



# THE HOLY ROOD COLLABORATIVE

ST. JOHN  
THE EVANGELIST PARISH  
115 MIDDLESEX STREET  
NORTH CHELMSFORD

ST. MARGARET  
OF SCOTLAND PARISH  
374 STEVENS STREET  
LOWELL

ST. MARY PARISH  
25 NORTH ROAD  
CHELMSFORD



## January 23, 2022

Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because He has anointed me to bring glad tidings to the poor. -Luke 4: 18a



### Parish Office Location and Hours



115 Middlesex Street • North Chelmsford, 01863  
(978) 251-8571/ 454-5143/ 256-2374  
[www.theholyrood.org](http://www.theholyrood.org)

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday • 9:00 am - 5:00 pm  
Wednesday • 9:30 am - 5:00 pm  
Friday • 9:00 am - 3:00 pm

### Weekend Mass Schedule

St. John • Saturday, 4 pm/ Sunday, 9:30 am and 6 pm  
• African Liturgy, 12 pm: 2nd, 3rd, 4th Sundays  
St. Margaret • Saturday, 4 pm/ Sunday, 7:30 and 10 am  
St. Mary • Saturday, 4 pm/ Sunday, 7 and 11 am

### Daily Mass Schedule

Monday - Friday  
7 am at St. Mary • 8 am at St. Margaret • 9 am at St. John

### Sacrament of Reconciliation

Monday • 4:30 - 5:30 pm • St. John  
Tuesday • 4:30 - 5:30 pm • St. Margaret  
Wednesday • 4:30 - 5:30 pm • St. Mary  
Saturday • 11 am - 12 noon at St. Mary  
• 1 pm - 2 pm at St. Margaret  
• 3 pm - 3:45 pm at St. John

### Eucharistic Adoration

Wednesdays • 8 am - 3 pm • St. Margaret Chapel  
Thursdays • 12:00 - 9:00 pm • St. Mary Adoration Chapel  
First Fridays • 3:00 - 9:00 pm • St. John OPC Chapel

### LIVEVIEW Devotions

Monday - Friday  
3 pm • Chaplet of Divine Mercy at St. John  
7 pm • Rosary at St. Mary

### Prayer Line

To have prayers said for yourself or a loved one, call the parish office and ask for ext. 223. After hours, press 5.

\*Please read entire bulletin for potential schedule changes

# weekly calendar

## Monday, January 24

Bible Study • 10 - 12 am • via ZOOM  
LIVEVIEW Chaplet of Divine Mercy • 3 pm • St. John  
Confession • 4:30 - 5:30 pm • St. John  
LIVEVIEW Rosary • 7 pm • St. Mary

## Tuesday, January 25

LIVEVIEW Chaplet of Divine Mercy • 3 pm • St. John  
Confession • 4:30 - 5:30 pm • St. Margaret of Scotland  
Bible Study • 7:00 - 8:45 pm • SM PC Conf Room 1  
St. Margaret Choir Rehearsal • 7 - 9 pm • SMS Church Choir Loft  
LIVEVIEW Rosary • 7 pm • St. Mary

## Wednesday, January 26

Adoration • 9 am - 3 pm • St. Margaret Lady of Lourdes Chapel  
LIVEVIEW Chaplet of Divine Mercy • 3 pm • St. John  
Confession • 4:30 - 5:30 pm • St. Mary  
LIVEVIEW Rosary • 7 pm • St. Mary

## Thursday, January 27

Charismatic Prayer Group • 10 am • via ZOOM  
Rosary Making Group • 10:30 am - 12 pm • SM PC Conf Room 2  
Adoration • 12 - 9 pm • SM PC Adoration Chapel  
LIVEVIEW Chaplet of Divine Mercy • 3 pm • St. John  
BINGO • doors open 3:30 pm/ first game 6:45 pm • SJE Hall  
LIVEVIEW Rosary • 7 pm • St. Mary

## Friday, January 28

Knitting and Crocheting • 2 - 5 pm • SM Parish Hall  
LIVEVIEW Chaplet of Divine Mercy • 3 pm • St. John  
LIVEVIEW Rosary • 7 pm • St. Mary

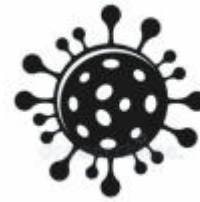
## Saturday, January 29

Saturday Men's Group • 7 - 8:45 am • SJE Linehan  
Grief Support Group • 10:30 am - 12 noon • SJE OPC  
FF Deep Dive: Teaching Baptism • 1 pm • St. John Church  
Confessions

- 11 am - 12 noon at St. Mary
- 1 - 2 pm at St. Margaret of Scotland
- 3 - 3:45 pm at St. John the Evangelist

FF Deep Dive: Movie Night • 5 pm • St. John Hall

## COVID + Reporting Protocols



We would like to say thank you to those who have informed us of their positive testing. It has helped us keep all our families informed and take any needed precautions. Please refer to the following Reporting Protocols:

If you test positive for COVID within 7 days of being in any of our buildings, please contact us at any of the following phone numbers. They will all connect you with our parish office:

(978) 251-8571  
(978) 454-5143  
(978) 256-2374

Please let us know the following:

- Date, Time and Location of Mass or event you attended
- Date you became symptomatic
- Date you tested positive
- In the case of Mass: Where were you seated?
- If you knew the people around you, have they been informed?
- Were you wearing a mask?

Additionally, the sooner we know of a positive result, the better opportunity we have to disinfect and mitigate the risk of spread.

These protocols can also be found on our website. [www.theholyrood.org/covid19-updates](http://www.theholyrood.org/covid19-updates)

Thank you again for working with us as we all traverse this COVID-19 world together! God Bless!

## Support Local Business



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## Clergy

Reverend Brian Mahoney, PASTOR  
fr.brian@theholyrood.org | (978) 254-0560

Reverend Fernando Ayala, PAROCHIAL VICAR  
frfernando@theholyrood.org | (978) 401-9844

Reverend Arnold Colletti, SR. PRIEST IN RESIDENCE  
frcolletti@theholyrood.org | ext 116

Reverend Raymond Benoit, SR. PRIEST IN RESIDENCE  
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Deacon John C. Hunt, Jr., PERMANENT DEACON  
deaconjohn@theholyrood.org | (978) 254-2696

Deacon Frank Perez de Alderete, PERMANENT DEACON  
deaconfrank@theholyrood.org | (978) 633-5408

Deacon Barry V. Lloyd., SR. PERMANENT DEACON  
deac5@comcast.net | (978) 454-6505

## Outreach & Parish Ministry

Sr. Lori Fleming, SNDdeN, PASTORAL ASSOCIATE  
srlori@theholyrood.org | ext 225

## Business Office

Paul Firicano, COLLABORATIVE BUSINESS MANAGER  
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Tina Sousa, FINANCE & FACILITY SUPPORT  
tsousa@theholyrood.org | ext 219

## Family Faith Formation

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## Administration

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## Facilities

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## Bulletin, Website, Social Media

Christine Trznadel, COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTOR  
christine@theholyrood.org | (978) 254-4406

In order to promote communication and transparency throughout The Holy Rood Collaborative, you are encouraged to forward any comments and concerns you may have directly to the Parish Pastoral and Finance Councils.

## Collaborative Parish Council

Parish Council matters can be sent to:  
[collaborativeppe@theholyrood.org](mailto:collaborativeppe@theholyrood.org)

Scott Davidson (SJE) - Chair

Rob Donnelly (SM)	Lorraine Freitas (SMS)
Hilde Gilman (SMS)	Chad Groenwoltd (SMS)
Beth Jacavano (SJE)	Drew Jubinville (SJE)
Cathy Latina (SM)	Lori MacDonald (SM)
Ellen St. George (SJE)	Paul Sneeringer (SMS)
Steve McMillan (SM)	

## St. John Finance Council

Finance matters concerning St. John can be sent to:  
[SJ.FC@theholyrood.org](mailto:SJ.FC@theholyrood.org)

Jeff Brown - Chair

John Bagni	Paul Brzezinski
Celeste Dunn	Grace Ann Steed

## St. Margaret Finance Council

Finance matters concerning St. Margaret can be sent to:  
[SMS.FC@theholyrood.org](mailto:SMS.FC@theholyrood.org)

Robert Gilman - Chair

Thomas Kirwin	Marc Trudel
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## St. Mary Finance Council

Finance matters concerning St. Mary can be sent to:  
[SM.FC@theholyrood.org](mailto:SM.FC@theholyrood.org)

Lauren Desforge - Chair

Armand DiLando	Ted Powers
Paul Therrien	Paul Rigazio

If you would like to submit a notice for the bulletin, please do so no later than 12 NOON, TWO Fridays prior to the weekend in which you would like it published. Submittals should be emailed to [christine@theholyrood.org](mailto:christine@theholyrood.org) or via US Mail to the Parish Offices at 115 Middlesex Street, North Chelmsford, MA, 01863, ATTN Christine. We will do our best to accommodate your request.



# here's what's happening in The Holy

## hope and healing adult grief support group



When someone close to you dies, everything changes in your family, in your life, and your dreams. Often this can turn your life upside down. Know you are not alone in your grief and loneliness.

The Hope and Healing Adult Grief Support Group meets on the last Saturday of the month. Our next gathering is scheduled for:

**Saturday, January 29 • 10:30 am - 12 noon**  
**St. John Old Parish Center**

All are welcome to a safe place to share your story and find comfort, hope and encouragement, as you continue a new path in life.

Registration is not required.

Are you looking for more?  
Do you long for a renewed sense of life?  
**DO YOU WISH YOU HAD A DEEPER LIFE IN GOD?**

**We have just the thing!**

Come join us for the **Life in the Spirit Seminar** starting February 1!

The Life in the Spirit Seminars are designed as an introduction to a life lived in the power of the Holy Spirit. They provide an opportunity for people to find out more about that life, and to be helped in taking the first steps of a new relationship with the Lord.

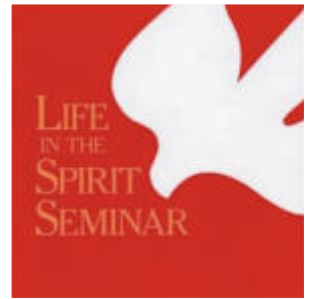
This seminar will be offered virtually via ZOOM. If you have a smart phone or a computer that can connect to the internet, then you have the capabilities to attend.

The 7-week seminar will meet from 7- 8:30 pm on the following Tuesday nights...

- February 1, 8, 15, 22
- March 1, 8, 15

Need more information?  
Interested in signing up?

Email [catholiccharismaticprayergroup@gmail.com](mailto:catholiccharismaticprayergroup@gmail.com)  
or call Catherine at (860) 481-0959.



## the family connection strengthening families dealing with addiction



The Family Connection is a parish-based ministry that has been in existence since 2017. It provides support for families dealing with alcohol and/or drug abuse of a child, spouse, grandchild or friend. Our aim is to provide families/friends with a better understanding of the disease of addiction through educational reading materials, videos, and discussions. We also have speakers who share their stories of recovery and how they are now living healthy, happy lives.

This confidential meeting provides a compassionate and supportive environment that encourages those in attendance to share their questions, feelings and concerns in order to learn from each other and gain hope during a very difficult time.

Please contact [nancyk@theholyrood.org](mailto:nancyk@theholyrood.org) for further information or if you would like to join us.



To support married couples during this time of social distancing, Worldwide Marriage Encounter is sponsoring virtual marriage experiences, with both weekend and weeknight options. 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 and Ginny Vatalle at (800) 710-963 or visit [www.wmwma.org](http://www.wmwma.org).

# Rood Collaborative community



On behalf of the St. Vincent de Paul Society of St. Mary parish we thank all who helped to support our mission during our recent Christmas appeal. There is always a need in our community to support the elderly, the disabled, low-income families and others who face challenges and hardships.

Through your generosity, our work assisting our needy neighbors will continue. We ask that you keep our struggling neighbors in your prayers.

*Thank you*

FOR YOUR SUPPORT



I belong to Him whom the angels serve.

-St Agnes

**LAST CALL**

To reserve your spot for the upcoming Holy Land Pilgrimage!

Join Deacon John, Bishop Hennessey and Fr. Corey

## Deluxe Pilgrimage to the Holy Land

April 3 - 13, 2022 • \$5,299 pp/double occupancy



- First Class Hotel Accommodation
- Visit to a Market in Nazareth
- Wine Tasting: The American Colony Hotel courtyard
- Visit to the Western Wall and Jewish Quarters
- Dinners at Satya Restaurant & Wine & Cheese
- Restaurant on rooftop of Notre Dame

Book your trip today!

visit <https://www.pilgrimages.com/dcnhunt/>



## Is God a real Being for you or simply an idea to be entertained?

Often, we reduce God to a set of ideas, theories, and principles and neglect to see Him as the One who takes joy in helping us understand all of the events and mysteries of life. God delights in journeying with us and is the only One who can fill us with joy and make our hearts burn with excitement and jubilation. He is the One who assists us in recognizing the truth that is before us and interpreting not only the jewels of Sacred Scripture but the events of history. If we recognize God, we can also see that He inspires us to see the divine meaning of our own lives as well. Sometimes it takes us a little time. After all, even Jesus' closest friends had to walk with him for a while on the road to Emmaus before their eyes were opened in the breaking of bread.



### facilities update

### St. Mary Elevator

If all things went as planned — by the time you read this, the initial installation of the lift is complete and the carpenters have begun their finish carpentry work. Next up will be the HVAC contractor to install the shaft vent, then the final installation work, followed by the final inspection. We will keep you informed as we receive updates.



**Not getting Flocknotes?  
Sign up TODAY so  
you can stay informed!**

- Email [christine@theholyrood.org](mailto:christine@theholyrood.org).
- Type **FLOCKNOTE** in the subject line.
- Include your First Name, Last Name and Parish you are registered in within the body of the email.

# The Financial Page

Fiscal Year 2021 runs from July 1, 2021 - June 30, 2022

Paul Firicano, Collaborative Business Manager  
ext 220 or pfiricano@theholyrood.org

To view this and ALL past financial reports,  
click on the stewardship tab on our homepage,  
www.theholyrood.org.

## IMPORTANT DONATION REMINDER

When sending in checks, please make it payable to the specific parish—St. John the Evangelist, St. Margaret of Scotland or St. Mary—to which you are making your donation. As each parish maintains their own financial entity, checks made out to The Holy Rood Collaborative cannot be cashed as The Holy Rood Collaborative is NOT a financial entity.

ST. MARY WEEKLY OFFERTORY	Weekend of January 15th/16th	Fiscal Year-To-Date January 16th	Fiscal YTD Average/Week
Offertory Required to cover Budgeted Expenses	\$15,000	\$435,000	\$15,000
Actual Received	\$13,815	\$410,030	\$14,139
Shortfall/ Overage	-\$1,185	-\$24,970	-\$861

ST. JOHN WEEKLY OFFERTORY	Weekend of January 15th/16th	Fiscal Year-To-Date January 16th	Fiscal YTD Average/Week
Offertory Required to cover Budgeted Expenses	\$9,500	\$275,500	\$9,500
Actual Received	\$10,359	\$279,306	\$9,631
Shortfall/ Overage	\$859	\$3,806	\$131

ST. MARGARET WEEKLY OFFERTORY	Weekend of January 15th/16th	Fiscal Year-To-Date January 16th	Fiscal YTD Average/Week
Offertory Required to cover Budgeted Expenses	\$5,550	\$160,950	\$5,550
Actual Received	\$4,080	\$125,403	\$4,324
Shortfall/ Overage	-\$1,470	-\$35,547	-\$1,226

### GRAND ANNUAL AS OF JANUARY 15TH

	Goal	Raised	%age of Goal
St. Mary	\$90,000	\$40,708	45.23%
St. John	\$78,000	\$21,249	27.24%
St. Margaret	\$85,000	\$29,801	35.06%

THANK  
you  
FOR YOUR SUPPORT



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Visit our website and click on the Online Giving logo located at the bottom of the homepage, or simply scan this QR code with your Android or iPhone.



Visit our website and click on the VANCO logo located at the bottom of the homepage, or simply scan this QR code with your Android or iPhone.

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Shaun Bradley  
 Faith Formation Associate  
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# Family Faith Formation Program

Elaine Kindler  
 Faith Formation Coordinator  
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Lynn Anne LaDuke  
 Faith Formation Coordinator  
 lynnanne@theholyrood.org

Uniting the Heart of the Church with the



Heart of the Home

## CLASS SCHEDULE

### GRADES 1-6 SUNDAY, JANUARY 23

St. Margaret Session A  
 8:15 - 9:45 AM  
 Sacred Heart Hall

St. Mary Session C  
 9:15 - 10:45 AM  
 St. Mary Parish Hall

St. John Session B  
 10:45 AM - 12:15 PM  
 St. John Parish Hall

St. Mary Session D  
 12:15 - 1:45 PM  
 St. Mary Parish Hall

### FIRST EUCHARIST PREP SUNDAY, JANUARY 30

9:15 - 10:45 AM  
 St. Mary Parish Hall  
 Mock Reconciliation  
 Parents MUST Attend

Families should complete Blessed First Reconciliation and begin working on Blessed First Eucharist, which was given out at the December FE Prep session

### GRADES 7-8 SUNDAY, JANUARY 30

11:15 AM - 12:45 PM  
 St. Margaret  
 Sacred Heart Hall

### CONFIRMATION I SUNDAY, JANUARY 30

4:15 - 5:45 PM  
 St. John Parish Hall

### CONFIRMATION II SUNDAY, JANUARY 23

4:15 - 5:45 PM  
 St. John Parish Hall



### SACRAMENTAL PAPERWORK

Due Sunday, February 27

## JANUARY DEEP DIVES

Teaching Baptism  
 Saturday, January 29  
 1 - 2 pm ~ St. John the Evangelist Church

Family Movie Night  
 Saturday, January 29  
 5 - 7 pm ~ St. John Parish Hall

## FEBRUARY DEEP DIVES

Family Lent Event with Reconciliation  
 Wednesday, February 23  
 6:30 - 8:00 pm ~ St. Margaret Church and Hall



## P.L.A.N.S. FOR THE MONTH OF JANUARY

All Families should Pray together daily/ Attend Mass weekly/Attend Class or Disciple Group Monthly/ Complete one Deep Dive per Month

Grades 1-6 Children will be gathering to learn about The Last Supper and Parent Discipleship Groups will reflect on full, conscious active participation at Mass

Grades 7 & 8 Students will be completing Altaration Session 4: What is our Response?

Confirmation I Students will be completing Chosen Lesson 5: Who is Jesus? and Lesson 6: Why be Catholic?

Confirmation II Students will be completing Chosen Lesson 17: Who's Calling?

Keeping all our Faith Formation families in prayer!



From the  
Pastor



There are days that make you stop and ponder life. For me, last Monday, January 17th, was one of those days. It began with my getting ready to celebrate a funeral service at Blake Funeral Home. While walking to my car in our very slushy parking lot, I managed to get my feet soaking wet, and so I had to go back in and change my shoes and socks. This led me to be about five minutes late. After arriving at Blake's and explaining to the people what happened, they had a good laugh. It was just one of those days. Later on, in between doing a second funeral at Saint John's and my next appointment with a wedding couple, I stopped at Hannaford to pick up a few groceries. After leaving the store and returning to my car, I picked up the bag out of the shopping cart and—*would you believe!*—it immediately ripped open; the containers of blueberries fell out and spilled all over the ground. No five-second rule in this instance. I went into the store and explained what happened so they could get someone to clean up the blueberries. The employee I spoke with made sure that the blueberries were replaced. This whole process, again, made me about five minutes late for my appointment with the wedding couple. But when they heard what happened, they thought it was pretty funny. I simply chocked it up to 'one of those days'. These small occurrences can easily get us frustrated, but in the grand scope of things they really do not matter. Let me explain.

The truth of what I am saying was driven home to me when, just before 2 PM, I received a call from Fr. Bob Blaney. He called to let me know that one of my best friends, Fr. Steve Boyle, had unexpectedly passed away. The news hit me hard and put me into a state of shock. I couldn't even think of how to respond. On top of that, my next appointment was at 2 PM, to celebrate Mass at Chelmsford Crossing. It seemed that I was going to be late for everything that day. But this time I honestly didn't care. I knew the people would understand. And celebrating Mass also helped me because I was offering it for Fr. Steve.

As I write this, I am still somewhat in a state of shock. Steve was my classmate, and we shared a lot together in living out our priesthood. He was the go-to person I could count on when I really needed a friend. During times of struggle, he was there to listen and support me and offer good advice. We had a lot of laughs and shared important moments. When the Archbishop asked me to return to school, Steve, at his own expense, flew out to Chicago with me. It was just to make a visit to the school the Archdiocese was considering for me. Steve did not want me to make the trip alone. He knew this would be a difficult decision for me and so he wanted to be there to lend his support. I was really grateful for his support and his insight. He helped me recognize that this school would

not be a good option; as such, the final choice was Catholic University.

Reflecting on all that happened Monday, I have to admit how easy it is for me to get frustrated with small upsets in my life. It is so easy to focus on the trivial inconveniences and see them as somehow bigger than they really are. At times the normal daily grind of life can seem to be all encompassing. We can feel overwhelmed by incidents that really do not matter in the grand scope of reality. And then we get hit with a wakeup call that helps us remember what *really* matters—what *really* should be important to us.

Life will be very different without my friend. I enjoyed Steve's viewpoint on a great number of issues. And, you never had to guess what he was thinking; he told it the way he saw it—he did not believe in using a filter. And yet, there was never anything malicious in what he said. He could, at times, be considered harsh, but he was never trying to hurt anyone. Steve simply knew what he considered right and wrong, and said so. And, I always knew, with Steve, if he had your back you knew you were all set. That was the great thing about him.

The one saving grace in all of this is my faith. I truly believe in the promises of Christ. I truly believe that through Jesus' death and resurrection, my friend continues to live. I know that the pain I feel is the potential of what is now gone: the times we could have or would have shared together; the support from him that was always there. The truth of what is gone is a long list and, really, they are the intangibles of any relationship. I mourn the loss of Steve's presence in my life, but I am also reminded of what Paul wrote to the Corinthians:

"Death is swallowed up in victory.

Where, O death, is your victory?

Where, O death, is your sting?

The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. But thanks be to God who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ."

We can focus on the small things that annoy and frustrate us. It is so easy for that to happen. But today I am reminded, with the death of my friend, of what truly matters—the victory Christ has won for us. It is not the loss of my friend that puts things into perspective, but the hope that arises from my faith in Christ. Steve is not here with me today, but I *will* see him again. That is the promise of Christ's victory and that is what gives true meaning to life.

If you have any questions about anything, please do not hesitate to ask me directly, or send your questions to me at [fr.brian@theholyyood.org](mailto:fr.brian@theholyyood.org).

Please keep me in your prayers.



**From our Communications Director**  
Christine Trznadel

**Yes, He's There!**

I just organized my workspace at home; I've decluttered it and made it a little cozier and more practical. This was after I decluttered and re-organized my under-the-kitchen-sink cabinet; the 2<sup>nd</sup> bathroom cabinets that house my cleaning products; a basket that held MANY pens, pencils, highlighters, and markers; a fairly large pile of paperwork on my kitchen counter; two full bins of winter wear; a collection of books; and even a 'purge' project at work. And, I have a list of additional declutter/reorganize home projects taking up space in my head.

I wonder where all this came from. Why the sudden need to declutter and purge? It has nothing to do with a New Year's resolution, because mine included adding things to my schedule (but things much needed to give my life further meaning). It has everything to do with trying to simplify my life, and unlike a New Year's resolution, I hope I can stick with it for the remainder of my life; but let's just start with a day at a time it is much easier to tackle this way.

Being sick for the entire month of December and being taken care of by others (something I really don't do well), I realized just how fragile life is. Your plans for the far-off or even near future—i.e. tomorrow—can be thrown off the track and send you in an unexpected direction. And one you may not like in the least bit. One that maybe even frightens you to your core. One that causes you to truly rely on God and those He has put in your path at this very moment. And maybe it's for our best. Maybe—just maybe--there is a lesson that our God is trying to teach us. If we have eyes to see, hopefully we can see the positive in what on the surface is a major inconvenience, a total disappointment, and did I say unexpected?

There is a saying I once heard, that has stuck with me: Expectations are pre-meditated resentments. And being a person who tends to place high expectations not only on others, but self, I find this to be so true. And when we expect God to answer our prayers in a certain way, or pave a smooth path for us like the yellow brick road, then maybe we can begin to resent Him too? May this not be me!

Our God is with us every step of the way, ESPECIALLY in those moments when we can't see or feel His presence. But know this... His amazing presence is with us in the midst of major inconveniences, total disappointments, and unexpected answers. May we have the eyes to see.

**From our Senior Priest in Residence**  
Fr. Ray Benoit

**Together We Are the Body of Christ**

Almost every day, we are bombarded by commercials—on television, in the print media, and on the internet—promoting the latest body-changing fad, accompanied by an ironclad guarantee that if we give it a try, we will miraculously achieve the ideal physical shape. It seems that our world is obsessed with the pursuit of 'the body beautiful.' But, as people made *in the image and likeness of God*, we have an innate dignity that goes beyond anything we might achieve in our outward appearance. It is a divine-given dignity that is inherent in us by virtue of our relationship with the One who has created and sustains us in life.

Knowing this truth, it is no surprise that in today's second reading, St. Paul has chosen the image of the body to describe and teach his theology of the Christian identity; that is, who we are as the baptized! Paul could have chosen other images from the family or the community, but he knew that the image of the human body would speak more clearly and symbolically about just who we are in Christ. Just as the body is made up of so many different parts, so each one of us is an important part of the body of Christ—the Church!

We know that when the human body is working well, without aches or pains, we feel fine. We also know that even the smallest discomfort can undermine that feeling of well-being. Something as seemingly insignificant as an ingrown toenail can cause much distress and pain. So it is with the body of Christ, the Church. St. Paul reminds us that *if one part suffers, all the parts suffer with it, just as if one part is honored, all share its joy*. St. Paul is saying that the pains and brokenness of one *within* the Church is the pain and brokenness of *all* the Church.

Today's Gospel is Luke's inauguration of the public ministry of Jesus and the unfolding of his mission; that is, the Lord's favor and blessing would be evident to all and his call to justice and fairness would begin to resonate through the ages. Reflecting on this Gospel, it seems to me we are being reminded that true liberty means more than just political rights or political correctness. It is a recognition of all human dignity and potential.

Recovery of true sight is to envision a world built on the Gospel values of peace and justice, mercy and forgiveness, kindness and generosity, compassion and love for all of God's children. This must be our vision as well! We must work for that vision to be a reality and we must never be satisfied with anything less. The question that each of us must ask ourselves is this: What have I done and what am I willing to do to further this vision?

..Shalom! ..Peace be with you!

*Fr. Ray*



## Mass Intentions

If you would like to request that a Mass be celebrated for a specific intention or person, please call the parish office. A donation of \$10 per intention is requested to be made at the time you schedule your intention.

### St. John the Evangelist

- SAT, JAN 22** 4:00 pm: Sandra "Sonnie" J Martin: Memorial  
**SUN, JAN 23** 9:30 am: Raymond J St Hilaire, Sr: Birthday Memorial  
 12:00 pm: Ita Tah: LIVING INTENTION: Birthday  
 6:00 pm: People of the Parish  
**MON, JAN 24** 9:00 am: Joseph, Alice and Rose Doherty: Memorial  
**TUE, JAN 25** 9:00 am: Margaret Chester: Memorial  
**WED, JAN 26** 9:00 am: Mary Lillian Lavers: 15th Anniversary  
**THU, JAN 27** 9:00 am: Rita Leo: 2nd Anniversary  
**FRI, JAN 28** 9:00 am: For those whose funerals were celebrated at St. John's last month  
**SAT, JAN 29** 4:00 pm: People of the Parish  
**SUN, JAN 30** 9:30 am: Angela O'Keefe: 4th Anniversary

### St. Margaret of Scotland

- SAT, JAN 22** 4:00 pm: Anthony Nobrega: 3rd Anniversary  
**SUN, JAN 23** 7:30 am: Richard J Foley: 19th Anniversary  
 10:00 am: People of the Parish  
**WED, JAN 26** 8:00 am: David M Quinn: 1st Anniversary  
**FRI, JAN 28** 8:00 am: For those whose funerals were celebrated at St. Margaret's last month  
**SAT, JAN 29** 4:00 pm: People of the Parish  
**SUN, JAN 30** 7:30 am: Edna Flowers: Memorial  
 10:00 am: Frances C Moynihan: Memorial

### St. Mary Parish

- SAT, JAN 22** 4:00 pm: William Weir: 20th Anniversary  
**SUN, JAN 23** 7:00 am: People of the Parish  
 11:00 am: Stephen Hood: 1st Anniversary  
**FRI JAN 28** 7:00 am: For those whose funerals were celebrated at St. Mary's last month  
**SAT, JAN 29** 4:00 pm: Gary James Dudek: 1st Anniversary  
**SUN, JAN 30** 7:00 am: Franklin J Boyd: Memorial  
 11:00 am: People of the Parish

## Rose for Life



Is there someone special you'd like to honor? Consider having a rose signifying your intention placed at either St. John or St. Mary, as well as having your intention published in the bulletin. To book a Rose for Life, contact the parish office. The suggested offering is \$5.

This week's St. John Rose for Life:  
**For the Unborn**

This week's St. Mary Rose for Life:  
**For the Unborn**

## St. Mary Altar Flowers



Parishioners are invited to donate a floral arrangement, to be displayed on the altar in memory of, or in honor of, a loved one. The requested donation for an arrangement is \$40. If you would like to donate altar flowers, call the parish office. Please note that we require a 2-week notice for your order.



## St. Margaret Lamps

St. Margaret offers the opportunity to have one of three lamps in the church burn In Memory of a loved one. The stipend is \$25, and the dedication will be published in the weekly bulletin.

## St. Margaret Bells



The steeple bells at St. Margaret toll daily at 12 noon and 6 pm, followed by the ringing of the Angelus bell and 2 hymns. At 3 pm, they play 2 hymns, and 15 minutes prior to each weekend Mass, the bells toll a 'call to worship.' If you would like to dedicate the Ringing of the Bells In Memory/In Honor of someone, please contact the parish offices. The stipend is \$25, and your dedication will be published in the weekly bulletin.

## Funerals Recently Celebrated

May the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.



David Mullane • Monday, January 17 • St. John  
Frank Picanso • Wednesday, January 19 • St. Margaret  
Antonina Keenan • Thursday, January 20 • St. Mary

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**Sandra J. Muldoon  
of North Chelmsford, MA**

Sandra "Sandy" Muldoon, 73, of North Chelmsford, MA passed peacefully on Monday, November 29, 2021 at Anna Jaques Hospital in Newburyport.

Born in Lowell to the late Harry B. Dunsford and late Sophie Gancarz Dunsford, she grew up in the Highlands graduating Lowell High School '66 and Lowell State College '70 with a B.A. in Education.

In her early years, Sandy taught math in the Billerica Public Schools prior to her most important and rewarding job being Mum to her son Michael.

She was a communicant of St. John the Evangelist Church, North Chelmsford; where she shared her love for the Lord with others. She generously served her parish in various ministries such as Wine, Women and Song and the Chinese Bible study group.

Sandy enjoyed sharing a glass of pinot grigio with friends, shopping at yard sales, having a coffee soda or anything coffee, Neil Diamond and the color blue.

"Grandy Sandy" loved spending time with her 3 little munchkins Lauren, Erin and Andrew. She loved the beach and spent many summers in Rye, NH with her family. She was most recently an active vendor at The Village Consignment, North Chelmsford.

She is survived by son Michael Muldoon and his wife Monica, Hampton, NH, grandchildren Lauren, Erin, and



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Andrew Muldoon, sisters Jo-Anne Stukas and husband Arthur, Rochester, NH, Barbara Dunsford and Patrick Healey, Portsmouth NH, Marianne Dunsford, Haverhill, MA, and several nieces and nephews. She is also survived by the multitude of loving friends with whom she shared her unforgettable smile.

The family wishes to extend heartfelt thanks to the staff at Haverhill Crossings and Anna Jaques Hospital.

Sandy's visiting hours were on Thursday, December 2, 2021 from 4 to 7 P.M. Funeral was Friday, December 3, 2021 at 8:00 AM from the DOLAN FUNERAL HOME 106 MIDDLESEX ST. CHELMSFORD, with a funeral Mass at 9:00 A.M. at St. John the Evangelist Church in North Chelmsford, MA. A Burial and Celebration of life will occur in the spring at St. Casmir Cemetery in Pelham, NH. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made in her name to St John the Evangelist Church <https://theholyyrood.org/> or a charity of your choice. Online guest book is available at [www.dolanfuneralhome.com](http://www.dolanfuneralhome.com). **ARRANGEMENTS BY DOLAN FUNERAL HOME 978-256-4040.**

