

ST. MARY OF THE ASSUMPTION PARISH

NORTH AMERICAN MARTYRS CHAPEL



MASSES

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

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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.

MARCH 4, 2018

MASST INTENTIONS

ST. MARY OF THE ASSUMPTION

SATURDAY, MARCH 3, 2018

4:00 p.m. Gladys Skubel
Req. by Leo Skubel

SUNDAY, MARCH 4, 2018

9:00 a.m. Florence, Eileen, & Dorothy Sampson
Req. by Diane, Pat, & Peggy

MONDAY, MARCH 5, 2018

8:00 a.m. Gabrielle Dufresne
Req. by Fr. Matthew Guidi

TUESDAY, MARCH 6, 2018

8:00 a.m. Fr. John T. Dean
Req. by Our Parish Family

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 7, 2018

8:00 a.m. Dennis O'Shea
Req. by Mary, Mother of Hope Parish

THURSDAY, MARCH 8, 2018

8:00 a.m. For the Parishioners and People of
Our Parish Community

FRIDAY, MARCH 9, 2018

8:00 a.m. No Mass

SATURDAY, MARCH 10, 2018

4:00 p.m. Zelia Betit
Req. by Irene

SUNDAY, MARCH 11, 2018

9:00 a.m. Pat Berti
Req. by Patricia Deame

NORTH AMERICAN MARTYRS

SATURDAY, MARCH 3, 2018

5:45 p.m. Dick Maynard
Req. by Preston Tracy

SATURDAY, MARCH 10, 2018

5:45 p.m. Alexander D. Clement - Birthday
Remembrance
Req. by The Patriquin Family

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

NEWS AND UPDATES

LENT & EASTER SCHEDULE

Stations of the Cross followed by Adoration & Confession

St. Mary's Chapel Wednesdays through March 28th 3:30 p.m.

Holy Thursday, March 29th - St. Mary's 7:00 p.m.

Good Friday, March 30th - St. Mary's

Stations of the Cross 3:30 p.m. / Service 7:00 p.m.

Holy Saturday, March 31st - Easter Vigil Mass

St. Mary's Bonfire 7:45 p.m. / Mass 8:00 p.m.

Easter Sunday, April 1st

St. Mary's 9:00 a.m. / N.A.M. 11:00 a.m.

SOUP & BREAD SUPPER

Our annual Soup & Bread Supper is on Monday, March 12th at 6:00 p.m. in the parish hall. Tickets are available now after all Masses and are FREE, just bring a non-perishable food item on the night of the event. Come and enjoy a peaceful, prayerful, Lenten supper with family and friends. *If you would like to contribute bread or soup, there are sign-up sheets at all church doors. **Soup makers must sign up by March 4th** to ensure a place at the serving table. Please indicate the type of soup you will be contributing.* We are looking forward to this wonderful annual tradition and are hopeful you will be able to join us! Be sure to get your tickets before the hall fills!

LENTEN MISSION - THE FOUR TERESAS

St. Elizabeth of Hungary is sponsoring a three day Lenten Mission featuring Jaymie Stuart Wolfe of Ave Maria Press. **This will be a down-to-earth exploration of the lives of the four "Teresas" - Teresa of Avila, Therese of Lisieux, Teresa Benedicta of the Cross, and Mother Teresa of Calcutta - and discover how they can help you more fully embrace your faith in your daily life.** The series will take place in St. Elizabeth's parish center, 64 St. Anthony Dr., North Adams, MA on Sunday, March 4th at 6:30 p.m., Monday, March 5th at 6:45 p.m., and Tuesday, March 6th at 6:45 p.m. For information call 413-663-5316.

PENANCE SERVICE

Lent is the best time of the year to go to the Sacrament of Reconciliation (also known as Penance or Confession). The second precept of the Church states, "You shall confess your sins at least once a year." This ensures preparation for the Eucharist by the reception of the Sacrament of Reconciliation, which continues Baptism's work of conversion and forgiveness. **St. Agnes Parish in Dalton will hold a Berkshire & Deanery wide Penance Service with several priests on Sunday, March 18th at 7:00 p.m.** Please join us for this powerful and transformative Sacrament of Healing.

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STMARYOFTHE0039

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

SUNDAY, MARCH 4TH

Deadline to sign up to make soup for Soup & Bread Supper

TUESDAY, MARCH 6TH

Diocesan Listening Session - St. Joseph's - 7:00 p.m.

SATURDAY, MARCH 10TH

First Reconciliation - 10:00 a.m.

SUNDAY, MARCH 11TH

Penance Service - Grades 3-9 - 9:00 a.m. Mass, then Service

MONDAY, MARCH 12TH

Soup & Bread Supper - 6:00 p.m.

SUNDAY, MARCH 18TH

Youth Mass - 9:00 a.m.

SUNDAY, MARCH 18TH

Penance Service - 7:00 p.m. - St. Agnes, Dalton

TUESDAY, MARCH 27TH

Mass of the Oils - 7:00 p.m. - St. Joseph, Pittsfield

SUNDAY, APRIL 1ST

Easter - St. Mary's - 9:00 a.m. / NAM - 11:00 a.m.

MONDAY, APRIL 16TH

Pastoral Council - 6:00 p.m. - Rectory Dining Room

SUNDAY, MAY 6TH

Youth Mass - 9:00 a.m. / Open House 10:00 a.m. - noon

SATURDAY, MAY 12TH

First Holy Communion 10:00 a.m.

NEWS AND UPDATES

DIOCESAN LISTENING SESSION

Attention St. Mary's parishioners! The Diocesan Listening Session for our area will be held on Tuesday, March 6th from 7:00 - 8:30 p.m. at St. Joseph's Parish Hall in Pittsfield. **We ask as many of our parishioners as possible to attend and encourage members of our families with young children to attend as well.** The questions to be asked of us will be: What is the Church doing? What is the Church doing but needs improvement? What should the church be doing? Information gathered at the session will enable a Pastoral Synod to take effect. (Synod means "together in journey")

FATHER DAVID UPDATE

Father David Raymond has a new address. He is now at: St. Thomas the Apostle, 47 Pine St., West Springfield, MA, 01089. His phone number is 413-739-4779.

DEDICATE A CHAIR CAMPAIGN

We are thrilled to announce the start of a campaign to raise funds for new chairs for our parish hall. As most of you have seen, most of our current chairs are decades old, rusting, and uncomfortable. At events, many of our parishioners bring cushions to sit on. **Chairs may be purchased for \$25 each in memory of a loved one. At the end of the project, we will have a memorial plaque made with the names of all who had a chair donated in their memory.** Chairs may be purchased via check, cash, or via the "Give" link on our website. Please be sure to include the name of the person for whom you are purchasing the chair. If you have any questions about the project please contact the office. - Thank you!

OUR GIVING

WEEKEND OF FEBRUARY 24TH & 25TH

Regular Collection	\$2,062.35	Snow Removal	\$23.00
Fuel	\$95.00	Easter Flowers	\$30.00
Home Missions	\$10.00	Catholic Relief	\$100.00

LITURGICAL HELP WANTED

We are in need of additional Lectors, Altar Servers, and Eucharistic Ministers. If you are interested in joining a liturgical ministry or would like more information, please contact Fr. Matthew or Deacon Bob.

LITURGICAL Q & A

Q. Father, why do Catholics need to confess their sins to a priest? Why can't we just confess directly to God alone?

A. Jesus commissioned forgiveness through his apostles. Jesus asked believers to approach God for forgiveness through the apostles who were commissioned to act as his agents. After the resurrection, Jesus breathed on his disciples and said, "Whose sins you forgive are forgiven them and whose sins you retain are retained." (John 20:22, 23) The sacraments celebrate the most profound moments of our lives: birth (Baptism), the transition to adulthood (Confirmation), lifetime commitment (Marriage and Holy Orders), and the end of life (Anointing of the Sick). Two other sacraments strengthen us for the journey through life: Eucharist (spiritual sustenance) and Penance (the forgiveness of sins). We need to be fed at least weekly, and because we sin so often, we need to be forgiven regularly. The sacraments are not self-administered. Rather, the priest is the mediator, the linkage or conduit between God and the people, a rich channel of God's grace. The priest is not just "another human being," but one who acts in persona Christi, in the person of Christ. With faith we believe that when the penitent speaks to the priest, the penitent speaks to Christ, and when the priest speaks, the priest speaks on behalf of Christ. When the priest says, "I absolve you," it is Christ who absolves. When we confess our sins to a priest, we are able to receive individualized counsel, advice that fits our unique circumstances, and we can be given a penance that is "medicinal," specifically tailored to help us in the spiritual healing process.

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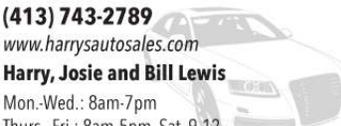
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