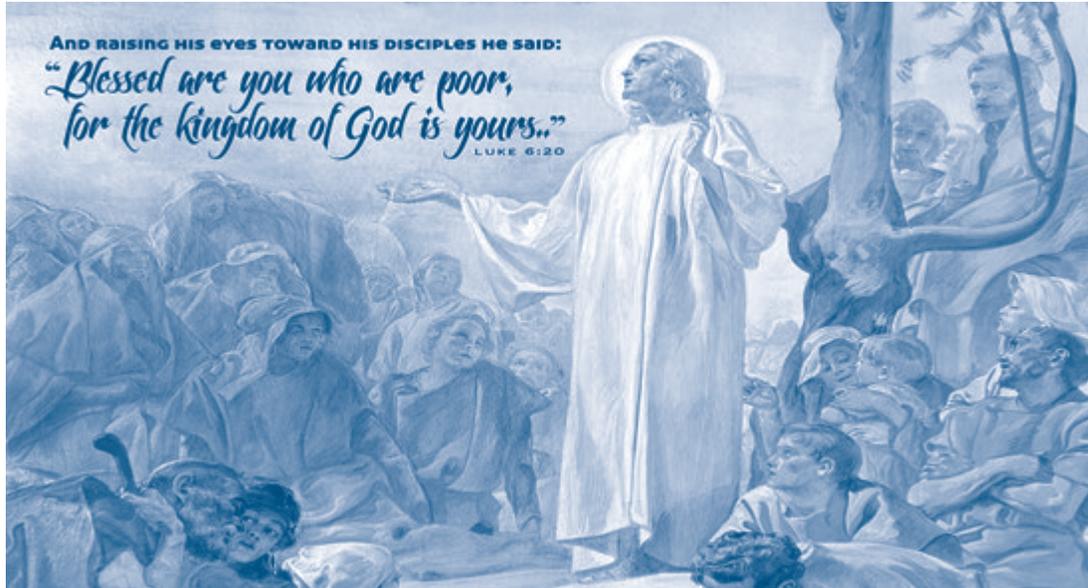


Parish Communities

St. Mary & St. Philip Benizi



Pastor: Rev. Leo LeBlanc x24 • fathrleb@gmail.com



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 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 - stphilipsgraffton@gmail.com
Mass Schedule
St. Philip Sunday 9:00 AM

* Deacon: Rev. Mr. Frederick Coggins x29 fcoggins@stmarysgraffton.org
* Business Manager: Lisa Stewart x11 lstewart@stmarysgraffton.org
* Parish Secretary St. Mary: Jill Sullivan x10 jsullivan@stmarysgraffton.org
* 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
* Organist/Dir. Music: Pamela Cross x37 p.cross@shoplegacy.com St. Mary
* Organist/Dir. Music : Brittany Dyer St Philip
* Safe Environment Coordinator St. Mary : Jill Sullivan x10
* 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@stmarysgraffton.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

Feb 17– Mary O'Hara requested by the parish
Feb 24– Deceased parishioners of St Philip

Calendar of Events for St. Philip and St. Mary
Rosary cited Sunday mornings after Mass @ St Philip

Feb 14– Adult Ed, room 4 St Marys 6:30 pm
Feb 17– Coffee Social
Feb 17/18– No Re Classes
Feb 18-St Mary's Parish Council Meeting 6:30
Feb 23-24– 2nd collection– IHN
March 2– IHN "An Evening of Hope" fundraiser

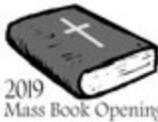
Sunday Collections St Philip

2-11-2019 \$2889.00

Thank you for your continued support

Mass Book

Please consider having a Mass requested for a deceased loved one. Masses can be scheduled by either stopping in the church office or by calling Carole for St Philip and Jill for St Mary.



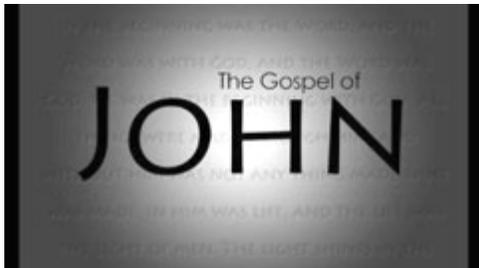
IHN COVERAGE WEEK COLLECTION

As we've done over the years, we will be doing a second collection the weekend of Feb. 23, 24 in support of IHN. Since our coverage week of March 10-17 coincides with their fundraiser on March 2nd, part of the collection will go towards a sponsorship for the event. Thank you in advance for your generous



ARE YOU READY TO ENCOUNTER JESUS?

Pope Francis, shortly after he became pope, put out this invitation to all Christians: "I invite all Christians at this moment to a renewed personal encounter with Jesus Christ." This is the purpose of our Lent Small Faith Sharing Group Session on the Gospel of John, entitled The Turning Point by Dr. Allen Hunt.



John, the Beloved disciple, had several life changing encounters with Jesus which helped him to believe that Jesus is God in the human flesh. He wants to share these encounters so that we might encounter Jesus and believe that He is God in human flesh. Whereas the other Gospels focus on what Jesus did and who He was then, John focuses on who Jesus is NOW: "And the Word (Who was with God and is God) became flesh and dwelt among us, full of grace and truth; we have beheld His glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father." (John 1:14)

For John, Jesus is not only fully God but He is also fully human. His deepest desire is that you will through his Gospel encounter Jesus for yourself and change your life forever. Maybe you will encounter Jesus in one of our small groups, or in the discussion or your own prayer in between the discussions. Whatever your hope, Jesus has the answers. So convinced is John the Beloved Disciple, that he shares his own encounters with you that you might believe and have Life to the full.

Small group sign-ups will begin on Saturday, Feb. 23rd in the Gathering Spaces and on the website. Join any of our groups that meet for your convenience on various days and times for this 5-week Lent session. Please contact smallgroups@stmarysgraffton.org with any questions. If you haven't tried a Small Group, this might be the perfect time to embrace a different experience aimed at 'a renewed personal encounter with Jesus Christ'.

St. Mary



Mass Intentions

St. Mary Parish

Saturday: 4:00pm -71st Anniversary Evariste LaMarche and 64th Anniversary Euphemie LaMarche by Family, Anniversary Jeanne & Philippe LaMarche by Family, 77th Anniversary John Hebert by Family, Memorial Debra Dulmaine-Coonan and Gary Dulmaine by their Sister

Sunday: 7:30am – Memorial Dennis Flynn by Family, 2nd Anniversary Charles Peterson Jr. by Family, and Memorial Stacia Wasiuk by Family
 10:30am – Golden Wedding Anniversary Sancho and Josephine DeRamos, and Memorial Stacia Wasiuk by Family

Monday: 7:45am – Morning Prayer
 8:00am – Morning Mass

Tuesday: 7:45am – Morning Prayer
 8:00am – Morning Mass

Wednesday: 7:45am - Morning Prayer
 8:00am – Morning Mass –

Thursday: 7:45am Morning Prayer
 8:00am – Morning Mass –

Next Saturday:4:00pm – 14th Anniversary Mary Stuba by Family, and 6th Anniversary Margaret Dube by Family

Next Sunday:7:30am – Deceased Members of St. Mary
 10:30am – Deceased Members of St. Mary

Sunday Collections St Mary

2-11-2019 \$4536.00

Thank you for your continued support



Reflection by Rev. Leonard N. Peterson

Whether it's cars or carpet or everything in between, when we are wearing our "consumer caps," we want guarantees. This or that item has to be of quality and longevity. In the contest between the man who makes and the man who makes purchase, there is an unspoken presumption that the maker is apt to "cut corners" and cheat. That last has spawned a whole industry of consumer protection ranging from a Congressional bureau to ratings provided by magazines.

"Caveat Emptor", or "Buyer Beware!"

Now when it comes to religious belief, we really ought to doff that cap I referred to earlier. Everyone should approach the spiritual realm bare-headed and humble. While we still maintain a wariness about us, and we remain skeptical at first, once we have found a belief that stirs our hearts and stimulates our minds, we no longer need guarantees. Such is certainly true when we come to the case of one Jesus Christ. For He is either God or a madman, with no other alternatives.

Admittedly, for billions of believers before us and an equal number of present day believers present around the world, He has made His case as "The Way, the Truth and the Life." Hopefully that list includes us. We believe that His Word is His guarantee. His love is spectacular, when we consider a Roman crucifixion that befell Him and an empty tomb He left behind all out of love for us.

What we Christians don't often advert to, what we'd rather forget, is another kind of guarantee Jesus gave us, and we learn about it in today's gospel. It is the fact that following Him is going to bring us the hatred of other people, or at least exclusion by them; insults from them; and the unwanted label as "evil people." Jesus certainly chose an odd way to attract followers! Yet He certainly knows what He is talking about. It's almost as if He were predicting the current situation for us Catholics in the wake of the current clergy abuse scandal! Maybe so, because time is viewed differently for a Divine Person that it is for the likes of us. I happen to think that loyalty to and love for the Church at the present time is a type of litmus test for the depth of our belief.

As a side issue, I also think that the many parents of kids "who went all through Catholic school and now don't practice the faith," (and there are many of you out there,) can take some quiet comfort from the fact that their own love and loyalty is a powerful "sermon without words." Even if their kids don't say so and even seem to ignore what they see.

So we come down to the good news, the "gospel," that guarantees persecution of us like the kind Christ describes. That can be a powerful stimulus to a muscular faith instead of a flabby one. And an effective tool for spreading that faith depending on how we handle adversity.

On one occasion, following unspeakable sufferings in a filthy prison, missionary Adoniram Johnson appeared before the king of Burma and asked permission to go to a certain city to preach.

"I am willing for a dozen preachers to go, but not you," was the king's answer. "Not with those hands! My people are not such fools as to take notice of your preaching, but they will take notice of those scarred hands."

First Reading: Jeremiah 17: 5-8

The real heart of true religion is the fact that God is a person's sole final refuge. The prophet says that one who trusts in human beings is actually cursed.

Second Reading: I Corinthians 15:12, 16-20

Paul argues against the ideas of some of the Corinthians that there is no resurrection of the dead. He says that without Christ's resurrection our faith is in vain.

Gospel: Luke 6:17, 20-26

In His "sermon on the plain," Jesus begins with a series of beatitudes and woes. A blessed condition comes from the kingdom of God. The woes are really a list of cautions concerning who can or actually does belong to God.



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

ADULT EDUCATION SERIES

Adult Ed. Class 630-800pm St. Mary classroom 4

Thursdays, 24th, 31st, February 7th, 14th, 21st, 28th 6:30-8:00pm St. Mary's Classroom 4, Registration \$20.00 includes Study Guide Please contact Darleen Farland (dfarland@stmarysgraffon.org) by January 3rd to register so that materials may be ordered prior to first class session.

A Retreat For Adults— Walking with Jesus

Saturday March 2nd at St Roch Church Hall, 334 Main St Oxford 8:30am to 4:00 pm

Cost \$15.00 includes coffee, lunch and materials.

register by Feb 16. Please see Carole for registration form if interested.

Dinner-Fundraiser in Northbridge

St. Peter Parish in Northbridge will be hosting a Pork Roast dinner to help fund the Mission Trip for our High School kids in July. The dinner will be held on Saturday, Feb. 16 at 5:30 pm in the Parish Hall. Tickets are \$10 adults/\$8.50 seniors and kids ages 4-12/ \$35 per family. Bring your family for a wonderful meal, meet some new friends & help support our Mission Trip Kids! Tickets for the dinner must be purchased in advanced. Please call 508-234-6355 or email stplifeteen@charter.net to purchase tickets or if you have any questions.

Women of Faith: Morning of Prayer

Join us for "Moving out of Slumbering Winter into the 'Greening Power' of God's Love with St. Hildegard of Bingen" presented by Laura Fonte on Saturday, March 9 from 9:30 am – 1 pm. It will be held at St. Anne Convent, 720 Boston Post Road East, Marlborough. St. Hildegard of Bingen, a visionary Doctor of the Church, believed everything and everyone hold a spark of God's love within. Laura has been a Religious Education teacher for over 40 years in the Archdiocese of Boston. We will begin with "coffee and" followed by a brief presentation, prayer, personal reflection, and discussion. A registration fee of \$10 is paid at the door. Pre-registration is required by March 1 - at WomenOfFaithSSA.org, or e-mail info@womenoffaithssa.org, or phone Ann Williams at 508-481-8176 or Sr. Yvette Bellerose, SSA at 774-239-3372.



No Religious Education
Classes today due to
school vacation :)

Enjoy your week and spend some
time with Jesus :)

See you next week

Welcome, Brittany Dyer to St. Philip's

A warm welcome to Brittany Dyer, our new Music coordinator for St. Philip's. We hope you will enjoy being here with us. Once settled in, Brittany looks forward to working with the cantors we have had here at St. Philip's. She already works with students chorus groups in Rhode Island. She hopes with time to develop a choir of students as well. Let us keep Brittany in our prayers. And again welcome.



As always, we thank you for your ongoing generosity. As we help our families through the winter months, we very much in need of **paper products (tissues, paper towels, toilet paper)**. We can also always use: **coffee, tea & hot chocolate, rice and rice mixes, kids snacks, crackers & cookies, jelly, mayonnaise, pancake mix and syrup**. We thank you for your on going support!. If you know of anyone struggling to provide for themselves or their family or are in a temporary financial challenge, please contact the St Vincent de Paul of St Mary/St Philip at our church line: 508 839-3993 ext 35. All information is kept strictly confidential.

We are very much in need of Size 6 diapers for one of our families. If you are willing to donate any, please leave them in the gathering space at either church.

Haiti Twinning Update

Our Haiti Twinning partnership is off to a good start! RE Students and parishoners that would still like to make a card, please bring them to the gathering space and put in the bin labeled "Haiti Cards."

Our sister parish is St. Pierre & St. Paul Parish in Coteax Haiti. Father Serge, pastor, who visited us last fall, is very excited to be in Catholic Community with us!

We are planning other ways to show them our support as a community of faith in the future! Look for a tab on our website coming soon!

Children and parishioners of St. Peter and Paul in Haiti.



Celebrate St Patrick's Day At St Roch Church

On Sunday, March 17 at 2 pm, join us at St. Roch Parish for a humorous celebration of St. Patrick's Day with Dave Kane & his "Jokes My Irish Father Told Me." Located at 334 Main St, Oxford, doors open at 1:30 pm. Tickets \$15in advance \$18 at the door. Contact Terry Renaud for tickets at 508-987-2382.

Veteran's Sock Drive for Local Veterans – February 1st – 28th

We are collecting new socks for men and women, all colors, sizes and styles (no ankle socks please. This sock collection will be on-going from February 1st through February 28th. Collection boxes are located at all 3 parishes; St. Mary, St. Philip, and St. James. Please help us to fill them all so we can be sure everyone has warm feet in this cold weather.

St Anna Golf Tournament

St Anna will host its 17th Annual Tournament on Saturday, May 18 at Townsend Ridge Golf Course. Two Shot Guns 7:30am and 1pm Early Bird Rate of \$99 per golfer if you register and pay by February 19, 2019. To register and for tournament details. visit www.sasgolftournament.com .

19th Annual Diocesan Catholic Men's Conference at Assumption College

Men (of all ages, including teens and college students) are invited to this important annual Conference, scheduled for Assumption College on Saturday, April 6. Visit the conference website at www.firstmensconf.org for information and to purchase tickets online and elsewhere. Come and hear dynamic talks from outstanding Catholic leaders: Kevin Dunn, Francesco Cesareo, Trent Horn, Father Warren Savage, Mike Aquilina and Eric Mahl. Bishops and priests will hear confessions. Bishop McManus will offer the Conference Mass. For a Conference brochure, further information or registration, call Sara Smillie at 508-929-4345. Adult tickets are \$45 until March 25, afterwards \$60. Student tickets are always \$30.

Second Annual "An Evening of Hope" Gala to support IHN

Tickets are now on sale! Please go to <https://www.ihnworchester.org/an-evening-of-hope-2019/> or email jalley@ihnworchester.org. We will have representatives after [St. James Masses the weekend of 2/16, 17] [St. Mary & St. Philip Masses the weekend of 2/23, 24]

to buy tickets in person with cash or check made out to IHN. Tickets are \$75 per person (cash/check) or \$78 pp online. You don't want to miss this wonderful evening out (great for a date night) on March 2nd 7:00-10:00pm at Temple Emanuel Sinai in Worcester.

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