



Third Sunday of Advent 12/16/2023 - 12/24/2023

Welcome to Mater Dei Parish!



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



Thank You for Your Generosity to
our Mater Dei Parish Churches

December 10, 2023

Envelopes:	\$ 6,460.00
Loose:	\$ 2,827.00
eCatholic:	\$ 325.00
TOTAL:	\$ 9,612.00

Priests' Retirement : \$ 1,498.00
Weekly Budget Expenses
(5 year basis): \$10,756.00
Deficit / Surplus: \$ -1,144.00



There is a special collection this weekend for **Fuel**.
Mater Dei's fuel cost for 2023/2024 are estimated at
\$63,180. Fuel collections this year have totaled **\$10,699**.
leaving us with a deficit of **\$52,481**. Please be as
generous as possible.

PRAYER FOR A NEW BISHOP

*ALMIGHTY GOD, Eternal
Shepherd and guide, in your love
for us, grant to the Diocese of
Burlington a shepherd who will
lead us to be Christ's heart of mer-
cy, voice of hope, and hands of justice. Help
him to fill our minds and hearts with the
truth of the Gospel, the power of the sacra-
ments, and the desire to build up your holy
Church.*



Blessing the Symbols of Christmas



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

Next Sunday, **December 24th** is the
Fourth Sunday of Advent when we
will bless the most important
symbol of Christmas: **Baby Jesus**. You are
invited to **bring your Baby Jesus from your
home Nativity scene** to bless during Holy Mass.

ST. EDWARD'S GIVING TREE



St. Edward's annual Giving Tree
campaign for the residents of
Michaud Manor is winding down!

**Your gifts for our Michaud Manor
residents are due today!** Please
return your wrapped or bagged
gift as soon as possible. Be sure
to place the ornament gift tag on
the outside of your package for identification.

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

Gaudette Sunday: Sunday of Joy

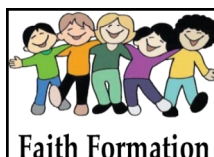
The 3rd Sunday of Advent is
called **Gaudette Sunday**, a
Latin term meaning "rejoice"
when we look forward with
joy to the birth of Jesus.



*That is why the priest wears rose-colored
vestments and we light the rose Advent
candle today.*

CATHOLIC FAITH FORMATION

St. James next Catholic Faith
Formation class will meet on
Tuesday, December 19th from
3:00 — 4:15 pm with Adoration.

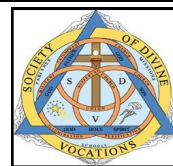


With deepest sympathy...

*Please pray for the repose of the
soul of: † **Alan Moss**, beloved
husband of Denise Moss, and for
his grieving family.*

"I am the voice of one crying out in the desert, 'make straight the way of the Lord'. I baptize with water; but there is one among you whom you do not recognize, the one who is coming after me, whose sandal strap I am not worthy to untie." [John 1:23, 26-27]

VOCATIONIST'S CORNER SCAM ALERT



IF YOU RECEIVE A TEXT OR EMAIL MESSAGE FROM ANYONE CLAIMING TO BE FR. RIJO ASKING FOR AMAZON GIFT CARDS OR ANY OTHER GIFT CARDS, DO NOT REPLY TO THE MESSAGE OR PURCHASE ANY CARDS. **IT IS A SCAM.** LEGITIMATE REQUESTS FOR DONATIONS WOULD COME FROM OUR PARISH OR AN ORGANIZATION SUCH AS THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS, NOT FROM FR. RIJO PERSONALLY. **SEVERAL PARISHIONERS HAVE ALREADY RECEIVED THESE TEXT MESSAGES FROM VARIOUS PHONE NUMBERS.** IF YOU ARE SUSPICIOUS ABOUT A MESSAGE OR TEXT FROM "FR. RIJO", CONFIRM WITH HIM THAT HE IS THE ACTUAL SENDER BEFORE RESPONDING TO THE REQUEST. EVERYONE WANTS TO BE GENEROUS AND GIVING, ESPECIALLY DURING THE CHRISTMAS SEASON, BUT THAT IS EXACTLY WHAT THESE SCAMMERS ARE HOPING FOR! TO REPORT A SUSPECTED SCAM, TEXT TO 7726 OR CALL (888) 388-1222.

FORGIVEN: THE TRANSFORMING POWER OF CONFESSION

Fr. William Beaudin's Advent on-line seminar concludes on:

Wednesday, December 20th

from 6:30–8:00 pm with the final segment entitled: **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!



Christmas Flower Donations

Envelopes have been placed in the pews for donations for Christmas flowers to decorate our beautiful churches. Please consider making a gift to remember or honor a loved one during the Christmas season. Place your contribution in a flower or special collection envelope marked Christmas Flowers and place it in the collection basket during Mass.

Thank you for your continued generosity to our parish.



ST. MARY'S GIVING TREE

This year, St. Mary's Giving Tree will provide gifts for the 58 residents of Bel-Aire Center.

The staff at Bel-Aire has recommended the following gift ideas which are most needed and will be greatly appreciated.

unscented body wash	chapstick
deodorant	cherry chocolates
gripper slipper-socks	Andes candies
unscented body lotion	large-print word
shampoo & conditioner	search puzzles
York peppermint patties	large print sudoku
men's socks	puzzles
women's colored crew socks	

Please buy regular-sized health care products instead of the smaller gift-sized bottles. Return your unwrapped gifts to St. Mary's by **Tuesday, December 19th**. St. Mary's Coordinators will sort the products and assemble a gift bag for each resident. There will be a box in the church alcove for your items.

Thank you for your kindness to our nursing home residents. Your generosity will help make their Christmas brighter.

ADVENT PENITENTIAL SERVICES

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

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

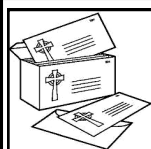
St. Mary's: 3:00 pm — 4:00 pm every Saturday

after 9:00 am & 4:00 pm daily Masses

Monday — Friday & Saturday morning

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

Sundays before and after 10:30 am Mass



2024 CHURCH ENVELOPES ARE HERE!

Mater Dei's 2024 church envelopes are available this weekend at all our parish churches.

If you do not find your envelopes where you usually attend Holy Mass, please put your name on the list next to the boxes of envelopes and we will track them down for you.

Thank you for your continued financial support of Mater Dei Parish!

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say, rejoice. Indeed the Lord is near.