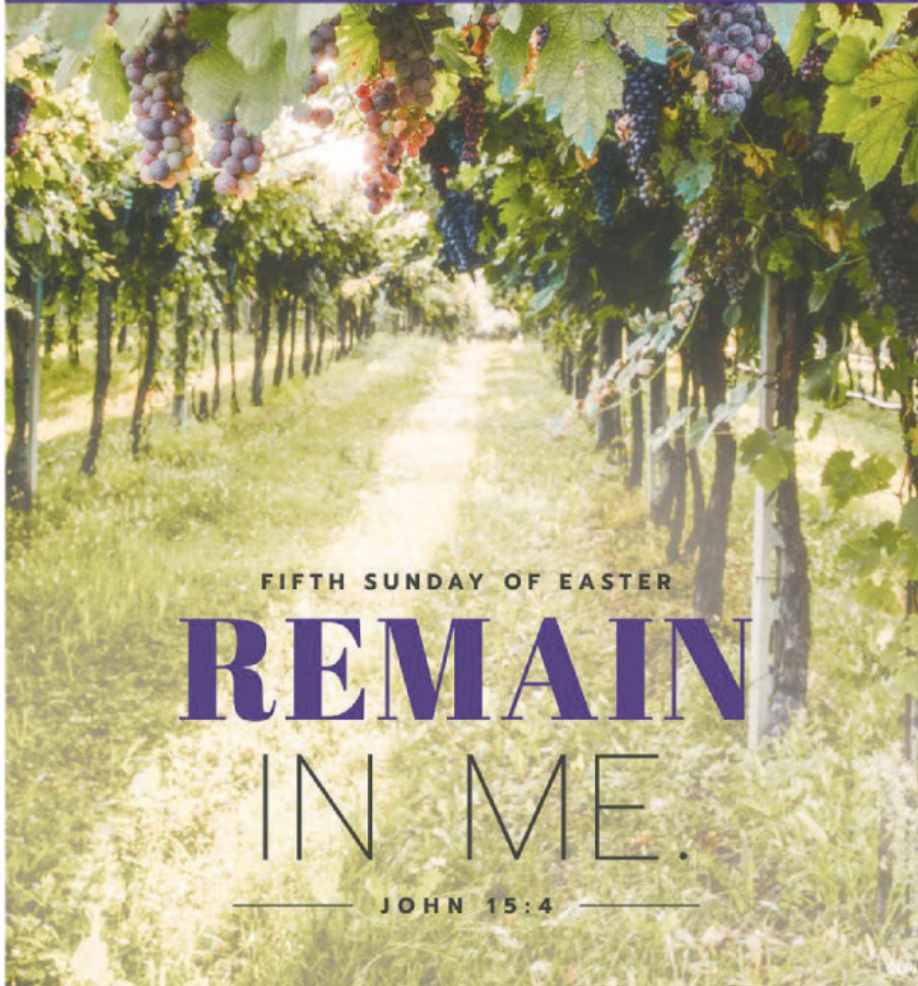


## Saint Mary Parish

# ST. MARY PARISH

1 CHURCH SQ. FRANKLIN, MA 02038 | 508-528-0020 | STMARYSFRANKLIN.ORG

SUNDAY, APRIL 28, 2024



### 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](http://www.stmarysfranklin.org)

508-528-0020

### 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 a.m.

All weekend Masses are  
Live Streamed at:

[stmarysfranklin.org](http://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

**MASS INTENTIONS**

**Saturday, April 27**

4:00 pm Joanne Reilly

**Sunday, April 28**

7:30am Bob and Leslie Rappa

10:30am James and Marjory Dolan

12:00 pm Giovannina Narducci

**Monday, April 29**

7:00am Mary Ann Kennally

**Tuesday, April 30**

7:00am John Riordan

**Wednesday, May 1**

7:00am Peter Locke

**Thursday, May 2**

7:00 am Youssef and Hanneh Tannous

**Friday, May 3**

7:00 am David Pauley

**Saturday, May 4**

4:00 pm Christopher McWade

**Sunday, May 5**

7:30am Leita McKenna & Michael Purdon

10:30am Olinto Colace

12:00 pm Ontoinette Perry



**Holy Baptism  
is the basis  
of the whole  
Christian life,  
the gateway  
to life in  
the Spirit.**

CCC 1213

Last weekend Jake Brennick, Boden Welles and Olivia Grace Peterson were baptized by Fr. Bob, and Olivia Renee Barr, Morgan Marie Hines and Harper Rose Murphy were Baptized by Fr. Jack. May God watch over them always.



On Saturday, April 27, our Religious Education Second Graders made their First Holy Communion. May God's light shine upon them all.

**READINGS THIS WEEK**

**Readings for the week of April 28, 2024**

Sunday: Acts 9:26-31/Ps 22:26-27, 28, 30, 31-32 (26a)/1 Jn 3:18-24/Jn 15:1-8

Monday: Acts 14:5-18/Ps 115:1-2, 3-4, 15-16/Jn 14:21-26

Tuesday: Acts 14:19-28/Ps 145:10-11, 12-13ab, 21/Jn 14:27-31a

Wednesday: Acts 15:1-6/Ps 122: 1-2, 3-4ab, 4cd-5/Jn 15:1-8

Thursday: Acts 15:7-21/Ps 96:1-2a, 2b-3, 10/Jn 15:9-11

Friday: 1 Cor 15:1-8/Ps 19:2-3, 4-5/Jn 14:6-14

Saturday: Acts 16:1-10/Ps 100:1b-2, 3, 5/Jn 15:18-21

Next Sunday: Acts 10:25-26, 34-35, 44-48/Ps 98:1, 2-3, 3-4 (see 2b)/1 Jn 4:7-10/Jn 15:9-17

**- 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, May 8, 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 call the Rectory at 508-528-0020.

**Eucharist for the Homebound**

Please call the rectory or email the Pastoral Associate ([pastoralassociate@stmarysfranklin.org](mailto:pastoralassociate@stmarysfranklin.org)) 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.

**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.



**Disability EXPO  
All Ages Welcome!**

**When:** Saturday, May 4, 2024  
11:00am - 2:00pm

**What:** This Expo will have numerous exhibitors displaying and discussing a variety of disability-related resources, activities and support.

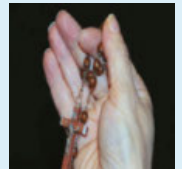
**Where:** Franklin Senior Center  
10 Daniel McCahill Street, Franklin, MA

**Cost:** Free! Door Prizes Too!

**Contact:** Mary O'Neill at 508-440-1265 for more information.

**Zoom Rosary**

Deacon Guy continues a Zoom Rosary every Monday night at 7:00pm. This is open to parishioners, family & friends from all communities. You are welcome to join, relax, pray and/or and just listen. *Link info* is on the Parish Web Site under Parish Life and Prayer. For more information contact Deacon Guy at: [deaconguy@verizon.net](mailto:deaconguy@verizon.net).



**Catholic Women's Club Scholarship**

The Catholic Women's Club Scholarship is given to a graduating senior, who is a registered member of St. Mary's Parish Franklin and planning on attending a **2 or 4 year College, Certification Program or Trade School**. The scholarship award will be in the amount of \$1000.

The Application is on the St. Mary's website under Catholic Women's Club. The deadline is Monday, April 29, 2024. For more information, contact Claudia Brennick at [Claudia.brennick@gmail.com](mailto:Claudia.brennick@gmail.com).

## GOSPEL MEDITATION ENCOURAGE DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE

My friend and fellow pastor, Father Paul, noticed unsightly, overgrown trees near his parish church. He asked the maintenance crew to cut back the growth, which they happily did, telling him the trees would be much healthier and even fuller after a good pruning. A few days later, Father Paul received a letter from an irate man in the neighborhood who wrote, "Jesus would never prune trees like that. He loves trees, unlike you."

I suspect that the neighbor was not familiar with this week's Gospel in which Jesus says of his Father, "He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit" (John 15:2) I don't mean to pick too much on that fellow. He was perhaps ignorant of arboriculture. But I'd wager his main confusion was the pruning and removing quality of God's love. That confusion afflicts us all to some degree, doesn't it? It is just so darn easy to react negatively when God cuts something out of our lives and assume it's not his work at all. In the moment, all we see is the loss, and not the loving desire for future flourishing.

The cross is the great pruning of Christ's body. Jesus' rising is the brand-new growth. It is God's promise to us that all the painful pruning in life is leading us somewhere beautiful. What has been cut back or out in your life? A friend, an opportunity, a sense of certainty, a job, health, a relationship? This week, offer those dry branches to the one who lovingly prunes us in order to make our lives burst with verdant growth.

— Father John Muir ©LPI



### MEN'S Ministry

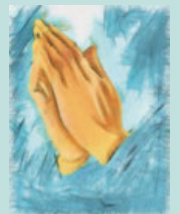
#### Prayer, Formation, and Fraternity for Men

This next meeting of the St. Mary's Parish Men's Faith formation group (COR- Communication Resources) is on Saturday, May 4 at 8am in the Sacred Heart Hall. All men, wherever you are on your faith journey are welcome. We meet on the first Saturday of each month at 8:00 am.

The program is a great way for men to connect. In addition to faith formation, we build in plenty of time to socialize over coffee and bagels. If you have additional questions, please reach out to Regis Schratz at: [rschratz@comcast.net](mailto:rschratz@comcast.net).

### Year of Prayer

Pope Francis centers his next teaching on prayer on King David and his prayerful stance before God. The pope describes David as a man with a "poet's soul," someone who sees that "life is not something that takes us by surprise, but an astonishing mystery that inspires poetry, music, gratitude, praise, even lament and supplication in us."



Many of the Psalms of the Old Testament are traditionally attributed to King David. Pope Francis notes that King David kept up his relationship with God through prayer in times when he acted nobly and in times when he sinned grievously. We are encouraged to do the same. Go to <https://bit.ly/PFPrayer8> for Pope Francis' teaching.

**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.

Members of the Society will distribute the gift bags to mothers in town. This is the last weekend to drop-off the gift bags. The gift bags may be dropped off at boxes at the doors of the church this weekend, **April 27 & 28**.

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



**Parish Pastoral Council Elections**

St. Mary Parish will be holding our Parish Pastoral Council (PPC) elections the weekend of **June 1st and 2nd**. Parishioners will be invited to nominate individuals during the weekend of Saturday and Sunday, May 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup>, by filling-out Nomination papers (in the pews), and then placing them in the baskets at the doors of the church, or by mailing Nominations to: 1 Church Sq., Franklin, MA 02038

Suggested candidates will be asked if they wish to accept the nomination and commit by Wednesday, May 15<sup>th</sup> at 12 noon, and then send a digital photo and brief self-description/biography to the parish office. These introductions will be placed on display boards in the church and on the parish website. The election will be held on the weekend of Saturday and Sunday, June 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> in church.

Members of the Parish Pastoral Council assist the Pastor in keeping our Parish Vision as reflected by our Mission Statement. Members provide prayerful reflection and insight to the Pastor as he seeks to foster a growing and thriving community of faith.

To be eligible for election a person must be:

- A registered and actively engaged member of our Parish
- Sign and commit to a Code of Conduct for all Parish Volunteers
- Be able to pass an Annual CORI Review and attend a one-time Protecting God's Children Program
- Attend approximately 5 meetings a year (in person)
- Be willing to prepare by praying, reading and reflecting for PPC Meetings
- Be willing to listen without judgement or decision, to the words and ideas from all parishioners
- Be a positive advocate for the parish and parishioners.



**Blood Drive!**

St Mary's  
Catholic Church



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Council #1847**

**Saturday June 8, 2024  
9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.**

**Sacred Heart Hall**



**Mother's Day Roses for  
Life**

On the weekend of May 11th and 12th, Mother's Day Weekend, the Respect Life

Commission and the Knights of Columbus, Sacred Heart Council 1847 will be giving-out Roses for Mother's Day after all Masses.

### Catholic Women's Club Annual Banquet

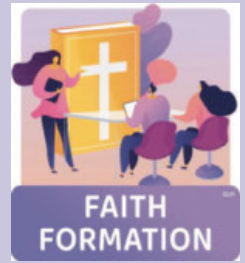
The St. Mary's Catholic Women's Club will hold their annual banquet on Thursday, May 16th, at Restaurant 45, 45 Milford St., Medway. Cocktail hour will begin at 6:00 PM, followed by a buffet dinner at 7:00 PM. Annual scholarships will be awarded after dinner. All women of the parish are welcome to attend!!

Tickets are \$30.00. Please RSVP to Lisa Oxford at [liserina60@aol.com](mailto:liserina60@aol.com). Deadline is May 9<sup>th</sup>. Please make your check payable to St. Mary's Catholic Women's Club, and mail to: Lisa Oxford, 18 Lincoln Street, Franklin, MA 02038



### Women's Faith Formation

Please join us in person for the Women's Formation Meeting scheduled for Saturday, May 18, 2024 from 9:00-10:00 AM in Sacred Heart Hall. This will be our final meeting for this season, wrapping up our 6th year! We are looking forward to getting together in person again and hope you can join us.



All our meetings are on unique topics, so it is fine to attend without having been to a previous meeting. Light refreshments will be served.

### 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 and Clear Paper Towels Tissues**

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

### Bereavement & Caretaker Support Groups

The Franklin Senior Center is offering a **Caretaker's Support Group** and **Pathways to Healing, Bereavement Group**. These groups are open to all ages, not just seniors.

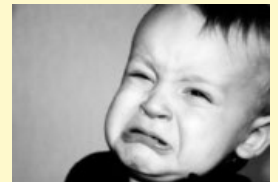
The **Pathways to Healing Bereavement Group** meets at 1pm on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of each month.

The **Caretaker's Support Group** meets at 1pm on the 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday of each month.

Both groups are run by Trish Collatos, Health and Wellness Nurse at the Senior Center and Nan Rafter. For more information, please call Trish Collatos at the Senior Center at 508-520-4945 or [collatos@franklin.ma.gov](mailto:collatos@franklin.ma.gov).

### Fussy Little Ones?

Did you know that when you walk into the front doors of our church building, the glass-walled area is also a soundproof room? Parishioners who sit in this room in the church can see and hear the Mass perfectly, but any noises made while in the room cannot be heard in the rest of the church building. It's a great space to use when our littlest parishioners get fussy.



### Book Club

St. Mary's Book club is getting ready to plan for next year's readings. The club meets the first Thursday of the Month: September thru June, from 6-7pm in the Olive Branch

Room in the lower church. Members select casual-reading books that are available at the Franklin Library. If you are interested, come help us choose next year's books. We look forward to seeing you! If you have questions, please call Joseph Ewald at 508-298-2405.

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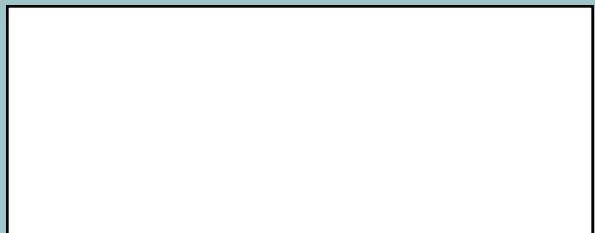
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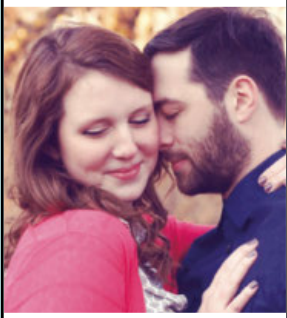
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