

Saint Mary's Parish

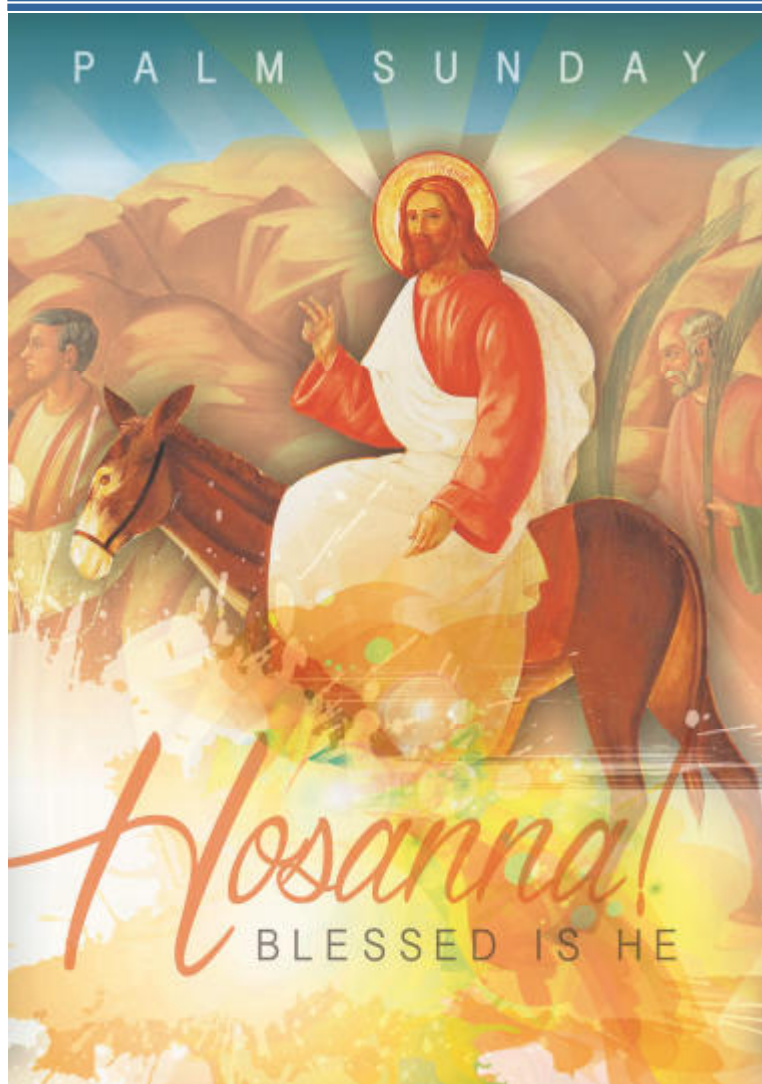
519 Longmeadow Street, Longmeadow, Massachusetts

Sunday, March 28, 2021 Palm Sunday

Reverend Christopher J. Waitekus, Pastor

Please view Mass with Father C.J. on our website!

www.stmarylong.org



2021 Holy Week Schedule

March 27 & 28 - Palm Sunday Weekend

Saturday Masses: 4 & 5:30pm

Sunday Masses: 8, 9:30 & 11 am, 5:30 pm

April 1 - Holy Thursday*

7 p.m. – Liturgy of the Lord's Supper

8-10 p.m. Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

(No 7a.m. Mass or Communion Service today)

**This Mass will be livestreamed from our Facebook page*

April 2 - Good Friday*

Noon –Outdoor Way of the Cross

3 p.m. – Stations of the Cross

(followed by Divine Mercy Novena)

7 p.m. Liturgy of the Lord's Passion

(**No 7a.m. Mass today*)

April 3- Holy Saturday*

10 a.m. – Blessing of the food

7:30 p.m. - EASTER VIGIL

(**No Confessions or 4 or 5:30 p.m. Mass today*)

April 4 - Easter Sunday

Masses: 8*, 9:30 & 11 a.m.

**This Mass will be recorded and available on our website later that morning.*

IMPORTANT REMINDERS—UPDATE

- **NO RSVP'S** - We are not taking reservations for Holy Week or Easter Masses. Please arrive early for a seat. We will be doing a headcount as people enter Church from the side entrance. If Church reaches capacity (140 people), you can stay in your car and listen to a broadcast of the Mass on your radio. Holy Communion will be brought out to your vehicle.
- **MASKS & SOCIAL DISTANCING** - Everyone is required to wear their masks properly at all times and maintain social distancing while in the Church.
- **FOLLOW SIGNS**—Please adhere to all pew and Church signage to maintain safe distancing.
- **BE KIND TO OUR USHERS** - Please be respectful and understanding of our ushers who are there to assist you and who are trying their best to find seating for all.

ST. MARY'S PARISH

Mass Intentions

SATURDAY, MARCH 27, 2021*

4:00 p.m. Dominick Bisesti
Req. by His Children
5:30 p.m. Deacon George Keator
Req. by Jim Holzinger

SUNDAY, MARCH 28, 2021*

PALM SUNDAY

8:00 a.m. Jean Ormsby
Req. by Kevin Ormsby
9:30 a.m. Mr. & Mrs. Edward Shepard
Req. by Sadak Family
11:00 a.m. Shaun Brady Coon-85th Birthday Remem.
Req. by His Family
5:30 p.m. Mary Philbin—2nd Anniv. Remembrance
Req. by Paul & Laurie Philbin

***Blessed Palms distributed at all Saturday and Sunday Masses**



MONDAY, MARCH 29, 2021

7:00 a.m. Ignacio LoCiccero
Req. by Mike & Trina Cardello
7:00 p.m. Communion Service

TUESDAY, MARCH 30, 2021

7:00 a.m. Clementina Dena Rotondo Ricci
95th Birthday Remembrance
Req. by Her Family
7:30-Noon Adoration

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 31, 2021

7:00 a.m. Milan Hornik—Birthday Remembrance
Req. by Paul & Laurie Philbin
9:00 a.m. Communion Service

HOLY TRIDUUM & EASTER SCHEDULE

THURSDAY, APRIL 1, 2021—HOLY THURSDAY EVENING MASS OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

No 7 am Mass or 9am Communion Service

7:00 p.m. Liturgy of the Lord's Supper
8-10 p.m. Adoration

FRIDAY, APRIL 2, 2021

FRIDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD

No 7 am Mass

12:00 p.m. Outdoor Way of the Cross
3:00 p.m. Traditional Stations of the Cross
Followed by Divine Mercy Novena

7:00 p.m. Passion of the Lord

SATURDAY, APRIL 3, 2021

HOLY SATURDAY—EASTER VIGIL

No First Saturday, 4 or 5:30 pm Mass today

10:00 a.m. Blessing of Food—Outside
7:30 p.m. Easter Vigil
Parishioners Intentions

SUNDAY, APRIL 4, 2021—EASTER SUNDAY RESURRECTION OF THE LORD

8:00 a.m. Parishioners Intentions
9:30 a.m. Parishioners Intention
11:00 a.m. Parishioners Intentions



Liturgical Ministries

MARCH 27/28

4:00 p.m. Mass

Server: Claire Falcone
Readers: Alta Stark,
Pat Foley

5:30 p.m. Mass

Server: Claire Falcone
Readers: Mark Teed,
Tim Golden

8:00 a.m. Mass

Server: Bob Nell
Readers: Andrew Kniska,
Barbara Burati
Deacon: Donald Higby

9:30 a.m. Mass

Server: Claire Falcone
Readers:
Mena DeCarvalho,
Chrissy Reale

11:00 a.m. Mass

Server: Claire Falcone
Readers:
Matthew Patryn,
Beverly Coon

APRIL 3/4

Liturgical Schedule for Holy Thursday & Good Friday, please see bottom of page.

7:30 p.m. Mass

Holy Saturday Vigil
Altar Servers: Michael &
James McLaughlin
Readers:
Marybeth Bergeron, Barney
Marshall, Tim McKenna

8:00 a.m. Mass

Easter Sunday
Altar Server(s): TBA
Readers: Diane Minalga,
Allan Chalmers
Eucharistic Ministers:
TBA

9:30 a.m. Mass —

Altar Server:
Victoria & Elijah Parent
Readers: Mary Amato,
Sara Brewster
Eucharistic Ministers:
TBA

11:00 a.m. Mass —

Altar Servers:
David & Joseph Prickett
Readers: Gerald Martin,
Jacob Bennett
Eucharistic Ministers:
TBA

Holy Thursday, 7 p.m. April 1

Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper

Altar Servers: Anthony & Vincent Nguyen, Duke Pho
Readers: Jeff Trace, Gerri Morgan
Eucharistic Ministers: TBA

Good Friday Stations, 3:00 p.m. April 2

Altar Server(s): TBA

Good Friday, 7:00 p.m. April 3

Friday of the Passion of the Lord

Altar Server(s): TBA
Readers: Vincent McPartland, Sr. Maureen Sheehan
Eucharistic Ministers: TBA



Divine Mercy Novena— Begins April 2

This year, the Divine Mercy Novena begins on **Friday, April 2nd**. For anyone wishing to do this nine day novena, brochures will be available this weekend in the Chapel of Mary Immaculate.

LIVE THE LITURGY

INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK

What an ironic twist of events! Jesus is hailed with palm branches as he comes down a street one minute and faces agonizing suffering and death on a cross the next. Does any of this make any sense? They shouted, "hosanna to our King," out of one side of their mouths and, "crucify him," out of the other. At first glance it seems like such hypocrisy. Yet, when we step back there may be more truth to the story than we care to admit. We struggle with Jesus. We hail him in our churches but struggle to figure out what to do with him on our streets. We are fine when we hear pious renderings of his messages and preaching but wince when it gets to the part about changing the way we conduct business and becoming more sensitive to the disadvantaged, poor and marginalized. We invoke God's name when we want victory and keep silence when it comes to global solidarity. We talk out of both sides of our mouths too, looking only to what works or suits us at the time and leaving the rest. There exists in each one of us a person who hails our King with hosannas and a person who is all too willing to choose Jesus over Barabbas for the cross. Something to think about this Holy Week!

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AND CHARITY
TOWARD ALL ARE
ESSENTIAL IN THE
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TO HOLINESS."

Pope Francis

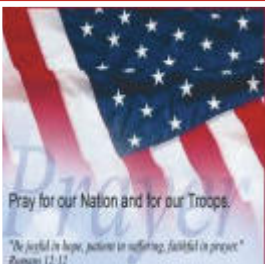
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Dear St. Mary Parishioners,

Beginning this Palm Sunday Weekend, we enter into the most sacred week of the year, as we mark Holy Week 2021. While things will look a bit different because of COVID restrictions, we still walk with Jesus Christ through the beautiful liturgies of Holy Thursday, Good Friday, Holy Saturday and Easter Sunday. The prayers, the smells, the visuals and the awe of this coming week will once again be held within our parish church in union with churches throughout the world.

To our sisters and brothers in other countries that are "locked down" due to the virus, we offer our prayers that they will mark Holy Week from home. To those about to be baptized and receive Holy Eucharist and Confirmation, we offer them welcome into the Universal Catholic Church.

A reminder that on Good Friday we will take up the Annual Good Friday Collection to support the church in The Holy Land. We, the clergy and church staff of St. Mary's, wish everyone a Blessed and Holy Week as well as a Joyous Easter. ~Father C.J.



PLEASE CONTINUE TO PRAY for PEACE & OUR MILITARY

Please email name / rank of loved ones to: parishbulletin@stmarylong.org.

Lt Col Jeffrey Ballou, MSgt Michael Granger, 2Lt John Cresci, Sean McDermott, Sgt Andrew Menard, PFC Evan Menard, 1Lt Matthew Sanford, PFC Christopher Kantany, Major Stephen Gillespie, Capt James Longe, Czar Roda, Capt. Michael Phillips, Capt. Bernard Marshall, Jr., Capt. Anthony Daniel, 1stLt Joseph Teed, 1stLt Brian Fydenkevez, Airman Thomas Hurley, PO Christopher King, Pvt Ryan B'Shara, AT3 John Niedzwiecki, Capt. Jacob Skole, Maj Michael McDonough, Sgt Michael Valentin, Capt. Christine Aye, Capt. Jeanne Kiernan, Capt. André Welch, Capt Josh Auerbach, Mdmn. Alexander Ehrenberg, Sgt Kyle Sorenson, Spc Kyle McDonald, Capt Stefan Milan, PFC Nicole Evanko, PFC Mary Towsley, 2Lt Ian Boyd, HM2 Torrence Watkins, PFC Peter Maziarz, Pvt Patrick Barrett, LCpl Michael Collins, Sgt Torin Scalora-Riley, LTC Bridget Yearwood, MST3 Taylor E. Schulke and Maj. Keith F. Parent, Capt. Peter J. Lane, MSgt Andrew T. Chiasson, PVT Bailey Gorgas, Lt. Col Michael Glass.

Faith Formation—Laurie Philbin

Faith Formation Class Schedule

SUNDAY March 28th

Gr. 8 & 9—4:30—6:30 PM

Gr. 10 & 11—5:30—7:30

Classes include 5:30 PM Mass

MONDAY March 29th

Gr.1 - 3:45- 4:45 PM

Gr. 2—4:00-5:00PM

Gr.3—4:15-5:15PM

Grs. 4 & 5 - 5:30-6:30PM



EASTER EGG HUNT



to be held on
**Easter Sunday following
the 9:30 AM Mass on the
Parish grounds.**
Children should bring an
Easter basket to collect
their eggs.

FF Baby Shower for Bethlehem House

Last Sunday, our 8th & 9th grade Faith Formation students attended a Baby Shower to benefit the Bethlehem House in Easthampton. The weather was beautiful and all of the students brought wonderful gifts and played games. Thank you!



From Deacon Higby's Desk

Theology 101: The First Testament - Part 56

After Haman returns to his home in shame, his wife and friends point out that if Mordecai is a Jew, Haman will not prevail against him.

Esther has prepared a second banquet and invited the king and Haman to it. As the people sit around drinking wine, the king tells Esther that whatever request she makes of him, even if it's half his kingdom, he will honor it. Esther begs that the king spare her life and that of her people, saying that if he had commanded them to go into slavery, she would remain silent, but if someone were to make her people extinct, the king would lose loyal subjects and that could never be replaced. The king asks who is planning to do this, and she indicates that it is Haman. The king became very angry and went out into the garden. Haman, realizing what was likely to happen next, throws himself onto the queen's couch (she is reclining) and begs for his life. The king returns to the banquet hall and sees Haman in this compromised position. He cries out "Will he also violate the queen while she is with me in my own house?"

Harbona, one of the eunuchs of the palace, helpfully tells the king that Haman has built a gibbet fifty cubits high to hang Mordecai, who had given the report that had benefited the king. The king orders that Haman be hanged from it.

The king gave Haman's house to Queen Esther and admitted Mordecai to his inner circle now that Esther had revealed their relationship. Esther again approached the king and begged him to issue a decree revoking that of Haman, which had given leave to the people of the kingdom to kill all the Jews and take their property. The king ordered Mordecai to write the new document, which is recorded in the Book of Esther. In it the king recognizes that Mordecai has prevented the kingdom from falling into the hands of the Macedonians, and that the Jews are not evildoers, but have a wonderful legal system of their own, which they are free to use to govern themselves. Furthermore, the Jews were allowed to band together and destroy anyone who sought their harm. This the Jews did, killing five hundred men in the town of Susa, including the sons of Haman. They killed three hundred the next day. In the entire kingdom the Jews killed 75,000 of their enemies. Esther asked the king to hang the bodies of the ten sons of Haman on gibbets, which was done.

Mordecai then ordered the Jews in the kingdom to "henceforth" celebrate the two days when they turned the tables on their enemies. It was called "Purim" because Haman had cast lots to determine when the Jews would be exterminated ("pur" means "lots"). Queen Esther confirmed this feast with her royal authority.

At the end of the book, Mordecai recognizes that his dream has been fulfilled and God has responded to the prayers of God's people.

The story of Esther was written about 400 years before Christ and is meant to console the Jewish people in exile. That God answers the prayers of his people by raising up blameless individuals is quite clearly the theme here. The story itself shows remarkable literary skill. The book we have today was originally written in Hebrew, and when translated into Greek several verses were added. The original Hebrew text has no mention of God, interestingly.

~Donald Higby

Financial Stewardship

Offerings for week ending March 21st

Regular Weekly Offerings	\$4,142.00
Mail In Offerings	\$1,618.50
Electronic Giving	\$5,281.68
Easter Flowers Collection	\$2,837.00
Total Collection	\$13,879.18

Thank you

for the donations made to Easter Flowers given in Memory/Honor of. The names will appear in our Easter Bulletin.



Easter Collection

Next weekend April 3/4, there will be a 2nd collection for Easter. The ushers will pass the basket twice. Please put your regular envelope in the 1st collection and the Easter envelope in the 2nd. Easter donations can also be made electronically at www.stmarylong.org.

Thank you for your support and generosity!

Pontifical Good Friday Collection Holy Land

Every year on Good Friday, a collection is taken up in Catholic Churches to support the work of the Franciscans working in the Holy Land. Christians there rely heavily on the help that comes to them from this worldwide collection. For more info visit www.myfranciscan.org/good-friday/.

Tree of Life

One Leaf



\$2,500

A leaf on the Tree of Life is an everlasting way to remember a loved one, celebrate important, joyous, and memorable events such as the birth of a child/grandchild, a marriage, an anniversary, etc. As well as a unique way to share your pride in your parish and help financially. Take a brochure or visit the memorial page on our website for more information.

www.stmarylong.org



St. Mary's Academy News



Together
WE ARE THE ST. MARY'S FAMILY

2021 A.C.E. Virtual Auction

Presenting Sponsor: The Alexopoulos Family

A.C.E.

Online Auction April 8-10

Our Annual A.C.E. (Advocates for Catholic Education) Auction will be online again this year. Visit our Fa-

cebook page and indicate you are "interested or going" to the event to get the latest updates!

<https://www.facebook.com/events/879999052796941>

Online bidding will open on April 8th at 5pm and close on April 10th at 9 pm. Currently, we are working hard to secure sponsorships and donations. If you know of a business or family that might be interested in sponsoring our event or giving an in-kind donation, please contact Amy Mendrala at 413.567.0907 or amendrala@stmarylongmeadow.org. As always, all donations/sponsorships are tax deductible. Thank you for your support!

ST. MARY'S CHURCH



Photo Search for St. Mary's 90th Anniversary Celebration

Plans are underway for the 90th Anniversary this Christmas and Father C.J. is asking parishioners to look through old photo albums for any photos you may have of St. Mary's Church through the years, particularly those that feature the interior or exterior of the Church. Photos from the early days (circa 1930's or 40's) would be especially prized! If you can loan us a photo or two to scan, or even scan the pictures yourself and email to us, it would be greatly appreciated. Please contact the parish office with any questions at 567-3124 or email: parishoffice@stmarylong.org.



The St. Jude Service Club is hosting dinner

Monday, March 29 at Loaves and Fishes Soup Kitchen located in the South Congregational Church, 45

Maple St., Springfield.

The Dinner will be prepared and given as a take out meal since the dining room is closed due to the Coronavirus situation. Volunteers are needed to provide cut brownies, American cheese, deli turkey and ham, mayonnaise, mustard, sliced bread, and fruit cocktail.

These food donations may be dropped off at 28 Mohawk Dr., Longmeadow on **Mon., March 29 before 3 p.m.** Please place the food in coolers by the garage.

Monetary donations are also needed and may be mailed to Elisabeth Therrien, **180 Pinewood Dr. Longmeadow** with checks payable to "St. Jude Service Club". Thank you for your support.

DONATIONS



Longmeadow Food Pantry HELP NEEDED

Our town Food Pantry continues to need pantry staple items. Covid has had a very negative financial impact on over 70 families in town. Items still needed: cereals, flour, sugar, rice of all kinds, canned veggies, jelly, peanut butter, canned fruits, spaghetti sauce, canned tuna, canned chicken...whatever you might keep in your own pantry is perfect! PLEASE HELP! Drop off items on Saturday mornings between 8:30-10:30 at the Parish Center or leave in the box at the front of Longmeadow Big Y.

Questions? Please call Marybeth 413-262-7661.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!



"WOULD YOU NOT WATCH ONE HOUR WITH ME?"

Pray for Vocations

TO THE PRIESTHOOD IN THE DIOCESE OF SPRINGFIELD

Holy Thursday at the Altar of Repose

APRIL 1, 2021 | 8PM TO 9 PM
IN EVERY PARISH

Bishop Byrne asks everyone to come pray for Vocations to the Priesthood at the Altar of Repose after the Holy Thursday Mass in your parish church from 8 - 9pm on April 1st. Come and pray.



Please join area pro-lifers for the **Good Friday Stations of the Cross, April 2nd** at 10:30 AM at 3550 Main Street, Springfield, MA. For the Stations, line up on Wason Ave outside of Planned Parenthood. Deacon Andrew Hogan will lead the Pro-Life Stations and Rosary. Bishop William Byrne will also be in attendance. Social distancing and masks required. Later on that day a YouTube presentation by area Catholic students will be available. For more information e-mail: prolifepioneervalley@gmail.com.

St. Mary's Guild News



St. Mary's Guild Blessing Bags LAST CALL!

As a Lenten Project, the St. Mary's Women's Guild has been collecting "Blessing Bags"

to donate to Christina's House in Springfield. Please fill a **gallon-sized zip-top bag** with toiletries such as toothbrushes & toothpaste, shampoo, conditioner, hairbrushes, deodorant, lotion, socks and a note of encouragement. **Please no food items.**

Bins will be located at three locations: Parish Office Porch, 50 Belleclaire Avenue, and 25 Twin Hills Drive. **Please return your blessing bags by March 31.**

If you're unable to shop and wish to make a monetary donation, you can drop off or mail to the parish office. Checks can be made payable to *St. Mary's Guild*. Be sure to indicate **Christina's House/blessing bags** in the check memo.

Questions? Please call Sara Brewster (413) 567-3124 or email: parishoffice@stmarylong.org.

We welcome everyone in the Parish to participate. Thank you!



Attention High School Seniors & College Students

Applications for the **2021 Monsignor Thomas F. Devine Scholarship and the St. Mary's Guild Scholarship** are now available. Applicants must be registered members of St.

Mary's Parish and pursuing an academic education. There will be three-\$2,000 Scholarships awarded for the Msgr. Devine Scholarship and three - \$1,000 Guild Scholarship awards.

To be eligible for the Guild Scholarship, applicant's mother must be a current, active member of the Guild. Deadline for both scholarships is **April 9th, 2021**. Applications will be available on our website www.stmarylong.org under the *Ministries* tab and through the parish office during regular business hours (9am-3pm). Send completed applications to:

St. Mary's Guild
P.O. Box 60692
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