

Parish of St. Mary

Worship Schedule

Lord's Day Mass:

Saturday Vigil: 4:00 PM (Lee) 5:30 PM (Otis)

Sunday: 8 & 11 AM (Lee) & 9:30 AM (Stockbridge)

Weekday Mass: (Lee) - 7:00 AM

Holy Days of Obligation (please see inside)

Parish Offices

40 Academy Street / Lee, MA 01238

Hours: Tues, Wed, Thurs 9am-12pm or by appt

Telephone (413)243-0275

Fax: (413)243-1926

Faith Formation Office (413)243-1079, Ext. 8

Email: icsmchurch@gmail.com

Website: www.stmarylos.com

Prayer Line (413)243-1523 (Vicki)

Parish Pastoral Staff

Fr. Brian F. McGrath - *Pastor*

Fr. John Duy Anh Le - *Parochial Vicar*

Deacon Jim McElroy - *Permanent Deacon*

Deacon Bob Digan - *Deacon Emeritus*

Mrs. Karen T. Vidoli - *Office Manager*

Mrs. Katherine Murray - *Faith Formation Coordinator*

Mrs. Fernanda Haywood - *Bookkeeper*

Ms. Sandy Cummings - *Music Director (Lee)*

Ms. Susan Aery - *Music Director (Otis)*

Mr. Art DeVlyder - *Music Director (Stockbridge)*

Mrs. Colleen Free - *Youth Ministry*

Mr. Charles Houff - *Pastoral Council*

Mr. Richard Brittain - *Administration & Finance*

Mrs. Brenda Bianco - *Child Advocate*

Mr. Jeffrey Simmons / Mr. Dion Hall - *Maintenance*

Pastoral Council

Charles Houff
Chairperson

Brenda Bianco

Joe Cox

Verna Houff

Richard Lacey

Carol Lombardo

Lynda Newton

Sheila Viale

Kate Murray

Finance Council

Richard Brittain
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David Galisa

Fred Keator

Bob Kelly

Richard Lacey

John Masten

Cathie Sparks

Thom Swift

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St. Mary's School

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Celebrating 135 years of Catholic education!

115 Orchard Street — Lee, MA 01238

Telephone (413) 243-1079 | Fax 243-1022

www.StMarysLee.org

Mrs. Jennifer Masten | *Principal*

Mrs. Linda Winters | *School Secretary*

Mrs. Gina Reiners | *School Board Chair*



St. Mary, Mother of the Church

140 Main Street

Lee

St. Mary of the Lakes

72 North Main Road

Otis

St. Joseph Church

11 Elm Street

Stockbridge

One parish serving God and Neighbor in three worship sites.



*John answered them,
"I baptize with water;
but there is one among you whom you do not
recognize,
the one who is coming after me,
whose sandal strap I am not worthy to untie."*

Parish of St Mary

Please pray for the men and women who have been activated to serve our nation, all our police officers, firefighters, first responders, health care workers, research scientists and essential services workers.

Let us also pray for our departed brothers and sisters, especially those who have died due to the pandemic, anyone who has passed away recently, for those we miss so much.

Fanny Mohl, Gertrude Fresia, Ottavio "Spike" Biasin, Marlene Wilson, Mary Simeone

May they rest in the loving arms of God in heaven. AMEN.

Mass Intentions for This Week

Sat. 12/ 12	4:00 pm	† Albert & Madeline Coles and Michael Heat, <i>by Mary Ann Simmons</i>
	5:30 pm	† Art Riordan, <i>by Paul and Gail McDonald</i>
Sun. 12/13	8:00 am	† Joseph F. Sorrentino, <i>by Bill and Bobbie Anne Salinetti</i>
	9:30 am	† Helen Pigott, (5th anniv.) <i>by her husband Chris</i>
	11:00 am	† Ann Collins (3rd Anniversary), <i>by her family</i>
Mon. 12/14	7:00 am	† Joseph Sorrentino, <i>by Peter Corkling</i>
		♥ Dan O'Neil & Ida Ibarra—Happy Birthday, <i>by Vickie O'Neil</i>
Tue. 12/15	7:00 am	† Antoinette Ubertini, <i>by her daughter Diana</i>
Wed. 12/16	7:00 am	† Souls in Purgatory
Thur. 12/17	7:00 am	† Ed Rollinger (32rd Anniversary), <i>by Tom Rollinger</i>
Fri. 12/18	7:00 am	† Josephine Ragusa (16th Anniversary), <i>by her family</i>
Sat. 12/19	4:00 pm	† Peter + Dawn Simmons, <i>by Mary Ann Simmons</i>
	5:30 pm	† Deceased of our Parish Family
Sun. 12/20	8:00 am	† George O'Brien, <i>by his family</i>
	9:30 am	†
	11:00 am	† Jackie Abbott (5th Anniversary), <i>by her family</i>

Call the rectory (243-0275) to have Mass said for your intention.

The Candles this Week

Sanctuary:

Grotto Lamps:

Oratory Lamps: Elaine Thomas

Candles may be reserved by calling the rectory at 243-0275

Ministers on the Altar

Sat. 12/19 3:00 pm **Confessions:** Fr. Duy

4:00 pm (Lee): Fr. Duy

E.M.: MaryAnn Simmons, Tom Rollinger

Lector: Tom Rollinger

5:30 pm (Otis): Fr. Brian

E.M.: Carol Lombardo

Lector: Logan Fedor

Sun. 12/20 8:00 am (Lee): Fr. Duy

E.M.: Ann O'Brien, Roger Scheurer

Lector: Hilary Walker

A.S.s: Kara Curtin

9:30 am (Stockbridge): Fr. Brian w/Dec Jim

Lector: Rob Kirschmann

11:00 am (Lee): Fr. Duy

E.M.: Julie Choi, Chad Klapes

Lector: Marlene Morris

Weekly Parishioner Contributions

12/02/20 - 12/08/20

At Masses: \$2,285

Mailed/Dropped Off: \$3,809

Online Giving: \$968



Special Collections: Retirement Fund for Religious (12/13), Christmas (12/25)

Readings for the Week of December 13th, 2020

3rd Sunday of Advent: *Is 61:1-2a, 10-11/Lk 1:46-48, 49-50, 51-54 /1 Thes 5:16-24/Jn 1:6-8, 19-28*

Monday, St. John of the Cross: *Nm 24:2-7, 15-17a/Ps 25/Mt 21:23-27*

Tuesday: *Zep 3:1-2, 9-13/Ps 34/Mt 21:28-32*

Wednesday: *Is 45:6b-8, 18, 21c-25/Ps 85/Lk 7:18b-23*

Thursday: *Gn 49:2, 8-10/Ps 72/Mt 1:1-17*

Friday: *Jer 23:5-8/Ps 72/Mt 1:18-25*

Saturday: *Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a/Ps 71/Lk 1:5-25*

4th Sunday of Advent: *2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16/Ps 89:2-3, 4-5, 27, 29 [2a]/ Rom 16:25-27/Lk 1:26-3*



December 13th, 3rd Sunday of Advent

We are a Eucharistic community, finding strength in Jesus and His Church by living both Word and Sacrament. We minister to the needs of the People of God through Worship and living out the Gospel and the Teachings of the Roman Catholic Church.

Rectory Office Hours are Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 9:00 am to Noon. Please wear a mask.

Registration: Our parish census helps us keep track of who is a member of the parish. It is how we send parishioners the Catholic Mirror and parish mailings. If you want to be registered with us, simply fill in the Census Form (found at the entrances of the church or on our website) or stop by the rectory.

Baptisms take place at the request of the family. In preparation, parents are asked to complete one class. Contact the rectory for additional information

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament Will take place in the Main Church Mon. - Fri. 7 AM - 12 Noon
The Oratory is closed until further notice

The Sacrament of Reconciliation & The Anointing of the Sick is offered every Saturday from 3:00-3:30 **outside at the grotto of St. Mary's, Lee**. These sacraments may be received any time by appointment.

Sick or Homebound: Kindly inform the Rectory if you or someone you know would like a visit at home, hospital or nursing home. You've come to church for all those years, now let us bring church to you.

Marriage: Congratulations to our newly engaged. Please contact the rectory to begin the process of preparation. The preparation can take up to a year. God's grace lasts all the days of your life.

Holy Orders: If you feel the call to religious life or a vocation to the diaconate or priesthood; contact Fr. Brian or Fr. Duy at the rectory or the diocesan Vocations Directors, Fr. Michael Wood and Fr. David Darcy; 413-739-0456, ext. 4

email: vocations@diospringfield.org

Scripture Meditation - December 13, 2020

Did you ever stop and realize that there is no earthly gain that can ever really satisfy us? Think of winning the Lotto. On this side of the winning ticket, it's all about the money, the new car, house, vacations, bank accounts, and infinite pleasures. The possibility of acquiring all of these earthly securities brings us back again and again to the purchase of a ticket. Then, one day we win! Our dreams are fulfilled, and happiness is on the horizon. Then one day, we wake up and realize that nothing has really changed, and I am not as satisfied as I thought I was or would be. I find myself living in my incompleteness and with my profound sorrow and grief. I did not find joy.

Glimpses of joy are possible but not by material means. They are brought to us through incredible experiences of connection that bring us face to face with real and authentic faith, hope, and love. And, they are glimpses and do not last. The moment we find ourselves looking back at them, they are gone, and we find ourselves remembering the moment in memory. To carry joy within us is to realize that it is not something I create, manufacture or even acquire. It is not able to be purchased. It is a gift. My need for joy mirrors my need for eternity, for a Creator who has a claim on the very essence of who I am and desires a home within me. As C. S. Lewis discovered, joy is a surprise that speaks to my very soul and is given as gift by the God who loves me.

The beauty of Advent is found in discovering the beauty of the gift of joy. God has visited his people for no other reason than to show them where and how to find joy! All of our human and earthly joy experiences are always only glimpses. They never satisfy us, sustain us or fulfill us. It is only God who is the joy of my soul. Real, Divine experiences of joy catch us off guard, make us stop and become aware, bring a feeling of awe and rightness and have an eternal Otherness about them. Nothing created by humans can ever come close to this. We probably will not fully realize the truth of all of this until we actually meet God face to face in heaven one day. Then, in that sacred moment when our hearts leap for joy we will understand what we have been tirelessly searching for all along. Intense gratitude will most surely follow.

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I pray Advent is finding each of you at peace in your hearts and homes. The faith formation students have been so adaptable this year with their response to our zoom format. I am so grateful at how attentive they are and how much they share each week. I know all of our catechists are inspired by their words and their grace.

If you have a chance, please check out the family Advent resources that went out. There are so many great activity ideas, large and small. I have found it to be so helpful in making Advent meaningful for my children and myself. If you need it resent or are a parishioner who would like a digital copy, please reach out at stmaryleccd@gmail.com.

Please continue to pray for all parish students and for our Sacramental preparation classes who are growing in their faith every day.

Our First Reconciliation took place on December 12th at 9am. Ms. Pinsonneault and Ms. Driscoll have done a wonderful job preparing their students for this special Sacrament.

The 2021 faith formation schedule will be out before Christmas. We will continue to use zoom as our format. Thank you all for your flexibility, dedication and patience throughout the year.

Joyfully in Christ, Katie Murray

12/13: 9:15 am Class via Zoom

Then Christmas Break until the New Year - GOD BLESS YOU!

One Parish Serving through Three Churches, Two Cemeteries and Our School



ST. MARY'S CEMETERY RECORD IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

As many of you have experienced when calling into the rectory to get information regarding grave sites and location of loved ones at St. Mary's Cemetery, our cemetery records are old and tired and desperately need to be brought into the electronic age. We have been working with cemetery software companies that offer cloud based software as well as Google Map, pin point location services for burial locations. As is often the case, the cost for the software at approximately \$15,000 is a bit daunting and we could use your help.

To donate towards this project, please make out a check to St. Mary's Cemetery "cemetery software" in the memo line.

One challenge we will have after purchasing the software will be manual entry of existing cemetery records. If you are interested in volunteering for the data entry phase of this project, please contact Karen at the rectory.

CHRISTMAS is coming! We have no idea if our Masses will be full or very empty. So we are instituting a reservation system for Christmas Eve and Day Masses. The schedule is below. Please email your reservation to lscm-church@gmail.com. If you cannot email, call during rectory hours (Tue, Wed & Thur, 9 am - 12 Noon). A third option is that we hope to have sign-up sheets on the weekend before Christmas at each church to take in-person reservations. To make a reservation you must leave your name, an email address, phone number & number of seats you want reserved. We will be taking reservations based on our occupancy limits (max of 40% capacity) and distancing restrictions (COVID bubbles are 6 feet apart with the pew and between pews). Make your reservations now!

Christmas Eve 3:00 pm at the School | 4:00 pm at SMC | 5:30 pm at SMC

Christmas Day 8:00 am SMC | 9:30 am at SML & STJ | 11 am at SMC

Question: Are Catholics obligated to attend Mass each Sunday, or receive Communion each Sunday?

Answer: The questions about Mass attendance and the reception of Holy Communion are clearly outlined in what are traditionally called the "Precepts" of the Church. These specific teachings are intended to stand alongside the Ten Commandments as fundamental practices for Catholics and are outlined in the Code of Canon Law. The obligations related to Mass attendance and receiving Communion are outlined in the first and third precepts, which we find quoted in the Catechism of the Catholic Church (no. 2042):

The first precept ("You shall attend Mass on Sundays and holy days of obligation and rest from servile labor") requires the faithful to sanctify the day commemorating the Resurrection of the Lord as well as the principal liturgical feasts honoring the mysteries of the Lord, the Blessed Virgin Mary, and the saints; in the first place, by participating in the Eucharistic celebration, in which the Christian community is gathered, and by resting from those works and activities which could impede such a sanctification of these days.

The third precept ("You shall receive the sacrament of the Eucharist at least during the Easter season") guarantees as a minimum the reception of the Lord's Body and Blood in connection with the Paschal feasts, the origin and center of the Christian liturgy.

Rather than seeing these as obligations that are simply to be fulfilled out of a sense of duty, Pope Saint John Paul II reminds us of the grace that is made available to us when we gather for Sunday celebrations of the Eucharist: "Sunday is the day which is at the very heart of the Christian life... Time given to Christ is never time lost, but is rather time gained, so that our relationships and indeed our whole life may become more profoundly human" (Dies Domini, no. 7).

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38 SUNDAY OF ADVENT



St. Joseph's Tree Removal

Due to circumstances beyond anyone's control, the tree removal project has been postponed until after the first of the year. We will let you know when a new start date is firmed up

Cost of the project is \$30,000. If you would like to donate, towards this project, you can make out a check to St. Joseph's Church with "tree work" in the memo or go to our online giving page at <https://osvhub.com/stmaryslee/funds> where you will see the option to make a donation directly to the St. Joseph's Tree Removal project.

Thank you for your support!

All New SMS Fundraiser St. Mary's School
...where every child shines!

TAKE-OUT DINNERS!

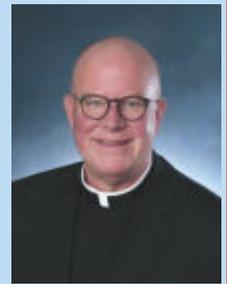
Everyone deserves a break, especially this Holiday Season. So why not take some time off to relax with these individually-packed dinners or Holiday appetizer and dessert platters, perfect for Christmas Eve!

Fri. December 18 th	Wed. December 23 rd
Buttered Penne Pasta <i>with chicken alfredo sauce & tomato sausage sauce on the side</i>	Holiday Appetizer or Dessert Platters <i>A selection of hot & cold; feeds 4 people</i>
Sautéed Vegetable Dessert	
\$10 per person	\$20 per person
Order by Noon on Mon. December 14 th	Order by Noon on Fri. December 18 th
Pick up between 2:30 - 4:30pm on Fri. December 18 th	Pick up between 4:00 - 6:00pm on Wed. December 23 rd

You may pay by credit card, check payable to Saint Mary's School, or exact-amount cash.

ORDER ONLINE AT PTOKITCHEN.ITEMORDER.COM OR CALL 413.243.1079

From the Area and the Diocese



CONTINUE TO PRAY FOR OUR BISHOP ELECT: Pope Francis has named Father William D. Byrne, a priest of the Archdiocese of Washington, D.C., as the 10th bishop of Springfield. The announcement was made today, Oct. 14, in Washington D.C. by Archbishop Christophe Pierre, U.S. papal nuncio. He will be ordained and installed in a few weeks. Evening Prayer will be prayed on Sunday, 12/13, at 5:30 pm and the Ordination will take place at 2:00pm, on Monday, 12/14. Both will be live streamed on diospringfield.org, and the Installation Mass will air live on WWLP 22News and CatholicTV. EWTN will carry a few days after installation. Let's continue to pray for him as we await his arrival.

RETIREMENT FUND FOR RELIGIOUS: In good times and bad, religious sisters and brothers have dedicated themselves to God's work. Together with nearly 30,000 elderly sisters, brothers, and religious order priests in the United States, they educated the young, tended the sick, and ministered to the needy. Today, they pray for a world that is hurting. Yet many religious communities do not have enough retirement savings and struggle to provide for aging members. Covid-19 has only increased these challenges. Your tax deductible gift to the Retirement Fund for Religious helps furnish medications, nursing care, and more. On December 13th there is an envelope in our parish packets (make those checks payable to St. Mary's Parish). Or you can give directly by mailing a donation to To donate by mail: National Religious Retirement Office 3211 Fourth Street NE Washington DC 20017-1194 (make those checks payable to Retirement Fund for Religious). Please be generous to those who have given a lifetime. For more information, check out retiredreligious.org

DAILY DRIVE-THROUGH CONFESSIONS are offered at the Shrine of Divine Mercy up on Eden Hill in Stockbridge from 1:00 - 2:00 pm DAILY and from 3:30-4:15 on SAT. & SUN. Come experience God's grace of mercy and forgiveness!

THE CHALICE OF SALVATION, the region's only one-hour weekly televised Mass is broadcast Sunday Mornings at 6:00 a.m. WXXA Fox23 Albany, NY and 10:00 a.m. on WWLP 22NEWS, Springfield, MA. Each week there is a guest celebrant from among the area parishes. Join us for the great grace of the Mass.



PRAYER HELPERS OF THE PRECIOUS BLOOD MONTHLY PRAYER FOR PRIESTS IN THE DIOCESE OF SPRINGFIELD, MA

Good St. Joseph and Mary Immaculate, intercede with the Son of God to prepare the hearts of our priests for the great celebration of the Nativity. Inspire them with awe in the miracle of the Incarnation, and journey with them this Advent so that it may be a prayerful time of deep longing for the Savior's coming among us. When Christmas arrives, may the Divine Child find in each of their souls a welcoming manger of innocence, simplicity, and hopefulness where the Precious Infant can safely rest.

Blessed Virgin Mary and Blessed Joseph, glorious models of perfection, pray for [Name] and all those clergy who have recourse to you. Remind priests that you will tenderly provide for their needs just as you did for Jesus while He was on earth. Most Holy Family, hold all priests close in your loving embrace. Amen.

December 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<i>Mary, Queen of the Clergy, inspire chosen souls for a life of service in Christ.</i>		1 Rev. Magr. Ronald Yargeau	2 Rev. Michael Bernier (Healing)	3 Rev. Robert Coonan	4 Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI	5 Rev. John McDonagh
6 Rev. Lionel Bonneville	7 Fr. Benedict Fagone, OFM Conv.	8 Rev. James DeVine, MIC	9 Rev. Diego Maximino, MIC	10 Rev. William Cyr	11 Rev. Jose Bernudez	12 Rev. Mark Miller
13 Rev. Alfred Cournoyer	14 Most Rev. William D. Byrne	15 Rev. Paul Bombadier	16 Bishop Emeritus Timothy McDonnell	17 Rev. Allen Alexander, MIC	18 Rev. J. Lessard-Thibodeau, JCL (Healing)	19 Pope Francis
20 Rev. Francis Crombie	21 Rev. Donatus Ironuma	22 Rev. C. Lee Gilbertson	23 Rev. William Hamilton	24 Rev. Adolf Busobozie	25 All Priests	26 Rev. Vitor Oliveira
27 Rev. James Joyce	28 Rev. Charles Kuzmeski	29 Rev. Steven Montesanti	30 Rev. Daniel Pacholec	31 Rev. Francis Reilly	<i>May the joy of the first Christmas and the peace of Christ's presence be with our clergy always.</i>	

"What tongue, human or angelic, may ever describe a power so immeasurable as that exercised by the simplest priest in Mass?"

—St. Leonard of Port Maurice



For more copies, contact:
Mrs. Anna Maria Dias, O.P.B.
P.O. Box 346, Ludlow, MA 01056
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We are finalizing the transition to one envelope account with our vendor. This is being done to save on costs as well as to make the collection system more efficient. Those that currently receive envelopes will soon be receiving your January/February packets. All standard weekly envelopes will be white and all special envelopes will be colored or contain a picture. Please remember if you want your donation to be reflective of a specific church, you will need to check the appropriate box on each envelope. If no selection is made, the donations will be applied to St. Mary's Lee.

As always, if you no longer wish to receive envelopes or currently do not receive them and would like to, please contact Karen at the rectory. And of course, don't forget the option to transition to online giving!
<https://osvhub.com/stmaryslee/funds>

Part-Time Cook Visitation Monastery, Tyringham, MA

7:30 am - 1:00 pm (Monday through Friday, every other Sunday 9:00 am - 1:00 pm)

The responsibilities of the Cook will be to provide quality, nutritious meals for Sisters residing in the Monastery. Responsibilities include preparation of weekly menus based on dietary and nutritional needs as well as the personal preference of the Sisters, and preparation of a wide variety of foods for breakfast and midday meal. Maintains a food inventory and obtains necessary food items for preparation of meals. Date stamps and rotates perishable items to ensure freshness and avoid food-borne illness. Maintains the kitchen and equipment in accordance with prescribed safety standards and cleaning schedule.

Prior menu planning and cooking for large groups required. Experience and knowledge of food preparation and presentation methods, techniques and quality standards, preferably in an institutional setting required. Ability to prepare and bake a variety of pastries, breads and rolls. The successful candidate will be self-motivated and sensitive to the needs of an elderly population.

This search is being managed by Brenner, McDonagh and Tortolani, Inc., a division of Christian Brothers Services. Forward resume to lgolio@bmtconsults.com. No phone calls or walk-ins please. Pay: \$20.00 per hour—COVID-19 considerations: Employer adheres to all CDC and MA guidelines.

December 13th, 2020



St. Mary's School
... where every child shines!

St. Mary's School's Annual Parish Appeal

The students at St. Mary's School begin every morning with a prayer, pledge of allegiance, song, fun fact/quote, and announcements. They also recite the school's mission statement in every classroom, as it is lead by a student over the intercom. At the end of our school's mission statement is our motto, "**Learn. Pray. Serve.**" Our students don't simply memorize this motto; they live this motto out in their daily lives. We often see our students pray and serve within our parish! A few of our current seventh graders, who are parishioners, as well, took some time to reflect on the importance of serving our parish.

"I love St. Mary's because I know it's a safe place where I can always be myself. I am very honored to not only attend St. Mary's School, but to also be an altar server for our church. I think of the church as part of our school community, and I am happy to help. I remember being so excited when I found out that I was old enough to be an altar server when I was in second grade. It's a really important job, but we also have a lot of fun, especially when we get to serve together with our classmates. To me, St. Mary's School and parish are like a second home. When I need them, they will always be there for me. I am so glad to be a part of this community."

~ Keaghan Kline

"When I was in the third grade, I had thought about the many older kids that were altar serving at church. I looked up to them for their roles they had in the church and knew I wanted to do the same. After completing the training with Father Brian and a couple of other altar servers, I was so excited. I knew that in doing this, I would be able to help during the Mass. It feels amazing to serve on the special holy days like Christmas morning and an honor to serve the Easter Vigil. I have even gotten to serve a wedding at St. Joseph's in Stockbridge. When I serve at Mass, I feel a connection with the parish. When I look out at everyone from the altar, I recognize many of my classmates and their families from St. Mary's School. It's great to be part of the parish community. I have been serving ever since."

~ Brendan Bayles

"Attending St. Mary's School has been a 5 star experience for me because of its small class size where I have learned cooperation, teamwork, respect for others and a greater understanding of the importance of having God in my life. Our outstanding teachers have encouraged me to become a more confident student, a better person and the importance of helping others, especially those in need. Without the tuition assistance provided by the generous parishioners of St. Mary's Church it would be impossible for many students to attend SMS and receive an extraordinary religious education."

~ Gianna Beacco

These children feel blessed and proud to be both students and parishioners at St. Mary's! How awesome it is to witness these youngsters grow up in this parish, as well as attend our parochial school. Perhaps many of our parishioners were in their very shoes just a few years ago. We are blessed to be able to keep our doors open and provide an "education with a plus" where "every child shines!" with your help.

Perhaps the Holy Spirit is inspiring you to contribute a little something extra to the school's Parish Appeal this year, to help ensure that we can continue to do so in these challenging times. You can either use the school envelopes to donate, or you can donate online for your convenience: [Support St. Mary's Catholic School in the Berkshires](#). Thank you!

The SMS PTO is currently doing a "Give to Give Back" fundraiser. What we are doing is selling gift cards for local businesses. For every gift card we sell, a percentage goes to the school's PTO. These are the businesses who are generously participating: Karen Keenan Home & Gifts, The Locker Room, Lee Hardware True Value, Ingegna Salon and Meow & Growl. We are selling \$25 and \$50 gift cards up until 12/16. Let us do the leg-work for you, call the school and place your order or give your order to a St. Mary's School parent. Cash or check, and let us know which gift cards you would like to buy. We will go and purchase all the cards and get them back for you. What a great way to support our local businesses and the children of St. Mary's School. Thank you!!

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