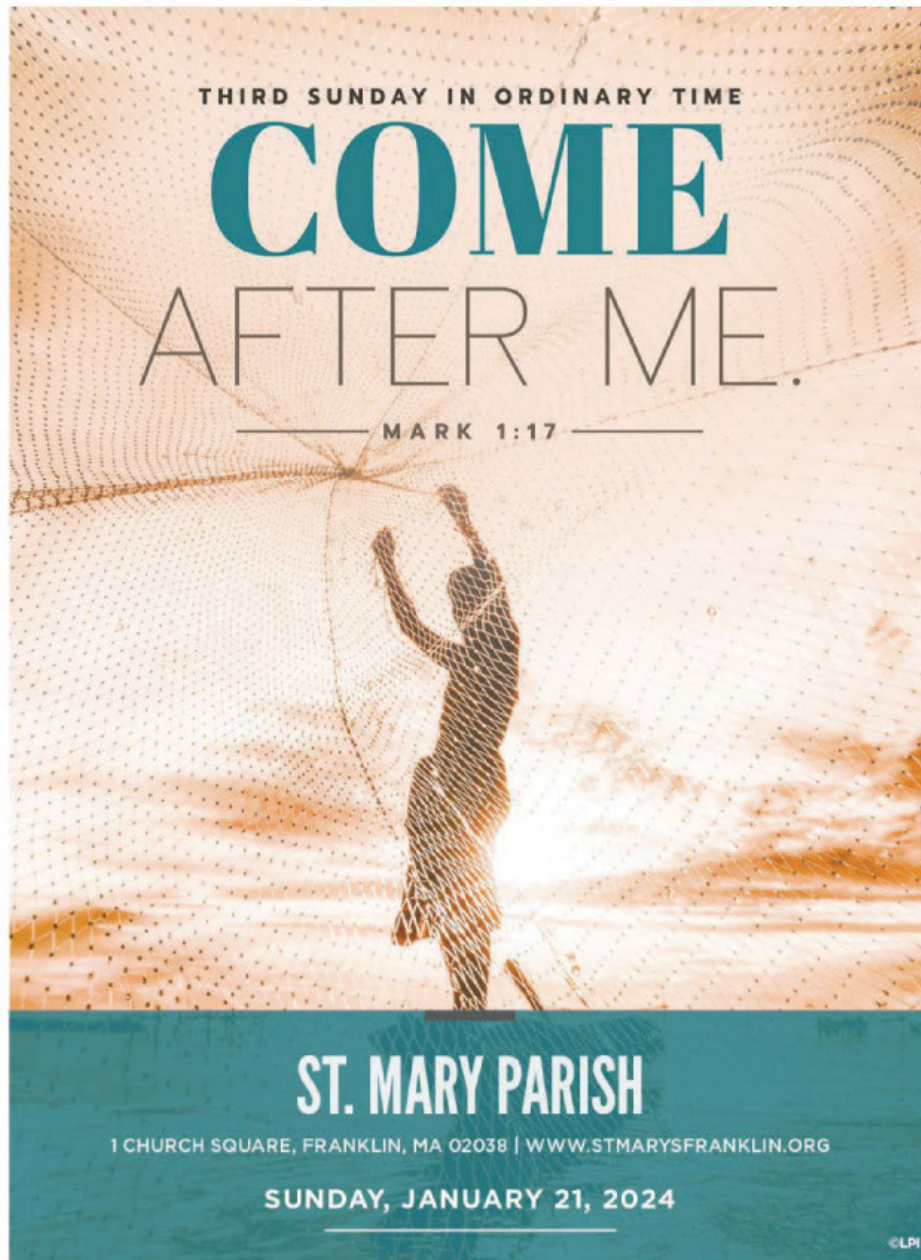


## Saint Mary Parish



### Mass Schedule

#### Saturday

4:00 p.m.

#### Sunday

7:30 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.  
12 Noon

#### Daily Masses

Monday-Friday  
7:00 am

All weekend Masses are  
Live Streamed at:

**stmarysfranklin.org**

#### Confession

Saturday: 8:00 – 9:00 a.m.

#### Emergency Anointing of the Sick

508-528-0020, #4

#### Rectory Hours

Monday - Thursday  
9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.  
508-528-0020

St. Mary's Church Wi-Fi is:  
**StMarysChurchMesh**  
Password: **STMarysGuest**

#### St. Vincent De Paul

Assistance  
508-918-2291

### PASTORAL STAFF

#### Pastor

Rev. Robert A. Poitras  
pastor@stmarysfranklin.org

#### Parochial Vicar

Rev. John Sullivan  
jsullivan@stmarysfranklin.org

#### Deacon

Deacon Ron Gerwatowski  
deaconron@stmarysfranklin.org

#### Pastoral Associate

Leo Racine  
pastoralassociate@stmarysfranklin.org

### RECTORY STAFF

#### Finance & Operations Manager

Patricia Murphy  
businessmanager@stmarysfranklin.org

#### Secretary

Jennifer Lance  
secretary@stmarysfranklin.org

#### Music Director

Terry Kerr  
Terry.kerr@att.net or 508-541-3286

#### Cemetery

Joe Spencer  
508-498-8271

### RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

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**508-528-1450**

#### Director

Karen Ackles  
reled.director@stmarysfranklin.org

#### Secretary

Liz Bertoni  
reled.secretary@stmarysfranklin.org

**www.stmarysfranklin.org**

## MASS INTENTIONS

### Saturday, January 20

4:00 pm Paul Hannon

### Sunday, January 21

7:30am Jonathan Davis

10:30am Eileen Determan, 50th Anniversary

12:00 noon Mary H. Rebello

### Monday, January 22

7:00am Special Intention

### Tuesday, January 23

7:00am Merullo family

### Wednesday, January 24

7:00 am Irene Atkinson

### Thursday, January 25

7:00 am Antonio Pereira

### Friday, January 26

7:00 am Barbara Celluci

### Saturday, January 27

4:00 pm Tom Rohan, Vera Weaver & Mary Banville

### Sunday, January 28

7:30am John LaPlace

10:30am James Lennon

12:00 noon John A. Wynne



Cecelia Estelle Roche and Carsen Joseph Tucker were Baptized last weekend at St. Mary Parish by Deacon Ron. May God watch over them always.



## NEWLY MARRIED



On December 30, 2023, **Hanna Contrino** and **Joseph Swan** were united in Holy Matrimony at St. Mary Parish by Fr. Brian Manning. We wish the couple a long, happy, love-filled and healthy life together.



## READINGS THIS WEEK

### Readings for the week of January 21, 2024

Sunday: Jon 3:1-5, 10/Ps 25:4-5, 6-7, 8-9 (4a)/1 Cor 7:29-31/Mk 1:14-20

Monday: 2 Sm 5:1-7, 10/Ps 89:20, 21-22, 25-26/Mk 3:22-30 Tuesday: 2 Sm 6:12b-15, 17-19/Ps 24:7, 8, 9, 10/Mk 3:31-35

Wednesday: 2 Sm 7:4-17/Ps 89:4-5, 27-28, 29-30/Mk 4:1-20

Thursday: Acts 22:3-16 or Acts 9:1-22/Ps 117:1bc, 2/Mk 16:15-18

Friday: 2 Tm 1:1-8 or Ti 1:1-5/Ps 96:1-2a, 2b-3, 7-8a, 10/Mk 4:26-34

Saturday: 2 Sm 12:1-7a, 10-17/Ps 51:12-13, 14-15, 16-17/Mk 4:35-41

Next Sunday: Dt 18:15-20/Ps 95:1-2, 6-7, 7-9 (8)/1 Cor 7:32-35/Mk 1:21-28

## - SACRAMENTS -



### Baptism

Baptisms are held on Sundays at 1:30pm. First time parents need to attend a Baptism Catechesis Class held by Deacon Ron via Zoom. Classes are held the 2nd Wednesday of each month. The next Zoom Baptismal class is on Wednesday, February 7, 2024 at 7-8pm. Contact Deacon Ron [deaconron@stmarysfranklin.org](mailto:deaconron@stmarysfranklin.org).

To schedule a Baptism, please email: [Baptism@stmarysfranklin.org](mailto:Baptism@stmarysfranklin.org) or call the office at 508-528-0020.

### Penance

Penance/Confession is held each Saturday from 8 to 9 a.m. in the Chapel's Reconciliation Room and by appointment, anytime.

### Marriage

Couples planning to be married at St. Mary should schedule their wedding one year in advance and attend a Marriage Preparation program. Please call the Parish office at 508-528-0020 to schedule the wedding and rehearsal date and to arrange a meeting with the priest in preparation for marriage.

### RCIA

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults. If you are interested in become a Catholic, please email Father Jack at [jsullivan@stmarysfranklin.org](mailto:jsullivan@stmarysfranklin.org)

### Sacrament to the Sick for the Homebound

Please call the rectory to speak to the Pastoral Associate if you have a family member, friend, or neighbor who is unable to attend church due to age or infirmity. We will provide pastoral visits, with administration of the Sacraments.

### Anointing of the Sick

If you or a loved one would like the Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick, please call the Parish Offices at 508-528-0020. For after hours Emergency Anointing of the Sick please call 508-528-0020, option 4. Please do not leave messages on this line.

### Become a Parishioner of St. Mary Parish

Register Online at [stmarysfranklin.org](http://stmarysfranklin.org) or call the Rectory at 508-528-0020.

## Word of God Sunday

January 21, is Word of God Sunday. This celebration of sacred Scripture, the Bible, was instituted by Pope Francis in 2019 and is always held on the Third Sunday of Ordinary Time. This year's theme is "Remain in my Word" (John 8:31).

Pope Francis found great worth in the work of the Christian community "to set aside moments to reflect on the great importance of the word of God for everyday living." Subsequently, he established this commemoration, noting that a "day devoted to the Bible should not be seen as a yearly event but rather a year-long event, for we urgently need to grow in our knowledge and love of the Scriptures and of the risen Lord, who continues to speak his word and to break bread in the community of believers"

You can read the Pope's apostolic letter instituting this celebration at <https://bit.ly/FrancisWOG>.



## Warm Hands – Warm Hearts

*A little bit of dignity... a little bit of love... is all some need to heal.*

-Dr. Jim O'Connell

St. Mary's Respect Life Committee is sponsoring a winter clothing drive for the Homeless in our area. You can help our neighbors in need this winter by donating **\*new\* Socks, Gloves, Hat or a Warm Scarf !** This is the final weekend where there will be donation boxes at the entrance of the church.

All donations will immediately be distributed to area shelters and other programs that serve the homeless, as the need is great.

Thank you for warming another's heart!







**Knights of Columbus Sacred Heart Council 1847**  
**Keep Christ in Christmas Art Awards**



The Knights of Columbus, Sacred Heart Council 1847 is proud to announce the winners of this years Keep Christ in Christmas Contest. Though they were all great, we had to pick a winner in each age grouping.

This year's winners are **Daniel McCahill**, **Leonora Vendetti** and **Lucy Rovani**. Their artwork will travel to the K of C state office to be entered into the statewide contest. The posters not moving on, will be on display in the Religious Ed office. Many thanks to Ms. Ackles and Ms. Bertoni for their support of this great project. Congratulations to all the students that participated in this years **"Keep Christ in Christmas"** poster contest.

**Leonora Vendetti**



**Lucy Rovani**



**Daniel McCahill**





**St. Vincent De Paul**  
**Current Food Pantry Requests**  
**508-918-2291**

The St. Vincent de Paul Society would like to thank all of the parishioners who have so generously donated to the SVdP Food Pantry. Donations from these lists help us to keep the pantry well stocked with many items for our neighbors in need.

Donations may be placed in the boxes at the doors of the church anytime during the month. The current needs of the pantry are:



Solid white tuna  
Paper Towels  
Tissues  
Toilet Paper



Thank you for joining us to serve those in our Community with the greatest needs. God Bless.




**Sacred Air:**  
**Climate & Energy**

**How does the health of the planet affect my community?**

*Sacred Air: Climate & Energy* is an eight-session, JustFaith Ministries' small group program that explores the impact of the climate crisis on God's creation and God's people. Topics explored include: greenhouse gases, air pollution, fossil fuels, renewable energy, the Paris Agreement, and environmental racism.

Our pastoral associate, Leo Racine, will be one of the facilitators for this engaging program which will be held via Zoom on Sunday evenings from 7:00 to 9:00 beginning on February 4, 2024. The program is free to St. Mary parishioners. Please contact Leo Racine at 508-528-0020 or [pastoralassociate@stmarysfranklin.org](mailto:pastoralassociate@stmarysfranklin.org) for more information and to begin the registration process.



Thank You. 

Dear Parishioners: The economy continues to be deeply affected by inflation, weather, and world events. This has in turn affected all of us personally, and the St. Vincent de Paul Society was unsure what the financial response would be from our parishioners for this year's St Mary's Caring Tree.

We were pleased to see that the response was exceptional! Donations of gift cards and checks were \$11,345. We are so blessed to have such a caring and generous parish. As a result of this overwhelming charitable response, we were able to assist 103 Franklin families, (161 adults & 86 children) this holiday season.

Current events have created financial stress on so many Franklin families. Without the financial support and wonderful Christmas notes and prayers that accompanied the gift cards, we would not have been able to bring assistance and happiness to so many Franklin families. We thank you! Our thoughts and prayers are with all the parishioners of St. Mary's, and we pray for a safe and healthy 2024 for everyone. God Bless and keep the Christmas Spirit of Jesus thriving during these demanding times.

Sincerely, St. Mary's St. Vincent de Paul







**Congratulations to our 2024  
Franklin Free Throw Contest  
Champions**

The Knights of Columbus, Sacred Heart Council 1847 completed it's Annual Basketball Free Throw Contest last Saturday, at the Franklin YMCA. All participants shot really well and made their families "proud." We thank our New Champions, their families, our Knights that volunteered their time and hard work and a special thank you to our Pastor Fr. Bob for attending and sharing this fantastic event. We are also grateful to Scott Martin and his YMCA staff who were so friendly and easy to work with.

**2024 Basketball Free Throw Contest Winners**

**Girls 9 year olds- Molly Flynn**  
**Boys 9 year olds - Charlie Abdilmasity**  
**Boys 10 year olds - Joseph Lapaglia**  
**Boys 11 year olds - Chris Bogdanov**  
**Boys 12 year olds - Lance Lopes Jr.**

Our Knights District Deputy, Bob Bubencik will be contacting each winner to participate and compete in the Knights **District BB Free Throw Contest later in February.**

Again, **Congratulations** to our NEW CHAMPIONS from the K of C, Sacred Heart Council 1847!!!



**RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS**

By Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

There are some things that always come at the worst time. I've never gotten a telemarketing call and thought, "This is a really convenient moment for me to listen to a sales pitch." I've never seen the compulsory software update notice flash on my computer screen when I didn't have a deadline I was struggling to meet. My kids never come down with the flu unless it's the weekend and the line at Urgent Care is stretching out the door.

And I never, ever feel the calm, persistent shoulder-tap of the Holy Spirit without thinking, "Now? Now is not a good time. Can you try again when I'm..."

But then I stop and think: when I am what? When I am stronger? When I am happier? When I am smarter? When I am a different person?

When God calls us, He calls the person He sees in front of Him. "Come on," He says, and He doesn't mean "When you're finished" or "When it's convenient" or "Think about it." He means now. This moment. This is what Paul is saying when he writes that "the world in its present form is passing away." He is saying that your plans mean nothing, the kingdom of God is at hand. Abandon your nets, let your catch escape into the sea. You're not who you thought you were, and you don't need what you thought you needed.

Your sins do not define you. Your fears are not fate. Your inclinations do not govern you. Your life can be changed. We live in the time of fulfillment, and fulfillment is coming for you — ready or not.

"Jesus came to Galilee proclaiming the gospel of God: 'This is the time of fulfillment.'" — Mark 1:14 ©LPi



**Week of Prayer for Christian Unity**

Since 1908 there has been a week set-aside for Christian Unity. The theme for this year is "**You shall love the Lord your God... and your neighbor as yourself**" (Luke 10:27).

The US Bishops' webpage on the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity (<https://bit.ly/USCCBUnity>) highlights many of the ecumenical and interreligious initiatives on which the American Church has embarked over the past few years. It also holds a guided meditation on the parable of the Good Samaritan, which can be used over the eight days of the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity.

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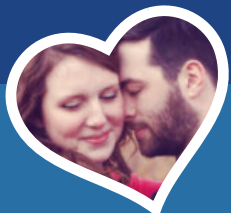
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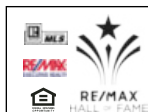
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