



Parish Communities

St. Mary & St. Philip Benizi




Palm Sunday



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

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

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

St. Mary Office - 508-839-3993

St. Philip Office - 508-839-3325

Fax - 508-839-1330

Fax– 508-839-1310



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 14– Sr. Yvonne requested by Carole
April 21– **Easter Sunday**-Mary O'Hara requested by parish
April 28- Kathryn Riemer 20th anniversary requested by Reimer family
May 5– Carol LaPointe requested by the family

Calendar of Events St Philip & St Mary Parish

April 14– Palm Sunday Family Gathering St Mary
April 14– Coffee Social St Philip
April 28– Fr Leo 40th Anniversary of his Ordination
April 30 –1st Eucharist rehearsal at St Philip. 5:30 readers, 6:00 for everyone else
May 5– 1st. Eucharist Celebration 9am St Philip
May 7– 1st Eucharist rehearsal at St. Mary. 5:30 readers , 6:00 everyone else
May 11– 1st Eucharist Celebration
May 18– Walking With Jesus Adult Retreat 8:30am-4:00pm at St. Roch's Oxford see Darleen for details

Sunday Collections St Philip

4-8-2019 \$2031.00

Thank you for your continued support

For Fr. Leo A Parish Family Celebration

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.

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).

Today is Palm Sunday , the 1st day of Holy Week, please see the Holy Week Mass schedule on the last page of bulletin.

We wish you all a blessed Holy Week

St. Mary



Mass Intentions

St. Mary Parish

Saturday, 4:00pm – 16th Anniversary Annette Desmarais by Family, Mary Ann Smith by Family
Palm 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
Monday: 7:45am – Morning Prayer
 8:00am – Morning Mass
Tuesday: No 8:00am Morning Mass during Lent
 7:00pm – 3rd Anniversary Jennifer Goguen McGrail by Family. Mass / Adoration / Penance
Wednesday: 7:45am - Morning Prayer
 8:00am – Morning Mass
Holy Thursday: No Morning Mass
 7:00pm – Mass – Parishioners of St. Mary and St. Philip
Good Friday: 3:00pm Stations of the Cross
 7:00pm – Mass – Deceased Members of St. Mary and St. Philip
Next Saturday: Easter Vigil Mass – Mass at 7:30pm only
 Note: No 4:00pm Mass today
 7:30pm - Anniversary Nancy Spyker by Denise Spence and Janet LaMarche, Mary Ann Smith by Family
Next Sunday: Easter Sunday -
 7:30am – Memorial Dennis Flynn by Family
 11:00am – Deceased Members of St. Mary

Sunday Collections St Mary

4-8-2019 - \$ 5,426.00

Thank you for your continued support



Two Premium Red Sox vs. Yankees Tickets at Fenway Park's State Street Pavilion Club Could Be Yours!

Two premium seats for the Saturday, Sept. 7, 2019 Yankees vs. Red Sox game (4:05pm) at Fenway Park are being offered in a special raffle to help defray the expenses of the 2019 St. Philip's Christmas Fair. **We are offering an early raffle ticket sale today at the Coffee Social, so do come by and see us.** The ballpark tickets, a generous donation from a parishioner, are for seats located in Section 8 of the State Street Pavilion Club at Fenway and carry a face value of \$200 each (total package value is \$400). Only 100 raffle tickets have been printed. **The drawing will be held on Father's Day - Sunday, June 16 - following the 9am Mass. Winners do not need to be present to win. Raffle tickets are \$20 each.** To purchase yours, plan to come to today's Coffee Social or buy them following the 9am Masses from April 21 through June 16 (if they last that long!). You may also call or e-mail Patti Hart (phone 508-245-6981; email: PEHart@aol.com) We expect these tickets to go fast, so don't delay



April 14, 2019

Palm Sunday

ENTERING DEEPER INTO THE MYSTERY OF CHRIST

How deceitful the honors of this world! Jerusalem greeted Jesus of Nazareth with palms today and 5 days later it turns around and counted Him among the criminals and the lawless. How often in life does a friend turn in on us and betray us as Judas and Peter did toward Jesus? They shout: "Blessed is He who comes.." And on Good Friday they shout: "Away with him, crucify him."



We go from verdant branches to the Cross. We go from flowers to a crown of thorns. We go from spreading garments to stripping Christ and then nailing him to the Cross. Can we see the limitations of this world with its passing joys? And like Jesus who weeps over Jerusalem, can we weep over the world that has no clue about the emptiness of its pleasures and its promises for happiness?

This is the holiest week of weeks. And each of us is called personally to follow Jesus into His Kingdom through the Pascal Mystery of death and Resurrection. Our dying king jars us on Good Friday with a sense of shame and powerlessness. Our king who is received with jubilation and praise on Palm Sunday ends up dealing with a list of names of abuse and humiliation: criminal, condemnation, crucifixion, nakedness, mocking, scoffing, taunting and sneering. This is hardly befitting a real king. Yet, He is the most real King the world will ever know. His crown is made of thorns. Instead of violence and more violence, He forgives to the very end. With closeness and tenderness, God's Son leads us sinners into the space of grace and mercy. Pope Francis said of Jesus during Holy Week that "He takes upon Himself all our pain that He may redeem it, bringing light to darkness, life to death, and love to hatred."

Although these events are historical, the Church has us celebrate more than history. It has us celebrate THE MYSTERY. In our liturgies, as the people of God, we pass over from history into MYSTERY. We celebrate, not so much what happened over 2000 years ago, but what is happening NOW!

Can we see the fickleness of our human heart when we cheer Christ as our Lord, Messiah and King, who will liberate us from the slavery of sin, but then on Good Friday with the world we shout: "Crucify Him!"? Drawn into sin by pride and the allurements of this world, we easily lose sight of why we are here on this earth to begin with. With the cross as His throne, Jesus offers us mercy and not condemnation because His Kingdom is built on love, service, justice and forgiveness. Our sins are terrible. And yet, as sinners we are loved. The problem is letting Christ and the impact of His love and mercy enter into our hearts.

For those of us who are committed to follow Jesus more closely, our only joy is Jesus, and not the passing things of this world. Come! Let us accompany our Savior more closely as He makes His way to the cross and beyond. Like Veronica, let us reach out to the poor, knowing that bringing relief to them we bring relief to Christ. As we follow Him closely and gaze upon His face, may our inward heart see Him in everyone we meet. Amen.



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@stmarysgrafton.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.



1st Eucharist News

Tuesday April 30th First Communion rehearsal for May 5th 9am mass at St Philip. Readers please meet Mrs. Farland at St. Philip at 530pm. Everyone else please meet at 600pm at St. Philip.

Saturday May 4th First Communion retreat for those not able to attend the one in April. 900am to 1230pm at St. Mary Hall.

Sunday May 5th. First Communion Mass at 900am at St. Philip. Students meet Mrs. Farland at 830am at St. Philip

Tuesday May 7th First Communion Rehearsal for May 11th liturgy at St. Mary. Readers meet Mrs. Farland at 530pm at St. Mary church. Everyone else meet at 600pm at St. Mary church.

Meeting for the St. Mary's Prayer Shawl Ministry will be held on Saturday April 20th 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.

Thanks to all our parishioners who have made their gift to the 2019 Partners in Charity Appeal. St Mary is 37 % towards the goal of \$ 65,000 with donations of \$23,940 . St. Philip is 46% towards the goal of \$33,200 with donations of \$15,360 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!



MITE BOX COLLECTION: Beginning on Palm Sunday or sometime during Holy Week, please return Mite Boxes to church and place them in the baskets provided in the gathering space at St. Mary or the basket at the back of the church at St. Philip. SVDP is grateful for all you do to enable us to assist our friends in need. Thank you.



Lent/Easter Family Gathering Palm Sunday--

All Sunday and Monday Religious Education students and their families, begins at 9:15 A.M.

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@stmarysgrafton.org



Market Sunday's Outreach Program "Neighbors Helping Neighbors"

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.

Thank you for your ongoing generosity! We are currently in need of: Rice/Rice mixes/Knorr sides; kids snacks and juice boxes, cookies & crackers, mayonnaise, ketchup, pancake syrup & mix, coffee & tea, canned/jarred fruit, Frosting, Raman noodles, paper products. Your response to our need for diapers has been so tremendous. Thank you! We have an ongoing need for Size 6. These can be left in the gathering space at either church.



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
11:00am St James

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

St. Mary Parish Office Hours for Holy Week:

Palm Sunday: 8:30am – 12:30pm
Monday & Wednesday: 9:00am – 3:30pm
Tuesday: 10:30am – 4:30pm
Holy Thursday: 9:00 – 12:00noon
Good Friday: Parish Office Closed

St. Philip Parish Office Hours for Holy Week

Palm Sunday : 8:00-12:00
Monday 9:00– 1:00
Tuesday 9:00-4:00
Wednesday 9:00-12:00
Holy Thursday & Good Friday Closed

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.

For those parishioners who would like to send a card to Fr Ray please mail it to:

Fr. Raymond Goodwin
149 Chestnut St
Clinton Ma 01510

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