

St. Mary Roman Catholic Church

32 Pearl Street, Claremont, NH 03743

Phone: (603) 542-9518 / Fax: (603) 542-9614

Website: www.stmaryparishnh.org

Email: stmarysclaremont@comcast.net

Pastor
Administrative Assistant
Music Director
Interim Faith Formation Director
Children Catechesis Director
Parish Hospitality/Security

Rev. Maria Sebastian Susairaj, HGN
Mary K. Keating
Joe Labrecque
Kevin Krawiec
Moriah Lombardi
Knights of Columbus Fr. Cote Council 1820

Please remember St. Mary's Renovation Fund in your will.

WEEKEND LITURGY SCHEDULE

Saturday 4:00 PM
Sunday 8:00 AM / 10:30 AM

WEEKDAY LITURGY SCHEDULE

Monday / Thursday / Friday / Saturday 9:00 AM

MASSES AT OLD ST. MARY CHURCH

Saturday Morning Mass at 9:00 AM every week
(June to October) at Old St. Mary Church

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Friday 9:30 AM
Saturday 3:00 - 3:45 PM

VOCATIONS HOLY HOUR

Thursday 6:00 - 7:00 PM

ST. MARY CEMETERY Old Church Road

Please call the Parish Office for inquiries or other information regarding the parish cemetery.

ADORATION CHAPEL

Closed until further notice!

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
Thursday ONLY 6:00 AM - 6:00 PM

Chapel Hours

Monday	8:00 AM - 2:00 PM
Tuesday	8:00 AM - 5:00 PM
Wednesday	8:00 AM - 5:00 PM
Thursday	6:00 AM - 6:00 PM
Friday	8:00 AM - 4:00 PM
Saturday	9:00 AM - 12 Noon
Sunday	1:00 PM - 2:00 PM

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Thursday	8:00 AM - 2:00 PM
Friday	8:00 AM - 12:00 PM

January 29, 2023
Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time



The Significance of the Presentation of the Lord

Traditionally, the Church has set aside Feb. 2 in observance of the Presentation of the Lord – or the day in which Joseph and Mary presented Jesus to the priests and elders in the Temple.

For years, this feast – which in the United States is only formally celebrated when it falls on a Sunday – marked the end of the Christmas season. In old days, the Presentation was often referred to as “Candlemas” and was celebrated by a candle-lit procession into the church, signifying Christ as the “light of nations.”

Known originally as the Feast of the Purification of the Blessed Virgin, the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord is a relatively ancient celebration. We know that the Church at Jerusalem was observing the feast as early as the first half of the fourth century, and likely earlier.

According to Jewish law, the firstborn male child belonged to God, and the parents had to “buy him back” on the 40th day after his birth, by offering a sacrifice of “a pair of turtledoves, or two young pigeons” (Luke 2:24) in the temple — thus the “presentation” of the child. On that same day, the mother would be ritually purified — thus the “purification.”

St. Mary and St. Joseph kept this law, even though, since St. Mary remained a virgin after the birth of Christ, she would not have had to go through ritual purification. In his Gospel, Luke (2:22-39) recounts the story. Originally, the feast was celebrated on Feb. 14, the 40th day after Epiphany (Jan. 6), because Christmas wasn't yet celebrated as its own feast, and so the Nativity, Epiphany, the Baptism of the Lord (Theophany), and the feast celebrating Christ's first miracle at the wedding in Cana were all celebrated on the same day. By the last quarter of the fourth century, however, the Church at Rome had begun to celebrate the Nativity on Dec. 25, so the Feast of the Presentation was moved to Feb. 2, 40 days later.

When Christ was presented in the temple, “there was a man in Jerusalem named Simeon, and this man was just and devout, waiting for the consolation of Israel.” When St. Mary and St. Joseph brought Christ to the temple, Simeon embraced the Child and prayed the Canticle of Simeon: “Now thou dost dismiss thy servant, O Lord, according to thy word in peace; because my eyes have seen thy salvation, which thou hast prepared before the face of all peoples: a light to the revelation of the Gentiles, and the glory of thy people Israel” (Luke 2:29-32).

Because of the words of the canticle — “a light to the revelation of the Gentiles” — by the 11th century, the custom had developed in the West of blessing candles on the Feast of the Presentation. The candles were then lit, and a procession took place through the darkened church while the Canticle of Simeon was sung. Because of this, the feast also became known as Candlemas. While the procession and blessing of the candles is not often performed in the United States today, Candlemas is still an important feast in many European countries.

At the 9:00 AM Mass on Thursday, February 2nd, there will be a blessing of candles that may be taken home for private use. If you prefer to bring your own candle, please bring it with you to the Mass.

Things to Do:

- Hold your own candlelight procession at home, teaching your children the significance of the light as a symbol of Christ.
- Ask a priest to bless the candles you hope to use at home this year.
- Read the Gospel account of the Presentation, found in the Gospel of Luke, chapter 2, verses 22 to 35.
- Pray a decade of the Rosary, focusing upon the Presentation of the Lord, the fourth Joyful Mystery.

January 28, 2023—February 5, 2023

Sat. Jan 28 4:00 PM	Vigil of the Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time David Baldasaro (†) By Shirley Baldasaro
Sun. Jan 29 8:00 AM	The Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time For the People
10:30 AM	The Healing of Gary Hampson By Lucy Hampson
Mon. Jan 30 9:00 AM	Weekday The Healing of Gary Hampson By Lucy Hampson
Tue. Jan 31	St. John Bosco, Priest No Mass
Wed. Feb 1	Weekday No Mass
Thur. Feb 2 9:00 AM	The Presentation of the Lord <i>Healing Mass In Honor of St. Jude</i> The Healing of Gary Hampson by Lucy Hampson Charles Fletcher (†) by Janice, Kevin, Kathie & Karen Roger Scheffer (†) by St. Mary Parish
Fri. Feb 3 9:00 AM	Weekday (First Friday) The Healing of Gary Hampson By Lucy Hampson
Sat. Feb 4 9:00 AM	Weekday (First Saturday) The Healing of Gary Hampson By Lucy Hampson
4:00 PM	Vigil of the Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time For the People
Sun. Feb 5 8:00 AM	The Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time Charles Fletcher (†) By Janice, Kevin, Kathie & Karen Fletcher
10:30 AM	The Healing of Gary Hampson By Lucy Hampson

The Rosary is prayed 20 minutes before each daily Mass.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK. . .

Mon. Jan 30	Heb 11:32-40/Mk 5:1-20
Tues. Jan 31	Heb 12:1-4/Mk 5:21-43
Wed. Feb 1	Heb 12:4-7, 11-15/Mk 6:1-6
Thurs. Feb 2	Mal 3:1-4/Heb 2:14-18/Lk 2:22-40
Fri. Feb 3	Heb 13:1-8/Mk 6:14-29
Sat. Feb 4	Heb 13:15-17, 20-21/Mk 6:30-34
Sun. Feb 5	Is 58:7-10/1 Cor 2:1-5/Mt 5:13-16

PARISH OFFERING

SUNDAY OFFERTORY - JANUARY 22, 2023

Envelopes (59).....	\$1,814.50
Loose.....	\$1,334.00
Church Maintenance.....	\$964.00

ONLINE GIVING

Offertory.....	\$877.45
Fuel.....	\$82.20
Church Maintenance.....	\$50.00

Total Collected for Grand Annual Collection...\$24,953.00

UPCOMING SECOND COLLECTIONS

Catholic Outreach	January 28/29
Diocesan Catholic Schools	February 4/5
Fuel	February 11/12

Donations to Catholic Outreach should be made payable to "Catholic Outreach—St. Mary Parish."

New Hampshire Catholic Appeal checks should be made payable to "New Hampshire Catholic Appeal."

Grand Annual Collection now available with online giving.

PRAYER LIST

Call the parish office to add/continue a person on the prayer list

Bill Beattie	Rev Msgr Donald Gilbert	Shirley McNutt
Gloria Beattie	David Goodwin	Sylvia Michaud
William Beattie	David Grey	David Montano
Deb Bedard	Jake Grey	Leanne Mortell
Carol Braga	Renee Honeman	Mary Ouellette
Stephen Burlew	Geoffrey Houle	Lynn Raymond
Andy Champy	Timothy Houle	Andrew St. Pierre
Mary DiFilippo	David Immic	Mary Sullivan
Susan Doody	Nancy Kingsbury	Peter Sullivan
Jimmy Dunn	Diane Landry	Christine Snyder
Charles Eastman	John Laushance	Robert Tancrede
Maureen Emig	Matthew Limoges	Richard Tremblay
Chuck Ferland	Fr. John Loughnane	Chee Chee Tyrrell
Joan Flaherty	Roy Lucier	Louise Unger
Dennis Fontaine	Barbara Manning	George Veilleux



The Sanctuary Lamp in St. Mary Church will burn this week in memory of the helpless victims of abortion.

GiveOnline
easy. fast. secure.

Please consider online contributions to St. Mary Parish. Visit our website and click on the "Give Online" button.

Welcome New Parishioners...Just moved to this area? We welcome you to St. Mary Parish!

Parish registration forms are available in the back of the church or on the parish website.

Please contact the Parish Office at stmarysclaremont@comcast.net or (603) 542-9518 if you have questions.

HYMNS—Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Processional Hymn: #517—For the Beauty of the Earth

Offertory Hymn: #444—God, We Praise You

Communion Hymn: #370—See Us, Lord, About Thine Altar

Anima Christi: #699

Recessional Hymn: #468—How Great Thou Art



Men of St. Joseph

The Men of St. Joseph meet every first and third Wednesday of month at 7:00 PM in the St. Dominic Room located on the 2nd floor of the chapel building. All men are welcome to attend. Come, see and share the virtues and values of St. Joseph with other Catholic men. For information please call Kevin Krawiec @ 603-801-6130.

Parish Employment Opportunities

St. Mary Parish is seeking to onboard a Director for a proposed parish child care center. The individual would be involved in the early stages of the decision-making process prior to opening and engaged directly and enthusiastically in the start-up of the center. It is required that a candidate be a practicing Catholic who understands the importance of providing a positive childcare environment based on good Catholic values. Once open, the Director will be responsible for the daily operation of the program and ensure the program's compliance with all applicable federal, state and local codes, as well as diocesan policies. Other responsibilities will include: Oversee staff, assist in the creation of a budget, market the facility, meet with parents and parish personnel regularly. This is a new venture for the parish, one that will provide a much-needed service with a Catholic identity. Salary and benefits will be based on experience. Interested candidates should send a brief description of interest in the position along with any relevant experience to stmarysclaremont@comcast.net.



St. Mary Parish is seeking a part-time maintenance employee to clean the church on a weekly basis and perform janitorial duties as needed in the gym. Duties will also include small maintenance jobs around the parish campus. Please contact the Parish Office at stmarysclaremont@comcast.net or 603-542-9518 if you or someone you know would be interested. Hourly rate of pay based on experience.

MARDI GRAS

(Prepared by *Knights of Columbus*)

Date: Tuesday, February 21, 2023

Time: 4:30 PM-7:00 PM

Place: St. Mary Gym, Claremont, NH

Menu:



Sausages, Eggs, Pancakes, Desserts,
Coffee/Tea, Beverages

Please RSVP to:
St. Mary Rectory at
(603) 542-9518 or

stmarysclaremont@comcast.net

There will also be sign up sheets in the back of the church
following all Masses

Free Will Offering
All Proceeds to Benefit the Church Renovation

First Friday Eucharistic Adoration

Friday, February 3rd, St. Mary Church
Mass at 9:00 AM

Sacrament of Reconciliation 9:30 AM—10:30 AM
Adoration 9:30 AM—4:00 PM



Knights of Columbus Aluminum Can Drive

Sat. January 28th — 3:00—4:00 PM...St. Mary Rectory Garage
Sun. January 29th — 7:30—10:30 AM...St. Mary Rectory Garage

Aluminum cans only! Rinse out cans, do not crush them.
5 cent plastic soda bottles marked VT accepted. Check markings!
Proceeds go to 2 seminarians and a postulant.

Sacramental Preparation Classes

Classes will begin on Sunday, January 29, 2023. All classes will be held following the 10:30 AM Mass (approximately 11:30). These classes are designed for those baptized children, 2nd grade and above, who desire the Sacraments of First Holy Communion, First Confession and Confirmation. We will meet every other Sunday in the St. Dominic Room on the 2nd floor of the Annex building. Because this catechesis is part of the Family Faith Formation program, parents are encouraged to attend. Any questions, please contact Kevin Krawiec at 603-801-6130 or kkrawiec26@gmail.com.