



St. Mary's Parish Family

114 Princeton Street/PO Box 2200 | Jefferson, Massachusetts
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Celebrating the Rite of Sending for those receiving the Sacraments of Initiation at the Easter Vigil. Sunday, February 18th



Ms. Barbara's Story Time! Ash Wednesday, February 14th



**Oh what a night for our Ash Wednesday Souper Supper! Fun was had by All!
Wednesday, February 14th**



ALL ARE WELCOME HERE
 If you are alienated or upset,
 we welcome you lovingly.
 If you are in need of forgiveness,
 Jesus forgives you completely
 with unconditional love.
 If you have been hurt by the Church,
 we are truly sorry.
 If you are angry, Jesus offers you peace.
 If life has become burdensome,
 we are here to support you.
 We are happy you are here...
 and want you to stay.
 We would like to share our lives with you.

Mass Schedule and Intentions



Saturday, February 24

4:30 PM Robert Morrow Jr. ~ 25th Anniversary
 (Linda Morrow & Family)

Sunday, February 25

8:00 AM Betty Hunt (The Hurley Family)
 10:00 AM Parishioners of St. Mary's
 5:00 PM Parishioners of St. Mary's

Monday, February 26

12:00 PM Communion Service

Tuesday, February 27

8:00 AM Gary Hennerdinger (Lasandra Pagan)

Wednesday, February 28

8:00 AM Parishioners of St. Mary's

Thursday, February 29

Friday, March 1

Saturday, March 2

4:30 PM Charles Wisneiewski (The Family)

Sunday, March 3

8:00 AM Betty Hunt (Martha Liddy)
 10:00 AM Father Walter Riley
 5:00 PM Diane Brown ~ 2nd Anniversary
 (Dan Brown her husband and Family)

If the Mass intention is for your family member, we invite you to bring up the gifts at the offertory. See one of the ushers before Mass. This is a wonderful opportunity to join in the celebration of your family intention.

Someone you know may be in an abusive relationship.
 Abuse Hotline 508-755-9030

Schedule Around Campus...

Saturday, February 24

3:15 PM Confessions
 4:30 PM Mass/Church

Sunday, February 25

8:00 AM Mass/Church
 Coffee Shoppe/GR
 10:00 AM Mass/Church
 Children's Liturgy of the Word/GR
 Coffee Shoppe/GR
 4:00 PM Gr 6-8 Class
 5:00 PM Mass/Church
 5:00 PM Gr 9 & 10 Class

Monday, February 26

12:00 PM Mass/GR
 12:30 PM Adoration/Church
 4:15 PM Grade 1-5 Class

Tuesday, February 27

8:00 AM Mass/GR
 10:00 AM Lenten Longings/GR
 4:15 PM Grade 1-5 Class
 6:30 PM Reconciliation Service/Church
 7:30 PM Choir/Church

Wednesday, February 28

8:00 AM Mass/GR
 9:00 AM Miss Barbara's Storytime/GR
 4:30 PM Al-Anon Meeting/GR

Thursday, February 29

10:30 AM Faith Sharing/GR

Friday, March 1

6:00 PM Stations of the Cross/Church


Saturday, March 2


3:15 PM Confessions
 4:30 PM Mass/Church

Sunday, March 3

8:00 AM Mass/Church
 Coffee Shoppe/GR
 10:00 AM Mass/Church
 Children's Liturgy of the Word/GR
 Coffee Shoppe/GR
 4:00 PM Gr 6-8 Class
 5:00 PM Mass/Church
 5:00 PM Gr 9 & 10 Class

SECOND WEEK OF LENT

 Adoration - Mondays ~ 12:30 PM - 1:30 PM

 Lenten Longings - Tuesdays ~ 10:00 AM

 Stations of the Cross - Fridays ~ 6:00 PM

 Reconciliation - Saturdays ~ 3:15 PM - 4:00 PM

2ND SUNDAY OF LENT



Lent A Time to Renew

Reconciliation Service
February 27th ~ 6:30 PM

Immediately following, join us in the gathering room as we continue our Celebration of God's Awesome Love with refreshments and friendship.

A Magical Family Better Together Event!
With Magician, Steve Charette

Please bring your appetites and join us on
Monday, March 4th at 6:00 PM
In the Parish Hall

Pizza and Magic will be served up with delight for guests from ages 1-100+!

Beer available for guests aged 21+



Come Celebrate a St. Patrick's Family Dinner

Corned Beef & Cabbage
And Green (That's right) Green Beer!
Live Music

Saturday, March 16th ~ 5:30 PM in the Parish Hall

*"Lucky 7" Tickets available at the Knights Kiosk
(\$7 per person, Kids Eat Pasta for Free)*

Sponsored by Miles Funeral Home



Lenten Reflections


Monday, March 18
6:30 PM ~ Gathering Room

Pope Francis tells us that Lent is a new beginning, a path towards continual conversion of heart.


Please join us as we take deeper dive with Dick Kirk and we reflect on the season of Lent and Easter. It will be an enriching event!

Wine and Cheese will be served.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION




Religious Education Classes will resume for Grades 6-10 Sunday, Feb. 25 and for Grades 1-5 Monday February 26, and Tuesday February 27!



TEAM MEETINGS

Sundays 11AM (Hall) ~ Confirmed young people~ Join us in leading this year's Grade 10 Confirmation Retreat (March 16th 9AM-5PM)!! Need more info? Email Kerry at kogrady1@msn.com



Great Service Opportunities:
Looking for several Middle/High School/College Students (Adults also WELCOME!) for the following events:

- + Assist during Religious Ed Events
- + Pizza and Magic Night
- + Lucky 7's Corned Beef & Live Music Night
- + Stations of the Cross for Kids

Please call Maryjane or Kerry if you are interested in taking advantage of these or other service hours!



The Knights of Columbus
Lenten Fish Dinner (eat in or take-out)


Friday, March 22nd
St. Mary's Parish Hall
Starts at 6:30 PM

Serving: Baked Atlantic Haddock, regular and sweet potato fries, coleslaw, rolls, dessert and mac & cheese for all. Soft drinks & water included or BYOB.

Adults - \$17 ~ Children - \$8 (Under 12)

Please sign up at the Knight's Kiosk following Mass the week of (preferred) or call our Grand Knight

Jim Cunningham at : 508-272-6951



Repent

To report abuse, please contact Judith Audette, Director of Healing and Prevention, Diocese of Worcester at (508) 929-4363

FEBRUARY 25TH, 2024

**St. Mary's Knights of Columbus News
COATS FOR KIDS, THANK YOU!**

St. Mary's Knights' annual campaign for area children needing warm coats for the winter was a huge success again this year: THANK YOU!

This year the program provided 86 brand-new, high-quality coats for children from infant to adolescent. Over 50% of the requirements this year were for Adolescents with a substantial increase in the need for infant wear.

The Parish met the need that was put-forth to us! With *your* help, we were able to purchase these coats for young girls and boys in the Wachusett and surrounding areas for these children in desperate need. Macy's Inc. of Auburn, MA has helped us again this year by providing substantial discounts to the Council for high-end, first quality coats. Also, so important to this effort were the 212 hat and mitten sets sewn by the American Sewing Guild under the guidance of Betty Hunt, with the materials cut out and prepared by St. Mary's Shawl Ministry.

We like to thank those Parishioners who donated substantially to this important effort; we thank you.



Embracing Loss

The staff at Miles Funeral Home Understands the journey and task of mourning. Although the grieving process is different for everyone, many experience the emptiness and confusion which follows the death of a loved one. Miles is pleased to sponsor a seminar in their bereavement series, ***Sharing Hope***, offered to those seeking caring support as they journey through the experience of mourning.

Embracing Loss

Finding Your Way and Healing Your Spirit

**Saturday March 23, 2024 from 1:00 to 2:30 p.m.
Holden Senior Center, 1130 Main Street, Holden**

In this seminar Pam will explore Francis Weller's book, "The Wild Edge of Sorrow," where he offers the five gates of grief as a way to recognize and understand loss as an effective starting place when navigating the challenges and opportunities of grief.



Easter Choir Rehearsals

Easter is on March 31st

Tuesdays - 7:30 PM - 9 PM in the Church

Dates:

February 27 &

March 5, 12, 19, 20 & 26th (if needed)

We always welcome new members to join us for Holy Week leading up to the Vigil Holy Saturday. If interested please let me know so I can make you up a music binder.

Questions please contact: Peter Gerardi

PETERGERARDI60@GMAIL.COM or 508 826-1090

EUCCHARISTIC CELEBRATIONS

Saturday - Vigil at 4:30 PM

Sunday - 8:00 AM, 10:00 AM and 5:00 PM (Sept thru May)

Daily Mass - Mon 12:00 PM, Tue & Wed 8:00 AM

Holy Days - 7:00 PM Vigil, 8:00 AM Holy Day

(unless otherwise noted in bulletin)

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturday 3:30—4:00 PM ~ **(3:15—4 PM During Lent)**

May also be arranged by calling the Parish Office.

FEBRUARY 25TH, 2024



Today's readings are a powerful testimony to God's profound love for each one of us. It is a reminder for us, as Christian stewards, to surrender all that we have to the Gracious Giver.

The First Reading from Genesis is the infamous story of God putting Abraham to the test. God commands Abraham to offer his son, Isaac, to the Lord as a sacrifice. Abraham obeys the Lord. Yet, a messenger of the Lord cries out at the last moment to stop him. Because of Abraham's faithfulness and surrender to the Lord, he is blessed abundantly.

We can only imagine how Abraham felt, offering the life of his son, not understanding why, but blindly obeying. Yet, Abraham's response of total surrender to God's plan is a testament to trust in God's deep love for us. As Christian stewards, we are called to surrender all to the Lord — our time, our talents, and even our material possessions. We should willingly give God our entire lives with the confidence that He will take care of us.

St. Paul echoes this message so beautifully in our Second Reading. He says, "He who did not spare his own Son but handed him over for us all, how will he not also give us everything else along with him?" God loves us so much that He gave us His only Son who suffered, died, and rose for us. He has given us His very best. Can we not entrust our entire lives to Him knowing He will continue to pour out His love on us?

As we continue our journey through Lent, let us reflect on God's profound love for us.

PARISH TITHE

Our Parish Tithe for the **Week of February 18th** will go to

Priest's Retirement Fund

For the Priests of the Diocese of Worcester



We offer our
THANKS AND GRATITUDE TO

**All those who stepped into help with vacant
liturgical ministers last Sunday night at the 5PM Mass.**

DID YOU KNOW....

The original St. Mary's was on Main Street next to St. Mary's Cemetery. The building still exists and houses apartments.

STEWARDSHIP IN OUR PARISH BUDGET 2023-2024

Months of September - January

	<u>January</u>	<u>YTD</u>
Amount Collected.....	\$41,694	\$192,093
On Time Donations.....	\$11,700	\$55,957
Amount Needed.....	\$43,625	\$191,950
Surplus/< Deficit >.....	\$9,769	\$56,100

In an effort to make our reporting more accurate, the Finance Committee has decided to report our collection totals once a month. Thank You