

# ST. MARY'S PARISH

Corner of Main & Summer Streets, Shrewsbury, Mass. 01545 • Website: [www.stmarysparish.org](http://www.stmarysparish.org)

## LITURGICAL SCHEDULE

### Mass

Saturday Vigil: 4:30 pm.

Sunday: 7:30 a.m., 9:00 am, 11:00 am  
& 5:30 pm.

Weekdays & Saturday: 8:30 am.

Holy Days: 8:30 am., 12:00 pm. & 7:00 pm

### Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday: 3:30–4:00 pm.; anytime by appointment

### Eucharistic Adoration

Tuesday: 6:00–9:00 pm, Church

Friday: 9:00–1:00 pm, Pastoral Ctr. Chapel

## PARISH STAFF

Rev. Msgr. Michael F. Rose, *Pastor*

Rev. Javier Julio, *Parochial Vicar*

Philip E. Devine, *Deacon*

Jeannie MacDonough, *Principal*

Gina Kuruvilla, *Director of*

*Religious Education & Youth Ministry*

Kathy Canfield, *Gr. K–8 Rel. Ed. Coord.*

Richard Vacca, *Director of Liturgical Music*

Viola Jefferson, *Parish Nurse*

Juan David Parra, *Seminarian Intern*

## CONTACT US

Pastoral Center ..... 508-845-6341

School Office ..... 508-842-1601

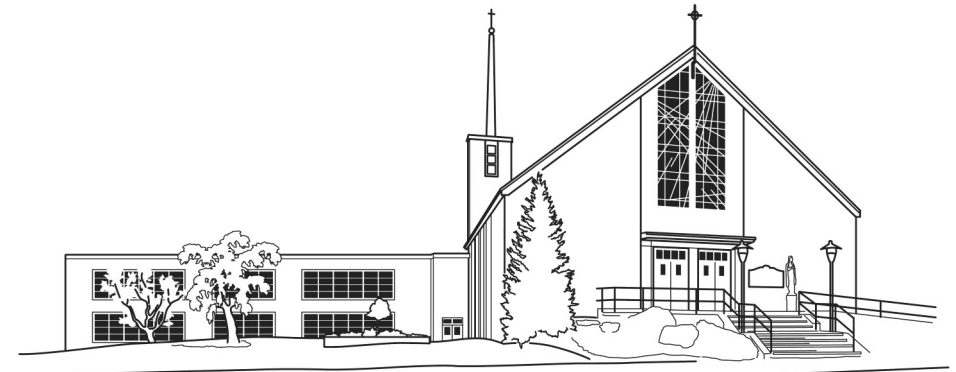
Religious Ed. Office ..... 508-925-7801

Youth Ministry ..... 508-925-7801

Parish Health Ministry..... 508-925-7647

### Our Parish Mission

*We, the people of St. Mary's, strive to be a community united with God, dedicated to continuing growth in knowledge and faith, giving witness to Christ through love, worship, education, and service. So that we may fulfill this mission and integrate spirituality with life, we shall reach out to all peoples within and beyond our faith community.*



**NEW PARISHIONERS:** We are always happy to welcome new people into our parish family. Please contact the Pastoral Center to register or for more information.

**BAPTISMS:** Baptisms at St. Mary are held on the first and third Sundays of the month at 12:30 PM. Parents may also schedule to have their child baptized during one of the Sunday Masses. A preparation session for parents preparing for the baptism of their first child is held on the second Monday of the month in the Pastoral Center. Call the Pastoral Center for more information.

**MARRIAGES:** The policy for the Diocese of Worcester requires a period of one year preparation for the Sacrament of Marriage, which includes sessions with the parish priest and participation at either the pre-cana conferences or the Engaged Encounter weekend. Contact one of the priests for arrangements.

**PASTORAL CARE:** Arrangements for the reception of the Sacraments for homebound parishioners can be made by contacting the Pastoral Center. Please also notify the Pastoral Center when a parishioner is in the hospital or otherwise confined. Emergency sick calls at anytime.

## PASTORAL COUNCIL

Marilyn Blanchard ..... 508-845-1567

Jean Campaniello ..... 508-842-8288

Robert Doiron ..... 978-568-3696

Jim Farrell ..... 508-330-6153

Lynne Grden ..... 508-363-3636

Samer Hannoush ..... 508-615-2760

Matthew Hastings ..... 508-845-5012

Silvester Noronha ..... 508-925-4581

Kelly Paulina ..... 508-845-8557

Sheila Seed ..... 508-842-6326

Robert Terry ..... 508-798-8734

Susan Zybert ..... 508-842-7554

## COUNCIL OF MINISTRIES

**Finance:** Maria Lemieux ..... 508-845-8732

**Respect Life:** Kurt Brenner ..... 508-842-0322

**Seniors Jet Set:** Evelyn Baroni ..... 508-845-3511

**Social Justice:** Gina Kuruvilla ..... 508-925-7801

**Outreach:** Mary Daly ..... 508-845-6819

**Stewardship:** Kelly Paulina ..... 508-845-8557

**MASS INTENTIONS**

Date	Time	Intention
<b>Saturday, Dec. 1</b>	8:30 pm	<b>Special Intention</b>
	4:30 pm	† <b>Catherine Casey</b> 1st Anniversary by the family
<b>Sunday, Dec. 2</b>	7:30 am	† <b>Emil and Dorothy Vaudreuil</b> † <b>Patricia Vaudreuil</b> By the family
	9:00 am	† <b>Mary Byrne</b> By the Vaccaro family
	11:00 am	† <b>Paul Kozakevich</b> By the family
	5:30	† <b>Theresa Wasko</b> By the family
<b>Monday, Dec. 3</b>	8:30 am	† <b>Robert Conlon</b> By the family
<b>Tuesday, Dec. 4</b>	8:30 am	† <b>Martin and Jean Keaveney</b> By St. Mary Parish
<b>Wed., Dec. 5</b>	8:30 pm	† <b>Helen Trank</b> By Maryanne
<b>Thursday, Dec. 6</b>	8:30	† <b>Lucy Morris and</b> † <b>Peter Pascal Morris</b> By Irwin and Lynn D'Souza
<b>Friday, Dec. 7</b>	8:30 am	† <b>Maribeth Gentile</b> Months Mind by the family
<b>Saturday, Dec. 8</b>	8:30 am	† <b>Hannah O'Loughlin</b> By Joan
	12:00	† <b>Megan and Madison Wolohan</b> By the family
	4:30 pm	† <b>Helen Estaphan</b> By Jeanne and Frank Vaccaro
<b>Sunday, Dec. 9</b>	7:30 am	† <b>Barbara Mahoney</b> By the family
	9:00 am	† <b>Ella Brown</b> By the family
	11:00 am	† <b>Danielle Simas</b> By the family
	5:30 pm	† <b>Harry Stephens</b> By the Vaccaro family



**PRAY FOR . . .**

all refugees seeking asylum in our country; a successful hip operation and swift recovery for Harry; David learning to live with Parkinson's disease; Orene with cancer to have ease and peace of heart and mind; political leadership in our country to be compassionate, open-minded and champion peace; Marianne; baby Owen born very prematurely to have excellent care and to thrive; Betsy C. with a brain aneurysm; Bonnie, good biopsy results; Gail; Sue's smooth transition to a new living situation; Theresa recently hospitalized; the residents of the Towers to gain softer hearts and acceptance for others; Norma following a job loss; and for an increase in work toward peace.

**Continued prayers for:** Judy; Jim; Susan; Carol, Mike and family; Andrea and Thomas; Jacqueline; Julie; Mary K.; Vin; Susan O.; Josephine R.; Leo S.; CJ; TM; Tom; Patrick; Chris; Mary; a man; Joanne; Lukas; Larry Sr.; Jeff; Steve; Ivan; Sue; Susan; Cindy; Marisa; Sasha; Judy; Jim; Kathleen; baby L.; EO; Lou; Angelo; baby Max; Tim C.; Tim M.; pregnancies for Emma, J., Bridget and Christine; Susan A.; Aileen; LP; Justin; Ted; DJ; AG; DD; DP; Matthew; Shannon; Logan; Janice; George; Robert; Dean; Sean; Allison Katie; Joanna; M. and C.

**Thanksgiving for:** local Days for Girls Programs and supporters of Raising Up Hope for Uganda; Jim's safe trip overseas; for safe travel for everyone over the holiday weekend; Ted's inspirational handling of his wife's recent passing; all those who prepared, cooked, and delivered Thanksgiving meals through several venues along with all those who donated goods and services to others; our bountiful resources; all lay and religious who work for peace, compassion, and greater understanding through civil dialog and action; and for all answered prayers.

**Prayer Line:** Tracy at 508-450-0137

**FEAST OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION**

On Saturday, December 8th the Church will celebrate the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary. The schedule of Masses for this Holy Day of Obligation is:

8:30 am  
12:00 noon



**GIVING TREE**

Once again our giving tree tables have 600 tags stating the needs of families from St. Anne's Human Service and Catholic Charities. The white tags are for Catholic Charities clients, the red tags are for St. Anne's clients. **All gifts must be returned December 8 or December 9 by noon. Please do not return before December 8.** See each tag for wrapping instructions. Please firmly attach the tags to the outside of all gifts to insure proper distribution. The gifts will be delivered to the agencies on Sunday, December 9 after the 11:00 Mass. **You may buy as much or as little as you want.** Thank you. For more information call Maryanne Damico at 508-845-9674.

**Liturgical Ministry Schedule December 8-9**

Date	Lector	Eucharistic Minister	Server	Sacristan
Saturday 4:30pm	E. Van Atten	S. Goodwin, M.L. Lordan, M/M Blanchard, S. Puthanangady	Z. Sargent, E. Siciliano	L. Nelligan
Sunday 7:30am	T. Kennedy	A. Lo, W. Gooley, R. Mungovan, A. Noone, M. Lemoine, M. Blute, M. Gulino	P. Hastings, A. Johnson	M. Gulino
Sunday 9:00am	S. Zybert	J. MacDonough, P. Ahearn, J. Travers, J. Barry, S. Landry, S. Zybert	N. Hughes, J. Thomas, G. Morris E. Boucher, E. Jorda, B. Jorda	F. St. Pierre
Sunday 11:00am	M. Page	S. Berkowitz, S. Howard, J. Sousa, J. McDonald, M. Minnucci, M. Vallejo, J. McAdam, M/M Page	M. Johnson	S. Berkowitz
Sunday 5:30pm	Confirmation Student	H. Collins, A. Figueiredo, N. Duquette, C. Cruz, E. Keck, M.L. Nevins	E. Chillo, S. Damle, T. Buricatu	S. Pegg

THE FIRST WEEK OF ADVENT



BLESSING OF AN ADVENT WREATH

God of all hopefulness, we pray for your blessing upon us and upon this wreath. With joyful expectation we, your people, wait in darkness for the coming of the Christ light. As we light these candles, kindle our faith. As we pray together, increase our hope. As we go out into the world, strengthen our love. Let your wisdom encircle our lives as this wreath encircles the candlelight. And grant us the humility to receive your light, even as these candles receive the flame.

LIGHTING & BLESSING OF OUTDOOR NATIVITY

The blessing of the parish outdoor nativity scene and manger will take place on **Sunday, December 16th** immediately following the 9:00 am Mass. The lighting of the outdoor manger will take place following the 4:30pm Mass on Saturday, December 15th.



BLESSING OF HOME NATIVITY

On **Sunday, December 16th** we invite children to bring a figure of the Christ Child to the 9:00 am Mass for a special blessing before placing it in their family nativity scene.

MAKE PLANS TO JOIN US FOR CHRISTMAS AT ST. MARY'S

The Christmas Mass schedule will remain as it has been for the past several years. We are grateful to St. John's High School for allowing us to use the school cafeteria (Salem Commons) for the addition 4:30pm Vigil Mass where there is more handicapped parking and easily accessibility.

Monday, December 24

- 4:30pm Mass in Church
- 4:30pm Mass at St. John's High School (Salem Commons)
- 7:00pm Mass with Children's Pageant
- 12:00 am Midnite Mass with Adult Christmas Choir

Tuesday, December 25

- 9:00am Christmas Mass
- 11:00am Christmas Mass



2019 CALENDARS

New calendars for 2019 are available this weekend in the front and side vestibules of the church. We are grateful to Shannon Henry and Britton Funeral Home for making these calendars available to us each year.



Sunday, December 2

- 8:00 Holly Fair-Hall
- 9:00 St. Mary's Adult Choir-Media Center
- 9:00 Children's Choir
- 9:00 Grade 4 Mass
- 10:15 Grades 3 & 4 CCD-Hall/School/LMR
- 12:30 Baptisms-Church

Monday, December 3

- 9:15 Weight Training-Large Meeting Room
- 5:45 Cub Scout Tigers-Hall
- 6:30 AOL Den 9-St. John
- 7:00 Grade 5 Catechist Meeting-St. Luke
- 7:00 Light of the World-Large Meeting Room

Tuesday, December 4

- 9:30 Bible Study-Large Meeting Room
- 6:00 Eucharistic Adoration-Church
- 6:30 Cub Scout Webelos Den 6-Hall
- 6:45 Our Lady Undoer of Knots
- 7:00 Social Justice Meeting -Large Meeting Room
- 7:00 Grade 6 Catechist Meeting-St. Luke

Wednesday, December 5

- 2:00 Diocesan Environmental Stewardship-Mary's Room
- 4:15 Children's Choir-Church
- 4:15 Grades 3 & 4 CCD-Hall/School//LMR
- 6:00 Brownies-Hall
- 7:00 Parish Council Meeting-Large Meeting Room

Thursday, December 6

- 8:30 School Mass
- 9:15 Weight Training-Large Meeting Room
- 6:30 AOL Den Meeting-Hall
- 6:30 Gentle Yoga-Large Meeting Room
- 7:00 Boy Scouts-Hall
- 7:00 Liturgy Committee Meeting-Mary's Room

Friday, December 7

- 9:00 Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament-Chapel
- 2:30 Mass at Shrewsbury Nursing Home
- 6:00 Girl Scouts-Gathering Space
- 6:00 Daisy Troop 30315-Gathering Space
- 6:30 Christmas Carol Festival-Hall

Saturday, December 8

- 8:30 Immaculate Conception Mass
- 9:00 Grades 1 & 2 CCD-Hall/School/LMR
- 11:00 Grades K, 1 & 2 CCD-Hall/School/LMR
- 12:00 Immaculate Conception Mass
- 1:00 Middle School Community Project-Hall

Sunday, December 9

- 8:00 Sunday Coffee
- 9:00 St. Mary's Adult Choir-Media Center
- 10:15 Grades 3 & 4 CCD-Hall/School/LMR
- 3:00 Girl Scouts-Gathering Space
- 6:30 Grades 9 & 10 CCD-LMR, GS, School, PC

ST. MARY CHRISTMAS PAGEANT

December 24, 2018 at 7:00pm  
Christmas Eve Mass



Children and parents share the special meaning of Christmas while participating in the pageant each year. Family involvement is needed as we bring the Christmas story to life during Mass on Christmas Eve. Join us for rehearsal on Monday, December 17 and Thursday, December 20 at 6:30 in the church. Costumes will be provided. Contact Jamie Horvath at 719-322-3532 if you would like to participate. There will be sign-up sheets in the sacristy.



## Saint Mary School

### Classroom Tours and Shadow Days Available

As you consider options for the next school year, schedule a visit to our Preschool, Kindergarten, Elementary and Middle School classrooms while school is in session. Meet our dedicated faculty, staff and students and explore our commitment to faith, academic excellence and authentic examples of service.

Our After-School Program is available for Kindergarten through Grade 8 students from 2:30 pm – 5:30 pm.

Saint Mary School welcomes students and families from all faiths and ethnic backgrounds. Please contact our Admissions Director, Cheryl Dolan at

Cheryl.Dolan@stmarysparish.org

or, (508) 842-1601

To learn more about our commitment to faith, academic excellence and service, <https://school.stmarysparish.org> please visit: <https://school.stmarysparish.org/>

## THE SAINT MARY HOLLY FAIR

St. Mary School, Shrewsbury MA

December 1st 9:00 am-6:00 pm

December 2nd 8:00 am-1:00 pm

In the Church Hall and Gathering Space

Come and join us for this annual tradition. Get in the Christmas Spirit while taking care of your shopping list.

We have over 35 tables of crafters, Advent candles, Danielson Flowers with wreaths and greenery! Raffles Food, and visit with Santa on Sunday!



Boy Scout Troop 158 would like to wish everyone a joyous Advent as we prepare for Christmas in remembrance of Christ's First Coming and await Christ's Second Coming. Advent also marks the beginning of the liturgical year for the Church. Troop

158 also has a new beginning with the appointment of a new Scoutmaster – Jim Sweetwood. Please welcome Jim as the new adult leader and keep him in your prayers as he rebuilds our very own Boy Scout Troop chartered by St. Mary's Parish.

### Advent Ignatian Prayer Reflection For four Sundays of Advent "Pray Like the Pope"

Advent is supposed to be a quiet and prayerful season that leads up to Christmas. However, many of us now find it so filled up with shopping and parties that the season often passes unnoticed and underappreciated.

Fr. Tom McMurray, S.J. and a team of prayer companions will lead an Advent prayer series from 6:15-7:00pm at St. Rose of Lima on November 25, December 2, 9, and 16 (one each evening).

Those gathered will be led in a 20 minute prayer experience, in preparation for the next weekend, followed by group reflection upon the prayer.

You are welcome to attend one or all four of these rich experiences. The introduction and prayer will be held in the church, starting at 6:15pm sharp and ending at 7:00pm.

Fr. Tom McMurray, S.J. is a member of the College of the Holy Cross Jesuit Community. He is Director of Admissions, Chaplain, and Director of Mission at the Nativity School of Worcester.

My dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

On December 8 & 9, our parishes will be conducting the appeal for the **Retirement Fund for Religious**, a national collection that benefits nearly 31,000 elderly sisters, brothers and religious order priest who are members of 547 religious institutes throughout the country. The sad reality is that on 23 of those communities are adequately funded to care for their elderly and infirm members who have consecrated their lives to serving God and the Church.

Just as our annual *Celebrate Priesthood* event helps our diocese to care for its retired diocesan priests, this national collection assists many religious communities which struggle to provide for aging members. Most elder religious served for small stipends, leaving a large gap in retirement savings. Rising health-care costs and decreased income compound the struggle to provide adequate care. Your gift to the Retirement Fund for Religious provides vital funding for medications, nursing care and more. It also helps religious congregations implement long-range retirement strategies, even as they continue to serve the People of God.

I recognize this is but one of numerous worthy causes in need of assistance; I ask simply that you give what you can. In thanksgiving for their faithful service, please join me in supporting the Retirement Fund for Religious and in praying for God's blessing on our nations elderly religious.

With prayerful best wishes, I remain

Sincerely yours in Christ,  
Most Reverend Robert J. McManus  
Bishop of Worcester

### Olive Wood Carvings from Bethlehem

Maysoon Khair will be at our church in the Gathering Space on December 15 & 16 representing the School of Joy for slow learning children and over one hundred Christian families who make their livelihood through the selling of their hand carved olive wood religious articles.

After all Masses there will be a display of these beautiful hand carved items. Please stop by to help and support our brothers and sisters in Christ and to keep their presence in the Holy Land of Jesus' birth. Thank you and God bless you



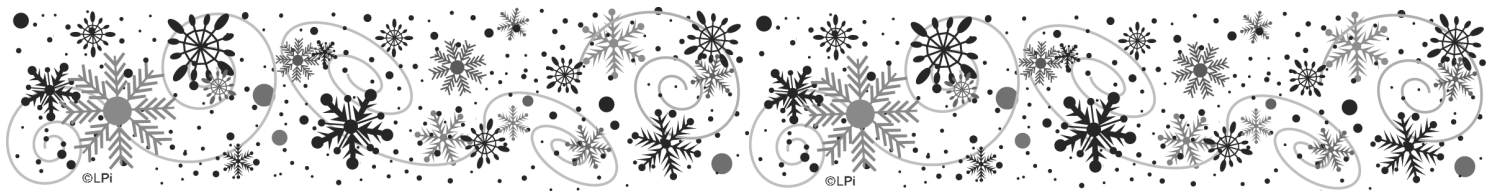
### Holy Hour to Pray for Priests

On Friday, December 14 a holy hour to pray for priests will take place from 7 to 8 pm at Immaculate Conception. This holy hour will consist of adoration, a short reflection, the rosary, silent prayer and benediction. This holy hour will be held on the second Friday of each month.

### SIMBANG GABI - A FILIPINO CHRISTMAS TRADITION

The Simbang Gabi tradition was introduced to the Philippines by the Spanish friars to allow the farmers to hear Mass before going to the fields early in the morning. Simbang Gabi is also known by its popular Spanish name as the Misa De Gallo or "Mass of the Rooster". Church bells would start ringing as early as 3:00am, waking people up so they could get ready for the 4:00am dawn Mass which they would attend for the nine days before Christmas. Today the tradition continues although it is celebrated in new ways. Churches are decorated with colorful lights and beautiful parol lanterns to welcome church goers. After the Mass traditional delicacies are served.

On **SATURDAY, DECEMBER 15** this Filipino tradition will continue at the 4:30pm Mass here at St. Mary's. Some Filipino parishioners will lead the music at this Mass and will offer a taste of Filipino treats after the Mass. Please join us.



# *Christmas Carol Festival*

*Take a break from the shopping,  
the rushing, and the stress and join us for our  
Christmas Carol Festival.*

**Friday, December 7th, 6:30-7:30 pm**  
**Church Hall at St. Mary's Parish**  
**20 Summer Street, Shrewsbury**



*Invite your friends & family to join you for  
a night of Christmas music, story, and  
community. After our sing-a-long, stay and  
enjoy some refreshments. If you are able, please  
bring a plate of cookies to share.*

