



## The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph

12/30/2023 - 01/07/2023

Welcome to Mater Dei Parish!



**Holy Family of Nazareth, by Your intercession, love, and holy example, make our family and home more and more like Yours until we are all one family, happy and at peace in our true home with You. Amen.**

### 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 24 & 25, 2023**

Envelopes:	\$ 8,458.00
Loose:	\$ 6,097.00
eCatholic:	\$ 415.00
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>\$ 14,970.00</b>

Weekly Budget Expenses: \$ 10,756.00

Deficit / Surplus: \$ +4,214.00

#### Christmas Collections

2020	2021	2022	2023
\$13,480	\$9,300	\$12,140	\$8,766

*Thank you for your continued generous support of our parish!*

### PRAYER FOR THE NEW YEAR

Dear Lord,  
Thank you for allowing me  
to see this new year.  
I thank you for the hope  
You give me and the  
possibilities that this year holds.  
Please lead and guide me in all that I say  
and do.  
Please help me to become the person You  
want me to be.  
Help me to make the most of my days.  
Help me to love others well and to grow in  
Your knowledge and grace.  
I commit myself, my family and this year to  
You.  
May I bring honor and glory to You all the  
days of my life.  
I ask these things in the name of Jesus.



### The Sundays of the Christmas Season



SUNDAY, DECEMBER 31, 2023:

*Feast of the Holy Family*

SUNDAY, JANUARY 7, 2024

*Epiphany of the Lord*

MONDAY, JANUARY 1, 2024

*Solemnity of Mary,  
the Holy Mother of God*

THIS FEAST DAY IS NOT A HOLY DAY OF  
OBLIGATION THIS YEAR BECAUSE IT FALLS ON A  
MONDAY. HOWEVER, YOU ARE ENCOURAGED TO  
ATTEND HOLY MASS AND KEEP THE DAY HOLY,  
ESPECIALLY SINCE *MOTHER OF GOD IS THE*  
NAMESAKE OF MATER DEI PARISH.

MASS SCHEDULE FOR JANUARY 1<sup>ST</sup>

9:00 AM: ST. MARY'S

4:00 PM: ST. MARY'S

5:30 PM: ST. EDWARD'S

MONDAY, JANUARY 8, 2024

*Baptism of the Lord is observed.*

### CATHOLIC FAITH FORMATION

There is **No** Catholic Faith Formation  
at St. James on **January 2, 2024.**

St. James next Catholic Faith  
Formation class will be on **Tuesday, January 9<sup>th</sup>**  
at 3:00 pm and will include Sacramental  
Preparation.

We wish all our CFF families a very Happy New  
Year! May God bless you all in 2024!



*With deepest sympathy...*

*Please pray for the repose of the  
souls of: † **Benoit "Ben" Leblond**,  
† **John Ward, Sr.** and † **Lucille  
Meunier** and for their grieving families.*

## DIOCESAN MARRIAGE DAY MASS SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 2024

Married couples celebrating milestone anniversaries who wish to be recognized at the Diocesan Anniversary Mass on February 4<sup>th</sup> at the 10:00 am Holy Mass at St. Joseph's Cathedral in Burlington are invited to register by contacting Nicole Hamilton at [nhamilton@vermontcatholic.org](mailto:nhamilton@vermontcatholic.org) or by calling (802) 658-6110, ext. 1131



Recognition is given to couples celebrating marriages of 5, 10, 15, 20, 25.....50, 51 or more years. The Diocese will need to know the names of the couples (as they would like them spelled on the certificate), anniversary date and year, current parish, and email address.

**The deadline to register is January 26, 2024.**

THANK YOU TO.....

ALL OUR MATER DEI PARISH VOLUNTEERS



Mater Dei Parish is blessed to have so many talented and dedicated volunteers at our parish churches! Thank you to everyone who worked so hard to decorate our churches so beautifully to welcome the birth of Our Lord and Savior.

Thank you to our Mass Coordinators who prepared our churches for our Christmas Masses, and to our Lectors, Eucharistic Ministers, Altar Servers and Ushers who all played important roles during each of our Holy Masses.

Finally, to our musicians and choirs: you are wonderful! From Christmas Carols before Mass to the closing hymns, you helped each of us invite Jesus into our hearts and churches. The true meaning of Christmas was spread through your beautiful music.

Thank you all for sharing your gifts with us at Christmas and throughout the year! May God bless you all!

## K OF C CHRISTMAS RAFFLE

THE GRAND PRIZES FOR THE K OF C CHRISTMAS CHARITY RAFFLE WERE DRAWN AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE CHRISTMAS EVE 4:00 PM MASS AT ST. MARY'S. 3 \$500 PRIZES WERE WON BY: GILLES NADEAU, CHRISTIAN GOULET AND BRIAN GIDDRY. 2 \$1,000 PRIZES WERE WON BY: DON VANASSE AND SUSAN RIVARD.



## VOCATIONIST'S CORNER

*A Heartfelt Thank You from our  
Vocationist Priests*



Fr. Rijo, Fr. Tom, and Fr. Jim would like to sincerely thank everyone who sent food, gifts and cards to St. Mary's Rectory for Christmas. The love and generosity you show us, not just at Christmas, but throughout the year, is just one of the many reasons we are blessed to live among you in the Northeast Kingdom and serve you.

We wish you and your families the peace and joy of the Christmas season and may God continue to bless you in 2024.



*Many Thanks to the Parishioners  
of St. Mary's — Mater Dei Parish*

The residents and staff of Bel-Aire Nursing Home have asked us to send all of you their gratitude for your generous

donations. You have put so many smiles and even tears of joy on the residents' faces because of your thoughtfulness.

**"Sometimes it is the smallest things that mean the most!"**

Thank you for giving Bel-Aire's residents a Merry Christmas! May all of you be blessed in the coming New Year!

## DON'T FORGET YOUR 2024 CHURCH ENVELOPES!

Mater Dei's 2024 church envelopes & calendars are available at all our parish churches.



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

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



## PARISH OFFICE CLOSED

The parish office will be closed on Monday, January 1<sup>st</sup> as we celebrate the new year with our families.

The office staff wishes everyone a Happy New Year and all God's blessings in 2024!

*St. Edward's Tabernacle Light  
burns this week in loving memory  
of: † Merle Wheeler.*



A LIST OF ALL WINNERS WILL BE PUBLISHED SOON!