



# St. Margaret Mary

845 High Street • Westwood, MA 02090 • 781-326-1071  
[www.saintmmparish.org](http://www.saintmmparish.org) • [facebook.com/saintmmparish.org](https://facebook.com/saintmmparish.org)

## Mass Schedule

Saturday — 4:30 PM  
Sunday — 10 AM and 5 PM  
December 8, Immaculate Conception —  
7:30 AM and 7 PM

Saturday 4:30 PM and Sunday 10 AM  
Masses will be livestreamed on the  
website at [www.saintmmparish.org/](http://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

Next week I am planning on lugging down from the attic my mom's 50 pound, 30 plus year old Christmas tree. She gave up on having a real one when battles ensued over whose turn it was to water. I am quite certain my dad cutting the top off several real trees, several years in a row didn't help with our pleas to have a real one. Ironically, this one's so old it drops more needles than any real one she's ever had. I do believe God has a sense of humor! I know my guardian angels laughs when he sees me vacuuming up needles right through ... well, today actually!

Why a tree at all and why decorate it? The symbolism of the tree is beautiful. It tells us of Jesus' life, death and passion. The tree represents the cross on which Jesus was hung and the "evergreen" reminds us of His and our eternal lives. It was an angel who proclaimed to the widows and orphans, the poor shepherds that Jesus came for them. From Luke 2:9 "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.'"

Many families top their CHRISTmas tree with a shiny star. 'Twas THE star which the educated men, the wise men, had for so long searched. It had been foretold by prophets of old that a remarkable star would be the sign that The Savior, The Messiah had been born. According to Matthew 2: "When Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, in the days of King Herod, behold, magi from the east arrived in Jerusalem, saying, 'Where is the newborn king of the Jews? We saw his star at its rising and have come to do him homage.'"

Now, parents, grandparents, aunts and uncles who like to heap presents upon the wee ones in their lives, here is the tricky part. The wise men did not arrive on CHRISTmas day. As a matter of fact we mark their arrival (with gifts in hand) on the Feast of the Epiphany, January 6 in 2021. Anyone willing to risk life and limb by holding off on the gift giving until then?! Speaking of those (3?) wisemen (Scripture does not tell us how many there were) but it does tell us they brought gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. Gold represented the Kingship of the Holy Child. Frankincense was the symbol of God. Incense is used in liturgy today as a sign of our prayers rising to heaven and myrrh was an embalming oil foretelling of the death of this Newborn King. Going back to Origen in *Contra Celsum*: "gold, as to a king; myrrh, as to one who was mortal; and incense, as to a God."

As a practical woman (aren't we all, ladies?) I see the Hand of God in these gifts: Gold would have come in pretty handy during the flight into Egypt. Frankincense was and is often used topically, inhaled or steeped in tea as a supplement. Could the new mother have benefited from this? As for the myrrh, it has long been used as perfume or medicine ... perhaps to soothe The Newborn Babe? So next time you look at your tree, I pray it reminds you not of St. Nicholas or the gifts underneath. Rather look at the tree as the story of The Holy Family and the Greatest Gift of All: "For God so loved the world that He gave His Only Son, so that everyone who believes in Him might not perish but might have eternal life." (John 3:16). After all, Jesus truly is The Reason for the Season.

### Weekly Offertory

Parishioners contributed \$5,480 offertory, \$2,693 which was taken in through WeShare, our online giving portal. Thank you for your generosity.

### Grand Annual Update

To date, 100 parishioners have donated \$46,612 to the Grand Annual. Thank you for your support; your generosity is greatly appreciated.

### Mass Intentions

Saturday 12/5: Molli Krauz

Sunday 12/6, 10 AM: Helen Fitzpatrick

Sunday 12/6, 5 PM: Pro Populo

Monday 12/7: Julie Barham

Tuesday 12/8

Wednesday 12/9: Msgr. Dennis Sheehan

Thursday 12/10: Special Intention

Friday 12/11: Alcide and Dorothy Belliveau

### 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

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

### Year of the Eucharist

Learn more about being a Year of the Eucharist Missionary at [www.bostonca.tholic.org/yearoftheeucharist/missionaries](http://www.bostonca.tholic.org/yearoftheeucharist/missionaries)

On December 7, Deacon Harold Burke-Sivers will be giving a lecture for the Year of the Eucharist online [https://www.tinecatholic.com/home.aspx?pagename=category\\_speakers](https://www.tinecatholic.com/home.aspx?pagename=category_speakers)

There will be a meeting of missionaries & potential missionaries from around the West Region with Bishop Reed on Thursday, December 10.

### Social Justice — Giving Tree Until 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 families. 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) donate online by visiting <https://saintmmparish.churchgiving.com/ws/opportunities/ChristmasGivingTreeDonations> or (3) send in a check to the parish office/include in memo line Giving Tree Donation. 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.

### Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary December 8

The Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception references Mary's conception in her mother's womb without the stain of Original Sin. Masses will be at 7:30 AM and 7 PM and will be livestreamed as well. Registration for the evening Mass is necessary.

### A Festival of Lessons and Carols — December 16

To really get into the Season of Advent, our parish is offering The Festival of Lessons and Carols on Wednesday, December 16 at 7 PM. This wonderful event will take place live in our church and will also be streamed on our parish website — [www.saintmmparish.org](http://www.saintmmparish.org).

According to the USCCB, The Festival of Lessons and Carols is a service of Scripture and song that dates to the late 19th century. In this service, you will hear nine Scripture lessons which recount the Fall, the promise of a Messiah, the Incarnation, and the Great Commission to preach the Good News. Each lesson will be followed by a carol or other song that reflects the lesson's message as well as a brief prayer.

If you are planning on attending in person, please register online on our parish website ([www.saintmmparish.org](http://www.saintmmparish.org), scroll down and click link under events) or call our parish office (781-326-1071) with any questions.

What a great way prepare for the Coming of Emmanuel!

### 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>. If you donate online please send your intentions (in honor of/in memory of) to [c.carlo@saintmmparish.org](mailto:c.carlo@saintmmparish.org). All memorial names will be included on a list in the bulletin the weekend of Christmas.

### CHRISTmas Tree Blessing

Especially during this pandemic we are all VERY excited to welcome our Savior. One way to prepare is setting up the CHRISTmas tree. Here is a blessing for your family tree. (If you have holy water, may use it to celebrate this blessing but it is not necessary.)

**Leader:** Loving God, we stand before you once again. We stand here ready to celebrate the birth of your son, Jesus.

(Have everyone extend a hand in a gesture of blessing. Sprinkle water or holy water on the tree while praying the following prayer.)

**Leader:** Bless this tree, this sign of life and freshness and perseverance in our midst. It stands as a reminder that you are born anew in us each day. Bless our family and friends as we celebrate this joyous season. Keep us safe in our travels, kind in our conversations, and gracious in our giving and receiving. We ask you this in confidence, because we know you love us.

**All:** Amen.



### 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 season!

**When:** Saturdays 12/5, 12/12, 12/19 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. Bring a chair and blanket.

### Montrose School Virtual Visits and Tours

Register for our virtual Holiday Open House on Thursday, December 10 at 7:00 pm! This is a wonderful opportunity to hear from current parents, students and faculty about our athletics, performing arts, and student-led clubs. Learn about our award-winning LifeCompass Character & Leadership program, meet the Head of School, and engage in Q & A. Come ring in the Christmas season with Montrose!

Schedule your in-person or virtual Campus Tour and virtual Day Visit today! Learn more and register at [montroseschool.org/](http://montroseschool.org/) events. Inspired by the teachings of the Catholic Church, Montrose is an independent day school for girls in grades 6-12. Transfer or full-year inquiries welcome.

### Social Justice Committee Coat Drive

The Social Justice Committee would like to thank everyone who participated in the Coats for Kids drive. Over 100 coats were collected at Saint Margaret Mary's during a two week period! This was an overwhelming show of support during these challenging times. Donated coats were dropped at Anton's in Medfield and will be cleaned free of charge. The coats will then be distributed through the Coats for Kids Distribution Partners network, which includes local nonprofit and social service agencies. During these tough economic times, for many people a clean and warm coat can make a big difference. Thank you for your support.



## Healthier Priests. Stronger Communities.

The strength of our communities depends on the well-being of our priests who tirelessly serve others.

**SUPPORT OUR PRIESTS AT CHRISTMAS**  
Supports our priests in good standing

**DONATE AT**  
[clergytrust.org](http://clergytrust.org)

— OR —

SCAN HERE for  
Venmo, Google/  
Apple Pay, PayPal  
via Givebutler.



Each Christmas, the parish collections benefit the Clergy Health and Retirement Trust which cares for the health and well-being of our priests in good standing. By supporting the collection, you can show your appreciation for the priests who have made a difference in your life, the life of our parish, and the lives of countless others in our community. Donate at [clergytrust.org](http://clergytrust.org).