

St. Mary Star of the Sea Parish  
253 Cabot Street ~ Beverly, Massachusetts

Rev. David J. Barnes, Pastor

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FOURTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME



**HYMNS & READINGS**

**PRO: 752**—"The Master Came to Bring"

**READ: 880**

**OFF: 629**—"How Shall They Hear"  
(@10:30)

**COMM: 736**—"You Satisfy The Hungry"

**REC: 595**—"There's A Wideness In God's"

Rev. David J. Barnes, Pastor

253 Cabot Street—Beverly, Massachusetts 01915

Rectory Telephone Number: 978-922-0113

St. Mary Star of the Sea Parish Website: [www.stmarystar.org](http://www.stmarystar.org)

St. Mary Star of the Sea School Website: [www.stmarystarschool.org](http://www.stmarystarschool.org)

**Principal, St. Mary's School**

Pre K through 8th Grade

Mr. Kevin Cushman—978-927-3259

**Director RCIA**

Mr. Neil Yetts—978-922-0113

**Director of Maintenance**

Mr. James Weston—978-922-0113

**Parish Secretary**

Ms. Nina Sudak—978-922-0113

**St. Mary's School, Development Director**

Mrs. Anna Bertini—978-998-6848

**Administrator, Religious Education**

Mrs. Christine O'Brien - 978-922-0799

**Organist/Choirmaster**

Mr. Frederick MacArthur – 978-609-4302

**Business Manager**

Mrs. Diane Macedo—978-922-0113

**Baptism**

Celebration on the Third Sunday of the Month

Baptismal Catechesis Required for First Time Parents ~~ Third Monday of the Month at Rectory

**Marriage**

Engaged couples are advised to call the Rectory at least six months prior to their wedding date.

Participation in a Marriage Preparation Program is required.

**Mass Schedule**

Monday thru Saturday 7:00 AM (Except Thursday's)

Saturday 4:00 PM ~~ Sunday / 8:15 AM / 10:30 AM / 5:00 PM

**Holy Day Masses**

See Parish Calendar for Mass Times

**Confessions**

Saturday ~~ 2:30 PM ~~ 3:15 PM Lower Church, or by Appointment

**READINGS FOR THE WEEK**

**Sunday, February 1 ~**

Dt 18:15-20 / Ps 95:1-2,6-9 / Cor 7:32-35

Mk 1:21-28

**Monday, February 2 ~**

Mal 3:1-4 / Ps 24:7-10 / Heb 2:14-18 / Lk 2:22-40

**Tuesday, February 3 ~**

Heb 12:1-4 / Ps 22:26-28,30-32 / Mk 5:21-43

**ST. BLASÉ, BISHOP/MARTYR**

**Wednesday, February 4 ~**

Heb 12:4-7,11-15 / Ps 103:1-2,13-14,17-18a

Mk 6:1-6

**Thursday, February 5 ~**

Heb 12:18-19,21-24 / Ps 48:2-4,9-11 / Mk 6:7-13

**Friday, February 6 ~**

Heb 13:1-8 / Ps 27:1,3,5,8-9 / Mk 6:14-29

**Saturday, February 7 ~**

Heb 13:15-17,20-21 / Ps 23:1-6 / Mk 6:30-34

**Sunday, February 8 ~**

Jb 7:1-4,6-7 / Ps 147:1-6 / Cor 9:16-19,22-23

Mk 1:29-39

**LEGION OF MARY**

Is a world-wide organization of Catholics, men and women, who offer their services to the Church to aid her in performing spiritual works in the parish. This is done by placing themselves under the banner of Mary so that with her help they may develop greater holiness in their own lives as well as spread a deeper devotion to her among others.

**The Legion of Mary meets at St. Mary's Rectory, Wednesday evenings at 7:00 PM**

## Parish Calendar

### **SUNDAY**

SECOND COLLECTION: THE PILOT

- 8:15 AM Family Mass  
Coffee & Donuts Following
- 9:15 AM Bible Discussion-Rectory
- 9:15 AM RCIA
- 9:20 AM Religious Education—K-6  
St. Mary's School
- 9:30 AM Choir Rehearsal—Main Church

### **MONDAY**

- 7:00 PM Confirmation—St. Mary's School
- 7:15 PM St. Vincent de Paul Meeting

### **WEDNESDAY**

- 3:30 PM Religious Education
- 7:00 PM Legion of Mary—Rectory

### **FRIDAY**

- 9:00 AM Rosary Group—Rectory

### **SATURDAY**

- 8:00 AM Men's Group—Lower Church

### **SUNDAY**

SECOND COLLECTION: PETERS PENCE

#### **WEEKLY NEED:**

**\$9,200.00**

#### **LAST WEEK'S COLLECTION:**

**\$7,337.00**

#### **PLUS THOSE CONTRIBUTING THROUGH PARISH PAY:**

**\$1,149.50**

### **Mass Intentions**

#### **Months Mind Mass**

**10:30AM ~ Sunday, February 1:**

Eunice M. Fancy  
Anita Larrabee

**Monday, February 2:**

Gabriele Marchegiani

**Tuesday, February 3:**

Madeline Silva

#### **Months Mind Mass**

**10:30AM ~ Sunday, February 8:**

Claire T. Butler

### **PRAYERS**

Kindly remember in your prayers the intentions in our PARISH PRAYER BOOK, the deceased members of our parish, all who have asked for our prayers and for those who have no one to pray for them.

Special prayers are requested for:

**ANN WILLIAMS**, and **MARY O'BRIEN** who recently passed away.

Sanctuary Light Donated  
in Memory of:  
Nancy Binns

### **ST. BLASÉ - FEBRUARY 3, 2009**

St. Blase lived in the fourth century. Some say that he came from a rich family and received a Christian education. As a young man, Blase thought about all the sufferings and troubles of the times. He began to realize that only spiritual joys can make a person really happy. He became a priest and then bishop of Sebaste in Armenia which is now modern Turkey. With all his heart, Blase worked to make his people holy and happy. He prayed and preached; he tried to help everyone. When the governor, Licinius, began to persecute the Christians, St. Blase was captured. He was sent to prison to be beheaded. On the way, people crowded the road to see their beloved bishop for the last time. He blessed them all, even the pagans. A poor mother rushed up to him. She begged him to save her child who was choking to death from a fishbone. The saint whispered a prayer and blessed the child. He worked a miracle that saved the child's life. That is why St. Blase is called upon by all who have throat diseases. On his feast day, we have our throats blessed. We ask him to protect us from all sicknesses of the throat. In prison, the saintly bishop converted many pagans. No torture could make him give up his faith in Jesus. He was beheaded in the year 316. Now St. Blase is with Jesus forever. Today let us honor St. Blase by going without that candy bar or ice cream cone we planned to have.

**ADORATION:**

**“What am I supposed to do for that whole hour?” What I propose here are only some suggestions.**

First of all, when you come into the church, you will see the Blessed Sacrament upon the Altar. Before entering your pew, you should (if you are able) get down on both knees and bow before the Blessed Sacrament. After getting into your pew, you should kneel and call to mind who is there with you. This is Jesus Christ, the Son of God. It is He who came down from Heaven and was born of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Remember that He is here right before you. In front of you is the one who was adored by the Magi, who fed the thousands and healed the sick, and the one who suffered on the Cross. Remember that He is God and that He has chosen to be present in the Eucharist just so that he could be close to you. Tell Him, “Lord, I truly believe and profess that you are really, truly, and substantially present in the Most Blessed Sacrament of the Altar. Lord, I worship and adore you. May the angels who worship you in heaven intercede for me right now so that I might worship and adore you with greater purity and devotion.”

Secondly, you could offer some moments of thanksgiving. Tell Jesus how grateful you are that he is here with you. Thank Him for the gift of the Eucharist. Thank Him for being here with you and for loving you. Thank Him for the gift of life. Tell Him of your gratitude for everything He has given to you. Remember that everything you are and have is His gift to you. Education, knowledge, family, friends, talents, home, food, all of these are from Him. Thank Him especially for the gift of Faith. Thank Him for the Sacraments. Thank Him for allowing you to know Him and for allowing you to serve Him. Thank Him for not abandoning you. Thank Him for the forgiveness that He has offered to you. Thank Him for the people in your life who have brought you closer to Him. Don’t yet ask Him for anything. Just thank Him.

Thirdly, ask Him for pardon. In a particular way, tell Him how sorry you are for the times when you have not loved and honored the Blessed Sacrament. For the times when you have failed to genuflect in His Presence. For the times when you have failed to attend Mass. For the times when you have rushed into Mass late or left Mass early. For the times when you have allowed your mind to wander during Mass. For the times when you have received the Eucharist unworthily. For the times when you have received the Eucharist casually and with very little devotion or attention. Tell Jesus that you are sorry not only for your own carelessness, but also for all of the ways in which He has been insulted and treated poorly. Tell Him that you are truly sorry for all the ways the Blessed Sacrament is not treated with reverence and with devotion. Tell Him about the things in your life for which you are truly sorry. He is your friend. You can tell Him anything. Tell Him about what most embarrasses you and about what most keeps you from Him. He is interested in you. That is why He is there. Promise Him that you will go and receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation in the very near future.

<b>Monday</b> —	7:30—8:30 <b>10:30—11:30</b> 11:30—12:30 4:30—5:30 5:30—6:30	<b>Tuesday</b> —	12:30-1:30 1:30—2:30 2:30—3:30 3:30—4:30	<b>Wednesday</b> —	9:30—10:30 3:30—4:30 4:30—5:30
<b>Thursday</b> —	10:30—11:30	<b>Friday</b> —	7:30—8:30 8:30—9:30 11:30—12:30 4:30—5:30 5:30—6:30		



**RELIGIOUS EDUCATIONS NEWS - Important Dates**

- FEBRUARY 1—SECOND GRADE WORKSHOP —9:30AM—12:00PM**
- FEBRUARY 28—CONFIRMATION RETREAT—12:00PM—5:00PM**
- MARCH 7—FIRST RECONCILIATION—10:30AM**
- APRIL 4—SECOND GRADE WORKSHOP—9:30AM—12:00PM**

**ST. MARY STAR OF THE SEA SCHOOL NEWS ~ "A Spirited, Faith-filled Community"**

**CATHOLIC SCHOOLS – CELEBRATE SERVICE** – the students of St. Mary Star of the Sea School truly answer the call of service. Last week, the kindergarteners led the school in a special Catholic Schools Week prayer, while the fourth graders shared how they "celebrate service:" **Dante & Caroline C.** donate clothing, **Lauren** is an Altar Server, **John** donates his allowance, **Rebecca** sings to the elderly, **Caroline F.** helps others, **Sarah** participates in food drives, **Thomas** contributes to Lenten Missions, and **Emma** writes letters to soldiers. Eighth grader, **Patrick Corcoran**, read his winning essay on how a St. Mary's education has helped positively shape his life in the midst of today's peer pressure and culture, which can be read in its entirety at [www.stmarystarschool.org](http://www.stmarystarschool.org).

**DID YOU KNOW? St. Mary Star of the Sea School is PreK thru Grade 8, and**

- Accredited by the New England Association of Schools and Colleges
- Consistently scores above average in all subjects for Terra Nova testing
- Uses cutting-edge technology such as SMARTBOARDS in classrooms
- Provides extended after school care
- Offers Enrichment Programs for students needing extra support
- Offers Enrichment Programs for students who excel
- Incorporates Art and Music Programs in curriculum
- Foreign Language – Spanish begins in Kindergarten
- Cultural opportunities provided both as field trips and on campus
- Features *Culturama* student projects incorporating Science, History, Reading
- Sports: JV & V Basketball, Track Team, Pep Squad, Bowling
- Drama Club, Math Club, Band, Rosary Group & others
- Student Council, Peer Mediation, Yearbook Committee
- Constantly donates food items to Beverly Bootstraps
- Holds Dress-Down days and donates proceeds to various non-profits
- Adopts grandparents from Oceanview and other nursing homes
- Hosts Lenten Suppers and Pasta Dinners for community

Come see the difference a Catholic Education can make for your child. Please call 978 927-3259 to schedule a personal tour by our Principal, **Mr. Cushman**, meet our terrific teachers, and ask about our curriculum featuring the latest in technology.

**CULTURAMA** – please stop by at the back of the church where the St. Mary's School Culturama winning presentations are on display. The 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade classes choose topics of personal interest in Science or Social Studies, research their topics and record on notecards, write a formal 12-14 page report plus citing and bibliography, incorporate 3-dimensional models and other visuals, organize a display board containing important data, and give an oral presentation. Judges are community members including doctors, scientists, politicians, teachers, business-owners, etc. Congratulations to the winners!

**ST. MARY STAR OF THE SEA LEGACY GALA** - we are pleased to announce that the **Most Reverend Richard J. Malone** will be one of the Honorees at our upcoming 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Legacy Gala, on **Sunday, March 29<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 PM** at **Danversport Yacht Club**. Please call Amy Fowler at 978 921-5017 or the Development Office at SMS at 978 998-6848 to make your reservations. Tickets are \$65 and include a delicious dinner and elegant evening. Join us as we celebrate the tradition and legacy of our parish and school as we pay tribute to Bishop Malone '60, and other nominees to be announced soon.

**LENTEN SOUP AND PANCAKE SUPPER  
CHILDREN'S STATIONS OF THE CROSS  
FRIDAY, MARCH 6**  
*SOUP AND PANCAKES AT THE SCHOOL FOLLOWED BY A PROCESSION TO  
CHURCH AND CHILDREN'S STATIONS.*

Dear Friends in Christ,

Recently, the Speaker of the House of Representatives said on national television that tens of millions of dollars for funding of contraception should be part of the economic stimulus package before Congress. When pushed on this, the Speaker basically stated that if there were fewer children, then there would be less drain on government. While this disgustingly cynical view of the dignity of human life and the dignity of marriage merits a quick, substantial, and unambiguous rebuke by the bishops, there's not much I can do about national politicians. But, I am charged with preaching the Gospel in the little corner of the world known as Beverly, so I thought I'd use the Speaker's propaganda as an opportunity to teach on a very sensitive topic. I only add that space constraints limit my ability here to teach as clearly and as fully as I would like.

The Catholic Church teaches that the use of artificial contraception is gravely immoral. That truth is a very difficult one to teach nowadays because we live in a culture that is contraceptive in its mentality. Most young couples enter into marriage thinking that contraception is normative and expected. They live in a culture where contraceptives are marketed on billboards and television commercials. They are raised in a culture that dispenses contraceptives in schools and where politicians cower to the powerful abortion lobbies. And yet, the Church is called to preach the truth of the Gospel "in season and out of season."

To understand why the use of artificial contraception is gravely immoral, one needs to first understand the dignity of the human person and the dignity of marriage. In marriage, the sexual act is the bodily expression of what was spoken in word during the vows. That is why we speak of the marriage being consummated. What was spoken in those vows? In those vows, the man and the woman promised that they would give themselves to each other—completely, totally, without reservation, and forever. More than this, they promised that they would accept—as a gift—children from God. Notice, they do not promise that they will "have" children. No, they promise that they will accept them as a gift from God. In other words, they see that children are not merely something that they make, but rather something in which they receive by living faithfully their marriage.

In contracepting, the spouses no longer give themselves entirely to each other. Something is held back. Something is hindered. The sexual act is no longer an act whereby the couple open themselves to something beyond themselves. Rather, it becomes an act that is closed and fruitless. If the act itself says, "I am giving myself completely to you," the introduction of artificial contraception turns that statement into a lie because there is no longer a total giving of self.

Additionally, the other person is reduced to an object of pleasure rather than one to whom I am giving myself completely. The spouse is reduced to an object. Inevitably, this leads to alienation between the spouses.

In the sexual act, married persons are invited to participate in the very work of creation. With the introduction of artificial contraception, the loftiest end of the sexual act—the pro-creation of children—is subverted. What was thus given by God as a gift to the married couple is rejected. Instead of the sexual act being the expression of this couple's communion with each other and with God, it becomes only a means of pleasure. That is not to say that pleasure is bad. Remember, it was God himself who created the sexual act and attached to it the pleasure that comes with it. But, that pleasure is ordered toward something more than itself. Pleasure is not the end of the sexual act. The end of the sexual act is the pro-creation of children (the greatest gift bestowed upon marriage) and the union of husband and wife.

Contraception disrupts the proper end of the sexual act and instead of the act being an act of total self-giving and openness to new life, it becomes an act of selfishness and of barrenness. Thus, the reason why the use of artificial contraception is gravely immoral is because it rejects God's plan for the married couple.

This teaching is very difficult these days for people to accept because they have been deceived for a very long time. I'm sure some who read my words here will simply shrug and say, "Well, he's a priest. What does he know?" But, there are some who will read this and will be drawn toward the full truth about marriage. I want to encourage such couples. Do not be afraid to live your marriage fully as God has planned. If you give yourself over to the proper living out of your marital life, you will rejoice and you will see very clearly that contraception (and the promises it makes) is a complete and total lie. Rely upon the Sacrament of Penance and fervent prayer to help you overcome the difficulties involved.

What does the contraceptive mentality ultimately produce? It produces a world of politics that looks at the face of a baby and says, "We need more contraception and abortion." What does the Catholic vision of marriage produce: Life.

Your Brother in Christ,  
Fr. David Barnes