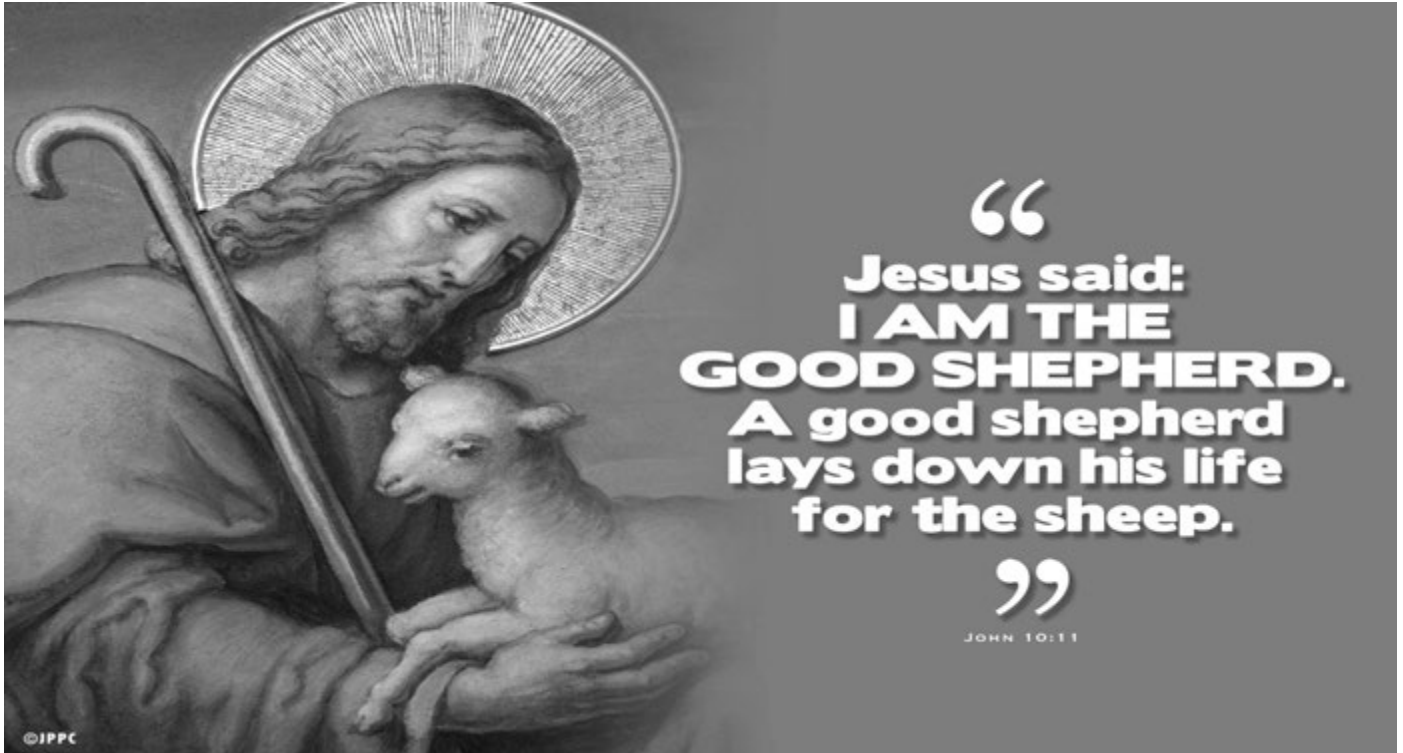


Parish Communities

St. Mary & St. Philip Benizi



Office - 508-839-3993
Fax - 508-839-1330
Website - www.stmarysgrafton.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 • jsears@stmarysgrafton.org
Religious Education Secretary:
Jill Sullivan x13 • jsullivan@stmarysgrafton.org
Organist/Director of Music:
Pamela Cross x37 • p.cross@shoplegacy.com
Safe Environment Coordinator: Joan Shanley jfs34@msn.com

Office - 508-839-3325
Fax - 508-839-1310
Religious Education - 508-839-9130
Email - stphilipsgrafton@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@stmarysgrafton.org
Business Manager: Lisa Stewart x11 • lstewart@stmarysgrafton.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 22- Jean Drago requested by family
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

May 5- Recycle Day , St Philip 9-2pm
May 5- 1st Eucharist Celebration Mass, 4pm St. Mary
May 6- Coffee Social St Philip after Mass
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 15, 2018
\$3013.00

Thank you for your generous support

4th Sunday of Easter



“I am the good shepherd...and I lay down my life for the sheep...and they will heed my voice.” (JOHN 10:14-16) When you pray, do you only ask Jesus for the things that you want? Do you ever ask Him what He wants from you? How do you listen for His response? Usually, the answer is in “quiet whispers”, so take time every day, in silence, to actively listen for His response.

Let us be silent, that we may hear the whisper of God.

St. Mary



Mass Intentions

St. Mary Parish

Stewardship is not a destination,
it is a process.

Saturday

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

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

Monday

7:45 a.m. Morning Prayer
8:00 a.m. Months Mind for Susan Dussault

Tuesday

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

Wednesday

7:45 a.m. Morning Prayer
8:00 a.m. 11th Anniversary for Thomas D Raymond requested by the family

Thursday

7:45 a.m. Morning Prayer
8:00 am Anniversary for Daniel & Anna O'Neill requested by the family

Next Saturday

4:00 p.m. 1st anniversary for Francis Frederica requested by his wife and children

Next Sunday Fifth Sunday of Easter

7:30am Memorial for Mary Ann Smith
10:30 a.m. 6th anniversary for Bang Trinh & Soan Trinh requested by the family, 2nd anniversary for Ngoc Luong requested by the family

Sunday Collection

April 14 & 15 \$4,272.00

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 sign-up sheet on the Soup Kitchen table in the gathering space. Your help is very much appreciated. Thank you!





HOW WELL DO I KNOW JESUS?

"I am the good shepherd; I know my own and my own know me." (John 10:14)

This knowledge that today's Gospel refers to is more than a superficial knowledge, such as knowing details or facts about someone. "Biblical knowledge" refers more to the intimacy of two people such as the knowledge of husband and wife. Jesus, the Good Shepherd, knows each of us intimately. He knows us by name. We are not just one of the millions of Catholics or millions of Christians in the world. "I know my own". This is another way of saying that He cares everything about us. He can do this for each and every one of us because He is God.

This Gospel is full of "I AM" statements. I AM the Bread of Life, I AM the Resurrection, I AM the Life, I AM the Way, I AM the Truth, I AM the Door, I AM the Good Shepherd.

By contrast, the hirelings or the "shepherds of Israel" in the Book of Ezekiel, help us to better know and understand Jesus, our Good Shepherd. God says the shepherds of Israel feed themselves, rather than the sheep, they eat the fat, they clothe themselves with the wool, they slaughter the fatlings, the weak are not strengthened, the sick are not healed, the crippled are not bound up, the strayed are not brought back, and the lost are not sought. (Ezekiel 34: 2-6) The Good Shepherd, on the other hand, feeds His sheep, He clothes them with His own Divine Life, He raises them to New Life rather than slaughter them, He strengthens those who are weak, He heals those who are sick, He binds up those who are crippled, He brings back the strayed to the fold, and seeks those who are lost.

We, in turn come to know Him intimately as the Good Shepherd, especially in that He lays down His life for us. For John, the beloved disciple, the supreme moment of Revelation of who God is, is Jesus on the cross, when He lays down His life for His sheep. There is no better way to know Him than to be like the beloved disciple at the foot of the cross, contemplating on Jesus nailed to the cross, along with His mother, His mother's sister, and Mary Magdalene. (This, in a way, presents to us a kind of icon that is most suitable for our meditation.)



This is our Good Shepherd who willingly lays down His life for us. Nailed to the cross and pierced for us, with water and blood flowing out, symbols of Baptism and the Eucharist, the moment which we consider the birth of the Church. With the Beloved disciple we not only behold Him who is pierced, but we allow the tremendous outpouring of his Love on us. And with the beloved disciple we hear His words: "Behold your mother." And with the beloved disciple we behold our Good Shepherd in the arms of His mother who now shares with Him the ministry of revealing the Heart of God. Alleluia!

"What It Means To Know Me"

- Relationship
- Intimacy

– A two-way relationship:

Jn 10:14

"I am the good shepherd, and I know My own and My own know Me."



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."**



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

ELECTRONIC AND APPLIANCE RECYCLE DAY



Saint Philip Parish
12 West Street, Grafton

It's time to recycle all those old electronics! Clean out your basement or garage and bring your items to the church parking lot! The following is a list of recyclable items, including, but not limited to:

TVs, monitors, computers, towers, laptops, VCR, copiers, DVD, stereo equipment, microwaves, dehumidifiers, radios, small electronics of any kind, lighting, vacuums, any appliance such as stoves, washers, dryers, etc. Exercise equipment, lawn mowers, snow blowers, small engine items,,empty propane tanks \$10.

TVs up to 18" \$15 each; TVs 19" to 24" \$20 each; TVs 25" to 31" \$25 each; TVs 32" to 35" \$30 each; TVs 36" and larger, wood console, and projection TVs \$35" each.

CRT monitors \$15 each; flat panel monitors \$10 each, AC units and dehumidifiers, \$15; Microwaves \$10 each; Small dorm refrigerators, \$1; Washers, dryers, stoves, \$20 each; Large refrigerators, \$25; Lawn mowers, ride on included, snow blowers, \$10 each; Grills \$10 each; Any kind of exercise equipment, \$10 each.

Keyboards, car batteries, cell phones, circuit boards, no cost

Bicycle Recycle Please bring any and all unwanted or under used bikes to the parking lot. We will be accepting any model of bike: mountain, road, BMX, etc., in any condition. Our aim is to keep bikes from being thrown out when they can be reused.



Thanks to all our parishioners who have made their gift to the 2018 Partners in Charity Appeal. St. Philip is 75% towards our goal of \$33,200 and St. Mary is 63% 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. Thank you for your generous support!



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.

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 :)

Senior Employment Opportunities

Catholic Charities Worcester County administers a Senior Community Services Employment Program (SCSEP) that provides training opportunities for unemployed, low-income residents of Worcester and Franklin Counties who are 55 years of age and older. Participants enrolled in the program are assigned to area non-profit agencies and government sponsored programs where they develop new work skills that enable our clients to return to the workforce. Assignments include clerical and administrative work, maintenance work, library support, etc., all depending on their interests. For more information, please call Susan Maedler, Program Administrator, Catholic Charities' Senior Employment Program, at (508) 860-2241.



Thank you to all those parishioners who so generously donated to the Easter Flower Fund.
Thank you to all those who joined the liturgical team in decorating the sanctuary and chapel during the Lenten and Easter seasons.
 Both parishes were just beautiful, if you would like to join the team at St Philip please contact Connie Tancrell or Mary Pollinger, at St. Mary please contact Sharon Doane extra hands are always appreciated.

Coffee Social

Congratulations to Anita Hudson, Janine Alderton, and Addison Coyne, April's Coffee Social attendance prize winners. Our next social will take place after Mass on 5/6. Sign-up cards are located on the table in the church entrance. All assistance is greatly appreciated.

~~~~~

*Spend some time talking to Jesus , He is always ready to listen*

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