adult group guide for 3rd or 4th graders
- (4) youth—2 male/2 female—to be part of bible drama team
- (2) youth to be part of snack team
- (2) 8th -10th graders to be group guides

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 THIS FRIDAY, JULY 7!



Rood Collaborative community

Strawberry FESTIVAL



St. John Church Hall
 Saturday, July 15 following 4 pm Mass
 Sunday, July 16 following 9:30 am Mass



- Strawberry Shortcake
- Strawberry Lemonade and Tea
- A wine/scratch ticket raffle basket
- Corn-Hole board... just for fun



\$ GOAL
\$8,000
TOOLS SOLD
215 OF 289
\$ RAISED
\$6,675
%AGE OF GOAL
83.44%

**TOOLS SOLD/
MONEY RAISE
TO-DATE**



Glad to be a Grad!

Join us in congratulating our Facilities Specialist, Chris Goglia in his recent reception of his Masters Degree! Below, please find a note from him summarizing his journey!



This year I was blessed to be able to complete my four-year journey to go from a high school diploma to an MBA graduate. In the first three years, I was able to graduate Summa Cum Laude from SNHU with

a B.S. in Business Administration, with a concentration in HR Management and a minor in Organizational Leadership. At the time of my graduation, I felt a calling to continue growing and started my MBA program at UML just two days later. This time I focused on Business Analytics to better round out my soft skills with more demonstrable talents. I graduated with honors in May, ready to bring my suite of new tools to the community that supported me the most through my education. I cannot believe how quickly time flew in the last four years thanks to the grace of God, my family, this supportive community, and the wonderful staff at both my universities. I have been called to serve in this life and am now better equipped to do just that. I am excited to continue to implement what I have learned here at the Collaborative, and most importantly, continuing to learn from the gifted staff and community of parishioners we embody.



COMMUNITY BLOOD DRIVE



Saturday, July 8
 8 am—2 pm
 St. Mary Hall

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

Ford Kevin Bruini
 Autumn Ann Calderan
 Jack Normand Langloks
 Quinn Francis Lucey
 Nathan Andrew Masse
 Liam Kenneth Rice
 Amaiya Zoe Rios



BAPTIZED AT ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST

Giovanni Joseph Balbo
 Claire Elizabeth Finch
 Antonio Michael Morales
 Adeline Munroe Smith
 Carson Anne Smith
 John Penn Wardlaw

BAPTIZED AT ST. MARGARET OF SCOTLAND

Graeme William McKiernan
 Harper Jeanne Shirlock



answer: libber-TFA

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

IMPORTANT REMINDER TO DONORS

If you make your offertory or any other donation via check, it is extremely important that the check is made 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. To eliminate your need to re-write a new check, and to allow timely processing of your donation, please be sure to make note of this directive.

ST. MARY WEEKLY OFFERTORY	Weekend of June 24th/25th	Fiscal Year-To-Date June 25th	Fiscal YTD Average/Week
Offertory Required to cover Budgeted Expenses	\$15,000	\$750,000	\$15,000
Actual Received	\$11,886	\$705,390	\$14,108
Shortfall/ Overage	-\$3,114	-\$44,610	-\$892

ST. JOHN WEEKLY OFFERTORY	Weekend of June 24th/25th	Fiscal Year-To-Date June 25th	Fiscal YTD Average/Week
Offertory Required to cover Budgeted Expenses	\$10,300	\$515,000	\$10,300
Actual Received	\$8,068	\$453,539	\$9,071
Shortfall/ Overage	-\$2,232	-\$61,461	-\$1,229

ST. MARGARET WEEKLY OFFERTORY	Weekend of	Fiscal Year-To-Date June 25th	Fiscal YTD Average/Week
Offertory Required to cover Budgeted Expenses	\$4,800	\$240,000	\$4,800
Actual Received	\$3,840	\$219,439	\$4,389
Shortfall/ Overage	-\$960	-\$20,561	-\$411

SECOND COLLECTION	St. Mary	St. John	St. Margaret
Promoting the Gospel (June 18, 2023)	\$2,174	\$1,732	\$2,056

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 JUNE 26

	Goal	Pledged	%age of Goal
St. Mary	\$66,931	\$81,118	121.20
St. John	\$44,343	\$56,413	127.22%
St. Margaret	\$29,548	\$35,042	118.59%

We ask anyone who has not had a chance to donate, please consider doing so. Please visit www.theholyrood.org/grand-annual-campaign-2023 for updates on how the collection is progressing, summaries on how the funds will be used, and to donate using Online Giving as an easy and convenient option.

GRAND ANNUAL AS OF JUNE 25

	Goal	Raised	%age of Goal
St. Mary	\$100,000	\$83,165	83.17%
St. John	\$70,000	\$58,351	83.36%
St. Margaret	\$65,000	\$62,272	95.80%

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 • lynnanne@theholyrood.org • ext 240

Register your Child(ren) TODAY! at www.holyrood.org/faith-formation-registration

\$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.



Volunteer as a Facilitator for a table of students at any of our grade-levels. Any confirmed adult—with or without children in the program—are welcome! The only requirement is a willingness to share your Catholic faith to foster the growth of the next generation of the Church; you will not be asked to plan any lessons! Confirmed students are very welcome to be Co-Facilitators for Grades 1 – 6.

If you prefer working with adults, consider volunteering as a Mentor to facilitate Discipleship Groups. This is mostly a once per month commitment. **BONUS!** If you have children in the program, you receive a \$125 discount off your family's registration fees **for either of these volunteer positions.**

Interested? Visit www.theholyrood.org/intent-to-volunteer to fill out the form, and a staff member will reach out to you. Questions? Kindly get in touch with a Faith Formation staff member via the above contact information.



facilities update

Dan Heider, FACILITIES MANAGER
dheider@theholyrood.org
(978) 256-2374, ext 213

St. Mary

- As you have already heard, the lift is UP AND RUNNING!
- The floor of the parish hall has been washed, waxed and buffed!
- A total of ten new entry doors have been ordered, and should arrive within 6-8 weeks. Upon receipt, we will work in such a way that impact will be minor and church egress will be easy to negotiate. We are hoping for a late fall completion, before the cold weather arrives.

St. Margaret

- In the middle of June, work began on the front steps. Damaged joint and loose material was removed, then fresh cement was applied. The loose railings were also tightened. Phase 2 of the project includes addressing needed repairs to the Handicap ramp. We have contacted a welding/steel company and are awaiting an assessment of the deterioration and needed repairs.

St. John

- We have been experiencing ongoing issues with the lock mechanisms on the entry doors to the OPC. These doors were removed in order to install new hardware, and are now fixed.
- All chimneys—church, old parish center and parish office chimneys—have been repaired. On the church chimney, all deteriorated bricks and mortar were removed and replaced with new brick work and a sealer. Additionally, a new cap and chimney screen was installed. Similar work was completed on the OPC and parish office chimneys. Thank you to Jim Dolan for the contractor referral!



Last week we spoke about the necessity of a real prayer life if we are going to be a true disciple of Christ. But how do we make that happen? I believe that most people want to pray but just need some help in establishing a fully

functional prayer life. There are, in essence, three aspects to a good prayer life.

The first, of course, is the celebration of the sacraments and most particularly our participation at Mass. We need to enter into these celebrations because Christ initiated all of the sacraments for our benefit. Each of the sacraments—in its own way—enables us to experience the Paschal Mystery (Jesus' death, resurrection, ascension, and the coming of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost). In the Eucharist we experience Christ in a unique way, and that experience of Christ is of the greatest value. Because Christ is truly and substantially present in the Eucharist (body and blood, soul and divinity), we come to experience the fullness of Him in the consecrated elements of bread and wine that become his body and blood. The dialogue we encounter at Mass is directed toward living a life centered in Christ. As we hear the words proclaimed from the scriptures and through the prayer texts, we are called to recognize the voice of the living God. Mass is the classroom where we learn to pray.

The second is spontaneous prayer. This prayer should be a natural response to God's invitation to dialogue with Him. In the midst of our busy lives, God invites us to talk to Him. We must remember that the dialogue of prayer *never* begins with us, but rather with God, and as we open to that dialogue we must be ready to respond. The question should *never* be: is God is speaking to me?—God is always speaking to us. The question *should* be: how well am I listening and am I giving God the space to be heard in my life? The final purpose of prayer is *not* to tell God something He doesn't know or understand. Rather, the purpose of prayer is for us to understand what it is that God wants to do in our lives. The ultimate goal of prayer is to have a real and personal relationship with the living God.

Understanding the nature and purpose of prayer leads to the third element of a real prayer life—a structured devotional prayer life. I believe that when this does not exist at some level, the other two cannot be what they are intended to be. It is not enough for a real relationship with God to have only one or two of these elements. Many people will tell me that they are just too busy. Sorry to say, but that is baloney and ultimately a copout. If Christ the Savior of the World had time to pray, then you can also. As we saw last week it does not need to be a long process. The Lord gives us 1440 minutes a day. We can *all* give to God less than 1% and that is *only* ten minutes. Last week we

talked about one way to establish the beginning of a prayer life. I would like to propose another: praying through the scriptures. The use of scripture in prayer is ancient. And when we use scripture, we do not have to guess whether we are hearing God because the Bible is God's very word proclaimed to us. The Bible is a treasure trove of God's wisdom that is made so easily accessible. I would like to propose the following steps in beginning to pray with and through scripture.

1. Find a quiet place to sit and relax.
2. Take a deep breath and hold it for a few seconds and then release.
3. Pray a prayer to the Holy Spirit for guidance (something like the following):
4. "Come, Holy Spirit, fill my heart with your holy gifts. Open my heart to hear your voice and to respond."
5. Then say "Speak, Lord, your servant is listening."
6. Open the Bible (I would recommend beginning with the New Testament, probably one of the Gospels but any part of scripture will do.)
7. Just slowly read the passage you have chosen. (It need not be long—most Catholic bibles break it down for you.)
8. As you are reading, realize that the very action of reading scripture is an act of prayer, and that God is speaking to you through scripture. Listen for a word or phrase that strikes you.
9. After reading through the passage, just sit and contemplate the meaning that it might have for your life, paying close attention to the word or phrase that struck you. Sometimes nothing in particular will resonate with you and, if so, just think about what the entire passage might be saying to you. (Realize that scripture can have more than one meaning and that God will use that tool to speak with you.)
10. Finally, say some words of gratitude to the Lord for the time He has given you.
11. Pray an Our Father.

Next week I will present a similar, but still different, way of praying with scripture.

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 Asst Director of Faith Formation

Courtney Callanan

A friend, who I would describe as ‘seeking’ in her faith, recently returned to an Episcopalian service after a long absence. She remarked that she was surprised to discover just how much she had missed receiving communion, and posed a question to those of us in our friend group that she knows to be Christian: “Is communion enough to build a faith on?” I’ve been pondering this question in the days since she asked. My answer is yes, or at least it is if it is the Eucharist. I am not sure how I would answer if it wasn’t. Of course, being Catholic, the two are inseparable. To be truthful, for me, the question is less of, “Is communion enough to build a faith on?” and more of, “How does one have faith without the Eucharist?” Obviously, people do, but I do not know that I could, nor would I want to try. There is a fullness of faith that God offers us through the Eucharist that is absent, dreadfully so, without it.

This is, naturally, a very Catholic answer. For indeed, our entire Faith is built on the Eucharist. The Catechism says that, “The Eucharist is ‘the source and summit of the Christian life.’ The other sacraments, and indeed all ecclesiastical ministries and works of the apostolate, are bound up with the Eucharist and are oriented toward it. For in the Blessed Eucharist is contained the whole spiritual good of the Church, namely Christ himself.” (CCC, 1324)

The Eucharist allows me to encounter God in a particular and profound way. I have a God Who took on flesh for me, Who became Emmanuel—God is with us. In the Eucharist I experience the Incarnation. I, a body-soul composite, encounter Christ physically and spiritually, as I receive Him Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity. He is just as tangibly present to me as He was to the apostles 2000 years ago. In this way I know that Jesus is truly with me, for He promised, “He who eats my flesh and drinks my blood abides in me, and I in him.” (cf. Jn 6:56). In times in my life when I need extra assurance of God’s presence, I can go to Mass, an Adoration chapel, or a church with a lit tabernacle light and know that He is *really* there.

The Eucharist helps me to be more Christ-like. The old adage, “you are what you eat,” has been shown to be increasingly true on an anatomical level. On a spiritual level, I can name specific times the Eucharist has led to my being more virtuous. The thought, “If I do this, I won’t be able to receive Communion,” has proven to be a powerful weapon against some of my biggest temptations. Sin separates us from God, and knowing that I would be separated from Him in this very concrete way has helped me to find the fortitude to resist what has felt like the easier and preferable path, but that I knew deep down was not the right one. Having previously received Christ’s life in Communion, and desiring to be united with Him again in this way, once more gives me what I need to be holy.

Is the Eucharist enough to build a faith on? I believe it to be *the* thing that Christ has asked us to build our faith on.

From our Parochial Vicar

Fr. Fernando Ayala

What is Friendship?

We human beings are made in the image and likeness of God. We are made in the image and likeness of a community/unity: the community of three persons, one God—Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

By nature we are hardwired to be social. We thrive in friendships. However, we thrive not *only* in one specific type of friendship: for instance, we have friendships of utility, which are based on mutual benefit. These are friendships we may have with our barber, co-worker, teammate, client and so on. We also have friendships of pleasure, which are based on fun or enjoyment. These are the friendships we may have with people we go on vacations with, share hobbies, sports, etc.

Lastly, we have friendships of the Good. These are the highest form of friendships. They do not need any shared mutual interests to thrive. They do not seek to get enjoyment or utility out of the relationship. This type of friendship seeks what is good for the other and does something about it. This type of friendship we call Love—not just any type of love, but Divine Love. It is self-emptying, self-sacrificing, and seeks what is good for the other. This type of friendship promotes unity with the Good; this Good is God. It seeks to bring us closer to Him. This type of friendship radiates joy and is not put down by struggle. In fact, it thrives in times of difficulty for it seeks the good of the other for the sake of their own good, and does something about it. We become more like God in friendships of the Good.

Do we love our friends with this Divine Love?



Mass Intentions

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 intention is requested when you schedule your intention.

St. John the Evangelist

SAT, JUL 1	4:00 pm:	Normand DuBois: 20th Anniversary Peggy Lorrey: Memorial Paul McMeniman: 6-Month Anniversary Eleanor Mello: Memorial Delores Perry: Memorial Grace M Steed: Memorial Martin J Steed Sr: Memorial Mary Blanche Steed: Memorial Robert and Dolores Wilson: Memorial
SUN, JUL 2	6:00 pm:	People of the Parish
MON, JUL 3	9:00 am:	Peggy Lorrey: Memorial
THU, JUL 6	9:00 am:	Mary Lillian Lavers: Memorial
SAT, JUL 8	4:00 pm:	People of the Parish
SUN, JUL 9	9:30 am:	Eleanor Mello: Memorial
	6:00 pm:	Rose Serra: Memorial

St. Margaret of Scotland

SAT, JUL 1	4:00 pm:	LIVING INTENTION: John Loftus Special Intention Conrad and Gladys Rock: 15th Anniversary
SUN, JUL 2	7:30 am:	People of the Parish
	10:00 am:	Elaine Holland: Memorial Alice C Roark: 20th Anniversary William P Ryan: 24th Anniversary
TUE, JUL 4	8:00 am:	Anna E Daley: 23rd Anniversary
WED, JUL 5	8:00 am:	Jack Bomil: Memorial
THUR, JUL 6	8:00 am:	Carl, Barbara and Edward Gross: Memorial
FRI, JUL 7	8:00 am:	Eileen Francoeur: Memorial
SAT, JUL 8	4:00 pm:	Stephen and Mary Botto: Memorial
SUN, JUL 9	7:30 am:	Rev John Walsh: Memorial
	10:00 am:	People of the Parish

St. Mary Parish

SAT, JUL 1	4:00 pm:	Louise LaChance: Memorial Alice Martin: 1st Anniversary Barbara Theriault: 16th Anniversary
SUN, JUL 2	7:00 am:	People of the Parish
	11:00 am:	Peter Eric Sutter: Memorial
MON, JUL 3	7:00 am:	Collaborative Members of Spiritual Society and Sanctuary Fund
TUE, JUL 4	7:00 am:	Jack Redican: 24th Anniversary
WED, JUL 5	7:00 am:	All Living Members of the Albin A Hastabacka Family
THU, JUL 6	7:00 am:	LIVING INTENTION: John Loftus
SAT, JUL 8	4:00 pm:	Doris Couture: Memorial
SUN, JUL 9	7:00 am:	Monte Gallozzi: 25th Anniversary
	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.



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 and the Sacred Heart Lamp. The stipend for any of these lamps is \$25, and your dedication will be published in the bulletin.

St. Mary Sanctuary Lamp
Barbara Theriault
16th Anniversary

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.



Recent Funerals

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



Nikolas Sperounis

Monday, June 26 • St. Mary

Marietta Jean

Thursday, June 29 • St. John

Mary Sullivan

Thursday, June 29 • St. Margaret

Thomas Callary

Friday, June 30 • St. John

Madeline Cuddy

Saturday, July 1 • St. Mary

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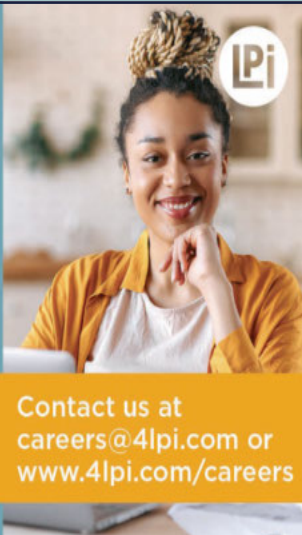
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