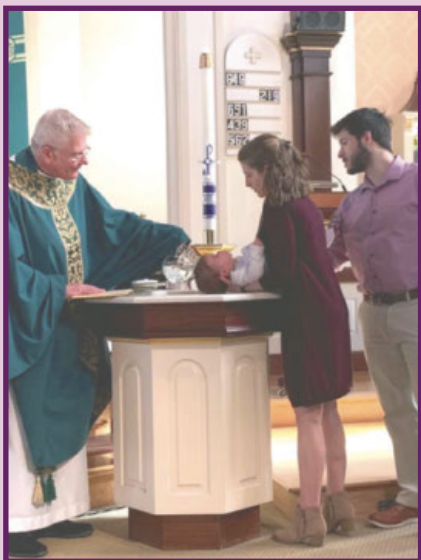




Our wonderful Mr. Cam Germond training our first new group of Altar Servers!

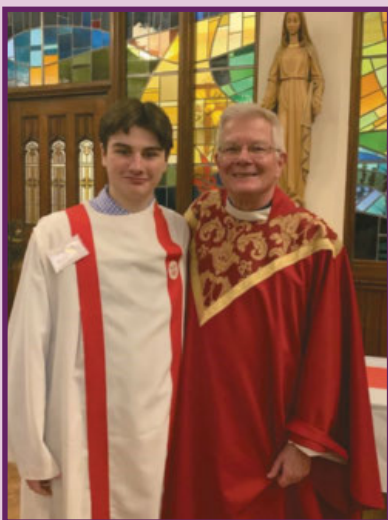


We welcome
Madeline Jean Tsaknopoulos

*Baptized on Sunday,
November 19, 2023*



**Our beautiful
8th graders preparing
apple pies for
Thanksgiving Baskets!**



**Some of our Confirmation Students
*December 2nd***



**A visit from St. Nick
*December 3rd***

**ALL ARE WELCOME HERE**

If you are alienated or upset,
we welcome you lovingly.
If you are in need of forgiveness,
Jesus forgives you completely
with unconditional love.
If you have been hurt by the Church,
we are truly sorry.
If you are angry, Jesus offers you peace.
If life has become burdensome,
we are here to support you.
We are happy you are here...
and want you to stay.
We would like to share our lives with you.

Mass Schedule and Intentions**Saturday, December 9**

4:30 PM Robert Thompson (*Barbara L*)

Sunday, December 10 2nd Sunday of Advent

8:00 AM Parishioners of St. Mary's
10:00 AM Susan Hendrickx (*Friends*)
5:00 PM Rose Murray (*Edward Murray & Family*)

Monday, December 11

12:00 PM Parishioners of St. Mary's

Tuesday, December 12

8:00 AM Parishioners of St. Mary's

Wednesday, December 13

8:00 AM Parishioners of St. Mary's

Thursday, December 14**Friday, December 15****Saturday, December 16**

4:30 PM David Lamacchia (*His Wife Barbara*)

Sunday, December 17 3rd Sunday of Advent

8:00 AM Parishioners of St. Mary's
10:00 AM Parishioners of St. Mary's
5:00 PM Danielle Knight (*Sandra Knight*)

4th Sunday of Advent Masses

Saturday, December 23rd - 4:30 PM

Sunday, December 24th - 9:00 AM

Christmas Eve Masses

Sunday, December 24th - 4PM, 6PM & Midnight

Christmas Day Masses

Monday, December 25th - 10:00 AM

Schedule Around Campus...**Saturday, December 9**

3:30 PM Confessions
4:30 PM Mass/Church

Sunday, December 10 2nd Sunday of Advent

8:00 AM Mass/Church
Coffee Shoppe/GR
10:00 AM Mass/Church
Children's Liturgy of the Word/GR
11:30 AM Gift Sorting/Church
4:00 PM Gr 6 - 8 Class
5:00 PM Mass/Church
Gr. 10 Rite of Enrollment
Gr. 9 Class/Hall

Monday, December 11

12:00 PM Mass/Church
4:15 PM Grade 1 - 5 Christmas Pageant/Church

Tuesday, December 12

8:00 AM Mass/Church
12:00 PM Bereavement Support/GR
4:15 PM Grade 1 - 5 Christmas Pageant/Church
7:30 PM Adult Choir/Church

Wednesday, December 13

8:00 AM Mass/Church
7:30 PM Al-Anon Meeting/GR
7:30 PM Adult Choir/Church

Thursday, December 14

9:00 AM Prayer Shawl/DR
10:30 AM Faith Sharing/GR
5:30 PM Story Time and Cookie Decorating/Hall

Friday, December 15**Saturday, December 16**

3:30 PM Confessions
4:30 PM Mass/Church
Miles Francis Brockway Baptism

Sunday, December 17 3rd Sunday of Advent

8:00 AM Mass/Church
Coffee Shoppe/GR
10:00 AM Mass/Church
Children's Liturgy of the Word/GR
Vivienne Joan Hiller Baptism
5:00 PM Mass/Church
4:00 PM Gr 6 - 8 Class
5:00 PM Gr 9 & 10 Class

Someone you know may be in an abusive relationship.
Abuse Hotline 508-755-9030

The St. Mary's Christmas Giving Tree!

Our tradition of helping our neighbors in need continues.

In addition to the angels who will buy the gifts, we need some elves to help get them ready for distribution! Elves will be needed Sunday, December 10th, at 11:30 AM to sort the gifts for our recipient agencies, and on Monday and Tuesday, December 11 and 12 to shop for addition gifts if needed. Please see the sign up sheet in the church entryway.

Storytime and Cookie Decorating



Are you looking to connect to other families with young children at St. Mary's?

Join us for a Christmas story and cookie decorating.
*Please RSVP to Anna by December 13th.

When: Thursday, December 14 5:30 - 6:30

Where: St. Mary's Church Parish Hall

Contact Ann Karam with any questions or feedback:
Annaekaram@gmail.com



Join Knights of Columbus Today!

The Knights of Columbus provides many benefits to members and their families. Some of the well known benefits are the Maternity with brother Knights, the opportunities to do charitable work in the community, and the ability to protect their family through member exclusive life insurance products. Other benefits include Family fraternal Benefit, Scholarships, Leadership, Development, Member/Spouse Fraternal Benefit, and Brotherhood. Knights come from every stage of life, in countless corners of the world. Knights are men who lead, serve, protect, and defend.

Join the Knights today. Visit www.kofc.org/joinus



Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths: all flesh shall see the salvation of God.

To report abuse, please contact Judith Audette, Director of Healing and Prevention, Diocese of Worcester at (508)929-4363

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION



PRAYERS FOR OUR GRADE 10 CONFIRMATION CLASS

Candidates celebrate the **Rite of Enrollment** this Sunday, December 10th at the 5PM Mass. During this rite our young people seek to prepare for full membership in the Church through the Sacrament of Confirmation. We ask that you choose one Candidate to accompany with your prayers as they continue their journey. Julian Alves, Georgia Bourque, Kaitlin Chouinard, Jack Clarke, Ava Dadah, Aidan Dionne, Rory Fenlon, Elyse Gamache, William Gemme, Liam Howley, Patrick Lynch, Anna Namiotka, Logan Otero, Joseph Paradis, Owen Purcelle, Izabela Ramos, Carl Sodeman, Matthew Sullivan, and Anna Zereski.



ALL ARE INVITED!!!!!! Join us for The BEST CHRISTMAS PAGEANT EVER...(And Birthday Party for Jesus!!!) The Gospel of St Luke will be presented in great

prayer by all of our kids in Grades 1-5 during the time of Religious Ed. Classes on Monday, December 11th, and Tuesday, December 12th.

Immediately following this dear extravaganza, we will continue the celebration in the hall with...cupcakes to decorate and continued bliss! **PREPARE YOUR HEART...**Meet us in the church....The children will begin, costumed and ready to proclaim the Gospel at 4:30PM in the Church!



We are looking for **Grade 11 and 12 young people** to take on leadership roles as Retreat Team Leaders for Grade 10 Confirmation Retreat in March. Ministering is a fabulous way to build your college profile and to gather service hours for the National Honor Society. Most importantly, our younger kids need role models and faith heroes and benefit so much from your presence with them!



Celebrating the
The Rite of Acceptance with Anthony Rodriquez
December 3, 2023

DECEMBER 10TH, 2023



The Shoulders of Giants

Estate and Gift Planning

Over the long history of St. Mary's, we are the vibrant parish community that we are because of the giants upon whose shoulders we stand. It is due to the generosity of our parish family members who have gone before us that we have been blessed with our beautiful Church and Parish Center.

Having benefited from their sacrifices, it is now our responsibility to provide for our children and for those who will come after us.

Please consider making a Legacy Gift to St. Mary's by remembering St. Mary's in your will.



Go to
<https://stmarysjeff.churchgiving.com>
To sign up for St. Mary's
Automated Online Giving

Please call the office 508 829 4508 or email Beth Cunningham beth@stmaryjeff.com if you have an infirmed or homebound parishioner who is ill or unable to attend Mass. Communion and a friendly visit can be made by one of our Eucharistic Ministers. Thank you.

FOR ANY CANCELLED EVENTS AT ST. MARY'S, PLEASE CHECK YOUR EMAIL OR THE PARISH WEBSITE FOR UPDATED INFORMATION AT: www.stmarysjeff.com

EUCCHARISTIC CELEBRATIONS

Saturday - Vigil at 4:30 PM

Sunday - 8:00 AM, 10:00 AM and 5:00 PM (Sept thru May)

Daily Mass - Mon 12:00 PM, Tue & Wed 8:00 AM

Holy Days - 7:00 PM Vigil, 8:00 AM Holy Day
(unless otherwise noted in bulletin)

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturday 3:30—4:00 PM

May also be arranged by calling the Parish Office.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Please call the Parish Office at least two months in advance, to arrange for participation in the preparation program and the date of Baptism.

SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE

Couples intending to celebrate this Sacrament are requested to contact the Pastoral Staff at least one year in advance.

DECEMBER 10TH, 2023

We serve a merciful and patient God. In His kindness, He warns us that we will be called to make an account one day for the way in which we made use of the gifts He has given us.

The most precious gift He has given us is His own Son, Whose birth we are preparing to celebrate.

St. Peter describes the loving kindness of the Father in our Second Reading today, saying God “is patient with you, not wishing that anyone should perish but that all should come to repentance.” Yet, in the same passage we receive this warning: “The Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a mighty roar... and the earth and everything on it will be found out.”

How are we to assimilate these two truths — the merciful love of God and the responsibility that comes with the privilege of living as His disciple? St. Peter tells us we should conduct ourselves “in holiness and devotion.” Indeed, this is the goal of our Advent “reset” — to return to living lives focused on Christ, in gratitude for all He has done for us.

In our Gospel passage from Mark, John the Baptist instructs us to “prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths.” We must make good use of the gift of time we have been given this Advent season. Let’s be sure to get to Confession, prioritize a daily reading of Scriptures, and reach out to someone in need with a word of comfort or an act of service.



PARISH TITHE

Our Parish Tithe for the **Week of December 3rd** will go to the
The Giving Tree



We offer our
THANKS AND GRATITUDE To

**All those who helped to hang the wreaths and
decorate the church for the Season of Advent!**

DID YOU KNOW....

**On Saturday evening December 23 and
Sunday morning we celebrate the Fourth
Sunday of Advent. The celebration of
Christmas begins with our Sunday
afternoon Mass at 4PM.**

STEWARDSHIP IN OUR PARISH BUDGET 2023-2024

September—November

	<u>Weekly</u>	<u>YTD</u>
Amount Collected.....	\$60,823	\$129,806
Amount Needed.....	\$43,625	\$113,425
Surplus/< Deficit >.....	\$17,198	\$16,381
(One time donations included in figures above).....		\$22,570

In an effort to make our reporting more accurate, the Finance Committee has decided to report our collection totals once a month. Thank You

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