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## ST. MARY PARISH

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SUNDAY, DECEMBER 28, 2025

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### MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday: 4:00pm      Sunday: 7:30am and 10:30am  
Monday - Friday 7:00am

Wi-Fi: **StMarysChurchMesh** Password: **STMarysGuest**

All weekend Masses are Live Streamed at:  
[stmarysfranklin.org](http://stmarysfranklin.org)

### RECTORY HOURS

Monday - Thursday 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

### PASTORAL STAFF

**Pastor:** Very Rev. Robert A. Poitras V.F.  
[pastor@stmarysfranklin.org](mailto:pastor@stmarysfranklin.org)

**Parochial Vicar:** Rev. John Tanyi  
[parochialvicar@stmarysfranklin.org](mailto:parochialvicar@stmarysfranklin.org)

**Deacon:** Deacon Ron Gerwatowski  
[gerwat@verizon.net](mailto:gerwat@verizon.net)

**Pastoral Associate:** Leo Racine  
[pastoralassociate@stmarysfranklin.org](mailto:pastoralassociate@stmarysfranklin.org)

### RECTORY STAFF

#### 508-528-0020

**Finance & Operations Manager:** Patricia Murphy  
[businessmanager@stmarysfranklin.org](mailto:businessmanager@stmarysfranklin.org)

**Secretary:** Jennifer Lance  
[secretary@stmarysfranklin.org](mailto:secretary@stmarysfranklin.org)

**Music Director:** Terry Kerr  
[Terry.kerr@att.net](mailto:Terry.kerr@att.net) or 508-541-3286

**Cemetery Caretaker:** Joe Spencer  
508-498-8271

### FAMILY FAITH FORMATION

#### 508-528-1450

201 Main Street, Franklin, MA 02038

#### Director:

Jim Flanagan - [jflanagan@stmarysfranklin.org](mailto:jflanagan@stmarysfranklin.org)

#### Secretary:

Liz Bertoni - [reled.secretary@stmarysfranklin.org](mailto:reled.secretary@stmarysfranklin.org)

### ASSISTANCE

**St. Vincent De Paul:** 508-918-2291

### PARISH REGISTRATION

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

## - SACRAMENTS -



### Baptism

Baptisms are held on Sunday at 12:30pm. First time parents need to attend a Baptism Class held by Deacon Ron. Classes are held one evening each month via Zoom. To schedule a Baptism email: [baptism@stmarysfranklin.org](mailto:baptism@stmarysfranklin.org) or call: 508-528-0020. To schedule a Baptism Zoom Class, contact Deacon Ron at: [gerwat@verizon.net](mailto:gerwat@verizon.net)

### Penance

Penance/Reconciliation 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 arrange a meeting with the priest in preparation for marriage and schedule a date.

### OCIA - Order 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

If you have a family member, friend, or neighbor who is unable to attend church due to age or infirmity, please call the rectory or email the Pastoral Associate ([pastoralassociate@stmarysfranklin.org](mailto:pastoralassociate@stmarysfranklin.org)). 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 and select Emergency Anointing of the Sick. Please do not leave messages on this line.

# New Year's Day Mass

## Solemnity of Holy Mary, Mother of God New Year's Day

January 1, 2026 is a the Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God. It is a Holy Day of Obligation. Masses will be as follows:

Wednesday, December 31 4pm

Thursday, January 1 9am

## READINGS THIS WEEK

### Readings for the week of December 28, 2025

**Sunday:** Sir 3:2-6, 12-14/Col 3:12-21 or 3:12-17/Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5/Mt 2:13-15, 19-23

**Monday:** 1 Jn 2:3-11/Ps 96:1-2a, 2b-3, 5b-6/Lk 2:22-35

**Tuesday:** 1 Jn 2:12-17/Ps 96:7-8a, 8b-9, 10/Lk 2:36-40

**Wednesday:** 1 Jn 2:18-21/Ps 96:1-2, 11-12, 13/Jn 1:1-18

**Thursday:** Nm 6:22-27/Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6 and 8/Gal 4:4-7/Lk 2:16-21

**Friday:** 1 Jn 2:22-28/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4/Jn 1:19-28

**Saturday:** 1 Jn 2:29-3:6/Ps 98:1, 3cd-4, 5-6/Jn 1:29-34

**Next Sunday:** Is 60:1-6/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13/Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6/Mt 2:1-1



### Saturday, December 27

4:00pm Antonio Pereira

### Sunday, December 28

7:30am Bernadette O'Connor

10:30am Hank Versprille

### Monday, December 29

7:00am James Hill

### Tuesday, December 30

7:00am Brother Gabriel O'Brien

### Wednesday, December 31

7:00am Parishioners of St. Mary Parish

4:00pm Parishioners of St. Mary Parish

### Thursday, January 1

9:00am Parishioners of St. Mary Parish

### Friday, January 2

7:00am Parishioners of St. Mary Parish

### Saturday, January 3

4:00pm Beverly Theriault

### Sunday, January 4

7:30am

10:30am St. Vincent DePaul



No Baptisms were performed last weekend.

## K of C Free Throw Contest

The St. Mary Parish, Knights of Columbus, Sacred Heart Council 1847, Franklin, MA are holding their Annual Girls and Boys Basketball Free Throw Contest. It will be at the Hockomock YMCA, Franklin, MA on Saturday January 17, 2026 at 3PM -5PM. We welcome all 9-14 Years old Girls and Boys and would like the parent to accompany the participant.

Come and join us for a great day of competition and basketball. You do not have to be an expert, just come and have fun! The Winners will be decided after the shooting is complete and will be invited to the " Districts" to compete among the other Council Champions.



## Many Thanks!

### St. Vincent de Paul 2025 Caring Gift Tree

The St. Vincent DePaul Society would like to thank everyone who so generously donated to the Caring Tree project. We were able to assist many local families. Thank you for making Christmas special to so many people.



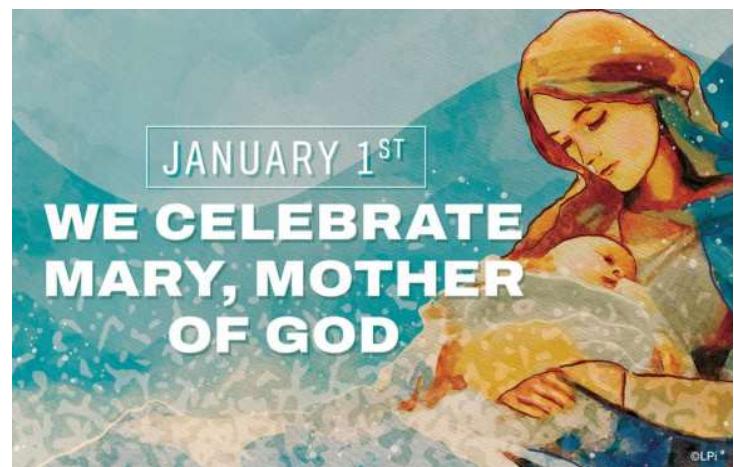
## Online Giving

At St. Mary Parish, Franklin, MA  
[www.stmarysfranklin.org](http://www.stmarysfranklin.org)



JANUARY 1<sup>ST</sup>

## WE CELEBRATE MARY, MOTHER OF GOD



## Holy Hour For Life

Friday, January 29 from 7-8pm

The St. Mary Respect Life Commission is having a Holy Hour for Life on in the Chapel. All are welcome!



## World Day of Peace



The Catholic World Day of Peace will be celebrated on Thursday, January 1st, the Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God. Pope Leo XIV has chosen his theme for the World Day of Peace: *"Peace be with you all. Towards an 'unarmed and disarming' peace."*

The pope has been a consistent advocate for world peace and, according to the Vatican press release (<https://bit.ly/VaticanPeace>), the theme for the day "invites humanity to reject the logic of violence and war, and to embrace an authentic peace based on love and justice." In this message, Pope Leo gives us a timely reminder that "peace is more than just a goal; it is a presence and a journey." To read Pope Leo's entire letter, go to <https://bit.ly/PopeLeoPeace>.

## Parking Alert

195 Main Street, Franklin

The Anglican Church of the Redeemer at 195 Main Street, Franklin now holds services on Sundays at 8:30am and 10:30am. The Church of the Redeemer has asked that St. Mary Parishioners **NOT park in their lot on Sundays** during Mass. They need the space for congregants going to their services.

Please park in the St. Mary School lot or on the street around the Town Common. You may still use the 195 Main Street lot on Saturday afternoons for our 4pm Mass. Thank you.



## St. Vincent DePaul Society

508-918-2291

The St. Vincent DePaul Society would like to thank all the parishioners who have so generously donated to the SVdP Food Pantry. The St. Vincent DePaul Food Pantry is looking for the following items to help our Franklin neighbors in need.



Paper products  
(esp. Tissues/Kleenex)  
Jam/Jelly  
Pasta  
Spaghetti sauce  
Laundry detergent



Thank you for your help in supporting those most in need in our community. God bless our neighbors.



## Upcoming High School Youth Ministry Events

### 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of the Month - YM Event

(Social, Christian Service, Prayer, Speaker)

January 4, February 1,

March 1<sup>st</sup>, April 12<sup>th</sup> (2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday),

May 3 & June 7

### Boston College/Providence College Hockey

Friday, January 16<sup>th</sup>

Leaving the parking lot at 5:15 p.m.

Returning after the game

Cost is \$40.00 (ticket & bus transportation)

### 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 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).

## Sanctuary Care Volunteers Needed

Looking for a meaningful New Year's Resolution? The Altar & Sanctuary Care Team needs volunteers to help a few times a year with:

- Light cleaning
- Sacred linen care

Contact Kate Boragine (508-440-5330) for more details if you are interested in joining the team. Thank you!!





## St Vincent De Paul Society

### St Mary Franklin

Year at a glance: Fiscal year ending 9/30/2025

***"We ourselves feel that what we are doing is just a drop in the ocean. But the ocean would be less because of that missing drop."***      Mother Teresa

**Thank you** to all the parishioners, the Knights of Columbus and all the other organizations for their support of SVDP by generously donating food and financial assistance so we could offer help to Franklin residents in need. Special thanks to Fr. Bob, Fr. John, and Deacon Ron for spreading God's message of the importance of helping others.

Our 37 members volunteered 5,200 hours meeting with families in need a total of 1,098 times, with 2,952 people helped. In 2025 we have continued our mission of providing assistance to neighbors in need. Two members meet with neighbors in need and do an intake to assess how best to help. Any financial assistance is paid directly to the provider of services and not to the person seeking assistance.

#### **Your support helped us:**

Distribute 626 bags of donated food & 100 personal hygiene bags

Give out 54 Complimentary SVDP Thrift Store vouchers worth \$3,000

Provide Caring Tree gifts cards to 108 families / 266 people totaling \$12,800

Deliver gifts for Mother's Day (51), Father's Day (20) and Veterans (6) of \$3,100

#### **Financially, your donations served families 288 times for a total over \$ 56,200**

Housing assistance 30 times for \$21,800

Utilities 51 times for \$15,100

Automobile related assistance 20 times for \$8,600

Easter Meal Food Cards 79 families for \$3,900

Grocery store, Gas & Other gift cards 91 times for \$3,800

Medical, Furniture, Other Bills 12 times for \$3,000

We continue to have strong relationships with other town organizations and businesses. We gave families 159 referrals to town, state, federal, and other agencies that might help them.

In the coming year neighbors in need face significant **challenges** due to increases for housing, utilities, food & gas. These costs put added pressure on them to make ends meet.

***The most important members of this Ministry are each of you, our Contributing members, without whom we would not be able to serve. We thank you for your generosity, and want you to know your contributions are very appreciated by the people we serve.***

*Promoters of Hope, Apostles of Charity and Advocates of the Dignity of the human person*

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