

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

May 14– Ed Crosby 1st anniversary requested by the parish, Jean Drago 1st anniversary requested by the family, parishioners of St. Philip

May 21– Jean Drago 1st anniversary requested by Fran and Eva Bolack, parishioners of St. Philip

Calendar of Events for St. Philip and St. Mary

May 14– 1st Eucharist Mass 9am St. Philip

May 20– 1st Eucharist Mass 4pm St. Mary

May 20 & 21– Bake Sale St Mary 4pm & 10:30 Mass

May 21– Baccalaureate Mass 9am St. Philip

May 21– Coffee Social

June 5– Confirmation info meeting 6:30 pm

June 10 & 11– Morality Class Sat .10am-3pm Sunday

Sunday Collection

April 30, 2017

\$2,307.00* vs. weekly budgeted amount = \$2,350.00

* 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 Envelope Donations to Date: \$5053.00

Estate Donation: \$10,000.00

Balance to Raise: \$ 4,311.00

Pope Project>>> Mass Book Covers

Project cost: \$888.35

Balanced to raise: \$0.00

Gift of the family of Josephine Stockwell and

Joe and Connie Tancrell

We offer our prayers to Carol LaPointe and her loving family as she made her journey home to the Lord. Her funeral was held at St. Philip Church on May 6th.



May the choir of angels come to greet you

St. Mary



Mass Intentions

St. Mary Parish

With Christ, it is not how much we give, but what we do not give that is the real test.

-Oswald Chambers

Saturday

4:00 p.m. 3rd anniversary for Jim Pulaski requested by the family

1st anniversary for parishioners Joseph Feeley & Barry Flynn

Anniversary for Thomas and Malvina Killoran requested by their daughter

Sunday Fifth Sunday of Easter

7:30 a.m.

Memorial for Dennis Flynn requested by the family

For the parishioners of St Mary

10:30 a.m.

Memorial for Ruth T Gallagher requested by the family

Monday

7:45 a.m. Morning Prayer

8:00 a.m. Souls in Purgatory

Tuesday

NO MASS

Wednesday

NO MASS OR ADORATION

Thursday

NO MASS

Next Saturday

4:00 pm

For the First Eucharist children of the parish

Next Sunday Sixth Sunday of Easter

7:30 a.m.-12th anniversary for Dennis P. Fleming & 2nd

anniversary for Rhoda Fleming requested by the family

In honor of her 100th birthday Jody Sheridan

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

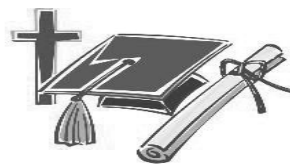
Sunday Collections

May 6 & 7 \$7,200.00

Thank you for your continued support

Baccalaureate Mass

On May 21st, at the 9:00 am Mass at St. Philip we will be recognizing our graduating seniors. If you are a graduating senior and are planning on attending, please RSVP to Carole at cleb1329@aol.com.



Baccalaureate Service



Dear friends,

May 18 (a week from Thursday) is the Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord, a Holy Day of Obligation. 'Holy Day of Obligation—do we still have those?' you may ask. Yes, we do! Part of the reason why some may be confused is that our obligation to celebrate Mass on some Holy Days depends on which day of the week the Holy Day falls. Before I get to that, let me list the six Holy Days of Obligation we celebrate in the Church in the United States:

- Mary, Mother of God (January 1)
- The Ascension of the Lord (40 days after Easter)
- The Assumption of Mary into Heaven (August 15)
- All Saints (November 1)
- The Immaculate Conception of Mary (December 8)
- Christmas (December 25)

Here's where the confusion comes: some of the Holy Days are not obligatory if they fall on a Saturday or a Monday, but are when they fall on other days. These Holy Days include Mary, Mother of God, the Assumption and All Saints. Why this exemption for Saturdays and Mondays? The U.S. Bishops made this decision to lighten the burden on people so that they would not have to go to church two days in a row, especially those who live in parts of the country where the closest Catholic church is a good distance away.

Now the other Holy Days—the Ascension, the Immaculate Conception and Christmas—are always obligatory. Why are these three different from the other three? The reason for each is as follows: the Ascension always falls on a Thursday, Mary, under her title the Immaculate Conception, is patroness of the United States and Christmas is deemed too important a feast ever to miss. Granted, in their effort to be accommodating, the bishops may have created some confusion. That's why I try to clear up any confusion by putting information in the bulletin, making announcements at Mass and writing columns such as this one.

So far, I have concentrated on the 'what' and 'when' about Holy Days. I speak now about the 'why'—why are these days given such emphasis to the point that the Church teaches that all Catholics have a serious obligation to celebrate them under certain circumstances? The short answer is that they mark events in lives of Jesus, Mary and the saints which are so important that our understanding and celebration of them is vital to our salvation. Without going into great detail, I ask us to think about the six Holy Days and see that they are the story about how our Savior came down from Heaven and was truly born of a sinless woman so that he could go back to Heaven and take her and us with him. In particular, the Ascension is the day when Christ finally transcends this world to go and throw open the gates of Heaven. He gave His life and every drop of blood on His way to accomplishing this. How can we say to Him that we can't make time to thank Him for the gift of eternal life on the day which marks His complete victory over death?

For such reasons, the Church considers it so important for us to celebrate these Holy Days that it places a moral obligation on us to participate at Mass on Holy Days of Obligation, just as it does on the Lord's Day. Failure to do so through one's own fault is a grave offense against God which we must confess sacramentally before we can receive Communion again worthily. I say this, not to breath fire and brimstone, but to remind us that Mass is the source and summit of our faith, at which we encounter the Risen Christ in word and sacrament, and should be a priority in our lives. To put it more positively, the question should not be, 'Why are we obliged to go to Mass?' but, 'With all that God wants to give us at Mass, why would we ever miss it?' The Mass times for the Ascension are 8:00am and 7:00pm on Thursday, May 25, both at St. Mary.

MOTHER'S DAY ROSE DRIVE

In this month dedicated to Our Lady, the greatest expression of the "feminine genius," let us turn to Mary and ask her to intercede for all women. May we cherish our vocation as guardians of life and nurturers of peace. May we step out as unapologetic prophets of a more human culture where each person is seen as the child of God they were created to be and those who are weakest receive the greatest share of our love.
—Sister Constance Veit

The Grafton Catholic Churches Pro-life Ministry will once again be sponsoring the annual Mother's Day Rose Drive after each of the Masses this weekend. The donations received from this event will help support Problem Pregnancy, a crisis pregnancy center in Worcester. This all-volunteer agency provides women an alternative to abortion through free counseling, pregnancy testing, ultrasounds as well as financial and emotional support. We will have fresh, red roses available for a strongly-encouraged minimum donation of \$2 each. If you would like to make a tax deductible donation, please make a check payable to "Problem Pregnancy," place it in the collection container and we will forward it to them. Thank you for your continued support. Happy Mother's Day!

O Sweet and Lovely Mary, Holy Mother of God, Queen of all Mother's, Pray for us!

Religious Education



**1st Eucharist Celebration
last weekend at
St. Mary Church.**



***Support Boy Scouts Troop 106 — Sea Base: Donate old clothing and household items**

As mentioned in past bulletins, a group of Boy Scouts from our Troop 106 are going on an amazing adventure called Sea Base. To help raise funds for the Epilepsy Foundation and the trip, red "Epilepsy bags" were given out to fill with old clothing, household items and games (Please do not bring wet items or items over 50 lbs.). Even frayed, ripped clothes and linens can be accepted!

Rain or shine, a drop off spot (trailer) will be placed in the parking lot across from St. Mary's Church on Saturday May 27, 2017. Please drop off filled bags/items between 8:00 AM - 1:00 PM. For those who want to drop off your filled bags before then, you can use the marked bins at St Mary and St. Philip Churches. You can also drop off donations on the left side of Fr. Ken's garage next to the St. Mary Rectory.

If you have a large quantity of bags/items, please contact Anne Noel at (508) 277-3415 to discuss further options. Thank you for your continued support!



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. **In order to best prepare for the summer months, we welcome donations of peanut butter, jelly, children's snacks, mayonnaise, ketchup, mustard, relish, baked beans, rice/rice mixes, non-sugar cereal, cookies & crackers, coffee & tea, cake & brownie mix, Chef Boyardee, applesauce, paper products.**

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.

Altar Flower Ministry

Do you have a garden with lovely flowers? Would you like to share the fruits of your care with St. Mary parish ? A new ministry would involve parishioners donating flowers from their gardens to enhance the sanctuary. Volunteers would collect and arrange the flowers on a weekly schedule. Are you able to join us and help to enhance our worship with the natural beauty from your garden? Please call Sharon Doane 508-839-0206 or Pat Pukaski 508-366-4464 . Thank you.

Meeting for the Prayer Shawl Ministry will be held on Saturday, May 20, 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 Church 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 May 27th 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 choice) to make a winter hat. To confirm, or for more information contact Pat Morse at 508 839-6070. Please join us in a rewarding ministry. Adults meet every third Saturday of the month. The Prayer Shawl Ministry meets September through May.

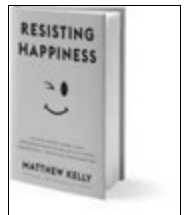
St Mary's Parish Council is sponsoring a bake sale for our Achievement Award for 2017 on the weekend of May 20th, 2017 after the 4:00pm and 10:30am Masses. There is a sign-up sheet in the Gathering Space this weekend for anyone who would like to bake goods we can sell for this fundraiser. Please sign up and plan to meet Tuesday night, May 16, at 7pm to discuss drop off times, pricing, boxing and set up for the tables in the Gathering Space that will take place Saturday morning, May 20th. Thank you to all volunteers who want to help make this a very successful event.

IHN Shoe Drive 4th Annual IHN Shoe Drive - May 1st through May 31st 2017

Give your shoes a second chance by donating gently used shoes, boots, slippers, sandals, skates, and sneakers to the Interfaith Hospitality Network (IHN) of Greater Worcester!! They should be in good enough condition to give to a friend. You'll also be helping to keep old shoes out of local landfills! Last year, your donations helped raise almost \$2000 for IHN. We are hoping for a wonderful response again this year. A drop-off bin is available at St. Mary and St. Philip. So save those old shoes when doing your spring cleaning! If possible, please tie laces together or rubber band each pair. Thank you for your support!

Take a Walk for the Homeless Please join us Sunday, May 21 for the 32nd Annual WALK for the Homeless at Elm Park in Worcester. The 5k walk will kick off at 2pm and will benefit Homeless Prevention Programs of Central Massachusetts Housing Alliance, Friendly House, Interfaith Hospitality Network and St. John's Food for the Poor program. Lace up your sneakers and join our co-chairs Fr. John Madden and Kevin O'Sullivan as we come together to make sure everyone has a place called home. For more information go to www.walkforthehomeless.org or call Amelia at 774-243-3823.

New Message Series on Resisting Happiness Is Starting in June As we have a couple of times before, we gave as a gift to folks who came to Mass on Easter one of Matthew Kelly's books. This time it was his latest (and perhaps his best so far), *Resisting Happiness*, in which Kelly describes the human tendency to resist true and lasting happiness by preferring our own ideas about what will make us happy to God's plan for our real fulfillment. Kelly has a marvelous way of presenting the fundamental and considerable means which our Catholic faith provides to overcome resistance, which Kelly defines as 'that sluggish feeling of not wanting to do something you know is good for you, it's the inclination to do something that you unabashedly know is **not** for you, and it's everything in between'.



Sign-ups for Small Faith-sharing Groups will take place in the Gathering Space/church entrance this weekend and next, May 13-14 and May 20-21, for a three week Message Series the weekends of June 3-4, June 10-11 and June 17-18. Tentative meeting times (most at St. Mary church) are on Sunday, Wednesday and Saturday mornings and Wednesday evenings. More details to follow,

SAFE ENVIRONMENT TRAINING If you are involved or planning to become involved with ministry at St. Mary parish and have not yet taken Safe Environment training, please reserve one of the dates below for an in-person training.

- Wednesday, May 31
- Thursday, June 8

Both sessions will be from 6:30pm – 8:00pm and will be held in St. Mary parish hall. Safe Environment training is one of three mandatory requirements if you are planning to be involved in ministry. More information is available on the parish website www.stmarysgraffton.org.



PROTECTION OF CHILDREN—Children are one of the most precious gifts which any community, parish, or church has. The Catholic Church in the United States continues to make every effort to protect the children in its care since the tragic revelations of its failure to do so in the past. The procedures for reporting suspected or actual abuse are: If anyone suspects that a child is being abused, immediately call the Department of Social Services (DSS) area serving the child's residence and ask for the Protective Screening Unit. Area offices are Leominster (978-466-1500), Whitinsville (508-234-1000), and Worcester (508-929-2000). Offices are staffed on weekdays between 9:00am and 5:00pm. To report any other time, call the Child at Risk Hotline (800-792-5200). If you suspect that any employee or volunteer of the parish or the diocese is involved, please call the diocese's Office for Healing and Prevention, at 508-929-4363. If a person wants to make an initial complaint about past sexual abuse inflicted on a minor who is now an adult, the procedure is also to call the Office for Healing and Prevention at 508-929-4363. More information about the diocese's policies and procedures for the protection of minors is available online. Go to the diocesan website www.worcesterdiocese.org <<http://www.worcesterdiocese.org/>>. Click on Office for Healing and Prevention, then click on Policies and Procedures. For those who want hardcopies, you can call the Office for Healing and Prevention at the above number or the rectory.

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<p>Call Us About GEOTHERMAL HEATING & COOLING Grafton Plumbing & Heating Rick Atchue, Owner Master Plumber Lic. 12358 508-922-5579 rickatchue@aol.com</p>	 CR Financial Services, LLC Personalized Financial Planning & Asset Management  Peter F. Cardoza, CFP® 508-839-1040 www.csrfinancial.com Two Grafton Common • PO Box 288 Grafton, MA 01519	Where your child discovers the <i>spirit of learning</i> Enrolling now for Fall 2016 ages 2.9 through 6  Silver Spruce MONTESSORI SCHOOL 44 Old Upton Road Grafton, MA 508.839.2300 silverspruce.org	 BARIL CONSTRUCTION Stone Masonry Contractor Matthew Baril • Fully Insured Grafton, MA 508-839-6917
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 Funding Call us today 215-586-1575 or 267-251-0341 www.duqfunding.com 3900 City Avenue, Suite 107 • Philadelphia, PA 19131	Commercial Rates are at an All Time Low . Contact us today to get a free analysis to see if we can help Save you money with your monthly payments on your commercial property. Multi-Family, Retail, Office Building, Apartment and Condos. Can close in as little as 45 days! Four season customer service is our top priority.	 Spencer Fortwengler REALTOR® EXIT REALTY PARTNERS C: 508-410-1781 Spencer.Exit@gmail.com www.Spencer.Exithomesforu.com 347 Chandler St., Worcester, MA 01602 Each Office is Independently Owned & Operated  	 ARCHANGEL ST. RAPHAEL HOLY HEALING OIL 57 North St. So. Grafton, MA 01560 802-343-0573 www.straphaeloil.com straphael25@aol.com
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