

# St. Theresa Parish & St. Mary Parish

IN HENNIKER & HILLSBOROUGH, NH

158 Old West Hopkinton Rd  
Henniker, NH

38 Church Street  
Hillsborough, NH

Mailing address for both parishes: PO Box 729, Henniker, NH 03242  
Telephone: 603-428-3325

Email: [parish.office@tds.net](mailto:parish.office@tds.net) Website: [www.showerofroses.org](http://www.showerofroses.org)  
Facebook: The Communities of St Theresa Parish and St Mary Parish

**December 10, 2023**

2ND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

# HOLD ON IN FAITH



## The Vision for St. Theresa Parish and St. Mary Parish

To grow the presence of the Catholic Church in the towns of the  
Contoocook River Valley and on the New England College Campus

### Our Mission:

- ❖ To welcome individuals, couples and families
- ❖ To form disciples
- ❖ To train for service
- ❖ To learn to share our faith
- ❖ To go deeper into scripture and prayer

ST. THERESA



ST. MARY

**December 3, 2023**

Offertory	\$	3,918.00
Offertory Online 11/27-12/01/23	\$	1,877.42
Debt/Capital Projects	\$	1,230.00
Debt/Capital Online 11/27-12/01/23	\$	45.69

*Thank You for your Support!!*



**REMEMBER**  
*in your prayers*

*St. Theresa*  
*Prayer Chain*

G. Blanchard, Nancy Bessette,  
Priscilla Barbera, Elizabeth & Brian Benoit,  
Claudette Bernier, Madelein-Mae Cynthia Brouillard,  
Dennis Broussard, Jeanne Campbell,  
Dan DaCosta, Tyler & Caitlyn Deschenes  
& family, Amelia DiBurro, Faith Downs,  
Madalyn Grace Downs, Crystal Emerson,  
Roy Emerson, Paul & Donna Fanny, Liam Gannon,  
Marie Gannon, Skye George, Stephen Hebert,  
Frank Lembree, Linda M., Sue and Kevin McElroy,  
Chloe McEvoy, The McPike Family, Allen Meade,  
Sheila Miller, Tracy Nylander, Mike & Sharon  
Otterson, Francis Page, Paisley, Bonnie Pratt,  
Christine Prince, Sandy & Gary Quint, A.J. Ranfos,  
Pauline Ranfos, Rodney Richardson,  
Jacob and Jaxson Rivera, Grace Rock,  
Gabriel Rock, John Rock, Jennifer Schallert  
& children, Mary Ellen Schule, Joseph Tierney,  
Drysdan Wallace and Anthony Yarochwicz

**December 3, 2023**

Offertory	\$	2,212.18
Offertory Online 11/27-12/01/23	\$	819.31

*Thank You for your Support!!*



**REMEMBER**  
*in your prayers*

*St. Mary*  
*Prayer Chain*

Peggy Abeln, David Ancil, Peter Beard,  
Cynthia Bumford, Lori Carrington,  
Tommy Connolly, Mathew Douston, Tom Fraser,  
Charlotte Furo, Kathy Rysnik Huard,  
Katie Walter Jeffery, Jostin & Family,  
Jocelyne LeBlanc, Ashley Montgomery,  
Melissa Morin, Betty Plante, Lily Plater, Paul Plater,  
Marilyn Powers, Dee Sampson, Jackie Sylvia,  
Ursula & Walter Radermacher and Michael Wahl



Dec. 9 Family Formation  
Dec. 10 Coffee & Donuts St. Theresa 9:00 a.m.  
Dec. 11 **Poinsettias Order Forms are due**  
Dec. 13 Knight's meeting at St. Theresa 7:00 p.m.  
Dec. 17 Divine Mercy Devotion St. Mary 2:30 p.m.  
**Dec. 17 Giving Tree Gifts are due under the tree**  
Dec. 17-23 Family Promise hosted at St. Theresa

We announce the recent passing  
of  
**Jean Paul Aucoin**

Parishioner of St. Theresa

*Rest In Peace*

We announce the recent passing  
of  
**Kathleen Wallace**

Parishioner of St. Theresa

*Rest In Peace*

**Pastoral Staff**

**Pastor:**

Fr. Marcel Martel  
marcelnh25@gmail.com

**Hospital Chaplain & Weekend Assistant:**

Fr. Maurice Abasilim  
(603) 892-9920

**Deacons:**

Wayne Bolduc wbolduc@hotmail.com  
Jim Rock jimrockireland@yahoo.com

**Parish Staff**

**Administrative Assistant:** Linda Patterson  
parish.office@tds.net

**Office Assistant:** Florence Osgood  
florence-osgood@tds.net

**Faith Formation Coordinator:** Bridget Tierney  
familyformationsttheresa@gmail.com

**Catholic Charities** Su McKinnon, M.ED.  
(603) 228-1108 smckinnon@nh-cc.org

ST. THERESA



ST. MARY

**Sat. Dec. 9 4:00 p.m.**

- ✚ In memory of Frederick Moreland, Sr.  
by Pat & Fred Moreland  
and
- ☼ Birthday blessings for Patricia Damour  
by Mary Corsetti

**Sun. Dec. 10 8:00 a.m.**

- ☼ For our Parishioners and all who  
live in the towns served by  
St. Theresa and St. Mary

**11:00 a.m.**

- ✚ In memory of Billy Gould  
by Rob & Cheryl Morse

**Mon. Dec. 11 8:30 a.m.**

- ☼ Prayers for peace in Israel  
by Parishioners of St. Theresa

**Wed. Dec. 13 8:30 a.m.**

**Adoration 9:00 a.m.-Noon**

- ☼ For the Parishioners of St. Theresa  
and St. Mary

**Sat. Dec. 16 4:00 p.m.**

- ✚ In memory of Mary Claire Vahey  
by Pat & Fred Moreland  
and
- ✚ In memory of Daymon Murdough  
by Family

**Sun. Dec. 17 8:00 a.m.**

- ☼ For our Parishioners and all who  
live in the towns served by  
St. Theresa and St. Mary

**11:00 a.m.**

- ☼ For our Parishioners and all who  
live in the towns served by  
St. Theresa and St. Mary

**Sun. Dec. 10 9:30 a.m.**

- ✚ In memory of Irwin & Evelyn Holdner  
by Mary Lou Lannon

**Tues. Dec. 12 8:30 a.m.**

- ✚ In memory of Alice Martel  
by the Radermacher Family

**Thurs. Dec. 14 8:30 a.m.**

- ☼ For the Parishioners of St. Mary  
and St. Theresa

**Sun. Dec. 17 9:30 a.m.**

- ☼ For additional qualified compassionate  
security guards to work in the NH  
correctional facilities  
by Rita Murdough

**If you would like to schedule a Mass Intention  
at St. Mary or St. Theresa,  
please contact the Parish Office.  
Mass cards are available.**

## Sanctuary Lamp Memorial

The Sanctuary Lamp is the candle burning near the tabernacle which signals Jesus' Eucharistic presence in the tabernacle. The Sanctuary Lamp burns constantly, 24 hours a day!

**This week at St. Mary  
the lamp is burning for the health of  
Heather Plater**



**This week at St. Theresa  
the lamp is burning in memory of  
Daymon M. , Bob B. and Jim K.**



**St. Theresa  
December 10th  
following 8:00 Mass**



**THANK YOU!**



Tonko and Kristof Cauley would like to thank everyone who has purchased a wreath from us in support of our Boy Scout Troop. Unfortunately, the time has come for us to move on, but Bill Tierney, a newer member of the Troop, will continue selling wreaths.





If you are new to our parish, please contact the parish office for a registration form or complete our online registration form available on the Parish Website.

Visitors, we are glad that you joined us today!

### Respect Life – *Imago Dei*

Angela Harders had been raped, and became pregnant. She called Planned Parenthood and was told “if you go through with the pregnancy you will never be able to travel again or do any of those other things that you said you wanted to do.

She then called a Crisis Pregnancy Center. “When the lady answered the phone, I couldn’t even speak.

She let me cry, and she just said, ‘Oh, honey, I’m here with you on the phone whenever you’re ready,’”

She said to me, ‘Sex doesn’t make babies, God does.’” She then assured Harders that this baby had been given to her for a purpose. “For some reason, God is choosing to give you a life out of this terrible circumstance. “ “The difference between the two calls was staggering,” she said. After my call to Planned Parenthood I felt like this baby was a problem to get rid of, not a life to be cherished or enjoyed. After the call with the CPC I felt hopeful, and empowered. Of course I was still nervous and afraid, but overall, I had this overwhelming sense of peace, like – I can do this! Angela is now the mother to a beautiful little girl — and is accomplishing her dreams, too.



### Keep Christ in Christmas Poster Contest

This weekend after all Masses the Knights of Columbus will provide paper (11 x 17) on which our youth can use paint, pencil, or crayon to create a picture that best represents keeping Christ in Christmas.

The picture needs to have a logo or saying included somewhere on the paper. Completed posters need to be dropped off at Mass on the weekend of 12/16 & 12/17.

### St. Theresa & St. Mary Giving Trees are up!!

As in the past, the gift tag selected from the tree must be attached to the outside of the wrapped gift and returned to the correct church.

All gifts must be returned by December 17th!



**St. Theresa & St. Mary Poinsettias Order Forms are due no later than December 11th.**

**Order forms are available at the back of the church.**



### Christmas Mass Schedule

**St. Mary:** Christmas Eve 4:00 pm  
Christmas Day 9:30 am

**St. Theresa:** Christmas Eve 4:00 pm  
6:00 pm  
Midnight  
Christmas Day 9:00 am



*We would like to express how grateful we are to the 35 volunteers who were available to do the jobs of 64 people, this past Thanksgiving week. Our holiday was extra short of help this year. But 5 adults and children ages 19 yrs, 3 yrs, 10 mos, and 8 mos. were fed and sheltered at St Theresa’s for one more week in their journey to sustainable housing.*

*Our next host week is very soon - December 17– December 23, 2023. Sign- up Genius has already been sent out by e-mail. Please join us if you can.*

*For questions, you can reach Cheryl Morse at [rcmorse@comcast.net](mailto:rcmorse@comcast.net).*

*Blessings to all our Family Promise volunteers, Cheryl and Sally.*

## SUNDAY'S READINGS

### 2nd Sunday of Advent

#### First Reading:

A voice cries out: In the desert prepare the way of the LORD! Make straight in the wasteland a highway for our God! (Is 40:3)

#### Second Reading:

We await new heavens and a new earth in which righteousness dwells. (1 PT 1:13)

#### Gospel:

John the Baptist appeared in the desert proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. (Mk 16:4)

## GOSPEL MEDITATION

December 10, 2023



We like to think we are totally free, but the bitter truth is we simply are not. Or better put, our freedom is limited on every side — by governments, corporate giants, physical and mental frailties, genetic shortcomings, and even the boundaries of time and space, and above all, the burden of our sins and pending deaths. In our day, we are perhaps particularly aware that we are not free to disconnect from the technocratic rulers of the air. If you doubt me, try not paying your internet bill and see what happens. We are not totally free.

It's nothing new, of course. In Jesus' day, everyone felt the crushing weight of the Roman Empire. You can say you're free all you want. But try not paying your taxes to Rome and see what happens.

Once we feel this burden in our own lives — however it comes — we are ready to hear the stunning announcement that commences Mark's gospel, "**The beginning of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.**" It's not a simple perfunctory introduction, but a dramatic announcement of new freedom. The word "gospel" was a political, even military, term. It meant: a great victory has been won and a new king is in charge. This Jesus — not the Roman emperor — is God's son, and he has defeated all that crushes human freedom. It's time to follow him and be truly free. This week let's refuse to submit our freedom to false rulers — especially that of sin. And let's rejoice that Christ is coming to make us perfectly free from all our oppressors.

— Father John Muir ©LPi



**Sunday, December 10th**  
**St. Theresa, Henniker 1:30 p.m.**

**Sunday, December 17th**  
**Christ the King, Concord, 2:00 p.m.**



**Retirement Fund  
for Religious**

[retiredreligious.org](http://retiredreligious.org)

### Second Collection this weekend Support a lifetime of service.

Women and men religious have spent their lives serving others in prayer, ministry, education and care for those in need—usually for little or no pay.

Today, their religious communities do not have enough retirement savings. As they age, they require essential care and medications. Please support them by giving to the Retirement Fund for Religious. Your donation makes a difference for nearly 25,000 senior men and women religious. Please give generously.



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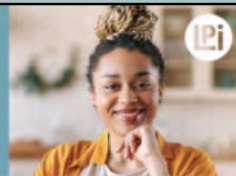
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