

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

April 9– Robert Cournoyer 1st anniversary requested by parishioners. Helen LaPan requested by her husband, Al LaPan, Parishioners of St. Philip

April 16-Jean & Richard Welsh requested by the parish. Parishioners of St. Philip

Sundays during Lent, rosary at St. Philip after 9am Mass.

Calendar of Events for St. Philip and St. Mary

- April 23– Coffee Social
- May 2– Christmas Fair meeting 6:30 St. Philip
- May 6th– 1st Eucharist Mass 4pm St. Mary
- May 7th– 1st Eucharist Mass 10:30 am St. Mary
- May 7th– 7grade gathering day starting with 9am Mass until 12:30
- May 8th– Confirmation Informational Meeting 6:30pm St. Philip
- May 14– 1st Eucharist Mass 9am St. Philip
- May 20– 1st Eucharist Mass 4pm St. Mary
- May 21– Baccalaureate Mass 9am St. Philip

Sunday Collection

\$2,118.00* vs. weekly budgeted amount = \$2,040.00

* Includes weekly, fuel and maintenance collections

Thank you for your continued support

P.O.P.E

Projects Our Parish Envisions

As of 04/05/17

Pope Project -> Renovating Lower Level Classroom

Pope Project Cost: \$19,364.00

Pope Envelop Donations to Date: \$ 3,925.00

Estate Donation: \$10,000.00

Balance to Raise: \$ 5,439.00



St. Philip's Christmas Fair is Coming Back!

White Elephant Items Needed

For Christmas Fair 2017

Those with questions or suggestions are invited to attend any of the upcoming fair committee meetings (May 2nd and May 23 at 6:30pm at St. Philip) or to contact either of the fair co-chairs – Patti Hart at 508-887-9933

pehart@aol.com, or Karen Jordan at kjordanfamily3@gmail.com.



St. Mary



Mass Intentions

St. Mary Parish

What is stewardship? It is the Christian's management of lifestyle which results in generous giving of time, talent and treasure

Saturday

4:00 pm 14th anniversary for Annette Desmaris requested by the family, Memorial for Beverly Stevens requested by the family, 2nd anniversary for Marge Spence requested by the family, 14th anniversary for Bernice DiCarlucci and Memorial for Irene, Mary & Charles Minton requested by the family

Palm Sunday

7:30 a.m. Parishioners of St Mary

10:30 a.m.- 8th anniversary for Leo Charest requested by the family, 5th anniversary for Don Houde requested by the family

Monday

7:45 a.m. Morning Prayer

8:00 a.m. The Souls in Purgatory

Tuesday of Holy Week

10:30 a.m. Chrism Mass (At the Cathedral)

7:00 p.m. The parishioners of St Mary

Wednesday of Holy Week

7:45 a.m. Morning Prayer

8:00 a.m. The Souls in Purgatory

8:30 a.m.-3:00 p.m. Eucharistic Adoration, concluding with the Divine Mercy Chaplet, Benediction, and Reposition

Holy Thursday

8:00 a.m. Morning Prayer (No 8:00 a.m. Mass)

7:00 p.m. Mass of the Lord's Supper

Good Friday

8:00 a.m. Morning Prayer

3:00 p.m. Stations of the Cross

7:00 p.m. Solemn Liturgy of the Lord's Passion

Holy Saturday

7:30 pm Easter Vigil (No 4:00 p.m. Mass)

The parishioners of St Mary

Easter Sunday

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

11:00 a.m. (Note later start) Parishioners of St Mary

Sunday Collection

April 1 & 2nd \$4561.60

Thank you for your continued support



Holy Week

April 9, 2017

Palm (Passion) Sunday

Divine Mercy Sunday Service In the 1930s in Poland, Jesus appeared in visions to St. Maria Faustina Kowalska, a Sister of Our Lady of Mercy. He communicated to her His desire to pour out His mercy and promote greater trust in Him. The celebration of Divine Mercy Sunday on the Second Sunday of Easter was itself specified by our Lord to St. Faustina: "I desire that the Feast of Mercy be a refuge and shelter for all souls, and especially poor sinners ... whoever approaches the Fount of Life on this day will be granted complete remission of sins and punishment". This is why St. Pope John Paul II, on 30 April 2000, promulgated Divine Mercy Sunday and declared Sr. Faustina a saint.



There will be at St. Mary church, Sunday, 23 April, from 2-4pm, which will include Scripture reading, a reflection, opportunities to celebrate the sacrament of Reconciliation, the rosary, the Divine Mercy Chaplet, and more. Mark your calendars and partake of the special graces which the Lord wants to pour out on us in His Divine Mercy!

Tuesday Evening Masses/Sacrament of Reconciliation During Lent, we celebrate Mass on Tuesdays at 7pm (instead of 8am) so that people who may not ordinarily get a chance to celebrate Mass during the week may do so. Mass is followed by the opportunity to celebrate privately the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

Meeting for the Prayer Shawl Ministry will be held on Saturday, April 22, 2017 from 10:00 to 11:30 a.m. downstairs in room #5 of the church. All are welcome to attend including adult non-knitters and beginners. The ministry is looking for knitters or crocheters to assist us in making hats and mittens for those in need. Easy patterns are available. We would like to extend an invitation to parishioners from St. Philip's parish to join us in our ministry. Special note: For children 8-12 interested in learning to knit (limited to 8) for those in need there will be a special meeting on Saturday April 29 from 10-11 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 choose) to make a winter hat. For confirmation or more information contact Pat Morse at 508-839-6070. Please join us in a rewarding ministry. Adults meet every third Saturday of the month.

Colorful Cross—You will notice that the cross we venerate on Good Friday has made an early appearance this Lent in St. Mary church, to the left of the sanctuary where the baptismal font is located. In the past this cross was draped in purple during the Triduum and white or gold at Easter. This fabric is meant to represent the shroud in which Jesus was wrapped when he was buried in the tomb, left on the Cross and no longer needed after his resurrection. Each Sunday of Lent, this cross will be draped in a fabric of a different color which relates to the Gospel reading for that Sunday. Last week, on the Fifth Sunday of Lent, the shroud was yellow to represent the sun Lazarus saw when he stepped out of the tomb after Jesus raised him. This Sunday the shroud is red. We will not tell you the ways the colors relate ahead of time—or what will happen with the colors at Easter—but we will discuss them during liturgies throughout these holy seasons.

Grafton Troop 106, Sea Base, wants to help you with your spring clean-up.

Spring Clothing Drive and/or Household Items:

Grafton Troop 106 has recently been awarded an adventure for 2018 season at the Florida National High-adventure Sea Base! Troop 106 have been awarded two crews (up to six scouts per crew and two leaders per crew) to participate in the Out Island Adventure. At the National High-adventure Sea Base, the Boy Scouts have the opportunity to explore the largest wilderness on earth – the ocean.

To help with the cost of the National High-adventure Sea Base, Grafton Troop 106 is collecting bags of old cloths and/or household items and games for an upcoming yard sale. Bags will be handed out after the Masses to fill. If you have large items that you wish to donate, please contact us at (508) 277-3415 to discuss in more detail.

GOOD FRIDAY "WAY OF THE CROSS" at PLANNED PARENTHOOD Through His Holy Passion, our Lord united Himself with all the victims of suffering in this life. None suffer more innocently than children in the womb whose lives are taken by abortion. None suffer more deeply than their mothers, who carry such a burden of guilt and shame. On Good Friday we remember all the victims of abortion -- the children lost, the mothers and fathers wounded, the communities blighted — in a solemn, ecumenical prayer service:

- EVENT: Way of the Cross for Victims of Abortion
- WHEN: Good Friday, April 14th at 12:00pm, Noon
- WHERE: Across the street from Planned Parenthood, 470 Pleasant St. in Worcester
- MORE INFO: Call Gina at 508-948-7652

Please join us as we pray for healing for the victims of abortion and for a final end to this injustice in our land.



St. Mary and St. Philip Religious Education

Mite Box– Please return your Mite Boxes , thank you for helping our friends

Grades 6-Confirmation– Holy Thursday will be your last class of the year so please mark your calendar. We have 12 students who will be participating in the Mass as Fr. Ken recreates the Washing of the Feet.

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: Baked beans, rice mixes/Lipton sides, applesauce, cookies/crackers/cake & brownie mix, coffee/tea/hot chocolate, sugar, jelly, school snacks, non-sugared cereal, Chef Boyardee, paper products, pancake mix/syrup. 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.



Lasagna Night for Veterans Shelter

The Grafton Veterans Ministry of St. Mary, St. Philip, and St. James is sponsoring our semi-annual Lasagna Night for the veterans at the shelters in Worcester and Shrewsbury, and the women veterans shelter and their kids also in Worcester, on April 24, 2017. We are asking for your help with lasagna and brownies. If you volunteer to prepare lasagna, please do not bake it. A pan with cover is provided. All donations should be dropped off in the kitchen by **12:00 noon**, on Sunday, April 23, 2017. There is a sign up sheet on the Soup Kitchen table in the Gathering Space. Your help is very much appreciated. Thank you!



My dear brothers and sisters in Christ,



In these challenging times in the Middle East, Christians are experiencing unique hardships. Each year during Holy Week we are challenged by the Scriptures to see the light of hope amidst darkness and despair. Holy Week is about finding hope from despair and, as St. Francis prayed, "that we may be instruments of peace."

Christians living in the Holy Land struggle to live their faith and to be stewards of the sacred places as Christians arrive in pilgrimage day after day. Catholics worldwide are invited each year by the Holy Father to support our brothers and sisters in the Holy Land by making a donation to the Good Friday Collection. Keeping Christianity alive in the Holy Land is the urgent goal of the Church. In fact, the call to support the community in the Holy Land dates back to the days of St. Paul when he called upon various communities to support their brothers and sisters in Jerusalem.

Your support helps the Franciscans and others to minister in parishes, provide Catholic schools and offer religious education. Your contributions assist the Catholic community with housing, food, health care and employment. In these times of crisis, you also help in providing humanitarian aid to refugees and bring the sacraments and hope to Christians in places like Syria.

Please be generous in this year's Good Friday collection in your parish. I invite you to visit www.myfranciscan.org to learn more about the good work made possible thanks to your response to this pontifical collection.

Pray for peace during this Holy Season so that we may preserve the past and offer hope for the future.

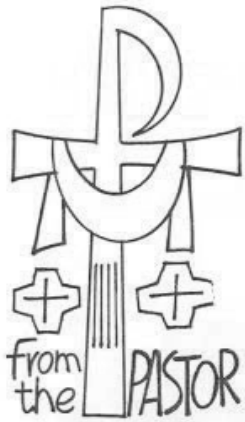
With every prayerful best wish, I remain,
Sincerely yours in Christ,

Most Reverend Robert J. McManus
Bishop of Worcester



Stewardship Opportunity — From Stewardship Ministry: Volunteers are needed on Saturday, April 29, 2017 from 1-3 p.m. for the Blackstone River Watershed Association Annual Earth Day cleanup of local waterways within Auburn, Millbury, Grafton, Northbridge, Douglas, Sutton, Upton, Uxbridge, Mendon, Hopedale, Millville and Blackstone. Refreshments will be provided at DCR's River Bend Farm Visitor Center, 287 Oak St, Uxbridge, following the cleanup. While there stop by BRWA's Clean and Green Fair featuring environmental demos and children's activities. Fliers are available in the Gathering Space. For details and to sign up please visit www.thebrwa.org.

Dear friends,



This week, our Lenten journey will reach its climax as we enter into Holy Week (9-16 April) and the celebration of the deepest mysteries of our faith. Today, on Palm Sunday, we will remember how Jesus entered into Jerusalem to the crowd cheering, "Hosanna!", only to hear it shout, "Crucify him!", less than a week later.

On Holy Thursday night, we will enter into the mystery of the Lord's Supper. In imitation of Jesus, I will wash the feet of twelve of the young people in our religious education program, and there should be a good number of others from the sixth through tenth grades there because it is part of their religious education curriculum this year. We will also feast on his Life in the Eucharist, which he instituted, along with the priesthood, on that first Holy Thursday. This beautiful liturgy concludes with the procession of the Blessed Sacrament around the church to the tabernacle, where the Eucharist is kept until 10:00pm for the Gethsemane watch, when we can stay and pray with Jesus for an hour (as the Apostles failed to do in the garden).

On Good Friday night, we will remember the Lord's ultimate act of love when he died on the Cross, hearing the Passion proclaimed, as we always do, according to the Evangelist John. Then we will return that love by venerating the Holy Cross and receive that love again in the Eucharist which was consecrated the night before.

On Holy Saturday night, we will celebrate, at the earliest possible time (after sunset, around 7:30pm), the Lord's triumph over sin and death when we celebrate his Resurrection at the Easter Vigil, the most solemn liturgy of our faith. We will light the Easter Fire, from which we will light the Pascal Candle and bring it into the dark church. We will then light the individual candles we are holding from the Pascal Candle as a powerful sign of how the Light of Christ and his Resurrection banish the darkness of sin and death.

These three liturgies—Holy Thursday, Good Friday, and the Easter Vigil—comprise the Great Triduum, which is really only one liturgy extended over three days, and the most sacred celebration we have. I urge all of us to participate in it and let the Lord give us that great gift.

I also urge everyone to participate in the Chrism Mass at the Cathedral of St. Paul at 10:30am on Tuesday of Holy Week (11 April), when the Bishop will bless all the Holy Oils which will be used for the celebration of the Sacraments in the Diocese.

All who do so are also invited to a luncheon after the Mass in honor of the priests in the Diocese who are celebrating significant anniversaries. This luncheon will be at the parish center of Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Parish in Worcester. **If you are interested in participating in the Chrism Mass/luncheon, please let me know, particularly because we need official representatives from the parishes to pick up the Holy Oils after the Mass.**

In my homily last weekend, I concluded our Message Series on the Eucharist with a discussion about how at Mass we offer up prayers and sacrifices along with the Body and Blood of Jesus on the altar. In the Gathering Space, there are **pamphlets which contain and explain the St. Gertrude prayer**, attributed to her from the 13th century in which we can make the intention to offer up the Precious Blood of Christ at Mass for two specific and crucial intentions: the Souls in Purgatory and the conversion of sinners. Please take and use them.

HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

PALM SUNDAY

Saturday, April 8 — 4 p.m. Mass at St. Mary
Sunday, April 9 — 7:30 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. Mass at St. Mary, 9 a.m. at St. Philip

MONDAY, April 10

7:45 a.m. Morning Prayer
8:00 a.m. Mass at St. Mary

TUESDAY, April 11

10:30 a.m. Mass of Holy Chrism, Cathedral of St. Paul
7:00 p.m. Mass at St. Mary, followed by the opportunity to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation

WEDNESDAY, April 12

7:45 a.m. Morning Prayer
8:00 a.m. Mass at St. Mary
8:30 a.m.—3:00 p.m. Exposition and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, concluding with the Divine Mercy Chaplet, Benediction and Reposition

HOLY THURSDAY, April 13

8:00 a.m. Morning Prayer (No 8:00 a.m. Mass)
7:00 p.m. Mass of the Lord's Supper at St. Mary

GOOD FRIDAY, April 14

8:00 a.m. Morning Prayer
3:00 p.m. Stations of the Cross at St. Mary
7:00 p.m. Solemn Liturgy of the Lord's Passion

HOLY SATURDAY, April 15

8:00 a.m. Morning Prayer
7:30 pm Easter Vigil (No 4:00 p.m. Mass)

EASTER SUNDAY, April 16

7:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. (note later start) Mass at St. Mary, 9:00 a.m. at St. Philip

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