

Parish Communities

St. Mary & St. Philip



Office - 508-839-3993

Fax - 508-839-1330

Website - www.stmarysgrafton.org

Mass Schedule:

Saturday 4:00 PM

Sunday 7:30 & 10:30 AM

Monday - Thursday 8:00 AM

Mailing Address:

17 Waterville St., North Grafton, MA 01536

Office Hours:

Monday - Thursday 8:30 AM - 3:30 PM

Parish Secretary: Janice Sears x10 •

jsears@stmarysgrafton.org

Director of Religious Education:

Sr. Yvonne Millman, SSA x12 • ymillman@stmarysgrafton.org

Religious Education Secretary:

Jill Sullivan x13 • jsullivan@stmarysgrafton.org

Organist/Director of Music:

Pamela Cross x37 • p.cross@shoplegacy.com

Property Manager: Al Crespo

Safe Environment Coordinator: Joan Shanley *
jfs34@msn.com

Office - 508-839-3325

Fax - 508-839-1310

Religious Education - 508-839-9130

Email - stphilipsgrafton@gmail.com

Mass Schedule

Sunday 9:00 AM

Mailing Address

12 West St., Grafton, MA 01519

Office Hours:

Monday - Wednesday 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Parish Secretary/Administrator of Religious Education/ Safe Environment Coordinator: Carole LeBlanc

cleb1329@aol.com

Organist/Coordinator of Music:

Jonathan Capece •

jcapece.stphilip@gmail.com

Pastor: Rev. Kenneth R. Cardinale x24 • krcardinale@gmail.com

Deacon: Rev. Mr. Frederick A. Coggins x29 • fcoggins@stmarysgrafton.org

Business Manager: Lisa Stewart x11 • lstewart@stmarysgrafton.org

BULLETIN NOTICES: To Parish Secretary by 6:00 PM Mondays.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION: 3:00 PM on Saturday and by appointment. Monday - Thursday, following the 8:00 AM Mass.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM: Usually celebrated on the third Sunday of the month at 12:30 PM. Please talk to Fr. Cardinale after Mass to make arrangements.

SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE: Contact Fr. Cardinale at least one year prior to the tentative wedding date.

CARE FOR THE SICK: Please contact the church office if you know of anyone who is hospitalized or confined to home because of age or illness.

NEW PARISHIONERS: Please introduce yourself to Fr. Cardinale, Deacon Coggins or a greeter after Mass. Visit the office or log into the website (St. Mary only). We want to know and serve you. We hope that you will become members of our parish community.

St. Philip



Mass Intentions

St Philip Parish

Feb 19– Alan Cardullo requested by parish, Parishioners of St. Philip
Feb 26– Eugene N Polselli requested by the family, Parishioners of St. Philip

Calendar of Events

Feb 19– Coffee Social
 Feb 25– Jesus Is a Girl's Best Friend girls only retreat St. Philip
 Feb 26– 6th grade mini-retreat with Sue Landry 3-4:30pm St. Philip
 Feb 28– Religious Ed Board– Conference Rm, St. Mary
 March 5– Sunday evening Mass 4:45pm St. Philip
 March 10– Fish Fry St. Mary 5pm
 March 17– 24-hour Famine
 March 19– 6th grade mini-retreat with Sue Landry 3-4:30pm St. Philip

Sunday Collection

February 12, 2017

\$1,589.00 vs. weekly budgeted amount = \$2,325.00

* Includes weekly, fuel and maintenance collections

12/31/16 YTD net income vs. expense = Profit of \$4,924.19*
 (for fiscal year beginning 9/1/16)

* Income and expense totals exclude all special Diocesan collections which are a direct pass-through

Thank you for your continued support

NEXT SUNDAY EVENING MASS AT ST. PHILIP WITH MUSIC GROUP 4U IS MARCH 5 AT 4:45PM. NOTE THE EARLIER START.

7th Sunday in Ordinary Time

“But I say to you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you...” (Matthew 5:44) Love your enemies, easier said than done, no doubt. But, remember, the foundation of stewardship is prayer. When we are in close communication with God, it opens our heart and it turns our attention away from “me” and moves it towards God and others. It allows us to have a little more empathy for “our enemy”. When we pray for others, even “our enemies”, maybe it softens their hearts as well.



St. Mary



Mass Intentions

St. Mary Parish

Stewardship is the act of organizing your life so God can spend you. - Lynn A. Miller, Author

Saturday

4:00 pm Special Intention

Sunday Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

7:30 a.m. Memorial for Dennis Flynn requested by the family

10:30 a.m. For the parishioners of St Mary

Monday

8:00 a.m. NO MASS

Tuesday

8:00 a.m. NO MASS

Wednesday

8:00 a.m. NO MASS

Thursday

8:00 a.m. NO MASS

Next Saturday

4:00 pm—Anniversary for Evarriste , Euphamie , Jeanne , & Philippe La-Marche requested by the family, In remembrance of her birthday Fran-coise Bauer requested by the family, 12th anniversary for Mary Stuba requested by the family

Next Sunday Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time

7:30 a.m. For the Souls in Purgatory

10:30 a.m. For the Parishioners of St Mary

Sunday Collection

February 11 & 12 \$5,310.00

Thank you for your continued support

St. Mary's LENTEN FISH MEAL

Come join fellow parishioners for a fish meal and camaraderie on Friday, March 10th, 5pm – 7pm. The meal will consist of fish, roasted potatoes, baked macaroni, vegetable, salad, rolls, dessert and beverage. Tickets will be on sale after each Mass at St. Mary's on February 18th/19th, 25th/26th and March 4th/5th and from Janet Krause at St. Philip each weekend after the 9:00Mass. Tickets are also available in the office of St. Mary's (Monday through Thursday). Cost of an adult ticket is \$10, for children under 13 the cost is \$5. We look forward to seeing you on March 10th.



Be alerted to parish events and happenings by text message or e-mail.

Lenten Message Series/Small Groups Sign-up

The latest Message Series will run through the first five Sundays of Lent (the longest series yet). At the beginning of this year, from the altar and in the bulletin, Fr. Ken mentioned that he felt inspired to declare, at least unofficially, 2017 to be The Year of the Eucharist in our parishes. He wasn't sure what that meant at the time (and is still not), but he does feel moved to develop a series on the Eucharist, which is called *The Eucharist: God's Inexhaustible Gift*. The topics are:

- 1st Sunday of Lent: Soul Food for the Long Haul
- 2nd Sunday of Lent: Life (Eternal) Is a Banquet
- 3rd Sunday of Lent: Every Body Needs Blood
- 4th Sunday of Lent: He Is Really Here!
- 5th Sunday of Lent: His Life for Ours: The Holy Sacrifice

Lent Small Group days/times/leaders:

Five-week session beginning March 5th:

Sunday, 9:15AM, St. Mary's Rectory, leader-Pam Cross

Wednesday, 9:30AM, St. Mary's conference room, leaders-Sue Robbins, Denise Spence

Wednesday, 7:00PM, St. Mary's Parish hall, leader-Lori Dewar

Wednesday, 7:00PM, St. Mary's conference room, leaders-Jim Gallagher, Ceil Phillips

Saturday, 9:00AM, Hopkinton home, leader-Rolande Parent

We will be having sign-ups for Small Groups for this series on the weekends of February 18-19 and February 25-26.

Priest Coming from Food for the Poor

On the weekend of February 18-19, while Fr. Ken is away on vacation, we will be having another priest from Food for the Poor, Fr. Brad Smith from Jamaica, coming to share with us how we can help with their mission to provide direct relief to the poor throughout Latin America and the Caribbean. He will give his personal witness about Food for the Poor's mission to care for the destitute as a way to live the Gospel's mandate to love one another. Please welcome him warmly and show him your generosity, as you do unflinchingly. Thank you in advance.

Greeter Ministry Reboot

One of the important ministries in St. Mary parish really needs a revival. After Fr. Ken came to Grafton, he helped institute the Greeter Ministry to try to make St. Mary an even more welcoming and hospitable faith community. Having individuals or families at the entrances of the church to smile, greet and answer questions for parishioners (and prospective parishioners) before and after Masses is an invaluable asset. This ministry started with enthusiasm and success. This was a blessing because one of the best ways to gather the people of God into His house is to have a thriving Greeter Ministry. However, the ministry underwent several turnovers in leadership for reasons such as people moving from the area. Unfortunately, the ministry has waned to the point where it really needs to be rebuilt again from the ground up. Please, if you think you're hearing the voice of God calling you to this ministry, answer it by talking to Fr. Ken about it. Thank you for your consideration.

Decorating Ministry

Another important role which we need to fill in another crucial ministry at St. Mary is to find a new coordinator for decorating the church, especially with flowers at Easter and Christmas. Nobody signs up for a ministry for life (although we would like her to), so after many wonderful years of doing a fabulous job, Judy Crespo is stepping down. These are big shoes to fill, but if you love flowers, have a knack for decorating and think God is calling you to lead this ministry, please talk to Fr. Ken. The entire parish thanks Judy for using her gifts in loving service to the parish in this ministry.

Meet Your Leadership Teams for St. Philip and St. Mary Parish Councils

St. Philip meets the 4th Monday of each month

- John Campbell jbcambell92@verizon.com
- Pete Cardoza pcardoza@csrfinancial.com
- Patti Hart pehart@aol.com
- Jim Jordan Jordan@ai3architects.com
- Janet Krause krausejan@yahoo.com
- John Medina jcmtam12450@yahoo.com
- John Riemer john@riemerassociates.com
- Karen Jordan- Jordanfamily3@charter.net

St. Mary meets the 2nd Tuesday of each month

- Carol A Fiorvanti cfio70@outlook.com
- James Gallagher irishjimgal@verizon.net
- Laura Deschenes mbrook13@verizon.net
- Nancy Malone nanmal@aol.com
- Ed Romeo eromeo795@gmail.com
- Gina Koss-Stephany gksvet2b@gmail.com
- Steven Skowronek Steven Skowronek@verizon.net
- Joan Shanley jfs34@msn.com
- Bill Szymczak szymczakwj@aol.com

Please contact anyone of your Parish Council members with any questions or concerns.

St. Mary and St. Philip Religious Education



Inclement Weather: Sundays and Mondays: watch WCVB Channel 5 on TV for class cancellation. If Grafton Public Schools are closed on Monday, we are, too. Phoning the RE Office may not help; if the weather warrants school cancellation, then reason dictates that we should stay home, too.

These are just a few photos from last **week's Grade Level Mass for Gr. 5**. Check the parish website for more photos. This is witness to the love and commitment of our catechists: Mary Sanfacon, Karen Jordan, Michelle Larose and Mike Johnson. They are helped by their aides: Patti Farris, Kayla Jordan, Julie Davis and Cheryl Palmieri. May God bless them and our music director, Pam Cross, for helping to share the Good News.



Class Schedule: due to school vacation, classes will not be held this week. They will resume as usual on Feb. 26/27.

Jesus Is a Girl's Best Friend Retreat– All high school girls, grade 9 and 10, are invited and encouraged to take part in this wonderful day of exploring who they are and realizing that they will always have a friend in Jesus.

Girls, especially high school girls, struggle with so many different issues from school, friends, family and their faith. They don't always like themselves, they can feel like they have no self worth and we all know this can change in a flash...*Come and see just how wonderful and amazing you are!*)

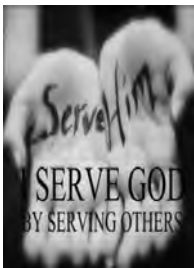
The retreat will take place **on Saturday, Feb. 25, from 10 am to 3pm**. Please sign up with Mrs. LeBlanc.

The cost of the retreat is \$10 to help cover all the materials that we need to make this a fabulous experience for all the girls. We are asking that the girls bring lunch with them and join us as we eat and share our faith during lunch. If you have any questions or concerns please call or email Carole LeBlanc.

For children 8-12 interested in learning to knit (limited to 8) for those in need, there will be a special meeting on Saturday, February 25th, from 10-11am downstairs in room #5. PLEASE bring the following supplies: a 16" number 13 circular knitting needle and one skein of Lion's Brand Wool Ease Thick and Quick yarn (color of your choice) to make a winter hat. Please call Pat for confirmation. For more information contact Pat Morse at 508-839-6070.



Please make sure to check our parish sign-ups for our **Soup Kitchen Ministry**. Help is always needed and appreciated. So many people are in need of assistance, and helping to feed our friends is just one way that we answer our call to serve. Come join us and see what a rewarding experience this is. Sign-ups are at both St. Mary and St. Philip parishes.

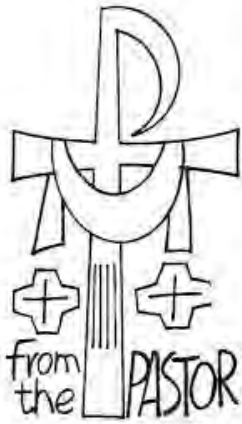


Our RE classes continue to bring in food weekly for our Market Sunday, as they continue to support and care for our friends in need because Nice Matters.



Ryann and Carissa would like to thank all the parishioners who helped make the Free Will Bake Sale to benefit the 24 hrs famine a huge success. Thank you to all those who baked and bought, your generosity is greatly appreciated. So far, we have raised \$900.00 to help feed the hungry children of the world.

Together we can make a difference



Dear friends,

In bleak midwinter, with the snow falling as it has recently, we need every reason to think of spring. One sure sign of spring has already taken place: Pitchers and catchers have reported to spring training in Florida for all the major league baseball teams. Another sure sign of spring is when Father Leo LeBlanc and I start promoting our spring retreat at the Marie-Joseph Spiritual Center, 10 Evans Rd., Biddeford Pool, Maine.

The last few retreats have been one day longer than most of them in the past. This has been an obstacle for some people. So we're going back to the shorter, two-day format to see if that will enable more people to come. Therefore, the retreat is starting on Monday, 22 May, at noon when we will gather for dinner. It will conclude on Wednesday, 24 May, at 1:00pm after we have lunch.

The topic will be the life of St. Joseph, husband of Mary and foster-father of our Lord Jesus Christ. St. Joseph is a paradox: No word he ever spoke is recorded in the Bible, and he is only mentioned in the Gospels of Matthew and Luke—a seemingly minor biblical character.

Yet, when we realize the enormity of the role God the Father gave him in the plan of salvation—to be the head of the Holy Family—we realize what a towering figure he truly is.

Our retreat will be based primarily on the book *The Mystery of Joseph* by Dominican priest Father Marie-Dominique Philippe, O.P. This book is readily available by downloading it on your e-reader, such as a Kindle, or ordering it through Amazon.com. Through this book, we will explore the relationship of Joseph with Mary, Joseph with Jesus, Joseph with God the Father and Joseph with us. These areas may well deal with the call of God, obedience to God's will, fidelity and duty, courage and humility, and the invitation to totally embrace the mystery of Christ.

A typical full day of the retreat starts with breakfast at 8:30am with a presentation by Fr. Leo or me at 9:30am, Mass at 11:00am, lunch at 12:00pm, free time in the afternoon which includes the opportunity to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation, another presentation at 4:00pm, dinner at 5:30pm and showing a segment of a film at 6:30pm. All activities are optional, the beach is steps away, and the food is very good.

The total cost is \$180.00, a real bargain. The rooms are simple but comfortable. Each room has its own sink, showers are down the hall, and there are individual stalls. To reserve your spot, you need to get a \$40.00, non-refundable deposit to Fr. Leo by 15 March, then another non-refundable \$60.00 by 20 April. The remainder is paid to Fr. Leo at the retreat. Make all checks to Fr. Leo LeBlanc, and mail them to him at St. Anthony rectory, 84 Salem St., Fitchburg, MA 01420. Fr. Leo collects all the money and pays the retreat center himself. Call me at the rectory with any questions, or call Fr. Leo at (978) 342-2491.

Stewardship Mass Intention — Healing, Forgiveness, Reconciliation

For all that can go wrong in our lives, perhaps our greatest suffering is caused by sin, which distances us from God and damages our relationship with Him. Our sins will weigh us down, like packages too heavy to continue carrying every day. Jesus wants us to be whole though, repaired and restored in the love of God our Father. With the liturgical season of Lent beginning in only three short days, what better time is there for us to reach for the blessing of forgiveness through the Sacrament of Reconciliation? Today we pray together for the faith to seek the forgiveness God wants for us:

Lord Jesus, grant that I may see you in the fulfillment of all my need, and may turn from every false satisfaction to feed on you, the true and living bread. Enable me to lay aside the sin that clings so closely, and run with perseverance the race set before me, looking to you, the pioneer and perfecter of my faith. This we ask through You who lives with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen.

Market Sunday's Outreach Program "Neighbor Helping Neighbor" is set up by our St. Vincent de Paul and Market Sunday ministries to communicate with our parishioners on seasonal food items that would help to broaden our food pantry. **We are critically low in Chef Boyardee canned meals (Spaghettios, Beefaroni, etc), coffee, tea, and hot chocolate. crackers & cookies, non-sugared cereal, rice/rice mixes, baked beans, Ramen Noodles, mayonnaise, tissues & paper towels . Please remember this is only a suggested guideline; any and all items are appreciated.** Food items can be left in the Gathering Space at St. Mary on



the Market Sunday food cart, downstairs on the cart located by the food cabinets, or on the table to the left of the cabinets. At St. Philip, you may leave them in the basket marked SVDP located at the entrance of the church. We are blessed to have the generous parish families of St. Mary and St. Philip and very grateful for all the food you donate.



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