

Parish Communities

St. Mary & St. Philip Benizi

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



St. Mary Office - 508-839-3993
Fax - 508-839-1330
Website - www.stmarysgrafton.org
Weekend Mass Schedule St. Mary-
Saturday 4:00 PM
Sunday 7:30 & 10:30 AM Mass-time
nursery'
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 - stphilipsgrafton@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@stmarysgrafton.org
*Administrator of Religious Ed St. Mary/St. Philip— Carole LeBlanc
*Religious Ed. Secretary: Jill Sullivan x10 jsullivan@stmarysgrafton.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 .
* Youth Group Ministry-youthgroup@stmarysgrafton.org

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

Sept 30-John LaPointe requested by parish
Oct 7- Michael Cherry requested by family
Oct 14-month mind, Helen Stone requested by Eva & Francis Bolack, Deceased members of the Corey family requested by family
Oct 21- Helen LaPan requested by a friend
Oct 28- Deceased members of the Polselli family by parish
Nov 4- Deceased members of the Chartier family by the parish

Calendar of Events for St. Philip and St. Mary

Eucharist Adoration Wednesdays St Mary
Oct 7- Coffee Social after morning Mass, St Philip
Oct 27- Parish Dinner at St. Philip details coming....
Nov 4- Teen Safe Environment Training @ St. Philip 6pm

Sunday Collection 9-23-2018
 \$2005.00

Thank you for your continued support

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

26TH Sunday in Ordinary Time

“Anyone who gives you a cup of water to drink because you belong to Christ, amen, I say to you, will surely not lose his reward.” (MARK 9:41) Does your life reflect the life of Jesus? Remember, we were made in His image. We tend to forget this. When others see you, do they see the face of Jesus? When you look at others, do you see the face of Jesus in them?

Listening Sessions for parishioners who need to speak

Fr. Leo will make himself available after each Mass the weekend of Oct 6 & 7 to all parishioners who need to speak about the recent wave of abuse of minors by clergy and other church personnel that has recently been on the media, as well as the accusations against Cardinal McCarrick. This is primarily a listening session and not meant to be a debate on all sides if the issues, I as pastor, need to hear the pain and turmoil people feel. The format is similar to that of 12 step meetings where people can speak freely without judgement, argumentation or debate. I and others present are here to listen to what you have to say. My hope as pastor is that these will offer perhaps the beginning of a healing process.



St. Mary



Mass Intentions

St. Mary Parish

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

Saturday:4:00pm 27th Anniversary John Burnham by family, 19th Anniversary Everett Coonan by family, 10th Anniversary Carl Dahlstrom by family

Sunday:7:30am – 4th Anniversary Garry Neal by family
 10:30am – Birthday Jack Joyce requested by family

Monday:7:45am - Morning Prayer
 8:00am - Morning Mass—open intention

Tuesday:7:45am - Morning Prayer
 8:00am - Morning Mass—open intention

Wednesday:7:45am - Morning Prayer
 8:00am - Morning Mass—open intention

Thursday:7:45am - Morning Prayer
 8:00am - Morning Mass—open intention

Next Saturday:4:00pm Birthday Mary Hebert by family
Next Sunday:7:30am – Deceased members of St. Mary’s parish

10:30am – Parishioners of St. Mary’s

Sunday Collection 9-23-2018
 \$3589.00

Thank you for your continued support

St. Mary’s Prayer Shawl Ministry Please join us in a rewarding ministry. We meet every third Saturday of the month. The Prayer Shawl Ministry meets September through May. For more information contact Pat Morse at 508 839-6070.



We are asking that every child please bring in a non perishable food item to religious education class every week. This can be and should be something that your **child wants to give to help feed our friends in need. There is no right or wrong item to bring**, the point is for the children to see that **being nice matters**, to share something they like with those who have less, to think about others. So please, have your children be a part of this so that they can be a true disciple of Jesus and give to those in need by living the Beatitudes. Any questions should be directed to Carole LeBlanc, 508-9839-3325

Be Nice because being Nice Matters

HOLINESS AS ACQUIRING A LISTENING HEART



Jesus' tough job was to form the hearts and souls of those he called so they could truly become his disciples. Last week he challenged them and us to become like little children. But their minds and hearts were still trapped in the ways of the world. "Teacher, we saw someone casting out demons in your name, and we tried to stop him, because he was not following us." The apostles were secretly becoming a tight-knit power group. Jesus' priority is to establish the reign of God. He is not concerned about who gets credit for the good that is

Make God your
first priority
not your
last resort

done. As disciples our role is not to exclude but to welcome anyone who promotes the Kingdom of God. He is teaching us that the reign of God is all inclusive and that every contribution great or small is important in God's eyes. The disciples developing a welcoming spirit is, therefore, extremely important to Jesus. **How cooperative are we in letting Jesus form our hearts and souls? Do my priorities need to change, that is, time and resource-wise, do I really consider the reign of God in my life, my top priority? What are my motives for doing things- our ego, or Christ? When rendering service, how important is getting the credit or at least a thank you from those whom I served? Would I ever consider saying "thank you" to those whom I served for accepting my service?**

Jesus then teaches us that to embrace the least among us is to embrace him. And to embrace him is to embrace the Father. Yet woe to us if we are a scandal to the least. He wants to confront in us, his disciples, the drive we have to be egocentric, to save one's own life, to be great, to lord it over others, or even to harm others in order to save ourselves, which are the ways of the world. For most of us, these ways have become "second nature". If these drives are to be overcome with ways of other-centeredness, that is, losing oneself for the Gospel, being the least of all, and not harming others, there must be a commitment for every disciple to undergo whatever surgery is necessary. The path to holiness is a constant battle with the dark forces of the devil. Those who fail to realize this will experience failure and mediocrity in the spiritual life and fall prey to the venom of hatred, envy, pride fear and even despair. The tools we have to fight are: prayer, meditation, the Eucharist, the sacrament of reconciliation, works of charity and our faith community. These can help us identify the false promises of the devil. **What ways of the world are our greatest temptations? What ways of the world, even in our own families, try to undermine our faith in Christ? How aware am I of the deceptions of the devil? (See Galatians 5:19-26) Scriptures teach us to be vigilant and be ready. We must be ready to admit our own sinfulness. Am I ready to do that? Or am I more apt to blame? Failing to admit my shortcomings results in a state of spiritual laziness. Am I tempted to just "forget about it", rather than tackle the issue? Pope Francis, elsewhere, talks about combative hope. Do I have a hope that is ready to do combat, knowing that Christ promises victory? What fruits of the Spirit do I have in my spiritual arsenal? Jesus says, "Have salt (the Holy Spirit) in yourself, and be at peace with one another.**



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION



Attention All parents of students preparing for First Penance and First Communion. We have to make a change in the date for the Enrollment Mass. The new date for the Rite of Enrollment for Reconciliation and Eucharist will be Sunday, September 30th at the 10:30am Mass. All parents and students in both Sunday and Monday classes preparing to receive these sacraments later this academic year are expected to attend this Mass of Enrollment. Please contact Darleen Farland at dfarland@stmarysgraffton.org with any questions.

We are still in need of a Grade 5 catechist and aide, as well as a Grade 3 aide for Sunday mornings. If you can help, please contact Darleen Farland at dfarland@stmarysgraffton.org.

Father Daughter Dance

The D.J. is ready and invitations are going out! This dance is for Girls in Grades 1-6 and a significant male in their lives; be it their Dad, Grampa, an Uncle, ...someone they enjoy spending time with. The date is Friday, October 19th at 7:00pm at St. James Parish Center. Please send your RSVP back as soon as possible. The deadline for response is Tuesday, October 9th. We are also in need of help with set-up, clean-up, and refreshments: baked goods, fruit, and beverages. Please contact Celeste Allain (catstjames@aol.com) at St. James Parish or Darleen Farland (dfarland@stmarysgraffton.org) at St. Mary/St. Philip parishes for registration forms.

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.



Grafton Catholic Youth Group - Social night. Bowling at Bowlero, 405 Boston Turnpike, Shrewsbury, MA. Bowling, shoes, pizza and drinks for \$20/person. October 5th from 6pm to 8pm. Sign up at: <https://stmarysgraffton.org/youth-group>. Space is limited.

The Grafton Catholic Youth Group would like to thank everyone who came to our season kick off, September 16th. We had a great turn out and time. We would like to thank Polar Beverages and Pepperoni Express for their donations, which helped to make this a success.

Diocesan Youth Rally

The Diocesan Youth Rally will take place on Sunday, Nov. 4 from 1-6 pm at Assumption College at the Laska Gym. Join hundreds of other youth from around the Diocese for a day of music, speakers, breakout sessions, and Mass with Bishop McManus! This event is open to youth in 9-12th grade. Cost is \$15/person. To register your group or to get more information about the day, go to neworchester.org/diocesan-high-school-youth-rally. Deadline to register is October 24!

Please consider volunteering for one or all of the events listed, we welcome teens and adults to help us:) These are great service hours for the teens:)

Oct 8- Rebuilt @ St. Mary (greeters at door)

Oct 18- set-up for the Father Daughter Dance from 6:30-8 at St James

Oct 19th- Father Daughter Dance from 6:30 to 9:30 at St. James

Youth Ministry Veterans Dinner- 3-6:30 contact Ed Romeo at eromeo795@gmail.com



St. Philip Benefit Pork Dinner Saturday October 27, 2018. Serving begins at 5:00 pm

Hosted by the Confirmation Class of 2018

Proceeds to benefit the Daigle/Rixham Fire Relief Fund

Come on by and say hi to Norm, Jean, Randy & Debra

50/50 raffle

Admission \$10.00,,,,TICKETS WILL BE ON SALE SOON!!!

Fall Harvest Festival – Dismas Family Farm Saturday, October 6, 2-4pm

687 Lincoln Road, Oakham Join us for our 9th Annual Fall Farm Festival! Low admission price includes all-you-can-eat lunch, hayrides, hay maze, fun activities and free mini pumpkin for kids. Register on-line by Oct. 5 at www.dismasisfamily.org and save \$1 per ticket. For more info. visit us on Facebook at 'Dismas House' or call us at (508) 882-0000! Rain Date: October 7th Adults \$10.00 – Kids \$6.00 & under 4 Free! Thanks for your support!





Tom Corcoran Visit to St. Mary, N. Grafton

10/08/18 6pm-8pm 'Meeting them where they're at'...Who are they? Where are they? How do we reach them? Tom Corcoran, co-author of Rebuilt, will share his Baltimore parish experiences of effectively building a dynamic youth program, developing Small Group fellowship communities that inspire discipleship, and revamping the homily message to appeal to the barely participating, as well as the devout Catholic. All are invited to join us at St. Mary Church, N. Grafton, on Monday, October 8, 2018, 6-8PM. Light refreshments will be available; admission is free. Email smallgroups@stmarysgraffton.org to RSVP or to contact us with questions. You may also call the St. Mary Parish Office at (508)839-3993 x10.

Lasagna Night for Veterans Shelter

Wow! It's almost October again! That means it's time for the Veterans Ministry of St. Mary, St. Philip, and St. James, to sponsor our semi-annual Lasagna Night for the veterans at the shelters in Worcester and Shrewsbury, and the women veterans shelter and their kids in Worcester, on October 15, 2018. We are asking for your help with lasagna, brownies, and ice-cream. 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 church kitchen by 3:00 PM on Sunday, October 14, 2018. There is a signup sheet on the Soup Kitchen table in the gathering space. Your help is greatly appreciated. Thank you!

Mini Retreat in Worcester

"The Armor of God, Dusting Ours Off" -- This mini retreat to remind us of, and help us navigate the spiritual battles being waged around us and against us. Join us Saturday, Oct. 13, from 8:30 am—1 pm at Sacred Heart-St. Catherine of Sweden Parish Hall, 600 Cambridge St. Worcester. Door prizes and raffles too! Tickets are \$15.00 (includes lunch). Tickets available by calling the rectory, 508-752-1608 by October 10.

Mini-Retreat for Women

The Commission for Women of the Diocese of Worcester invites you to join us for a Mini-Retreat for Women on Saturday, October 20, 8:30 am – 1:30 pm at St. Mary's Parish Hall, Main St., Shrewsbury. The day will begin with Mass at 8:30 AM, followed by registration and coffee/pastries. Lunch will be included with the \$15 offering, and the program will conclude by 1:30 p.m. Our facilitator will be Jaymie Stuart Wolfe, a featured speaker at numerous spiritual events, conferences and retreats throughout the Archdiocese of Boston and beyond. She combines inspirational music with spoken reflection, and has produced numerous recordings of original music. The program will leave you with a stronger sense of who God is and how He wants to be in your life, and who you are and can be in Him and for each other. The registration fee (checks made payable to Commission of Women) can be mailed to Pamela Ashmankas, 5 Millbury Terrace, Millbury, MA 01527, by October 11th. Further information and registration form may be found at www.worcesterdiocese.org/commission-for-women.

Worcester Catholic Women's Conference – November 10

Tickets are going fast! Register today for the Worcester Catholic Women's Conference to be held on Saturday, November 10, 2018 at Assumption College. Come and be renewed by dynamic talks from outstanding national Catholic leaders including Professor Helen Alvaré, Dr. Janet E. Smith, Susie Lloyd, Mother Mary Assumpta Long, O.P., and Susan Conroy. Confessions will be available and Mass will be celebrated by Bishop McManus. More details and registration information are available at www.worcestercatholicwomensconference.com or call Corinn at 508-277-3969. Seating is limited.

Life Chain in Worcester and Shrewsbury

All are invited to join the 31st annual Life Chain on Sunday, Oct. 7 from 2 to 3:30 p.m. This event of peaceful, prayerful witness to the sacredness of human life is held annually on Respect Life Sunday across the nation. Signs will be available at the local Life Chain stations: Elm Park, Worcester, Denny's Restaurant on Lincoln St., Worcester, and White City, Shrewsbury. The event will be held rain or shine. For more information, contact Louise at 508-756-1150. All are welcome to join in this prayerful effort to help build a Culture of Life!

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