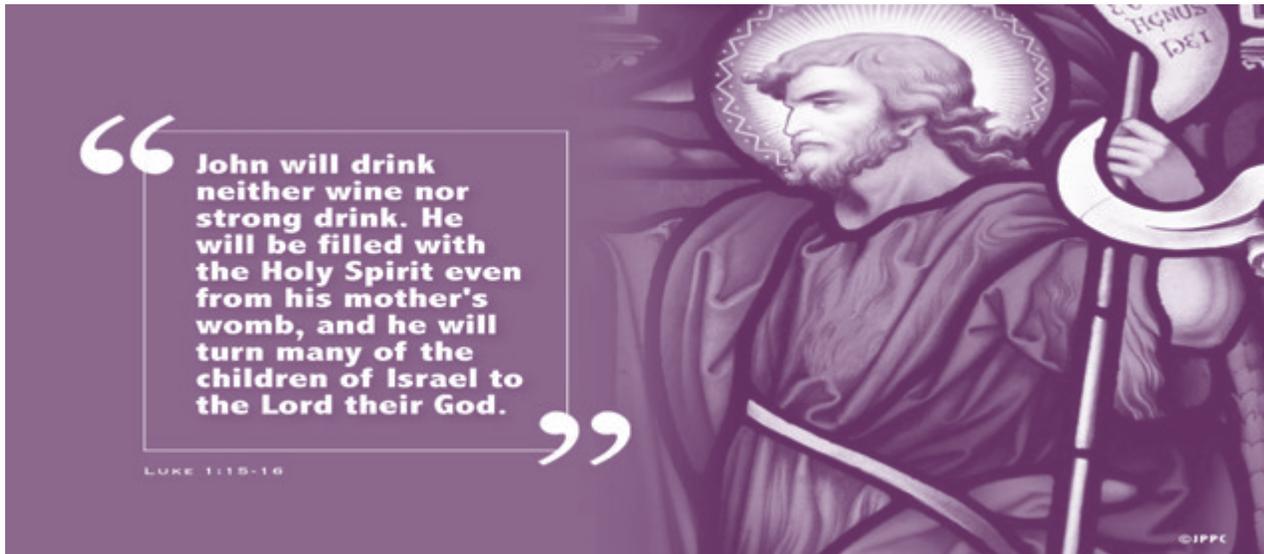


Parish Communities

St. Mary & St. Philip Benizi



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

St. Mary Office - 508-839-3993

Fax - 508-839-1330

Website - www.stmarysgraffton.org

Weekend Mass Schedule St. Mary-

Saturday 4:00 PM

Sunday 7:30 & 10:30 AM

Morning Prayer Mon-Thurs 7:45 AM

Daily Mass Monday - Thursday 8:00 AM

St. Philip Office - 508-839-3325

Fax - 508-839-1310

Religious Education - 508-839-9130

Email - stphilipsgraffton@gmail.com

Mass Schedule

St. Philip Sunday 9:00 AM

*Parish Secretary St. Mary: x10

*Parish Secretary St. Philip: Carole LeBlanc—cleb1329@aol.com

*Director of Religious Ed St Mary/ St. Philip– Darleen Farland x 12 dfarland@stmarysgraffton.org

*Administrator of Religious Ed St. Mary/St. Philip– Carole LeBlanc

*Religious Ed. Secretary: Jill Sullivan x13 jsullivan@stmarysgraffton.org

*Organist/Dir. Music: Pamela Cross x37 p.cross@shoplegacy.com

*Safe Environment Coordinator St. Mary : Joan Shanley jfs34@msn.com

*Safe Environment Coordinator St. Philip: Carole LeBlanc cleb1329@aol.com

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

BULLETIN NOTICES: To Carole by 6:00 PM Mondays. Email cleb1329@aol.com

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION: 3-3:30 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: 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.

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

R.C.I.A. - Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults

RCIA is the process of welcoming adults into full membership in the Church. It is for you, or someone you know:

v who has never been baptized

v who was baptized in another Christian tradition

v who was baptized Catholic, but has never celebrated the sacraments of Eucharist or Confirmation

Contact Darleen at 508-839-3993 X 12 for more info. Share this notice with someone you know who may be interested.



St. Philip



Mass Intentions
St Philip Parish

June 24– Thomas Morin requested by Carole, Alfred Corda requested by family
July 1– Anna McAuley requested by the parish
July 8– Deceased members of the Stone family
July 15– Helen LaPan requested by a friend

Calendar of Events for St. Philip and St. Mary

Rosary after 9am Mass at St. Philip

June 30– Recycling at St. Philip

Sunday Collection-June 17, 2018

Sunday Ordinary.....\$ 1400.00
 Maintenance.....180.00
 Total.....\$1580.00

Thank you for your continued support

Rosary-After Sunday morning 9am Mass, the Rosary will be recited in the Chapel, please join us.

The Nativity of St. John the Baptist

“...Behold, one is coming after me; I am not worthy to unfasten the sandals of his feet.” (ACTS 13:25) Stewardship is a lifestyle; it’s not a program or a process. It’s how we are called to live our lives twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week! It challenges us to live “God-centered” lives, not “self-centered” lives. Reflect on your daily activities, do you do them for the glory of God or for the glory of your own name?



Coffee Social

Congratulations to Claire Simpson, Lisa and Michele Yitts, this month’s Coffee Social attendance prize winners. Our next after Mass social will be held in September. Once a date is determined, the sign-up cards will be placed on the table in the church entrance. Thanks again for all your help, which contributed to several enjoyable opportunities for food and fellowship during the year. See you again in the fall!



St. Mary



Mass Intentions

St. Mary Parish

“The Eucharist is the secret of my day. It gives strength and meaning to all my activities of service to the Church and to the world.” Pope Saint John Paul II

Saturday-4:00 p.m. For the parishioners of St Mary’s

Next Sunday The Nativity of John the Baptist

7:30am Special Intention

10:30 a.m. Memorial for Michael Rizzo, June McCarty and Leo Parent requested by Rolande Parent

Monday 7:45 am– morning prayer

8:00am– Mass -open intention

Tuesday 7:45 am– morning prayer

8:00am– Mass– open intention

Wednesday 7:45 am– morning prayer

8:00 am– Mass– open intention

Thursday– 7:45 am– morning prayer

8:00 am– Mass– open intention

Next Saturday– 4pm Wedding anniversary Malvina & Thomas Killoran, 6th month anniversary Irene Mombourquette by Rev John Bagle

Next Sunday– **13th Sunday in Ordinary Time**

7:30– Ann Flynn, 25th anniversary requested by the family

10:30-Adam, Cam and John LeVicki requested by family, 8th anniversary Ann Barcinas requested by family.

Sunday Collection-June 17, 2018

\$5347.00

Thank you for your continued support

Eucharistic Adoration

There is no Eucharistic Adoration during the summer months. It will resume with the 1st Wednesday in September.

Summer Months– As we are all planning to take vacations during the summer, please don’t forget your parish contributions, we need your ongoing support to help with the daily running of our parishes. It’s now even easier to make your weekly donations, even when you are away for Summer vacation! **Please read about the new WeShare at <https://stmarysgrafton.org/weshare>. Thank you for all you do.**



Come Celebrate the Eucharist with us at Morning Mass Monday through Thursday at 8:00 am,,,, Jesus, what a wonderful gift to receive everyday!

June 24, 2018

Nativity of John the Baptist

Nativity of John the Baptist

Reflection by Rev. Leonard N. Peterson

An old joke, ever ready for new audiences about a proud Jewish mother describing her twins to a friend she comes upon while pushing the double wide stroller. Responding to her friend's compliment about the boys, she says "Thanks so much. You know, Josh there will be the doctor and Jake will be the lawyer." Talk about predetermination!

Today's First Reading from Isaiah finds the mature prophet proudly declaring the fact that he was given his special role while still in the womb! We also read the same about St. John the Baptist. For not only does his very existence display God's miraculous power acting in Elizabeth long after her child-bearing years, but also in the conferring of a name and a life's mission.

John the Baptist does indeed grow into the man who stands at the end of the long line of prophets of the Old Testament. But he also is at the start of the New Testament when he announces the arrival of the long-awaited Messiah. On that fateful day he will point to the adult Jesus walking on the Jordan riverbank and shout to the crowd gathered, "Behold the Lamb of God!" Six chapters later, Luke will record Jesus saying of John that, "Of all those born of women none is greater than John the Baptist, but that he who is least in the Kingdom of God is greater than John." (7:28) A great compliment indeed, but tempered by a comparison that I believe John himself would welcome!

Meanwhile we can ponder this man John as we celebrate today his birthday, noting that the Church does this for only two other persons: Christ Himself and Our Blessed Mother. I admire John for what has always been so outstanding in his life: his humility. After all, the man had crowds of people following him and hanging on his every word. (Dare I say he anticipated people the likes of Bishop Sheen, Billy Graham and even Joel Osteen?) All that could have inflated John's ego beyond help. But listen to him declare "There is one among you whose sandal strap I am unworthy to loosen." Not a shabby attitude of mind and heart for any of us to have.

This feast, coming precisely six months before Christmas, divides the calendar year. St. Augustine once seized upon that fact and stated that this feast, so close to the summer solstice, makes it possible for us to say that "after John's birth, the days slowly grow shorter, but after Christ's birth they grow longer."

More importantly, I think John's lifestyle divides the phonies from the faithful. He is the true blue man of God, someone we can all strive to be, man and woman. So much talk these days about the need for transparency, among individuals and groups, including the Church. But talk is not needed as much as action. St. John the Baptist could well be at the front of the line of saints that show us how it's done. Humility is truth. Transparency is truth exposed.

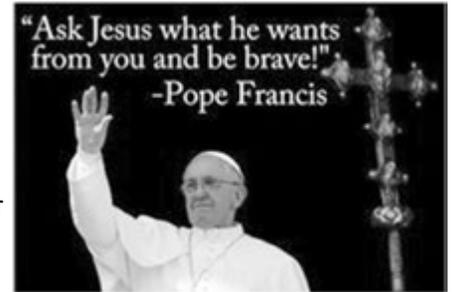
Sometimes humility comes at us whether we like it or not. When George H. Bush was president, he was doing his public relations "thing" by visiting a nursing home. He came upon a wizened old man hobbling down the corridor. President Bush took the man by the hand and said, "Sir, do you know who I am?" The man replied, "No, but if you ask one of the nurses, she'll tell you."



Religious Education

10 GOOD REASONS TO BECOME A CATECHIST

- You will grow in your own faith, learn the teachings of the Church, and deepen your relationship with Jesus.
- Your Baptism calls you to share in Jesus' ministry.
- Children, teens, and adults in today's world, more than ever, need to hear the Good News of Jesus.
- Children, teens, and adults in today's world, more than ever, need to encounter good role models of faith.
- You have much to share with those you'll teach, and you'll have opportunities to share faith with other catechists.
- Today's catechetical textbooks/resources offer outstanding support.
- You'll be challenged, you'll have fun, and you'll make new friends.
- You'll be helping people deepen their relationship with Jesus. (You'll be evangelizing!)
- You'll be handing on a 2000-year-old Tradition that changes lives.
- It's our job: Jesus sent us to "go and teach all nations."



Won't you answer the call? We are looking for catechists and aides for Grades 1 through 5 at St Mary and catechists and aides for Grades 6 through 9 at St. Philip
 Please contact Darleen Farland at dfarland@stmarysgraffon.org or 508-839-3993 ext. 12

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.

In order to help our families this summer, we welcome donations of: mayonnaise, kids' snacks, juice boxes, pasta sauce (Marinara and Alfredo), pancake mix and syrup, coffee & tea, rice pilaf, Lipton sides and Hamburger Helper, Raisin Bran, cookies & crackers, tissues & paper towels . 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."**



Catechetical gathering—Catechist and Aides— Rescheduled until August, please check your email for detail

Echoes of Faith 3.0—Basic Formation for Parish Catechist-Online Catechist Training

The office of Religious Education, through RCL Benziger's Echoes 3.0 program is pleased to offer online courses towards Basic Catechist Certification. Take course in the comfort of your own homes in English or Spanish, log into the course any time of day or night, share ideas with other catechist from throughout the Worcester Diocese through the interactive discussion board. The courses being offered are as follows:

Dates	Course Title	Course Instructor
July 1 to August 4, 2018	I Believe/We Believe/ (Creed)	Darleen Farland/Sindy Collazo
August 5 to September 8, 2018	Liturgy & Sacraments	Mary Pat Heelan/ Sindy Collazo
Sept. 9 to Oct 13, 2018	Catholic Morality	Barbara Ramian/ Sindy Collazo
Oct 14 to Nov 17, 2018	The Scriptures	Mary Pat Heelan/ Sindy Collazo
Nov 18 to Dec 29, 2018	The Church	Mary Pat Heelan

To Register: Go to www.worcesterdiocese.org. Under "Departments", click on "Religious Education"

On the sidebar, click on "Echoes 3.0 Registration" and complete the online registration form. Once you have registered through the website, we will email you a code and instructions for creating your account and logging into the course. **Please register at least one week before the scheduled start date for the course.**

For questions, please contact the Office of Religious Education:

Barbara Ramian (508) 929-4308 or bramian@worcesterdiocese.org

Tina Rameo (508) 929-4303 or tromeo@worcesterdiocese.org



Thanks to all our parishioners who have made their gift to the 2018 Partners in Charity Appeal. St. Philip is 82% towards our goal of \$33,200 and St. Mary is 78% 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-in-charity.net to do it online. Thank you for your generous support!

NEWS FROM YOUR STEWARDSHIP MINISTRY ~~~~~ TIME , TALENT & TREASURE

The parish communities of St. Mary and St. Philip are a tithing community. For us this means that 5% of our weekly offerings are put aside to be used as donations to appropriate 501c3 non-profit organizations focusing on work in our local community, the nation and the world.



In effort to further collaboration between our parishes, a new Stewardship ministry has been formed by Fr. Leo. The members of this ministry are: Carole LeBlanc, Pete Cardoza and Karen Jordan from St. Philip and Sue Treveloni, Rolande Parent, Sharon Doane and Joan Shanley from St. Mary.

Please watch future bulletins for more information on how our parish tithes are being used. If you are aware of an appropriate 501c3 that you would like us to consider, please forward the information to Joan Shanley at jfs34@msn.com Thank you for your continued generosity to those in need.

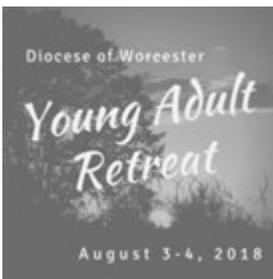
Religious Freedom Week

Religious Freedom Week will be celebrated in dioceses nationwide from June 22 to June 29. Throughout the week we will focus on the importance of preserving the essential right of religious freedom, both now and in the future, for Catholics and all people of faith. This year's theme is "Serving Others in God's Love" reminding us that religious liberty allows people of faith to serve God and others freely in ministries like healthcare, adoption and foster care, education, and migration and refugee services to name a few. The significant feast days during the week (Saints Thomas More and John Fisher – June 22, Saint John the Baptist – June 24, and Saints Peter and Paul – June 29) inspire us to follow the example of these great saints who loved God above all and remained faithful in the face of adversity. Please visit www.usccb.org/ReligiousFreedomWeek to download the "Pray-Reflect-Act" one-pagers for each day on various religious liberty topics. These excellent resources are intended to inspire us to learn more about religious liberty from a Catholic perspective, help us to pray about particular issues, and provide us with tools to act on what we learn. Additional information can be found at www.worcesterdiocese.org/religiousfreedomweek.





Please make sure you check out the Soup Ministry tables at both St. Philip and St. Mary. With summer upon us and people vacationing, we need your help to help us take care of our friends in need. Hunger doesn't take vacation so please take the time to look and see if you can help .



Diocesan Young Adult Retreat August 3-4 at Immaculate Conception, Putnam, CT
Do you feel busy and constantly bombarded with the stresses and anxiety of everyday life? Are you in need of spiritual renewal? If so, join other young adults to step away with Christ for a weekend of empowerment and renewal! This retreat is a perfect opportunity for anyone! It doesn't matter if you are devout in your faith or simply just searching for truth and purpose in life. Cost is \$50 which includes all meals as well as overnight accommodations.

The retreat will begin Friday evening and will conclude Saturday afternoon following the vigil Mass. Contact Tim Messenger, Diocesan Director of Youth and Young Adult Ministry at 508-929-4360 or at tmessenger@worcesterdiocese.org. Deadline to register is July 18th!

First Reading: Isaiah 49:1-6

The prophet declares that he was called right from his mother's womb. His mission is to preach to outsiders. His word is really the Lord's.

Second Reading: Acts 13:22-26

This sermon of Paul's includes a tribute to John the Baptist wherein he is described as Jesus' herald, "proclaiming a baptism of repentance to all Israel."

Gospel: Luke 1:57-66, 80

Both Elizabeth and Zechariah declare their son's name in obedience to the angel. With his speech restored immediately after, Zechariah praises God. Luke prepares his readers for John's future role by stating that the future saint became strong in the Spirit.

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