



St. Margaret Mary

845 High Street • Westwood, MA 02090 • 781-326-1071

www.saintmmparish.org • facebook.com/saintmmparish.org

Mass Schedule

Saturday — 4:30 PM

Sunday — 10 AM and 5 PM

Saturday 4:30 PM and Sunday 10 AM

Masses will be livestreamed on the website at www.saintmmparish.org/live-streaming.

Registration is required for all weekend Masses by going on the parish website or by calling the parish office at 781-326-1071.

Daily Mass (Mon-Fri) — 7:30 AM

Daily Masses will be livestreamed on the website.

Baptisms

Please call the office at 781-326-1071 to schedule.

Contact Information

Administrators:

Rev. Paul Soper and

Rev. Bob Blaney

Deacon:

Rev. Mr. Stephen May

Deacon Emeritus:

Rev. Mr. Joseph E. Holderried

Music Directors:

Bill Grzybowski and Matt Hussey

Director of Faith Formation:

Karlene Duffy – Ext. 101

Faith Formation Administrative Assistant:

Denise Raftery – Ext. 102

Pastoral Assistant:

Brian Cullen – Ext. 107

Parish Administrative Assistant:

Cindy Carlo – EXT. 100

Office Hours

MONDAY - FRIDAY 9 AM - 5 PM

From the Desk of Karlene Duffy

Thanksgiving is right around the corner and like many things in 2020, some Thanksgiving traditions will need to be tossed out the window. (I'd like to toss Covid out the window!) In the past, thanksgiving was all about the family and the food; gathering as many as we could into the dining room and filling our bellies with delectable treats (like pie! Yummy!). A second table would be added to the main dining table, old homemade placemats would be laid upon the cloth, ceramic Santa mugs would be strategically placed for the little ones to use, dozens of cinnamon rolls would be placed in baskets at both ends of the table to avoid fisticuffs and then mom and I would wait. We'd wait for the nieces' texts asking us to call my sister and beg her to bring them over early. We'd wait for hurried footsteps thundering down the drive and into the family room. We'd wait for lavish kisses and rib cracking hugs. Lastly, we'd wait for the food to be done.

What will thanksgiving 2020 be like this year? Well, we won't know until the last minute who, if anyone, is coming over for dinner. And we won't know until the last minute, if anyone does come, how many will come and if we'll eat outside or inside. So what will we know? Well, being Sicilian, I know my mom and I will be cooking... a ton of food! It's just what we do. Small or large gathering, we always have way too much food. We know there will be empty seats at the table: my dad God willing, is spending another Thanksgiving in heaven and my brother-in-law's sister and her kids are in isolation because of her cancer treatments.

Best of all, we know that Thanksgiving despite the changes and losses will be great. Did I say great? I sure did! Because this year Thanksgiving will start with prayer, followed by Mass and nothing reminds me more of the blessings in my life than the overwhelmingly wondrous love of God. Even if family is not physically present there will be phone calls, texts and certainly FaceTime/Skype. And, of course, there will be pie! I will focus on the fact that we live in a land of freedom; a land founded on religious freedom. I will focus on the fact that I have a roof over my head and my feet are warm. I will focus on the food (yes, especially the pie!) knowing how many bellies are swollen from having no food. I will focus on having my mom with me although two Sicilians in one kitchen... I will also focus on how to give to those who have not. Finally I will relish the quiet of a book, a warm mug of green tea while watching the dinosaurs become skeletons as my dino mug heats up.

This pandemic has forced to me see the little blessings I used to ignore. And yes Virginia as certain as I am that Santa Claus exists, I am just as certain that Thanksgiving will be chock full of blessings. Happy Thanksgiving!



Come, Let's Pray the Rosary Together!

Let's take some time to pray together for ourselves and families that we may keep hope in our hearts, peace in our minds and God at the center of our lives especially throughout the upcoming busy holy and holi-day seasons!

When: Saturday, 11/22 and Saturday, 11/29 at 9 AM

Where: Near the (outdoor) statue of Our Blessed Mother Mary (weather permitting). If weather does not permit, we will pray inside our church

How: Just bring a chair (and perhaps a blanket)

Weekly Offertory

Parishioners contributed \$6,391 in offertory, \$3,465 which was taken in through WeShare, our online giving portal. Thank you for your generosity.

Grand Annual Update

Grand annual letters went out last week. Thank you to the 29 parishioners who have donated over \$14,000. We are off to a strong start.

Mass Intentions

Saturday 11/21: Anna and Fred Leonard

Sunday 11/22, 10 AM: Arlene Mollo (1 yr ann)

Sunday 11/22, 5 PM: Pro Populo

Monday 11/23: Julie Barham

Tuesday 11/24: Theo Sousa (Living)

Wednesday 11/25: Giovanna Geary (Living)

Thursday 11/26

Friday 11/27: Barbara Pearl (Living)

Facebook Live Events

Daily Morning prayer at 8:30 AM

Daily Noon prayer

Daily Rosary/Chaplet at 3:00 PM

Friday: Virtual Adoration, Noon — 4:00 PM

Parish Events

Wednesday — Adoration & Reconciliation from 7-8 PM. The Blessed Sacrament will be solemnly exposed on our altar. There will also be the opportunity to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

Friday — The Church will be open for Adoration from Noon to 4 PM

Sunday Night Mass

Thanks to all of those who have been braving the cold weather and darkness to help us celebrate Mass outside.



From the Desk of Bill Grzybowski

By now our parishioners would have received the Grand Annual appeal letter. It mentions the repair of some of the organ's speakers that have shorted out. Let me explain: during recent renovations in the east entrance (vestibule) of the Church, one of the wires leading to the organ speakers (mounted on the choir loft rail) got a staple through it, making the amplifier for that division short out. This means the amplifier will need to be replaced. Now, one might ask: 'why does the organ need speakers in the back?' Well, St. Margaret Mary Church is of very large proportion, therefore, to keep the sound balanced, it is most favorable to have a set of speakers at the rear of the Church. 'Balance' is the key word, not 'loudness.' When (hopefully one day in the not too distant future), congregational singing is resumed, it will be noticed. We can be very proud of our fine Rodgers Digital Organ!

Social Justice — Giving Tree from November 22 to December 14

This year the St. Margaret Mary Parish Christmas Giving Tree, which benefits underprivileged students at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Mission School in Roxbury, will be handled a little differently due to the pandemic. We will be collecting monetary donations that will be used to purchase gift cards and small gifts for the family. Parishioners may donate money in several ways: (1) at the doors of the Church you may place in the offertory basket; please put in a separate envelope marked Giving Tree (2) send in a check to the parish office/include in memo line Giving Tree Donation, or (3) donate online by visiting <https://saintmmparish.churchgiving.com/ws/opportunities/ChristmasGivingTreeDonations>. We will be collecting donations through Monday, December 14. If you have any questions, please call the parish office. Thank you for your generosity! — The Social Justice Committee.



Flagpole Restored

As you know, we have a flag pole outside donated by the Temple Beth David in appreciation to the parish a number of years ago. A flag used to fly there, but in recent years a broken rope, etc., has prevented the flying of a flag.

This week some very generous and courageous guys from the Westwood Fire Department came and restored the rope for us. And now a flag is proudly flying in front of our parish again!!!

Our deep thanks to the Westwood Fire Department for doing this for us. They take care of us in so many ways ... And thanks also to Ken Foscaldo for setting this up.



Christmas Flowers, Lights and Music

As we prepare for Christmas, we will be accepting donations to make the Christmas season even more special with flowers, music and lights. You can mail a check in with the names of those you wish to remember/honor. You can also donate online at WeShare — go to <https://saintmmparish.churchgiving.com/ws/opportunities/ChristmasFlowersMusicandLights>. All memorial names will be included on a list in the bulletin the weekend of Christmas.

Thanksgiving Prayer — Remembering Others

I have seen and set many "empty places" at my table over the years. Sometimes to remind me of a loved one in the military, those who have naught or, more often, those who have died. Want to try it? It helps to acknowledge what no one wants to say out loud and saying "it" (I am sad or I really miss him/her) needs to be said. Here's what to do:

Put one extra place setting at the table. (Make sure no one sits at this setting.) If you have young ones, let them do it or at least help. Lay down a special placemat (homemade ones are great), a plate, napkin, glass and cutlery). I like to put a single flower and pic of that person at that setting but you could make a place-card instead. Near the plate place a salt shaker as a reminder that it's okay to cry (salty tears, get it) and a piece of bread to remind all that Jesus broke the chains of death. Then say a prayer for that person and give everyone a chance to share their favorite memory. Another twist is to lay this extra place for those who have naught. Here's a great prayer before the meal:

O God, when I have food,
help me to remember the hungry;
When I have work,
help me to remember the jobless;
When I have a home,
help me to remember those who have no home at all;
When I am without pain,
help me to remember those who suffer,
And remembering,
help me to destroy my complacency;
bestir my compassion,
and be concerned enough to help;
By word and deed,
those who cry out for what we take for granted.

- Author Unknown

Social Justice Committee— Coat Drive



At St. Margaret Mary Parish the Social Justice Committee is holding a coat drive this weekend —November 21/22 in support of Anton's Cleaner's "Coats for Kids" Program. In these hard economic times, there are thousands of individuals in our very own communities who are without a warm winter coat. Donated coats will be cleaned free of charge by Anton's Cleaners. Once collected and cleaned, coats will be distributed through the *Coats for Kids* Distribution Partners network, which includes local nonprofit and social service agencies. As one of the largest coat drives, they accept all winter coats for adults, children, and infants. Please consider donating winter coats that are warm and in good, wearable condition. One question you might ask yourself before donating: would you give it to a friend to wear? Please do not donate coats that have rips or tears, broken zippers, or have permanent stains. Please make sure all pockets are empty. For more information, see Coats for Kids Campaign at <https://antons.com/cfk>.



Thanksgiving Day Mass

Mass will be held at 9 AM on Thanksgiving morning inside the church. Registration is required (the link will be online on Monday for sign ups). Livestreaming will be available.