

St. Mary Roman Catholic Church

32 Pearl Street, Claremont, NH 03743

Phone: (603) 542-9518

Website: www.stmaryparishnh.org

Email: stmarysclaremont@comcast.net

Pastor

Administrative Assistant

Faith Formation Director

Music Director

Catholic Outreach Director

ProLife Ministry Director

Safe Environment Coordinator

Homebound Ministry Director

Parish Hospitality/Security

Rev. Maria Sebastian Susairaj, HGN

Mary K. Keating

Lisa Sweet

Joe Labrecque

Denny Francis

Juanita Sweet

Kevin Krawiec

Steve Denis

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
(Memorial Day Weekend to October) at Old St. Mary Church

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Friday

9:30 AM

Saturday

3:00 - 3:45 PM

FAMILY HOLY HOUR First Fridays 6:00 - 7:00 PM

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

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

Friday 8:00 AM - 12:00 PM

EMERGENCY NUMBER: (603) 504-5430

This number is to be used to reach Fr. Sebastian outside office hours in cases of emergency.

CATHOLIC OUTREACH HOURS

Tuesday

2:00 PM

ADORATION CHAPEL—24/7

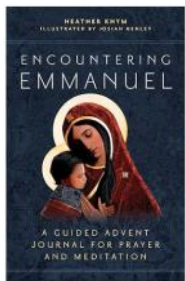
Please come by the Parish Office to receive the code and instructions.

ST. MARY CEMETERY Old Church Road

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

December 15, 2024
Third Sunday of Advent

Advent studies for men and women!



Encountering Emmanuel is a beautiful guided Advent journal for prayer and meditation for women written by Heather Kym of the Abiding Together podcast. Using *Encountering Emmanuel*, Heather extends a heartfelt invitation to embrace stillness and silence amid life's chaos, allowing God to dwell in the depths of your being. Each day you'll journey deeper into the meaning of Advent with a meditation, stunning art, reflection questions, a prayer, and journaling space. The journal may be purchased online from Ave Maria Press for \$11.95. Please consider joining us as we "Encounter Emmanuel" together this Advent.



Fierce is a daily guide for men during the season of Advent. Written by Paul George, (author of *Holy Grit*) *Fierce* will equip men of all ages and vocations to embrace the spiritual fatherhood that they're called to. Following the example of Christ, the Good Shepherd, the author uses storytelling and meditation to strengthen virtue and deep prayer as we prepare for the Christmas season. The guide may be purchased online from Blessed Is She for \$12.00.

Meetings will be held on the following Saturday mornings from 10am - 11am: Nov 30, Dec 7, Dec 21 and Dec 28 (optional followup). Women will meet in the upper room in the Annex building (chapel) and the men will meet in the rectory.

Please contact Lisa Sweet at claremontfaithformation@gmail.com or the Parish Office to register.

Christmas Mass Schedule

December 24th

4:00 PM

St. Mary Church

December 25th

12:00 AM

St. Mary Church

9:00 AM

St. Joseph Church

Sacrament of Reconciliation Schedule

Wednesday—December 18th

5:30 PM

St. Joseph Church

Friday—December 20th

9:30 AM

St. Mary Church

Saturday—December 21st

3:00 PM

St. Mary Church

Christmas
Lessons and Carols
St. Mary Church
December 19th
6:00 PM

Mount Royal Academy Choir
Music Director: Katherine Yost

Join us for an hour of Christmas
carols and scripture readings to
celebrate the birth of Christ.



Parish 2025 calendars are available at each church entrance.

December 14, 2024—December 22, 2024

Sat. Dec 14
4:00 PM

Vigil of Third Sunday of Advent
Robert Jones (†)
By His Wife & Children



Sun. Dec 15
8:00 AM

Third Sunday of Advent
For the People

10:30 AM

Andrew and Mathilda Quinn (†)
By Mark & Carla Lafontaine

Mon. Dec 16
9:00 AM

Advent Weekday
Special Intention
By Anonymous

Tue. Dec 17

Late Advent Weekday
No Mass

Wed. Dec 18

Late Advent Weekday
No Mass

Thur. Dec 19
9:00 AM

Late Advent Weekday
Sally Michaud (†)
By Ray Michaud

Fri. Dec 20
9:00 AM

Late Advent Weekday
Eugene Theroux (†)
By His Daughters

Sat. Dec 21
9:00 AM

Late Advent Weekday
Scott D. Chadwick (†)
By His Parents, Denny & Danielle Chadwick

4:00 PM

Vigil of Fourth Sunday of Advent
Bev Flanagan (†)
By Her Sister

Sun. Dec 22
8:00 AM

Fourth Sunday of Advent
Emig and Mathauser Families
By Frank Emig

10:30 AM

Gerald Gingras (†)
By Family

READINGS FOR THE WEEK. . .

Mon. Dec 16	Nm 24:2-7, 15-17/Mt 21:23-27
Tues. Dec 17	Gn 49:2, 8-10/Mt 1:1-17
Wed. Dec 18	Jer 23:5-8/Mt 1:18-25
Thurs. Dec 19	Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25/Lk 1:5-25
Fri. Dec 20	Is 7:10-14/Lk 1:26-38
Sat. Dec 21	Sg 2:8-14/Lk 1:39-45
Sun. Dec 22	Mi 5:1-4/Heb 10:5-10/Lk 1:39-45



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

PARISH OFFERING

SUNDAY OFFERTORY - DECEMBER 8, 2024

Envelopes (45).....	\$1,664.50
Loose.....	\$2,726.50
Retirement Fund for Religious.....	\$1,508.00
Immaculate Conception.....	\$456.00

ONLINE GIVING

Offertory.....	\$759.77
Capital Campaign.....	\$1,710.63

UPCOMING SECOND COLLECTIONS

Church Maintenance	December 14/15
Catholic Outreach	December 21/22

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."

Capital Campaign checks should be made payable to "God's House, Our Home."

PRAYER LIST

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

Deb Bedard	Joan Flaherty	David Montano
Marc Bissonette	Dennis Fontaine	Mary Ouellette
Bob Bonebrake	Marilyn Gilbert	Dennis Palmer
Paul Boudreau	Richard C. Hall	Jesse Rivard
Andy Champy	Geoffrey Houle	Christine Snyder
Mike Clay	Timothy Houle	Andrew St. Pierre
Rev. Daniel Cogut	David Immic	Barbara St. Pierre
Scott Colpas	Gloria Kalbfleisch	Edward Stone
Liz Jones-Dern	Al Kulacz	Mary Sullivan
Cheryl DeZafra	Donna Kulacz	Ryan Sullivan
Bryant Dillion	John Laushance	Enola Surrall
Susan Doody	Diane Lavigne	Richard Tremblay
Jimmy Dunn	Matthew Limoges	Pauline Trottier
Charles Eastman	Fr. John Loughnane	Louise Unger
Frank Emig	Shirley McNutt	Felicity Wallace
Chuck Ferland	Sylvia Michaud	Joe Wallace



Give a gift of the greatest prayer for your loved ones, living or deceased. Contact the Parish Office to schedule.



The Sanctuary Lamp in St. Mary Church will burn this week in honor of Elaine Keating as requested by Mary K. Keating.

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—Third Sunday of Advent

Processional Hymn: #473—Christ Be Our Light

Offertory Hymn: #100—Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

Communion Hymn: *Choir*

Anima Christi: #699

Recessional Hymn: #98—People, Look East

Do you love to shop? We're looking for help with the Advent Tree gifts program for St. Mary Parish. If this is something you might be interested in learning more about, please contact Nancy Berry at 603-542-2871.



The Parish Office will be closed Tuesday, December 24th until Monday, December 30th to celebrate the Christmas holiday.

Wishing you and your family a safe and joyful Christmas!



Catholic Daughters of the Americas
Sunday, December 15th—1:00 PM
St. Joseph Church Hall, Claremont
Advent Gathering/Luncheon

St. Mary Church Christmas Flowers: If you would like to make a donation in loving memory or in honor of a loved one and do not have a parish monthly envelope, please place your donation in an envelope with clearly printed names and include with the weekend offertory. Deadline is December 18th.

St. Augustine said, "Those who sing, pray twice." 🎵🎵

Join our music ministry and double your prayers.

We are looking for new members to sing at all the weekend Masses. If you are interested in joining us, please feel free to notify Joe Labrecque, music director at 603-729-6196 for further information. Looking forward to hearing from you!



Campaign Corner

As Steve Horton, hired as the parish representative for the church project, explained at the parish meeting, the path going forward is with a construction management company. Mr. Horton is in the process of soliciting interest from local/regional companies and so far the interest is very high. He is working on Requests for Proposal from these companies and once received, the Steering Committee will select a CM. This process will play out over the next several weeks, and we will update parishioners as progress is made.



Catholic Outreach—St. Mary Parish

If you or someone you know needs assistance with food or living expenses, please call Denny Francis of Catholic Outreach at 603-543-0551



Roman Catholic Homebound Ministry



If you or someone you know would like to receive a visit from Fr. Sebastian, please call Steve Denis at (603) 558-5209. Visits are made on the 2nd Monday of every month. Father is assisted by one of the Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist: Steve Denis, Jackie Merrill, Bill Pamplin, or Gary Lambert.

Advent "Tree of Life" 2024

Monetary donations are still being accepted until December 31. Thank you all for your generosity in helping to make Christmas a little brighter for our local families who are struggling. They will enjoy wrapping the gifts that you have so thoughtfully chosen and presenting them to their children on Christmas morning. The Claremont Kiwanis Club is the organization that coordinated the giving of about 800 clothing gifts and many toys too! St. Mary's is the largest donor since we purchased over 200 clothing gifts this year. We couldn't do it without the help of so many of you! May the joy you have shared with others come back to bless your own Christmas! Thank you!

ST. MARY CEMETERY:

For the remainder of this season and until the snow flies, the parish cemetery volunteers will be concentrating on the removal of old plastic flowers and any dead flowers on or surrounding graves.

It is Fr. Sebastian's expressed wish that we move slowly in enforcing particular rules and regulations pertaining to St. Mary Cemetery, as he is sensitive to the vocalized concerns involved with perceived changes regarding the maintenance of St. Mary Cemetery. Each year, at Father's and the Cemetery Committee's direction, we will proceed with efforts to have a unified beauty and Catholic identity in St. Mary Cemetery.

HOLIDAY WREATHS

Families and friends are welcome to place wreaths on a loved one's grave for the holiday season. All wreaths will be picked up and thrown away by January 6, 2025.