

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

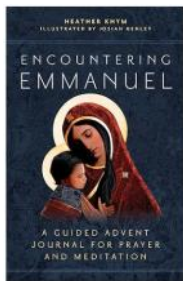
Please come by the Parish Office to receive the code and instructions.

ST. MARY CEMETERY Old Church Road

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

December 8, 2024
Second 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.



December 7, 2024—December 15, 2024

Sat. Dec 7
4:00 PM

Vigil of Second Sunday of Advent
Herbert Chase (†)
By Peter & Patricia Chase



Sun. Dec 8
8:00 AM

Second Sunday of Advent
For the People

10:30 AM

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

Mon. Dec 9
9:00 AM

Immaculate Conception of Blessed Virgin Mary *
Deborah Pamplin (†)
By the Family

Tue. Dec 10

Advent Weekday
No Mass

Wed. Dec 11

Advent Weekday
No Mass

Thur. Dec 12
9:00 AM

Our Lady of Guadalupe
Augustine (†)
By Vy

Fri. Dec 13
9:00 AM

St. Lucy, Virgin and Martyr
Todd Martell (†)
By Albert & Doris Bergeron

Sat. Dec 14
9:00 AM

St. John of the Cross, Priest and Church Doctor
Leon Lemieux (†)
By Albert & Doris Bergeron

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

**Holy Day of Obligation*

READINGS FOR THE WEEK. . .

| | |
|---------------|---|
| Mon. Dec 9 | Gn 3:9-15, 20/Eph 1:3-6, 11-12/Lk 1:26-38 |
| Tues. Dec 10 | Is 40:1-11/Mt 18:12-14 |
| Wed. Dec 11 | Is 40:25-31/Mt 11:28-30 |
| Thurs. Dec 12 | Zec 2:14-17/Lk 1:26-38 |
| Fri. Dec 13 | Is 48:17-19/Mt 11:16-19 |
| Sat. Dec 14 | Sir 48:1-4, 9-11/Mt 17:9-13 |
| Sun. Dec 15 | Zep 3:14-18/Phil 4:4-7/Lk 3:10-18 |



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

PARISH OFFERING

SUNDAY OFFERTORY - DECEMBER 1, 2024

| | |
|---------------------|------------|
| Envelopes (51)..... | \$2,527.00 |
| Loose..... | \$1,488.50 |
| Fuel..... | \$1,668.00 |

ONLINE GIVING

| | |
|-----------------------|----------|
| Offertory..... | \$497.61 |
| Capital Campaign..... | \$190.65 |

UPCOMING SECOND COLLECTIONS

| | |
|-------------------------------|----------------|
| Retirement Fund for Religious | December 7/8 |
| 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 | Tim Roberts |
| Andy Champy | Geoffrey Houle | Christine Snyder |
| Kathleen Chaudhry | 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 |
| Churck Ferland | Sylvia Michaud | Joe Wallace |

Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception

The holy day of obligation has been transferred this year from Sunday, December 8th to Monday, December 9th. Masses will be at 9:00 AM in St. Mary's and 5:30 PM in St. Joseph's.



The Sanctuary Lamp in St. Mary Church will burn this week in memory of William J. O'Grady as requested by Patrick O'Grady.

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—Second Sunday of Advent

Processional Hymn: #84—O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

Offertory Hymn: #101—O Come, Divine Messiah

Communion Hymn: #90—Emmanuel

Anima Christi: #699

Recessional Hymn: #99—Savior of the Nations, Come



Spiritual Adoption of The Unborn 40 weeks – End of Month 9 “Here I Am!” It’s my birthday!

Thank you so much for all your prayers!
Because you prayed for me, I got the best of all gifts - **Life!**

Your spiritually adopted baby was born this month. She is truly a miracle. She began as a 46-chromosome cell and has grown over the past nine months into this unique human baby we can now see and hold in our arms. Never before in history, nor ever again, will anyone exist who is exactly like your spiritually adopted baby. Thank you for your participation in the Spiritual Adoption program. We will begin this program again in January.



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

The parish meeting this past Sunday went well. Steve Horton, hired as our parish representative for the church project going forward, was introduced to the parishioners. He explained the path going forward with a construction management company in order to solicit local/regional builders and reduce costs. Our new path is approved by the Diocese, and we look forward to an early spring startup. If you were not able to attend the meeting and would like further information, please speak with one of the men on the Steering Committee or contact the Parish Office. Praise God, we are moving forward!



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



HEALING SERVICE

with Fr. Lance Harlow

Sunday, December 8th—3:00 PM

St. Mary Church, SPRINGFIELD, VT

Everyone is invited!

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.



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

If you have already taken one or more envelopes off the Advent Tree, thank you! Your gift will be greatly appreciated. All gifts must be returned to the church or parish office no later than Sunday December 8th. Gifts will be sorted on Monday December 9th for distribution by the Claremont Kiwanis Club. If you weren't able to shop, you can still help by taking a white yarn envelope and returning it in the collection basket or to the parish office with a monetary gift. This money is used to purchase the many boots, jackets and snowsuits that are requested.

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.