



DISCIPLES OF MARY

A Catholic Diocese of Springfield Ministry

"Do whatever He tells you." (John 2:5)

FALL & WINTER 2026/2027



Jean Raczkowski,
PRESIDENT



Father Jeffrey Ballou,
SPIRITUAL DIRECTOR

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

WHO WE ARE

LEADERSHIP TEAM &
JEAN'S CORNER

PROGRAMS

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

ABOUT US

Disciples of Mary

The Disciples of Mary are men and women, old and young living a mission of healing and deliverance for all people through educational programs, retreats, and healing ministries. Disciples of Mary are disciples of Jesus Christ. Our motto, "Do whatever He tells you".

Originally, we were The Diocese of Springfield Ministries of Healing and Deliverance located at Mary's House of Prayer, in Chicopee, MA, with Fr. Donald Lapointe as Director and Exorcist. Some of the programs that flourished at Mary's House of Prayer were: Unbound, a non-confrontational deliverance ministry, Women of Grace Foundational Studies, Breath of God Charismatic Prayer Group, monthly Healing Masses, a Gift Shop, day and evening programs for education and spiritual enrichment. As years went by Fr. Don retired and in the November of 2023 Mary's House of Prayer was closed. Some ministries found homes in other parishes. Very quickly the Holy Spirit led us to Jericho, the Bureau for Exceptional Children and Adults, we were warmly welcomed there with an office and space for all that we do. With the help of Very Rev. Piotr Calik, we established ourselves under a new name "Disciples of Mary". Bishop Byrne approved our name, vision statement, and by-laws. We were good to go. Packing up and relocating is a very difficult task for those of us over 70 yrs old, but God has blessed us with energy and help.

We look forward to many blessings in the very near future, for ourselves and those who come to us. Join us in this mission for Christ through Our most Holy Mother.

MISSION STATEMENT

Disciples of Mary is a Catholic based organization that invites all people into a personal encounter with Jesus Christ, to heal wounds of the heart, and to prepare individuals to understand the mission to which God calls them. This will be accomplished by prayer and providing Catholic educational programs, bible study and one day retreats.

Disciples of Mary

Located at: Jericho, 537 Northampton St., Holyoke, MA 01040

Email: disciplesofmary@diospringfield.org **Website:** www.disciplesofmary.com

Phone: (413) 452-0511

LEADERSHIP TEAM



Officers of the Disciples of Mary (from left to right): Rose Morin (*Secretary*), Jean Raczkowski (*President*), and Mary Conroy (*Treasurer*).

JEAN'S CORNER

Dear Friends in Christ,
Praised be Jesus Christ!



In Ecclesiastes Chapter 3 we read: "For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven: a time to be born, and a time to die; a time to plant; and a time to pluck up what is planted; a time to kill, and a time to heal; a time to break down, and a time to build up; a time to weep, and a time to laugh; a time to mourn, and a time to dance; a time to cast away stones, and a time to gather stones together; a time to embrace, and a time to refrain from embracing; a time to seek, and a time to lose; a time to keep, and a time to cast away; a time to tear, and a time to sew; a time to keep silence, and a time to speak; a time to love, and a time to hate; a time for war, and a time for peace. What gain has a worker from his toil?"

To answer his question, I have all of you as brothers and sisters in Christ. I feel so blessed. As so I want to thank each and every one of you for your support during these 43 years of ministry to which God has called me. It's been a joy to be in your presence to share God's goodness and mercy. I am now in the process of stepping down from my position as president of the Disciples of Mary. I am taking a sabbatical, going from doing to being; taking time to be more contemplative and prayerful. Know that the ministries will continue as Agnes Gonet is continuing to update our website and communication, and leads the Women to Grace studies, Sue Walsh is taking over the Senior retreats at Jericho, Penny Piazza continues the Mother of Sorrows studies, Annette Krzyzek continues the prayer for priests, Paul Laflamme has taken over the Life in the Spirit Seminars, Mary Conroy and Rosemarie Morin will continue in their roles as treasurer and secretary and Alexandra Laflamme and Linda Bathel will continue the newsletter.

Please support them in their ministerial roles in the Disciples of Mary Ministry and please support our new president-elect Paul Laflamme. Again, thank you! I commit to keeping you in my prayers, please keep me in yours.

I remain your Sister in Christ,
Jean Raczkowski



"If you abide in my word, you are truly my disciples, and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free."
John 8:31

PROGRAMS

Disciples of Mary's Programs



The Catholic Mass: A Biblical Journey

Presented by Paul Laflamme

This bible study will deepen your Eucharistic devotion by taking you on a bible study journey to explore how deeply we encounter God through the Catholic Mass.

When: Wednesdays, starting October 7th - November 18, 2026, 6:30-8 pm

Where: St. Thomas Pastoral Center, 1076 Thorndike St. (right off I-90 exit), Palmer, MA



FULL OF GRACE: Women & the Abundant Life Study

Explore God's mission for your life as a Woman of Christ.

When: Every other Wednesday evening (see website for exact dates) from 6:30 - 8:30 pm

January 6 through April 28, 2027

Where: St. Thomas Parish Center, 89 Pine St., West Springfield, MA



Journey to Joy: Reflection on the Seven Sorrows of The Blessed Virgin Mary

Presented by Penny Piazza

This study is based on the book "Our Lady of Sorrows" by St. Alphonsus Liguori. Deepen your understanding of Our Lady, her unique sufferings and her unique union with her Son.

When: Wednesdays, September 16 - October 28, 2026, 6:00 -8 pm

Where: St. Thomas Parish Center, 89 Pine St., West Springfield, MA

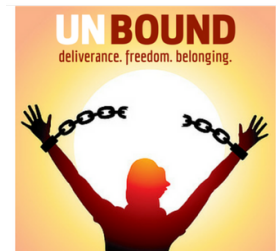


Women of Grace Reunion

The Disciples of Mary invite you to join our WOG reunion. It will be a morning to build new friendships and reconnect with old friends.

When: Saturday, November 7th, 2026, 9:00 am to noon.

Where: Jericho Center, 537 Northampton St., Holyoke, MA



UNBOUND - Freedom in Christ Seminar

One Day Conference will be offered on Saturday, October 17, 2026 from 8:30 to 5:00 pm.

Discover how you can overcome key life struggles, such as anxiety, depression, fear, family wounds, etc. The Unbound study will teach the *Five Keys to Freedom in Christ*, to help you live fully in God's love, freedom and mercy.

Where: St. Thomas Parish Center, 89 Pine St., West Springfield, MA



ADVENT Retreat

Join this special one day retreat with Fr. John Koziol from St. Stanislaus Basilica.

When: Wednesday, December 2nd, 2026, 8 am - 2 pm, with 2 pm Mass.

Where: Jericho Center, 537 Northampton St., Holyoke, MA



Disciples of Mary

Detailed program, cost and registration information and additional updates on new events/seminars is available on our website:

www.disciplesofmary.com

ONGOING EVENTS

Healing Masses are held at St. Stanislaus Basilica in Chicopee, MA on the following 3rd Tuesdays: **November 17, 2026 and February 16, 2027 and May 18, 2027**. **Schedule:** 6:00 pm Adoration and Praise & Worship, 6:30 p.m. Rosary led by the St. Stanislaus Rosary Society, and 7:00 p.m. Mass, followed by anointing for healing. All are welcome.

Chalice of Strength - Prayer for Priests: Christ the King Church in Ludlow, MA offers prayers for priests every Wednesday from 10:00 - 11:00 am (*enter the church through the side entrance from parking lot*). For more information, contact Christ the King Parish.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Fall of 2026 through Winter of 2027:

<i>Sept. 16th (Wednesdays)</i>	Journey to Joy: Reflection on Mary's Seven Sorrows. Presented by Penny Piazza. This study runs <u>Wednesday evenings</u> from 6:30 - 8:30 pm. <u>Location:</u> St. Thomas Parish, West Springfield.
<i>October 7th (Wednesdays)</i>	The Catholic Mass - A Biblical Journey. Presented by Paul Laflamme. This seminar is a seven week session, from 6:30 - 8 pm, at St. Thomas Parish in Palmer, MA (<i>right off I-90 Palmer exit</i>).
<i>October 17th (Saturday)</i>	Unbound Conference from 8:30 am to 5:00 pm. at St. Thomas Parish in West Springfield.
<i>November 7th (Saturday)</i>	Women of Grace Reunion. Morning event from 9:00 am to noon at Jericho Center, Holyoke.
<i>November 17th (Tuesday)</i>	Healing Mass starting at 7 pm at St. Stanislaus Basilica, Chicopee, MA with 6-7 pm activities.
<i>December 2nd (Wednesday)</i>	Advent Retreat from 8 am to 2 pm, followed by Mass at Jericho Center, Holyoke.
<i>January 6th (Wednesdays)</i>	Women of Grace Study. Every other Wedn. (6:30 -8:30 pm) at St. Thomas Parish in West Springfield.
<i>February 16th (Tuesday)</i>	Healing Mass starting at 7 pm at St. Stanislaus Basilica, Chicopee, MA with 6-7 pm activities.
<i>May 18th (Tuesday)</i>	Healing Mass starting at 7 pm at St. Stanislaus Basilica, Chicopee, MA with 6-7 pm activities.

"For freedom, Christ has set us free; stand fast therefore, and do not submit again to a yoke of slavery."
(Galatians 5:1).

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