



# 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

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

The centrality of our lives as Catholic CHRISTians is two fold (in my humble opinion). First, it is about faith. Do you believe God exists? Second, if you believe God exists, do you trust Him? While these are seemingly easy questions, the more you contemplate them the more pervasive they become. These questions cannot be answered with “yes” or “no”. Certainly they cannot be answered with “maybe”. Your answer must be definitive. Oh and did I mention that either way, your answering these questions is like opening a giant can of worms. Got a fishing pole? Here goes.

First, does God exist? If you answer no then why are you here unless you are uncomfortable with your answer or looking to disprove your belief that life is meaningless. And, meaningless it is if God doesn't exist for that means we are all just accidents. We have no purpose. We live, we die and whatever happens in between, well, are isolated actions with no meaning. For how can a relationship have meaning if there is no God to connect two or more persons? Why invest in one another only to have something destructive occur and end that relationship? For without God there is no hope, nothing is precious (including life) and beauty is meaningless, just a flash in the pan.

On the other hand, if God exists (and I know He does) then even death is not an end, rather it is a change. If God exists then we are created out of love, for love and love (as they say) can conquer all. If God exists then we are surrounded by beauty for all of humanity is made in His image, made to praise and glorify Him by reflecting, sharing and seeking Him and He is love. He is beauty and all good things come from Him and (should be) for Him. And even the midst of difficult times (illness, civil unrest, death) all can be overcome through His grace with compassion and mercy.

Here is the tougher question, the second one: Do you trust Him? When I have the kiddos do trust walks they often want to pair up with their bff's. First time, however, I pair them up with a classmate with whom they seem to not have a close connection. These walks are usually straightforward and go smoothly. Next time I let them pick their partners and always they pick a close friend. I hear nervous laughter and squealing and a few “ouches” and an occasional “stop it”. These trust walks do not go smoothly because the young ones pull pranks or try to impress one another and often this leads to pushing and peaking and sometimes name calling. So if we don't always “trust” our friends, how can we trust God?

God is love and His love for you and me is overwhelming. We are created because His love so overflows. Then to further demonstrate His love (giving us life was not enough for us), He gave His One and Only Son that He should be born among us (into poverty), live, suffer and die for you and for me. And if that wasn't enough humbles Himself into becoming bread and wine. Trust Him now?

God keeps His Word. He never turns from us. He always answers our prayers. It is we who do not always ask or like His answer. No, God does not stop us from turning from Him or hurting his creations (ourselves or our world) and that my friend is true love. But let's get back to trust. Can you put aside your need to control everything? Can your work become a simple form of prayer instead of a climb toward power or a financial goal? Can you trust that God is truly present Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity in the Eucharist? He said He is. Can you trust God enough to open your heart to a stranger or enemy? Can you trust God to hand over “your” will and beg Him for the strength and conviction to follow His will? Can you trust Him enough to give Him your whole heart, your whole mind and your whole being? Can you trust Him to take care of the dying and those who have died? St. Maximilian Kolbe did when he

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## Weekly Offertory

Parishioners contributed \$4,394 in offertory, \$2,298 which was taken in through WeShare, our online giving portal. Thank you for your generosity.

## Grand Annual Update

To date, 207 parishioners have donated \$95,087 to the Grand Annual. Thank you for your support; your generosity is greatly appreciated.

## Mass Intentions

Saturday 1/9: Fred Raila

Sunday 1/10, 10 AM: John A. Reisert

Sunday 1/10, 5 PM: Pro Populo

Monday 1/11: Sally O'Malley

Tuesday 1/12: Christopher Wade

Wednesday 1/13: John Moorehouse

Thursday 1/14: Thomas Durkin

Friday 1/15: Robert Keeley

## 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 PM

## Parish Events

**Wednesday** — Adoration & Reconciliation from 3-8 PM. The Blessed Sacrament will be solemnly exposed on our altar. There will also be the opportunity to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

**Friday** — Adoration, Noon — 4:00 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.

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volunteered to take the place of a young father before a firing squad in Auschwitz. Joan of Arc did when they died her to a stake. A wee Jewish girl did when she said yes to an angel.

So does God exist? Yes, Virginia He does. I have seen Him in action; the birth of niece or nephew, the calm of a dying parent, the inner warmth of receiving Holy Eucharist, the renewal of the mind and body after a true confession, the gathering of family, friends and strangers at an outdoor mass when the outdoor temp is 35 degrees. So know He exists. Our Awesome God exists! Hallelujah! And trust Him because He loves you. I see Him in each of you and because I trust Him, I love each of you, very much! God's continued blessings.

## Pray of Peace attributed to St. Francis of Assisi

Lord, make me an instrument of your peace  
where there is hatred let me sow love  
where there is injury pardon  
where there is doubt faith  
where there is despair hope  
where there is darkness light  
where there is sadness joy

Divine Master, grant that i may not so much seek  
to be consoled as to console,  
to be understood as to understand,  
to be loved as to love.  
For it is giving that we receive,  
it is in pardoning that we are pardoned,  
and it is dying that we are born to eternal light.  
Amen.

## Prayer for Society by Saint John XXIII

O Jesus, come back into our society, our family life, our souls and reign there as our peaceful sovereign. Enlighten with the splendor of faith and the charity of your tender heart the souls of those who work for the good of the people, for your poor. Impart in them your own spirit, a spirit of discipline, order and gentleness, preserving the flame of enthusiasm ever alight in their hearts. May that day come very soon, when we shall see you restored to the center of civic life, borne on the shoulders of your joyful people.  
Amen

## Pray the Rosary

Come join us to pray the Rosary on Saturday mornings at 9 AM near the (outdoor) statue of Our Blessed Mother Mary. Bring a chair and blanket. If weather does not permit, we will pray inside our church.

## Year-End Financial Statements

Year-end financial acknowledgment statements for tax purposes for those who use WeShare, envelopes and/or ACH payments are available now by contacting Brian at the parish office, either by email ([b.cullen@saintmmparish.org](mailto:b.cullen@saintmmparish.org)) or by phone (781-326-1071). Thank you for your ongoing generosity in support of Saint Margaret Mary Parish.