

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 Website: www.showerofroses.org
Facebook: The Communities of St Theresa Parish and St Mary Parish

December 31, 2023

HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY & JOSEPH

**LOVINGLY
DEDICATED TO
ONE ANOTHER**



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 17, 2023

| | | |
|------------------------------------|----|----------|
| Offertory | \$ | 2,941.00 |
| Offertory Online 12/11-12/15/23 | \$ | 5,422.84 |
| Debt/Capital Projects | \$ | 160.00 |
| Debt/Capital Online 12/11-12/15/23 | \$ | 170.00 |

Thank You for your Support!!

December 17, 2023

| | | |
|---------------------------------|----|----------|
| Offertory | \$ | 1,131.00 |
| Offertory Online 12/11-12/15/23 | \$ | 466.31 |

Thank You for your Support!!

**Due to the early submission date for this bulletin,
the December 24th financial information will be posted in
the January 7th bulletin.**



REMEMBER
in your prayers

**St. Theresa
Prayer Chain**

G. Blanchard, Nancy Bessette,
Priscilla Barbera, Elizabeth & Brian Benoit,
Claudette Bernier, Wayne & Ursula Boutwell,
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, Ed Hauser,
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, 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, Eric Smith,
Joseph Tierney, Drysdan Wallace and
Anthony Yarochwicz



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, Michael Wahl
and Bill Wengrowski

**Seminarian Christian Hurlburt
to visit this weekend**



Christian Hurlburt, currently
attending Our Lady of Providence
college seminary in Rhode Island,
will be attending all weekend Masses
at both parishes to introduce
himself. We offer him our prayers
and our support.

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. 30 4:00 p.m.
✠ In memory of the deceased members
of the O'Rourke Family

Sun. Dec. 31 8:00 a.m.
☼ For our Parishioners and all who
live in the towns served by St. Theresa
& St. Mary
11:00 a.m.
✠ In memory of the Daniel K. DaCosta
and Phyllis Anderson
by Dan DaCosta

Mon. Jan. 1 New Year's Day
9:00 a.m.
✠ In memory of JP Aucoin

Wed. Jan. 3 8:30 a.m.
Adoration 9:00 a.m.-Noon
✠ In memory of Kathleen Wallace

Sat. Jan. 6 4:00 p.m.
✠ In memory of Roger Robbins
by Pat & Fred Moreland

Sun. Jan. 7 8:00 a.m.
☼ For the health of Tom Garrity
by the Clancy Family
and
✠ In memory of Lisa Freedman
by Donna & Rob Turcotte
11:00 a.m.
☼ For our Parishioners and all who
live in the towns served by St. Theresa
& St. Mary

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



*We recently welcomed into
our faith community
at St. Theresa :*

*Maximus Allan Carollo
Son of
Ryan and Mary Carollo*

May God Bless them all!

Sun. Dec. 31 9:30 a.m.
✠ In memory of Michael Bedard
and Alfred Ginn
by the Downey Family

Mon. Jan. 1 New Year's Day
9:00 a.m.
✠ In memory of Norman Trottier's Birthday
by the Fraser Family

Tues. Jan. 2 8:30 a.m.
☼ For Rachel and all who are in
impossible situations
by Jon Rheault

Thurs. Jan. 4 8:30 a.m.
✠ In memory of Dolly Megens
by Jon Rheault

Sun. Jan. 7 9:30 a.m.
✠ In memory of Brian Zeludancz
by the Fraser Family

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. Theresa
the lamp is burning in memory of
Kathryn McGowan**



JANUARY

Jan. 3 Twelve Hour Adoration at St. Theresa
9:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Jan. 3 St. Mary Social Committee 9:00 a.m.

Jan. 4 Adoration at St. Mary 5:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m.

Jan. 7 St. Mary Coffee & Donuts following Mass

Jan. 10 Knights meeting at St. Mary 7:00 p.m.

Jan. 13 Family Formation

Jan. 15 St. Theresa Finance Council 7:00 p.m.

Jan. 19 Blood Drive hosted by the Knights

Jan. 21 St. Theresa Coffee & Donuts 9:00 a.m.

Jan. 21 Divine Mercy Devotion at St. Mary 2:30 p.m.

Jan. 22 St. Mary Outreach Meeting 1:00 p.m.

Jan. 22 St. Mary Finance Council 7:00 p.m.



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*

Actress Kristin Chenoweth has been vocal about being raised by adoptive parents and calling adoption “a full-circle blessing.” On 12/12/12 Chenoweth met her birth mother. She told her she prayed for me every year on my birthday, hoping I was having the most perfect life, which of course, I was. I prayed for her too, wishing that someday I would be allowed to tell her ‘thank you.’ It was a beautiful day!” In 2015, Chenoweth had a message for others who had been adopted. She said, “... I encourage other adoptees to remember what blessed lives we have. We weren’t abandoned; we were chosen. We were given a chance. I’m not saying it’s not hard or that it’s easy for people to understand. But it really isn’t for the world to understand; it’s for the people who are involved.”



St. Theresa & St. Mary Giving Trees

Thank you to everyone who so generously donated to the Giving Trees. Your generosity was overwhelming this year.

The gifts from St. Mary were given to shut-ins belonging to the parish and other local people who are known to parishioners, as well as families in the parish and in Hillsborough who are in need of extra support. Gift cards for grocery stores and gas stations were also collected. Some were distributed with the gifts. The remainder will be distributed throughout the year as a need is brought to our attention.

The people who received the gifts from St. Theresa were families from Henniker; The Austin Home in Webster; Pine Rock Manor in Warner; and Family Promise. Gift Cards for groceries and gas were also collected. Many were given to the families. The remaining gift cards will be available to help those in need of assistance.



FIRE OF GOD

REGIONAL CHARISMATIC PRAYER MEETING

JOIN US ON **SATURDAY, JANUARY 20TH**

from 10-noon

at Immaculate Heart of Mary Church,

180 Loudon Rd, Concord

for our quarterly meeting of the FIRE OF GOD Prayer Meeting.

Our Guest Speaker will be

MSGR. MARC MONTMINY.

He will be speaking about

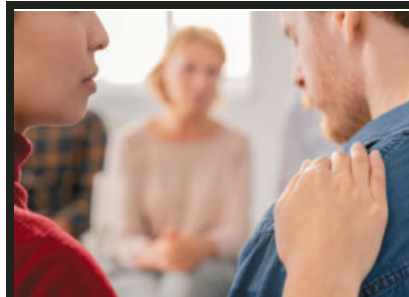
‘The Condition of the Church and the Charismatic Renewal.’

For more information call Jackie Morganti
603-332-3576.

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***“Jesus Christ is the same
yesterday, today and forever!”***

Hebrews 13:8



Online Bereavement Support Group: Catholic Charities NH

Have you recently lost a spouse or a loved one?
Are you struggling to navigate this difficult time?
If so, Catholic Charities NH is here to help with our
“Bereavement – Experiencing Loss, Being Lost and
Finding Your Way Again” online support group.
The five-session program will be held via Zoom on
Wednesdays at 1:30 p.m., starting **January 24, 2024**,
and running through **February 21**. You will learn
about the dynamics of grief, explore different coping
strategies, and have an opportunity to connect with
others in similar situations.

To register, visit www.cc-nh.org/bereavement
or call Louise at 603-752-1325; ext. 4573.

There is no cost to attend.

SUNDAY'S READINGS

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

First Reading:

"Your own issue shall be your heir."
The Lord took Abram outside and said,
"Look up at the sky and count the stars, if you
can. Just so," he added, "shall your descendants
be." (Gn 3:4-5)

Second Reading:

By faith he received power to generate, even
though he was past the normal age —and Sarah
herself was sterile. (Heb 11:11)

Gospel:

The child grew and became strong, filled with
wisdom; and the favor of God was upon him.
(Lk 2:40)

EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP - RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS

The Gift of Family

What a year it has been! How will we speak of these
times a decade from now? As time goes by, our
impressions of this past year will certainly change.
How we feel today about dealing with a killer virus
and all the chaos surrounding that is still fresh for all.

I would assume that most of us right now are also
holding those we love a little closer and hugging
them a little harder. Hopefully, even if the fears and
concerns of 2020 dissipate in the future, the way we
feel toward our family should never leave us.

Stewardship is certainly about everything. God has
given us so much, great and small, profound and
common. One of the greatest gifts that all have
received is family. Families take all shapes and sizes
and some look very different than others. For some,
family is a caretaker or temporary guardian. For
others it is a friend when everyone else seems to have
vanished. The bottom line is that, to quote a song
from many years ago, "people need people."

When God gave the world His only Son, the
Incarnation did not come on a cloud or with a flash
of light. He was born into a family. Jesus understood
the gift of family all his life. Do you think that if
having a family wasn't important God would have
still included this in the plan of salvation?

As this year draws to a close, remember your
stewardship many days begins and ends with the
people closest to you. Don't misuse or take for granted
this precious gift. God gives us gifts on purpose, even
to His only begotten Son.

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS ©LPi

GOSPEL MEDITATION

December 31, 2023



I remember the first time my older sister asked me if I
wanted to hold her newborn son. Terrified, I told her
I didn't think it was a good idea. My résumé had
nothing to suggest I would be a qualified baby holder.
But she warmly told me, "I'll help you hold him." It
struck me that she is baby's mother. She is the one
who decides who is qualified to hold him. I took him
in my arms and soon I began to feel comfortable with
that tiny little warm cooing creature in my arms, and
soon I no longer feared holding him. Now, twenty-
seven nieces and nephews later, holding a newborn
child is one of the great joys of my life.

Do we sometimes think that Jesus is given only to the
highly qualified, special religious people? In the
Gospel of Luke today we hear about the presentation
of the Lord in the temple. The newborn son of God
is passed around like a baton in a relay race, not
guarded like a precious jewel or a breakable china
dish. We can see him going from the arms of Mary to
Joseph, then to the priest performing the ceremony,
then to Simeon the old man, then to Anna the old
widow. Each one receiving him and then handing
him to the next. A tidal wave of joy and thanksgiving
follows wherever he is placed.

Believe me, you are qualified to hold Jesus in your
arms. How can I say that with such confidence?
Because the mother decides who is qualified. The
Blessed Virgin, embodied in the Church, holds him
out to you and me. She rejoices to place him in our
arms to hold, and to hand him on, too.

— Father John Muir ©LPi

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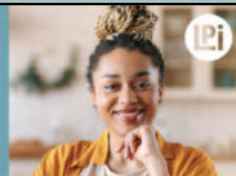
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