

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. Leo LeBlanc x24 • fathrleb@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: 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

Aug 27– Jean Welsh requested by the family, Parishioners of St. Philip, Loving prayers for MaryAnn Messina , requested by her uncle Al LaPan

Sept 3– Deceased members of the Polselli requested by the parish, Parishioners of St. Philip

Calendar of Events for St. Philip and St. Mary

Sept 10– Enrollment Mass for Confirmation Candidates

Sept 10– Confirmation Retreat starting with Mass

Sept 10– Religious Education starts

Sept 17– Commissioning Mass with Bishop McManus, 10:30 @ St. Mary

Sept 24– Morality Class 12:30-4 St. Philip

Sept 25– Confirmation Class– continue Morality until 2pm.

Oct 14– Baby Shower for Visitation House St. Philip 12-2pm

Oct 15– 6th grade mini retreat with Sue Landry

Nov. 4—Roasted Pork Dinner 5pm St. Philip Confirmation Class

Sunday Collection

\$2,964.00 vs. weekly budgeted amount = \$2,062.50

* Includes weekly, fuel and maintenance collections

Thank you for your continued support

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: \$5103.00

Estate Donation: \$10,000.00

Balance to Raise: \$ 4,261.00

Please send any items for the bulletin to Carole at cleb1329@aol.com by 6pm Monday evening.



St. Mary



Mass Intentions

St. Mary Parish

'Stewardship' has become associated with little more than church management and finances. 'Stewardship' itself should represent the summing up of a Christian life." - Douglas John Hall

Saturday

4:00 pm- Birthday remembrance for Henry Gibson requested by Janet LaMarche

Sunday Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time

7:30 a.m. 28th anniversary for Richard Fleming requested by the family

10:30 a.m.– Months mind for Jean Nolan requested by her family, For the Parishioners of St Mary

Monday

7:45 a.m. Morning Prayer

8:00 a.m. Memorial for Anne Hieronymus requested by Betty Kelly

Tuesday

7:45 a.m. Morning Prayer

8:00 a.m. Open Intention

Wednesday

7:45 a.m. Morning Prayer

8:00 a.m. 9th anniversary for the Jessica Ann Jackman requested by the family

Thursday

7:45 a.m. Morning Prayer

8:00 a.m. For the Souls in Purgatory

Next Saturday

4:00 p.m. Birthday remembrance for Marge Spence requested by the family

Next Sunday The Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

7:30 a.m. For the Parishioners of St Mary

10:30 a.m. Special Intention

Sunday Collections

August 19 & 20 \$5,804.00

Thank you for your continued support

A Last Effort for Partners in Charity

First of all, thank you, each of you who have given a contribution or made a pledge to Partners in Charity. The Diocese has reached its goal. Yes, I believe it is important that we show the diocese a "good faith" gesture making one last effort toward meeting our parish goal. Our effort does benefit children who directly receive help from our contributions, as well as seminarians and families who are struggling. Please know that nothing is wasted, and not only the diocese takes notice, but God , who sees our hearts, appreciates our kindness.

A second Collection will be take place today to benefit Partners in Charity

“WHO AM I FOR YOU?”

Jesus begins in today’s Gospel by asking the apostles: “Who do people say that the Son of Man is?” Then He moves to ask them in a much more personal way: “But who do you say that I am?” Peter answers for himself and the other apostles: “You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.” To this Jesus replies: “Blessed are you, Simon, son of Jonah. For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my heavenly Father. And I say to you, you are Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church.”

Notice how Jesus goes from asking what others say about him to getting very personal in asking what I believe Him to be for me. Pope Francis says that many times we may hear within ourselves the same question that Jesus addressed to the Apostles: “Who am I for you?” Surely, the pope says, we may want to respond as Peter did, as we learned in the Catechism: “You are the Son of the living God.” But then

Pope Francis challenges each one of us: “To respond to that question which we all hear in our hearts, what we have learned and studied in the Catechism is not enough. In order to truly know Him we have to travel the path that Peter took.”

What is needed is needed to know Jesus is not just the intellectual understanding and the acceptance of a dogma, but to live the life of a disciple of Jesus. Traveling the path of the disciple means to learn, first-hand, who He is on a day to day basis. Only in these daily encounters with Jesus can we draw close to Him and know Him more deeply. Only in this way do we acquire what St. Paul calls: “the mind of Christ.” And the more we put on the mind of Christ, the more we are able to discern the will of Our Father in

heaven.

But as much as we work at acquiring the mind of Christ, it is not enough as disciples on the path of life to know how to follow Jesus, says Pope Francis. For acquiring the mind of Christ is much more the work of the Holy Spirit within us as individuals and within us as Church. He is the one always at work within us and among us. He is the One who carries out the great work of transformation. “Come, Holy Spirit, enkindle in us the fire of your Love.” Amen.

We Answer God’s Call

*God of all faithfulness,
You have made us in your image and likeness.
You have called us by name
To be your disciples and to serve you.
You bless us with your love
In all circumstances of our lives.
Send your Holy Spirit upon us
That we may be faithful to
Our baptismal promises
And live and work together
For the glory of your name.
We ask this in the name of
Jesus Christ, our Lord.
Amen*



Religious Education

Religious Education classes will be starting the weekend of September 10-11. Confirmation classes have Mass of Enrollment on Sunday September 10th at the 9 am Mass at St. Philips. Confirmation Retreat will follow the Mass. Please have sponsors attend Mass if possible. Sponsor forms are due back as soon as possible.

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 help us prepare for Fall/Back-To-School, we welcome donations of the following:**



Soup, coffee & tea, jelly, children's snacks, mayonnaise, cookies & crackers, cake & brownie mix, pasta sauce, 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.

Religious Education classes the weekend of September 10-11th. Please look for the class schedule coming to you soon.

Confirmation class—Mass of Enrollment is Sunday Sept 10 at the 9 Mass at St. Philip, please have sponsor with you for Mass.

September 18th—We will be having a special Opening Mass for all families, Sunday and Monday families from both parishes. Bishop Robert McManus will celebrate with us. We will also commission all involved in the Religious Ed program from both parishes.

We have scheduled our events

Baby Shower for Visitation House which is hosted by our high school and confirmation students, will take place on Saturday October 14th from 12-2pm.

Roasted Pork Dinner November 4th, live entertainment hosted by our Confirmation Class .

Frosty Stop this year we are a part of the Grafton Celebrates the Holidays with both parishes participating

Christmas Box of Joy— family project

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, you should also call 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.



Fall Retreat Oct 16-18—As summer is quickly moving on I write to you on behalf of Fr. Ken and myself, inviting you for a retreat beginning Monday, October 16 with lunch at 12 Noon and ending Wednesday, October 18 with Mass at 11 AM (lunch on Wednesday is not included in the efforts of keeping the cost down). Anyone who wants to arrive a day early or stay later would have to call Sr. Kate at 1-207-284-5671 and make their own personal arrangements.



The theme of this retreat is the role of **joy and laughter** in the spiritual life of the Christian. The Saint who so wonderfully exemplifies these qualities is St. Philip Neri, known as the joyful saint of Rome. He founded the religious community known as the Oratorians. Other than St. Philip Neri himself, perhaps the next most well known Oratorian is Blessed John Henry Newman.



Given the short time we have to send in our deposits, I am asking that you would send your deposit check of \$20 to me at my new address: Fr. Leo LeBlanc, St. Mary's Parish, 17 Waterville Street, N. Grafton, MA 01536 by August 15, 2017. (Please make check out to me: Fr. Leo LeBlanc, since I pay the retreat center all at once and keep track of things for them.) Some of you have already sent in your deposit.

Much peace and joy, Fr. Leo

Return of Eucharistic Adoration: A Call to a deeper faith, hope and love, and to a share in the peace of God! A little book entitled "Visits to the Blessed Sacrament and the Blessed Virgin Mary", by St. Alphonsus Liguori, has drawn many to experience its great rewards. In it he writes: "Certainly, among all devotions, after that of receiving the Sacraments, that of adoring Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament holds first place, is the most pleasing to God and the most useful to ourselves." Also: "the time spent with devotion in this way "will be the most profitable to you in life and the source of your greatest consolation in death and in eternity".

Christ promised to remain with us always, and in His presence in the Holy Eucharist, his promise has been fulfilled. Eucharistic Adoration at St. Mary's will again take place each Wednesday, from the Wednesday after Labor Day to the end of May 2018. If you haven't participated in it before, this is an invitation to find out how it can help you to deepen your relationship with Christ and increase his peace and joy in your heart - a wonderful challenge! You have the option to commit to a definite time each week, or simply stop by when you have the opportunity to enjoy a time of prayer and peace in Christ's presence. If you have any additional questions, please call Betty Kelly at (508) 839-6018.



21st Sunday in Ordinary Time

"Or who has given the Lord anything that he may be repaid?" (ROMANS 11:35) St. Paul reminds us of a central fact of stewardship. We cannot give the Lord anything, because God already owns it all. God made everything. All that we can do is return a portion of God's many gifts back to Him. Sincere gratitude for our gifts opens our hearts to joyful generosity!



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