Saint Mary Catholic Parish

A Stewardship Faith Community

25 North Road ▪ Chelmsford, MA 01824
Tel: 978-256-2374 ▪ Fax: 978-256-0122 ▪ Religious Education: 978-256-3541 ▪ www.saint-mary.org

Mass Schedule

Saturday Vigil 4:00pm
Sunday 7:00am, 9:00am, 11:00am, 6:00pm
Holy Days ..... As Announced
Daily ..... Monday thru Friday - 7:00am ▪ Saturday - 9:00am
Reconciliation ..... Saturday, 11:00am to 12:00pm or by appointment
Eucharistic Adoration ..... Saturday following the 9:00am Mass, until 12:00Noon
Rectory Hours ..... Monday thru Friday: 9:00am - 5:00pm
Religious Education and Youth Ministry Office Hours ..... Monday thru Thursday*: 10:00am - 5:00pm (CLOSED Friday)

*Please call for an appointment

Parish Pastoral Staff

Rev. Stephen Donohoe, Pastor
Rev. William S. Dunn, Parochial Vicar
Rev. Ron Lawson, Sr. Priest in Residence
Deacon Jack Bortz

Parish Finance Manager ..... Paul Firicano
Director of Music ..... Cathy Martin
Parish Office Manager/Secretary ..... Mary Steiner
Stewardship Coordinator ..... Tina Sousa
Religious Education Director (Gr. K - 6) ..... Heather Hannaway
Religious Education Office Manager ..... Elaine Kindler
Director of Youth Ministry ..... Matthew Marchand
Spiritual Direction ..... Francine Gagnon

Welcome New Parishioners

We extend to you a warm welcome to our parish community. Please call the Rectory to introduce yourself and register. We wish to know you and serve you.

RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults)

Directors: Deacon Jack Bortz & Carol Hanley
For adults interested in becoming Catholic and for Catholics who have not been confirmed. Candidates meet weekly on Tuesdays at 7:00pm.

Sacrament of Baptism

Baptism is celebrated on the 1st and 3rd Sunday of the month at 2:00pm and twice a month at Sunday Mass. Baptism Preparation takes place on the 4th Sunday of the month at 2:00pm in the Parish Hall. Please contact the rectory, 978-256-2374 ext. 16, for arrangements.

Sacrament of Marriage

Please contact a parish priest or deacon at least eight months prior to the wedding date. Marriage Preparation is required.

Anointing of the Sick

Every Saturday following the 4:00pm Mass

God is Just a Prayer Away

If you would like to have prayers said for yourself or a loved one, simply call The Prayer Line at the Rectory, *978-256-2374, ext. 18.*

Bulletin Deadline - Please submit copy to Mary Steiner at the Rectory by 6:00pm on Monday.

For families with small children, the Family Prayer Room is located to the left of the Altar.

3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Do you believe that you are supposed to be Christ in this world today? You're baptized in his name. You call yourself a Christian. You sign yourself with holy water and make the sign of the cross. Do you really believe that the Spirit of God is upon you?

Sometimes it's hard to conceive that. We can get ourselves into a baptismal inferiority complex: I'm not good enough to think that I can be Christ in this world. Only extraordinarily holy people-saints-can be like Christ. Thinking like that can lead to baptismal suicide-drowning in the waters of baptism without ever experiencing the power of the Resurrection. Paul doesn't mince any words this week when he tells the Corinthians, "You are Christ's body." He can say that because we have all been given of the one Spirit.

So, if you're baptized you have the Spirit of God, just like Jesus in today's Gospel. That Spirit of God sends us to bring good news to the poor, "to proclaim liberty to captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free."

WOW! What a task. It sounds impossible. As a matter of fact, it is-if we tried to do it alone. But we don't have to. We can do all those things-and more-because we are united with all the baptized in the one body of Christ, through one Spirit. How we work that out in each community is part of the discernment of the Spirit that takes place, discovering the best ways to use each person's talents and gifts. God's Spirit is given for the common good, and it is in the community of faith that each of us discovers the ways that God wants us to fulfill our baptismal call.

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Mass Schedule for weekend of January 31

4pm Altar Servers: A. Vercelli, L. Cardonne, R. Boshar
EMHCs: R. Martel, P. Cella, A. Beauregard
Lectors: C. Desfosse, H. Dolan

7am Altar Servers: M. Plunkett, M. Sousa
EMHCs: M. Sousa Sr., R. Noble
Lectors: M. Sousa Jr., J. Sousa

9am Altar Servers: J. Connell, R. Farrell, J. Arnal
EMHCs: S. Brodie, K. Brodie, J. Knox
Lectors: F. Gagnon, M. McKeown

11am Altar Servers: R. McMillan, Moira Andrews, B. Conte
EMHCs: A. McMaster, L. Ellis, ML O'Reilly
Lectors: T. Desfosse, L. McDonald

6pm Altar Servers: S. Anderson, J. Anderson
EMHCs: M. Hood, C. Hirt
Lectors: C. Anderson, C. Garrahan

STEWARDSHIP

"Go, eat rich foods and drink sweet drinks, and allot portions to those who had nothing prepared…"
Nehemiah 8:10

Ezra's instructions to the people show us that God does not forbid us from enjoying the good things in life. However, He expects us to share our blessings with those who are in need.

Mass Intentions

Saturday, January 23
9:00am Frances Casciotti ..... Month's Mind
4:00pm Charles & Lucy Messina ..... Memorial Mass

Sunday, January 24
7:00am ..... *Pro Populo*, For the People of the Parish
9:00am Paul H. McGrath..... 12th Anniversary
11:00am Ron Cloutier,
Joseph & Blanche Kukulski..... Memorial Mass
6:00pm Robert Murphy ..... 28th Anniversary

Monday, January 25
7:00am .....For Members of the Sanctuary Fund

Tuesday, January 26
7:00am Nancy Robinson..... Memorial Mass

Wednesday, January 27
7:00am .....For Deceased Priests of the Archdiocese of Boston

Thursday, January 28
7:00am Delphine M. & Joseph J. Kelly ..... Memorial Mass

Friday, January 29
7:00am Robin Mullin ..... 11th Anniversary

Saturday, January 30
9:00am Charles Partridge, Sr..... 7th Anniversary
4:00pm Robert LaPorte..... 2nd Anniversary

Sunday, January 31
7:00am ..... *Pro Populo*, For the People of the Parish
9:00am Frances & John Shaughnessy ..... Memorial Mass
11:00am A. Robert Crudale ..... 18th Anniversary
6:00pm M. Barbara Moulton..... 2nd Anniversary

Funerals Patricia O'Brien (1/18/10)
Maria Floria (1/22/10)

OFFERTORY COLLECTION FY2010

	Amount Collected	Amount Budgeted	Variance
Envelopes (rec'd 416)	$10,718		
Loose Cash	$2,759		
Total – week of Jan. 17	$13,477	$15,300	($1,823)
Fiscal YTD Offertory (thru 29 of 51 weeks)	$441,053	$443,700	($2,647)

Please remember that the offertory is our main source of funds for paying our daily operating expenses.
Thank you to all for your continued generosity!

2010 Collection for the Church in Latin America

This weekend, there will be a special collection for the Church in Latin America. A contribution to the Church in Latin America is a tangible way to express your solidarity with your brothers and sisters throughout Mexico, Central America and the Caribbean. Donations received fund pastoral projects that bring people more fully into the life of the Catholic Church. Please contribute generously. For more information, visit www.usccb.org/latinamerica.

ARISE Together in Christ

New Heart, New Spirit: Season 4 - Seeking Small Community Leaders - Season 4 of ARISE begins February 14, 2010. If you participated in the prior seasons and/or would be interested in leading a group, please call Fr. Dunn at the rectory, 978-256-2374. All current leaders are also welcome to attend a training session (Tuesday, Jan. 26, 7-9pm at St. Catherine of Alexandria, Westford; or Saturday, Jan. 30, 10am-12Noon at St. Marguerite d'Youville, Dracut). For a complete list of training locations and times, please visit the parish website, www.saint-mary-org.

Seeking Homes for Groups - We are asking previous hosts as well as any other parishioners if they would host an ARISE group in their home. Most groups average about ten members. Groups meet once weekly for six weeks beginning February 14. Please call Fr. Dunn at the rectory, 978-256-2374, if you are interested. Those hosting a group are not asked to lead, although they may do so if they wish.

Sign-ups for the next ARISE session will take place on the weekend of January 30 & 31

Adult Confirmation - Saint Mary Parish is offering a six week course for adults who have not completed their third sacrament of initiation, CONFIRMATION. The course begins on Monday evening, February 22 at 7pm and last for six weeks. The Confirmation Mass will be on Easter Wednesday, April 7 at St. Monica's Parish in Methuen at 7:30pm. If you have questions or need additional information call Fr Dunn, 978-256-2374 or wdunn@saint-mary.org.

Chelmsford Rotary Club/Red Cross Blood Drive

Give a Pint, Get a Pound of Dunkin' Donuts Coffee. The Chelmsford Rotary/Red Cross Blood Drive is on Thursday, January 28, 1:30-7:30pm in St. Mary Parish Hall. Blood is a medicine that cannot be manufactured. It only comes from healthy people who generously donate. For more information, please contact Leonard Doolan, 978-256-3604. Those who are 16 years of age may now donate blood with a signed parental consent form (Valid ID required.)

Sextons Needed - We are currently in need of sextons for the 11:00am and 6:00pm Masses. This is a great opportunity for men and women to take part in the parish's stewardship program. This ministry will only take a few minutes of your time before and after Mass. If interested, please contact Tina Sousa at the rectory, 978-256-2374 or Al Beauregard at 978-256-6672 or algael@comcast.net. Training will be provided. Please prayerfully consider giving the gift of your time.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament - Did you know that the Blessed Sacrament is exposed for our adoration here at St. Mary's each Saturday following the 9:00am Mass, until Noon? Just imagine for a moment that we are living in Jesus' time and he has invited us to visit Him and spend some quiet time getting to know Him better. Being aware who He was, we would be humbled and honored by such an invitation!!! The good news is that He is here with us today, Body, Blood, Soul, and Divinity in the Holy Eucharist. Your prayer before the Blessed Sacrament is a wonderful witness to our Catholic belief in the Real Presence of Jesus in the Eucharist. Will you come spend some time with Our Lord?

Protecting God's Children - All volunteers at St. Mary Parish are required to complete Child Abuse Prevention (CAP) Training. This is a one-time workshop that will help to recognize child abuse, offer protective practices, and instruct on reporting incidents of abuse. CAP training is available at St. Mary Parish on:

Saturday, Jan. 30th ..... 1:00-3:30pm in the Hall

Tuesday, Feb. 2nd ..... 7:00-9:30pm in the Family Prayer Room

To register, please contact the rectory, 978-256-2374.

Teen Bible Study - Beginning on Tuesday, February 9th, 7:00-8:00pm, we are going to begin a 5-Week Bible Study on the Gospel of John in Room 7 of the Lighthouse. The Bible Study will conclude on Tuesday, March 9th. This is an opportunity for teens to approach the Word of God in a fun and dynamic way, giving them the opportunity to prayerful discuss and apply the Scriptures to their daily life. We'll learn several different methods of prayerfully reading the scriptures and approaching the Bible. Pizza, snacks, and drinks will be provided. There is no cost for this program. If your child would like to participate, please contact Matt by Friday, January 29th. If you would like to help chaperone and pray with us, please contact Matt, 978-256-3541 or mmarchand@saint-mary.org.

The Catholic Book Club meets Sunday, January 31, following the 6:00pm Mass. The next selection is *The Power and the Glory* by Graham Greene.

Religious Education

First Reconciliation for Grade 2 Students

Grade 2 students, who are preparing to receive their First Communion, will be making their First Reconciliation during the regular hours for Reconciliation on Saturdays between 11:00 am and 12:00 Noon in January and February. On January 23rd, January 30th, February 6th and February 13th, pews will be reserved for the students on either side of the church. Please pray for our children as they grow more fully into their Catholic faith.

Grade 4 Family Gathering Session: Mardi Gras - What's it all about?

Saturday, January 30, 9:30am in the Parish Hall

This will be <u>one session for all students</u> from 9:30am until 11:00am in the hall. If you have any questions please call Heather at 978-256-3541 ext. 32 or email hhannaway@saint-mary.org.

Where Two or More Are Gathered In My Name...There Am I In Their Midst

Please join us for our Mid-Year Grades 1 thru 6 Catechists Gatherings. Bring your ideas, lesson plans or activities that have worked well with your class to share. All gatherings will take place in the parish hall.

- Jan 26th - Grade 3 - 5:30-6:30pm
- Jan 26th - Grade 4 - 7:00-8:00pm
- Feb 4th - Grade 5 - 5:30-6:30pm
- Feb 4th - Grade 6 - 7:00-8:00pm

Saint Vincent de Paul

The St. Vincent de Paul Society requested parishioners to consider making charitable donations during the holiday season to underwrite our work. The response was tremendous. Our benefactors donated over $6,000 in the poor boxes or by check. With our coffers replenished, we were able to assist two families struggling with unemployment to pay rent and utility bills. Our members extend a heartfelt thank you to our benefactors. Through your generosity, our work goes on assisting our needy neighbors in St. Mary parish during the current severe economic recession. *Paul Gleason, President*

2009 Year-End Tax Statement for Offertory Contributions - St. Mary Parish tracks contributions made during the year for parishioners using the offertory envelope system or registered in the electronic offertory program. We will, upon request, produce a written statement of offertory contributions made during 2009. Our parish cannot track cash contributions, regardless of the amount, that are not part of our parish offertory envelope system or electronic offertory program. Please note: this does not change the requirement that a taxpayer receive an acknowledgement from our parish for each deductible gift of $250 or more. If you have any questions, please call Paul Firicano at the rectory, 978-256-2374.

Prayer Shawl Ministry - We have many shawls waiting for those in need. There has been a tremendous amount of care, love and prayerful intentions made in to each shawl. Our ministry reaches out to those in need of comfort and solace This includes people undergoing medical procedures. comfort after a loss, during bereavement, commitment of marriage, births, during an illness and recovery...there are endless possibilities. These shawls wrap and enfold, comfort, cover, give solace, a hug, shelter and beautify. Those who have received a shawl have been uplifted and affirmed, as given wings to fly above their trouble. If you know of anyone who could feel the unconditional embrace of God's blessings put into these shawls, please contact the rectory at 978-256-2374, or Michelle Caron at 978-250-4718 or mishcaron@yahoo.com.

Save the Dates...

- February 27, 2010: Boston Catholic Women's Conference from 9:00am till-5:30pm at the Cathedral of the Holy Cross in Boston. Visit www.catholicboston.com
- April 17, 2010: Boston Catholic Men's Conference from 9:00am till-5:30pm at the Cathedral of the Holy Cross in Boston. Visit www.catholicboston.com

St. Mary Parish Bulletin Advertising

Liturgical Publications, Inc., our bulletin publisher, will have a sales representative available during the week of January 25, 2010 for those interested in placing a new ad in the bulletin. This is your opportunity to secure a space for the new publication year. To place your ad, please contact Vern Deprey at 1-800-888-4574 ext. 3410 or vdeprey@4lpi.com. We would like to thank our present advertisers for renewing their ad. Keep in mind; our advertising sponsors make this publication possible.

CALENDAR

SUNDAY, JANUARY 24
3RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

- Family Mass followed by hospitality in the Hall - 9:00am - Church
- Bible Study - 12:30pm - Hall
- Baptism Preparation - 2:00pm - Hall
- Gr. 10 Confirmation II - 4:30pm - Hall
- Youth Mass - 6:00pm - Church
- S.N.A.C. - 7:00pm - Hall

MONDAY, JANUARY 25

- Gr. 7 Pre-Confirmation I- 5:00pm - Hall
- Gr. 8 Pre-Confirmation II– 6:00pm - Hall
- Gr. 9 Accelerated Confirmation - 7:00pm - Hall
- Social Committee Meeting - 7:00pm - Conf. Rm. B

TUESDAY, JANUARY 26

- Grade 3 Catechists Mid-Year Meeting - 5:30pm - Hall
- Grade 4 Catechists Mid-Year Meeting - 7:00pm - Hall
- RCIA - 7:00pm - Conf. Rm. B
- Bible Study - 7:00pm - Family Prayer Room

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 27

- Teen Choir Instrumental Rehearsal - 5:30pm - Church
- Youth Mass Music Group - 6:00pm - Church
- Boy Scouts Troop 77 Meeting - 7:00pm - Hall
- Pizza & Prayer - 7:00pm - Lighthouse Rm. 7
- Choral Singers - 7:15pm - Church
- Adult Contemporary Music Group Rehearsal - 8:15pm - Church

THURSDAY, JANUARY 28

- Rosary - 12:00Noon - Church
- Red Cross/Chelmsford Rotary Club Blood Drive - 1:30pm - Hall

SATURDAY, JANUARY 30

- Eucharistic Adoration - Following the 9:00am Mass - Church
- Grade 4 Family Gathering Session - 9:30am - Hall
- Reconciliation/First Reconciliation - 11:00am - Church
- CAP Training Workshop - 1:00pm - Hall
- Anointing of the Sick - Following 4:00pm Mass - Church

SUNDAY, JANUARY 31
4TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

- Family Mass - 9:00am - Church
- Bible Study - 12:30pm - Hall
- Youth Mass - 6:00pm - Church
- Catholic Book Club - Following the 6:00pm Mass - Family Prayer Room
- S.N.A.C. - 7:00pm - Hall