

# ST. MARY PARISH

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

SUNDAY, AUGUST 23, 2026

TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

UPON  
THIS ROCK.

— MATTHEW 16:18 —



### MASS SCHEDULE

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

Wi-Fi: StMarysChurchMesh Password: STMarysGuest  
Weekend Masses 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:  
[businessmanager@stmarysfranklin.org](mailto:businessmanager@stmarysfranklin.org)

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

Music Director: Dr. Krishan Oberoi  
[krishan.oberoi@gmail.com](mailto:krishan.oberoi@gmail.com)

Cemetery Caretaker: Joe Spencer  
508-498-8271

150th Anniversary Director: John Ristaino  
[150director@stmarysfranklin.org](mailto:150director@stmarysfranklin.org)

### FAMILY FAITH FORMATION 508-528-1450

201 Main Street, Franklin, MA 02038

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

### ASSISTANCE TO THOSE IN NEED

St. Vincent De Paul: 508-918-2291

### PARISH REGISTRATION

Online at [www.stmarysfranklin.org](http://www.stmarysfranklin.org) or call the office.



### 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 or friend who is unable to attend church due to age or infirmity, we will provide pastoral visits. To set-up visits, please call the rectory or email the Pastoral Associate at: [pastoralassociate@stmarysfranklin.org](mailto:pastoralassociate@stmarysfranklin.org).

### 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 Sunday Family and Youth Mass

This coming Labor Day Weekend, Sunday September 6, at 5pm St. Mary Parish is adding a new Sunday Mass to the schedule! The Sunday at 5pm Mass will begin on Sunday, September 6, 2026 and concluding on Memorial Day Weekend Sunday, May 30, 2027.

### New Church Security System

We are happy to announce that our St. Mary Church security project is now complete. We now have a state-of-the-art video surveillance system that allows us to monitor and record the entire interior and exterior of St. Mary's Church. Our new system also introduces a automatic entrance locking and unlocking system for every outside door of the church.

The new St. Michael the Archangel Security System is donated in loving memory of The Cupelo and Chevalier Family.

Our Sacred Heart Chapel will now be open for prayer from 6am-8pm Monday through Sunday.

### READINGS THIS WEEK

#### Readings for the week of August 23, 2026

**Sunday:** Is 22:19-23/Ps 138:1-2a, 2b-3, 6 and 8/Rom 11:33-36/Mt 16:13-20

**Monday:** Rv 21:9b-14/Ps 145:10-11, 12-13, 17-18/Jn 1:45-51

**Tuesday:** 2 Thes 2:1-3a, 14-17/Ps 96:10, 11-12, 13/Mt 23:23-26

**Wednesday:** 2 Thes 3:6-10, 16-18/Ps 128:1-2, 4-5/Mt 23:27-32

**Thursday:** 1 Cor 1:1-9/Ps 145:2-3, 4-5, 6-7/Mt 24:42-51

**Friday:** 1 Cor 1:17-25/Ps 33:1-2, 4-5, 10-11/Mt 25:1-13

**Saturday:** 1 Cor 1:26-31/Ps 33:12-13, 18-19, 20-21/Mk 6:17-29

**Next Sunday:** Jer 20:7-9/Ps 63:2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9/Rom 12:1-2/Mt 16:21-27



Saturday, August 22

4:00pm Marjorie Ariot (Birthday)

Sunday, August 23

7:30am Rosaria Vandenberg

10:30am Doris and Norbert Beaulieu

Monday, August 24

7:00am Rosaria Vandenberg

Tuesday, August 25

7:00am Daniel Colace

Wednesday, August 26

7:00am David Ricci

Thursday, August 27

7:00am Ralph Rosati

Friday, August 28

7:00am Paul Cataldo

Saturday, August 29

4:00pm Beverly Theriault

Sunday, August 30

7:30am Edward Vroman

10:30am Helen L. Carberry



Last weekend Sawyer Ann Chofay, Ellie Adele Griffin, Noah James Griffin, Lia Mabel Koenig and Nora Zendaia Koenig were Baptized by Fr. John. May God bless these children.

## Knights of Columbus Red Cross Blood Drive

**NEXT WEEKEND!**  
**Saturday, August 29, 2026**

**9:00AM–3:00 PM**  
**St. Mary School, Franklin, MA**  
**Donate Blood and Save Lives**



To register call 1-800-RED-CROSS or  
[www.redcrossblood.org](http://www.redcrossblood.org)



Knights of  
Columbus

American Red Cross **Your donation.  
Their tomorrow.**



*Thank you!*

## Bible Studay begins September 15

God's Spirit is present in the world now and in individuals of both the Old and New Testaments of the Bible. In our Fall 2026 Bible Study, we will be learning about the Holy Spirit in the Bible. There will be six Monday sessions, beginning on Monday, September 15 and ending on Monday, October 26. The meetings will be held from 11:00 to 12:00 noon in the third floor chapel at Magnolia Heights, in Franklin. There is no cost for the group. Contact Leo Racine, our pastoral associate, for more information and to register. He can be reached at 508-528-0020 or [pastoralassociate@stmarysfranklin.org](mailto:pastoralassociate@stmarysfranklin.org).

## Unmute Your Voice: Join the Choir!

Dust off those vocal cords because the St. Mary's Parish Choir is gearing up for a big season, and we want you in the mix! Whether you're a seasoned vocalist or just somebody who sings at the top of their lungs in the shower, if you are high school age or older, you belong here!

The Parish Choir sings weekly at the 10:30am Mass during the academic year, with Thursday evening rehearsals starting in September. And this fall, we're taking things to a whole new level with a full-scale Holiday Concert featuring faculty from Dean College alongside the professional orchestra, Mostly Baroque. No prior experience required, and no intimidating auditions! Just bring your love of music and a willingness to make some glorious noise with an incredibly welcoming crew.

Want to get the inside scoop before committing? Come hang out for a casual, low-key kickoff night on Wednesday, August 26th at 7pm. Meet our Music Director, Krishan Oberoi, and Fr. Bob over at Julia Guilmette's place (31 Bridle Path in Franklin). Prefer to just dive right into the action? Just show up for our first official rehearsal on Thursday, September 10th at 7:30pm right in the church!

Awesome music, incredible collaboration, and a fantastic group of people- what more could you ask for on a Thursday night?



## Protecting God's Children

Protecting God's Children® for Adults is a program designed to help members of the Catholic community create safe environments for our children and vulnerable adults. It is our sincere belief that all people deserve to be treated with dignity as well as to live and learn in an environment that is free from abuse. This program, which consists of videos, group discussion and specific safety recommendations, helps us to put our beliefs into action. Protecting God's Children® for Adults is open to all St. Mary's parishioners and is mandatory for many of our parish ministers and volunteers.

This program will be offered here in our parish on Sunday, September 13 (1:00 to 4:00PM) and Wednesday, September 16 (6:00 to 9:00PM) in the school modular building; you need only attend one session and you can attend anywhere in the Archdiocese.

Registration is online at [www.virtusonline.org](http://www.virtusonline.org); click on First Time Registrant and choose Boston, MA (Archdiocese) as your organization in order to see a list of the available sessions. For more information, please call Leo Racine, Pastoral Associate, at the parish office (508-528-0020) or email him at [pastoralassociate@stmarysfranklin.org](mailto:pastoralassociate@stmarysfranklin.org)



## Family Faith Formation

Open to all parishioners regardless of age

Read all about it and register:

<https://www.stmarysfranklin.org/religious-ed>  
<https://www.stmarysfranklin.org/re-registration>

## St. Mary's Family Faith Formation – 2026 - 2027

### What is Family Faith Formation?

The Catholic Church defines the family as the "domestic church" - a community of faith, hope, and charity, where God's love is welcomed, lived, celebrated, & passed on to the next generation. Family Faith Formation session brings lessons learned in to life at home, fostering a shared spiritual life, mutual respect, and a commitment to living out the Gospel in everyday relationships regardless of one's stage of life or belief.

For More Information

Jim Flanagan Director of Family Faith Formation and Youth Ministry

Email Jim at [jflanagan@stmarysfranklin.org](mailto:jflanagan@stmarysfranklin.org)

Office 508-528-1450 or Jim's Cell 617-922-0024

### Help Wanted

#### St. Mary Parish Secretary

St. Mary's is looking for someone to provide administrative and clerical support for the church and parish operations. The secretary works with priests, parishioners and our organizations to fulfill the needs of the parish. This includes answering phones, managing the parish calendar, preparing for funerals and baptisms, making the weekly bulletin and creating sacramental certificates upon request. This position is a 24 to 30 hour a week, hourly paid position.

Office hours are Monday thru Thursday 9am to 3pm but the additional hours are flexible. Must enjoy interacting with people, be organized and able to multi-task and have computer skills in Google Calendar, Word, Excel and Canva/MS Publishing . If interested, please email: Fr. Bob at [pastor@stmarysfranklin.org](mailto:pastor@stmarysfranklin.org)



### 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).



### SAVE THE DATE!

St. Vincent DePaul

Friends of the Poor Walk

**Saturday, September 26, 2026**

Registration at 8:30 am on the Town Common followed by a Blessing for the Walk at 9:00am. Participants can Collect donations and Walk with us or donate online with the QR Code:



**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.

#### **Canned Fruit**

**Juice** - apple and cranberry

**Canned Vegetables** - peas and corn

**Hygiene Items** - toothpaste, toothbrushes, deodorant, body wash

#### **Detergent**

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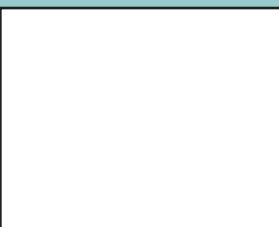



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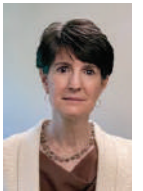
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