



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

Christmas Mass Collection

The upcoming Christmas collection will benefit the Clergy Health and Retirement Trust which cares for the health and well-being of the 536 active and senior priests in good standing across greater Boston. Whether it is within our parish communities or in the community at large, our priests are making a difference every day. If you are able, please consider a generous gift to the Christmas collection this year. Thank you in advance.

Christmas Mass Schedule



Thursday, December 24th 2:30 PM Outdoor Mass : **Closed/Registration Full**

Thursday, December 24th 4:30 PM Mass: **Closed/Registration Full**

Thursday, December 24th 6:30 PM Mass

Friday, December 25th 9:00 AM Mass

Friday, December 25th 11:00 AM Mass

This year we will have three Masses on Christmas Eve and two on Christmas morning. Just a few items to point out: To comply with the state's capacity restrictions, everyone must register for the Mass they wish to attend. All family members in your party must also be registered. We are required to have an accurate contact listing for all in attendance.

You can register at www.saintmmparish.org. After you register for a Mass, you should receive a confirmation email. If for some reason you don't get an email, please email Denise Raftery. (Be sure to check your SPAM or JUNK folder to be sure it didn't go in there.) If possible please print the confirmation email you receive after you register and bring it with you. If you have questions please call our parish office at 781-326-1071.

The 2:30 PM Christmas Eve Mass will be held outside. If you registered for this Mass, please dress warmly, winter hats (men and women), scarfs, and blankets are permissible, and bring your own chair(s). Even though the Mass will be held outside, we ask everyone wishing to attend this Mass to register in case we have to move the Mass inside due to inclement weather (rain or snow). Please wear your face mask and sit socially distanced from other households.

All indoor Masses will be live-streamed. If you are registered and are feeling unwell, please stay home for the health and safety of others. Live streamed Masses can be accessed via www.saintmmparish.org/live-streaming or by going to our website www.saintmmparish.org and clicking on ONLINE MASS at the top of the website and selecting Live Mass. You can also view all recorded Masses by selecting Archived Masses. The most recent recorded Mass will be pictured, but to see the list of all available recorded Masses click on the BLUE PLAYLIST tab on the right of the picture.

Please remember, everyone, that the dispensation from the obligation to attend Sunday Mass remains in effect. Come if you feel comfortable coming, but you are not in any way obliged to come at this time.

Remember to wear a mask.

Weekly Offertory

Parishioners contributed \$4,498 offertory, \$3,410 which was taken in through WeShare, our online giving portal. Thank you for your generosity.

Grand Annual Update

To date, 161 parishioners have donated \$76,962 to the Grand Annual. Thank you for your support; your generosity is greatly appreciated.

Mass Intentions

Saturday 12/19: Pro Populo

Sunday 12/20, 10 AM: Lydia Nolan

Sunday 12/20, 5 PM: Pro Populo

Monday 12/21: Dorothy Ragab (living)

Tuesday 12/22

Wednesday 12/23: John Michael Pardy, Jr

Thursday 12/24

Facebook Live Events

Daily Morning prayer at 8:30 AM

Daily Noon prayer

Daily Rosary/Chaplet at 3:00 PM

Parish Events

Saturday — Rosary, at 9 AM this Saturday, December 19th outside by the statue of Our Blessed Mother Mary. If weather does not permit, we will pray inside our church.

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.

Praying before the Blessed Sacrament —

You may have noticed that at the live-streaming link now, when there is not a Mass going on in the church, the camera is focused (live) on the Tabernacle. So if you want to pray before the Blessed Sacrament, you can do so in this way at any time.

From the Desk of Karlene Duffy

Just as the world has a changing of seasons, so too does the Church. Ordinary time is represented by the color green and during this season we do not celebrate any extraordinary feasts. The priest's green vestments remind us that all that is good is a gift created by the hand of God including trees, grass and flowers, you and me!

The color red represents blood. Makes sense, eh? When the priest dons red vestments we are remembering a martyr, a person who died for his or her faith; for example St. Maximilian Kolbe, St. Joan of Arc or St. John the Baptist. It is also worn on Pentecost (the descent of the Holy Spirit), Palm or Passion Sunday and Good Friday (the Crucifixion of Our Lord). Blood shed for us by The One who came to love us and lift us.

Now we are fast leaving the season of Advent. The fourth candle of the Advent wreath is being lit. Similar to Lent, Advent is symbolized by the color purple. Purple is worn during the seasons of Advent and Lent which precede the wonderful, holy seasons of Christmas and Easter, respectively. The purple worn by the priest reminds us that Advent and Lent are times to prepare, pray and receive the sacrament of penance (an interior preparation of our souls) so that we may truly and wholly celebrate Christmas and Easter. During Advent and Lent we keep decorations to a minimum, allowing fewer distractions so we may focus more earnestly on our relationships with God.

Speaking of Christmas and Easter, these are seasons of tremendous joy! Therefore, the priest will wear white or white and gold. The coming of Christ and His Resurrection! What greater reason can there be to celebrate? These are seasons which define God's great and wonderful love for us! As a matter of fact, if you look at the altar, each Sunday is a celebration. Thus, the altar is covered in a white or off white cloth. While we do fast one hour before attending Mass (to deepen our hunger and appreciation for the Body and Blood of Christ), the liturgy of the Word and the Liturgy of the Eucharist are celebrations; each and every Sunday we joyfully praise Our Awesome God!

Having said all this, at Christmas time look for the white (or off white) and gold colors in the priest's vestments, on the altar and the decorations.. After all, according to the Gospel of Luke, Chapter 2: "The angel of the Lord appeared to them and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were struck with great fear. The angel said to them, 'Do not be afraid; for behold, I proclaim to you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. For today in the city of David a savior has been born for you who is Messiah and Lord. And this will be a sign for you: you will find an infant wrapped in swaddling clothes and lying in a manger.' And suddenly there was a multitude of the heavenly host with the angel, praising God and saying: 'Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests'."

No matter how different Christmas might be for you, focus on what has NOT changed: HE is still coming! Specifically for you and for me, He is coming into our homes, our hearts and our world! How loved are we!!! How amazing that Our Awesome God, despite the pandemic, wars, ignorance and arrogance is still coming! And He is coming because His love is so enormous He wants to share it with each of us. He wants to get and remain personal with YOU! And He gives us everything we need to take us out of boredom, despair and despondency. He comes among the poor to lift them and us into the wealth of His warm and tender and just and merciful embrace! So whether it's the white of the snow (egad!) or a clean, crisp tablecloth or an angel's pristine wings, pull out the white and celebrate! Celebrate His love, you sons and daughters of THE King of Heaven and Earth! Raise a big white flag and surrender to the Wee Babe in the Manger because HE loves you unconditionally. Remember you are missed and you are loved and all it takes to be a saint, to be with Him in heaven one beautiful day is within you by His grace and of His design!

Join us for Christmas mass (in person or online) and know that at the moment of transubstantiation (bread and water become the Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity of Jesus) that heaven and earth meet at this beautiful moment and all of the angels and saints and our guardian angels and you and me are together. You are not alone! What greater gift! What more awesome presence and presents!