

Saint Mary Church
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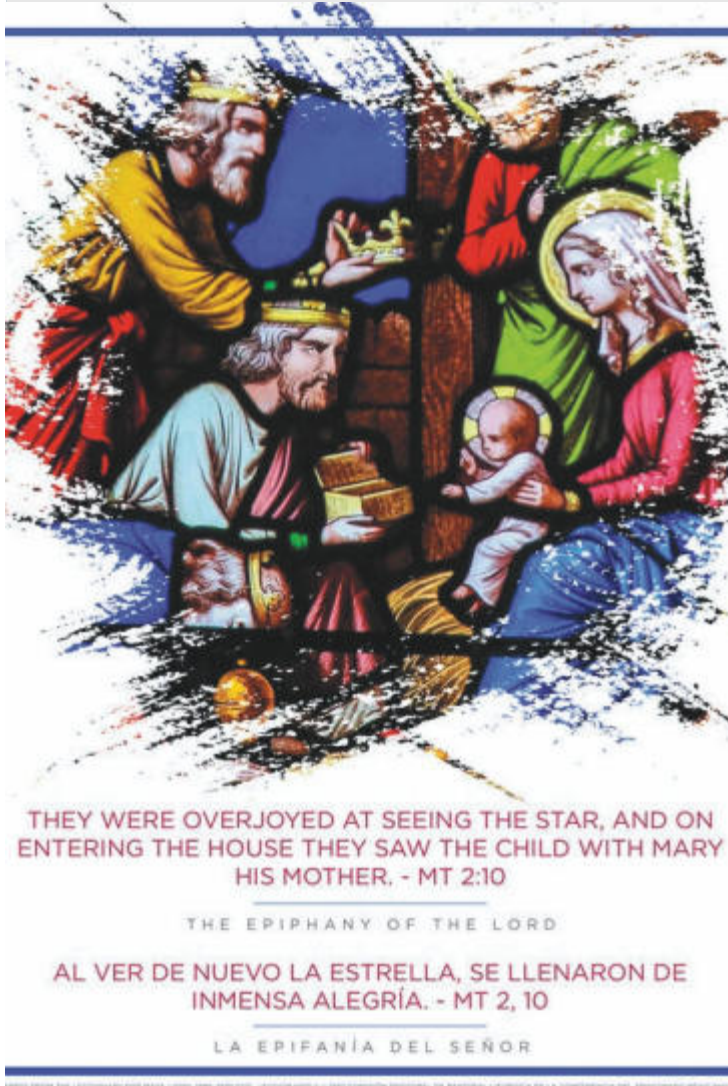
Phone: 508-528-0020

Website: stmarysfranklin.org

St. Vincent de Paul Society
508-918-2291

Religious Education Office
Phone: 508-528-1450

201 Main Street
Fax: 508-528-0043



PASTORAL STAFF

Pastor

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Parochial Vicar

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In Residence

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Deacons

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Deacon Ron Gerwatowski
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Pastoral Associate

Leo Racine
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Bulletin
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Music Director

Terry Kerr • terry.kerr@att.net • 508-541-3286

WELCOME

If you are new to the parish, please introduce yourself to the priests after Mass. We want to know and serve you. To register, please email your name and address to parishpublishing@stmarysfranklin.org. We will send you a Welcome Package that will help you register.

SACRAMENTS

- Baptism:** By appointment only. Consult our website: stmarysfranklin.org
- Penance:** Saturdays 8 to 9 AM in Reconciliation Room in Chapel, 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.
- Sacrament of the Sick:** Please call the rectory if you have a family member, friend, or neighbor who is unable to attend church due to age or infirmity. We will provide pastoral visits, with administration of the Sacraments.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

- Children (Grades 1-8)
Guided remote and in-person learning
- Confirmation Preparation
(Confirmation 1 + Confirmation 2)
Guided independent, remote and in-person learning
- Programs run from September—April
- Adults**
RCIA - Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults
Wednesdays • 7:00pm
October to Easter

Pastoral Reflections

Often times there are books written about “roads taken, or not taken” in life. People often reflect upon their lives and write autobiographies as if they are journeys in life. Oftentimes people will describe their growing up as a journey in life from one point to the next to the next etc. Often this literature describes how one needs to keep going at all times no matter what. Our Feast of Epiphany is about a journey for some exotic foreigners from the East who have to put one foot in front of the other for a very long time in order to find and see an unknown foretold new-born king.

In our first reading from Isaiah, the prophet is describing Jerusalem in magnificent and glowing words. The prophet is talking to the Jewish exiles who can now journey home and he describes their home as a shining city on a hill. As the Jews put one foot in front of another as they journey home from Exile, they can see this awesome city sitting on a hill with its light shining forth to beckon them home. This certainly is an inspirational image and passage for the Jews of then and for all of us through time. Jerusalem beckons and welcomes everyone.

This first reading certainly matches up and connects to our Gospel passage of the exotic astrologers or kings who made a great and long journey. They even had to stop and ask King Herod for directions, who really did not care about his Jewish subjects and their religion. Herod, however, recognized that the foreigners were alerting him to a possible threat to his power and throne. Despite Herod and his duplicity, they finally found their way to the Holy Family and were able to offer their gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh to the new born child.

This wonderfully exotic and mind capturing story has many symbols in it for us. The Magi in many ways are a symbol for all non-Jewish people; they are like the shepherds on the hillsides on Christmas Eve who are symbols of all the poor, the disposed, the immigrant and the refugees in life. When we hear the Christmas Eve story of the birth of Jesus, we realize that the “glad tidings” were not announced to the powerful and rich as people would expect, but to the poor and honest hard working shepherds. Again no one would have expected non-Jews, that is Gentiles, to be the ones who journey to Israel and ultimately announce to the whole world the coming of the Messiah. The reason our second reading is from Saint Paul is because in this passage he admits no one would ever expected him to become a follower of Jesus as he had been fanatically devoted at one point of killing every follower of Jesus Christ. The story told us about the “Coming the Three Kings” is full of powerful symbols and irony. This story captures not only our hearts but also our imagination. What we do as a result of this story is very important.

Traditionally the Feast of Epiphany has been called “Little Christmas” because it was when Jesus the Christ Child was revealed to the whole world. We are not asked to reveal Jesus to the whole world, but instead to reveal Him to the people in our world and our lives. This is not done by talking people to death about religion, but simply like the Magi by putting one foot in front of the other and setting an example of our Christian and Catholic Way of Life.

Fr. Brian

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, January 1

10:30am No Intention—Solemnity of Mary

4:00 pm No Intention— Epiphany

Sunday, January 2

7:30am Louis Frascotti—Memorial

10:30am Donald Buchario—
Memorial

12:00pm Joseph Gonsalves—Memorial

Monday, January 3

7:00am Guy Lochard—Memorial

Tuesday, January 4

7:00am Josephine Giuliano—Memorial

Wednesday, January 5

7:00am Denise Sylvestre—Memorial

Thursday, January 6

7:00am Denise Sylvestre—Memorial

Thursday, January 7

7:00am Denise Sylvestre—Memorial

Saturday, January 8

4:00 pm Tim Rohan, Vera Weaver, Mary
Banville—Memorial

Sunday, January 9

7:30am Celestina Zani and Harry Zani—
Memorial

10:30am John and Bridget Fallon —
Anniversary Mass

12:00pm Mary Corley—Memorial

SACRIFICIAL GIVING

St Mary Parish
2021 Grand Annual

Thank you to the many families that have
already returned their initial
Grand Annual Gift.

Consider making your gift Online:
stmarysfranklin.org

**Masks must be worn
at all inside
Masses and Services**

Mass Book is open for Mass
Intentions: You can call the
parish office or go online
to request a Mass, the Monday
prior to the bulletin weekend.

Readings for the week of January 02, 2022

Sunday: Is 60:1-6/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13 [cf.11]/Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6/Mt 2:1-12

Monday: 1 Jn 3:22—4:6/Ps 2:7bc-8, 10-12a/Mt 4:12-17, 23-25

Tuesday: 1 Jn 4:7-10/Ps 72:1-2, 3-4, 7-8/Mk 6:34-44

Wednesday: 1 Jn 4:11-18/Ps 72:1-2, 10, 12-13/Mk 6:45-52

Thursday: 1 Jn 4:19—5:4/Ps 72:1-2, 14 and 15bc, 17/Lk 4:14-22a

Friday: 1 Jn 5:5-13/Ps 147:12-13, 14-15, 19-20/Lk 5:12-16

Saturday: 1 Jn 5:14-21/Ps 149:1-2, 3-4, 5 and 6a and 9b/Jn 3:22-30

Next Sunday: Is 42:1-4, 6-7/Ps 29:1-2, 3-4, 3, 9-10 [11b]/Acts 10:34-38/Lk 3:15-16, 21-22

or, Is 40:1-5, 9-11/Ps 104:1b-2, 3-4, 24-25, 27-28, 29-30 [1]/Ti 2:11-14; 3:4-7/Lk 3:15-16, 21-22

**SVDP reminder of Food Resources
for Franklin Residents**
Information as of 11/1/2021

Franklin Food Pantry New hours as of October 18, 2021

Monday: Closed
Tuesday: 9:00 am – 1:00 pm, 5:30 -6:30 pm – Curbside Pickup
No appointment needed
Wednesday: Closed
Thursday: Indoor shopping: 9:00 am – 1:00 pm Appointment
Required
Friday: Indoor shopping: 9:00 am – 1:00 pm Appointment
Required *No walk-ins. *No curbside distribution

YMCA: “Drive up Groceries”
Nonperishable food Wednesday 1PM to 2PM
Expanded time for Senior Citizens 12:30-1:00 pm
Some Delivery available—Need to sign up 508-528-8708.

Meals on Wheels for seniors and homebound Call
800-286-6640

St. Vincent de Paul Society: Non-perishable food, hygiene
items and paper products. Delivery available.

Call 508-918-2291 and leave a message.

St. Vincent de Paul
January 2022



**CURRENT
NEEDS**

January Food Pantry Collection

The St. Vincent de Paul Society cannot thank you enough for your donations to our food drives. It is a blessing for us to be able to serve our neighbors and for them to experience the support of our parish. At this time the pantry is quite full with food donations. For our January collection, we would like to request **paper towels** and **laundry detergent**. SVdP members will put together grocery bags including paper produces and laundry detergent for those who call St.

Mary’s in need of help. Thank you in advance from all who will benefit from your generosity. Donations may be placed in the boxes at the doors of the church anytime during the month of January.

"A person is a person
no matter how
small."
Dr. Seuss



WE WELCOME

Avery Elizabeth Mucciarone, Madelyn Grace Salvucci, Soveriegn Michele Sadat-Aalae, Chase Timothy Brightbill, Makenna June Szczebak, Luca Mary Flynn, and Theo Bernardo Hogan who received the Sacrament of Baptism at St. Mary in December.

May the Lord watch over them always.



In addition to parishioners’ intentions, the Respect Life Commission’s intention is for all babies who are unborn or born. May they feel the love of the Child Jesus in this holy month of His birth.

**Knights of Columbus
Annual Free Throw Contest,
January 8, 2022 beginning at 3:00pm
at the Franklin YMCA**

The Knights of Columbus, Sacred Heart Council 1847, Franklin, is holding it's Annual Free Throw Contest on Saturday January 8, 2022. Registration begins at 3:00 PM and the contest to follow at 3:30 PM at the Hockomock YMCA, 45 Forge Hill Road, Franklin, MA . The event is open for boys and girls 9 – 14 years old as of 01/01/2022. All contestants are recognized for their participation in this event. A copy of the participant's birth certificate along with a parent will be required to enter the contest.

The champs are invited to compete in the district competition.

For more information contact Mike Perkins at 508-446-2865 or email knightsofcolombus1847@gmail.com .



Praying the Rosary starts a second year. Consider joining Deacon Guy and 15-20 others in praying the Rosary on Zoom each Monday evening at 7:00pm. A different Mystery each prayed week. This 20 minutes provides a quiet and reflective opportunity during these turbulent times to pray in the comfort of your home but with a community of faith praying with you. For more information connect to the [Rosary web page](#). All are welcome!

Catholic Women's Club Celebrates 100 Years

This coming year is a big one: our 100th year of the club! Let's make it a memorable one! The Catholic Women's Club is a social club for the women of our church. It's about friendship and building bonds with other like-minded women. The intent is to give everyone a chance to meet new friends and old friends and to do fun activities together to enrich our lives. After such a difficult year of separation from our friends and family, I am hopeful that the 2021-2022 season of the CWC will continue to be a year of revival and joy for all of us. Please call Rose O'Koren at 508-528-1663 if interested to hear more.

Please join the **St. Mary's Women's Faith Formation** group on **January 8, 2022 from 9:30 - 10:30 am** as we again have the pleasure of welcoming Dr. Aldona Lingertat, who will be speaking on **the topic of "Types, Forms, and Examples of Prayer"**. Dr. Lingertat is Director of the Master of Arts in Ministry Program and the Master of Theological Studies Program at St. John's Seminary. We are extending an invitation to all women to join us either in person or via Zoom. Please email Deacon Guy (deaconguy@stmarysfranklin.org) if you are interested in the Zoom link contact information. Also, please note that those attending in person will be required to wear a mask, as Cardinal O'Malley has requested for all parish events occurring through mid-January.

The **St. Mary's Men's Faith Formation** group is delighted to welcome Dr. Aldona Lingertat on **January 15, 2022 from 8:45 - 9:45 am** to speak on **the topic of "Types, Forms, and Examples of Prayer"**. Dr. Lingertat is Director of the Master of Arts in Ministry Program and the Master of Theological Studies Program at St. John's Seminary. We are extending an invitation to all men to join us either in person or via Zoom. Please email Deacon Guy (DeaconGuy@verizon.net) if you have any questions or to receive the Zoom link information. Also, please note that those attending in person will be required to wear a mask, as Cardinal O'Malley has requested for all parish events occurring through mid-January.

Registration is now open for the Spring Semester! Classes begin on **Thursday, January 13, 2022.**

Take a deep dive into the Catholic Theological Tradition through courses like Faith and Reason, Liturgy and the Sacraments, Church History, and more!

Saint John's Seminary offers a wide variety of courses with thought provoking material and clear instruction from experienced professors who are highly regarded in their fields



St Vincent De Paul Society St Mary Franklin

Year at a glance: Fiscal year ending 9/30/2021

“We ourselves feel that what we are doing is just a drop in the ocean. But the ocean would be less because of that missing drop.” Mother Teresa

Thank you to all the parishioners, the Knights of Columbus and all the other organizations for their support of SVDP by generously donating food and financial assistance so we could offer assistance to Franklin residents in need. Special thanks to Fathers Brian, Jack and Frank and Deacons Guy and Ron for spreading God’s message of the importance of helping others.

Our 38 members volunteered almost 5,500 hours meeting with families in need a total of 884 times, with 2,523 people helped. The impact of Covid - 19 has again required us to use procedures that keep Vincentians and the people we serve safe. We no longer made in home visits but worked in pairs meeting those seeking assistance in the lower church or over phone/zoom to thoroughly assess the need. Any financial assistance is paid directly to the provider of services and not to the person seeking assistance. Food deliveries are made to the front door entrance way.

Your support helped us:

- Distribute 532 bags of donated food & 136 personal hygiene bags
- Give out 75 Complimentary SVDP Thrift Store vouchers worth \$4,000

Financially, your donations served families 577 times for a total of over \$ 71,000

- Housing assistance 49 times for \$29,908
- Caring Tree 102 families / 245 people with Gifts cards of \$11,625
- Easter Meal Food Cards 81 families for \$8,850
- Grocery store, Gas & Other gift cards 146 times for \$6,850
- Assist 16 families impacted by fires with food, gift cards, clothing vouchers and hotels
- Utilities 30 times for \$6,640
- Automobile related assistance 11 times for \$4,661
- Other: Medical, Furniture, Tuition, Insurance, Veterans Day recognition

We continue to have strong relationships with other town organizations and businesses and gave families 292 referrals to town, state and federal agencies that might help them.

The most important members of this Ministry are each of you, our Contributing members, without whom we would not be able to serve. We thank you for your generosity, and want you to know your contributions are very appreciated by the people we serve.

Promoters of Hope, Apostles of Charity and Advocates of the Dignity of the human person

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