

ST. MARY OF THE ASSUMPTION PARISH

NORTH AMERICAN MARTYRS CHAPEL



MASSSES

ST. MARY OF THE ASSUMPTION

Saturday 4:00 p.m.

Sunday 9:00 a.m. (Beginning 2/4/18)

Monday-Thursday 8:00 a.m.

NORTH AMERICAN MARTYRS CHAPEL

Saturday 5:45 p.m., Holy Days 7:00 p.m.

FATHER MATTHEW GUIDI

Pastor

DEACON BOB HITTER

Director of Religious Education

MICHELLE FRANCESCONI

Director of Operations

ANN CAIN

Director of Music Ministries

TOM ROMANIAK

Maintenance

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

ST. MARY OF THE ASSUMPTION

159 CHURCH STREET, CHESHIRE, MA 01225

WWW.SAINTMARYSCATHOLIC.ORG

OFFICE@SAINTMARYSCATHOLIC.ORG

413-743-2110

Sunday - 8:00 a.m. to noon

Monday - Wednesday - 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

OUR PARISH IS A CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY OF BELIEVERS, PROVIDING A WELCOMING ATMOSPHERE TO EVERYONE.

WE ARE CALLED TO BE A FAMILY OF GOD'S PEOPLE THROUGH WORSHIP,
TEACHING, AND SERVICE AS WE PASS OUR FAITH FROM ONE GENERATION TO THE NEXT.

JANUARY 21, 2018

MASST INTENTIONS

ST. MARY OF THE ASSUMPTION

SATURDAY, JANUARY 20, 2018

4:00 p.m. Danny
Req. by His Mom & Dad

SUNDAY, JANUARY 21, 2018

8:30 a.m. Priscilla Berti
Req. by Joan Maznicki
11:00 a.m. For the Parishioners and People of
St. Mary of the Assumption Parish

MONDAY, JANUARY 22, 2018

8:00 a.m. Joseph V. Fitzgerald
Req. by Mary, Mother of Hope Parish

TUESDAY, JANUARY 23, 2018

8:00 a.m. Marian Megazzini
Req. by Mary, Mother of Hope Parish

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 24, 2018

8:00 a.m. Special Intention
Req. by Carole Pyra

THURSDAY, JANUARY 25, 2018

8:00 a.m. For the Parishioners and People of
St. Mary of the Assumption Parish

FRIDAY, JANUARY 26, 2018

8:00 a.m. No Mass

SATURDAY, JANUARY 27, 2018

4:00 p.m. Bea Ames
Req. by Joanne Pasquini

SUNDAY, JANUARY 28, 2018

8:30 a.m. Pat Berti
Req. by Joanne Pasquini
11:00 a.m. For the Parishioners and People of
St. Mary of the Assumption Parish

NORTH AMERICAN MARTYRS

SATURDAY, JANUARY 20, 2018

5:45 p.m. Donald Rooke
Req. by Mary, Mother of Hope Parish

SATURDAY, JANUARY 28, 2018

5:45 p.m. Doris Mottarella - Birthday Remembrance
Req. by The Patriquin Family

ALL GIFTS GIVEN
IN MEMORY OF
THE DECEASED MEMBERS OF OUR PARISH

NEWS AND UPDATES

SUNDAY MASS TIME CHANGES

Effective Sunday, February 4th, there will be one Sunday Mass at 9:00 a.m. at St. Mary's. Religious Education classes will immediately follow the Mass and take place from 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. The 8:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. Masses are being combined into the 9:00 a.m. time slot.

This decision was based on several factors. Although we often had 40-50 people in attendance at the 11:00 a.m. Mass, the attendance was inconsistent and not at the level we had hoped for. We are also looking to provide a unified worship experience just as Jesus wants, which is for us to worship with one mind and one heart. Surveys which were completed by Religious Education families earlier this winter, indicated a 50/50 split of those who preferred the later Mass time vs. the earlier Mass time. Consolidating both Masses back into one, but at a more convenient time, will hopefully allow us to build our parish community and create unity. Fr. Matthew, through prayerful consideration, has determined this is the best way to make people feel accepted, loved, and welcomed into our parish community. It is also our hope to get younger generations back in the regular practice of the Catholic faith and attending Mass weekly as this decline is having serious effects and consequences on the vitality of the Church in the 21st century.

St. Mary's will retain the Saturday Mass at 4:00 p.m. and North American Martyrs will continue to have a 5:45 p.m. Mass on Saturdays. Earlier last year, we had conducted a survey at NAM pertaining to Mass times. The majority of responses to that survey indicated the preferred time for Mass at NAM was at 5:45 p.m. on Saturdays which is why it will remain unchanged.

It is our intention to maintain Mass times in order to provide continuity and stability for the parish. That being said, there is no plan to make changes to Mass times again in the near future. **Please continue to pray for families and the younger generations to return to the Church.**

- Thank you in advance for your support and God Bless!

2018 CALENDARS

2018 Calendars, which are generously donated by Dery Funeral home to our parish annually, are now available at both St. Mary's and NAM. This year's calendars are bright and cheerful. They include Holy Days, special church information, and more! The new design makes them perfect to give as a gift to children and/or families, so be sure to grab one soon. Thank you Dery's Funeral Home!

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STMARYOFTHE0039

PARISH EVENTS & DATES ALL EVENTS ARE AT ST. MARY'S UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED

TUESDAY, JANUARY 30TH

New Spirit Retreat - Confirmation Students

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 4TH

Blessing of the Throats - Feast of St. Blaise

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 14TH

Ash Wednesday

SUNDAY, APRIL 1ST

Easter

NEWS AND UPDATES

SNOW REMOVAL & SALTING

We are looking for volunteers to do snow removal and salting for the sidewalks and walkways at both St. Mary's and NAM in order to help us stay within our budget. We are in need of approximately 7-8 volunteers for St. Mary's and 4 for NAM. We already have three for each location. We can provide additional details if you are interested or would like more information. Also, please consider contributing to snow removal in the special collection envelope if you are able. Thank you for your help!!!

PARISH LISTENING SESSION

As part of Bishop Mitch's efforts to gather information to allow a Pastoral Synod to take effect, he will be holding numerous listening sessions throughout the diocese beginning in February, with the local session set for March 6th at St. Joseph's. **In preparation for those listening sessions, Fr. Matthew has decided to hold a listening session for our parish which will directly pertain to the questions which will be asked at the diocesan sessions. Our parish session, which we encourage members of both North American Martyrs and St. Mary's to attend, will be held at 7:00 p.m. in the St. Mary's hall on Monday, January 29th** directly following the rescheduled Pastoral Council Meeting to be held at 6:00 p.m. that same day. Each question will be given 20 minutes of response time. Each participant will be given 1 minute to respond. The questions are: 1. What is the Church doing? 2. What is the Church doing but needs improvement? 3. What Should the Church be doing?. We hope to see many of you at our parish session!

YEAR END GIVING STATEMENTS

Year end giving statements are now available upon request. Please contact the office if you would like to obtain a copy. You may also access your own giving statement online through your online parish account. If you have questions about accessing your online account or would like more information about the software, please contact the office. - Thank you!

OUR GIVING

WEEKEND OF JANUARY 13TH & 14TH

Regular Collection	\$2,846.00	Snow Removal	\$178.00
Fuel	\$375.00	Christmas	\$45.00
Solemnity of Mary	\$25.00	Elms College	\$30.00

LOCAL PRO-LIFE MASS & MARCH

There will be a Pro-Life Mass, sponsored by the Knights of Columbus Bishop Conaty Assembly, on Sunday, January 21st at 11:30 a.m. at St. Joseph's Church in Pittsfield. Weather permitting, there will be a March for Life following Mass from the church around St. Joseph High School and back to North Chapel for a reception and light refreshments. Pro-Life of Pioneer Valley will also hold a March for Life on January 22nd starting at 10:30 a.m. at St. Michael's Cathedral, Springfield, MA.

FREE SEMINAR

There will be a free seminar presented by Ed St. John III on "Elder Abuse, Neglect and Financial Exploitation" at the Community/Senior Center on School St. in Cheshire on Wednesday, January 24th at 1:00 p.m. There will be no charge for this informative and important session.

INTRODUCTION TO BEE KEEPING SEMINAR

On Saturday, January 27th from 1:00 - 3:00 p.m. at the Adams Visitors Center, the Northern Berkshire Beekeepers Association will be explaining the importance of honey bees and pollination. They will talk about the apiary equipment needed to be a bee keeper and also the products that come from beekeeping. This event is FREE and open to the public.

For more information please call 413-743-3356.

HELP TO END ALZHEIMER'S

Team Corinne is currently looking for members to help with their efforts with the Walk to End Alzheimer's. You must be willing to donate your time for fundraisers, attend meetings, and be a good team player. If you or someone you know is interested, please contact Lisa Ryan-Cullen, Team Captain, at 413-449-4075 or Susanna Thomas, Team Co-Captain, at 413-329-8892.

FROM BISHOP MITCH

On January 30th from 6:00 to 8:30 p.m., Bishop will hold a "Faith on Tap" dialogue with Lutheran Bishop James Hazelwood at The Student Prince Restaurant, 8 Fort Street, Springfield. They will discuss the 500th anniversary of the Reformation and the many ways both faith communities have greatly improved relations in recent years. Free appetizers courtesy of The Student Prince will be served. Information on these events is available at www.iobserve.org and www.diospringfield.org.

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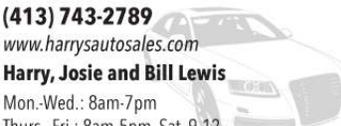
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