ST. MARK'S ROMAN CATHOLIC PARISH 356 BOSTON ROAD SUTTON, MASSACHUSETTS 01590 TEL. (508) 865-3860 FAX: (508) 865-5095 VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT: SAINTMARKSPARISH.ORG E-MAIL: ST.MARK-OFFICE@VERIZON.NET

Rev. Michael A. DiGeronimo, Pastor Cell Phone: (508) 414-8477 Email: FrMichael@saintmarksparish.org

Rev. Mr. Daniel F. Lavoie, Deacon Email: DeaconDan@saintmarksparish.org

PROFESSIONAL STAFF

Lisa De Haan, Youth Minister Email: Lisa@saintmarksparish.org

Kathleen Huggins, Coordinator of Elementary Religious Education Email: Kathleen@saintmarksparish.org

Paul Machunski, Business Manager

Mark Bailey, Music Director

MASSES

Mon - Thurs: 9:00 AM Saturday: 4:00 PM Sunday: 8:00 AM and 10:30 AM Holy Days: 9:00 AM and 7:00 PM COMMUNION SERVICE - Friday: 9:00 AM PENANCE Saturdays: 3-3:30 PM ADORATION - First Wednesday of Every Month Sunday Mass Livestream 10:30AM on our website and available afterward



Parish Mission Statement

As a parish family guided by the Holy Spirit, the faith community of St. Mark is committed to Jesus Christ and His Church. We are called to proclaim the Gospel through the celebration of Life, the Sacraments, and Liturgy. To glorify God and love one another we will strive to carry out this mission by sharing our talents and resources, serving all those in need, nurturing God's gift of hope in our community and welcoming all to grow in the Catholic faith.



BISHOP BERNARD J. FLANAGAN Council 12710 - Sutton, MA. Active in St. Mark, St. Brigid and Assumption Parishes www.KoC12710.org Email: Council12710.kofc@gmail.com

New Parishioners please use our website (SaintMarksParish.org) or contact the Rectory to register.



Saturday January 29, 2022 Vigil of the Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time 4 PM Joseph Zimage and Roy Person Req by family Sunday January 30, 2022 Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time 8 AM Anne Chartrand Req by Mark Bailey and Mary Kate Doherty 10:30 AM Louis DiVirgilio Req by Debbie and Steve Glaza

Monday January 31, 2022 St. John Bosco, Priest 9 AM For the people of St. Mark's Parish Tuesday February 1, 2022 9 AM Anne Chartrand Reg by St. Mark's Haiti Ministry Wednesday February 2, 2022 The Presentation of the Lord 9 AM All Souls Thursday February 3, 2022 St. Blaise, Bishop 9 AM Bella Dobkowski (18th Anniversary) Req by Robert and Irene Hughes Friday February 4, 2022 9 AM Communion Service

Saturday February 5, 2022 St. Agatha, Virgin and Martyr Vigil of the Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time 4 PM Frances Shugrue Req by Jim and Ruby LeClaire

> Sunday February 6, 2022 Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time 8 AM Doris and Roger Vayo Req by Jeff and Robyn Stone

10:30 AM Judy Myers (Birthday Remembrance) Req by the DeHaan family



Our plans are to meet for in-person gatherings, taking all necessary precautions of course. We continue to monitor and make decisions based on information available to us. Changes to meetings are communicated via flocknote.



Our EDGE group will meet on Sunday (January 30th)

Our next several gatherings will be a series on the Bible.



As we learn how to navigate our way, we will **deepen our understanding of God's Word**, and how it is relevant to our modern life. When we better understand Scripture, we find it easier to pray more with the Bible and share God's Word with those we encounter!



CONFIRMATION PREPARATION

for PARENTS & TEENS

Kickoff meeting for those in the 2nd year of Life Teen (10th grade) and their parents will be Tuesday evening, **February 1st** at 7:00 PM

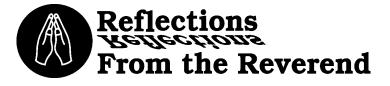
🔿 life **teen**

We **continue DOWNSIDE-UP** on Sunday <u>February 6th</u> with Day Before Tomorrow

RESCHEDULED



RETREAT for all in Life Teen, (originally scheduled for February 5/6) has been rescheduled for March (19th & 20th) DETAILS sent via flocknote



Waterproofing project for the Church Completed

As you might know, the water table around the church is very high; this means that anytime the sump pumps stop there is a flood in the hall. Even when the pumps worked properly, we had to run two de-humidifiers constantly to keep up with the dampness. This flooding which up until our recent fix, happened every few months, for one reason or another. This is why I haven't put much time or money into the hall; I felt there was no point in investing in new flooring etc if it was just going to flood periodically. Over the past years, we have had some dedicated parishioners who have helped in installing new pumps and monitoring things, but the periodic flooding still occurred.

This summer, during our staff retreat, the topic of the hall came up, especially in reference to Religious Education and Youth Ministry. We talked about all possibilities, including building a parish center; which I really don't want to get into if we don't have to. We decided to spend some significant money to get a professional waterproofing company here for an opinion, and we did that this fall, and had them to the work. The extent of the work is described in pictures on page 6 of this bulletin. It was completed in November. It includes all new pumps with battery back up pumps and complete underground discharge well away from the building.

Since then, the dampness in the hall is noticeably reduced, and since there is no longer above ground discharge, the ground around the church is drying out, and the new system has been working well.

This is all a prelude to future renovations to make the hall more user friendly, to meet our modern Continued-> Reflections, continued. . .

religious education and youth ministry needs, as well as to make things more presentable for parish functions such as large meetings and parish suppers.

I hope to take the next year or so exploring possibilities of what we can do, now that our water problems have been solved. I do not have any pre-conceived ideas, but hopefully with many minds together we can over a period of months come up with something practical and beautiful.

Covid and the Surge

While we do not have a mask mandate for church attendance here in the Diocese of Worcester as yet, I would ask that you use your common sense when you attend Mass. Those who are unvaccinated should definitely attend wearing a mask; those who have children unvaccinated should also be masked up; and anyone vulnerable, even though vaccinated should also wear a mask for their protection. Please be conscious of the people around you, and your responsibility to them as friend and neighbor!

Worldwide Synod update

During the month of February, I will be convening a parish meeting of all those who wish to contribute to the world-wide synod consultation initiated by Pope Francis. This consultation will be open to all and hopefully as we discuss church together lead us to new insights and growth. I have been waiting for the surge to be past us before I have called a large meeting; so hopefully before Lent we will be able to get this consultation accomplished!

Sincerely, Father Michael

Prayer Partners

St Mark's is looking for volunteers to support our 21 First Communion candidates through the power of prayer. Each Prayer Partner receives the name of a child to keep in their prayers as the children prepare for the Sacrament of First Holy Communion. We also ask that partners write a letter of encouragement, to be given to the child as they complete their preparation.

There will be a sign up sheet at the back of the church the weekend of January 29-30, or you can email kathleen@saintmarksparish.org and offer to volunteer. Thank you!

February Food Pantry Collection weekend is next weekend (February 5th & 6th).

Collection bins will be in their usual locations (front of church both sides and also some bins in the hallway of the side entry).

Thanks to voluminous collections in the months prior to the holidays, the Sutton Food Pantry is currently well stocked and grateful.

at Urban Missionaries.

So, for February, we will once again

collect for and deliver to the Food Pantry



PASTA * Pasta Sauce Rice-a-Roni * Beans (baked or pork & beans) Canned veggies & fruit Canned SOUP * Tuna Peanut Butter * Jelly Ramen Noodles

Most needed items are



Knights of Columbus Bishop Bernard J. Flanagan Council 12710

www.KoC12710.org Email: Council12710.kofc@gmail.com

Monthly meetings

Business (members only) First Wednesday-7pm @ St.Mark's Church Social (all invited) Third Wednesday-7pm @ St.Brigid Church Hall

Upcoming Events

Mark your calendars, our Lenten fish fry begins March 4th

The Icon of St. Joseph, which the Knights of Columbus is circulating thru out the United States,

will be at St. Mark's Parish on Tuesday March 29th at 7pm and at St. Brigid Parish on Tuesday April 5th at 6pm.

Please join us as we Honor St. Joseph with this prayer service.

Religious Education News

Children's Liturgy will be held in person, but socially distanced this weekend. Drop off begins at 10:15am

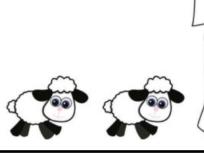
Religious Education classes for children in grades 1-5 are held Sundays at 9am. Children will be spaced as much as possible until the current surge subsides.

It's not too late to **register for our First Grade or Elementary Programs**! If you didn't sign up at the start of the year, but feel more comfortable now that your child has had the opportunity to be vaccinated, you are welcome to join us for the second half of the year.

Please note that masks will need to be worn by all adults and children attending religious education or family ministry programs, regardless of vaccination status. We follow the same quarantine protocols as the schools, so if your child is allowed to attend school, they are welcome to join us at St Marks.

If you have questions on any of our children's programs please contact;

kathleen @ saintmark sparish.org





JANUARY 30, 2022



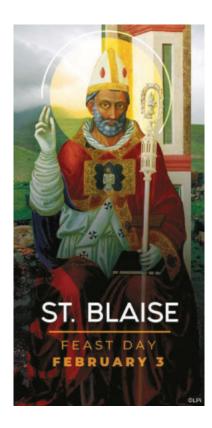


We pray for the repose of the soul of **Robert "Bob" LeClaire, 92**, our neighbor, whose funeral Mass was celebrated this past Thursday here at St. Mark's Parish. May the good and gracious Lord give him peace and rest, and may the Lord bless his family with the memory of his love!



Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament Wednesday February 2, 2022 Begins after the 9 AM Mass and ends with the Rosary at 7 PM

Come and be with the Lord for a time during the day, or join us for the Rosary!



Contribution Statements

are available by calling Paul at the rectory Monday through Friday 8-noon. He will be happy to send one out to you, and thanks for your support of our parish! The Blessing of Throats will take place after morning Mass on Thursday February 3 rd. The legend of St. Blaise says that the Bishop saved a young boy by freeing a bone in his throat. We remember the Lord's great gift of healing for us!

FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Church Waterproofing project Completed November 2021 New pumps with battery back up installed as well as:





Front,

two roof downspouts put into underground pipe; parking lot side, downspout into underground pipe



Above: Rear of church; both roof drains put into new underground pipes; larger capacity

Right: rear of church, hall door Elimination of above ground pipes and two discharges; installation of new and larger capacity underground pipe Taking the water away from the building and past the back field.





First Communion Candidates on their Baptism days. Do you recognizes any of these faces?





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