



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 30, 2022

Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

...they were amazed at the gracious words  
that came from His mouth.

-Luke 4: 22a



## 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 31

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, February 1

LIVEVIEW Chaplet of Divine Mercy • 3 pm • St. John  
Confession • 4:30 - 5:30 pm • St. Margaret of Scotland  
St. Margaret Choir Rehearsal • 7 - 9 pm • SMS Church Choir Loft  
LIVEVIEW Rosary • 7 pm • St. Mary

## Wednesday, February 2

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  
God, Pizza and Beer • 7 pm • SJE OPC  
LIVEVIEW Rosary • 7 pm • St. Mary

## Thursday, February 3

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, February 4

Knitting and Crocheting • 2 - 5 pm • SM Parish Hall  
LIVEVIEW Chaplet of Divine Mercy • 3 pm • St. John  
First Friday Adoration • 3 - 9 pm • SJE OPC Adoration Chapel  
LIVEVIEW Rosary • 7 pm • St. Mary

## Saturday, February 5

Saturday Men's Group • 7 - 8:45 am • SJE Linehan  
SMS Prayer Shawl Ministry • 9 am - 12 pm • SMS Sacred Heart Hall  
FF First Reconciliations • 9 - 10:30 am • St. Mary Church  
FF First Reconciliations • 1 - 2:30 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

Hand Bell Choir Rehearsal • 2 - 3:30 pm • St. Mary Choir Loft

## 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  
frray@theholyrood.org | ext 115

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  
pfiricano@theholyrood.org | ext 220

Tina Sousa, FINANCE & FACILITY SUPPORT  
tsousa@theholyrood.org | ext 219

## Family Faith Formation

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Lynn Anne LaDuke, FAITH FORMATION COORDINATOR  
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Elaine Kindler, FAITH FORMATION COORDINATOR  
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## Administration

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Rae Russo, PART-TIME FUNERAL COORDINATOR  
rae@theholyrood.org | (978) 306-5882

Donna Gambon, PART-TIME ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT  
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## Facilities

Dan Heider, FACILITIES MANAGER  
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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 McDonald (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



You may have noticed new signage at St. Margaret of Scotland Church. And you will soon see new, matching signage at both St. John the Evangelist and St. Mary as well, thanks

to a generous donation made by St. Margaret Parishioner Mary Scanlon. This donation was made in loving memory and in honor of her late husband, James D. Scanlon, who, in March of 2019, "went to the House of the Lord," as beautifully stated in one of many condolences.

Mary approached Fr. Brian last July about her desire to fund the design and installation of new signs to be placed at all three of our parishes, giving a tangible sign of our unification as the newly-formed Holy Rood Collaborative. Her desire to bring our families together speaks loudly of the life that she and James shared, as well as her deep and abiding love for him.



James experienced many successes in his lifetime... receiving a number of honors while serving in the US Army at Pleiku during the Vietnam war; earning a Masters in Taxation 14 years after graduating with his BS in Accounting from Bentley; and enjoying a long career in his well-loved field of accounting as a CPA. But many would say that his biggest success was his family; Mary and Jim raised three daughters: Karen, (who was baptized at St. Margaret of Scotland), Laura and Susan (both baptized at St. John the Evangelist), whom they raised in the faith that they daily lived. As their family grew through marriages and grandchildren, so did Jim's heart.

You will also hear many say that it was Jim's deep devotion to, and great love of, his Catholic faith that gave his life direction and purpose. He exemplified the Christian virtues of kindness, compassion, generosity, and love to all he met. His influence of faithful and charitable living can be seen in the lives of those he left behind.



tuesday night BIBLE study

## Ephesians: Discover your Inheritance

- Tuesday Evenings: 7 - 8:45 pm for 8 weeks
- February 22/ March 1, 8, 15, 22, 29/ April 5, 12
- St. Mary PC Conference Room 1 or via ZOOM
- **Register by February 19th**

Course Materials are to be ordered directly through Ascension Press. If you want to receive in time for the start of this study, we suggest ordering your materials **NO LATER THAN February 14th.**

**REGISTRATION**  
information

To review, register and order materials for this study, visit our website at

[www.theholyrood.org/bible-study](http://www.theholyrood.org/bible-study)

The advantages and appeal of a Catholic School education has never been more prevalent than now. With the uncertainty of how public schools will be structured next year, families need reassurance that a quality education is accessible. The Academy of Notre Dame in Tyngsboro offers full day, co-educational, in-person learning for Pre-Kindergarten three-year-olds through grade 12 with an emphasis on rigorous academics. NDA provides a foundation of education that encourages young minds to think critically, embrace their faith, and take on academic challenges.

Our faculty and staff are taking every precaution and safety measure to keep our students healthy. Enforced social distancing, mask usage, and strict cleaning protocols ensure that we continue full time, in-person learning. We encourage you to visit our website and to schedule a tour with our Director of Admissions, Mrs. Charlotte Kelly. Tours are offered each weekday between 8 am and 2 pm and are by appointment only. To schedule a tour, please call the Admissions Office at (978) 649-7611, ext 351.



# Rood Collaborative community

Join us in congratulating Fr. Colletti as he celebrates his



60th anniversary  
of ordination to the priesthood

This coming Wednesday, February 2nd, Fr. Colletti will celebrate this milestone anniversary. Unfortunately, due to restrictions that the continuing pandemic places upon us, we will be unable to gather in-person until the Spring. Until then, please feel free to shower him with cards and well-wishes.



Fr. Arnold Colletti  
St. Mary Rectory  
25 North Road . Chelmsford, MA 01824

**LAST CALL**

To reserve your spot for the upcoming Holy Land Pilgrimage!

Join Deacon John, Bishop Hennessey and Fr. Corey on a ...

## 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 and Wine & Cheese
- Restaurant on rooftop of Notre Dame

Book your trip today!

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

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!

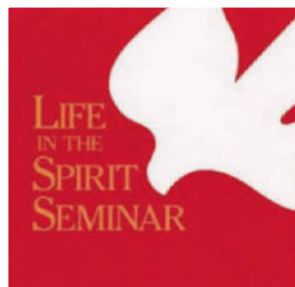
The Life in the Spirit Seminars are designed as an introduction to a life lived in the power of the Holy Spirit. They provide an opportunity for people to find out more about that life, and to be helped in taking the first steps of a new relationship with the Lord.

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.



## ST. JOHN'S Beautification Offering

This offering funds the beautification of our Altar. Your voluntary donation can be accompanied by the request that it be "In Memory/Appreciation Of", or "For the Intentions Of" someone.

**Pietro DeVita  
Bill Fadden  
Paul Fadden**

**Elizabeth T Harrington  
Michael F Harrington  
Barbara A Regan  
Betty and Al Sherman**

# 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 22nd/23rd	Fiscal Year-To-Date January 23rd	Fiscal YTD Average/Week
Offertory Required to cover Budgeted Expenses	\$15,000	\$450,000	\$15,000
Actual Received	\$16,463	\$426,493	\$14,216
<b>Shortfall/ Overage</b>	\$1,463	<b>-\$23,507</b>	<b>-\$784</b>

ST. JOHN WEEKLY OFFERTORY	Weekend of January 22nd/23rd	Fiscal Year-To-Date January 23rd	Fiscal YTD Average/Week
Offertory Required to cover Budgeted Expenses	\$9,500	\$285,000	\$9,500
Actual Received	\$7,229	\$286,535	\$9,551
<b>Shortfall/ Overage</b>	<b>-\$2,271</b>	\$1,535	\$51

ST. MARGARET WEEKLY OFFERTORY	Weekend of January 22nd/23rd	Fiscal Year-To-Date January 23rd	Fiscal YTD Average/Week
Offertory Required to cover Budgeted Expenses	\$5,550	\$166,500	\$5,550
Actual Received	\$3,271	\$128,674	\$4,289
<b>Shortfall/ Overage</b>	<b>-\$2,279</b>	<b>-\$37,826</b>	<b>-\$1,261</b>

### GRAND ANNUAL AS OF JANUARY 22ND

	Goal	Raised	%age of Goal
St. Mary	\$90,000	\$52,741	58.60%
St. John	\$78,000	\$25,099	32.18%
St. Margaret	\$85,000	\$32,011	37.66%

THANK  
you

FOR YOUR SUPPORT



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Shaun Bradley  
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# Family Faith Formation Program

Elaine Kindler  
Faith Formation Coordinator  
ekindler@theholyrood.org

Lynn Anne LaDuke  
Faith Formation Coordinator  
lynnanne@theholyrood.org

Uniting the Heart of the Church with the



Heart of the Home

## GRADES 1-6 SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 6

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

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

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

## SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 13

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

## CLASS SCHEDULE

### FIRST EUCHARIST PREP SUNDAY, JANUARY 30

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

### SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 27

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

### CONFIRMATION I SUNDAY, JANUARY 30

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

### SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 13

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

### CONFIRMATION II SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 6 & 27

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



### SACRAMENTAL PAPERWORK

Due Sunday,  
February 27

## GRADES 7-8 SUNDAY, JANUARY 30

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

## SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 27

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

*faith*

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

**PREPARE  
TO LEARN  
AWESOME!  
NEW STUFF**

### ALL FAMILIES...

should Pray together daily, Attend Mass weekly, Attend Class/Disciple Group Monthly, & Complete one Deep Dive per Month

### GRADE 1-6 STUDENTS WILL BE LEARNING HOW...

to fully participate in Mass by using all five senses.

### GRADE 7&8 STUDENTS WILL BE COMPLETING...

Altaration: Session 5: The "why's" behind the "what's?"

### CONFIRMATION I STUDENTS WILL BE COMPLETING...

Chosen Lesson 7: Where am I going?

### CONFIRMATION II STUDENTS WILL BE COMPLETING...

Chosen Lesson 18: Are you Talking to Me?

Chosen Lesson 19: Who is Mary?

Chosen Lesson 20: What Would Jesus do?

## FEBRUARY DEEP DIVE

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



On January 24th, we celebrated the feast day of Saint Francis de Sales. I was introduced to his life and his spiritual insights when I was in the seminary, and in many ways it has changed my life. Most of us, if we are

honest, tend to compare ourselves to others. On top of that, many times we come up with a negative evaluation of self in our comparisons. When we see that we do not match up to the other in what they are able to accomplish, we can truly feel inferior. Our negative feelings can manifest themselves in different ways towards the other, such as: jealousy, anger, bitterness, and the like. Our reactions to our feelings of inferiority can come across as being disrespectful and nasty.

These same feelings can manifest themselves in our spiritual life. Just think about how often people find reasons for not emulating the life of a saint. We look at the life of a saint and think that it is not a life we can possibly live because it is beyond our capabilities. We 'throw in the towel' and tell ourselves that the difficult aspects of Christian life are not for me. The truth and the reality are that we are all called to live the Christian life to its fullest demands. But how are we called to do that?

It is here that the teachings of Saint Francis de Sales can come to our aid. Saint Francis wrote a truly powerful work over 400 years ago that still speaks to Christian life today. What follows is taken from the Office of Readings for Saint Francis de Sales. He says it better than I can.

"When God the Creator made all things, He commanded the plants to bring forth fruit, each according to its own kind; He likewise commanded Christians, who are the living plants of his Church, to bring forth the fruits of devotion, each one in accord with his character, his station and his calling.

I say that devotion must be practiced in different ways by the nobleman and by the working man, by the servant and by the prince, by the widow, by the unmarried girl and by the married woman. But even this distinction is not sufficient; for the practice of devotion must be adapted to the strength, to the occupation, and to the duties of each one in particular.

Tell me, please, my Philothea, whether it is proper for a bishop to want to lead a solitary life like a Carthusian; or for married people to be no more concerned than a Capuchin about increasing their income; or for a working man to spend his whole day in church like a religious; or, on the other hand, for a religious to be constantly exposed like a bishop to all the events and circumstances that bear on the needs of our neighbor. Is not this sort of devotion ridiculous, unorganized and intolerable? Yet this absurd error occurs very frequently, but in no way does true devotion, my Philothea, destroy anything at all. On the contrary, it perfects and fulfills all things. In fact, if it ever works against, or is inimical

to, anyone's legitimate station and calling, then it is very definitely false devotion.

The bee collects honey from flowers in such a way as to do the least damage or destruction to them, and he leaves them whole, undamaged and fresh, just as he found them. True devotion does still better. Not only does it not injure any sort of calling or occupation, it even embellishes and enhances it.

Moreover, just as every sort of gem, cast in honey, becomes brighter and more sparkling, each according to its color, so each person becomes more acceptable and fitting in his own vocation when he sets his vocation in the context of devotion. Through devotion, your family cares become more peaceful, mutual love between husband and wife becomes more sincere, the service we owe to the prince becomes more faithful, and our work, no matter what it is, becomes more pleasant and agreeable."

What I take from this reading is simple. Each of us is called to live a spiritual life. It is parse and parcel of what it means to be human. We are called to have a real relationship with God, for we are created to be in relationship with Him. However, we are not *all* called to do it in the same way.

In the way of life you are called to live, your vocation has a large part to do with your spiritual life. We are never called to look at how others are living their spiritual life and then compare ourselves to them. We can learn from the saints but we should not seek to completely emulate them. The life of any particular saint will be different from yours. Therefore, yes, look to their life for inspiration, but do not see your spiritual life as somehow a failure if it does not match up to theirs.

Furthermore, we must realize that our spiritual life will change over time. A young woman who is not married will have different expectations than a married woman. The spiritual life of a woman who is married without children will be different than the woman who is married with children. It continues that the life of a woman with grown children will yet be different. What we are doing in our lives and how we are called to live our lives will ultimately impact how we are called to be in relationship with God. As such, our spiritual life will change over time.

Ultimately, there is no perfect devout life. Rather, we are on a journey with the Lord and in that journey, we will encounter God in many different ways. The power of Christian life is not found in its uniformity but in its diversity of expression. We can all learn things from each other, but we are not called to do everything exactly the same. Let us then seek to make this journey in whatever way God is calling us to.

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 Pastoral Associate

Sr. Lori Fleming

Take time to pray for the sick and all caregivers.

*“Be merciful,  
even as your Father is merciful”* -Luke 6:36

This year on February 11th, we observe the 30<sup>th</sup> World Day of the Sick. This special day was initiated in 1992 by St. John Paul II, to encourage people to pray for and to be attentive to those suffering from illness, and also for their caregivers.

In choosing *“Be merciful, even as your Father is merciful”* (Lk 6:36) as the theme for this year, Pope Francis encourages us:

- to look to the source of all healing—God, our Creator, whom we know in relationship as a merciful Father.
- to acknowledge the witness of Jesus’ merciful outreach to all—the mission he entrusts to each of us through our baptism to proclaim the good news and to heal the sick.
- to remind healthcare givers that the dignity and responsibility of their profession allows them to use their hands to touch the suffering flesh of Christ—with intent, as a sign of the merciful hands of the Father.
- to see healthcare facilities as “houses of mercy”—a focus on caring for the sick and their families, protecting and caring for all life, even the most fragile, from beginning until natural end.
- to recognize our call to provide spiritual attention through presence and proximity—to offer God’s closeness, his blessing and his word, as well as the celebration of the sacraments.
- to remind everyone that closeness to the sick is their pastoral care; visiting the sick is an invitation that Christ addresses to all his disciples. How many sick and elderly people are living at home and waiting for a visit!

Pope Francis’ Prayer: Dear brothers and sisters, to the intercession of Mary, Health of the Infirm, I entrust all the sick and their families. United with Christ, who bears the pain of the world, may they find meaning, consolation and trust. I pray for healthcare workers everywhere, that, rich in mercy, they may offer patients, together with suitable care, their fraternal closeness.

May each of us take time to pray and to plan ahead to observe this World Day of the Sick, with an intentional choice to show merciful care to the sick and to all care givers.

## From our Permanent Deacon

Deacon Frank Perez de Alderete

What is Love?

Today’s second reading picks up where last week’s ended. Paul continues to talk about the Gifts of the Spirit (or Fruits of the Spirit). He’s addressing a kerfuffle in Corinth among the new Christians who were judging each other based on the spiritual gift they were given. We’d probably say that that’s a good problem to have, where the community is so filled with the Spirit that they are actually arguing about it. Paul brings the argument to a close by reminding everyone that none of it means anything if you don’t have love.

But what is love? In English, the word “love” means a lot of things. We can love coffee, we can love our pet, we can love our spouse, we can love our kids, we can love God. We know, even without thinking about it, that “love” has different meanings depending on how we use it. So how is Paul using it?

Greek has many words which we translate to ‘love’, so if we look to the word that Paul wrote (*agape*), we find that it is the selfless kind of love, the kind of love that God has for us and that we should return to God, and the kind of love we’re supposed to extend to each other. What Paul is telling the Corinthians is that if we don’t love one another as God loves us, nothing else matters. For the Corinthians, this meant an end to jealousy over the Gifts of the Spirit. But what does it mean for us?

Paul wants to make sure that the people of the Corinthian Church understand what that kind of love really is, so he proceeds to list the attributes of this love. There’s a reason this passage is so popular for weddings; it’s a reminder of the responsibilities of love: patience, kindness, humility, selflessness, slow to anger, faithfulness, truthfulness, and hopefulness. It’s a poetic passage, but it’s also a great reminder to all of us, especially when we’re challenged with situations where it’s hard to love someone.

Paul enumerates all these characteristics because he understands that love—this special kind of love—is at the very core of being a Christian. Without it, everything else is meaningless; love is that important. Paul is telling the Corinthian Church—and us as well—how we can express the love God has for us to each other. In fact, a friend of mine noted that if you replace the word “love” in this passage with “God” it helps us understand just how profoundly God loves us, not just in a theoretical way, but in practical ways. Most importantly, God, and love, never fail.



## 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 when you schedule your intention.

### St. John the Evangelist

<b>SAT, JAN 29</b>	4:00 pm:	People of the Parish
<b>SUN, JAN 30</b>	9:30 am:	Angela O'Keeffe: 4th Anniversary
	6:00 pm:	LIVING INTENTION: Healing for Don Lussier
<b>MON, JAN 31</b>	9:00 am:	LIVING INTENTION: Healing for George Kadarian
<b>WED, FEB 2</b>	9:00 am:	LIVING INTENTION: Fr. Colletti 60th Anniversary of Ordination
<b>FRI, FEB 4</b>	9:00 am:	LIVING INTENTION: Healing for Maura Menichini
<b>SAT, FEB 5</b>	4:00 pm:	Debi Leavis: 3rd Anniversary Gamache Family: Memorial
<b>SUN, FEB 6</b>	9:30 am:	Stephen Gadbois: 1st Anniversary Frances and John Shaughnessy: Memorial Mauricio Valencia: Memorial
	6:00 pm:	People of the Parish

### St. Margaret of Scotland

<b>SAT, JAN 29</b>	4:00 pm:	People of the Parish
<b>SUN, JAN 30</b>	7:30 am:	Edna Flowers: Memorial
	10:00 am:	Frances C Moynihan: Memorial
<b>WED, FEB 2</b>	9:00 am:	LIVING INTENTION: Fr. Colletti 60th Anniversary of Ordination
<b>SAT, FEB 5</b>	4:00 pm:	Maurice Bergeron: 9th Anniversary
<b>SUN, FEB 6</b>	7:30 am:	People of the Parish
	10:00 am:	Edward Bucky Boehm: 6th Anniversary Daniel Boehm Sullivan: 23rd Anniversary Mary Boehm: 16th Anniversary Daniel Neveux: 33rd Anniversary Roland Neveux: 4th Anniversary Jerry Patel: Memorial

### St. Mary Parish

<b>SAT, JAN 29</b>	4:00 pm:	Gary James Dudek: 1st Anniversary
<b>SUN, JAN 30</b>	7:00 am:	Franklin J Boyd: Memorial
	11:00 am:	People of the Parish
<b>MON, JAN 31</b>	7:00 am:	Robin Mullin: Memorial
<b>WED, FEB 2</b>	9:00 am:	LIVING INTENTION: Fr. Colletti 60th Anniversary of Ordination
<b>SAT, FEB 5</b>	4:00 pm:	Raymond Anstiss, Sr: 12th Anniversary LIVING INTENTION: Happy 90th Birthday Paul Faber
<b>SUN, FEB 6</b>	7:00 am:	People of the Parish
	11:00 am:	Michael Slattery: 8th Anniversary Patrick Slattery: 7th Anniversary Katherine Taylor: 2nd Anniversary

## 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.

## 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.

## Funeral Recently Celebrated

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



Michael J. LaValle  
Tuesday, January 25 • St. John

Barbara White  
Friday, January 28 • St. John

Patricia Kidder  
Friday, January 28 • St. Mary

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-Mother Teresa  
*The Parlee Family*

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Robert Joseph Ogden, 82, of Dunstable, MA died Tuesday, December 7, 2021 at home surrounded by his two sons.

He was predeceased by his late wife Ann O'Neill, who died on May 9, 2000 and also his companion of 20 years Judith F. Pigeon.

Born in Lowell, he was the son of the late Harry Ogden of MA and Anna (O'Brien) Ogden of Manchester, NH. He graduated from Lowell High School with the class of 1957. He received a Bachelor of Science degree in Criminal Science from Lowell Tech Institute.

He proudly served with the U.S. Coast Guard. He retired from the Lowell Police Department in 1980 as a Lieutenant after serving for 16 years.

Bob was a communicant of St. John the Evangelist Church of North Chelmsford, MA.

He enjoyed hunting, fishing, gardening, and raising chickens and turkeys.

He is survived by sister Iris Carr of Lowell, son John 'Jack' Ogden of Greenville, NH, son David J.

Ogden and wife Ann of Billerica, MA, granddaughter Allyson Ogden and grandson David 'Kenny' Ogden, great-grandson Jacob Ogden-Delponte, and many nieces and nephews.

He was the brother of the late Richard Ogden, Frank Ogden, and Shirley Halligan.

Bob's visiting hours were Sunday, December 12, 2021 from 1 to 4 P.M. Funeral was Monday, December 13, 2021 at 10 A.M. from the DOLAN FUNERAL HOME, 106 MIDDLESEX ST. CHELMSFORD, with a funeral Mass at 11A.M. at St. John the Evangelist Church in North Chelmsford. Burial in Central Cemetery, Dunstable. Memorials may be made in his name to the Merrimack Valley Hospice, 360 Merrimack St, Suite 425, Lawrence, MA. 01843. Online guest book is available at [www.dolanfuneralhome.com](http://www.dolanfuneralhome.com). **ARRANGEMENTS BY DOLAN FUNERAL HOME 978-256-4040.**

