

ST. MARY'S PARISH



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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, Jan. 8 | 8:30 am | †Mary Layden By the family |
| | 4:30 pm | †Ted Harney 25 th Anniversary by the family |
| Sunday, Jan. 9 | 7:30 am | |
| | 9:00 am | |
| | 11:00 am | †Maureen A. Bowe 1 st Anniversary by the family |
| | 5:30 pm | |
| Monday, Jan. 10 | 8:30 am | †Theresa McGovern By the family |
| Tuesday, Jan. 11 | 8:30 am | †Fr. Dennis O'Brien By Joe and Joyce Tamer |
| Wed., Jan. 12 | 8:30 am | †Salvatore Paladino By Frank and Jeanne Vaccaro |
| Thursday, Jan. 13 | 8:30 am | |
| Friday, Jan. 14 | 8:30 am | †Mike Foye By the Burke family |
| Saturday, Jan. 15 | 8:30 am | †Mildred Gallo By her children |
| | 4:30 pm | †Emil and Dorothy Vaudreuil †Patricia Vaudreuil By the family |
| Sunday, Jan. 16 | 7:30 am | †Lillian Ovitt By Paul and Elsie O'Dell |
| | 9:00 am | |
| | 11:00 am | †Danielle Simas By the family |
| | 5:30 | |



THE WEEK AHEAD

Sunday, January 9

10:00 Catechesis of the Good Shepherd-Chapel
 10:00 St. Mary's Choir Rehearsal-Media Center
 10:15 Grades 3 & 4 CCD-Hall, LMR, School
 4:00 Grade 9 CCD-

Monday, January 10

9:00 Ladies Exercise-Large Meeting Room
 7:00 Baptism Class-St. Matthew

Tuesday, January 11

6:00 Bear Cubs-Hall
 6:30 Eucharistic Adoration-Church
 6:45 SYFS-Mary's Room
 7:00 School Advisory Board Meeting-Media Center
 7:00 AOL Cubs-Hall
 7:00 Middle School Catechist Meeting-LMR

Wednesday, January 12

4:15 Children's Choir-Church
 4:15 Grades 3 & 4 CCD-Hall, LMR, School

Thursday, January 13

9:00 Ladies Exercise-Large Meeting Room
 7:00 Boy Scouts-Gathering Space

Friday, January 14

6:00 Girl Scouts-Gathering Space
 7:00 Middle School Catechist Meeting-Large Meeting Room

Saturday, January 15

9:00 Grades 1 & 2 CCD-Hall, LMR, School, Media Center
 11:00 Grades 1 & 2 CCD- Hall, LMR, GS, School

Sunday, January 16

10:00 Catechesis of the Good Shepherd-Chapel
 10:00 St. Mary's Choir Rehearsal-Media Center
 10:15 Grades 3 & 4 CCD-Hall, LMR, School
 12:00 Will Party-Large Meeting Room
 12:30 Baptisms-Church

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."

From the Pastor's Desk



Dear Friends,

As the Christmas season draws to a close with today's celebration of the Lord's Baptism, I join Fr. Jose and the entire St. Mary's Parish staff in extending to you our continued prayers and best wishes for a happy, healthy 2022. I also thank you for your many gestures of kindness and friendship throughout the days of the Christmas season.

As is the case each year, so many people shared their gifts and talents this Christmas season so that our parish community could celebrate the joy of Jesus' birth. Without their gifts shared so generously, we would not have been able to celebrate the Christmas liturgies with such beauty and faith – yes, even in the midst of an ongoing pandemic! A special word of thanks to our musicians - Rick Vacca, Steve Reed, Stephanie Sarkisian, Charles Nswchuku and Matt Jaskot. A very special thanks to Christine Carter, our adult choir director, for all her efforts in preparing our Advent & Christmas music. Thank-you to the members of the adult choir and children's choirs & our Christmas Choir at the 10:00 pm Mass on Christmas Eve. We are grateful to our children's choir director, Jan Capello, and all our cantors for bringing us the sounds of Christmas. Thank you to Lisa Ferguson, Marilyn Blanchard, Fr. Jose, the Art & Environment Committee and many volunteers for their tremendous efforts decorating the church for Christmas, and our thanks to Mike Howard and the "men of the manger" who set up our outdoor crèche once again. Thank-you to all who served as liturgical ministers – lectors, ministers of communion, altar servers, greeters, ushers, Mass coordinators. Thank-you to all who work at St. Mary School and in our Religious Education program for helping our children and youth understand the true meaning of Christmas. Thank-you to Maryanne Damico for coordinating the Giving Tree and delivering hundreds of gift cards to St. Anne's Human Services and Catholic Charities for children and families in need. And thank-you to all the staff members of St. Mary's for all that you do throughout the year.

God Bless us all! Msgr. Mike

Parish Support

FINANCE REPORT DECEMBER

Month of December \$19,876

Christmas \$16,628

THANK-YOU FOR YOUR
GENEROUS SUPPORT OF ST. MARY'S

WE SHARE 2022

HAVE YOU CONSIDERED WESHARE?

As we begin the new year this might be just the right time for you to consider making your weekly or monthly donations to St. Mary's Parish through WeShare. Parishioners who use WeShare find that it is the easiest way to offer their consistent support of our parish. Find out how WeShare works by checking the parish website (www.stmarysparish.org) or call Kerry at the Pastoral Center.



Learn More!

As you explore options for the 2022 – 2023 school year, please visit our website to learn about our welcoming community, our commitment to academic excellence and our mission inspired acts of service.

Visit our website to learn more about
Saint Mary School:

<https://school.stmarysparish.org/>

Contact our Admissions Director,
Cheryl Dolan at Cheryl.Dolan@stmarysparish.org or
[508 842-1601](tel:5088421601) to schedule a tour.

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.

RESOLVED TO MAKE 2022 DIFFERENT?

COME ATTEND AN INFORMATIONAL SESSION TO LEARN ABOUT THREE ESSENTIAL ESTATE PLANNING DOCUMENTS EVERYONE NEEDS TO UNDERSTAND AND HAVE.

COME LEARN ABOUT WILL PARTY™ !

Sunday, January 16, 2022 1:00 PM
2nd Floor Large Meeting Room



What the heck is WILL PARTY™? Occasions where guests ask, listen, learn and subsequently become co-creators of certain legal documents, such as advanced directives (health care proxies), powers of attorney, and wills.

WHO ORIGINATED WILL PARTY? Elizabeth L. Myska, JD LLM, a local attorney with thirty eight years of helping individuals of all ages and backgrounds, trademarked WILL PARTY in 2010. Liz is the wife of Deacon Frank Myska who served here at St. Mary's Parish from 2008 to 2014. .

WHY LIZ CREATED WILL PARTY™ ? Liz created WILL PARTY™ because she saw people struggling when it came to infirmity and mortality. By and large, people knew planning was necessary, but, for a variety of reasons, most of which were rooted in fear and misinformation, the actual creation of the documents was difficult and therefore, postponed or altogether avoided. Common excuses Liz heard: Too expensive. Too intimidating. Too overwhelming. Too distasteful to think about. Too much legal mumbo jumbo. Common misconceptions people told Liz: I am too young to plan. Why estate plan when I don't have an estate? My family knows what I want-why write it down? In the end, the state will get everything-why bother? I distrust lawyers; I will do it myself. Liz devised WILL PARTY in response to the foregoing comments. Liz wanted to use her education, her experience and her expertise to debunk the myths and to empower people to help themselves.

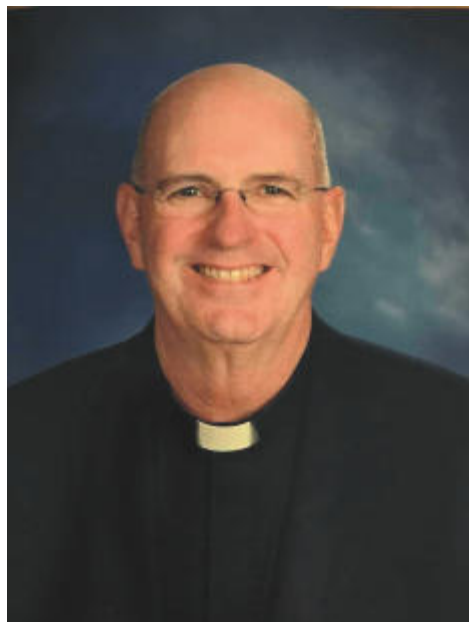
IS WILL PARTY JUST FOR FIRST TIMERS? For those of you who have already planned, congratulations! You are also invited to the informational session. WILL PARTY is not just for those who haven't taken the plunge. For those who have previously planned, ask yourself: How many years has it been since the documents were prepared for you? Did a lawyer prepare the documents for you? Were the documents explained to you before you signed them and did you understand the contents of the documents? Have the documents been updated since you signed them? When was the last time you reviewed the documents? Where are the documents located currently?

Space is limited. Please register in advance by contacting Kerry Martineau at the Pastoral Center at 508-845-6341 or Kerry.martineau@stmarysparish.org

OUR LADY OF THE VALLEY SCHOOL, UXBRIDGE

ANNOUNCES THE FR. DENNIS J. O'BRIEN ACADEMIC WING

AT THE G.R.A.C.E. CENTER

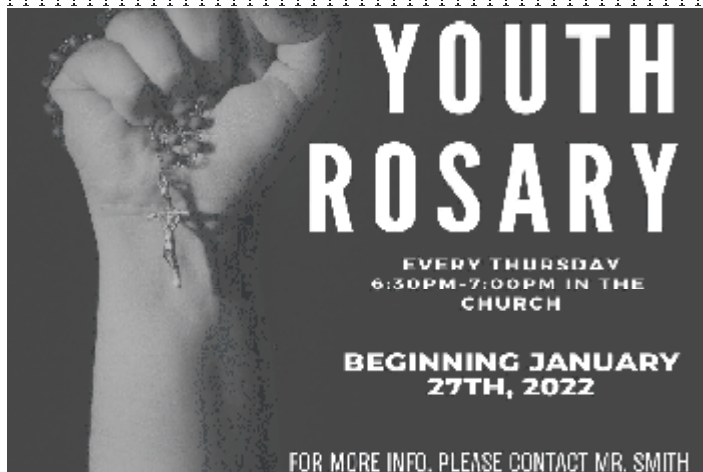


Since the passing of Fr. Dennis O'Brien this past July, friends, students and former parishioners have sought to memorialize him in a very special way. An effort is now underway to raise funds to name the academic wing of The Grace Rett Athletic Complex and Education Center at Our Lady of the Valley School in Uxbridge in honor of Fr. Dennis J. O'Brien. The G.R.A.C.E. Center includes a gymnasium, two classrooms that will house a middle school academy, a concessions area, lobby and restrooms. Grace Rett tragically died in January 2020 one day after her twentieth birthday in a motor vehicle accident in Florida while training with the members of her rowing team from the College of the Holy Cross. Fr. O'Brien was greatly affected by Grace's passing and the depth of her faith. He would often visit her grave site to pray for strength and intercession whenever faced with a difficult challenge. Like so many, he found courage and conviction through the story of Grace.

Fr. Dennis was a "witness and a messenger, a prophet and evangelizer, proclaiming the word of God everywhere he went – yes, with words, but even more so with loving actions. Fr. Dennis has truly revealed the face of Christ to us as he embodied the true joy of the Gospel". Parishioners from Sacred Heart in Hopedale, St. Leo and Our Lady of the Lake in Leominster, St. Mary in Shrewsbury, St. Joseph in Fitchburg, Holy Trinity in Harvard/Bolton, and parishes throughout the Blackstone Valley have all been touched and impacted by Fr. Dennis' commitment not only to preach the Gospel but also to live out the Gospel. In gratitude for the gift of his life and priestly ministry, you are invited to participate in this effort to honor Fr. Dennis O'Brien.

Anyone who wishes to participate in this effort by making a gift to the Father Dennis J. O'Brien Academic Wing at The G.R.A.C.E. Center can do so either online at www.gracetothefinish.com/father-ob or by check made payable to Our Lady of the Valley School, 75 Mendon Street, Uxbridge, MA 01569. (If donating by check, please write "Fr. O'Brien Wing" on the memo line). Donations of \$5,000 or more will be recognized with a name plaque in the Fr. O'Brien Wing.

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



Thanks to all who do generously contributed to the Giving Tree with gift cards to St. Anne's and Catholic Charities. They were very much appreciated and will certainly help those in need during these trying times. Maryanne

Go Fund Me for Jonathan Tomashefsky

Noreen Flory, a friend of the Tomashefsky family, has created a GoFundMe page to help support Jon in his most recent setback with cancer.

Over the past five years many people have reached out to Jon Tomashefsky and his family with prayer, well wishes and asking how they can help. All they have ever been asked is to pray for Jon to be forever cured from leukemia and finally be able to enjoy his life. A viable bone marrow match has been found and the transplant will be happening soon. Living with years of treatments, hospital stays, and setbacks have all taken a huge toll on both Jon and the family. We want them to not have to worry about anything but Jonathan getting better and being able to live his life with promise and hope.

For years, Jon and his family have always volunteered in the area and have always gone above and beyond to help others. This is our chance to help them focus on Jon's upcoming transplant and not worry about any expenses. Any contribution is greatly appreciated! For more information or to make a donation go to <https://gofund.me/43fbce81>.



Restoration of the soul of Fr. Gregory Paul, Bishop Desmond Tutu, Marion Fremont Smith and Shannon's Dad; John recently diagnosed with metastasized cancer; NC and Brad following losses; James C. suffering with bipolar disorder; fast recovery from hip surgery for Will; Tim and Sharon for strength and courage; Maureen; a successful health regimen for D; Marie in hospital to gain an accurate diagnosis and treatment; M's compassion for a loved one; CJ to gain wellness; Trish; Marie's full recovery from recent surgery and a clear path to health; a novena; Bobby S's serious and long treatment for cancer to be successful; Elaine; Renee's safe pregnancy and improved health; Josh, John and Deb and their family after testing positive for Covid; full and speedy recovery for Racheal's parents; CZ to gain full healing of body and soul, mind and emotions; J to enter health and complete healing and for all others who are ill and suffering with mind/body illnesses; discernment for a cancer patient; Joanne, Rick, Pam and Tim with Covid; SA to gain wellness for a long-term illness and for all those suffering violence around the world.

Continued Prayers: Lisa's nephew; babies Charlotte and Cora; Sarah's pregnancy; Robert with cancer; Tim; Sharon; Joanne; Rick; Nancy C.; Cheryl; Emily; Nick; Doug; Guy; John; Laurie; Raymond; John H.; Charlie; Janice; Patrick; Liz; baby Marcellus; the Keith family; Earle; Cathy; Kim; Joyce B.; preemies Eva and Jack; David; Ann B.; Colette; Ben; Eleanor; Lauren; Chris; two cancer patients; Tim C.; Louise; Gary; Irene; MJM; Jacob; Elizabeth; Riley; Pat Murray and those with no one to pray for them.

Thanksgiving for: the Christmas octave; Allie's improved health; Lillian's return home after a hospital stay; Rebecca's greatly improved health; the woman Ablaze Ministries Storybook program; an end to the St. Vincent Hospital nurses strike; safe travel for many during the holidays; \$75,000 for a Shrewsbury food bank from ARPA funds; all healthcare workers; FM's generosity; CT's generosity; medical aid; all those working to eliminate gang violence; hopefulness; the Eucharist and all answered prayers.

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



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3 Ways to Subscribe

1. Visit the parish website at stmaryparish.org
2. Text STMARYPARISH TO 84576 from your phone
3. Scan the QR code on the posters in the church

Worldwide Marriage Encounter

To support married couples during this time of social distancing, Worldwide Marriage Encounter is sponsoring virtual marriage experiences. Some are on weekends and are seven sessions on weekdays. Couples will explore their individual personality styles, improve listening and communication skills, understand God's plan for their marriage, and learn how to keep their relationship a priority. Registration is limited and a \$100 application fee is required. For more information or to apply, call Joe & Ginny Vatelle at 800-710-9963 or visit them at <https://www.mema.org/>.



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