

SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

HIS FACE SHONE LIKE  
**THE SUN.**

— MATTHEW 17:2 —



**ST. MARY PARISH**

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

**SUNDAY, MARCH 1, 2026**



### 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**

### 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

**Parochial Vicar:** Rev. John Tanyi  
parochialvicar@stmarysfranklin.org

**Deacon:** Deacon Ron Gerwatowski  
gerwat@verizon.net

**Pastoral Associate:** Leo Racine  
pastoralassociate@stmarysfranklin.org

### RECTORY STAFF

**508-528-0020**

**Finance & Operations Manager:**  
businessmanager@stmarysfranklin.org

**Secretary:** Jennifer Lance  
secretary@stmarysfranklin.org

**Music Director:** Krishan Oberoi  
krishan.oberoi@gmail.com

**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

#### Secretary:

Liz Bertoni - 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.



### 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

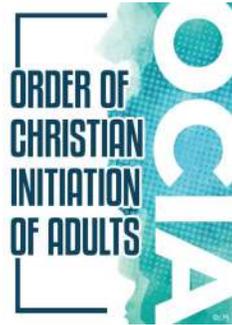
If you have a family member, friend, or neighbor who is unable to attend church due to age or infirmity, please call the rectory or email the Pastoral Associate ([pastoralassociate@stmarysfranklin.org](mailto:pastoralassociate@stmarysfranklin.org)). We will provide pastoral visits.

### 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.



Archbishop Richard Henning has appointed Fr. Walter “Wally” Keymont as Temporary Administrator of St. Mary’s Parish while Fr. Bob is recuperating. *Fr. Wally, Welcome to St. Mary Parish!*



**Welcome OCIA Candidates**

At this weekend’s 10:30am Mass, the Baptized candidates from St. Mary parish’s Order of Christian Initiation of Adults (OCIA) program, will participate in the Rite of Calling the Candidates to Continuing Conversion. This rite

acknowledges their desire for full initiation with the Catholic Church, and reception of the sacraments of Confirmation and Eucharist. It also helps them deepen their faith and strengthen their commitment to the Church.

The OCIA Program invites the candidates into an intensive period of preparation to receive Confirmation and Eucharist. Please pray for our candidates, along with their sponsors and catechists, as they continue on their spiritual journeys.

**READINGS THIS WEEK**

**Readings for the week of March 1, 2026**

- Sunday: Gn 12:1-4a/Ps 33:4-5, 18-19, 20, 22/2 Tm 1:8b-10/Mt 17:1-9
- Monday: Dn 9:4b-10/Ps 79:8, 9, 11 and 13/Lk 6:36-38
- Tuesday: Is 1:10, 16-20/Ps 50:8-9, 16bc-17, 21 and 23/Mt 23:1-12
- Wednesday: Jer 18:18-20/Ps 31:5-6, 14, 15-16/Mt 20:17-28
- Thursday: Jer 17:5-10/Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 & 6/Lk 16:19-31
- Friday: Gn 37:3-4, 12-13a, 17b-28a/Ps 105:16-17, 18-19, 20-21/Mt 21:33-43, 45-46
- Saturday: Mi 7:14-15, 18-20/Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 9-10, 11-12/Lk 15:1-3, 11-32
- Next Sunday: Ex 17:3-7/Ps 95:1-2, 6-7, 8-9/Rom 5:1-2, 5-8/Jn 4:5-42 or 4:5-15, 19b-26, 39a, 40-42



**Saturday, February 28**

4:00pm Richard & Stephen Tomasetti

**Sunday, March 1**

7:30am James Duffy

10:30am Roland & Katherine “Topsy” Pruvot

**Monday, March 2**

7:00am Jean Richard Voltaire (Birthday)

**Tuesday, March 3**

7:00am Ryan Pedersen

**Wednesday, March 4**

7:00am Richard Angeli

**Thursday, March 5**

7:00am Joseph Nicoletti

**Friday, March 6**

7:00am None

**Saturday, March 7**

4:00pm Christopher O’Neil

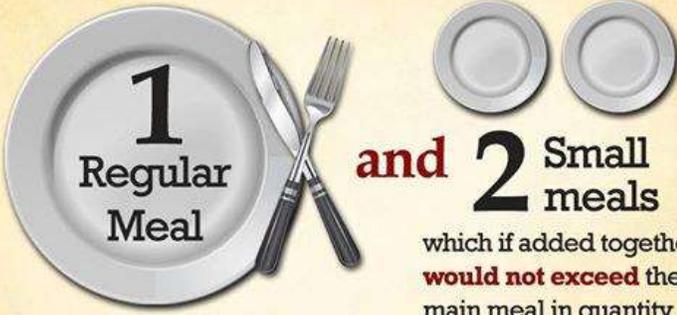
**Sunday, March 8**

7:30am Roland DeMerchant

10:30am Sally Duker



Last weekend Delilah Ellis, Charles Nolan Schmitt and James Walter Schmitt were Baptized by Fr. John. May God Bless these children.



# Law of Fasting

**1** Regular Meal **and 2** Small meals

which if added together **would not exceed** the main meal in quantity

The fast is **broken** by eating between meals and by drinks which could be considered food (milk shakes, but not milk).

 Catholic Fortress  
facebook.com/catholicfortress

## Holy Week Schedule



**Palm Sunday - March 28 & 29**

4pm Mass with Blessing of Palms  
7:30am Mass with Palms  
10:30am Mass with Palms

**Holy Thursday - April 2**

7:00am Morning Prayer in Chapel  
7:00pm Mass of the Lord's Last Supper with Washing of the Feet in Main Church

**Good Friday - April 3**

8:00am Morning Prayer in Chapel  
3:00pm The Passion of the Lord Service with Stations of the Cross with the Youth Ministry  
7:00pm Solemn Celebration of the Passion of Our Lord, Main Church

**Holy Saturday - April 4**

8:00am Morning Prayer & Confession in the Chapel  
7:00pm Easter Vigil in the Main Church

**Easter Sunday - April 5**

7:30am Mass in the Main Church  
9:00am Mass in the Main Church  
11:00am Mass in the Main Church



## Adoration & Confession Prayers Services

### Thursdays During Lent

St. Mary Parish will be holding Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament with the opportunity of Confession, on **Thursdays mornings and evenings during Lent**. The Lenten Adoration/Confession dates are Thursday, March 5, 12, 19 and 26, from **7:30am to 8:30am** (after 7am Mass) in the Lower Church. Evening Adoration and Confession will take place at **7pm**, followed by Evening Prayer.

Evening Prayer or Liturgy of the Hours is one part of the Church's official daily prayer. It consists of psalms and canticles, prayers, petitions, and a reading. Following Evening Prayer, participants will have the opportunity to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation. A simple Benediction just before 8:00 will complete the service. Join us for some quiet time with God and others in our community during this season of Lent.



## STATIONS OF THE CROSS

### Friday Eve-

### Friday Evenings at 7pm

*Sacred Heart Chapel*

Mar. 6 – Knights of Columbus  
Mar. 13 – St. Vincent de Paul  
Mar. 20 – Family Faith Formation  
Mar 27 – Woman's Faith Formation



## Dear Friends,

It is good to be with you.

This year's Catholic Appeal theme is **Together We Are One**. It is a reminder of our communion in the Lord Jesus Christ and our call to be united as the Body of Christ. Our diverse and complex Archdiocese is a family of faith with a shared mission to spread the Gospel.

Here in the Archdiocese of Boston, people are deepening their faith, rediscovering prayer, and returning to the sacraments with curiosity and hope. This quiet but unmistakable renewal is both encouraging and exciting.

Your support of the Catholic Appeal sustains parish life: fosters vocations, forms the faith in our young people and adults, supports our Catholic schools, provides outreach to the most vulnerable, and more. With your prayers, your generosity, and your partnership, the Catholic Appeal empowers your parish and so many others to flourish in faith.

Your generosity continues to humble and inspire me, and it is a great blessing to minister here. Together, we are co-workers with the Lord, participating in His work of healing and reconciliation for the world. Together We Are One.

In Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Richard".

Archbishop Richard G. Henning, S.T.D.  
ARCHBISHOP OF BOSTON



Together we

## Your participation in the Catholic Appeal:



1

### Supports pastors across our 248 parishes

Your gift strengthens ministry teams that meet parishes where their needs are greatest, providing expertise in **evangelization, finance, facilities, and other functions** that would be costly and difficult for parishes to manage alone.



2

### Forms tomorrow's priests

The priesthood begins with a call, yet every vocation needs guidance and care. Through your gift, the **Vocations Office** walks with young men through spiritual direction and a structured process of formation. Over the last two years, it contributed to the **joyful ordination of 18 priests** now serving our parishes.



3

### Invests in Catholic education

Your gift strengthens a vibrant network of **32,000 students across 92 Catholic schools**, providing accessible, mission-driven education. Dedicated teachers and school leaders guide students in their academic, moral, and emotional growth. **Your support sustains the vision and leadership** that shape this transformative learning experience.



4

### Reinvigorates faith formation

Last year, our parishes celebrated **10,279 baptisms, 8,484 first communions, and 8,582 confirmations** — signs of a Church that is alive, growing, and drawing people deeper into the life of Christ. Your gift provides the tools, training, and guidance needed to form disciples at every stage of life.

# are **One**

2026 CATHOLIC APPEAL



## Supports ministries of compassion

Your gift brings Christ's compassion to people facing illness, isolation, and addiction. The **Healthcare and Chaplaincy Ministry** provides Catholic chaplains to more than 20 hospitals, offering spiritual care at life's most difficult moments. **Addiction recovery programs accompany** individuals and families with faith-rooted guidance and pathways to healing.



## Archdiocese Highlights



### An Evening with the Archbishop

In October 2025, Archbishop Henning took a moment to reflect on his first year as Archbishop of Boston and share his priorities for the future. We are excited to share them with you below.



SCAN QR CODE TO WATCH THE 3-MINUTE VIDEO



### Into the Deep

Last June, Archbishop Henning took to the water to bring Jesus to communities along the North Shore. In the future, he plans to take to the water once again to share the Eucharist with the faithful on the South Shore.



SCAN QR CODE TO WATCH A RECAP VIDEO



# Together we are **One**



If you have received Archbishop Henning's letter in the mail and already made your gift or pledge, **thank you!** If not, here are ways you can participate in the 2026 Catholic Appeal:

- Make an **online donation** by scanning the code or by visiting [bostoncatholicappeal.org/donate-now](https://bostoncatholicappeal.org/donate-now)

*(For greater sustained impact, select the recurring gift option.  
Your monthly donation will continue until you ask us to stop.)*



- Use an **in-pew envelope** and return it to your parish. Most parishes will conduct an in-pew presentation next week during Mass.
- Make a gift through your Donor-Advised Fund (DAF) using **TAX ID #04-2106175** (Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Boston) and include Catholic Appeal and your home parish in the donation details.
- Make a planned gift in the form of a bequest, stock, or property transfer, IRA distribution, or charitable gift of annuity.



Thank you for your support!

[BOSTONCATHOLICAPPEAL.ORG](https://BOSTONCATHOLICAPPEAL.ORG)

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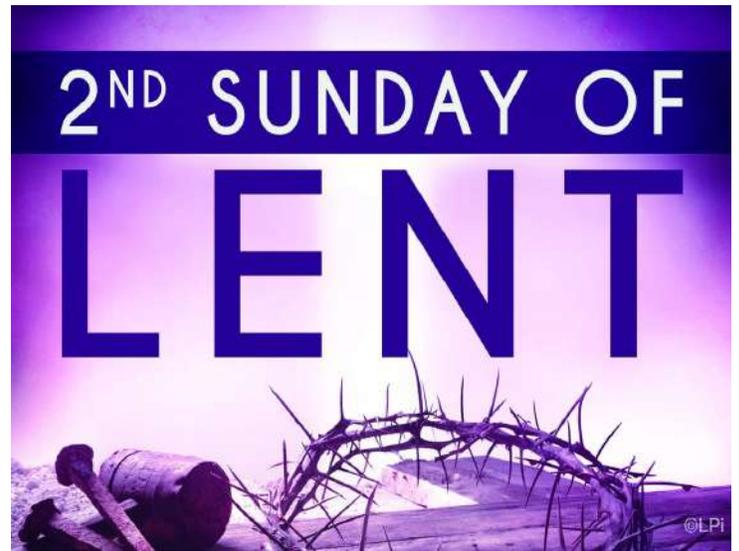
### Knights of Columbus 2026 Scholarship



The Knights of Columbus is accepting applicants for its 2026 college scholarship award program - ***The Robert Simmler PGK, Knights of Columbus Sacred Heart Council #1847 Scholarship.*** Applicants must be a registered member of St Mary's Parish, Franklin and graduating from High School in the spring 2026 and progressing to their first year of study at a 2 or 4 year college/university. **We are awarding 2 scholarships this year: \$3000 and \$1500**

The application form is available from the banner on the parish website or on the Knights of Columbus website <https://www.kofc1847.org/>. Please fill in ALL information accurately and clearly, and submit the completed application by **March 27, 2026** to: ***The Robert Simmler PGK Knights of Columbus, Sacred Heart Council 1847 Scholarship Committee, St. Mary's Parish c/o Michael Swan 38 Madison Ave, Franklin MA 02038***

The award will be given to the recipients upon completion of their 1<sup>st</sup> semester of studies and upon proof of enrollment for the 2<sup>nd</sup> semester. For more information, please contact Michael Swan: 508-404-4792



### Catholic Women's Club Annual Brunch

The St. Mary's Catholic Women's Club Breakfast will be held at "3" Restaurant on **March 15<sup>th</sup> after the 10:30 Mass.** Our guest speaker will be Jim Flanagan, our Family Faith Director. The cost will be \$30/pp.

Please send your check to Patricia Tomasetti, 3 Mackintosh St, Franklin. The deadline will be March 1st.



## SNOW TUBING AT NASHOBA VALLEY SKI AREA

**SATURDAY, MARCH 7TH**

WE WILL ATTEND THE 4:00 P.M. MASS AND THEN HEAD TO LITTLETON. WE WILL GO TUBING FROM 6:00 P.M. TO 8:00 P.M. WE WILL STOP FOR FOOD ON THE WAY HOME!

**Cost is \$65.00**  
ticket and transportation

Register by February 25<sup>th</sup> by using QR Code  
Must have a waiver on file - <https://shop.skinashoba.com/forms>

Youth Ministry







Knights of Columbus  
Sacred Heart Council



St. Patrick's Day

PANCAKE BREAKFAST

Sunday, March 15 from 11am - 12:30pm

after the 10:30am Mass  
Sacred Heart Hall

\$5 donation per adult;  
children under 12 are free

Pancakes, Sausage, Juice, Coffee, Water



Women's Faith Formation Meeting  
March 14th at 9am

All women are invited and encouraged to attend our **Women's Faith Formation meeting**, scheduled for **March 14th from 9:00 - 10:00 am**. We will be watching a video from Fr. Dave Pivonka's series "*My father's Father*." There will be time for discussion following the video and light refreshments will be served. The meeting will be held in the school building (accessible by the ramp from the parking lot).

The videos in this series can be viewed independently, so it will not be a problem at any point if you missed a previous session. All women are welcome!"



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.

- Grape or Strawberry Jam
- Peanut Butter
- Kraft Mac & Cheese
- Cranberry juice and Apple Juice
- Spaghetti Sauce
- Laundry Detergent

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



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).



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**Catholic Appeal** BOSTON 2026  
Together we are **one**



Your support of the 2026 Catholic Appeal will have a meaningful impact on our parishes, schools, and ministries that serve so many throughout our Archdiocese of Boston.

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