

Saint Mary Church
One Church Square, Franklin MA 02038

Phone: 508-528-0020

Website: stmarysfranklin.org

St. Vincent de Paul Society
508-918-2291

Religious Education Office
Phone: 508-528-1450

201 Main Street
Fax: 508-528-0043



1ST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

"So too, you also must be prepared, for at an hour you do not expect, the Son of Man will come." - Mt 24:44

"También ustedes estén preparados, porque a la hora que menos lo piensen, vendrá el Hijo del hombre". - Mt 24, 44

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WELCOME

If you are new to the parish, please introduce yourself to the priests after Mass. We want to know and serve you. To register, please email your name and address to parishpublishing@stmarysfranklin.org. We will send you a Welcome Package that will help you register

PASTORAL STAFF

Pastor

Rev. Brian F. Manning
bmanning@stmarysfranklin.org

Parochial Vicar

Rev. John Sullivan
jsullivan@stmarysfranklin.org

In Residence

Rev. Frank Campo
fcampo@stmarysfranklin.org

Deacons

Deacon Ron Gerwatowski
deaconron@stmarysfranklin.org

Pastoral Associate

Leo Racine
pastoralassociate@stmarysfranklin.org

STAFF

Religious Education

Karen Ackles — Director
Grades 1-8 and Confirmation Program
reled.director@stmarysfranklin.org
Liz Bertoni — Secretary
reled.secretary@stmarysfranklin.org

Rectory Office

Patricia Murphy — Business Manager
businessmanager@stmarysfranklin.org
Michelle Gee — Secretary
secretary@stmarysfranklin.org
Bulletin
parishpublishing@stmarysfranklin.org

Music Director

Terry Kerr • terry.kerr@att.net • 508-541-3286

Mass Schedule

Weekend Masses: Saturday: 4:00 Sunday: 7:30, 10:30, and Noon
Daily: Monday-Friday: 7:00am
Confession: Saturday: 8:00am

SACRAMENTS

- Baptism:** By appointment only. Consult our website: stmarysfranklin.org
- Penance:** Saturdays 8 to 9 AM in Reconciliation Room in Chapel, and by appointment anytime
- Marriage:** Couples planning to be married at St. Mary should schedule their wedding one year in advance and attend a Marriage Preparation program.
- Sacrament of the Sick:** Please call the rectory if you have a family member, friend, or neighbor who is unable to attend church due to age or infirmity. We will provide pastoral visits, with administration of the Sacraments.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

- Children (Grades 1-8)
Guided remote and in-person learning
- Confirmation Preparation
(Confirmation 1 + Confirmation 2)
Guided independent, remote and in-person learning
- Programs run from September—April
- Adults**
RCIA - Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults
Wednesdays • 7:00pm
October to Easter

Pastoral Reflections

Did you ever realize how much of our time is spent thinking about what is next or where we will be shortly, such as if you are driving to work you think about what is going on at the office, or when you are at work you think about the drive home. Although we are where we are, we do spend a lot of time thinking about where we will be. We often do not live in the present, but live more in the future. Today is the First Sunday in Advent. Are you thinking about Christmas, or are you thinking that this is the First Sunday of Advent and that now we light one candle in the Advent Wreath because this is the beginning and the first step to Christmas? Are we willing this Sunday to be a light, yes a single light that breaks up the darkness of life for others and helps light the way to the celebration of the Salvation of our world, the Nativity of Jesus Christ in four weeks?

The prophet gave us, in this first reading, an image of a messianic time which is bright. This vision is found again in the angelic greeting “Peace on earth to those on whom God’s favor rests.” Notice how all the nations stream up the high mountain and that people come holding their work tools which are used to make things. Their tools are not tools of war, but tools of peace. The messianic time will be a time of peace and justice among all nations. There will be no more war.

When Matthew was writing his Gospel, the followers were eagerly awaiting the Return of Jesus. They expected Him immediately and thought there was no reason to take and use their tools of labor and life. They should simply wait for the Second Coming of Jesus because it would be any day soon. Matthew had to deal with this practical problem. Matthew used the story of the people of Noah’s time. They were unconcerned about the things of God and obligations to other people; they were simply living life on the surface. They did not foresee any problem or trouble ahead. They lacked a depth of soul. Noah, however, had this depth of soul and as a result he saw, understood and acted.

To be sure in the time of Jesus people wondered and asked about the end times of life. Most folks, however, continued working and doing what needed to be done; only some also paid attention to life’s meaning and would be actually prepared when the end times came. The point of all this is that when the Lord comes, the one who is awake to God’s enduring presence will be ready and welcoming; all others will not.

Our second example in the Gospel is of the thief, it is meant to warn the listener that we all need to be vigilant. We are expected to be careful and pay proper attention to the things of God and thus be prepared when the Lord returns.

Paying attention to the present moment is difficult; another way of expressing this is the word “mindfulness”. We need, all of us, to know that we are at the beginning of Advent and should be lighting one candle that would shine today and throughout this week that helps others to see that the Birth of Jesus is coming and that we need each day to prepare. We need to be mindful of right now.

Fr. Brian

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, November 26

4:00 pm Frank Atkinson—12th Anniversary

Sunday, November 27

7:30 am William and Donald Wozniak— Memorial

10:30 am Guy and Mary Vozzella — Memorial

12:00 pm Kevin P. O'Malley — Birthday Memorial

Tuesday, November 29

7:00 am Pio Palombi—Special Intention

Wednesday, November 30

7:00 am Eileen Reilly — Memorial

Thursday, December 1

7:00 am Katie Harland—Memorial

Saturday, December 3

4:00 pm Karma Kenny — Memorial

Sunday, December 4

7:30 am Francis Ribao — 13th Anniversary

10:30 am Linda Padula — Memorial

12:00 pm Dorothy L. Piccirilli — Birthday Memorial

SACRIFICIAL GIVING

*Thank you for your faithfulness
and generosity*



St. Mary Parish, Franklin

Administrative Assistant/Secretary

The Administrative Assistant/Secretary provides secretarial and/or clerical support for the church and parish operations. The person is expected to have computer skills and be proficient in Microsoft Word and Excel.

This position is a 30 hour a week, hourly paid position.

The hours are either 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. Monday – Friday or
8:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. Monday – Thursday.

If interested, please forward a resume to Patricia Murphy, the Finance and Operations Manager, at businessmanager@stmarsfranklin.org and call her at 508-528-0020, ext. 10 to schedule an appointment for an interview.

Readings for the week of November 27, 2022

Sunday: Is 2:1-5/Ps 122:1-2, 3-4, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9/Rom 13:11-14/Mt 24:37-44

Monday: Is 4:2-6/Ps 122:1-2, 3-4b, 4cd-5, 6-7, 8-9/Mt 8:5-11

Tuesday: Is 11:1-10/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17/Lk 10:21-24

Wednesday: Rom 10:9-18/Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 11/Mt 4:18-22

Thursday: Is 26:1-6/Ps 118:1 and 8-9, 19-21, 25-27a/Mt 7:21, 24-27

Friday: Is 29:17-24/Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14/Mt 9:27-31

Saturday: Is 30:19-21, 23-26/Ps 147:1-2, 3-4, 5-6/Mt 9:35—10:1, 5a, 6-8

Next Sunday: Is 11:1-10/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17/Rom 15:4-9/Mt 3:1-12

@LPi

**SVDP reminder of Food Resources
for Franklin Residents**
Information as of 11/1/2022

Franklin Food Pantry
New hours as of Nov 1, 2022

Monday: Closed
Tuesday: Indoor shopping 9:00 am – 1:00 pm, Appointment Required
5:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. Curbside Pickup No appointment needed
Wednesday: Closed
Thursday: Indoor shopping: 9:00 am – 1:00 pm Appointment Required
Friday: Indoor shopping: 9:00 am – 1:00 pm Appointment Required
*No walk-ins. *No curbside distribution

YMCA: “Drive up Groceries”
Nonperishable food Wednesday 1PM to 2PM
Expanded time for Senior Citizens 12:30-1:00 pm
Some Delivery available—Need to sign up 508-528-8708.

Meals on Wheels for seniors and homebound Call
800-286-6640

St. Vincent de Paul Society: Non-perishable food, hygiene items and paper products. Delivery available.

Call 508-918-2291 and leave a message.

St. Vincent de Paul
Notice for November 2022 Bulletins
Current Food Pantry Needs

The St. Vincent de Paul Society cannot thank you enough for your donations to our food pantry. It is a blessing for us to be able to serve our neighbors and for them to experience the support of our parish. At this time the pantry is in need of the items listed below:

Crackers
Snacks
Spaghetti Sauce
Laundry detergent

SVdP members will put together grocery bags including paper products and laundry detergent for those who call St. Mary's in need of help. Donations may be placed in the boxes at the doors of the church anytime during the month. Thank you for your generosity and for your willingness to partner with our St. Mary's SVdP to help brighten the lives of those in our St. Mary's and Franklin community. God bless.



The **Knights of Columbus (Sacred Heart Council, Franklin MA)** is holding our annual Christmas Fundraiser at St. Mary Church in Franklin, MA for those who are “in need”. All proceeds will benefit the Society of St. Vincent de Paul. The Knights will have a table set up outside the church after Mass on Saturday, December 10th and Sunday, December 11th. They will be selling Stop & Shop gift cards (5% of sale benefits St. Vincent).

In recognition of significant need, we are also suggesting a second way you can share your generosity: by donating *one or more* of the gift cards you purchased (100% of donated cards benefit St. Vincent). **Simply drop a purchased gift card into the Donation Box.**

ONLINE GIVING OPTION: If people would prefer to contribute online, please visit our Website www.kofc1847.org. Online orders will accept Credit Cards.

On the website there will be a link(s) to *Donate Food Cards - Christmas Food Card Drive*. **(Please note that the website will accept donations for this food card drive from November 15th until December 15th.)**

We thank you in advance for your continued compassion and charity for those less fortunate.

Thank You for your Caring

Are you looking for some written inspiration this Advent and Christmas? Here is a hope-filled Advent book for adults titled *A Season of Little Sacraments: Christmas Commotion, Advent Grace*, by Susan Swetman, and a delightful children's Christmas book, *The Night of Las Posadas*, by Tomie DePaola. Susan Swetman's reality-affirming book is divided into four sections, one for each of the four weeks of Advent. She writes about her experiences of finding Christian meaning, and grace, amidst the day-to-day commotion and yearly rituals (writing the annual Christmas letter or decorating the Christmas tree, for example) of the Advent pre-Christmas season. DePaola's beautifully illustrated, *The Night of Las Posadas*, is based on a Latino tradition wherein a community re-enacts Joseph and Mary's search for a place to rest in Bethlehem. When the community members in one particular town who are chosen to play Joseph and Mary are held up by a storm, a miracle takes place which allows the re-enactment to come to its expected conclusion. Both books are available through the Franklin Town Library and from online booksellers.

A seven week bereavement support group
Is currently being held on Thursdays thru November at 1:30pm. This group will be held at St. Jude Parish
This peer support group is for anyone who has experienced a recent loss. Space is limited.

Please call Nan Rafter at 774-571-0092 to receive a place or to get further information.

Pieta, an ongoing support group for bereaved parents, will be holding its Annual Lighting Service on Sunday, November 27th at 2:00 PM at Blessed Sacrament Church, 10 Diamond St., Walpole MA. Parents who have lost a child of any age, no matter how long ago, are welcome to come together in prayer, song, and support. Each parent will light a candle in memory of their child. Please plan to arrive early to receive your child's name card and candle. Everyone is welcome.

For further information, please call: Pauline Medeiros 508-359-2953 or Janet McLaughlin 508-272-5415.



In addition to parishioners' intentions, the Respect Life Commission's intention is for all of our brothers and sisters who are facing the end of life. May their pain be eliminated and may they find peace in the anticipation of meeting our God

The Holy Father's Prayer Intentions For Children who Suffer

We pray for children who are suffering, especially those who are homeless, orphans, and victims of war; may they be guaranteed access to education and the opportunity to experience family affection

Protecting God's Children® for Adults is a program designed to assist members of the Catholic community in creating safe environments for our children and vulnerable adults. It is our sincere belief that all people deserve to be treated with dignity as well as to live and learn in an environment that is free from abuse. This program, which consists of videos, group discussion and specific safety recommendations, helps us to put our beliefs into action. *Protecting God's Children® for Adults* is open to all St. Mary's parishioners and is mandatory for many of our parish ministers. This program will be offered on Tuesday, November 29 from 7-9 PM in the Parish Pastoral Center (school). You need only attend one session to benefit from the program. Please call Leo Racine, Pastoral Associate, at the parish office (508-528-0020) or email him at pastoralassociate@stmarysfranklin.org for more information or to register.

Leo Racine, our pastoral associate, will present an Advent Adult Faith Formation program, Advent and Isaiah, on Sunday afternoon, December 4, from 3:00 to 4:00 in Sacred Heart Hall (Lower Church hall). Advent and Isaiah will focus on Isaiah's role as a prophet in his own time in Jewish history as well as the influence of his writings on our Christian experience of Advent. A video from the Bible Project as well as time for individual reflection, group discussion and prayer will be components of this program. Feel free to join us for this event. Contact Leo Racine at 508-528-0020 or pastoralassociate@stmarysfranklin.org for more information.

Please join the Franklin Knights of Columbus, Sacred Heart Council 1847 and St. Mary Church for a **Red Cross Blood Drive**. The Knights of Columbus, Sacred Heart Council 1847 is holding a Blood Drive run by the American Red Cross. It will be held on Friday, January 6, 2023 from 12 noon to 5:00pm. The drive will take place in the lower church hall at St. Mary Church, Franklin.

To make an appointment to give blood, call 1-800-RED-CROSS or log onto www.redcrossblood.org and use sponsor code KofCFranklin to schedule an appointment. Appointments are required, on the day of the blood drive there maybe a limited number of walk in appointments available.

If you have any questions or need further information please contact the Knights: Phil Prescott at 508-930-4588, Don Parker at 508-930-6473 or Mike Swan at 508-404-4792.

Thank you in advance for supporting this blood drive and the critical need for blood.

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Saint Mary's Church Presents Christmas Trivia Night

Take a break from your holiday, bustle and hustle yourself over to the Sacred Heart Hall in Saint Mary's Church on Tuesday, December 6th at 7PM for a Christmas trivia program. This program is free and open to the public.

The program will be hosted by the internationally acclaimed Krissy E (Ed Padden) with the help of the Quiz Belles of St. Mary's (Nancy Rappa and Beth Mucciarone) and the pert and perky Princess of PowerPoint (Mary Padden).

The program will begin with a brief series of hopefully humorous Christmas cartoons and pictures. There will follow a group of written and oral quizzes with full audience participation. All quizzes will pertain to Christmas subjects, including vocabulary, television, movies, music, literature, history, tradition, and more.

Pens and buzzers and answer sheets will be provided, but attendees are asked to supply their own sense of humor and holiday spirit. The highlight of the evening will be the final fifty-question ultimate Christmas test—**the Krissy Krismas Kriz.**

Be prepared for a fast-moving, informal and entertaining night of Christmas fun.

The Saint Vincent de Paul Society is once again sponsoring the **Christmas Caring Tree** gift giving program. Last year, due to your generosity we were able to help 156 Franklin adults and 85 Franklin children in need for a total of 241 neighbors.

Over the past two years, we made some major changes to the program due to the pandemic. Because of ongoing COVID health concerns, these changes will continue. Instead of gifts, as in prior years, we will be providing gift cards to those in need so they may purchase Christmas gifts at the store of their choice.

We are happy to bring back the Christmas Caring Tree that will be located in the front alcove of the church, left of the main altar. **In order to ensure that all parishioners who would like to participate can, we are asking that you take no more than two ornaments from the tree. Please return all gift cards to a box located by the tree by the weekend of November 26 and 27.** This will ensure that the committee can distribute all gift cards the first week of December so families in need will have time to shop.

If you would rather make a monetary donation of any amount instead of purchasing a gift card, this would also be appreciated. Checks should be made out to St. Mary's SVDP. Checks or cash donations can be sent in an envelope to the address below or dropped in the collection basket at Mass. If dropping off a donation, please mark it for "Caring Tree Program". Gift cards should be placed in the marked box by the tree. As with the gift cards, please mail or drop off all monetary donations by November 26-27.

Thank you all for your willingness to help those in our community who will benefit from our support during the holiday season!

St Mary's Parish
c/o SVDP Caring Tree Program
One Church Square
Franklin, MA 02038



The parish website, <https://www.stmarysfranklin.org/>, has recently undergone some major updates. As time goes on and changes occur, additional updates will be made.