



St. Margaret Mary

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

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

August 15, 2021

Mass Schedule

Saturday — 4:30 PM

Sunday — 10 AM and 5 PM

Saturday 4:30 PM & Sunday 10 AM Masses will be livestreamed on the website at www.saintmmparish.org/ live-streaming. The 5 PM will be livestreamed on our Facebook page.

Daily Mass (Mon-Fri) — 7:30 AM Daily Masses will be livestreamed on the website.

Baptisms

Sundays at 11 AM If you or someone you know wishes to have their child baptized, please call the office at 781-326-1071 to schedule.

Contact Information

Pastors:

Rev. Paul Soper and

Rev. Bob Blaney

Deacon and Parish Manager:

Rev. Mr. Stephen May – Ext. 107

Seminarian in Residence:

Rev. Mr. Nate Sanders

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 Asst.:

Denise Raftery – Ext. 102

Office Hours

Monday – Friday 9 AM – 5 PM

A Note From Father Bob

Sacrament of Reconciliation

An important and necessary part of the Christian life is the efficacy of God's Mercy. God, in His wisdom and love, offers us the opportunity to start over when we fail him through sin. This mercy is transmitted to us sacramentally through the Sacrament of Reconciliation. By confessing our sins to a priest, we are ultimately confessing the power of Christ over our lives. By virtue of that confession, we open our hearts, souls, minds, and bodies to Divine Grace which has impacts on our lives by changing us to be more like Christ. Fr. Paul and I encourage our parishioners to avail themselves of this Sacrament. If it has been a while since you have been to the Sacrament and you are worried about *what to say*, please know that the priest is there to help you. You simply need to show up. Let the priest know that you are not exactly sure of what to say. He will guide you. Sacramental Confession is not a quiz to see how much you remember.

Collaborative Confession Schedule

St. Denis Church: Saturdays 3:45-4:15 PM

St. Margaret Mary Church: Wednesdays 7:00-8:00 PM

Seating for Those Who Want to Wear Masks

Wanting to be sensitive to our parishioners regarding their concerns and practices around the Covid pandemic, we are reserving sections in both Churches for those who wish to be socially distant and wear a mask. Please be attentive to the signs. Our hope is to provide a safe place for those who, for whatever reason, are not vaccinated or desire an extra buffer of precaution.



School Supply Drive for Mission Grammar School in Roxbury

Please join the Social Justice Committee in supporting the Mission School for Back to School. Supplies can be dropped off at the church entrance during the next two weekend Masses, August 21/22 and 28/29. The items most needed are: Expo markers, pencils, crayons, markers, post its, glue sticks and pens. Thank you for your generosity!

Weekly Offertory

The weekly offertory for the weekend of August 14-15 was \$4,493. \$1,838 was collected through WeShare, our online giving portal and \$2,655 was sent in via the mail or given at Mass. Thank you for your generosity.

Mass Intentions

Saturday 8/21: Stephen, Elizabeth & Thomas Boyd

Sunday 8/22, 10 AM: Pro Populo

Sunday 8/22, 5 PM: Ray Rustrian

Monday 8/23

Tuesday 8/24

Wednesday 8/25

Thursday 8/26

Friday 8/27: Antonietta & Circo Acanfora

Facebook Live Events

Daily Morning prayer at 8:30 AM

Daily Rosary/Chaplet at 3:00 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 from 7-8 PM.

Friday — Adoration from Noon-3:00 PM
Rosary and Divine Mercy at 3 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.

In Loving Memory

Please pray for all the deceased of our parish, as well as all of our sick and those who have asked for our prayers.

Next Week's Second Collection

Recognizing the suffering of the Haitian people and their growing need for assistance following the August 14th earthquake, Cardinal Seán P. O'Malley, OFM Cap, has asked that a special collection for Catholic Relief Services and the Church in Haiti take place in all parishes in the Archdiocese of Boston. Parishioners are asked to address their checks to St. Denis or St. Margaret Mary with "Haiti Earthquake Relief" in the memo.

"The people of Haiti are suffering," said Cardinal Seán. "The earthquake has caused a significant loss of life and many have been injured. Desperation grows by the hour with the disruption in communications as well as basic services such as water, sanitation, and medical supplies. Our parishioners have long answered the call when natural disasters have struck in other parts of the world. The Haitian people need us now."

Catholic Relief Services (CRS) announced that it "is sending teams to provide clean water, sanitation, shelter and emergency supplies in response to a major earthquake that struck southern Haiti early Saturday morning. While the severity of the damage is still being determined, with communications down in parts of the country, hundreds of deaths have already been reported as well as extensive damage to buildings and homes."

I THIRST

If you or a family member are dealing with an addiction of any sort including: substance abuse, gambling, excessive internet usage/video gaming, etc. the IThirst Spiritual Companionship Program recently initiated by Cardinal Sean O'Malley is available to help those impacted by addiction.

To learn more about the IThirst Spiritual Companionship Program we invite you to join us at a Retreat on Saturday, September 18th at 1:30 PM at St. Jude Parish in Norfolk, MA. The goal of the retreat is for participants to recognize the distractions and disordered attachments so prevalent in our lives and society. Keaton Douglas, the Executive Director of the IThirst Initiative of the Missionary Servants of the Most Holy Trinity will be leading the Retreat.

All are welcome to attend this FREE event. Please RSVP to Beth Budny at 774-277-5191 or bbudny@ejcatholic.org by September 11th to secure your place at the retreat.

From the Desk of Karlene Duffy

I may have jumped the gun. Usually, I fill my nights with books and conversations with my mom followed by prayer. Last night (Tuesday), I did not. Instead, after eating dinner, I plopped on my dad's chair on the three-season porch and turned on the television. Instead of heading to HGTV or The Travel or Discovery Channels, I spent (wasted?!) almost two hours watching one on my nieces' fav movies: Maleficent. Here's a little background on the film...

It is the story of how a wonderful fairy's heart becomes stone and then malleable again. The focus is on the woman who causes the finger prick rather than on the princess who pricks her finger. More specifically why Maleficent cursed the wee princess and subsequently regretted her decision. Sounds a bit like the same old same old with good gone "evil" and gone good again. Well, there's more here. Maleficent was good. She was "happy" and, therefore, all was well. But Maleficent was betrayed. Thus, her heart turns to stone. Of course, her heart didn't turn to actual stone, rather she allowed her hurt to turn into bitterness and anger and she sought revenge. It all started with her friend wanting to be king (greed reared its ugly head) thinking wealth and power would make him happy.

However, to get the crown he had to get her wings. So he did. He hurt his friend and ended up hurting himself. Yes, he became king but not a happy king despite having a wife and beautiful babe. The king had made an enemy. Yes. But his real enemy was himself: paranoia, selfishness, and dissatisfaction. He sent his daughter away (to keep her safe) but spent years drowning in anger, lashing out at everyone and forgetting he still had a good life: a wife, a safe child, and a kingdom.

Much to her chagrin, Maleficent grew to love the wee princess (knowing exactly who she was). It was the ebullient personality that attracted and eventually melted the heart of the "evil" fairy queen. Of course, she wouldn't admit it. That was until the princess fled having discovered she has a father, and it was Maleficent who apparently kept her from him. Needless to say, the princess returned home, the father locked her up (rather than recoup the loss time with his only child) and continued to spend every moment seeking revenge. He remained full of hate and bitterness. Now we all know how the "real" story ends. The princess did prick her finger and fall into a deep sleep and only the kiss of a prince could awaken her. Here's the big difference with this film. It was a kiss of true love which awakens the princess and that kiss came from Maleficent; a motherly kiss upon the young one's tender brow. (They tried a handsome, young prince. It failed.)

In conclusion and to clear my conscience of wiling away the hours, I thought: what does this have to do with me? With my faith? Well, one point I neglected to mention was that the princess realized her father was the evil one (cruel, greedy, overflowing with hate) and Maleficent was not. He chose to betray, she got hurt. The princess returned Maleficent's wings. But the real message deals with trauma, struggle, hurt. How do you and I deal with these? Well, we have two choices: seek to heal or drown in it. I understand this is not easy. What is? But knowing God is ALWAYS with us, that God NEVER abandons us, that each of us is loved beyond measure by Our Awesome God and that we, too, even in the darkest moments can live in the hope of God's promises can help heal us. This is a major first step toward moving on. People make mistakes. Wrong choices, however, do not need to define us and, of course, we have the greatest gift: the Sacrament of Penance. Joy attracts others to you and through you to God. So go to confession. Let go of past wrongs and ill will and move forward. You were created by God to be a joy filled person. Let go of the past and look toward the future...an eternal one! Or at least take this first step. Oh, and by the way, stay away from spinning wheels!

Religious Education: 3rd Graders of 2021-2022!

Sorry to say a new school year is around the corner! The Good News is: here comes First Penance & First Communion! Let's start with First Penance which will be celebrated outdoors (weather permitted) on

Friday, September 10 at 6:30 PM.

Mark your calendar also for a **Zoom meeting on Monday, August 30 at 6:30 PM** to help you prepare. Meanwhile, please pray about who you would like as your "First Penance Prayer Partner." It should be a Catholic adult (and can be mom or dad). This person will sit next to you at your First Penance Prayer Service and receive his/her Penance either before or after you. You get to decide! In your Discovery textbook, ask mom or dad or your Penance Prayer Partner to review Chapters 7 & 10 with you. Finally, for now, here is a cool video to help you get ready. Check out "Sophia Sketchpad: Confession."

By the way, First Communion will be celebrated on **Saturday, October 16 at 10 AM**. If weather is conducive, that too will be celebrated outside. You are in my heart and my prayers and I CANNOT wait to see you!!

God's continued blessings,
Miss Duffy

RCIA at St. Margaret Mary Parish

Do you know any adults (18 and older) interested in becoming Catholic? Or do you know any adults who have yet to receive all the sacraments of initiation: Baptism, First Communion, and Confirmation?

The Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults, or RCIA, is a program of preparation for those who wish to be baptized or for those who have been baptized and wish to be received into the Catholic Church. St. Margaret Mary Parish will be running an RCIA program throughout the course of the next academic year, leading up to the Easter Vigil on April 16th, 2022.

If you are interested, or know someone who may be interested, please contact the parish office or speak with either Karlene Duffy or Nate Sanders.