

*Parish Communities*  
*St. Mary & St. Philip Benizi*



**Office** - 508-839-3993  
**Fax** - 508-839-1330  
**Website** - [www.stmarysgrafton.org](http://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](mailto:jsears@stmarysgrafton.org)  
**Director of Religious Education:**  
Sr. Yvonne Millman, SSA x12 • [ymillman@stmarysgrafton.org](mailto:ymillman@stmarysgrafton.org)  
**Religious Education Secretary:**  
Jill Sullivan x13 • [jsullivan@stmarysgrafton.org](mailto:jsullivan@stmarysgrafton.org)  
**Organist/Director of Music:**  
Pamela Cross x37 • [p.cross@shoplegacy.com](mailto:p.cross@shoplegacy.com)  
**Safe Environment Coordinator:** Joan Shanley

**Office** - 508-839-3325  
**Fax** - 508-839-1310  
**Religious Education** - 508-839-9130  
**Email** - [stphilipsgrafton@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto:cleb1329@aol.com)  
**Organist/Coordinator of Music:**  
Jonathan Capece •  
[jcapece.stphilip@gmail.com](mailto:jcapece.stphilip@gmail.com)

**Pastor:** Rev. Leo LeBlanc x24 • [fathrleb@gmail.com](mailto:fathrleb@gmail.com)  
**Deacon:** Rev. Mr. Frederick A. Coggins x29 • [fcoggins@stmarysgrafton.org](mailto:fcoggins@stmarysgrafton.org)  
**Business Manager:** Lisa Stewart x11 • [lstewart@stmarysgrafton.org](mailto: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:** The sacrament of Baptism is celebrated at either the 4pm Saturday Mass or the 10:30 Sunday Mass at St. Mary & 9am Mass Sundays at St. Philip. Please speak to Fr. Leo after Mass. ( The sacrament may be celebrated at another time for serious reason.)

**SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE:** Contact Fr. LeBlanc 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. LeBlanc, 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**

**Nov 12-** Martin A, Anna k, Martin M, Muriel, Robert, Anna L, Doretha, Francis Frederico requested by the Frederico family.

**Nov 19-** Alfred Farrell 23 yrs & Marilyn Farrell 8 yrs requested by the family

**Calendar of Events for St. Philip and St. Mary**

Nov. 12, Thanksgiving Basket Food donations DUE

Nov 12- Patriotic Rosary, St Philip 1-2pm

Nov. 12- Grade Level Mass Gr. 5 at St. Mary 10:30

Nov 19- Reconciliation Service Confirmation Class 6pm St. James

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**Sunday Collection**

11-5-2017

\$1889.00

Thank you for your continued support

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**P.O.P.E**

*Projects Our Parish Envisions*

As of 08-20-17

**Pope Project -> Renovating Lower Level Classroom**

Pope Project Cost: \$19,364.00

Pope Envelope Donations to Date: \$5363.00

Estate Donation: \$10,000.00

Balance to Raise: \$ 4637.00

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Saturday, Dec. 2, 2017 9-3

**St. Philip's Christmas Fair**

Handmade Crafts . Bake table . Silent Auction .

White Elephant Table Kids Room . Chance Baskets .

Luncheon \$500 cash raffle . Quilt, throw and art raffles .

\$500 Lottery Tree ...plus much more!!

Come join us for a fun filled day It's Not Too Late to Join

the Team! Contact Patti Hart at 508-887-9933

or pehart@aol.com, or Karen Jordan

at kjordanfamily3@gmail.com

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Meeting for the St. Mary's Prayer Shawl Ministry will be held on Saturday November 18th 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 beginner adult knitters. 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 of St. Philip's Church to join us in our ministry. For more information contact Pat Morse at 508 839-6070. Please join us in a rewarding ministry. We meet every third Saturday of the month. The Prayer Shawl

Ministry meets September through May.



**St. Mary**



*Mass Intentions*

**St. Mary Parish**

"Many of our members have a strong habit of weak giving."

**Saturday**

4:00 p.m. Memorial for Armand & Florence Alix , William & Alice Sheldon, Jeannette, Sister Marcella & Lee Sabourin requested by the family, 5th anniversary for Mary Rynn requested by the family

**Sunday The Thirty Second Sunday in Ordinary Time**

7:30 a.m. 68th anniversary for Dennis P. Fleming requested by the family

10:30 a.m. 17th anniversary for Sophie Capezzuto requested by the family

**Monday**

7:45 a.m. Morning Prayer

8:00 a.m. Open Intention

**Tuesday**

7:45 a.m. Morning Prayer

8:00 a.m. Open Intention

**Wednesday**

7:45 a.m. Morning Prayer

8:00 a.m. 5th anniversary for Helen Grenier requested by the family

**Thursday**

7:45 a.m. Morning Prayer

8:00 a.m. 6th Month Anniversary for Joan Kirejczyk requested by the family

**Next Saturday**

4:00 pm 1st anniversary for parishioners John Putnam, Nancy McClure, Diana Lapato and Robert La Pan

5th anniversary for Kathleen Naff requested by the family

4th anniversary for Alfonso Barcinas requested by the family

1st anniversary for Diana Lapato requested by Barbara Sease

**Next Sunday Thirty Third Sunday in Ordinary Time**

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

10:30 a.m.-5th anniversary for Helen Kenney requested by her granddaughter, In remembrance of her birthday Rita Wright requested by the family, Memorial for Raymond Di-

Gregorio

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**Sunday Collection**

November 4 & 5 \$6,135.00

Thank you for your generous support

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**32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time**

"Therefore, stay awake, for you know neither the day nor the hour." (MATTHEW 25:13) Many of us have put off doing something because we think we are too busy. We've all said, "I'll do it later when I have time." Unfortunately, too many of us apply this attitude to our Faith. Jesus' call is urgent, in the here and now, in your current circumstances. Don't delay, how is God calling you to use your gifts today?

**STAY AWAKE and BE READY!**

## THE IMPORTANCE OF THE CATHOLIC FUNERAL MASS

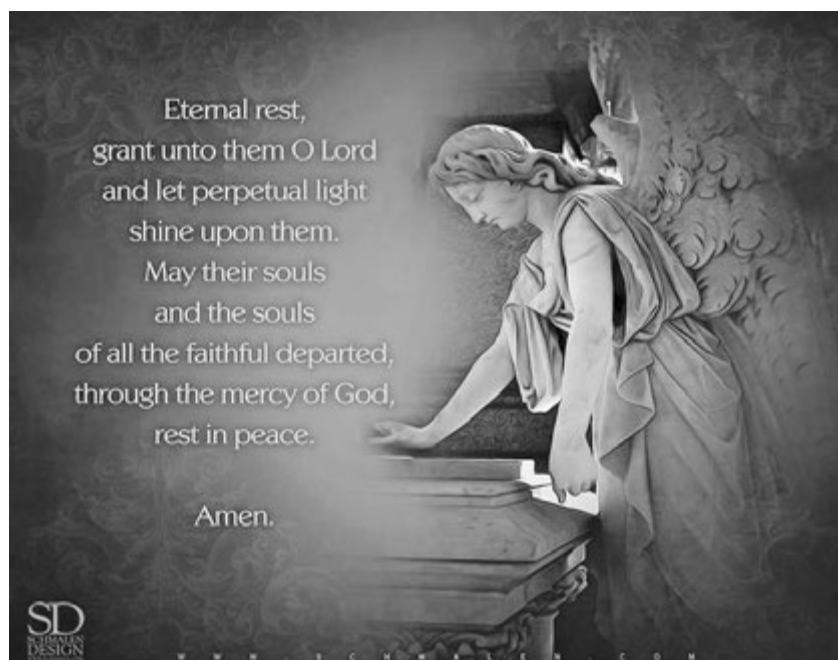
Over the years as a priest I have celebrated many Catholic funerals. More and more I hear in eulogies about the deceased loved one now being an angel, looking down from heaven and smiling on their loved ones. Sadly a greater number of families are choosing to skip the funeral Mass altogether, sometimes for financial reasons, sometimes in the interest of a speedier funeral, or because they feel embarrassed to come to Church to attend Mass because it would make them feel too uncomfortable. How very sad!

Our Catholic Church, however, teaches us that our faith, and the faith of the deceased loved one and the faith of the whole Church community is far more important than our feelings when it comes to a Catholic funeral. Even though I may feel that I don't want to impose on my family, it is of utmost importance to have a funeral Mass or a Memorial Mass at a later date. For we firmly believe that the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass has infinite value because it is the re-enactment of Christ's own death out of love for us, and of His rising from the dead on Easter. In this Eucharist the Blessed Trinity, angels and saints are truly present. For Christ is truly present at this Mass.

Now Purgatory, as taught by the Church, is a process of purification that burns any speck of selfishness that may be in us at the time of our death or any imperfection in us so that we can be totally transformed by God's immense Love. As one holy man that I know said to me a few years ago: "Father, when I die, I hope I will go to purgatory because I know my love for God is not pure enough. And that is what I most desire."

Therefore, the most valuable thing we can do for our loved ones who have died is to offer the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass, which is Christ's offering of his life by dying on the cross for us. More valuable than any monetary gift to our loved one's favorite charity is the Holy Eucharist.

Please tell your family and even consider putting it in writing that the most important request you have about your own funeral is the funeral Mass. The best way your family and friends can honor you is to grant your request. This is central to our Catholic faith.



# Religious Education



**November 19th** the Confirmation class will meet at St. James for a Reconciliation Service. Reconciliation is mandatory before Confirmation . We will begin at 6pm so please arrive at 5:45 and sign in with Mrs. LeBlanc.

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**First Reconciliation Retreat & Thank you's!** We enjoyed the afternoon with children and parents! Warmest thanks to our helpers; June Laliberte, Grace & Laura Deschenes for help with prepping materials, and Carissa & Brian Recchia, Ryann Moriarty, Casey Campbell, Madison Berardi, Jillian Mariano, and Michelle Yitts for their help during the retreat.

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**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 get us ready for Winter, we welcome donations of: Spaghetti and pasta sauce, children's cereal, juice boxes, jello/pudding and snacks; rice pilaf, Lipton Sides and Hamburger Helper, tissues and paper towels, pancake mix and syrup, frosting, coffee and tea, Chef Boyardee, jelly, sugar, mayonnaise, salt,pepper and seasonings**



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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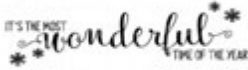
## CHRISTMAS ADOPT-A-FAMILY

The St. Vincent de Paul Society of St. Mary and St. Philip of Grafton is excited to once again offer the opportunity to assist families in need in our community through "Christmas Adopt-a-Family." As you may know, SVdP works with families in the Grafton area who are in need. We are looking for parishioners (either individuals or families) interested in providing gifts for the children of these families this Christmas. Guidance on gift selection is provided.



Please note that Christmas Adopt-a-Family does NOT replace or serve the same folks as the Giving Tree.

If you are interested in helping, please call the SVdP phone line (508 839-3993 ext 35) **NO LATER THAN NOVEMBER 16.** Leave your name and phone number, and one of our members will return your call within 24 hours. Because of the confidential nature of the work of SVdP, recipients will only be identified by code and age. Thank you for your consideration and support!



Please also note that Troop 106 provides Christmas dinner baskets for all the SVdP families. A special "Thank You" goes to these scouts and their leaders!

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## Grafton Celebrates the Holidays

**This year both St. Philip and St. Mary parishioners are joining at St. Philip for our 1st Frosty Stop :) This will take place on Dec 3rd from 12 to 4pm**

We are looking for parishioners who would like to be involved with our **Frosty Stop**. If you or your child would like to be involved with our "**Live Nativity**" please call or email Carole at St. Philip.

We will be serving cookies and cocoa, giving away Holiday Mass schedules for both parishes and small gifts.

We have activities for children :) Anyone make candy/lollipops? We would love to sell them at our Frosty Stop.

Any questions please contact Carole

Please help to make this a new tradition for our parishes :)



**ST. PHILIP'S ANNUAL GIVING TREE**

It's that time of year again – time to begin thinking about making the Christmas season a little brighter for some of our Grafton neighbors.

Beginning Sunday, 11/19/17, ornaments containing suggested gifts for Grafton children and Crescent Manor Nursing Home residents will be available before and after Sunday Mass. If you or your family would like to sponsor a family, that is, buy the gifts for an entire family, you may do so by calling Rachel Costello at 508-839-2767 to make arrangements.



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**Don't Forget to Let Us Know If You Are Ill at Home or in the Hospital!**



Parishioners of both St. Philip's and St. Mary's parishes should remember to call their respective parish office if you or a loved one are hospitalized, in rehabilitation or recovering at home from an illness.

The current privacy laws do not allow hospitals or rehabilitation facilities to contact your parish about your condition. You or a family member must let us know if you would like a visit from Fr.

Leo or a Eucharistic Minister. Please call Janice Sears, parish secretary at St. Mary's, at 508-839-3993 or Carole LeBlanc, parish secretary at St. Philip's, at 508-839-3325 to request a visit.

If you are at home and not able to attend church, the Visiting Eucharistic Ministries would be pleased to visit at your convenience. Those seeking home visits should contact Patti Hart at 508-887-9933 for St. Philip parishioners, or Noreen McConville at 508-939-5313 (phone) or 508-942-1892 (text) for St. Mary's parishioners.

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**THANKSGIVING FOOD DRIVE:**

It is that time of year again, and we are gladly accepting turkey donations and cash donations. Any family wishing to donate a frozen turkey (15-20 lbs.) may sign up in the church gathering space or call Erin Flynn Wajer at 508-839-9874. Frozen turkeys will need to be dropped off at Saint Mary's Parish on Sunday, November 19th by noon. Any family wishing to make a cash donation can put it in the basket on the Thanksgiving table in the gathering space. Cash donations are always needed for the items that are purchased to complete the baskets (fresh produce, rolls, roasting pans, etc.) If you know of an individual or family who would appreciate a Thanksgiving dinner, or if your own family could use assistance this year, please contact Father Leo or Deacon Fred. Privacy will be respected.



**NOTE to Parents of Religious Education Students:**

**Thanksgiving Outreach Food Collection:**

Students in RE took home flyers on Nov. 5 & 6. The donations are DUE in this Sunday, November 12, and Monday, Nov. 13th, for this annual outreach project.

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A heartfelt thank you to our parish families that baked lasagnas, and desserts for the veterans at Veteran's Inc. on Grove Street in Worcester. These veterans enjoyed a home prepared meal and wanted to be sure to extend their sincere gratitude to all.

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**Are You Certified for Anti Choke Treatment?** St. Philip's and St. Mary Parish is in need of having two people certified in anti-choke treatment to be on call for events where food is served such as the upcoming Christmas Fair on Dec. 2, church suppers, coffee social , anytime food is served at RE, and post funeral receptions. If you or someone you know is certified and would consider helping us with these occasional events, please contact Patti Hart at 508-887-9933 or Lisa Stewart at 508-839-3993. If you are not certified but would like to be, we welcome you to join a certification class this fall in Grafton. Again, please call either Patti or Lisa this week to sign up. Thank you for your help with these important ministries. The Parish Needs You!

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**St. Mary's Schools Open House**

St. Mary's Schools, 50 Richland St., Worcester are proudly hosting an Open House/Shadow Day for Grades 7-12 on Wednesday, Nov. 15 beginning at 8 a.m. for all those students who came to the open house as well as any new students and families who are interested in St. Mary's Schools. Students can be dropped off 8 a.m. and parents have the option of joining their child at 1 p.m. for the parent portion of the program to be concluded at 2 p.m. Please RSVP at 508-753-1170 ext. 10.

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### Sunday Breakfast Buffet

Quas. 12:30-2:00pm

Private Events  
Baptism - First Communion Receptions  
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Mercy Meals

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