St. Mary Roman Catholic Church

32 Pearl Street, Claremont, NH 03743
Phone: (603) 542-9518
Website: www.stmaryparishnh.org
Email: stmarysclaremont@comcast.net

Pastor	Rev. Maria Sebastian Susairaj, HGN
Administrative Assistant	Mary K. Keating
Music Director	Joe Labrecque
Catholic Outreach Director	Denny Francis
ProLife Ministry Director	Juanita Sweet
Safe Environment Coordinator	Kevin Krawiec
Homebound Ministry Director	Steve Denis
Parish Hospitality/Security	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

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Thursday 8:00 AM - 2:00 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 21, 2025
Fourth Sunday of Advent

Dear Friends,

As we gather around the manger this Christmas, our hearts are drawn once again to the humble stable of Bethlehem, where God became one of us. In the silence of that holy night, heaven touched the earth; the Word became flesh and dwelt among us. The birth of Jesus is not just a story to be remembered—it is a gift to be received, a hope to be renewed, and a love that continues to live in our midst.

Christmas reminds us that God comes to us not with power and grandeur, but with simplicity, gentleness, and peace. He enters our homes, our families, and our hearts quietly, asking only that we welcome Him with faith. Like Mary and Joseph, like the shepherds who came in haste, may we bow before the mystery of God's love and allow the light of Christ to guide our steps.

As a parish family, we have walked together this year—praying, serving, celebrating, and supporting one another. For this we are deeply grateful. May this sacred season strengthen our unity, deepen our compassion, and inspire us to carry Christ's peace into our community and our world.

May the Child Jesus bless your families with joy, fill your homes with laughter, and grant you renewed hope in the New Year 2026. Let us celebrate not only with our voices and traditions, but with hearts open to God who is Emmanuel—God with us.

Wishing you and your loved ones a Blessed Christmas and grace-filled New Year.

Merry Christmas!

Christ is born—let us adore Him.

Fr. Susairaj Maria Sebastián, HGN
Pastor

Mass Schedule for Christmas and New Year's:

Christmas Eve	4:00 PM	St. Mary Church
Midnight Mass	12:00 AM	St. Mary Church
Christmas Morning	9:00 AM	St. Joseph Church

Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God — Holy Day of Obligation

January 1, 2026	9:00 AM	St. Mary Church
January 1, 2026	5:30 PM	St. Joseph Church

December 20, 2025—December 28, 2025

Sat. Dec 20	**Vigil of Fourth Sunday of Advent**
4:00 PM	For a Special Intention By Charlene Addario
Sun. Dec 21	**Fourth Sunday of Advent**
8:00 AM	Leona Denis (†) By Charles & Doreen Kusselow
10:30 AM	Gerald Gringas (†) By Family
Mon. Dec 22	**Late Advent Weekday** No Mass
Tue. Dec 23	**Late Advent Weekday** No Mass
Wed. Dec 24	**Christmas Vigil**
4:00 PM	Thomas Mathauser (†) By Frank Emig
Thur. Dec 25	**Christmas**
12:00 AM	Paul and Rolande St. Pierre (†) By Family
Fri. Dec 26	**St. Stephen, the First Martyr** No Mass
Sat. Dec 27	**Vigil of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph**
4:00 PM	Madelyn Willard (†) By Her Daughter
Sun. Dec 28	**The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph**
8:00 AM	Emig and Mathauser Families By Frank Emig
10:30 AM	Paul Duval (†) By His Wife

Holiday Schedule for Parish Office:

Closed December 23-26, 2025
Closed January 1-2, 2026

READINGS FOR THE WEEK. . .

Mon. Dec 22	1 Sm 1:24-28/Lk 1:46-56
Tues. Dec 23	Mal 3:14, 23-24/Lk 1:46-56
Wed. Dec 24	Is 62:1-5/Acts 13:16-17, 22-24/Mt 1:1-25
Thurs. Dec 25	Is 9:1-6/Ti 2:11-14/Lk 2:1-14
Fri. Dec 26	Acts 6:8-10, 7:54-59/Mt 10:17-22
Sat. Dec 27	1 Jn 1:1-4/Jn 20:1-8
Sun. Dec 28	Sir 3:2-6, 12-14/Col 3:12-21/Mt 2:13-15

PARISH OFFERING

Sunday Offertory - December 14 , 2025

Envelopes (47).....$2,053.50
Loose.....$1,653.00
Religious Retirement Fund.....$1,150.00

Online Giving

Offertory.....$807.29
Capital Campaign.....$190.65

Upcoming Second Collections

Church Maintenance	December 20/21
Special Fuel Collection	December 24/25
Catholic Outreach	December 27/28

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

Michael Aaron	Carol Fontaine	Mark Miller
Mark Baril	Dennis Fontaine	David Montano
Marc Bissonnette	Joanne Garren	Mary Ouellette
Georgette Boudreau	Geoffrey Houle	Janet Ruest
Paul Boudreau	Timothy Houle	Nancy Ruest
Eliott Brown	David Immic	Paul Ruest
Michael Cirre	Ricky Kaynew	Christine Snyder
Sandra Colby	Don Keating	Andrew St. Pierre
Scott Colpas	Paul Keating	Barbara St. Pierre
Christine Currier	Al Kulacz	Edward Stone
Dana Davidson	Donna Kulacz	Mary Sullivan
Norman Dion	Robert Labelle	Ryan Sullivan
Susan Doody	John Laushance	Pauline Trottier
David Doster	Diane Lavigne	Louise Unger
Nichole Dunkel	Matthew Limoges	Gary Vezina
Jimmy Dunn	Fr. John Loughnane	Jennifer Viger
Charles Eastman	Patrick Lozito	Barbara Woodin
Frank Emig	Sylvia Michaud	

Give a gift of the greatest prayer for your loved ones, living or deceased. Contact the Parish Office to schedule. The 2026 calendar is now available.

The Sanctuary Lamp in St. Mary Church will burn this week in memory of Kathleen Dashiell as requested by Frank Emig.

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 of Advent

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

Offertory Hymn: #98—People, Look East

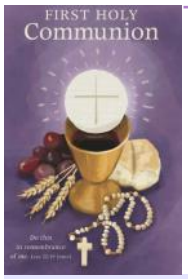
Communion Hymn: *Choir*

Anima Christi: #699

Recessional Hymn: #101—O Come, Divine Messiah

Mass Readings: CREDO Hymnal—page 745

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.



FIRST HOLY COMMUNION PREPARATION:

Classes for First Holy Communion preparation will be starting soon. Please contact Kevin Krawiec at 603-801-6130 for further information.

Traveling Statue of Mary

A program of the New Hampshire State Council of the Knights of Columbus. Parishioners are encouraged to welcome the statue into their home for a week or two and gather family, friends, or neighbors to pray the rosary daily during the statue's stay.

Pamphlets and blessed rosaries are provided.

To sign up call Steve Denis at (603) 558-5209.

Campaign Corner

Thank you to everyone who attended and participated at the Parish meeting and to Carol St. Pierre for catering it! An update was given by Steve Horton and members of the Steering Committee regarding the completed work and future projects. Emphasized was the need for all to fulfill their pledges in order to pursue the possibility of repairing/painting the interior of the church. Mr. Horton is obtaining the required estimates. We will update you as we move 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

St. Mary ProLife Ministry

Contact Juanita Sweet
or the Parish Office

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.

Knights of Columbus Aluminum Can Drive

Sat. December 27th — 3:00—4:00 PM...St. Mary Rectory Garage
Sun. December 28th — 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!

New Hampshire Catholic Appeal:

We are grateful to all parishioners who have given to the New Hampshire Catholic Appeal. As of today, our parishioners have raised **$6,333.24** toward our goal of $32,657.00. Approximately 90% of the funds raised above this Appeal goal are returned to our parish this year of appeal. 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**.

Advent "Tree of Life" 2025

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 600 clothing gifts and many toys too! St. Mary's is the largest donor since we purchased over 180 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!