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.

4th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Did you tune out the second reading from Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians today? If you have been to a lot of weddings, it is likely that you've heard this paean to love at most of them. It's a favorite that gets chosen again and again. And because of that, the very familiarity of the words can lose their meaning. "'Love is patient, love is kind. It is not jealous? It is not rude, it does not seek its own interests, it is not quick-tempered, it does not brood over injury?' Oh, yeah, I know that one; I've heard it all before. No need to listen."

Because of the context in which so often we hear those words (a marriage celebration) we sometimes miss what Paul is really trying to convey. The Corinthians were disputing among themselves what the better gifts of the Spirit were and who had the greater ones. Paul takes them to task, rather harshly, by telling them that all the prophecies and sacrifices are nothing compared to love.

We can feel righteous about many things, and our sense of justice can breed high expectations about equitable treatment and our rights in the world. We expect our "fair share" all the way around. Sometimes our "gift" turns out to be one of self-justification.

Paul turns those expectations on their head. His proclamation that love is the way suddenly put us in a different position. Love does not seek its own interests and it does not brood over injuries. These are not easy things to put into practice, but it is what is asked of us as believers in Christ. Maybe that's really why we tune out these words sometimes, because they are not easy to put into practice. But love is the essence of our faith-love of God, and love for one another.

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Mass Schedule for weekend of February 7

4pm Altar Servers: F. Busser, O. Busser, J. Blake
EMHCs: G. Daly, M. Branco, H. Dolan
Lectors: C. Desfosse, D. Delikat

7am Altar Servers: C. Markey, J. Markey, M. Plunkett
EMHCs: K. Cusick, J. Serra
Lectors: J. Sousa, A. Gagnon

9am Altar Servers: J. Connell, D. de la Flor, T. Meal
EMHCs: C. Rigazio, K. Meal, L. Shattuck
Lectors: L. Norton, C. Frassica

11am Altar Servers: K. Sousa, E. Lovas, L. Early
EMHCs: C. Rideout, J. Baummer, S. Lovas
Lectors: G. Noonan, L. McDonald

6pm Altar Servers: C. Krauch, El. Krauch, Em. Krauch
EMHCs: J. Paolilli, G. Kalpas
Lectors: G. Krauch, C. Garrahan

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.

Mass Intentions

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

Monday, February 1
7:00am Fr. Thomas Buckley ..... Memorial Mass

Tuesday, February 2
7:00am .....For Deceased Priests of the Archdiocese of Boston

Wednesday, February 3
7:00am Captain Paul Peña ..... Memorial Mass

Thursday, February 4
7:00am Anna Maria Dybciak ..... Memorial Mass

Saturday, February 6
4:00pm Bobby Sullivan ..... 10th Anniversary

Sunday, February 7
7:00am .....*Pro Populo*, For the People of the Parish
9:00am Robert Kay ..... 3rd Anniversary
11:00am Julia Reitano ..... Memorial Mass

Funerals Frederick Feely (1/30/10)

OFFERTORY COLLECTION FY2010

	Amount Collected	Amount Budgeted	Variance
Envelopes (rec'd 415)	$9,806		
Loose Cash	$3,032		
Electronic Giving	$3,750		
Total – week of Jan. 24	$16,588	$15,300	$1,288
Fiscal YTD Offertory (thru 30 of 51 weeks)	$457,641	$459,000	($1,359)

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!

STEWARDSHIP

"Love is patient, love is kind. It is not jealous, it is not pompous." *1 Corinthians 13:4*

Are you jealous? Do you focus more on the things that other people have than on the gifts that God has given to you? Are you pompous? Do you seek to acquire more possessions to impress others? At times we are all guilty of these human weaknesses. Yet as stewards we are called to love God above all other things – striving always to be less jealous, less pompous and more giving.

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. 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

Women's weekend of Holistic Spirituality

April 9-11, 2010 - A holistic approach to women's spirituality. There will be time for input, reflection and sharing with other women. Facilitators: Catherine Griffiths, SND and Associates

Weekend Retreat begins with registration on Friday evening at 6PM followed by dinner at 7:00pm. It concludes on Sunday at 1:00pm. Registrations should be received at least two weeks prior to the date of the weekend. Cost: Double- $168; Single- $220; Deposit- $50. For more information: miramarretreat.org or call 781-585-2460

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?

Spring Semester Gerontology Classes at UMass Boston - The University of Massachusetts Boston is accepting applications for its Manning Certificate Program in Gerontology. The program is designed to give students the skills and resources they need to plan for an aging society, work or volunteer in the aging network, and advocate for elders. We offer daytime, evening and online classes. Classes begin the week of January 26. Credits from this program can be applied toward a bachelors degree program in Gerontology. The program is approved for financial aid for eligible students. For more information, call Mary St. Jean at 617-287-7330 or email mary.stjean@umb.edu.

The next Knights of Columbus Can & Bottle Drive will be held on the weekend of February 13 & 14.
Proceeds will benefit St. Mary's Youth Ministry.

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:

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.

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.

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.

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.

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

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

World Day for Consecrated Life - Next Sunday, we will celebrate World Day for Consecrated Life. The Church is invited to remember with gratitude the women and men who have dedicated their lives in service to the mission of Jesus. We also want to pray that others will hear the call to consecrated life and respond generously.

March 5-7: A Retreat for Young Adults - Young Adults need Jesus Christ Today! If you are seeking truth, joy and love, they are found in the heart of Jesus. Join with other young adults in their 20's and 30's for a weekend to open up, rekindle or deepen your relationship with Christ. The retreat will combine Mass and Adoration, inspiring Talks and Witnesses, Personal Prayer and many opportunities to meet other young adults throughout the Greater Boston area. The retreat is co-presented by the Antioch Retreat Group and y.H.o.p.e (Young Heralds of Pauline Evangelization) and will be held at the beautiful Daughters of St. Paul Retreat House in Billerica. It begins on Friday evening and ends Sunday afternoon. For more information or to register for the retreat email Bernadette Michaud at bmich777@hotmail.com or Fr. Michael Harrington at mharrington527@gmail.com.

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.

Adult Faith Formation Program at *St. Joseph the Worker Shrine* - *St. Joseph the Worker Shrine* on Lee St. in Lowell will be featuring Adult Faith Formation classes conducted on 7 successive Wednesdays by Fr. Gene Tremblay OMI, S.T.L. The Spring session will begin on *Ash Wednesday* Feb. 17 and continue on Feb. 24, March 3, 10, 17, 24, 31). This inaugural 7 week session will examine Christian Morality and Social Responsibility. Format: "*Soup and Substance*" – arrive anytime after 6:00pm and enjoy a repast of hearty soups and breads. Class will follow in the Presentation Hall and will run from 7:00-8:30 pm. For more detailed information as to content and cost, visit our website www.stjosephshrine.org. Let us hear from you soon so that we can plan to accommodate all who might want to participate: (978) 458-6346 or 37 Lee St., Lowell, MA 01852, or info@stjosephshrine.org.

CALENDAR

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

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 1

- Gr. 7 Pre-Confirmation I- 5:00pm - Hall
- Gr. 8 Pre-Confirmation II– 6:00pm - Hall
- Gr. 9 Accelerated Confirmation - 7:00pm - Hall

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 2

- CAP Training Workshop - 7:00pm - Family Prayer Room
- RCIA - 7:00pm - Conf. Rm. B
- Bible Study - 7:00pm - Family Prayer Room

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 3

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

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 4

- Rosary - 12:00Noon - Church
- Gr. 5 Catechists Meeting - 5:30pm - Hall
- Gr. 6 Catechists Meeting - 7:00pm - Hall
- Family Life Council Meeting - 7:00pm - Conf. Rm. B

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 5

- Youth Choir II Rehearsal - 4:00pm - Church
- Winds & Strings - 5:00pm - Church
- The Gate - 6:00pm - Hall
- The Way - 7:00pm - Hall

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 6

- Catholic Men's Group - 7:45am - Hall
- Eucharistic Adoration - Following the 9:00am Mass - Church
- Reconciliation/First Reconciliation - 11:00am - Church
- Anointing of the Sick - Following 4:00pm Mass - Church

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 7
5TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

- Family Mass - 9:00am - Church
- Grade 1 Religious Education - 10:00am - Hall
- Bible Study - 12:30pm - Family Prayer Room
- Baptism - 2:00pm - Church
- Grade 9 Confirmation I - 4:30pm - Hall
- Youth Mass - 6:00pm - Church
- S.N.A.C. - 7:00pm - Hall