

ST. MARY'S PARISH



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www.stmarysparish.org

LITURGICAL SCHEDULE

Mass

Saturday Vigil: 4:30 pm.
Sunday: 7:30 a.m., 9:00 am, 11:00 am & 5:30 pm.
Weekdays & Saturday: 8:30 am.
Holy Days: 8:30 am., 12:00 pm. & 7:00 pm

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday: 3:30-4:00 pm.; anytime by appointment

Eucharistic Adoration

Tuesday: 6:30-8:00 pm, Church

Our Parish Mission

We, the people of St. Mary's, strive to be a community united with God, dedicated to continuing growth in knowledge and faith, giving witness to Christ through love, worship, education, and service. So that we may fulfill this mission and integrate spirituality with life, we shall reach out to all peoples within and beyond our faith community.



Mass Intentions

DATE	TIME	INTENTION
Saturday, Dec. 25	8:30 am	
	4:30 pm	
Sunday, Dec. 26	7:30 am	
	9:00 am	†Tom Granahan By Evelyn Baroni
	11:00 am	†Leona M. Rose 7 th Anniversary by the family
	5:30 pm	†Mary Kelley By the family
Monday, Dec. 27	8:30 am	†Jayne Leardi By the Leardi family
Tuesday, Dec. 28	8:30 am	†John P. and Virginia M. Sheehan By the family
Wed., Dec. 29	8:30 am	†Pam Cawley By the Simas family
Thursday, Dec. 30	8:30 am	†Francis Charamella By Mary Charamella
Friday, Dec. 31	8:30 am	Special Intention By a parishioner
Saturday, Jan. 1	8:30 am	
	4:30 pm	
Sunday, Jan. 2	7:30 am	
	9:00 am	†Joseph O'Neil By the family
	11:00 am	†Paula Halleran Hodge By the Burke family
	5:30	†Maryann Ford 2 nd Anniversary by the family



THE WEEK AHEAD

Monday, December 27

9:00 Ladies Exercise-Large Meeting Room

Tuesday, December 28

10:00 Book Club-Large Meeting Room

6:30 Eucharistic Adoration-Church

Wednesday, December 29

4:15 Children's Choir-Church

Thursday, December 30

9:00 Ladies Exercise-Large Meeting Room



Rest of the souls of Grace Ellen, Bob Girardi, Sr. Barbara Flynn of the Sisters of St. Joseph, Robert Laubscher and all those who died in the recent tornadoes and peace for their families; full healing for all those injured in the tornadoes; Erin's grandmother in ICU following a stroke; Martin Finnegan as he enters a clinical trial treat-

ment for cancer; healing for Lynn Rancourt and for all those suffering from the effects of long Covid; healing for a man with sacroiliac injury; special intention for someone with serious illness; successful move for a family; full recovery from surgery for Deborah Montague; a man with multiple medical issues to find a path toward health; Sarah during a difficult time; Kevin struggling with serious Covid; Donna B.; Leonard C.; T. White; Donald W.; Amanda Churchill's high risk pregnancy; Lillian, recently hospitalized, to receive an accurate diagnosis and return to health; David, ill with Covid; Allison's oncology consult to result in full healing; CW's recovery from illness; Emily; Louise's successful treatment plan; baby Cora; a young family with Covid to fully recover; a special intention; Emily, 15, in ICU with Covid to regain wellness; and for all to know and live the true meaning of Christmas.

Continued prayers for: L.; the Keith family; Earle; Cathy C.; Kim with cancer; Nick; two newborns with Covid; GA; Joyce B.; baby Jake; Sheron B.; David; D.; Evan; Charlie with liver cancer; Michael; baby Eva; Ben; Georgie; Eleanor; Lauren; all those receiving cancer care; Tim; Louise; Joan; Ann B.; Brian; Liz's employment; Charlie coping alone with medical issues; Elizabeth; MJM; Tim C.; Jacob; Wesley; Riley; Pat Murray; the Synodal process; and those with no one to pray for them.

Thanksgiving for: the Fresh Start 508 County jail program STOP; everyone who has donated to our outreach programs to St. Anne's and Catholic charities, Urban Missionaries of Our Lady of Hope and elsewhere; for the gift of Advent time to prepare for Christmas; safe travel for several; all those who work in health care and their continued efforts despite pandemic weariness; for opportunities to give to others and promote our shared humanity; medical improvements for a man; and all answered prayers.

Prayer Line: Call or text Tracy at 508-450-0137



Rest in Peace

Bruno Naras



**FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY
OF JESUS, MARY & JOSEPH**

What love you have bestowed upon us,
O good and gracious God,
in letting us be called your children,
and in giving us your Son, Jesus,
to live as a child among us
in the family of Mary and Joseph.

Let all who seek the face of Christ find him,
not only here, in this house of prayer,
but in the households, large and small,
where your love is revealed
in our love for each other.

**SATURDAY, JANUARY 1
FEAST OF MARY, MOTHER OF GOD**



The Feast of Mary, Mother of God on January 1 is **NOT** a Holy Day of Obligation this year since it falls on a Saturday.

Mass for the Feast day will be celebrated at 8:30 am on January 1

Epiphany

**SUNDAY, JANUARY 2
FEAST OF THE EPIPHANY**

Mass on Saturday, January 1 at 4:30 pm

Masses on Sunday at 7:30, 9:00, 11:00 and 5:30 pm

**Mask Requirement for
St. Mary's Church**

The Shrewsbury Board of Health is requiring the use of face coverings/masks in all indoor spaces including churches for all people age 5 and above except for individuals for whom it creates a health risk.



The Prayer Shawl Ministry of St. Mary Parish offers you a source of comfort and God's love. If you or someone you know would like to receive a shawl, please contact Deborah at 508-842-8653 or Sue at 508-842-8518 and they will make arrangements to deliver a "hug from God."

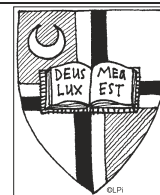


YEAR END GIVING

Many people enjoy using Christmas and year's end as a special time to give to their favorite Catholic institutions and also positively impact their federal and state income taxes. Christmas and year end giving provides many advantages to you

- All gifts made on or before December 31 are tax deductible for the tax year in which your gift is made.
- The knowledge that your gift is assisting a favorite Catholic institution and advancing the mission of the Catholic Church.
- A last reminder to make that special gift or increased gift that you've wanted to

**THANK-YOU FOR YOUR GENEROUS SUPPORT
OF ST. MARY'S THROUGHOUT THE YEAR**



Catholic
University
of America

My dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

Next weekend, the parishes in our diocese will participate in the national collection for **The Catholic University of America** in Washington D.C. Established in 1887, the university is the only American university with ecclesiastical faculties granting canonical degrees in canon law, philosophy and theology.

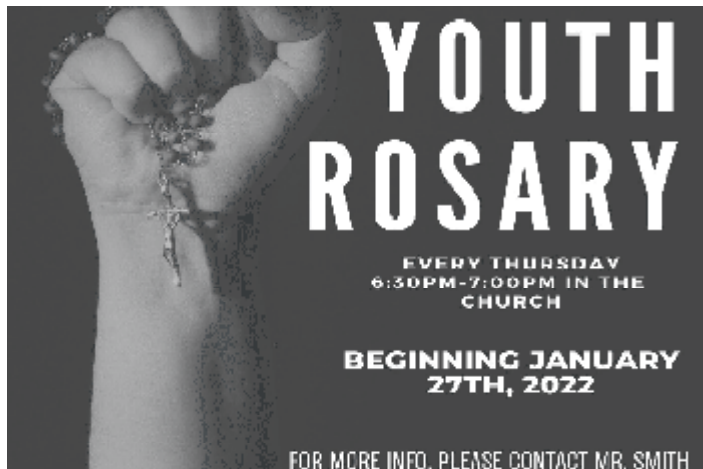
Catholic University is helping to renew and strengthen the Church. The university has always been the research institution where the Church comes to think. For example, by creating an Institute for Diocesan Excellence in Administration (IDEA), where lay scholars and professionals can support clergy by providing expertise and accountability in the areas of education, finance, canon law and culture, Catholic University serves as a springboard in renewing and strengthening Catholicism in our country.

Catholic University is committed to excellence in teaching and research. With its 12 schools and 23 research centers, the university provides an exceptional Catholic education to almost 7,000 students annually. The university prepares students to respond to the many issues facing the Church and society today by way of its many programs, such as those in ethical business practices; classical architecture studies; neuroscience, nursing, Hispanic ministry, social service, and Catholic bioethics.

With every prayerful best wish for a Blessed New year, I remain

Sincerely yours in Christ,
Most Reverend Robert J. McManus
Bishop of Worcester

At the end of January, we'll be starting a weekly Rosary for the youth of our Parish to come to gather and pray. Beginning January 27th, every Thursday from 6:30pm-7:00pm, in the Church Nave in front of the Mary Statue. Contact Mark Smith for more information: Mark.smith@stmarysparish.org



SAVE THE DATE

DIOCESAN HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH RETREAT

May 20-22, 2022 at Anna Maria College

Open to all high school youth as well as current 8th graders. The retreat will feature fun and games (with prizes), music, guest speakers, Eucharistic Adoration, confessions and Mass!

Details and registration information coming in January 2022.

If you have any questions contact Tim Messenger at tmessenger@worchesterdioces.org or 508-929-4360.

Become a foster or adoptive parent and make a difference in someone's life!

The first Tuesday of each month from 6:00pm to 8:00pm join a virtual information session to learn more about foster care and adoption. Contact Katherine Keefe at Katherine.A.Keefe@Mass.Gov to enroll.

If you've ever thought about opening your home to a child in need, this is the perfect opportunity to talk with staff from the Department of Children and Families (DCF) to learn what it takes to foster and adopt.

Foster and adoptive parents are vital to provide a supportive, healing environment for children who have been abused, neglected or removed from their homes due to unsafe or dangerous conditions. We are currently seeking foster and adoptive parents from every city and town across the state so that children can receive care in the communities where they live and go to school. For further information about becoming a foster parent please visit: <https://www.mass.gov/foster-care> or call 1-800-KIDS-508

Schedule a Tour or Shadow Day!



As you look for options for the 2022 – 2023 school year, please consider scheduling a personal tour or shadow day while classes are in session.

Contact our Admissions Director, Cheryl Dolan at Cheryl.Dolan@stmarysparish.org or 508 842-1601 to schedule a tour or shadow day.

Our After-School Program is available for Kindergarten through Grade 8 students from 2:30 pm – 5:30 pm.

Saint Mary School welcomes students and families from all faiths and ethnic backgrounds.

Visit our website to learn more about Saint Mary School: <https://school.stmarysparish.org/>



A New Year's Wish

May God make your year a happy one!
Not by shielding you from all sorrows and pain,
But by strengthening you to bear it, as it comes;
Not by making your path easy,
By making you sturdy to travel any path;
Not by taking hardships from you,
But by taking fear from your heart;
Not by granting you unbroken sunshine,
But by keeping your face bright, even in the shadows;
Not by making your life always pleasant,
But by showing you when people and their causes need you most,
And by making you anxious to be their to help.
God's love, peace, hope and joy to you for the year ahead.



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