

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.

January 12, 2025
Baptism of the Lord

Pope Francis invites us to cherish life and entrust 2025 to Mary

Mary “immerses us once more in the mystery of Christmas” and leads us to Jesus, says Pope Francis, as he celebrates Mass for the Solemnity of the Most Holy Mother of God.



By Christopher Wells

Pope Francis marked the beginning of 2025 with the celebration of Mass for the Solemnity of Mary, the Most Holy Mother of God.

In his homily, the Holy Father said that “like a Mother,” Mary points us to her Son and leads us to Jesus.

The mystery of Christmas

Today’s feast, he said, “immerses us once more in the mystery of Christmas” – a mystery summed up in the Second Reading, where St Paul tells us that “God sent forth His Son, born of a woman.” These words “echo in our hearts today” and “remind us that Jesus, our Saviour, became flesh and is revealed in the frailty of the flesh.”

That Jesus was born of a woman reminds us “that God became truly man through a human womb” – showing us that God is not simply “some vague religious feeling or fleeting emotion,” but “has a face and a Name, and calls us to have a relationship with Him.”

Jesus, the Pope said, “is one of us, and thus is able to save us.”

Jesus shows us the face of God

St Paul’s words also “speak to us about the humanity of Christ” who is “revealed in the frailty of flesh.” Jesus’ coming as a tiny baby, through the Virgin Mary, reveals how God chooses to act: “through littleness and hiddenness.” Jesus, the Pope said, “revealed God’s love in the beauty of His humanity, dwelling in our midst, sharing our daily life... by the frailty of His humanity and His concern for the weak and vulnerable, Jesus shows us the face of God.”

Pope Francis invited us to “entrust this new year to Mary, the Mother of God,” with the hope that we might learn, “like her” to protect “the precious gift of life.”

Cherishing all human life

Today, the Pope continued, on this World Day of Peace, “all of us are invited to take up the summons that flow from the maternal heart of Mary: to cherish life, to care for life, to restore dignity to the lives of everyone ‘born of woman,’ for this is the basis for building a culture of peace.”

This, he said, is the reason for his appeal “for a firm commitment to respect the dignity of human life from conception to natural death.”

“Let us entrust to Mary this new Jubilee Year,” the Holy Father concluded. “Let us entrust to her our questions, our worries, our sufferings, our joys and all the concerns that we bear in our hearts. Let us entrust to her the whole world, so that hope may be reborn and peace may finally spring up for all the peoples of the earth.”

January 11, 2025—January 19, 2025

Sat. Jan 11 4:00 PM	Vigil of the Baptism of the Lord For the People
Sun. Jan 12 8:00 AM	The Baptism of the Lord Christine McElreavy (†) By Joseph McElreavy & Family
10:30 AM	Alfred and Eveline Cote (†) By Mark & Carla Lafontaine
Mon. Jan 13	Weekday No Mass
Tue. Jan 14	Weekday No Mass
Wed. Jan 15	Weekday No Mass
Thur. Jan 16	Weekday No Mass
Fri. Jan 17	Weekday No Mass
Sat. Jan 18 4:00 PM	Vigil of Second Sunday in Ordinary Time Intentions of Norma Limoges By Agnes Grimo
Sun. Jan 19 8:00 AM	Second Sunday in Ordinary Time Merrill McGuire (†) By His Wife Helen & Children
10:30 AM	Alfred and Eveline Cote (†) By Mark & Carla Lafontaine

This weekend we welcome Fr. Romualdo Lopez Delgado as the celebrant of Masses for both St. Mary's and St. Joseph's.

Please keep Fr. Sebastian in your prayers as he visits family in India.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK. . .

Mon. Jan 13	Heb 1:1-6/Mk 1:14-20
Tues. Jan 14	Heb 2:5-12/Mk 1:21-28
Wed. Jan 15	Heb 2:14-18/Mk 1:29-39
Thurs. Jan 16	Heb 3:7-14/Mk 1:40-45
Fri. Jan 17	Heb 4:1-5, 11/Mk 2:1-12
Sat. Jan 18	Heb 4:12-16/Mk 2:13-17
Sun. Jan 19	Is 62:1-5/1 Cor 12:4-11/Jn 2:1-11

PARISH OFFERING

SUNDAY OFFERTORY - JANUARY 5, 2025

Envelopes (46).....	\$1,371.00
Loose.....	\$1,366.50
Fuel.....	\$1,440.00

ONLINE GIVING

Offertory.....	\$724.77
Capital Campaign.....	\$902.63

UPCOMING SECOND COLLECTIONS

Church Maintenance	January 11/12
Catholic Outreach	January 25/26

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	Marilyn Gilbert	David Montano
Marc Bissonette	Richard C. Hall	Mary Ouellette
Bob Bonebrake	Joshua Head	Dennis Palmer
Paul Boudreau	Geoffrey Houle	Jesse Rivard
Andy Champy	Timothy Houle	Christine Snyder
Mike Clay	David Immic	Andrew St. Pierre
Rev. Daniel Cogut	Gloria Kalbfleisch	Barbara St. Pierre
Scott Colpas	Don Keating	Edward Stone
Liz Jones-Dern	Paul Keating	Mary Sullivan
Bryant Dillion	Al Kulacz	Ryan Sullivan
Susan Doody	Donna Kulacz	Enola Surrall
Jimmy Dunn	John Laushance	Richard Tremblay
Charles Eastman	Diane Lavigne	Pauline Trottier
Frank Emig	Matthew Limoges	Louise Unger
Joan Flaherty	Fr. John Loughnane	Felicity Wallace
Dennis Fontaine	Jerry Malone	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 memory of Merrill McGuire as requested by his wife Helen and children.

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—The Baptism of the Lord

Processional Hymn: #343—Baptized in Water

Offertory Hymn: #344—O Breathe on Me, O Breath of God

Communion Hymn: #374—Shepherd of Souls, in Love, Come, Feed Us

Anima Christi: #699

Recessional Hymn: #126—Joy to the World

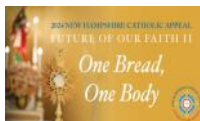


SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION

Reconciliation
First Eucharist
and Confirmation

ATTENTION PARENTS: We are in the process of planning sacrament preparation classes for First Penance, First Holy Communion, and Confirmation. If you are interested in having your children participate,

please contact Lisa Sweet at claremontfaithformation@gmail.com or call the Parish Office. Registration is required. Cost is \$35.00 per child for materials that cover all three sacraments.



NH Catholic Appeal:

We are grateful to all parishioners who have given to the New Hampshire Catholic Appeal.

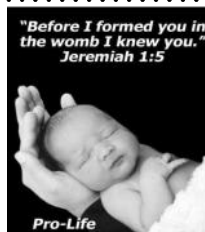
As of today, our parishioners have raised **\$7,135.00** toward our goal of \$32,307.93. 100% of the funds raised above this Appeal goal are returned to our parish this year. If you have not made your gift yet, please mail your gift in an Appeal envelope or make your gift online at www.catholicnh.org/nhca. Envelopes are available in the church. We need the support of all of our parish families to reach our parish goal. Please make all checks payable to **New Hampshire Catholic Appeal**.

The Sanctuary candle burning in the church may be burned as an offering in memory of a loved one or for the special intention of someone by making a \$10.00 donation to the parish. This is an offering that has been available at St. Mary Church but not given much attention over the past several years. The intention of the offering will be published in the bulletin. Offering requests made be scheduled for specific weeks of the year to commemorate special dates or anniversaries. Please contact the parish office for further information.



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



St. Mary Parish ProLife Ministry

Contact Juanita Sweet or the Parish Office for more information

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, and Bill Pamplin.

PLEASE REMEMBER: If you receive a suspicious email or text supposedly from Fr. Sebastian requesting you contact him, PLEASE do not respond. There are emails AND TEXTS circulating to various individuals ultimately requesting money and gift cards. These are SCAMS and should not be answered.

Knights of Columbus Aluminum Can Drive

Sat. January 25th — 3:00—4:00 PM...St. Mary Rectory Garage
Sun. January 26th — 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!

St. Mary Parish 2025 calendars
are available at each church entrance.

GiveOnline
easy, fast, secure.

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

ST. MARY CEMETERY:

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.

ALL HOLIDAY WREATHS and PLASTIC FLOWERS were to be removed from all graves in St. Mary Cemetery at this point.. All such items still remaining will now be thrown away by the cemetery maintenance volunteers.



Campaign Corner

Steve Horton informed us that he has received proposals from two regional companies concerning the church project and interest is very high. He anticipates receiving the third proposal end of this week. As we know, three bids are required per diocesan protocol. The Steering Committee anticipates beginning the interview process to select a CM possibly as early as next week. Updates will be provided as progress is made. Keep praying and keep the contributions coming!