



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

St. Philip Office - 508-839-3325
Fax - 508-839-1310

Website for both parishes- www.stmarysgrafton.org

Parish Staff

Deacon: Rev. Fredrick Coggins x29 fcoggins@stmarysgrafton.org

Business Manager :Lisa Stewart x11 lstewart@stmarysgrafton.org

Director of Religious Ed St Mary/ St. Philip–
Darleen Farland x12 dfarland@stmarysgrafton.org

Administrator of Religious Ed St. Mary/St. Philip Carole LeBlanc cleb1329@aol.com

Dir. Music/Organist/St. Mary Pamela Cross x37 p.cross@shoplegacy.com

Music Coordinator Organist/ : Brittany Dyer St Philip bldyer85@gmail.com

Parish Secretary /Safe Environment Coordinator St. Mary: Jill Sullivan x10 jsullivan@stmarysgrafton.org

Parish Secretary /Safe Environment Coordinator St. Philip Carole LeBlanc cleb1329@aol.com

Custodian– Ron Dennis



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, 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

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

April 7– 3rd anniversary Robert Cournoyer & 1st anniversary Ashley Cournoyer requested by family

April 14– Sr. Yvonne Millman requested Carole

April 21– Mary O'Hara requested by parish

Calendar of Events St Philip & St Mary Parish

April 6– 1st Eucharist Retreat St Mary 9-12:30

April 7- Steubenville East Meeting 5:30-6:00pm at St. Philip \$75.00 deposit (checks payable to St. Mary Parish).

April 10-1st Eucharist Parent Meeting 7pm St Mary Hall

April 14– Coffee Social St Philip

April 28– Fr Leo 40th Anniversary of his Ordination

May 18– Walking With Jesus Adult Retreat 8:30am-4:00pm at St. Roch's Oxford see Darleen for details

Sunday Collections St Philip

3– 31-2019 \$1359.00

Thank you for your continued support

For Fr. Leo

A Parish Family Celebration

The planning and preparation for our celebration continues. On Saturday, April 27th from noon until 3pm we will be organizing at St. James Parish Hall for the reception. On Sunday, April 28th we will need volunteers to help clean up after the event. Sign-up sheets are available (mounted on purple paper). If you are able to work with us, please leave your name and number. Thank you in advance for your time. We look forward to this day with joy and thanksgiving for Father Leo and his Ministry.

Fr. Leo's 40th Anniversary Celebration

On April 28th the parish will have the opportunity to help Fr. Leo's celebrate his 40th of his ordination after the 3 o'clock Mass. Light refreshments will be served in the church hall at St. James'. You will have the opportunity to wish him good wishes.

If you would like to take an active part in the preparation by baking there will be sign up sheets in the gathering space for you to select what you would like to do.

Thank you in advance for your help. Donna Verdolino (508-839-5794)and Rosemary Hirst (508-865-5002).

Fr. Raymond M. Goodwin Jr. Is Celebrating His 50th Anniversary As A Priest

Fr. Ray will be celebrating Mass in honor of his 50th Anniversary of Priesthood. You are invited to join him on this special occasion. Date: Sunday, May 5th, 2019, Mass Time: 2:00pm, Place: St. John, Guardian of our Lady Church, 80 Union Street, Clinton, MA 01510. Reception to Follow: The Elks, 128 School Street, Clinton, MA. (directly across from the church). If you plan to attend the reception, please RSVP to:stjohnclintonma@gmail.com or by calling St. John's Rectory at 978-368-0366 by April 16th.

St. Mary



Mass Intentions

St. Mary Parish

Saturday: 4:00pm – 4th Anniversary Marge Spence requested by Family, Mary Ann Smith requested by Family

Sunday: 7:30am – Memorial Chester and Madeline Zaleski by Family

10:30am – Memorial Jeanne Gemme by Friend

Monday: 7:45am – Morning Prayer

8:00am – Morning Mass – Memorial Joan Kirejczyk by Spouse

Tuesday: No 8:00am Morning Mass during Lent

7:00pm – Mass / Adoration / Penance

Wednesday: 7:45am - Morning Prayer

8:00am – Morning Mass

Thursday: 7:45am Morning Prayer

8:00am – Morning Mass

Friday - 7:00pm - Stations of the Cross

Next Saturday:4:00pm – 16th Anniversary Annette Desmarais by Family, Memorial Alfred and Hazel Crepeau and Sarah Crepeau by Crepeau Family, Mary Ann Smith by Family

Next Sunday: 7:30am – 1st Anniversary Therese Lawson by Family

10:30am – 2nd Anniversary Ann Wasiuk by Family, Birthday Phyllis and Frank Dorr by Family, 7th Anniversary Don Houde by Family, Birthday Sheila Robertson Farrihy by Family

Sunday Collections St Mary

3-24-2019 - \$\$4,448.00

Thank you for your continued support

Diocesan Collection this Weekend

Catholic Relief Services

Please use your envelopes that you received in packet



A Warm Welcome To Our Newly Baptized

It is with great joy that the faith community of St. Mary welcome's Lillian Rose Bibo who was baptized on Sunday, March 17, and Nora Siobhan Geer who was baptized on Sun March 31, during the 10:30am Liturgy.

May God bless Lillian and Nora

Chrism Mass

This year the Chrism Mass will be held on Thursday April 11th, the week before Holy Week.

St. Mary & St. Philip church offices will be closed as the staff will be attending the Chrism Mass .

HAVING A SECOND LOOK AT OURSELVES

The woman caught in adultery is made to stand before Jesus in front of everyone. These words indicate control and dominance. Don't we do this in our courts of law, or in our minds and hearts? We tend to judge this one or that one before all the facts are in. (We call this prejudice.) The Pharisee in all of us finds people in sin and holds them there. The stare is a specific tool of the self-righteous. They hold her in sin but have no sin to hold Jesus to. They devise a trap to catch Jesus in sin because he is their primary target.

They tell Jesus that she has been caught in adultery and that Moses commanded us to stone such a person. "What do you say?" they ask him, wanting to test him and trap him. Jesus replies by bending down and writing with his finger on the ground. (Many of us have wondered what he wrote on the ground. But what he wrote is not as important as what he did. He wrote with his finger on the earth. And He wrote twice.)



To understand Jesus' gestures we need to go back to the Book of Exodus. When God wrote the 10 commandments, we are told they were written with the finger of God. Human authors used quills and parchment. God uses his finger that is capable of carving into stone.

When Jesus uses his finger He is showing us that he and God are One. In Exodus, God forewarns Moses that the people are engaged in revelry around a golden calf. The first breach of the covenant and every other breach were seen as committing adultery against God. Moses, in anger, throws the tablets down and breaks them in two. Moses then goes back to God and pleads for the people. God relents and writes again with his finger. To write twice shows us that God is merciful and full of compassion, and slow to anger.

Jesus also stoops a second time showing that the divine glory is steadfast in love and endless forgiveness. He has just challenged them that the one without sin be the first to cast a stone. But they all leave one by one, beginning with the elders. In other words there are no sinless ones. Israel herself is only alive because God has forgiven her many adulteries. Every one of us lives by the grace of our forgiving God. Jesus implies that for you and me or anyone to hold people in their sins while holding ourselves to be innocent, is delusional.

Are we mercy-full as our Father? When will we start acting like God, who indeed is Our Father, full of love and mercy? Jesus in the Gospel of today refuses to stare at the woman, or at them. He was offering the Pharisees and us a different self-understanding, not righteous and vengeful, but sinful and forgiven; not her judge but her brother and sister.

This was a clear invitation to the Pharisees but one by one they refused, and walked away. This is Jesus' invitation to us. But to accept his invitation is to join the very people we previously despised. Yet Jesus also invites her and us to leave our distorted self-image behind. Jesus is saying to her and us: "Go and sin no more." Go as a forgiven child of God. Live your life as a child of God. I have given you a new lease on life. Go, and do the same for others.



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Registration for Religious Education for Academic Year 2019-2020

Registration for Academic Year 2019-2020 is now occurring. If you haven't yet registered your son/daughter, forms can be found on the Faith Formation tab of our parish website.. Please print them out and complete and bring to next scheduled class or drop them off at either St. Mary or St. Philip office. We also are looking for catechists and aides to help with classes for next year. There are sign-up sheets located in the Gathering Space at St. Mary for Grades Kindergarten-5 or you can contact Darleen Farland at dfarland@stmarysgraffton.org. If you are interested in helping with Grades 6-11, please contact Carole LeBlanc at St. Philip (cleb1329@aol.com<<mailto:cleb1329@aol.com>>). Thank you for your attention to this matter.





WHAT: Lent/Easter Family Gathering Event

DATE: Palm Sunday-- April 14, 2019

WHO: All Sunday and Monday Religious Education students and their families.

WHEN: begins at 9:15 A.M.

WHERE: St. Mary Parish Hall

Follow the map and solve the clues as you and your family journey with Jesus through Holy Week. After the 10:30 A.M. Mass, join us for a light luncheon followed by an Easter Egg Hunt and Games.

Prizes awarded. For more info or to help, please contact Darleen at dfarland@stmarysgraffton.org

Haiti Easter Card Project

There are blue bins for your children to leave Easter cards to send to the families in Haiti. If your child would like to start a pen pal with a child in Haiti, please let us know by emailing katiebhanna@gmail.com. Please specify if you prefer a boy or girl or specific age range. Let's make this a special Lenten season for our brothers and sisters in Christ in Haiti.

Thanks to all our parishioners who have made their gift to the 2019 Partners in Charity Appeal. **St Mary is 33 % towards the goal of \$ \$65,000 with donations of \$21,750 . St. Philip is 44 % towards the goal of \$33,200 with donations of \$14,460 to date.** If you have not yet made a gift or pledge, please fill out a commitment pledge envelope located in the pew. Or visit www.partners-charity.net to do it online. Partners in Charity, formerly known as the Bishop's Fund, is the Annual Appeal to the Diocese of Worcester, serving 28 charitable, educational, and pastoral ministries. Through your generous support we are able to serve thousands of families and individuals in Worcester County through outreach, formation, evangelization, and worship. Thank you!

The Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People

In response to the crisis of the sexual abuse of children by clergy in the Catholic Church, the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) drafted a landmark document in Dallas, Texas, at its 2002 summer assembly. In this statement, the Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People (the Charter), the bishops recommit themselves to victims/survivors and their families and to each other in order to ensure—to the best of their abilities—that sexual abuse of minors within the Church will never happen again. A comprehensive set of procedures to address allegations of sexual abuse of minors by Catholic clergy, the Charter includes guidelines for reconciliation, healing, accountability, and prevention of future acts of abuse. To learn more our programs download a copy of the brochure: Promise to Protect, Pledge to Heal or visit the USCCB Office of Child and Youth Protection.

If you have been abused or victimized by someone representing the Catholic Church, please believe in the possibility for hope and help and healing. We encourage you to come forward and speak out. Every arch/diocese/eparchy, and to arrange a personal meeting with the bishop or his representative, if you desire. The victim assistance coordinator for the Diocese of Worcester is Judith Audette. A report can be made by phone to (508) 929-4363. If the report is made by mail, please send it to: Judith Audette, Victim Assistance Coordinator, The Diocese of Worcester, 49 Elm Street, Worcester, MA 01609 Please understand that anonymous reports of misconduct compromise the ability of the diocese to follow up on such reports and to take disciplinary action or any other action. It is the policy and practice of the Diocese of Worcester to respond promptly and with compassion to all reports of misconduct. Be aware that if you report child abuse, the diocese will report the matter to law enforcement. You yourself may also, of course, report instances of sexual misconduct directly to law enforcement.





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.

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 15, 2019. 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 14, 2019. There is a signup sheet on the Soup Kitchen table in the gathering space. Your help is very much appreciated. Thank you!



Palm Sunday

Saturday April 13

St Mary 3:00 pm reconciliation, 4:00 pm, Mass
St. James reconciliation and 4:00 pm Mass

Palm Sunday April 14

7:30 am St. Mary
9:00 am St. Philip
10:30 am St Mary



Easter Triduum April 18-20

Holy Thursday, St. Mary 7:00 pm Mass of the Lord's Supper

Holy Thursday St. James

8am morning prayer

7pm mass of the Lord's Supper and Adoration until 10pm

Good Friday St. Mary

3:00 pm Stations of the Cross

7:00 pm Proclamation of the Lord's Passion, Veneration of the Holy Cross and distribution of Eucharist

Good Friday St. James

8am morning prayer

4pm Stations of the Cross

7pm Liturgy of the Lord's Passion and Death

Easter Vigil, April 20 The service begins at dusk, approximately

7:30 pm at St Mary & St. James

Easter Sunday, April 21

7:30 am St Mary

9:00 am St Philip

11:00 am St Mary

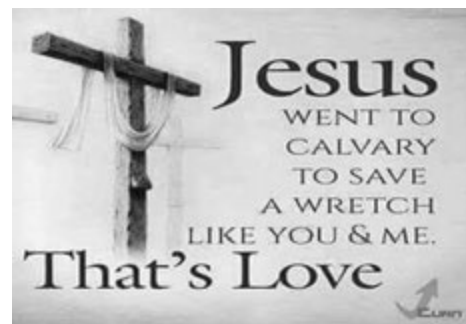
St. James

7:30 Mass 7:30 am

10:30 Mass with the Youth Choir

Holy Week Quiz,,,,,How much do you remember about the people and events of Holy Week? Here's a little quiz to test your knowledge,,,

1. **Where did the Agony in the Garden take place?**
2. **Who betrayed Jesus?**
3. **Who denied Jesus?**
4. **Who ordered Jesus to be scourged?**
5. **What criminal was released instead of Jesus?**
6. **How many Stations of the Cross are there?**
7. **How many times does Jesus fall on the way to Calvary?**
8. **Who helped Jesu carry his cross?**
9. **Who wiped the face of Jesus?**
10. **What did the sign on the cross say?**
11. **Who made arrangements for the burial of Jesus?**
12. **Who was the first to discover that Jesus had risen?**



Greater love has no one than this, than to lay down one's life for his friends. (John 15:13)
Thank you Jesus!!

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