

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 a.m. – 9:00a.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 Caretaker

Joe Spencer
508-498-8271

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

201 Main Street
Franklin, MA 02038

508-528-1450

Director

Karen Ackles
reled.director@stmarysfranklin.org

Secretary

Liz Bertoni
reled.secretary@stmarysfranklin.org

www.stmarysfranklin.org
508-528-0020

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, April 6

4:00 pm Louis Geer

Sunday, April 7

7:30am Juliana Kyungwoo Lee

10:30am John Donovan

12:00 pm Melissa Fernandes

Monday, April 8

7:00am Eric Berg

Tuesday, April 9

7:00am Martin & Rosemary O'Donnell

Wednesday, April 10

7:00am Keith Girard

Thursday, April 11

7:00 am Jacqueline Finnucan

Friday, April 12

7:00 am Ann Kelleher

Saturday, April 13

4:00 pm John Creavin

Sunday, April 14

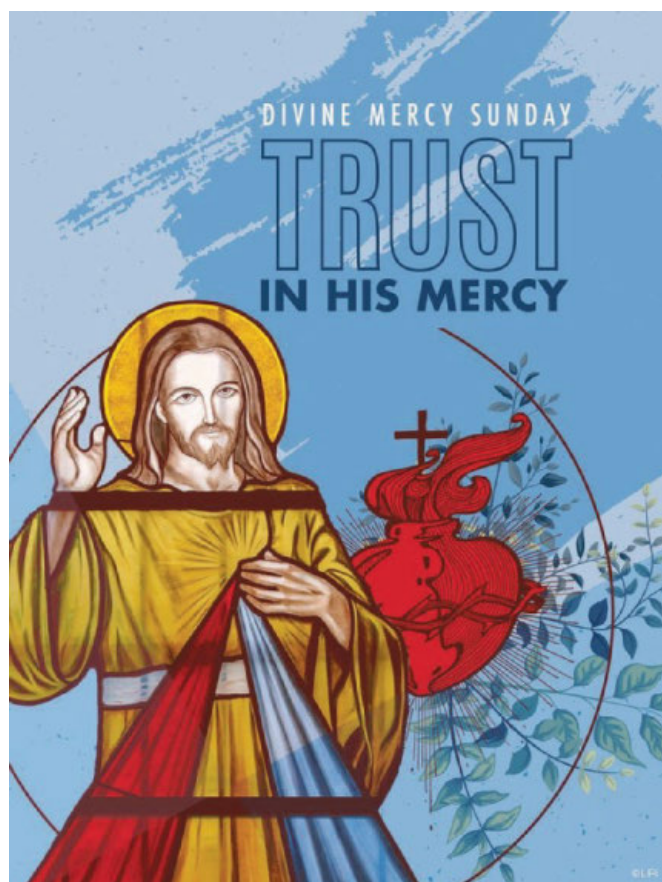
7:30am Martin & Mary Ann Gill

10:30am Juliana Kyungwoo Lee

12:00 pm Rose, Joseph & Tony Musto

WEEKLY GIVING FOR MARCH 23/24

Offertory	\$ 5,896.24
Online	\$ 5,278.62
Drop-Off	\$ 1,143.00
Grand Total	\$ 12,317.86
Grand Annual 86%	\$151,424.00



READINGS THIS WEEK

Readings for the week of April 7, 2024

Sunday: Acts 4:32-35/Ps 118:2-4, 13-15, 22-24 (1)/1 Jn 5:1-6/Jn 20:19-31

Monday: Is 7:10-14; 8:10/Ps 40:7-8a, 8b-9, 10, 11/Heb 10:4-10/Lk 1:26-38

Tuesday: Acts 4:32-37/Ps 93:1ab, 1cd-2, 5/Jn 3:7b-15

Wednesday: Acts 5:17-26/Ps 34:2-3, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9/Jn 3:16-21

Thursday: Acts 5:27-33/Ps 34:2 and 9, 17-18, 19-20/Jn 3:31-36

Friday: Acts 5:34-42/Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14/Jn 6:1-15

Saturday: Acts 6:1-7/Ps 33:1-2, 4-5, 18-19/Jn 6:16-21

Next Sunday: Acts 3:13-15, 17-19/Ps 4:2, 4, 7-8, 9 (7a)/1 Jn 2:1-5a/Lk 24:35-4

GOSPEL MEDITATION
ENCOURAGE DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE

2nd Sunday of Easter (Sunday of Divine Mercy)

A protestant pastor friend of mine was invited to meet Pope Francis with a group of other pastors. He noticed the Pope's chair was especially ornate and set at the head of the group. He somewhat playfully said, "Holy Father, why do you get that special chair?" The group chuckled nervously at my friend's audacious chide.

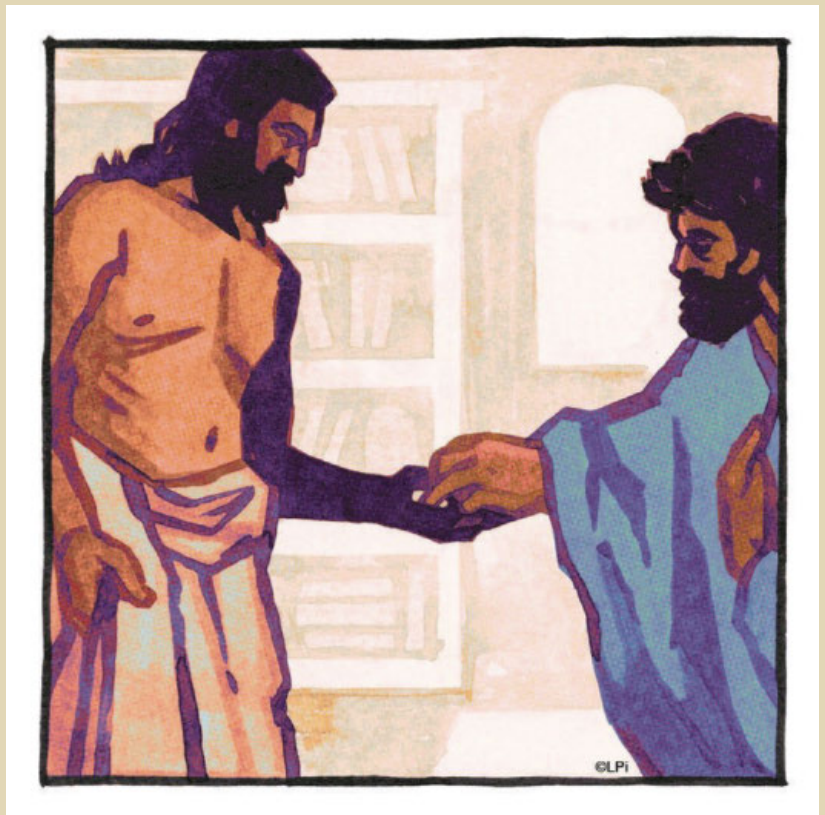
The following year, the group was invited to return. They entered the room to find only simple chairs placed in a circle. Pope Francis entered, sat down in one of the humble chairs and, looking directly at my friend, with a twinkle in his eye, asked, "What do you think of my chair now?" My friend was stunned that the Pope remembered his concerns — and took the time to answer them.

Thomas the apostle was certainly stunned by the Risen Jesus displaying his wounds in person. But he also must have been equally shocked that Jesus knew and answered his particular questions, worries, and even demands related to his faith. How humbled — and perhaps a bit terrified — he must have been to realize God remembers his concerns and cares enough to answer them.

What questions or demands about Jesus do you find in your heart? Like Thomas, will you be bold enough to voice them this week? How wonderful to know that if we do so, God will remember and respond even to our most audacious desires.

— Father John Muir

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Late-In-life Vocations

Consider a Priestly Call...Take a risk for God! Enter the mission field where bold action meets lasting outcomes. Over 750 priest alumni discerned a sacred call later in life. Maturity with God's grace can move mountains. Can you leave it all to follow Christ?

Pope St. John XXIII National Seminary, Weston, MA is offering the latest in its "First Friday Visits" program on April 12, 2024, at 5:00 pm Holy Hour and Evening Prayer. Option to attend in person or virtually. In person includes dinner with the seminarians and a tour. Virtual includes a Zoom visit following Holy Hour. Make a resolution to be courageous. Consider a priestly call. Contact: firstfriday@psjs.edu or 781.899.5500 ext. 134. www.psjs.edu.



MOTHER'S DAY OUTREACH

The St. Mary's **St. Vincent de Paul Society** will once again be sponsoring a **Mother's Day Gift Bag Drive**. The SVdP Society will be reaching out to make Mother's Day a special day for some mothers who presently are having a difficult time. Parishioners are invited to put together **Mother's Day gift bags** containing three cheerful items.

Suggested inexpensive items to place in the bag include a scarf, decorative kitchen towels, hand sanitizer gel, magnetic "to do" list with pen, hand towel & washcloth, lip balm, hand cream, socks, picture frames, and adult coloring books and colored pencils. A Mother's Day card is a nice touch, too. Please do not include earrings, candles, or candy. It is always fun to see the creative items that our donors place in the bags.

Members of the Society will distribute the gift bags to mothers in town. The gift bags may be dropped off at boxes at the doors of the church on the **weekends of April 20 & 21 and April 27 & 28**.

Thank you for your generosity and for continually helping us to reach out to our neighbors in need.



St. Vincent DePaul
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:

Laundry detergent
Regular and Free & Clear

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

Year of Prayer

Pope Francis, in his fifth teaching on prayer, talks about the trust that Abraham had in God, and how we are invited to pray as Abraham did, "*with faith, to dialogue, and to argue, but always [be] willing to accept the Word of God and to put it into practice.*"



Interestingly, we are considering this teaching about Abraham's trust in God on Divine Mercy Sunday. The inscription under Jesus' image on the Divine Mercy painting reads: "Jesus, I trust in You." Would that we, like Abraham, trust in God's word and promises as we go on life's journey. You can read Pope Francis' teaching at <https://bit.ly/PFPrayer5>.



St. Mary's Parish will sponsor a six-session Bible Study series on *the Book of the Prophet Isaiah*, led by Leo Racine, at Magnolia Heights Retirement Center at 485 East Central Street in Franklin. The next meeting will be on **Monday, April 8, from 11:00 to 12:00 noon**; additional sessions are on Mondays, April 22, 29, and May 6.

All parishioners are invited to attend the study of this vital Book of the Old Testament. For more info or to register, please contact Leo Racine at 508-528-0020 or pastoralassociate@stmarysfranklin.org. There will be a cost of \$14 for materials for this series; financial assistance is available.

Congratulations to CYO Boys Basketball

Congrats to the Parish Senior Boys CYO basketball teams. Team Walsh defeated Team Auciello in an all St. Mary's Franklin State Final. This represents the third straight state championship for our senior boys. Team Walsh now moves on to represent our parish in the New England championship. **GOOD LUCK!!!**





Thank You!

The Knights of Columbus Sacred Heart Council 1847 would like to thank the St. Mary Parishioners for donating to their annual **Easter Fundraiser Gift Card Drive** for those in Franklin and surrounding communities who are "in need" during the Easter season. **ALL** proceeds from the event benefitted the *St. Vincent de Paul Society*.

If people would still like to contribute online, please visit our Website: kofc1847.org/food-card-drive-donations or use the QR code below. **Please note that the website will accept donations for the food card drive through April 15th.**

We thank you in advance for your continued support and charitable donations for those less fortunate, especially during the Easter season!



Get the latest Parish updates and news on our Facebook site! Follow us on Facebook at **St. Mary Parish, Franklin, MA**

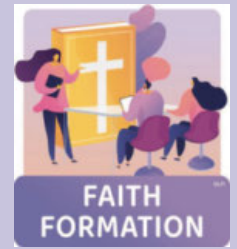


The 2024 Catholic Appeal

Once a year, Catholics throughout the Archdiocese are asked to partner with one another to support their parish and the many outreach ministries by contributing to the Catholic Appeal. Many of you have received a letter from Cardinal Seán requesting your participation and early support of the 2024 Appeal. We hope that you will respond to his invitation with a generous gift, knowing that each contribution has a significant impact on the lives of thousands across the Archdiocese.

You can donate online at www.bostoncatholicappeal.org . For those who have already made a gift, thank you for your early support! The Appeal is a primary means by which we care for our brothers and sisters and move forward in our faith together.

Women's Faith Formation



The Women's Faith Formation group will be holding our next meeting on Wednesday, April 10th at 7pm via Zoom. They plan to watch a video on Catholic Social Teaching from the SYMBOLON series through the Augustine Institute. Discussion will follow.

To receive the Zoom Link or if you would like to be added to our email list, please email: womensfaithformation@gmail.com. All women are welcome and encouraged to attend.



Beginning Thursday, April 18, Nan Rafter will be leading a seven week, **Faith-Based Bereavement Group** at St. Jude's Church in Norfolk. The group will meet on Thursdays at 1:30pm.

There is no charge to attend this, but you must register. Please call Nan at 774-571-0092 for more information and to register.



The Franklin Office of Meals on Wheels urgently needs volunteer delivery drivers. If you can devote about 2 hours each week, we need you! Volunteers are reimbursed at \$0.56 per mile and a small stipend is paid as well. Meals on Wheels provides healthy meals to our homebound seniors in Franklin, Medway, Bellingham & Blackstone. If you have a couple of hours & would like to help out, please call Jeanne at 508-520-1422 (Mon - Fri, 10:30 am - 1:00 pm). Substitute/On- Call drivers also needed.

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