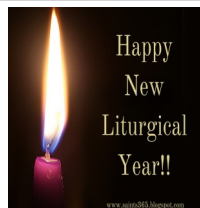




First Sunday of Advent 12/02/2023 - 12/10/2023 Welcome to Mater Dei Parish!



HAPPY NEW YEAR!

This weekend we celebrate the First Sunday of Advent and the beginning of a new liturgical year in the church calendar.

New *Breaking Bread* missals have been placed in the church pews. We rotate to "Year B" in the Church's three year cycle and will explore the Gospel of St. Mark throughout the year.



Thank You for Your Generosity to our Mater Dei Parish Churches

November 26, 2023

Envelopes:	\$ 3,329.00
Loose:	\$ 1,648.00
eCatholic:	\$ 590.00
TOTAL:	\$ 5,567.00

Youth Activities: \$ 1,728.00
Weekly Budget Expenses
(5 year basis): \$10,756.00
Deficit / Surplus: \$ - 5,189.00



There is a special collection this weekend for **Repairs & Maintenance**. During the last fiscal year, the parish paid **\$15,925** for snow removal. This is only one of many expenses supported by your Repairs & Maintenance donations. Please be as generous as possible.

MATER DEI MASS SCHEDULE WEEKDAY MASSES

MON – FRI: 9:00 AM & 4:00 PM @
ST. MARY'S
MON & FRI: 5:30 PM @ ST. EDWARD'S
FRIDAY: 11:00 AM @ ST. JAMES
SATURDAY: 9:00 AM @ ST. MARY'S



"SUNDAY" MASSES

SATURDAY: 4:00 PM @ ST. MARY'S
SUNDAY: 8:30 AM @ ST. EDWARD'S
9:30 AM & 11:00 AM @ ST. MARY'S
10:30 AM @ ST. JAMES

FEAST OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

Friday, December 8th is the Feast of the Immaculate Conception and a Holy Day of Obligation.



Mater Dei Holy Mass Schedule

Thursday, December 7th
Vigil Mass at St. Mary's at 4:00 pm
Friday, December 8th
St. Mary's: 9:00 am & 4:00 pm
St. James: 11:00 am
St. Edward's: 5:30 pm

Father, You prepared the Virgin Mary to be the worthy Mother of Your Son. You let her share beforehand in the salvation Christ would bring by His death, and kept her sinless from the moment of her conception. Help us through her prayers to live in Your Presence without sin. We ask this through Our Lord, Jesus Christ, Your Son, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God forever and ever, Amen.



GIFT WRAPPING ELVES NEEDED

Children will be Christmas shopping for those they love again this year on:
Saturday, December 9th

10:00 am – 3:00 pm
National Guard Armory
Union Street in Newport

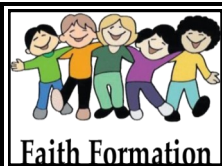
Volunteer elves are needed to wrap the gifts they pick out for their family members. Please contact Brendan Perry at brendanperry17@gmail.com or (802) 624-6221 with the hours you can help. Wrapping supplies will be provided, but please bring your own scissors and tape. Thank you for putting smiles on children's faces.

Blessing the Symbols of Christmas

Each Sunday during Advent, we will continue our tradition of blessing a symbol of the Christmas season.

Next Sunday, December 10th, on the **Second Sunday of Advent**, we will bless the **Christmas Tree**. You are invited to bring a **Christmas Tree Ornament** to bless during Mass.

3rd Sunday of Advent—Manger Figurine
4th Sunday of Advent—Baby Jesus



St. James next Catholic Faith Formation class is **Tuesday, Dec. 5th** from 3:00 — 4:15 pm in the Parish Center.



With deepest sympathy...

Please pray for the repose of the soul of: † **Andre Letourneau** and for his grieving family.

ST. EDWARD'S GIVING TREE



St. Edward's will begin their annual Giving Tree campaign **this weekend on Sunday, December 3rd** for the residents of Michaud Manor.

The tree will be decorated with ornaments listing gift ideas for individual residents.

Please take an ornament home, and return your wrapped or bagged gift by **Sunday, December 17th**. Be sure to place the ornament gift tag on the outside of your package.

Thank you for your participation. Your generosity helps to make the Christmas season more joyful for Michaud Manor's residents.

THANK YOU FROM REV. MOTHER BENEDICT MCLAUGHLIN, OSB

†
THANK
YOU
AND
GOD BLESS
YOU ALL!

During November when the entire nation gives thanks to God at Thanksgiving, we would like to add a special note of gratitude to Him for the abundance of blessings He has bestowed on us through the priests, deacon, staff, parishioners, and the ever-faithful Knights of Columbus of Mater Dei Parish. The innumerable acts of generosity, service and kindness in helping us prepare for the abbatial blessing in your magnificent St. Mary, Star of the Sea Church, made the Mass of November 11th a unique moment of grace and a deep experience of God's overwhelming love for us in His Son. Your warm welcome of us and of our guests from throughout the world exemplified the Gospel precept of love of neighbor in the highest degree and we—nuns and guests alike—were profoundly moved by such an outpouring of love which showed all the way down to the smallest details. This day of grace has created a unique spiritual bond between our abbey and your parish community, one that will be reinforced by our prayer that God will continue to bless each and every one with the sure knowledge of His love for you.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Rev. Mother Benedict McLaughlin, OSB
Abbess, Immaculate Heart of Mary Abbey
Westfield, Vermont



VOCATIONIST'S CORNER

As represented by the flags displayed last weekend at St. Mary's on the Solemnity of Our Lord, Jesus Christ, King of the Universe, Vocationists serve in 18 countries. They have been in the United States since 1962.

FORGIVEN: THE TRANSFORMING POWER OF CONFESSION

Fr. William Beaudin's Advent on-line seminar continues on
Wednesday, December 6th
from 6:30 – 8:00 pm

12/06: An Encounter with Mercy

12/13: Biblical Foundations: Forgiven

12/20: Embraced in Mercy: the Rite Explained

For more information and the Zoom link, visit: forgivencosp@gmail.com.

What a beautiful way to prepare for Christ's coming.



KEEP POPE FRANCIS IN YOUR PRAYERS



Please remember Pope Francis in your prayers as he continues to suffer from the flu and a respiratory tract infection.

Pope Francis, who will turn 87 on December 17th, is the oldest reigning pope since Pope Leo XIII died in 1903 at the age of 93.

ADVENT PENITENTIAL SERVICES

Sunday, December 3rd at 3:00 pm
at **St. Mary's**

Sunday, December 10th at 3:00 pm
St. Norbert's Catholic Church

193 S. Main St., Hardwick, VT

Sunday, December 17th at 3:00 pm
at **St. Paul's** in Barton

Sunday, December 17th at 3:00 pm
at **Sacred Heart of Jesus** in Troy

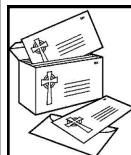
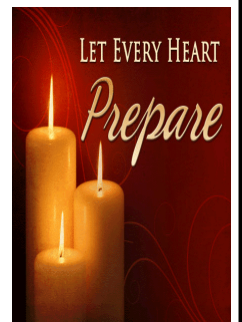
More Opportunities for Confession

St. Edward's: 10:00 am — 12:00 pm

Mater Dei Parish Office in Derby Line
Monday — Friday w/Fr. Tom & Fr. Jim

St. Mary's: 3:00 pm — 4:00 pm every Saturday

St. James: Fridays at 10:30 am before 11:00 Mass
Sundays before and after 10:30 am Mass



2024 CHURCH ENVELOPES

Mater Dei's 2024 church envelopes will be available the weekend of **December 17th** at the church you attend most often.



*St. Mary's Tabernacle Light
burns this week in loving memory
of: † Romuald Kuczak.*