

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

Rev. David J. Barnes, Pastor

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

*John answered them,
"... but there is one among
you whom you do not
recognize, the one who is
coming after me, whose sandal
strap I am not worthy to untie."*

John 1:26, 27 (NAB)



HYMNS & READINGS

PRO: 356—"On Jordan's Bank"

READ: 773

REC: 708—"Immaculate Mary"

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

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

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, December 14 ~

Is 61:1-2a,10-11 / Lk 1:46-50,53-54

Thes 5:16-24 / Jn 1:6-8,19-28

Monday, December 15 ~

Nm 24:2-7,15-17a / Ps 25:4-9 / Mt 21:23-27

Tuesday, December 16 ~

Zep 3:1-2,9-13 / Ps 34:2-3,6-7,17-18,19,23

Mt 21:28-32

Wednesday, December 17 ~

Gn 49:2,8-10 / Ps 72:3-4,7-8,17 / Mt 1:1-17

Thursday, December 18 ~

Jer 23:5-8 / Ps 72:1,12-13,18-19 / Mt 1:18-25

Friday, December 19 ~

Jgs 13:2-7,24-25a / Ps 71:3-6,16-17 / Lk 1:5-25

Saturday, December 20 ~

Is 7:10-14 / Ps 24:1-6 / Lk 1:26-38

Sunday, December 21 ~

Sm 7:1-5,8b-12,14a,16 / Ps 89:2-5,27,

Rom 16:25-27 / Lk 1:26-38

GRAND ANNUAL 2008

PLEGGED SO FAR: \$137,672.00

RECEIVED: \$122,883.00

TOTAL CONTRIBUTORS: 463

Please help us make our goal. For those who have not yet contributed, Grand Annual Envelopes are available in the back of the Church.

Please consider contributing. St. Mary's depends upon your generosity.

Parish Calendar

SUNDAY

SECOND COLLECTION: CHRISTMAS FLOWERS

- 9:15 AM Bible Discussion-Lower Church
- 9:15 AM RCIA
- 9:20 AM Religious Education—K-8
- 9:30 AM Choir Rehearsal—Main Church

MONDAY

- 7:00 PM Confirmation— St. Mary's School
- 7:00 PM Baptismal Catechesis
St. Mary's Rectory

WEDNESDAY

- 3:30 PM Religious Education—Gr. 1-6
St. Mary's School
- 7:00 PM Legion of Mary—Rectory

FRIDAY

- 9:00 AM Rosary Group—Rectory

SATURDAY

- 8:00 AM Men's Group ~ Lower Church

SUNDAY

- 11:30 AM Baptisms



Mass Intentions

Months Mind Mass

10:30 AM ~ Sunday, December 14:
Virgilio Basso

Tuesday, December 16:
Attilio Maticolli

Wednesday, December 17:
Peter & Gertrude Fortunato
Marie Riley

Friday, December 19:
John A. Casali
Joseph Casali
Antonia & Maria Casali

Saturday, December 20:
Florence Miranda

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.

ST. MARY STAR OF THE SEA CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE OF MASSES

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 24

4:00 PM LOWER CHURCH

4:00 PM MAIN CHURCH

6:30 PM MAIN CHURCH

MIDNIGHT MASS ~ MAIN CHURCH

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 25

8:15 AM MAIN CHURCH

10:30 AM MAIN CHURCH

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 31

4:00 PM MAIN CHURCH

THURSDAY, JANUARY 1

10:30 AM MAIN CHURCH

Sanctuary Light Donated
in Memory of:
James Feenan

WEEKLY NEED:

\$9,200.00

LAST WEEK'S COLLECTION:

\$8,449.00

PLUS THOSE CONTRIBUTING THROUGH PARISH PAY:

\$1,149.50



In the Spirit of love and joy we welcome the following newly baptized into the parish community.

- NOLA MAEVE AYLES
- HELENA KLAROVA BELLANTI
- MIA ELIZABETH BELMONTE
- NORA MAY BONNER
- LOGAN MICHAEL CARROLL
- CLAIRE MARGARET FITZGERALD
- ALANNAH TERESA ROSE FOSS
- MIA LINDA HANSON
- NATALIE ELIZABETH HOFFMAN
- JOLIE CHRISTINE INGEMI
- INDIA STEPHANIE INGEMI
- THOMAS EDWARD O'NEILL
- ALEXANDRA MARIE PROULX
- JARED MATTHEW RODRIGUEZ
- NATHAN EDWARD WHEELER



**Children's Advent Holy Hour
Friday, December 19th**

Begins with pizza at school at 5:00
Candlelight procession to church
Holy Hour @ 6:00

with praying the Angelus
Prayers and songs / Christmas Card Craft
Harp accompaniment

Don't have young children to bring? All are welcome to come and witness a beautiful parish event.

Is your child interested in leading a prayer? Contact Vangie Egizi @ vangiemassagain@yahoo.com.

HANDELS' MESSIAH

Presented by:
Combined Beverly Church Choirs & Guest Singers
Under the Direction of:
Robert F. Littlefield
Frederick MacArthur, Organist
Monday, December 22—8:00 PM
First Parish Church ~ 225 Cabot Street
Admission is Free

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 978-922-8502.

Saturday, 13 December ~ "An Infinity of Little Hours"
Webster Bull

Saturday, 20 December ~ St. Francis of Assisi
Frank Kwiatkowski

Saturday, 27 December ~
No Men's Group: Christmas Break

ADORATION: We are in need of persons to spend an hour each week praying before the Blessed Sacrament.

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

ANNOUNCEMENT:

Adoration for Thursday, December 11 will be held in the Main Church.

There will be NO ADORATION: Wednesday, December 24 / Friday, December 26.

**The bold faced timeslots above currently have no coverage. Please help us by signing up for one of these hours. Please call 978-922-0113 Ext. 101 and leave a message.

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

CONGRATULATIONS to our December Calendar Winners:

Patricia Brook	\$ 25	Ed & Deb Comeau	\$ 25
Hannah Costa	25	Ed Jameson	25
Keelin Dawe	25	Christine Ferrari	25
Ed Jameson	25	Dana Walker	25
Nancy Traicoff	25	Patrick Gillan	25
Ciavola Family	25	Marie Pramataris	50
Rob & Pam Camarda	50	Debbie Petroccione	25
Pauline Pimental	100	Margaret Fowler	25
Mary Schryver	25	Doug Donovan	25
M/M Michael Littlejohn	25	Frank Colantuonio	1,000
Esther Ferrante	25	Helen Peslin	25
Stephanic Valentine	25	Kendra Harrell	25
Paul Vitale	25	John Risoldi	50
Ann Marie Wayland	50	Mary Murney	25
Josephine DiLuiso	25	Janet Cousins	25
		Anthony Simon	25

CHRISTMAS TREES ARE HERE! (and wreaths too) - for sale after Masses until they run out! Order early and get \$5 off. Call **Rick Stevens** at 978 927-9652 to reserve your tree today. Trees are \$47, 12" wreaths \$12 and 15" wreaths \$15, and as always, we offer FREE delivery. St. Mary's Parish ornaments for sale here too!

CHRISTMAS CONCERT – You are invited to join us on **Tuesday, December 16th** at 7:00 P.M. here at St. Mary's Church for the St. Mary's School Christmas Concert, "Let Heaven and Nature Sing". Our music director, **Dr. Alan Pearlmutter**, is busily preparing grades K – 8 for this special performance and sing-along. Afterwards, our Parent Committee will host a reception of cookies, coffee and cider in the lower church.

CHILDREN'S ADVENT HOLY HOUR – join us on **Friday, December 19th** and witness our Parish children as they come together for a Candlelight Walk from St. Mary's School to St. Mary's Church. The children will be praying the **Angelus** as the church bells toll for Holy Hour at 6:00 P.M. Featured will be prayers and songs, lighting of the Advent candle, and professional harp accompaniment by SMS parent **Eileen Mulligan**.

FATHER BARNES has recently received some data from the Archdiocese regarding the Terra Nova testing completed yearly by our students. Over the last two years, St. Mary's School has not only outscored national norms which include both private and public schools, we've also outscored the Archdiocese in many areas. Kudos to our dedicated teachers!

Is Santa bringing a new computer to your house? If so, please consider donating your "old" laptop to St. Mary's School. A teacher is looking for a used laptop (3-5 yrs. old or newer! Windows XP, Pentium 3, 256 meg ram, ideally 512, 20 gig HD). Thank you.

ST. MARY STAR OF THE SEA PARISH ORNAMENTS – are here! In cooperation with **Gordon's of Beverly and Theological Threads**, St. Mary's School is proud to offer the second in a series of Christmas ornaments. This year, the ornament honors the Holy Family, and is a replica of the stained glass window in our Parish. Juanita Gordon is generously donating \$5.00 of the purchase price of \$20.00 to our school for ornaments purchased in the School Development Office. The first of the series, honoring St. Mary Star of the Sea, is also available for \$20.00. These make a wonderful gift! Please call the Development Office at 978 998-6848 for more information.

COMMEMORATIVE BRICKS make the perfect Christmas gift – your engraved brick will be installed in the Memorial Walkway entrance to St. Mary's School. This lasting legacy will truly be cherished by its recipient: 4x8 bricks with 3 lines of engraving are \$80, and 8x8 bricks with 6 lines of engraving are \$150. Call SMS Development Office at 978 998-6848 to place an order.

Dear Friends in Christ,

Recently I was reading a short article where a particular academic was quoted as saying, "If Jesus were alive today, he would" My friends, let me assure you, Jesus is alive today. He is encountered in and through the life of His Body, the Church. One does not need to ask, "What would Jesus do?" or "What would Jesus say about . . . ?" Jesus is acting and speaking through the life of those incorporated into Him through Baptism.

May I indicate some ways that I see Christ present and acting powerfully among us?

All of those who have acted with such great concern for the poor and the downtrodden during the past few weeks. Those who stood last Sunday out in the snow and cold, arms filled with the Giving Tree Gifts, waiting patiently (?) for me to open the rectory door so that they could store the gifts.

Those who stood last week in the freezing cold for hours selling Christmas Trees as a fundraiser for our school.

All of the different people who give so much time to putting in the pews in the lower chapel, getting the Christmas decorating ready, and organizing the upcoming Children's Holy Hour.

Last week we requested more coverage for our daily adoration. Several parishioners immediately responded. It is really a beautiful experience for me to be praying in the chapel downstairs and to hear so many people coming and going during the day. What a remarkable experience that is!

Hundreds of teenagers and their parents who attended an outstanding talk given last week in our church by Mr. Jason Evert. Jason is a nationally renowned speaker who speaks to young people about the full truth of human sexuality and helps them to desire to live a chaste life. Jason spoke for almost two hours to those young people and they were captivated by his words. All of the young people that I spoke to afterwards said that they really enjoyed the talk. (As an aside, I encourage all of you who are parents to take a look at Jason's website to assist you in helping your children to understand and live the full truth. www.chastity.com)

Last Monday was a Holy Day of Obligation—the Feast of the Immaculate Conception. Sadly, in the United States we have lost a sense of the seriousness of our obligation to worship God on these days. But, I was really moved by how many of you were at Mass. In a particular way, I was really impressed by how many young couples were there at the evening Mass. Your fidelity and example was a great source of encouragement to me.

Our Sunday Masses have welcomed many young couples and families recently. I am really moved by their presence. I wish I knew all of you better.

Sometimes, when I am preaching, I get the sense from some people that they are not particularly thrilled by how I preach. But, you know what moves me? The fact that they keep coming back despite whatever they might think of me personally. I think that is a great sign of fidelity and mercy.

As a parish, we pray well. During our Sunday liturgies, something truly beautiful is encountered.

All of the people upon whom I rely a great deal for advice and counsel and who make themselves entirely available to me when I need their assistance. In their generosity and dedication, I encounter Christ.

And there are just a few examples of why the words, "If Christ were alive" are completely ridiculous. Christ is alive. He is here in our midst, speaking to us and acting among us. He is present and is encountered among us and is inviting us to follow him. Christ is not relegated to the history books. He is present in our midst. He is present and making himself known in so many beautiful and profound ways.

Whenever one of my friends comes to visit this parish, I am always happy to hear them say, "Yeah, I understand why you always say you love your parish so much. They're really great people." And to that, I say, "Amen."

Your Brother in Christ,
Fr. David Barnes

