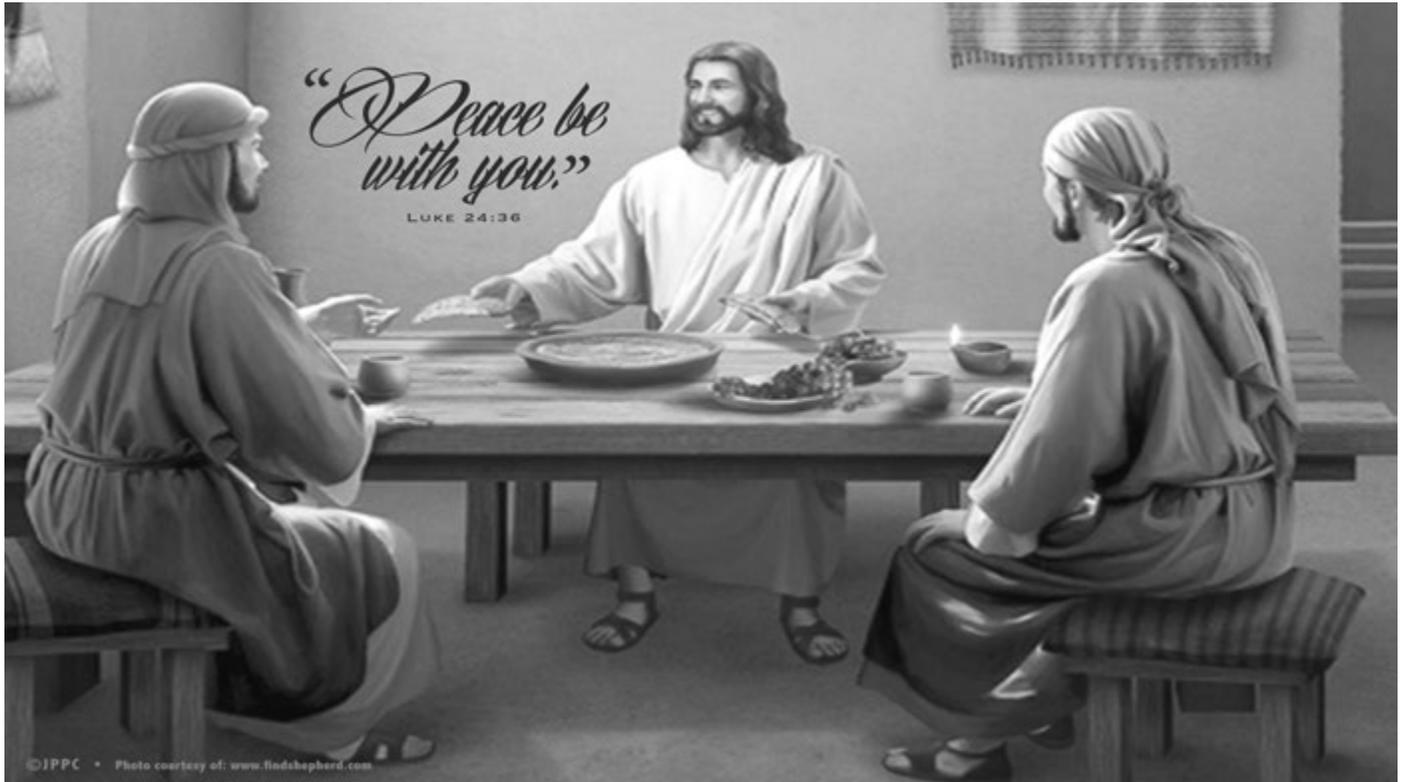


Parish Communities

St. Mary & St. Philip Benizi



Office - 508-839-3993
Fax - 508-839-1330
Website - www.stmarysgraffton.org
Mass Schedule:
Saturday 4:00 PM
Sunday 7:30 & 10:30 AM
Monday - Thursday 8:00 AM
Mailing Address:
17 Waterville St., North Grafton, MA 01536
Office Hours:
Monday - Thursday 8:30 AM - 3:30 PM
Parish Secretary: Janice Sears x10 • js Sears@stmarysgraffton.org
Religious Education Secretary:
Jill Sullivan x13 • jsullivan@stmarysgraffton.org
Organist/Director of Music:
Pamela Cross x37 • p.cross@shoplegacy.com

Office - 508-839-3325
Fax - 508-839-1310
Religious Education - 508-839-9130
Email - stphilipsgraffton@gmail.com
Mass Schedule
Sunday 9:00 AM
Mailing Address
12 West St., Grafton, MA 01519
Office Hours:
Monday - Wednesday 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM
Parish Secretary/Administrator of
Religious Education/ Safe Environment Coordinator:
[Carole LeBlanc.cleb1329@aol.com](mailto:CaroleLeBlanc.cleb1329@aol.com)

Pastor: Rev. Leo LeBlanc x24 • fathrleb@gmail.com
Deacon: Rev. Mr. Frederick A. Coggins x29 • fcoggins@stmarysgraffton.org
Business Manager: Lisa Stewart x11 • lstewart@stmarysgraffton.org

BULLETIN NOTICES: To Parish Secretary by **6:00 PM Mondays.**

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION: 3:00 PM on Saturday and by appointment. Monday - Thursday, following the 8:00 AM Mass.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM: The sacrament of Baptism is celebrated at either the 4pm Saturday Mass or the 10:30 Sunday Mass at St. Mary & 9am Mass Sundays at St. Philip. Please speak to Fr. Leo after Mass. (The sacrament may be celebrated at another time for serious reason.)

SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE: Contact Fr. LeBlanc at least one year prior to the tentative wedding date.

CARE FOR THE SICK: Please contact the church office if you know of anyone who is hospitalized or confined to home because of age or illness.

NEW PARISHIONERS: Please introduce yourself to Fr. LeBlanc, Deacon Coggins or a greeter after Mass. Visit the office or log into the website (St. Mary only). We want to know and serve you. We hope that you will become members of our parish community.

St Vincent de Paul Society of St Philip/St Mary at 508 839-3993 x 35. All information is kept strictly confidential .

St. Philip



Mass Intentions
St Philip Parish

April 15- Bernard Anvsavice requested by parish
April 29- 1st year anniversary for Carol La Pointe, wife of William LaPointe
May 6- Carol LaPointe, 1st anniversary by the parish, Thomas & Agnes Gallagher and family requested by Fran Kuchinsky

Calendar of Events for St. Philip and St. Mary

Rosary after 9am Mass at St. Philip

April 15- Coffee Social St Philip
May 5- Recycle Day , St Philip 9-2pm
May 5- 1st Eucharist Celebration Mass, 4pm St. Mary
May 6- 1st Eucharist Celebration Mass 10:30 St Mary
May 19- 1st. Eucharist Celebration Mass, 4pm St. Mary
May 20- 1st Eucharist Celebration Mass, 9am St. Philip

Sunday Collection

April 8, 2018
\$1752.00

Thank you for your generous support

3rd Sunday of Easter

“Jesus himself stood among them and said to them, ‘Peace be with you.’ But they were startled and frightened...” (LUKE 24:36-37) Throughout the day we have many opportunities to “see the face of Jesus” in others and to “be the face of Jesus” to others. Do we take that opportunity to provide “peace” to those we encounter or are we afraid of what others will think of us and do nothing? Pray for the strength to live a “God-centered” life and not a “self-centered” life.



Glory and Praise to our God, He alone gives light to our world

St. Mary



Mass Intentions

St. Mary Parish

God gives where he finds empty hands.
– St. Augustine

Saturday

4:00 p.m. Memorial for Joseph & Jane Goguen & Jennifer Goguen McGrail

Sunday Third Sunday of Easter

7:30am Memorial for Dennis Flynn requested by the family
10:30 a.m. 1st anniversary for Ann Wasiuk requested by the family, 6th anniversary for Don Houde requested by the family

Monday

7:45 a.m. Morning Prayer
8:00 a.m. Open Intention

Tuesday

7:45 a.m. Morning Prayer
8:00 a.m.. Memorial for Paul Littlejohn requested by a friend

Wednesday

7:45 a.m. Morning Prayer
8:00 a.m. anniversary for Evelyn C. & J. Frank Beahn requested by the family

Thursday

No morning prayer or Mass

Next Saturday

Month's mind for Mary Ann Smith from the 4 P.M. collector's, Anniversary for Alfred & Hazel Crepeau requested by Carol & Ed Sowa, Anniversary for Nancy Spyker requested by Denise Spence & Janet LaMarche

Next Sunday Fourth Sunday of Easter

7:30am Memorial for Mary McClure requested by the family
10:30 a.m. Memorial for Barbara Till requested by a friend

Sunday Collection

April 7 & 8 \$6,064.75

Thank you for your generous support

Lasagna Night for Veterans Shelter

The Grafton Veterans Ministry of St. Mary, St. Philip, and St. James, is sponsoring our semi-annual Lasagna Night for the veterans at the shelters in Worcester and Shrewsbury, and the women veterans shelter and their kids also in Worcester, on April 23, 2018. We are asking for your help with lasagna and brownies. If you volunteer to prepare lasagna, please do not bake it. A pan with cover will be provided. All donations should be dropped off in the kitchen by 2:00 PM on Sunday, April 22, 2018. There is a signup sheet on the Soup Kitchen table in the gathering space. Your help is very much appreciated. Thank you!



HOW WE TOUCH THE RISEN LORD

As Catholic Christians we not only believe in the resurrection of the soul but the resurrection of the body as well. Luke wants everyone to understand that when the risen Christ reveals Himself in our daily lives, we are like the disciples of Emmaus who want to share the Good News with others. And as we gather as Church on Sunday, we want everyone to know that we have seen the Risen Lord, only to discover that all of us have seen the Lord. As we “break the Word and break the Bread in the Eucharist, Jesus stands in our midst and says to us: “Peace be with you.”

Like the disciples, confronting this truth of the Resurrection can be difficult and troubling. The transformed body of the risen Lord appears to them as something so spiritual and light that they mistake it for a shadow (or a ghost). Jesus embodies before them and us the paradox and mystery of abundant endless life, the “spiritual body” spoken of by St. Paul (I Corinthians 15:44). In confessing our belief that the body tastes eternity, we are saying that we await something more beyond this life, not something less.

By contrast to Thomas in the Gospel of John, Luke lets us see a less stubborn type of skepticism (“incredulous for joy”), as well as a more generous readiness on Jesus’ part to supply for the weakness of our dumbfounded faith. Jesus invites them to “touch me and see”. Then He asks for something to eat. (So even in His risen Life which allows Him to walk through walls, He will eat our food.)

In our Christian lives- we who have not seen and yet believe- the mystery of the “proofs” of Christ’s bodily Resurrection come to us in sacramental signs, especially in the Eucharist. We know Jesus’ body is real because we touch Him in the Eucharist, which He has left us. Jesus instituted the Eucharist and commanded us to do this in His memory, knowing that as human beings we need tangible signs of His human and risen Presence among us.

“Then He opened their minds to understand the scriptures.” They and we cannot open our minds by ourselves. Our minds must be unlocked by the intervention of the risen Christ. It is clear that we cannot do this for ourselves; it is the action of Jesus, and the simple reason is because of what we are opened to receive. “We have the mind of Christ”, St. Paul tells us (I Cor. 2:16) This is what fills our opened minds: “The fullness of the One who fills all things” (Eph. 1:23). Our meager minds must be pried open by God’s grace. God needs to stretch our desires with His Divine Charity by the gift of His Holy Spirit.

Then Jesus gives us His mission which He commands us to preach to all nations, announcing the Good News that Jesus died for us, is now risen from the dead, and invites us to share in the abundance of His Risen Life. Alleluia!





Religious Education Registration

Registration for this Fall 2018-2019 If you still need to register your child, please do so soon. A late fee will be charged for those who choose to register after April 16. If your child is NEW to the program and was NOT Baptized at St. Mary or St. Philip, bring a copy of their Baptism Certificate. If you know a family with a child entering Grade 1 next Fall, please extend an invitation to them to enroll their child in Religious Education.

Market Sunday's Outreach Program "Neighbors Helping Neighbors" is set up by our St. Vincent de Paul and Market Sunday ministries to communicate with our parishioners on seasonal food items that would help to broaden our food pantry.

We welcome donations of: pasta sauce, Raisin Bran, soup, cookies & crackers, rice pilaf, Lipton Sides and Hamburger Helper, chef Boyardee, juice boxes, jello/pudding and kids' snacks, tissues & paper towels, coffee & tea, mayonnaise, jelly, pancake mix & syrup, seasonings. Please remember this is only a suggested guideline; any and all items are appreciated. Food items can be left in the Gathering Space at St. Mary on the Market Sunday food cart, downstairs on the cart located by the food cabinets, or on the table to the left of the cabinets. At St. Philip, you may leave them in the basket marked SVDP located at the entrance of the church. We are blessed to have the generous parish families of St. Mary and St. Philip and very grateful for all the food you donate. **"If you know of anyone struggling to provide for their family, please contact the St Vincent de Paul Society of St Philip/St Mary at 508 839-3993 x 35. All information is kept confidential."**



SAINT JAMES PENNY SALE Sunday, April 15 Doors open at noon ,Prizes drawn at 3:00 PM

Come spend the day with family and friends on Sunday, April 15th at our Parish Center. This yearly event has prizes galore for everyone's interest, such as household items, crafts, toys and games for the children, small appliances and much more We have several golf packages, a movie bucket, a solar bird feeder lantern, Hy-line cruise voucher, a boy's and a girl's 26" Granite Peak Roadmaster bike, and for our large raffle, we have a pair of Red Sox tickets (date tbd)!!! You need not be present to win one of the raffles. Please mark your calendar for this inexpensive, family event. . Come and have your lunch before you buy those lucky tickets! Munchies, coffee and baked goods will also be available.



Open House at Venerini

Venerini Academy will hold its Spring Open House on Monday April 23 through Friday April 27 from 9-11 a.m. Visit our classes, meet our parents and faculty. Located at 27 Edward St. Worcester. Contact us at 508-753-3210 x7310 for more information.

Grafton Troop 106 — Sea Base is hosting a Ziti and Meatball Dinner/silent auction

April 28, 2018 at 5:30 PM; St. James Church Hall, South Grafton, MA

A benefit dinner and silent auction will help raise funds to support Grafton Troop 106 and trip to Sea Base on Saturday, April 28, 2018 at 5:30 PM. The dinner will be held at St. James Church Hall at 5:30 PM. The church hall is located at 89 Main Street, South Grafton, MA.

Great silent auction items: Boston Red Sox vs. Athletics pavilion tickets on May 16, 2018, Highfields Golf Country Club, Southwick's Zoo and many local business gift cards.

The dinner is \$10 per person. To purchase tickets in advance, you may call Anne Noel at (508) 277-3415



Another year of Religious Education is over !!!

Thank you to all who have shared their time and faith with the children of our parishes, you are a wonderful example of discipleship.

1st. Eucharist Parent Meeting is this Wednesday night, April 11th 7pm at St. Mary. Banner materials will be past out at this time :) Please make every effort to attend. Call / email Carole with any questions.

Parent: As always, thank you for allowing us to be a part of the faith formation of your child, may God bless you all :)

Peace and joy



Thanks to all our parishioners who have made their gift to the 2018 Partners in Charity Appeal. St. Philip is 70% towards our goal of \$33,200 and St. Mary is 61% towards our goal of \$65,000. If you have not yet made a gift or pledge, please fill out a commitment pledge envelope located in the pews. Or visit www.partners-charity.net to do it online. Partners in Charity is the Annual Appeal for the Diocese of Worcester, serving 28 charitable, educational, and pastoral ministries. Through your generous support we are able to serve thousands of families and individuals in Worcester County through outreach, formation, evangelization, and worship. Thank you!

Piano Player

Do you play the piano? St. Philips is looking for someone to please help out with our music ministry. Chuck and Patty Brown, our cantors and guitar players are doing a fantastic job but could use some help until our new music director is hired. Please call the office at 508-839-3325 if you can help. Thank you





Are you or someone you know unable to attend Mass and receive Holy Communion due to age, illness, post hospital recovery, or mobility issues? The Visiting Eucharistic Ministers of St Mary/St Philip Benizi Parishes are available to bring the Eucharist to you at home or your rehab facility. Please call the church office at 508-839-3993 or call Noreen McConville (VEM coordinator) at 508-839-5313 to schedule home visits.

Meeting for the St. Mary's Prayer Shawl Ministry will be held on Saturday April 21st from 10:00 to 11:30 a.m. downstairs in room #5 of the church. All are welcome to attend adult knitters and beginner adult knitters. The ministry is looking for knitters or crocheters to assist in making hats and mittens for those in need. Easy patterns are available. We would like to extend an invitation to parishioners of St. Philip's Church to join us in our ministry. For more information contact Pat Morse at 508 839-6070. Please join us in a rewarding ministry. We meet every third Saturday of the month. The Prayer Shawl Ministry meets September through May.

How about making a Cursillo weekend?

Cursillo or "short course in Christianity" is an uplifting and educational experience. Cursillo was brought from Spain to the United States in 1962. The weekend is facilitated by a team of laypeople and clergy who deliver organized talks and discussions. What the presenters add to the talks is the witness of their own lives, their struggles and triumphs in Christ. The weekend is full of laughter, prayer, great music, wonderful meals and so much more. Our 2018 dates are: Men's - June 14-17; Women's - May 3-6 & October 25-28. All weekends will be held at the Immaculate Conception Spiritual Renewal Center in Putnam, CT. For additional information, please contact Sue Leighton at 508-278-3155 or sleighton1958@gmail.com OR Joan Laracy at 774-239-2474 or joanlaracy@yahoo.com.



We have had our 1st meeting with the parents and confirmation candidates. If you were not at this meeting and your child is seeking to receive the sacrament, please call or email Carole so you can pick up your informational folder.

We will be sending you emails of the upcoming Confirmation calendar soon :)

Nice Matters— Please continue to have your children bring in a non perishable food item every week. We may have the summer off but this can be a very difficult time for struggling families, without school, families have to find day care, have extra food for lunches. Please continue to help our families, our neighbors, do it because nice matters all the time.

Baby Bottles— Thank you to the students in grade 6– 10, you donated over \$300.00 to Visitation House with your Lenten sacrifice. If you still have your baby bottle, please return soon :)

Mite Boxes It's never too late to return your mite box , please leave in the gathering space of either St. Mary/ St Philip. Thank you as always for your generous support.

THIS IS THE DAY THE LORD HAS MADE, LET US REJOICE AND BE GLAD

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