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.

The Light is on For You

Celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation

On all Wednesdays of Lent, 6:30pm until 8:00pm, St. Mary Parish, and all parishes and chapels in the Archdiocese of Boston will be open for individual confessions. Inviting Catholics to experience Christ's healing love through the Sacrament of Reconciliation is one of the major initiatives of Cardinal Sean and the Archdiocese this year. The Archdiocese has set up a website, www.thelightisonforyou.org, to help you prepare (there is a link at the St. Mary website). It has videos on the Sacrament of reconciliation, sheets on how to make a good confession, answers to frequently-asked questions and more. Please make plans to come on Lenten Wednesdays and spread the word of this special outreach of mercy to those you know.

St. Mary Parish will also offer the Sacrament of Reconciliation each Friday during Lent, following the Stations of the Cross at 7:00pm. Eucharistic Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, following the 9:00am Mass, and Reconciliation, at 11:00am, are always offered on Saturdays.

Mass Schedule for weekend of February 21

4pm **Altar Servers:** J. Blake, S. Abate
EMHCs: CD. Mancini, A. McMaster, R. Martel
Lectors: R. Rock

7am **Altar Servers:** C. Markey, J. Markey
EMHCs: J. Serra, D. Robillard
Lectors: A. Gagnon, M. McCusker

9am **Altar Servers:** S. Arnal, J. Arnal,
EMHCs: B. Bovill, M. Kijanka, M. Kijanka
Lectors: J. Morency, F. Gagnon

11am **Altar Servers:** P. Slattery, B. Conte, C. Conte
EMHCs: P. Boyd, M. Hastings, J. Besonen
Lectors: L. McDonald, T. Desfosse

6pm **Altar Servers:** B. Whitehouse, J. Anderson
EMHCs: R. Whitehouse, A. Whitehouse
Lectors: G. Krauch, C. Anderson

STEWARDSHIP

"Woe to you who are rich, for you have received your consolation." *Luke 6:24*

Jesus' words to the crowd can seem harsh to all of us who enjoy the many blessings of living in one of the richest countries of the world. Yet, in reality the sin is not in being rich. The sin is in failing to share our blessings. When was the last time you looked at your income and determined what percentage you were giving to those who had less than you? Remember the Bible teaches us to give 10%. How close are you to that level of giving?

Stations of the Cross followed by Reconciliation will be held on Fridays during Lent at 7:00pm. All are welcome!

Mass Intentions

Saturday, February 13
4:00pm Robert Wright ..... 5th Anniversary

Sunday, February 14
7:00am .....*Pro Populo*, For the People of the Parish
9:00am Michael Scollin ..... 1st Anniversary
11:00am James M. Ledbetter ..... 1st Anniversary

Monday, February 15
7:00am John Clinton ..... 3rd Anniversary

Tuesday, February 16
7:00am Darrell D. Morris ..... 11th Anniversary

Thursday, February 18
7:00am .....For Deceased Priests of the Archdiocese of Boston

Friday, February 19
7:00am Gene Raby .....Memorial Mass

Saturday, February 20
4:00pm Alexandra L. Ullom ..... 2nd Anniversary

Sunday, February 21
7:00am .....*Pro Populo*, For the People of the Parish
9:00am Sophia Kijanka .....Memorial Mass
11:00am James Decker ..... 10th Anniversary

OFFERTORY COLLECTION FY2010

	Amount Collected	Amount Budgeted	Variance
Envelopes (rec'd 407)	$10,825		
Loose Cash	$2,878		
Electronic Giving	$4,800		
Total – week of Feb. 7	**$18,503**	**$15,300**	**$3,203**
Fiscal YTD Offertory (thru 32 of 51 weeks)	$490,604	$489,600	$1,004

Last weekend, St. Mary Parish contributed $1,961 to the Holy Father-Peter's Pence collection.

Please remember that the offertory is our main source of funds for paying our daily operating expenses.

Thank you all for your generosity and Stewardship of Treasure.

February 17 is Ash Wednesday

Ashes will be distributed at Masses at 7:00am and 7:00pm, and at the Prayer Service at 4:00pm.

Attention Sunday Liturgical Ministers - Volunteers are needed on February 17th for the Ash Wednesday Service and Mass. Please sign up at the bulletin board outside the sacristy.

Attention All Sunday EMHC, Lectors, MC's, and Altar Servers – The Sunday Minister Availability form for March/April has been emailed to Sunday ministers. Hard copies are also available on the bulletin board outside the sacristy. Please complete the form and return it to the file on the bulletin board or the rectory by **Sunday, February 21st**. ***If you do not return an availability form, you will not be scheduled for March and April.***

Thank you for your commitment to your ministry. Please contact Tina Sousa at the rectory 978-256-2374 or tsousa@saint-mary.org, if you have any questions.

Faith Life Series
The Beauty of the Doctrine of Purgatory

Straight answers from Rev. Stephen Donohoe

Please join us for the next Collaborative Faith Life Speaker Series engagement to be held at Saint Mary's on Thursday, February 18, 2010, 7pm. Fr. Stephen Donohoe will be our speaker. His presentation will focus on the doctrine of purgatory; a doctrine that is often greatly misunderstood. He will lift the veil and reveal how the doctrine of purgatory is a gift of God's divine mercy. This thoughtful presentation will lead us deeper in our Lenten preparation. All are invited and please feel free to bring a friend. We look forward to gathering with you!

Vacation Bible Fest 2010 will be the week of July 26th - July 30th - mark your calendars! Our first planning meeting will be on Sunday, Feb. 21st at 7:30 pm in Conf. Room B. This is where you will be able to sign up and volunteer to do a variety of fun activities such as: games, snacks, teaching, skits, hall decorating, t-shirts and teacher coordinator positions. We need all of you for this wonderful multi-generational ministry to continue to be a success every year. Our children have so much fun and we guarantee you will too - come and see what VBF is all about! If you have any questions please call Kelley Green at 978-250-5871.

One Hundred Years of Scouting - In recognition of One Hundred Years of Scouting, the Office for the New Evangelization of Youth and Young Adults in partnership with the Catholic Committee on Scouting, is pleased to invite you to a Mass of Thanksgiving celebrated by Cardinal Seán O'Malley on Sunday, February 28, 2010 at 2:00 p.m. The Mass will be held at the Cathedral of the Holy Cross, 1400 Washington Street, Boston. All current and former scouts, scout leaders and their families are invited to join Cardinal Seán for a special Mass celebrating the 100th anniversary of the Boy Scouts of America. A commemorative patch will be available for the first 1,000 registered participants. Light refreshments will be served afterwards at Cathedral High School. Tours of the Cathedral will also be available before the Mass, starting at 12:15 p.m. Advance registration and donations are welcome and helpful, but are not required. For more information or to obtain a registration form, please visit www.oymboston.org or send an email to BSA100thMass@yahoo.com.

Blanket Drive - On the weekend of February 27 & 28, parishioner Kate Hehn will be holding a blanket drive to benefit clients of the Transitional Living Center in Lowell. Please bring new or gently used and laundered blankets or sleeping bags. These items will be collected in the garage following all Masses. Thank you for your generosity!

St. Mary Sanctuary Fund - Donations to the Sanctuary Fund can be made in honor of loved ones living and deceased. The Sanctuary Fund supports the purchase and care of the liturgical items; including sacred vessels, vestments, statues, chairs, used in the Sacred Liturgy. If you are interested in making a contribution or would like more information, contact Fr. Dunn, 978-256-2374, x15. We are currently seeking donors for the Paschal Candle which is blessed and lighted at the Easter Vigil and then lighted during the Easter Season, for baptisms and at funerals.

The Manhattan Declaration: A Call of Christian Conscience - Christians have defended the weak and vulnerable and worked tirelessly to protect and strengthen vital institutions of civil society, beginning with the family.

As Orthodox, Catholic, and evangelical Christians we have come together to reaffirm fundamental truths about justice and the common good, and to call upon our fellow citizens to join us in defending them. These truths are:

- The sanctity of human life.
- The dignity of marriage as the conjugal union of husband & wife.
- The rights of conscience and religious liberty.

Insomuch as these truths are foundational to human dignity and the society as a whole, they are ***inviolable*** and ***non-negotiable***. Powerful forces in our culture are attacking these fundamental truths like never before. As such, we are compelled to speak out forcefully in their defense, without compromise. We make this commitment as followers of Jesus Christ, the crucified and risen Lord, who is the Way, the Truth, and the Life.

For more information on the Manhattan Declaration, visit http://www.manhattandeclaration.org/.

You are invited to A Baby Shower! Please join us, the Family Life Council at St. Mary Parish, for a baby shower to benefit The Pregnancy Care Center and My Father's House which provide help for women who choose to have their babies in spite of difficulties. We will be collecting unwrapped items for these organizations each Sunday until March 14th when we will celebrate in the hall with refreshments following the 9:00 am and 11:00 am Masses. Items needed are in the bulletin insert today, or visit the Family Life Council page of the St. Mary website, www.saint-mary.org.

March for Life - On January 22nd six members of St. Mary's Family Life Council, along with 300,000 pro-lifers, marched in solidarity for the end of the Roe vs. Wade decision in the annual March For Life in Washington, DC. Think about joining us next year on January 23, 2011, for a life-changing experience. For more information contact the rectory at 978-256-2374.

SAINT MARY PARISH

OPERATING BUDGET REPORT - FYR 2010
Report Period: July 1, 2009 - December 31, 2009

ACCOUNT NAME	Budget Plan	6 Month Plan	6 Month Actuals
Revenue:			
Offertory	$780,000	$397,800	$398,500
National Collections	32,000	16,000	15,000
Religious Ed and Youth Ministry	144,000	132,000	120,700
Sacramentals	27,000	13,500	12,700
Gifts/Bequests	25,000	12,500	10,300
All Other Revenue	74,000	31,500	29,000
TOTAL REVENUE	$1,082,000	$603,300	$586,200

The above summary for the second quarter of the fiscal year indicates a $17,100 revenue shortfall, although the offertory collection does show the 6 month actual slightly exceeds the 6 month plan . Through 26 weeks of this fiscal year our weekly average is $15,327 versus a budgeted amount of $15,300. Total expenses to date are below budget. Second quarter expenses continue to reflect lower lay compensation and benefits and a savings in the general operational expenses for the rectory, office and lighthouse. The operating budget also reflects the annual mandatory Archdiocesan School Tax Assessment in the amount of $47,000. As in the past, St. Mary Parish will once again equally distribute this tax to five local parish-run Catholic elementary schools in Lowell. The five schools are: Immaculate Conception, Ste Jeanne d'Arc, St. Louis, St. Margaret, and St. Michael. Continued support in the offertory collection during the remaining six months of the fiscal year will be needed to avoid a year end deficit in June 2010. Thank you, once again, for your continued support.

Paul Firicano, Parish Finance Manager
& The Finance Council, St. Mary Parish

My Father's House

Volunteer Orientation & Training
Saturday, March 13, 2010, 9:00am – 12:00pm

Make a difference in the life of a teen mom and her baby by volunteering at **My Father's House, (**83 Middlesex St., North Chelmsford, MA) a home for pregnant and parenting teens. Volunteer Opportunities: fundraising, mentoring a young woman, babysitting, yard work. **Please RSVP @ 978-251-8191 to sign up today!**

Morning of Prayer for Parish Pastoral Visitors & Ministers of Communion to the Sick - This day will focus on the growth in faith that happens as we follow Jesus and witness the healing power of his presence. The Office of Worship and Spiritual Life and the Office of Health Care Ministry offers regional mornings and afternoons of prayer. The next one in our area will be at St. Francis in Dracut on Saturday, March 6, 10am till 12Noon. To register, call the Office of Worship and Spiritual Life at 617-779-3640. There is no charge and all are welcome to attend.

The Rectory and Lighthouse will be closed on Monday, February 15 in observance of President's Day. A priest will be available for emergencies.

CALENDAR

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 14 - 6TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

- K of C Can & Bottle Drive - Following all Masses - Garage
- Family Mass followed by Hospitality in the Hall- 9:00am - Church
- Table Ministry - 9:00am - Kitchen
- Bible Study - 12:30pm - Hall
- Table Ministry - 3:15pm - Kitchen
- Youth Mass - 6:00pm - Church
- S.N.A.C. - 7:00pm - Hall

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 15

- The Rectory and Lighthouse will be closed in observance of President's Day. A priest is available for emergencies.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 16

- Prayer Shawl Ministry - 10:00am - Family Prayer Room
- RCIA - 7:00pm - Conference Rm. B
- Bible Study - 7:00pm - Hall
- Prayer Shawl Ministry - 7:00pm - Family Prayer Room

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 17 - ASH WEDNESDAY

- Ashes will be distributed at Masses at 7:00am and 7:00pm, and at the Prayer Service at 4:00pm.
- Adult Choir Rehearsal - Following 7:00pm Mass - Church

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 18

- Rosary - 12:00Noon - Church
- Faith Life Series Presentation: Purgatory - 7:00pm - Hall

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 19

- Stations of the Cross followed by Reconciliation - 7:00pm - Church

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 20

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

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 21 - 1ST SUNDAY OF LENT

- Family Mass - 9:00am - Church
- RCIA Rite of Sending - 9:00am - Church
- Grade 2 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
- VBF Planning Meeting - 7:30pm - Conf. Rm. B