4th Sunday of Advent

> ליסוווח 'תדור-

מאלכט מאלכט

Erresa

TYCF



December 24, 2023

Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord.

May it be done to me according to your word. Luke 1:38

#### **PARISH STAFF**

Rev. Kevin Hickey, Pastor

kthickey51@gmail.com

Rev. Bertrand Proulx, Parochial Vicar

frbertproulx@stmarysfoxboro.org

# **PARISH OFFICE**

508-543-7726

Hours: Monday – Thursday 9:30-3:00pm

Holly Rosenberger, Finance and Operations hrosenberger @stmarysfoxboro.org Nicole Davin – Rel. Ed. Adm. and Funeral/Cemetery

ndavin @stmarysfoxboro.org

Laurie Bubencik — lbubencik @stmarysfoxboro.org Jenna Duckworth-Youth Minister - jennalee718@gmail.com

Brian Rosenberger – Maintenance Supervisor

Laura Canfield – Music Director – lrcanf@msn.com

Marge Morian Boyle — Adult Choir Director - mmbyl@comcast.net John Zadroga – Organist – John.zadroga@exprealty.com

**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION** 

508-543-4577

Hours: Monday – Thursday 9:30-3:00pm Email: ndavin@stmarysfoxboro.org

Deborah Gilarde - Dir. Rel. Ed. Grades 1 & 2;

dgilarde @stmarysfoxboro.org

Catherine Briggs – Dir. Rel. Ed. Grades 3-6

cbriggs @stmarysfoxboro.org

Julie Foley - Dir. Rel. Ed. Grades 7-9;

Ifoley @stmarysfoxboro.org

### **IMPORTANT ADDRESSES**

Church Address: 58 Carpenter Street, Foxboro, MA 02035

Rectory Mailing Address: 83 Central Street,

Foxboro, MA 02035

### **Bulletin Advertisers**

Did you know, that we do not pay for the bulletins to be printed, or be available on line each week? Our parish bulletin company sends us a check each year thanks to the revenue generated from businesses that advertise in our bulletin. The next time you need some type of service, please take a look at the bulletin. Our vendors can be found on the back page of this bulletin. Thank you to those businesses that support us, and thank you for supporting them!

> SCAN HERE FOR ST. MARY'S WEBSITE





#### **Mass Times**

Saturday Vigil: 4:00pm

Sunday: 7:00am 9:00am 11:00am

Monday - Saturday: 9:00am

#### Sacrament of Baptism

Second Sunday of the month at 12:30pm. Please call the Rectory to register your child.

Baptism Preparation Classes are held the 1st Sunday of each month

@12:30pm.

#### Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturdays 2:45pm-3:45pm or by appointment or by request after Mass.

#### **Sacrament of Matrimony**

Couples planning to be married at Saint Mary's should make an appointment to meet with the priest in person, at least one year prior to the wedding date and prior to booking a venue/vendor.

#### Sacrament of the Sick

Please call the Rectory for an appointment.

**Eucharistic Adoration** 

**Fatima Prayer Cells** 

Fridays - 9:30am-noon Tuesdays following 9:00am Mass Thursdays - 3:30pm-4:30pm

**Holy Souls Prayer Group** 

Fridays - 3:00pm-4:00pm

**Holy Rosary Prayer Group** 

Mondays-Saturdays - 8:25am

#### St. Mary's Prayer Line

If you have a prayer request or are interested in joining our Prayer Line please email Laurie at Ibubencik@stmarysfoxboro.org or call the Rectory.

#### **Catholic Daughters**

Meetings are the third Sunday of each month after the 11am Mass.

### **Knights of Columbus**

Meetings are the first Friday of each month @7pm with a Rosary at 6:30pm.

#### **Low Gluten Hosts**

Please speak to one of the ushers or the celebrant before Mass if you would like to receive a low gluten host

**Change of Address**: Make sure to stay connected! Send any changes to your address or telephone number to the Rectory or email lbubencik@stmarysfoxboro.org.

To have the bulletin emailed directly to you, please visit

http://www.pilotbulletins.net/sign-up/ to register for this service.

#### St. Mary's Mission Statement

Saint Mary's Church is a Roman Catholic community of faith established in 1859 in Foxborough, Massachusetts within the Archdiocese of Boston. We are a parish committed to worshipping together, to publicly living, teaching and sharing our faith, and to working at becoming a community with a shared responsibility for meeting the challenge of being a Roman Catholic in a modern world.



### †SATURDAY, December 23

4:00 Mary (Maureen) Hall

†SUNDAY, December 24

7:00 Members of St. Mary's Parish

9:00 Lorraine Teague 1st Anniversary

11:00 Ben DiMascio and family

†TUESDAY, December 26

9:00 Jack Caires Memorial

†WEDNESDAY, December 27

9:00 Marie Werner 3rd Anniversary

†SATURDAY, December 30

9:00 Gustavo DiMartino 4th Anniversary

4:00 Jim Freeman

**†SUNDAY**, December 31

7:00 Jane Delaney and John Mancuso

9:00 Stewart Bayuk

11:00 Members of St. Mary's Parish

Please remember in your prayers the ill and infirmed of the parish and all our beloved deceased, including our Mass Intentions Guild.

# **Sanctuary Candle**

The Sanctuary Candle is lit this week in memory of Marie Werner.

If you would like to remember your beloved deceased by lighting the Sanctuary Candle in their memory, please call the Rectory. A \$30 good will offering is suggested.

# CHRISTMAS MASSES

Sunday, December 24 4pm—upstairs and downstairs Monday, December 25 Midnight, 7am, 9am, 11am



# **COFFEE AND DONUTS**

Please join us for our monthly Coffee and Donuts the first Sunday of the month after the 9am mass.

Next date: January 7, February 4



St. Mary's Rectory will be closed starting Monday, December 25. We will reopen Tuesday, January 2, 2024



# Please remember in your prayers the following men and women serving in our military:

William Albano, Louise Balduf, Graham P. Johnston,
Daniel Sheehan, Shane McAuley. Also Sean Davey, Cpl.
Eric Thomas, Cpt. Joseph A. Colantoni, Sgt. James R.
Jarvis III, US Army 1st Lt. Brian Johns & Master Sgt.
Chris Butler. Also Staff Sgts. Andrew & Arielle Grato, Sgt. Eric Seiden, Army Airborne. Also Frank Fleming, Matthew Goode, USAF Major David Gonsalez, USMC Ryan Davis, Lt. Colonel Kevin Michael Ryan, Major Lindsey Ryan, Army MSG James Crowley, Wil-

liam Lopatka, PFC Elizabeth V. McCarthy-Tang.

Also Cpl. Senghak Tang. PFC Hyder Alsatlawi, USCG Matt Bonneau, US Army Faryn Little, USAF Daniel W. Luring, Chief Warrant Officer 2 Jesse Boyd, Sgt. Nicole L. Jenkins, Capt. Bill Lord, Lt. FC Sarah Lord, Lt. Comm. Anthony LaCourse and GM2 Paul J. Bergman. Also USMC Eric Kelly, USAF Lt. Colonel Mark Barrera, Spec. Ryan Fallows, US Army Private Mitchell Connolly, Sgt. Jeffrey Kielpinsk.

And Steven Tyler Morse, Justin Rose, TSGT-USAF Steven Freitas, Naval Reservist Senator Michael Rush, Air Force Pilot 1st Lt., Kevin Winslow, US Spec. Thomas C. Boyle, Jr., SSGT Dane Pare, USMC D Pvt. Daniel J. Flynn, US Army Sgt. Ryan H. Mckay, USMC Lance Cpl. Timothy Shallow, Jr., USAF Major Erol S. Kelter, USAF Major Sarah E. Kelter, USMC Sgt. Derek Boti, USMC Cpl. Tyler Geary, K.C. Zerfoss, USMC LCpl. Andrew Santos, Catherine Balduf, Patrick J. Mitchell, TSGT Kevin O'Hara, USAF, USMC Pvt. George Eliopoulus, USN Casey D. Carbone, Private 1st Class John O'Neil, 75th Ranger Regimen, Sgt. Peter Cannizzaro, Ryan McGrath USAF, US Army National Guard, Airman 1st Class Matthew Timmons, CPO Jacob Patriarca, US Navy, Capt. William Buckley III US Army, E5 SSG Brandon Miller, Senior Airman, MGy Peter O'Brien USMC, US Marine PFC Anthony Votano, USN LT Joseph Gallagher, US Navy E4 Aidan Paul Duffy, Army Capt. Rachel Miller, E4 SPC Brian C. Booth, Navy Recruit Erin E. Rehill, James Rehill, Jr., US Army, James Leahy, USMC, Brian Czolada, US Army, USMC Sgt. Jonathan L. Storrs, US Army Trevor Little, USMC Raymond Fuller, USN Patrick DeMichele, Airman Gregory Stafford Eimers, Cpl. Adam Cannizzaro, US Army Sean Creavin.

If you have a family member, friend or loved one serving in the military please call the Rectory 508-543-7726.



DISCOVER YOUR MISSION.
BECOME A KNIGHT.





St. Mary's Parish Foxborough, MA

Revelation





# ST. MARY'S COR GROUP

Our next COR meeting will be held on **Thursday**, **January 18 at 7pm in the Murphy Room**. St. Mary's Cor Program is open to all men of the parish, who wish to enrich their faith, as we contend with the challenges of living as catholic man in today's secular society.

Revelation – the Kingdom Yet to Come by Jeff Cavins and Thomas Smith

# Unpack the Mysteries of Revelation

# Join us for this new bible study

Perhaps no book of the Bible fascinates people more than Revelation. Yet relatively few people have studied it, especially from a Catholic perspective. *Revelation: The Kingdom Yet to Come* is an intriguing eleven-session study program that shows how the kingdom established by Christ in his Church is intimately connected with the kingdom of heaven. In this study, presenter Jeff Cavins pulls back the veil on the rich symbolism present in Revelation. Discover what the mysterious figures and images of Revelation mean and see how Revelation is more than an apocalyptic vision of the "end times." Explore the Church's teaching on the second coming of Christ and the Last Judgment. Understand how God, the Divine Bridegroom, and the Church, his spotless bride, enter into a heavenly, holy, and mystical marriage every

This is a bible study in two sessions. The first session is 6 weeks long, Feb. 12, 19, 26, March 4,11, 18. The second session is 5 weeks long, September 3 (Tuesday), 9, 16, 23, 30.

Time: Mondays, 10 am - 12 noon (Please contact us if you are interested in starting an evening or weekend bible study group)

Venue: Murphy Room

time we celebrate Mass.

Materials fee: \$20 for a workbook Deadline to order book: January 22, 2024



# Wednesday Morning Prayer, Coffee and Conversation

This group continues to meet every Wednesday after the 9 a.m. Mass. The group originally began in the early 70's in the kitchen area but with more participants soon expanded to the Murphy Room in the lower church. We gather together as we have a common denominator; we care for each other and the wider church community. In addition to our regular prayer and discussion of "hot topics" of the day, we may help rectory staff, or Christmas Fair personnel in stuffing envelopes, collating paperwork, etc. Also, if there is a request to prepare some baked goods after a Sunday morning Mass such as a church picnic; ecumenical concert; or Religious Education class; we all pitch in to help. Sometimes there is even a need for cleaning the brass altar candlesticks! Most of all, we are members of St. Mary's parish family who gather together to share our faith. All are welcome to join us whenever the spirit moves you. No registration required.

# **Holy Souls in Purgatory Prayer Apostolate**

It is a longstanding tradition in the Catholic Church to pray for the souls of the deceased. A group of the faithful meet each week to pray for the release of the Souls in Purgatory who can no longer help themselves. It is a magnificent spiritual work of mercy to pray for these souls. Please consider joining us as we pray for our family, friends and those who are long forgotten. It may truly be the best hour you spend all week. Prayer booklets provided. We meet Fridays at 3pm.

# The Fatima Cell Hour of Holiness

The Fatima Cell Hour of Holiness is an hourly meeting of prayer before the Blessed Sacrament. The prayers include the Rosary, intercessory prayer and a spiritual reflection. It is in response to Our Lady of Fatima's request for prayer, penance, and sacrifice in a spirit of reparation to the Sacred Heart of Jesus and the Immaculate Heart of Mary and for the conversion of sinners. All are welcome. Also a second Cell meeting is held after the 9am Mass on Tuesdays.

We meet every Thursday 3:30-4:30pm

## **Holy Rosary Prayer Group**

Join the Rosary Prayer Group Mondays through Saturdays at 8:25am.

# St. Mary's Prayer Line

Join our members as we pray for those on our prayer line. Everything is done online. If you have a prayer request or are interested in joining our Prayer Line please email Laurie at lbubencik@stmarysfoxboro.org or call the Rectory.

# Dear St. Mary Parishioners,

I can't believe that this is my third Christmas as Pastor here



at St. Mary's Parish. Where did the time go? This year is a very special Christmas weekend. On Sunday, December 24 we will be celebrating together the Fourth Sunday of Advent when we will light the fourth candle on our Advent wreath. It is now fully alight with the warm glow of LOVE. We have this last day to prepare for the coming of the baby Jesus. Love itself comes to earth on Monday Christmas Day. Emmanuel (God with us) is born and God who is love dwells among us, giving us the ability to be love in the world.

On this feast of the Nativity of the Lord, we celebrate the birth of our Lord, Jesus Christ, and our St. Mary Parish and all our families both near and far. Let us take some time this Christmas to reflect on the precious gifts that God has bestowed on each of us throughout our lives particularly our families. Jesus comes as an infant, placed in the care of a loving family. We are reminded at Christmas that our families are shrouded in the same holiness that Jesus' family is. We look to the Holy Family as our model on how to love each and all our family members through our struggles and celebrations. May God Bless you this Christmas and throughout the coming year.

I will see you at the back of the Church.

Merry Christmas!! Father Kevin.



# **Abundant Hope Pregnancy Resource Center**

Did you know ... in 2022, there were over 1,000 visits to Abundant Hope Pregnancy Resource Center from women throughout Southeastern Mass. and Rhode Island seeking early pregnancy medical information, Diaper bank material help, or attending an abortion emotional healing program. We are grateful for your support in helping us to spread the word about our free services, which are easily available by contacting us at 508-455-0425. We wish you a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

# Walking with the Saints

Who doesn't love a good saint story? Join us every other week for "Walking with the Saints" - a video series where priests and religious from around the Archdiocese of Boston share about a saint they've come to know. Watch now on the Evangelize YouTube Channel – YouTube.com/EvangelizeBoston.

# Mental Health Matters: A Workshop to Empower Parents (1/24/2024)

On Weds. Jan. 24th at 7 PM join Dr. Mookie Manalili, a Catholic psychologist from Boston College; retired psychologist and pastor, Father Jim Ronan, and mental health clinician, author, and parent Suzanne Muldoon for a Zoom panel discussion on how parents can best support and care for



their children and themselves in the midst of mental health concerns. The panelists will address diagnoses, recommendations, and how faith impacts healing. The complimentary workshop is sponsored by Family Life. For questions, call Emily Elliott at 617-746-5756. To register: https://bit.ly/MHMtoParents

# A Celebration of Convalidation (2/11/2024)

Married couples desiring holy matrimony in the Catholic Church are invited to convalidate their marriage on World Marriage Sunday, February 11, 2024 at the Cathedral of the Holy Cross, Boston at 3:00 PM with Bishop Mark O'Connell as the celebrant. A convalidation ceremony is an opportunity for couples married outside of the Church to enter into a marriage covenant in the Catholic tradition. For more information, email <a href="mailto:Emily\_Elliott@rcab.org">Emily\_Elliott@rcab.org</a> or visit our registration page at <a href="mailto:https://bit.ly/Convalidation">https://bit.ly/Convalidation</a>

# Mental Health Matters: A Workshop to Empower Parents—January 24, 2024 @ 7:00 pm - 8:15 pm Free

Join Dr. Mookie Manalili, a Catholic psychologist from Boston College together with retired psychologist Fr. Jim Ronan and mental health clinician, author, and parent Suzanne Muldoon for a panel discussion on how parents can best support and care for their children and themselves in the midst of mental health concerns. The panelists will address various diagnoses, recommendations, and how faith can play an integral role in healing. There will be opportunities for questions following the panel discussion.

This virtual workshop is complimentary. A Zoom link will be provided to registrants prior to the event.

https://www.evangelizeboston.com/event/

St. Mary's Parish Foxborough, MA



**FAMILY LIFE:** 

# TO WALK AS ONE

ast summer, some friends took their kids to the shore for the day. When they arrived, it had started to rain and the clouds were ominous. They decided to get something to eat and wait and see what happened. Sure enough, after a couple of hours, the sun finally came out and they enjoyed the day. One of the younger kids said, "I am really glad we waited for a while."

Israel has waited for many years for God to fulfill His promises. At moments when Kings and people would get impatient, the prophets would remind them to wait, to anticipate the Lord, but not try to rush Him. Mary, too, has to trust in the word of the angel and wait for the birth of Jesus.

God works in His own way and in His own time.



Christmas is so close. Most of the preparations are probably complete, though there are always the last minute chores to do. Don't rush the season. Use every possible moment and opportunity to prepare. Read the Bible, pray with your family, talk about the meaning and celebration of Christmas, or do some good for others.

These final hours can be the most fruitful of the whole season of Advent.

-Jim Gaffney

# Behold,

you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall name him Jesus.

He will be great and will be called Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give him the throne of David his father, and he will rule over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end.

\* Luke 1:31-33 \*

Because of his boundless *love*, Jesus became what we are that he might make us to be what he is.

Irenaeus, Third century

# Saint John, the Apostle

The Call of the First Disciples

Matthew 4:18-22

As Jesus was walking by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon who is called Peter, and his brother Andrew, casting a net into the sea; they were fishermen. He said to them, "Come after me, and I will make you fishers of men." At once they left their nets and followed him. He walked along from there and saw two other brothers, James, the son of Zebedee, and his brother John. They were in a boat, with their father Zebedee, mending their nets. He called them, and immediately they left their boat and their father and followed him.

John and his brother, James, Galilean fishermen called the "sons of thunder," were chosen to be among the Twelve Apostles. John was with Jesus at the Transfiguration, in the Garden of Gethsemane, and on Calvary. It was to this "beloved disciple" that Jesus entrusted his mother's care. John evangelized in Ephesus (Turkey), was exiled to the island of Patmos, and according to tradition lived to be 100 years. John and his community of followers are credited with writing the fourth Gospel, three epistles, and the Book of Revelation.

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Fr. Tom Nestor has served as pastor at the Collaborative Parishes of Resurrection and Saint Paul in Hingham for the past ten years, and previously served at St. Eulalia's in Winchester for 17 years. A Harvard graduate and native of West Roxbury, Fr. Nestor is known for fostering a sense of community wherever he goes.

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