

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

The Year for Priests



HYMNS & READINGS

OPENING: 485— "Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty"

READING: 884

COMM: 736— "Gift of Finest Wheat"

CLOSING: 497— "To Jesus Christ, Our Sovereign King"

Rev. David J. Barnes, Pastor

Kwang Lee, Seminarian

253 Cabot Street—Beverly, Massachusetts 01915

Rectory Telephone Number: 978-922-0113

St. Mary Star of the Sea Parish Website: www.stmarystar.org

St. Mary Star of the Sea School Website: 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 7 ~

Is 6:1-2a,3-8 / Ps 138:1-5,7-8 / Cor 15:1-11

Lk 5:1-11

Monday, February 8 ~

Kgs 8:1-7,9-13 / Ps 132:6-7,8-10 / Mk 6:53-56

Tuesday, February 9 ~

Kgs 8:22-23,27-30 / Ps 84:3-5,10-11 / Mk 7:1-13

Wednesday, February 10 ~

Kgs 10:1-10 / Ps 37:5-6,30-31,39-40 / Mk 7:14-23

Thursday, February 11 ~

Kgs 11:4-13 / Ps 106:3-4,35-37,40 / Mk 7:24-30

Friday, February 12 ~

Kgs 11:29-32;12:19/Ps 81:10-11b,12-15/Mk 7:31-37

Saturday, February 13 ~

Kgs 12:26-32;13:33-34 / Ps 106:6-7b,19-22

Mk 8:1-10

Sunday, February 14 ~

Jer 17:5-8 / Ps 1:1-4,6 / Cor 15:12,16-20

Lk 6:17,20-26

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, Tuesday evenings at 7:00 PM

Parish Calendar

SUNDAY

SECOND COLLECTION: THE PILOT
9:15 AM Bible Discussion Group
9:20 AM RCIA
9:20 AM Religious Education—K-8
St. Mary's School
9:30 AM Choir Rehearsal—Main Church
1:00 PM Religious Education ~
Confirmation Retreat
St. Mary's School

MONDAY

7:00 PM Confirmation Class
St. Mary's School

TUESDAY

7:00 PM Legion of Mary—Rectory

WEDNESDAY

3:30 PM Religious Education—Grds.1-6
St. Mary's School

SATURDAY

8:00 AM Men's Group—Lower Church
2:30 PM Confessions—Lower Church

SUNDAY

SECOND COLLECTION: PETER'S PENCE

Mass Intentions

Months Mind Mass
10:30 AM ~ Sunday, February 7:
Sabina Augulewicz

Tuesday, February 9:
Josephine Visca

Friday, February 12:
Rodney Nickerson

Saturday, February 13:
Luigi Zelano

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:
ARTHUR SUDAK who recently passed away.

Sanctuary Light Donated
in Memory of:
Fr. Edward Cowhig

LAST WEEK'S COLLECTION:
\$9,548.00
PLUS THOSE CONTRIBUTING
THROUGH PARISH PAY:
\$1,079.00

ASH WEDNESDAY
FEBRUARY 17, 2010

Ashes to be blessed during Mass at:
7:00 AM / 12:05 PM / 7:00 PM
Confessions Wednesday Evenings
6:30 PM—8:00 PM
February 24; March 3, 10, 17, 24, 31

SATURDAY MORNING ~ MEN'S GROUP

St. Mary's Men's Group meets at 8:00 AM Saturday mornings in the Lower Church. Coffee and refreshments are provided, with talks on selected topics by members. Any questions or topic ideas please call: Ferde Rombola at 978-302-5218.

Saturday, February 6 ~ Reconciling Science & Faith
Speaker: Mike Agular

Saturday, February 13 ~ Human Evil
Speaker: Bob Laporte

For those who wish to drop a note or card to Fr. Geary:

Rev. Edward P. Geary
61 Adamson Street
Allston, MA 02134

Saint Mary Star of the Sea Parish Increased Offertory Appeal

THIS IS COMMITMENT WEEKEND!

This is “**Commitment Weekend**” for Saint Mary’s. As a response to the call for increased weekly giving, we are asking all of our parishioners to return their completed **Commitment Envelopes** today by placing them in the offertory collection basket.

During the past two weeks, Father Barnes and fellow parishioners spoke about our “**effort to increase our weekly giving**” and how all parishioners can participate. In addition, special information has been mailed to every home in the parish along with a **Commitment Envelope**. For the convenience of those who may have misplaced the envelope, there is a supply of additional materials in the church. If you pick up these materials after Mass, please return them as soon as possible by mail or by placing them in the collection basket at Mass next weekend.

In order for our community to consider expanding our ministries and to continue to meet our growing financial obligations, please consider a commitment plan from the brochure that is best suited to your own circumstances. This will allow Saint Mary’s to plan accurately for the future.

**PLEASE CONSIDER YOUR COMMITMENT BOTH
PRAYERFULLY AND CAREFULLY...**

***Our Parish Community is a reflection of each of its members.
Our generosity will determine what this community can or cannot do for others.
A small sacrifice will make a big difference.***

Looking for an Exceptional Educational Experience for Your Child?

What does St. Mary Star of the Sea School offer?

Rigorous instructional environment

Moral / Spiritual development

Family-like community

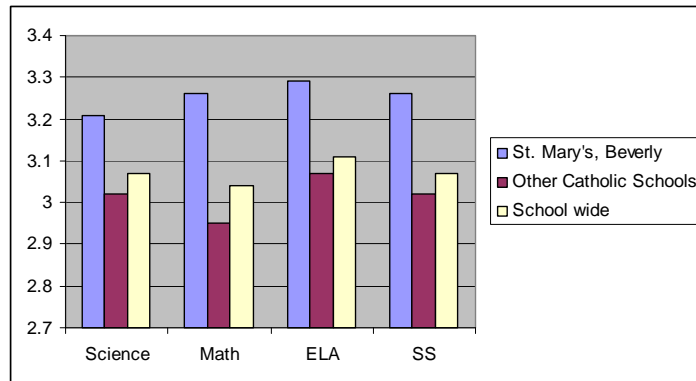
Leader in technology

Robotics

Robust Science curriculum

Superior scores in National testing

St. Mary's students' performance compared to both public and private school students at St. John's Prep



***Source: St. John's Preparatory School
Danvers MA**

Call our school for a private tour.

St. Mary Star of the Sea School is a Pre-K – 8 school.

St. Mary Star of the Sea School - 13 Chapman St. - Beverly, MA - 978-927-3259 - www.stmarystarschool.org



SAVE THE DATE - On **Sunday, March 21**, at 4:00 , St. Mary's School and Parish will hold its **8th Annual Legacy Gala** at Danversport Yacht Club. We are currently seeking nominations for our honorees – do you know someone who is a church, school, or community leader deserving of this award? Or someone who quietly supports our mission, yet deserving of recognition? Please fill out the form below and return by January 31st to:

St. Mary's School, Development Office, 13 Chapman St , Beverly .

Name of Nominee _____ Address: _____

Please provide a brief statement of why you feel this person should be considered:

Name & Address of Person Nominating: _____

Dear Friends in Christ,

A Tale of Two Cities

When I grew up in Quincy, there were nine parishes and five Catholic schools. My home parish had four priests assigned to it and another priest who lived there and helped on weekends. Of those priests, usually two of them were under the age of forty-five. There were probably around twenty priests for the whole city. Now, there are six parishes in Quincy and eight priests for those six parishes. Of those priests, I believe one is under the age of fifty. A couple of weeks ago, it was announced that the last three Catholic schools in that city would be joining forces and combining into one school next September. Those parishes spent four years discussing and planning for the merger of those schools. The key is that those pastors and parishes worked hard to come to the best decision possible.

For the past ten years, I have been a priest in Beverly. When I arrived here, there were four parishes. Now there are three parishes and two Catholic schools (but remember that St. Margaret's once had a Catholic school). When I first arrived here, there were eight priests covering the parishes of Beverly. Today, there are three priests assigned to those parishes. There are three churches, three rectories, three school buildings, and one convent. There are eleven Sunday Masses. Approximately 2400 people attend those eleven Masses. That means there is an average of 218 persons attending each of those eleven Masses.

The Catholics of Beverly heat all of those buildings, repair all of those buildings, and underutilize all of those buildings. The Catholics of Beverly have three religious education programs, two Catholic schools, three parish offices, three Finance Councils, three Parish Councils, three Confirmation programs and any number of other things multiplied by three.

Currently, there are 349 priests serving 291 parishes in the Archdiocese of Boston. Within eleven years, there will only be approximately 166 parish priests. That's a big drop. I have no inside information, but my guess is that five years from now, at most there will be two priests in Beverly. Are those two priests going to be able to say eleven Masses on Saturday afternoon and Sunday? Are those two priests going to be able to say three Masses at 4pm on Saturday afternoon? Will they be able to cover three morning Masses at three different churches plus funeral Masses?

I think it is regrettable that we have not done a better job planning for the future. I am not laying out here any specific proposals, but I sure wish that we could all start having the serious conversations that these matters deserve. I think the real question that should be asked is, "What is best for the Catholic community of Beverly?" I don't have any quick or easy answers to that question. But, for instance, the money that we spend on heating nine buildings, could it be used for other things that better serves the Catholics of Beverly? Would we be better off pooling our resources rather than all of the redundancy that takes place? Even if all of those nine buildings were kept, could they be better utilized to serve the Catholic community?

Honestly, I think most priests are kind of overwhelmed by the responsibilities that they currently have and are not looking for more work to do. But, I think the fact is that in parishes all throughout the Archdiocese of Boston, the changes are going to come. The question is whether they are going to happen with planning and intelligence or whether they are going to come with chaos and rancor. It seems to me that we have a genuine obligation to be good stewards of all that we have been given as Catholics. How are we as the Catholics of Beverly going to best serve the needs of future generations of Catholics? I doubt that if the Catholics of Beverly gave serious thought to this question they would conclude that the best way forward is to do nothing.

So, there are some of my questions. They are not uniquely mine. Ever since I arrived in Beverly, I have heard lay Catholics asking the same questions. It is true that the Church is not a business and I cannot emphasize that enough. But, it is legitimate to ask whether we could be providing more to the Catholic community of Beverly by examining our current structures, properties, and business practices.

I don't know exactly where we go from here, but I am hoping that by raising these questions in a public way, it might light a fire under all of us to start thinking about things and proposing things. Quite honestly, I do not see these questions as bad news. We have an opportunity to do things better; better evangelization, better education, better sacramental preparation, and better outreach to the young and to the infirm and homebound. It would provide less waste of time and resources. It would put us in a position of planning rather than in a position of constantly trying to maintain an impossible status quo.

One thing I know for certain is that any attempt at such planning is going to require good priestly leadership and the strong support of lay Catholics who know how to move things like this forward. Perhaps a good place to start is simply people beginning to talk about it.

Your Brother in Christ,
Fr. David Barnes