

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

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

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

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



April 16-Jean & Richard Welsh requested by the parish.
 Parishioners of St. Philip
 April 23- Cheryl Arsenaault 1st anniversary by the parish,
 Parishioners of St. Philip

Calendar of Events for St. Philip and St. Mary

April 23- Divine Mercy Sunday Service 2-4pm St. Mary
 April 30 - Sunday Night Mass 5:00pm St. Philip
 May 2- Christmas Fair meeting 6:30pm St. Philip
 May 6- 1st Eucharist Mass 4pm St. Mary
 May 7- 1st Eucharist Mass 10:30am St. Mary
 May 7- 7th grade gathering day starting with 9am Mass until 12:30pm
 May 8- 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
 May 21- Girls' Confirmation gathering 10am-2pm St. Philip
 June 10 & 11- Morality Class Sat .10am-3pm Sunday

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

Please consider donating a basket for our Theme Basket table, all sizes welcomed

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



Stewardship is everything you do after you say "yes" to Jesus Christ. - C. Stoughton

Holy Saturday
 7:30 pm-Easter Vigil (No 4:00 p.m. Mass)
 Parishioners of St Mary

Easter Sunday
 7:30 a.m.
 Memorial for Dennis Flynn requested by the family
 11:00 a.m. Parishioners of St Mary

Monday NO MASS
Tuesday
 7:45 a.m. Morning Prayer
 8:00 a.m. Souls in Purgatory

Wednesday
 7:45 a.m. Morning Prayer
 8:00 a.m. Novena for Religious Vocations from Grafton
 8:30 a.m.-3:00 p.m. Eucharistic Adoration, concluding with the Divine Mercy Chaplet, Benediction, and Reposition

Thursday
 7:45 a.m. Morning Prayer
 8:00 a.m. For the Souls in Purgatory

Next Saturday
 4:00 pm
 5th anniversary for Vinnie Dauphinais requested by the family, Memorial for Ruth & Wesley Ford & Linda Malbouef requested by the family, 8th anniversary for Mitzi Sweeney requested by the Sweeney family, Anniversary for Nancy Spyker requested by Denise Spence & Janet LaMarche

Next Sunday Second Sunday of Easter (Divine Mercy Sunday)
 7:30 a.m. Parishioners of St Mary
 10:30 a.m. Memorial for Virginia Park requested by her sisters

Partners in Charity

You may be wondering what has happened to our parishes' participation in the diocesan fundraising campaign. We received permission from the Bishop to delay it this year. With the Lenten Message Series on the Eucharist, then Palm Sunday, Easter Sunday and Divine Mercy Sunday (next week), there really hasn't been an opportunity to dedicate the time during Masses to preach about it and then give people some moments to fill in their envelopes with donations and pledges. Therefore, we will have our in-pew kick-off next weekend during Masses, April 29 and 30. We can have every confidence that we will catch up with the generosity of other parishes.

April 16, 2017

Easter Sunday

Latest Tithes — One of the things we do regularly as a faith community, but often goes unnoticed because it is done so faithfully, is tithing 5% of our weekly income from the Sunday Offertory collections. By tithing, we commit to donating that income to charities, agencies and causes that (at St. Mary Parish) Fr. Ken and the St. Mary Stewardship Ministry and (at St. Philip) Fr. Ken and the Pastoral Council discern are worthy and appropriate recipients of your generosity. The following are the most recent recipients and amounts that St. Mary Parish has donated.

- \$250.00 to Operation Smile, an organization of volunteer medical and surgical specialists who repair facial deformities regardless of the patient's ability to pay.
- \$250.00 to NEADS, a non-profit organization established to provide canine assistance to deaf and disabled children, adults and veterans, restoring independence and relief from social isolation.
- \$300.00 to Emmanuel Radio, our local Catholic radio station in Worcester.
- \$300.00 to the Marie Joseph Spiritual Center, a retreat house in Biddeford Pool, Maine, offering varied programs for individuals and groups.
- \$250.00 to Rachel's Table Milk Fund, our long-standing commitment to their fund for local children.
- \$300.00 to Sisters of St. Anne Retirement Fund in memory of Sr. Rose Clarisse Gadoury, accomplished lecturer for the Office of Spiritual Development, permanent diaconate program and professor of pastoral theology at St. John XXIII National Seminary.
- \$300.00 to St. John's Soup Kitchen, a Worcester-based meal assistance program at St. John parish.
- \$250.00 to Tri-Valley, Inc., private non-profit agency providing in-home and community advocacy, meals on wheels, and nutrition sites at senior centers to elderly and disabled individuals throughout south central Massachusetts.
- \$350.00 to Together We Can, a town committee that has sponsored the "Bon Voyage Party" for high school graduates, an all-night-after-graduation party that keeps the graduates safe.
- \$300.00 to Clergy Benefit Fund in memory of Rev. Edward Moran, former Pastor of St. Anne Parish, Shrewsbury.
- \$250.00 to Problem Pregnancy, local organization that helps women and men choose life during difficult pregnancies.
- \$400.00 to Pastoral Counseling Centers of Massachusetts, local agency offering full-range of counseling services to persons seeking spiritual and psychological wholeness and renewal.
- \$200.00 to Shriners Hospitals for Children, where treatment is provided for spinal cord injury, rehab, orthopedic services and burn treatment, regardless of a patient's ability to pay.
- \$200.00 to Kennedy Donovan Center that provides advocacy and resources to early childhood educators and the children they serve.

We welcome your suggestions of recipients of our tithes. Please note that tithes must go to institutions and cannot go to individuals unless there is an official fund set up for a particular cause. Individuals in need are helped ordinarily through our St. Vincent de Paul Society conference. To make a suggestion at St. Mary, send e-mail to Helen Rehberg at cam-eeo10472@aol.com or leave a suggestion in the Stewardship mail box in the office; at St. Philip, send e-mail to the parish council president, John Riemer, at john@riemerassociates.com. And you can always contact Fr. Ken. Once again, thank you for your generous stewardship to the parishes that makes our tithing, and thus living the Gospel more fully, possible.

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 29th 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.

Religious Education

Confirmation Informational Meeting— May 8, 6:30 pm at St. Philip for all candidates , we ask that at least one parent attend. We will receive all the information and forms needed. The list of mandatory requirements will also be announced.

Mandatory Confirmation Girls Only Gathering will take place here at St. Philip Parish on Sunday May 21st from 10 am until 2 pm. Please have your girls bring a lunch. We are in the planning stages of the Gathering Day for Boys,

Morality Class is a Confirmation requirement. If your child is planning on receiving Confirmation this fall and has not taken the class, it will be offered the weekend of June 10-11 from 10 am to 3pm. Please call or email Carole with any questions. We will be covering **all the subjects of our Catholic teachings on morality.**

The next Sunday evening Mass at St. Philip with the contemporary music ensemble 4U is April 30 at 5:00pm.

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 noon on Sunday, April 23, 2017. There is a signup sheet on the Soup Kitchen table in the Gathering Space. Your help is very much appreciated. Thank you!

INTERESTED IN BECOMING A DEACON? Find out everything you wanted to know about the Diaconate program for the Diocese of Worcester. If you are a male, college graduate (or have an equivalent to a degree) and are between the ages of 31 and 60 and have an interest, now is your opportunity to get some answers. Wives are welcome and urged to attend with you. Saturday, April 22, 2016, 10:00am, St. Anne Parish, 130 Boston Turnpike, Shrewsbury, MA 01545. Contact: Diaconate office: 508-929-4335. Website: worcesterdiocese.org.

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.

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.

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

St. Philip meets the 4th Monday of each month

St. Mary meets the 2nd Tuesday 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
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Joan Shanley jfs34@msn.com
Bill Szymczak szymczakwj@aol.com

Parishioners are always welcomed to our monthly meeting. Please see any council member for information concerning your parish.



As we do every year, **we will have a service at St. Mary church on Divine Mercy Sunday, 23 April, from 2:00 to 4:00pm.** This column explains why we should participate. To do so, we go back to the 1930s in Poland, where 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 gifts Jesus gave to help us receive His Divine Mercy include the image He asked St. Faustina to have painted according to His design, a copy of which hangs in St. Mary Church between the pulpit and the tabernacle. The image shows Jesus' hand touching His chest, from which two rays shine forth—one white, one red—to remind us of the water and blood which flowed from His side on the Cross after a soldier's lance pierced His dead body. The Church has always seen this as a sign that Christ was pouring out His grace on the world through the Sacraments of Baptism (water) and Eucharist (the Precious Blood). The Lord told Faustina that He would pour out great graces on all who honor and pray with the image, at the bottom of which are the words "Jesus, I trust in you".

Another gift He gave is the Divine Mercy Chaplet, a simple yet powerful prayer recited using rosary beads which takes no longer than ten minutes and about which Jesus said, "... by saying the Chaplet you are bringing humankind closer to Me", and, "The souls that say this Chaplet will be embraced by My Mercy during their lifetime and especially at the hour of their death". Each year there is a novena of the Divine Mercy which includes praying the Chaplet from Good Friday through Divine Mercy Sunday. Pamphlets which include the novena prayers and instructions on praying the Chaplet are available in the church and will be distributed this weekend after Masses.

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. (John Paul himself was canonized a saint on Divine Mercy Sunday in 2014.) While Jesus' talk about "remission of sins and punishment" sounds harsh, it is really loving. When we sin we need not only to seek forgiveness, but also to heal from our self-inflicted wounds. The healing can be trying at times, as with physical wounds, but Jesus wants us to be perfectly whole. That's why a priest gives penitents a penance as part of the Sacrament of Reconciliation: we are completely forgiven of the sins we confess, but we still need spiritual medicine to heal. The Lord is so merciful that He allows this healing process to continue after death if necessary. We call this process Purgatory. However, Divine Mercy Sunday gives us a chance to heal now.

That's why Divine Mercy Sunday includes celebrating the Sacrament of Reconciliation and receiving the Eucharist worthily with the intention of obtaining what's called a plenary indulgence. This means we ask for and receive a superabundance of God's healing mercy: we are healed completely and continue our spiritual journey with an absolutely fresh start. A number of priests are joining us on Divine Mercy Sunday to help celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation while we adore Jesus in the Eucharist and pray. The service will also include Scripture reading, a reflection, the rosary, the Divine Mercy Chaplet and more. Please consider our Lord's invitation to drink deeply from the fount of His mercy.





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.

Please return your Mite Boxes, and thank you for your continued support to our friends in need.

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