


Saint Mary Catholic Parish Family

Established June 30, 2006 - Serving Boxford, Byfield, Georgetown, Rowley
94 Andover Street, Georgetown, MA 01833 - Church & Parish Office
202 Main Street, Rowley, MA - Church



*But that you may know that the
Son of Man has authority to forgive
sins on earth-- he said to the paralytic,
"I say to you, rise, pick up your mat,
and go home." Mark 2:10-11 (NAB)*

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Web Site: www.SaintMaryParish.org E-Mail: Rectory@parishmail.com
Office: 978-352-2024 Religious Education Office: 978-352-6540 Fax: 978-352-2308

February 19, 2012



**202 Main Street
Rowley, MA**

Saint Mary Parish

Serving Boxford, Byfield, Georgetown & Rowley

Parish Mission Statement

St. Mary Parish is a living and loving community of believers seeking a deep and abiding faith in Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior. We depend on His love to guide and nourish us in our quest for holiness. Gathered around the Word of God and His holy sacraments, we are called to be witnesses of Him by our service to our people, our families, our neighborhoods and our world. We strive to provide a warm welcoming home for all the People of God.



**94 Andover Street
Georgetown, MA**

Parish Office Hours

Rectory

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Tues. – Fri. from 9AM to 1PM

Closed Monday - President's Day

(978) 352-2024

ECE Office See page 9

(978) 352-6540

Regular Mass Schedule

Saturday - 4:30 PM - Georgetown

Sunday - 9:00 AM - Rowley

11:00 AM - Georgetown

Monday & Tuesday - 8:00 AM - Rowley

Thursday - 7:00 PM - Georgetown

Friday - 9:00 AM - Georgetown

PARISH E-MAIL ADDRESSES

Fr. Bob Poitras	RPoitras@parishmail.com
Deacon Paul Dow	PDow@parishmail.com
Catholic Education	StMaryECE@parishmail.com
Music - Chandler Noyes	chnoyes@comcast.net
Music - Pat McDonough	patricia@tasctech.com
Youth Ministry - Mary	MSoucy@parishmail.com
Business Manager - Nan	NHadley@parishmail.com
Secretary - Maureen	MCannon@parishmail.com
All Committees	Rectory@parishmail.com

Web Site - www.SaintMaryParish.org

Blog - www.StMaryECE.wordpress.com

In Our Thoughts and Prayers

Abbey Killam, Jacqueline St. Martin, Joseph Karas, Kristen Ascenzi, Rita Maglione, Barbara DeAngelis, Frank Tortorella, Thomas Michael Morse, Deb Baronas, Anne Bergstrom, Barbara Bergstrom, Alanna Casey, John Clark, Vivian Clark, Richard Curry, Cameron Cyr, Dolores Domenico, Phyllis Fischer, Michael Gaunce, Michael Geary, Margaret Hanlon, Vivian M. Hughes, Natalie Keefe, McKinley Rose Nicholas, Marianne Riley, Joan Rollins, Tom Shalkoski, Amber Talbot, Nadine Tuzzalino, Al Fortunato, and all the ill of our parish.

PLEASE ALSO REMEMBER

Anna Zieminski (Carolyn Turbide's mother) and all our faithful departed.

Mass Intentions for the Week

Saturday	February	18	G	4:30 PM	Catherine E. McCarthy (B-Day Remembrance)
Sunday	February	19	R	9:00 AM	Robert Fugere (10th Anniv.), deceased members of the Fugere & Buote Families
Sunday	February	19	G	11:00 AM	Karen Skalecki & Nick Parisi
Monday	February	20	R	8:00 AM	Intentions of the Celebrant
Tuesday	February	21	R	8:00 AM	Intentions of the Celebrant
Wednesday	February	22	R	8:00AM 7:00PM	Ash Wednesday Ash Wednesday
Thursday	February	23	G	7:00 PM	Greg. H. Park
Friday	February	24	G	9:00 AM	Intentions of the Celebrant
Saturday	February	25	G	4:30 PM	People of the Parish
Sunday	February	26	R	9:00 AM	Leo & Florence McKenney
Sunday	February	26	G	11:00 AM	Al Fortunato (for healing)



February 19, 2012

The Parish 411

Coming Events

February 21	Women's Club See page 7
February 21	ECE Service Day 9AM - 4PM (G)
February 22	Youth Group Tubing Event See page 7
February 24	Stations of the Cross (G) 7:00PM Collation 7:30 sponsored by Women's Club
February 25	Ultreya (G) 5:30

Offertory Information

Weekend Collections

Sixth Sunday of Ordinary Time

February 12 - \$5,131.77

Last week's collection for Fuel was \$21,851.00

Thank you for your Faithfulness and Generosity!

Securing Our Future Together - Capital Campaign

Total Pledges Received - \$357,175.00

Cash Amount Received To Date - \$331,658.82

Upcoming Second Collection

Next week's 2nd collection is for the **Church in Africa and in Central and Eastern Europe**. These collections help the Church spread God and train Church leaders of tomorrow, help needy families materially and spiritually, rebuild churches that have fallen, and support the sisters and brothers who have suffered for the faith. For more information, please visit www.usccb.org/churchinafrica and www.usccb.org/aee.

Notes from Father Bob

As you saw during the video homily this weekend from Cardinal O'Malley, he taught us of the dangers that assisted suicide poses should it become legal. The Cardinal also reminded us that, we have the responsibility to defend the principle that each of us has the right to live each day until the time we are called to eternal life. This coming November, people in Massachusetts will be faced with a ballot initiative, that if passed, will de-criminalize doctor prescribed suicide in our Commonwealth. We, as Catholics, are defenders and believers in the right to life. Please do all you can to pray and work for proper education and understanding of our individual right to life. Visit suicideisalwaysatragedy.org for more information.



It may be hard to believe but this coming Wednesday marks the beginning of Lent. A 40 day journey that culminates with the most solemn of Liturgies in our Church Calendar, Holy Week, and most especially, the Easter Triduum. This Coming Wednesday we will celebrate Ash Wednesday at 8am in our Rowley church and at 7pm in our Georgetown church. During the Liturgy we will be signed with blessed ashes and the minister will say, "Repent and believe in the Gospel." With these words we are reminded that a new opportunity awaits us on this Lenten journey. We have the opportunity to devote ourselves to building a stronger more meaningful relationship with our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. If we commit ourselves to the simple practices of prayer, almsgiving, and fasting, over the course of these 40 days, we will discover the real potential inside each of us. The potential that God placed in each one of us. These three, ancient practices call us to a self dying so that on Easter Sunday morning as we rise out of the darkness we will see our life and the life of the world around us in a new light, the light of Christ's resurrection. Don't let the Lenten season catch you off guard, but take time before this Wednesday to search for the ways in which you can add the practices into your daily life.

This Lent will also be a very special time for our Parish, as we journey with our two Catechumens, Melissa and Kerri. Next weekend they will leave from our Church and join hundreds of Catechumens at the Cathedral of the Holy Cross in Boston. Cardinal Sean will welcome them and ask them to sign a book, the book of the Elect. This begins their final steps to becoming full members of the Catholic Church at our Saturday night Easter Vigil in April. Please continue to pray for Melissa and Kerri as they commit themselves to following the way of the Christ.

Peace and Blessings, Fr. Bob



CALLING ALL GIRL SCOUTS! Boxford, Byfield, Georgetown & Rowley

Join us for Girl Scout Sunday

March 11 at the 11:00AM Mass in Georgetown

Come celebrate the 100th year of Girl Scouting. For questions, email Robyn Blum at rblum@parishmail.com.

Patches will be available to purchase.

Parish News

St. Mary's 5th Annual

Italian Night

And Pasta Sauce Cook-Off

Saturday, March 3, 5:30
Georgetown Church Hall

Tickets available after every Mass on

February 18-19 & 25-26

\$5.00 per family

Includes pasta to sample the sauces, salad, bread and ice cream sundae



Everyone is invited to enter their favorite sauce!

Vote for your favorite!

Bring your heated sauce in a crock-pot to the hall by 4:30.

Register your entry by email

Bonnie.lucas@gmail.com

Or phone (978) 887-1978

St. Patrick's Day Comedy Night And Dinner Dance



Sponsored by the Knights of Columbus

Saturday, March 17 @7:00PM
Rowley Church Hall
Doors open at 5:30PM

Please join us for a Boiled Dinner, Comedy Show and Music & Dancing. Tickets are \$35 and are available at the rectory, the Rowley Pharmacy and at all Masses February 26.

For more information, contact Tom at 978 771-1931 or Darryl at 617240-5372.

Sanctuary Lamps



The Sanctuary Lamps next to each Tabernacle in our worship spaces burn brightly to remind us of the Real Presence of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

The week of February 19th the lamps are burning in memory of:

Karen Skalecki & Nick Parisi

Scripture for the week of February 19, 2012

19	SUN	Is 43:18-19, 21-22, 24b-25/2 Cor 1:18-22/Mk 2:1-12
20	Mon	Jas 3:13-18/Mk 9:14-29
21	Tue	Jas 4:1-10/Mk 9:30-37
22	Wed	Jl 2:12-18/2 Cor 5:20—6:2/Mt 6:1-6, 16-18
23	Thu	Dt 30:15-20/Lk 9:22-25
24	Fri	Is 58:1-9a/Mt 9:14-15
25	Sat	Is 58:9b-14/Lk 5:27-32
26	SUN	Gn 9:8-15/1 Pt 3:18-22/Mk 1:12-15

Youth Group Snow Tubing Event

All Middle & High School Students are invited to an evening of snow tubing during School Winter Vacation.

Wednesday February 22

4:00-7:00 pm

Amesbury Sports Park

\$24/pp for 3 hours of Tubing Fun

Pizza Party to follow at the Georgetown Rectory Youth Group Room

Please e-mail MSoucy@Parishmail.com if interested in joining and to get a consent form.

St. Mary's Night at the BOSTON POPS

Tuesday, May 22, 2012

The program is VISIONS OF AMERICA SYMPHONY. It will feature award-winning Joseph Sohm's images from his book, "VISIONS OF AMERICA."

"HOW DO YOU PHOTOGRAPH DEMOCRACY", offers a sweeping portrait of American Life and a compelling music score by Roger Kellaway with lyrics by the legendary team of Alan and Marilyn Bergman. The cost is \$65.00 and includes coach bus transportation and ticket for the First Balcony center. The bus will leave St Mary's parking lot at 6:30pm and return approximately 10:45pm.

To order tickets, or with questions or concerns, please call Rosemary Morse at 978-352-7175, cell 978-376-4083. All monies must be into the Pops office the middle of April.

PARISHWIDE SEWING EVENT!

Join us for an afternoon of sewing! Bring a project to work on and get fellowship, advice and help with cranky sewing machines.

Saturday, March 10, 1:00 - 6:00PM
(feel free to take a break for the 4:30 Mass)

For more information or to sign up, email arhodes@parishmail.com.

Miscellaneous



United States Conference of Catholic Bishops

3211 FOURTH STREET NE • WASHINGTON DC 20017-1194 • 202-541-3103 • FAX 202-541-3166

Conscience Rights, Religious Liberty Violated by Sweeping HHS Contraceptive Mandate

On January 20, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) reaffirmed a rule that virtually all private health care plans must cover sterilization, abortifacients, and contraception. The exemption provided for "religious employers" is so narrow that it fails to cover the vast majority of faith-based organizations, including Catholic hospitals, universities, and service organizations that help millions every year. Ironically, not even Jesus & his disciples would have qualified, because of their commitment to serve others.

President Obama's February 10 offer of a limited and unclear compromise does not change the urgent need for legislation to correct such threats to religious liberty and conscience rights. The Respect for Rights of Conscience Act has been introduced in Congress (H.R. 1179, S. 1467) to ensure that those who participate in the health care system "retain the right to provide, purchase, or enroll in health coverage that is consistent with their religious beliefs and moral convictions." It is more important than ever that Members of Congress be urged to co-sponsor this measure – or thanked if they are already co-sponsoring the bill. For the list of current co-sponsors, please check [H.R. 1179](#) and [S. 1467](#) at: thomas.loc.gov.

ACTION: Contact your U.S. Representative by e-mail, phone, or FAX letter:

- Call the U.S. Capitol switchboard at: 202-224-3121, or call your Members' local offices.
- Send your email to congress through www.usccb.org/conscience.
- Additional contact info can be found on Members' web sites at: www.house.gov and www.senate.gov.

MESSAGE: "Please co-sponsor the Respect for Rights of Conscience Act (H.R. 1179, S. 1467) and help enact it into law. The Obama administration's decision to require even religious institutions to provide coverage of sterilization and contraceptives, including drugs that can cause an abortion, makes passage of this measure especially urgent. Please ensure that the rights of conscience of all participants in our nation's health care system are respected."

WHEN: Now is the time to build cosponsors. Please act today! Thanks!

For more background information, go to www.usccb.org/conscience.

2-10-12

Parish Clubs & Organizations

Saint Mary's Youth Group *Fun, Faith & Friends*



High School - Wed., Mar. 7 - 7:00PM

Middle School - Fri., Mar 9 - 7:00PM

If you have any questions, please contact the Youth Minister, Mary Fretwell at MSoucy@parishmail.com.

We look down on you because you are young, but set an example for the believers in speech, in life, in love, in faith and in purity." 1 Timothy 4:12

Parish Festivities Committee

Join the Festivities Committee and help our parish provide wonderful events for you, our parishioners! We host several events throughout the year in both Georgetown and Rowley. If you like to provide ideas, decorate for parties, or like to help with setting up for events, we could use help wherever your talents shine! If you are interested in volunteering to help, contact Bonnie Lucas at bonnie.lucas@gmail.com.

Church Choir

Our choirs sing at all of the weekend Masses. Anyone interested in participating, please contact the following music directors:
Georgetown: Chandler Noyes (978) 352-8752 or chnoyes@comcast.net
Rowley: Pat McDonough (978) 948-2659 or fivebrothers@comcast.net

BLESSED JOHN PAUL MEN'S GROUP

7:30 – 8:45AM

St. Mary Church Hall, Rowley

Winter Schedule

February 25, March 24

For more information, call Peter Carpentier at (978) 500-2119 or Joe Soucy, at (978) 479-7880.



Rite of Initiation of Adults **RCIA**

If you are not a Catholic and have thought about one with us,
(Or you know someone who has a desire to become a Catholic)

This is the process for you.

Please contact Deacon Paul Dow @ 978-887-5350
pauldow@parishmail.com

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

Our local Knights of Columbus chapter is always looking for new members. This Catholic men's organization is known as the "strong right arm of the Church" and also offers wonderful benefits for those who become members. For more details, contact Tom Parisi at 978-352-8880 or www.georgetownkofc.org



Women's Club

The next meeting will be on **February 21 at 7:00 PM** in the Georgetown Church Hall.



The topic this month is **Women's Heart Health**. Wear red and come be informed and celebrate women's health with speaker, Carol DeForrest. Heart healthy snacks will be served!

The Women's Club is open to all Women of the Parish over 18 years of age. Come and bring a friend!

For more information, please contact Karen Rowe at (978) 352-2598.

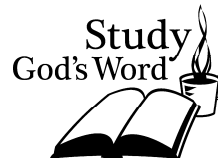
This year knit or crochet someone a gift of love!

Join our prayer shawl ministry!

Directions and information can be sent to you from the Rectory. Call 978-352-2024 or email Rectory@Parishmail.com.



There is some yarn available for pick-up at the rectory.



Study
God's Word

Bible Study

Wednesday Mornings - 11AM - 1PM

OR

Monday Evenings - 7PM - 9PM

Both Classes are in the Georgetown Hall

For more information contact Bob Sullivan at bsully711@comcast.net.

BLOOD PRESSURE CLINIC

Once a month we offer a blood pressure screening to our parishioners. It is hosted by nurses in our parish who generously volunteer their time. The next clinic is the weekend of March 3 & 4 at both churches at all of the Masses. **If you are interested in volunteering, please contact the rectory at (978) 352-2024.**

Evangelization & Catholic Education

Children's Gospel

Seventh Sunday of Ordinary Time
Don't give up

Gospel (Mark 2:1-12)

After Jesus had cured a leper, news of his power spread far and wide. Wherever he stayed, crowds of people gathered outside to hear him preach or hoping that he might cure them. One day, as Jesus was preaching, four men carrying a stretcher arrived. The man on the stretcher was paralyzed and could not walk, and his friends hoped that Jesus would cure him. Because the crowds were so great, there was not much room, and they could not carry the stretcher close to Jesus. So they climbed onto the roof and made a hole above where Jesus was standing.

Then they lowered the stretcher down gently on long ropes. Their faith in Jesus was plain for all to see. Jesus said to the paralyzed man, "Get up take your stretcher and walk home, my friend."

Everyone watched in amazement as the man got up, picked up his mat, and hurried out to his friends, praising God for all his goodness.

Let's talk about the Gospel

The story shows us that when our belief in Jesus is strong enough, nothing is impossible. Against all the odds, the friends of the paralyzed man were determined to get him close to Jesus. They had complete faith that Jesus would have the power and the compassion to cure their friend. When faith is so strong, Jesus will never turn us away but will reach out to help us.

Prayer

Let us pray for sick and disabled people everywhere. May their faith and belief in Jesus be strong, so that his love will reach out with its healing touch. Amen

LET'S LAUGH



"I made a New Year's resolution to eat more fruit, but surely I can't be expected to go through with it after that!"

FILL IN THE GAPS

The sentences below are missing key words. Can you find the correct ones? (They are all in today's readings.)

- In the _____ I make a _____, in the wasteland, _____.
- As _____ is _____, our _____ to you is not "yes" and "no."
- There was no _____ room for them, not _____ around the _____.
- They _____ bringing to him a _____ carried by _____ men.
- He rose, _____ up his mat at once, and went away in the _____ of _____.

ANSWERS

1. desert, way, rivers 2. God, faithful, word
3. longer, even, door 4. came, paralytic, four
5. picked, sight, everyone

Evangelization and Catholic Education

Alleluia



Directors: Robyn Blum (K-5) and Annie Rhodes (6-11), Secretary: Julie Potter
978-352-6540 StMaryECE@parishmail.com

ECE Blog: www.stmaryece.wordpress.com
Confirmation I blog: www.stmaryalpha.wordpress.com

Office Hours: Mon 6-8pm and Thurs 4-6 pm in the Georgetown Hall
Mon and Thurs 9:30-11:30 am in the Georgetown Rectory

Schedule Reminder:

No ECE Classes today,
Sunday, February 19!

No Family Teach/MakeUp Hours
on Mon, Feb 20 or Thurs, Feb 23.

Enjoy your February vacation!

ECE classes resume on Sunday,
February 26, with **A week.**

ECE Gr 9 and 10 Fundraiser:

Are you a gardener? Would you like
plants delivered to your doorstep,
while you support the ECE program?

Purchase bulbs or plants from our
Flower Power catalog through a 9th or
10th grader before April 1 and fully
HALF of your purchase comes back to
the ECE program!

Inexpensive \$5 flat rate delivery fee!
Order for yourself, order for a friend!

Can't find a 9th or 10th grader?
Order online! Go to

www.flowerpowerfundraising.com

Click on "Place your order" in the
upper right and search for
"St. Mary ECE Program"

or go to the ECE blog for a direct link.

Reminder: Confirmation II (Gr 10) Retreat is coming up!

Saturday, March 3, 2012

Students:

9 am—3:30 pm, Rowley Hall

Students and Parents:

3:30 pm—4 pm, Rowley Church

Parent volunteers needed,
especially for setup on Friday
morning, lunchtime on Sat and
packing up on Sat afternoon.

MS Chastity Program

Saturday, March 10, 9 am — 12:30 pm
Georgetown Hall

This program is **mandated for all 7th
grade students**
by the Archdiocese of Boston.

If you think your 6th grader is ready for it,
they are welcome to join us.

If you would prefer to wait until 8th
grade, we will allow that.

**But ALL students must attend
before leaving 8th grade.**

Attendance will be taken.
Parents are welcome to attend.

Outreach & Sacraments

OUTREACH MINISTRY



Are you interested in being an Outreach Volunteer?

Please contact the Office (978) 352-2024 or email Rectory@parishmail.com

One of Mother Teresa's Quotes on Love - God told us, "Love your neighbor as yourself." So first I am to love myself rightly, and then to love my neighbor like that. But how

can I love myself unless I accept myself as God has made me?
—Mother Teresa

Communion Calls – Eucharistic Outreach Ministers will regularly visit the sick, homebound, and disabled.

It is our joy to provide this gift, so please call!

Hospitals – We take the Eucharist to the Anna Jacques & Merrimack Valley hospitals on a weekly basis.

Nursing Homes – Monthly, our ministers visit Oxford Manor, Seaview Retreat Center and Carleton House. If you know of another facility in our parish that would need this ministry, please let us know.

Prayer Shawl Ministry – This ministry is led by Jacquelyn St. Martin. The Prayer Shawl provides the comfort of hand-knitted shawls to the ill; they not only keep them warm physically but remind them that they share in the prayers of the community. ***Call the Parish Office for someone you love today... heal their hearts and bodies!***

Please contact the Parish Office if you or a loved one is hospitalized. This is very important to us. We want to know that you or a loved one is in need of our support. Please indicate when being admitted that you wish to have visits from family, friends, or clergy. HIPAA will not allow us to inquire otherwise. ***If we are not informed, we can not reach out, and we want to be there!***

Looking for Friendly Visitors

Looking for volunteers, families, or individuals to share an hour a month with a nursing home-bound senior at Baker-Katz in Haverhill - just for conversation, reading, or walking. There is a need, and it's a beautiful way to shine Christ's love. Many never get any company at all. For more info., call Joel Boutin at (508) 294 8337. **God Bless You.**

Remember Saint Mary Parish Family

When making your final wishes known, please remember Saint Mary Parish Family. To make sure your final wishes are the way you want them, have your attorney contact the Archdiocese for precise wording (617) 245-0100.

BAPTISM

Baptisms are typically scheduled on the Fourth Sunday of the month.

Odd months - Georgetown Site 1:00 PM

Even months - Rowley Site 1:30 PM

To schedule, please contact the rectory at 978-352-2024.

CRITERIA FOR GODPARENTS AND SPONSORS FOR CONFIRMATION

1. At least 16 years of age
2. Already Confirmed
3. A practicing Catholic (Leads a Catholic lifestyle)

MARRIAGE PREPARATION

A marriage ceremony is relatively brief - the marriage is for a lifetime. The Church wants couples to prepare for the marriage - not just the ceremony. Please address the following:

- Notify parish at least **SIX MONTHS in advance**
- Request a personal interview with priest to set date & time
- Complete the necessary paperwork
- Attend marriage preparation sessions
- Plan ceremony and set time for rehearsal

Reconciliation

Saturday 3:30 to 4:00 PM - Georgetown site

If you would like to make an appointment for a time during the week, please call the rectory at 978-352-2024.

SACRAMENT OF THE SICK



The Sacrament of the Sick is a sacrament given for healing and recovery. Those who are ill or entering a hospital and wish to receive the Sacrament of the Sick prior to admission may do so by calling the rectory.

Bringing Up Altar Gifts

If a Mass is being said for a family member and you would like to bring up the gifts, please let the ushers and greeters know on your way into church.

Contact the rectory to have a Mass said for your family member, 978-352-2024.

Harness Your Energy

in service to the Gospel!

This was the message Pope Benedict XVI gave to youth during his visit to New York City in 2008. Are you ready to follow that call to harness YOUR ENERGY to share the life source of all? Harness your energy to serve God's people as a priest, brother, sister or deacon. Be in service to the Gospel.

For more info., call the Vocation Office at (617) 746-5436.