

# ST. MARY'S PARISH



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**[www.stmarysparish.org](http://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, 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 pm	†Gloria DeAngelis By the Villani family
Monday, Jan. 17	8:30 am	
Tuesday, Jan. 18	8:30 am	
Wed., Jan. 19	8:30 am	
Thursday, Jan. 20	8:30 am	
Friday, Jan. 21	8:30 am	†John Collins By the family
Saturday, Jan. 22	8:30 am	†Duane Berquist By the family
	4:30 pm	†Edward Borrazzo By the McCoy family
Sunday, Jan. 23	7:30 am	†Francis Adamski 6 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary by the family
	9:00 am	†Claire Briddon By her best friend, Theresa Manna
	11:00 am	†Bruno Naras By Patricia and Jeff Forts
	5:30	†Beatriz de Los Rios 4 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary by her daughter



## THE WEEK AHEAD

### 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

### Monday, January 17

- 9:00 Ladies Exercise-Large Meeting Room

### Wednesday, January 19

- 4:15 Children's Choir-Church
- 4:15 Grades 3 & 4 CCD-Hall, LMR, School
- 6:00 Brownies-Gathering Space
- 7:00 Respect Life Ministry-Mary's Room

### Thursday, January 20

- 9:00 Ladies Exercise-Large Meeting Room
- 6:00 Daisies-Hall
- 7:00 Boy Scouts-Gathering Space

### Friday, January 21

- 2:30 Mass at Shrewsbury Nursing Home
- 6:00 Pinewood Derby Setup-Hall

### Saturday, January 22

- 9:00 Grades 1 & 2 CCD-Hall, LMR, School, MC
- 11:00 Grades 1 & 2 CCD-Hall, LMR, GS, School
- 1:00 Pinewood Derby-Hall

### Sunday, January 23

- 9:00 Children's Choir-Church
- 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

*Rest in Peace*  
Lorraine Harris and John B. Dolan

### SCOUT VISIT TO ST. JOHN SEMINARY

The Diocesan Catholic Committee on Scouting and the Office for Vocations are hosting a visit to Saint John's Seminary in Brighton, MA on March 6th. This visit includes Sunday morning Mass at 10:30 AM, lunch, and a tour and is open to boys from the Diocese of Worcester in scouting ages 7th grade and up. Registration deadline is February 25th. Boys in the Scouts-BSA interested in attending should sign up at <https://www.worcestervocations.com/scout>

### 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.



**PRAY FOR OUR DEACONS**



Be sure to keep Deacon Derek Mobilio and Deacon Juan Parra in your prayers as they returned to the seminary this week for their final semesters. Derek will be with us at St. Mary’s on the weekends as he completes his theological studies and priestly formation at St. John’s Seminary in Brighton, MA. Juan will be completing his studies and formation program at St. Mary’s Seminary & University in Baltimore, MD.

We look forward with them to their ORDINATION TO THE PRIESTHOOD which will take place at St. Paul’s Cathedral on Saturday, June 18, 2022. There will also be five other deacons who will be ordained priests in the same celebration. It will surely be a “bumper crop” of newly ordained priests for the Diocese of Worcester. Let us keep them in our prayers during the coming weeks and months.

Deacons Derek and Juan will also be celebrating their MASSES OF THANKSGIVING the following day here at St. Mary’s Church – so save the date – Sunday, June 19, 2022. While seating will be limited for Saturday’s Ordination Mass, all are invited to St. Mary’s Church for their First Masses.

Deacon Derek will celebrate his Mass of Thanksgiving at 1:00 pm.

Deacon Juan will celebrate his Mass of Thanksgiving at 5:30 pm.

**PRO-LIFE MASS WITH BISHOP McMANUS**

Thursday, January 20, 2022 at 7:00 pm.

All are invited to attend the annual Mass for Life celebrated by Bishop McManus on Thursday, January 20, 2022 at 7:00 pm at the Cathedral of St. Paul. Please join people from around the diocese on the eve of the March for Life as we remember the 49th tragic anniversary of Roe v. Wade and pray for an end to abortion. All are welcome.

**PROJECT RACHEL**



Thankfully through Project Rachel the Catholic Church post abortion healing ministry, men and women can find forgiveness and peace of heart through compassionate counseling and the sacrament of reconciliation. Call 508-791-HOPE(4673).



**SAVE THE DATES!**

**January 2022 Open House Events**

Sunday, January 30, 2022, 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm  
Thursday, February 3, 2022, 8:30 am – 10:30 am

Visit our Open House to see how Saint Mary School is making a difference for our students and our community as you witness our commitment to faith, academic excellence and authentic examples of service.

Preschool Tue/Thurs (2.9 yrs. by 8/31) or Mon/Wed/  
Fri (3.9 yrs. by 8/31) 8:00-11:00 am

Full Day Pre-Kindergarten (4 yrs. by 8/31)  
Mon - Fri 8:00-3:00 pm

Full Day Kindergarten (5 yrs. by 8/31)  
Mon - Fri 8:00-2:30 pm

Elementary School Grades: 1 – 4  
Mon – Fri 8:00 – 2:30 pm

Middle School Grades: 5 – 8  
Mon – Fri 8:00 – 2:30 pm

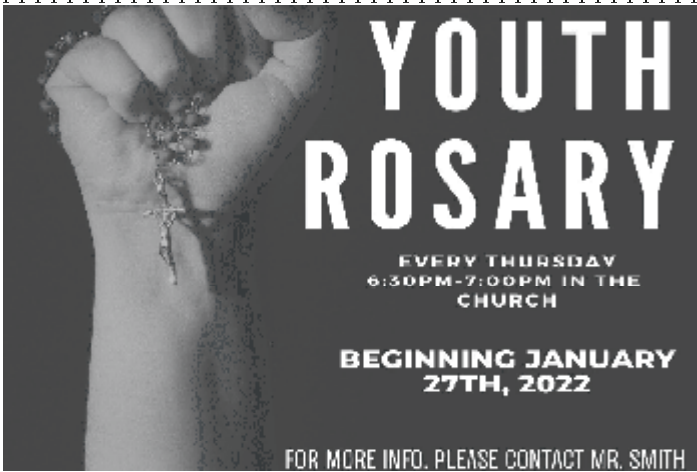
Our After-School Program is available for  
Kindergarten through Grade 8 students  
from 2:30 pm – 5:30 pm.

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

For more information, please contact our Admissions Director, Cheryl Dolan at  
Cheryl.Dolan@stmarysparish.org or 508 842-1601.

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

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](mailto:Mark.smith@stmarysparish.org)



### 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>.



Rest of the soul of Simon Obo Bonney; Delaney to receive an accurate diagnosis and treatment plan for a neurologic ailment; three families affected by Covid; Jacob A. as he adjusts to a methadone taper; safe travel for several; DC's health regimen to be successful; SC to gain perspective and wellness; KM's loneliness; MC; a beneficial health review for a woman; Bobbie-Jo with a recent cancer diagnosis for successful surgery and treatment; Charlie in hospice care; Bobby S. to have strength and courage during difficult leukemia treatment; Bill; and for all those who are isolated, ill and/or suffering with any mind/body illnesses.

**Continued Prayers:** John with cancer; Brad; James C. with bipolar disorder; Tim and Sharon; Sarah; Marie; CJ; Trish; Renee's and Sarah's safe pregnancies; Racheal's parents; CZ; J.; SA; Rick, Pam and Tim with serious Covid; Lisa's nephew; babies Charlotte and Cora; Robert with cancer; Emily; Nick; John H.; Janice; Patrick; Liz; baby Marcellus; the Keith family; Earle; Cathy; Kim; Joyce B.; preemies Eva and Jack; David; Ann B.; Colette; Eleanor; Lauren; Chris; two cancer patients; Tim C.; Louise; Gary; Irene; MJM; Elizabeth; Riley; Pat Murray; and those with no one to pray for them.

**Thanksgiving for:** the many Shrewsbury Sherwood students and other community members who supported tornado victims from the central and southeast US through selling hot cocoa and donations through the Red Cross; for ALL healthcare providers and first responders who continue to work in often less-than-appreciated and difficult circumstances; all volunteers who continue to contribute to those in need and for all answered prayers.

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



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1. Visit the parish website at [stmaryparish.org](http://stmaryparish.org)
2. Text STMARYPARISH TO 84576 from your phone
3. Scan the QR code on the posters in the church

### VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR HOSPICE PROGRAM

**Hospice: It's about Living**  
**Volunteers: They're about Caring**

Hospice of Western & Central Massachusetts is looking for volunteers to provide practical and emotional support to patients and families at end of life. Volunteers are the heart and soul of the Hospice Program because they provide an array of services. Some provide care and comfort to patients and their families while others prefer to perform office tasks and other helpful projects. By becoming a hospice volunteer, you can gain great personal satisfaction from knowing that you have made an impact in another person's life. Please give us a call to find out when the next training workshop will be. Come join our team as we strive to bring hope for dignity, comfort and a life lived as fully as possible to those we serve.

Heather L. Kennedy,  
 volunteer coordinator, 413.786.4004

**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](mailto: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](http://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.



Diocese of Worcester  
Office of the Bishop  
49 Elm Street  
Worcester, Massachusetts 01609

January 2022

My dear brothers and sisters in the Lord,

January 22, 2022 marks the 49<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the tragic *Roe v. Wade* Supreme Court decision which, with its companion case *Doe v. Bolton*, legalized abortion throughout all nine months of pregnancy in every state in the nation. The *General Instruction of the Roman Missal* (n. 373), designates Saturday, January 22 as a particular day of prayer and penance, called the "Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children". All the faithful in dioceses throughout the United States of America are called to observe this day in a spirit of prayer for the full restoration of the legal guarantee of the right to life and of penance for the violations to the dignity of the human person committed through acts of abortion.

Forty-nine years of legalized abortion in this country has left an incomprehensible aftermath. With over 63 million lives lost, and countless women and men, mothers and fathers, grandparents, siblings, and friends who have been deeply wounded physically, emotionally, and spiritually by this tragedy, we need now more than ever to re-commit ourselves to defending life. I encourage our diocesan parishes and institutions, and all the faithful, to observe reverently the Day of Prayer and Penance on January 22<sup>nd</sup> both personally and within your communities. Fervent prayer is especially needed in light of the possible overturning of *Roe v. Wade* in the *Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health* case currently before the U.S. Supreme Court. At stake is a Mississippi law banning abortions after 15 weeks. The Supreme Court is expected to issue its ruling in June. (More information about this landmark case can be found at [prayfordobbs.com](http://prayfordobbs.com).) Let us unite our hearts and minds through special acts of prayer, fasting, and sacrifice on this day and in the months to come, to uphold the inherent dignity of all human life from conception to natural death.

As we reflect on this unspeakable tragedy, we also recall how the Church for many years has continued to reach out to those who have been so sadly affected by the culture of death, particularly through ministries providing aid to women and families in crisis pregnancies, offering the healing love and mercy of Christ to those wounded by abortion through the ministry of Project Rachel, and by continuing to teach and preach the truth and beauty about love and life that bring authentic freedom and happiness. It is through our prayers, charitable works, and loving sacrifices that the culture can be transformed.

Let us take this opportunity of the January 22<sup>nd</sup> Day of Prayer and Penance to renew our resolve to live and proclaim the Gospel of Life. May we respond generously to the challenge Saint Pope John Paul II put forth in *Evangelium vitae*: "A great prayer for life is urgently needed, a prayer which will rise up throughout the world. May an impassioned plea rise to God, the Creator and Lover of life, from the heart of every believer." Our active participation in the shared commitment to the sacredness of human life and the dignity of the human person will, with God's grace, truly work toward the building up of a Culture of Life and a Civilization of Love.

With every prayerful best wish, I remain

Sincerely yours in Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Robert J. McManus". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Most Reverend Robert J. McManus  
Bishop of Worcester



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