

# 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](http://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](mailto: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](mailto:cleb1329@aol.com)  
\*Director of Religious Ed St Mary/ St. Philip— Darleen Farland x 12 [dfarland@stmarysgraffton.org](mailto:dfarland@stmarysgraffton.org)  
\*Administrator of Religious Ed St. Mary/St. Philip— Carole LeBlanc  
\*Religious Ed. Secretary: Jill Sullivan x13 [jsullivan@stmarysgraffton.org](mailto:jsullivan@stmarysgraffton.org)  
\*Organist/Dir. Music: Pamela Cross x37 [p.cross@shoplegacy.com](mailto:p.cross@shoplegacy.com)  
\*Safe Environment Coordinator St. Mary : Joan Shanley [jfs34@msn.com](mailto:jfs34@msn.com)  
\*Safe Environment Coordinator St. Philip: Carole LeBlanc [cleb1329@aol.com](mailto: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 .  
\* Youth Group Ministry-[youthgroup@stmarysgraffton.org](mailto:youthgroup@stmarysgraffton.org)

**BULLETIN NOTICES:** To Carole by **6:00 PM Mondays**. Email [cleb1329@aol.com](mailto: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**

**Sept 9**– Lois Richard requested by a friend, Fred Holland requested by family

**Sept 16**–Edith Whiteley requested by Dorothy Nacimiento Charles, Mary Diana & Charles J requested by family  
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**Calendar of Events for St. Philip and St. Mary**

Eucharist Adoration Wednesdays St Mary

**Sept 9 & 10**– RE classes begin

**Sept 9**– Confirmation Installation Mass St Philip

**Sept 16**– Confirmation Retreat St. Philip

**Sept 16**– Mass 4pm St Philip,  
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Sunday Collection 9-1-2018

\$1385.00

Thank you for your continued support  
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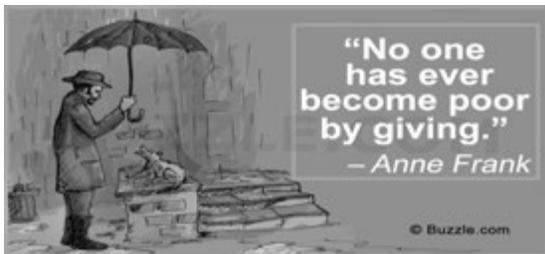
**Rosary**–After Sunday morning 9am Mass, the Rosary will be recited in the Chapel, please join us.  
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**Organist, Pianist or Guitarist**

*St. Philip Parish is seeking a music coordinator for a weekly 9am Sunday Mass, this individual must be proficient, in organ, piano or guitar, select appropriate music, work with cantors and have a working knowledge and respect for Catholic Liturgy. Please send a cover letter and resume to Lisa Stewart @lstewart@stmarysgraffon.org*  
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**23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time**

“Did not God choose those who are poor in the world to be rich in faith and heirs of the kingdom that he promised to those who love him?” (JAMES 2:5) What is more important – being rich in faith or rich in possessions? Society teaches us that possessions are most important. God teaches a different lesson. When we are rich in faith, we keep God first in all things and realize that material things really don’t matter and that it’s more important to share with those who have less.



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**The Grafton Catholic Youth Group** will celebrate the coming year on Sunday, September 16th with a 4pm mass at St. Phillips. Immediate following will be light refreshments then religious education classes. Please plan to join us!

**St. Mary**



*Mass Intentions*

**St. Mary Parish**

*“Life with Christ is a wonderful adventure.” Saint John Paul II*

**Saturday** 4 pm Deceased members of St. Mary Parish

**Sunday** 7:30 am Memorial Reed Honozinski by Bob & Thelma Guerin

10:30– Parishioners of St. Mary

**Monday** 7:45 am Morning Prayer

8:00 am Open Intention

**Tuesday** 7:45 am Morning Prayer

8:00 am Open Intention

**Wednesday** 7:45 am Morning Prayer

8:00 am Morning Mass

**Thursday** 7:45 am Morning Prayer

8:00 am Morning Mass

**Saturday** 4:00 pm Deceased members of the LaMarche family

**Sunday** 7:30– 24 anniversary for Adele Moroney, 28th anniversary for Russell Dickinson, Memorial for Dennis Flynn

10:30– Edward Doane requested by a friend, David and Helen Coggins requested by family.



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Sunday Collection 9-1-18-2018

\$4370.00

Thank you for your continued support  
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**Meeting for the St. Mary's Prayer Shawl Ministry**

will be held on Saturday September 22nd from 10:00 to 11:30 a.m. downstairs in room #5 of the church. All are welcome to attend, adult knitters, beginner adult knitters and crocheters. The ministry is looking for knitters or crocheters to assist in making shawls, blankets, hats, mittens and scarves 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.



## LORD GIVE ME A HEARING HEART

The deaf man with a speech impediment in today's Gospel, begged Jesus to lay hands on him. The crowd expects that the miraculous touch of Jesus' hands will cure the man. Jesus, however, is aware that this expectation, miracle mongering is what pollutes the atmosphere, and divides and misdirects our perceptions of what should take place. That is why, what Jesus has to do can only be done in private.

At a deeper level, the level of discipleship, the Holy Spirit helps us to understand that the more profound meaning of Christ's teaching, and insight into the secrets of the Kingdom of God, can only be grasped if we, like the disciples, have made a total commitment to Christ. The crowds are not ready for the secret of how God heals in Jesus.

Although the ears can detect sounds and the tongue can produce sounds, it is not the ears that hear, nor the tongue that speaks. Rather it is the heart which is the spiritual center of the person, and therefore the source of hearing and speaking. If our heart is hard then we remain deaf and dumb and closed off to the Divine Source.

When Jesus puts His fingers into the man's ears, He reverses the flow of his attention. He now listens inwardly, and struggles less and less with the noises that come from the outside world. In this way Jesus directs our attention to our spiritual center: the heart.

Then Jesus spits on His hand and touches the man's tongue with His spit. Spit comes from the inside of Jesus and symbolizes the Holy Spirit. Jesus here connects the Holy Spirit with the waters of the Jordan when He was baptized and the heavens were opened and the dove descended upon Him. Now Jesus and the man are interiorly in communion with one another.

This Gospel reminds us of our own baptism, when the priest or deacon says at the end of the ceremony: "The Lord Jesus made the deaf to hear and the dumb to speak. May He soon touch your ears to receive his word, and your mouth to proclaim His faith, to the praise and glory of God the Father."



# RELIGIOUS EDUCATION



**Our Religious Ed schedule** is posted on the website, please check it out. Classes Start Sept 9-10 for all students.

**Confirmation Mass of Enrollment** is Sept 9th , 9am Mass at St. Philip. Please have your sponsor attend with you, if they can't, a parent may step in . Class will follow Mass for students only. Please have all your forms ready to turn in that day.

**Confirmation Retreat is Sept 16** at St. Philip ending with Mass at 4pm.

**Parish Dinner**– Saturday October 20th the Confirmation will be sponsoring/ hosting a parish dinner at St. Philip Parish. Please save the date and come support our kids.

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**Market Sunday's Outreach Program "Neighbors Helping Neighbors"**

As you shop for your family, think of those we help every month. We welcome anything you usually buy for your family. In particular, we could use: juice boxes and kids snacks, mayonnaise, coffee& tea, rice pilaf, Lipton Sides & Hamburger Helper, cookies & crackers, Raisin Bran, pancake mix & syrup, paper products. We are so blessed to have such generous parishioners and grateful for your ongoing support. If you know of anyone struggling to provide for their family, please contact the St Vincent de Paul Society of St Mary/St Philip. at 508 839-3993 x 35. All information is kept confidential.



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**Greetings from the Diocesan Youth Ministry Office,**

*Join us for a day of prayer, reflection, and formation with other youth leaders from around the Diocese on Saturday, September 22nd at St. Mary in North Grafton. The day will go from 9:30am - 4pm and it will be led by Dr. Bob Rice, Professor of Catechetics and Youth Ministry at Franciscan University of Steubenville. This event is a perfect opportunity for any youth ministers, adult core team members, priests, deacons, parents, other adult youth leaders, or anyone who does any kind of work with teenagers!*

*A light breakfast as well as lunch will be provided. Links to the flyer can be found at the bottom of this email. Individual and group registrations are being accepted. This is a great opportunity for anyone who works/volunteers with youth! Cost for the day is \$40.00, **if interested in attending please contact Darleen for promo discount.***

**@dfarland@stmarysgrafton.org This is includes St. Philip, St. James and St Mary.**

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**\*Young Adult Theology on Tap**

*Join us for the next Theology on Tap on Tuesday, Sept. 11 at Compass Tavern in Worcester! Our speaker will be Dr. Marc Tumeinski and the topic will be "Sowing Good Seeds: The Church as the Creative Minority". Compass Tavern is located at 90 Harding St. in Worcester. Doors open for food and drinks at 6:30. The speaker will begin around 7:15. Open to all young adults ages 18-39.*

*Please pray for all our children who will be heading back to school very soon.*

*May our loving God protect and guide our children as they encounter new experiences and new challenges. May He keep them safe in all they do from the moment they leave home until they return.*



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**Amplify-** *Join us for Amplify, a FREE evening of food, games, community, prayer and worship for high school youth! Our next Amplify will be at Holy Family of Nazareth and Leominster on Sunday, Sept. 30 from 6:30-8:45 pm. To register a group or to get more info, go to [www.neworchester.org/amplify-nights](http://www.neworchester.org/amplify-nights). Deadline to register is Sept. 21.*

\*\*\*\*\*  
**A Voice for the Voiceless: Inspirational Pro-Life Music**

*Join us for an evening of inspirational original Pro-Life Music by Musicians for Life with their NEW CD release entitled: "It's a Life". This free concert event will be held on Saturday, Sept. 15, 5:30 - 7 pm at St. Ann Parish, 652 Main St. North Oxford. All are welcome to join us for 4 pm Mass, 5 pm Coffee and sandwiches, 5:30 - 7 pm Main Event.*

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**Thank you to all who donated assorted items from our religious education wish list. Your thoughtfulness and generosity are deeply appreciated and your contribution helps our catechists and students with the supplies they will need for classes.**

**\*\*Percussionist wanted for the 10:30 Mass**

Do you play percussion and would enjoy volunteering to play with our band at the 10:30 mass? We rehearse at 6:30 p.m. on Thursday nights and play each Sunday at the 10:30 mass. Share some of your own great talent and energy with our music ministry! **Feel the Rhythm of God's Beat**

**St. Mary's LITTLE ANGELS CLUB**, mass-time nursery, **TODAY Sunday**, September 9th at 10:30 AM. Your 6 month - 4 year old will enjoy Christian videos, music and stories during the 10:30 Mass.



**Environmental Stewardship Conference**

Calling all parish leadership and interested parishioners! On Sunday, Sept. 23 from 1 – 4:30 pm, the Diocese of Worcester's Environmental Stewardship Initiative will sponsor the Worcester Catholic Environmental Stewardship Conference at the Hogan Center, College of the Holy Cross in Worcester. On this 5th anniversary year for Pope Francis' encyclical, On the Care of our Common Home (Laudato Si'), hear from speakers including Bishop McManus, Fr. William Campbell, SJ and Dr. Katherine Kiel from Holy Cross, Secretary Matthew Beaton of Massachusetts, and a Panel of Parish leaders involved in environmentally responsible programs.



Visit <http://environment.worcesterdiocese.org> today to register (no cost) or for more information. And while you are online check out all the wonderful resources for parishes, schools, families and communities on that website!

**New Music Feature on our website.**

The Music Ministry at St. Mary's has an exciting music feature that has recently been updated on our website ([stmarysgraffon.org](http://stmarysgraffon.org)). If you have a computer, tablet or smartphone, and want to be able to listen to Christian music, with playlists of songs created by our Music Director, then this is for you! St. Mary's has set up a free web-based Spotify account for our parishioners, offering you the free opportunity to be able to listen to inspiring and uplifting faith based music, whenever you like! Simply go to our website, select Ministries (seen at the top of the screen), choose and click on Music Ministry and scroll down that screen to the bottom right. There you'll find Links to various playlists, such as Contemporary Songs, Peaceful Piano, Children's Music, Healing, and more. Just click on the link and it will open up in your Spotify account if you have one, or invite you to join for free, so you can listen to the songs. New links will be posted as the year goes by. Email Pam Cross at [p\\_cross@shoplegacy.com](mailto:p_cross@shoplegacy.com) if you have any questions.

**Women's Club Fair in Milford**

The Sacred Heart Women's Club 11th Annual Fall Fair will be held on Saturday, Oct. 13 from 9 AM to 3 pm. The Fair will have a rummage sale, bake sale, raffles and refreshments for sale. The Fair is held annually at the Sacred Heart Church in the Bell Tower Room/Parish Hall on East Main St. Milford. It is handicap accessible, has free parking and free admission. All proceeds go toward projects of the church.

**Upcoming Cursillo Weekends**

Cursillo or "short course in Christianity" is an uplifting and educational experience. The weekend is facilitated by a team of laypeople and clergy who deliver organized talks and discussions. Our last 2018 date is: Women's – Oct. 25-28; and our 2019 dates are as follows. Men: March 21-24 & Oct. 10-13; Women: May 2-5 & Nov. 14-17. 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](mailto:sleighton1958@gmail.com).

**Seeking Storage Space for Haitian Apostolate**

Haitian Apostolate in the Diocese of Worcester needs secure, accessible storage space for donations which will later be shipped to Haiti throughout the year. If you have or know of available space, please contact Tanya Connor (on behalf of Sister Judith Dupuy) at [tecwfk@gmail.com](mailto:tecwfk@gmail.com) or 225-305-7114. Thank you for whatever you can do to help us share with our Haitian brothers and sisters.

**Welcome to St. Mary's newest altar servers:** Maire Hanna, Ethan Verdolino, Julie Verdolino, David Webber, and Ethan Zervos! We're grateful you've chosen to serve Jesus through this ministry.



If your child has made his or her First Communion, attends Mass regularly, and is interested in learning more about becoming an altar server at St. Mary's, please contact [rolandeparent@comcast.net](mailto:rolandeparent@comcast.net).

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