

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

### The Year for Priests



### HYMNS & READINGS

**PRO:** 357— "O Come, O Come Emmanuel"

**READ:** 777

**OFF:** 386— "O Little Town of Bethlehem"

**REC:** 708— "Immaculate Mary"

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](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, December 20 ~**

##### **Fourth Sunday of Advent**

Mi 5:1-4a / Ps 80:2-3,15-16,18-19 / Heb 10:5-10  
Lk 1:39-45

#### **Monday, December 21 ~**

Sg 2:8-14 / Ps 33:2-3,11-12,20-21 / Lk 1:39-45

#### **Tuesday, December 22 ~**

Sm 1:24-28 / Sm 2:1,4-8 / Lk 1:46-56

#### **Wednesday, December 23 ~**

Mal 3:1-4,23-24 / Ps 25:4-5,8-10,14 / Lk 1:57-66

#### **Thursday, December 24 ~**

Sm 7:1-5,8b-12,14a,16/Ps 89:2-5,27,29 /Lk 1:67-79

#### **Vigil of Christmas:**

Is 62:1-5 / Ps 89:4-5,16-17,27,2- / Acts 13:16-17  
22-25 / Mt 1:1-25

#### **Friday, December 25 ~**

##### **Midnight:**

Is 9:1-6 / Ps 96:1-3,11-13 / Ti 2:11-14 / Lk 2:1-14

##### **Christmas Day:**

Is 52:7-10 / Ps 98:1-6 / Heb 1:1-6 / Jn 1:1-18

#### **Saturday, December 26 ~**

Acts 6:8-10;7:54-59 / Ps 31:3cd-4,6,8ab,16bc-17  
Mt 10:17-22

#### **Sunday, December 27 ~**

##### **THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS MARY AND JOSEPH**

Sir 3:2-7,12-14 / Ps 128:1-5 / Col 3:12-21  
Lk 2:41-52

### Parish Calendar

**SUNDAY**

- 9:15 AM Bible Discussion Group  
Lower Church
- 9:20 AM RCIA
- 9:20 AM Religious Education—K-8  
St. Mary's School
- 9:30 AM Choir Rehearsal—Main Church
- 11:30 AM Baptisms

**MONDAY**

NO RELIGIOUS EDUCATION  
7:00 PM Baptismal Catechesis

**TUESDAY**

7:00 PM Legion of Mary—Rectory

**WEDNESDAY**

NO RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

**THURSDAY**

- COLLECTION: CLERGY BENEFIT TRUST
- 4:00 PM Mass—Main Church
- 6:30 PM Mass—Main Church
- 12:00 AM Mass—Main Church

**FRIDAY**

- CHRISTMAS DAY—RECTORY OFFICE CLOSED
- COLLECTION: CLERGY BENEFIT TRUST
- 8:15 AM Mass—Main Church
- 10:30 AM Mass—Main Church

**SATURDAY**

- 8:00 AM Men's Group—Lower Church
- 2:30 PM Confessions—Lower Church
- 4:00 PM Chant Mass

**SUNDAY**

NO RELIGIOUS EDUCATION  
NO RCIA

### Mass Intentions

**Monday, December 21:**  
Vito Calitri

**Tuesday, December 22:**  
Patricia Carbone

**Wednesday, December 23:**  
James Patrick McGrath

**Saturday, December 26:**  
Jean Mefford

**Months Mind Mass**  
**10:30 AM ~ Sunday, December 27:**  
Phyllis Blanchard  
Angelina Spiridigliozzi  
Irene MacDougall  
Lawrence Rice

### 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:  
**ROSINA ROSSI** who recently passed away.

Sanctuary Light Donated  
in Memory of:  
Lynda A. Bushey

**WEEKLY NEED:**

**\$9,200.00**

**LAST WEEK'S COLLECTION:**

**\$10,036.00**

**PLUS THOSE CONTRIBUTING  
THROUGH PARISH PAY:**

**\$1,079.00**

**Gregorian Chant Schola**

**Saturday, December 26 ~ 4:00 PM Mass**

The music for the 4:00 PM Mass, Saturday, December 26, will be led by a Gregorian Chant Schola. This small choir will sing more of the traditional chants of the Church than we're usually accustomed to hearing nowadays.

**PRAYER FOR THIRD WEEK OF ADVENT.**

Pour forth thy power, O Lord, and come: Assist us by that mighty power, so that by thy grace and merciful kindness we may swiftly receive the salvation that our sins impede: Who livest and reignest with thee in the unity of the Holy Spirit, ever one God, world without end. Amen.

O Wisdom, holy Word of God, Jesus Christ, all things are in your hands, come and show us the way to salvation.

**BULLETINS:**

**THERE WILL BE NO BULLETINS ON THE WEEKEND OF DECEMBER 26 & 27, AS WE WILL BE DISTRIBUTING THEM DURING THE CHRISTMAS MASSES ON DECEMBER 24 & 25.**

**THANK YOU.**

**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, June 6 ~ Archibald Hart

"Thrilled to Death"

Speaker: *Doug McDougal*

**2009 GRAND ANNUAL COLLECTION**

**GRAND ANNUAL GOAL:**

**\$150,000.00**

**GRAND ANNUAL PLEDGED:**

**\$143,208.00**

**GRAND ANNUAL COLLECTED:**

**\$124,949.00**

**ENVELOPE CONTRIBUTORS:**

**410**

Please help us reach our goals; please make your contribution today. For those who need them, Grand Annual envelopes are in the back of the church.

St Mary's depends on *your* generosity.

**CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE  
ST. MARY STAR OF THE SEA**

**CONFESSIONS:**

**TUESDAY, DECEMBER 22 ~**

6:30 PM—7:30 PM - Lower church

**CHRISTMAS MASSES:**

**THURSDAY, DECEMBER 24 ~**

**COLLECTION: CLERGY BENEFIT TRUST**

4:00 PM ~ MAIN CHURCH

6:30 PM ~ MAIN CHURCH

12:00 AM ~ MAIN CHURCH

**FRIDAY, DECEMBER 25 ~**

**COLLECTION: CLERGY BENEFIT TRUST**

8:15 AM ~ MAIN CHURCH

10:30 AM ~ MAIN CHURCH

**THERE WILL BE NO 4:00 PM CHRISTMAS EVE MASS IN THE LOWER CHURCH. THERE WILL BE A 4:00 PM MASS IN THE MAIN CHURCH.**

Between now and December 31, 2009, you could make the gift of a lifetime to St. Mary Star of The Sea by giving from your IRA without federal tax penalty. For more information and for sample forms, call Richard Ely at The Catholic Foundation at 617-779-3702 or email [Richard.Ely@rcab.org](mailto:Richard.Ely@rcab.org). Or visit our website [www.CatholicLegacySociety.org](http://www.CatholicLegacySociety.org).

**CLERGY BENEFIT TRUST COLLECTION:**

The upcoming Christmas Collection supports the retirement, healthcare and financial needs of priests of the Archdiocese of Boston. We encourage you to please give generously on behalf of the priests that have devoted their lives to faithfully serving God and the faithful of the Archdiocese of Boston. On behalf of all our priests, thank you in advance for your generosity.

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

***We pray that the Peace and Promise of Christmas fill your hearts with Joy***

**ADVENT** – As our students prepare to light the 4<sup>th</sup> candle on our school-wide Advent Wreath, they sing, "See the candles burning bright, one by one each week we light. Advent is a time to wait, not quite time to celebrate, when this waiting time is through, it's Christmas joy for me and you."

**CHRISTMAS CARD EXCHANGE** – the 6<sup>th</sup> grade class is part of a Christmas Card Exchange from around the USA and Canada. They have mailed Christmas cards to over 40 schools and are receiving them back. The children they are writing to all attend Christian schools and range in age from 1<sup>st</sup> grade to 7<sup>th</sup> grade. Friends in Anchorage, Alaska wrote "a moose rampaged our school today!"

**SCIENCE LAB NEWS** – in this lab, students extracted DNA from a strawberry and observed its physical appearance.

Objectives: As a result of participating in this activity, students know how to extract DNA from strawberries

Observed what DNA looks like to the naked eye

Learned that DNA is found in every living and once-living thing

Understand that DNA is found in all the food we eat

Have you ever wondered what DNA looks like? Seventh grade SMS students broke apart the cell membrane of a strawberry and separated the DNA from the nucleus. Strawberries are a good source of DNA because they have 8 copies of each type of chromosome. Students got to actually see DNA. The process included mashing strawberries and adding a cell lysis solution (salt, dish detergent and meat tenderizer). After a few minutes, cold ethanol was added on top of the mixture. Wow! The DNA appeared. Students understood that they were really looking at millions of strands of DNA because individual strands of DNA cannot be seen by the naked eye. Using handheld lenses and compound light microscopes made this experiment even more fun!

**MANY THANKS** to SMS parent **Kim Dunham** and her elves for a very successful Christmas wreath sale... and thank you parishioners for your support. We sold out!

**STUDENT COUNCIL COMMUNITY SERVICE** – continues at St. Mary's School as the Student Council raised funds to purchase many pairs of tube socks for **River House**. Also, thank you to **Mrs. Boudreault & Ms. Alboth** for organizing the very fun and successful "Kid's Day In" where student council members volunteered to babysit as parents enjoyed time for themselves.

**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 third in a series of Christmas ornaments. This year, the ornament is a replica of the stained glass window depicting the Visit of the 3 Wise Men. Juanita Gordon is generously donating \$5.00 to SMS, of the purchase price of \$20, for ornaments purchased thru the school. The first of the series, honoring St. Mary Star of the Sea, and second in the series, honoring the Holy Family, are also available for \$20 at the school. These make wonderful Christmas gifts! Please call the Development Office at 978 998-6848.

**ST. MARY SCHOOL CALENDAR SALES** - After all Masses for the next few weeks, we will be selling calendars at the back of the church. This is one of our biggest fundraisers for the school year. These calendars will make great gifts during the Christmas season. The cost of the calendar is \$20.00. There is a daily drawing of the numbers for the calendars starting January 1, 2010 and continuing throughout the year. The smallest prize is \$25.00, and the largest prize is \$1,000. You can win multiple times, because even if you win once, your number goes back into the pool. Please support this fundraiser and also get some holiday shopping done!

***St. Mary's School students and staff wish all our friends at St. Mary Star of the Sea Parish a blessed, Merry Christmas and all the best for a happy, healthy New Year!***

Dear Friends in Christ,

One of the things in life that always strikes me is the consistency and coherency of our Faith. In a particular way, the Liturgical life of the Church can teach us so much. There is a Latin idiom, “lex orandi, lex credendi.” It means the “law of praying is the law of believing.” What is meant by this is that if we look at how the Church prays, we learn what the Church believes. The Liturgy instructs us. So, for a moment, I wish to point out three aspects of Advent prayer that teach us something about our Faith.

The first is the Advent wreath. As the darkness of December deepens and the night’s grip upon the world takes firmer hold, the Church quietly, calmly, and confidently lights the Advent wreath.

The second is the prophet Isaiah. Throughout the season of Advent, the Church’s Liturgy continually listens to the words of the prophet Isaiah. When Israel was held in captivity by the Babylonians, God sent to them the prophet Isaiah. Isaiah taught the people to wait patiently, to endure the suffering, and to trust that the Lord would vindicate them. As the darkness of captivity surrounded the people, Isaiah comforted them with words of hope.

The third is the chant “O Come O Come Emmanuel.” This song teaches us something about hope. The song begs for the coming of the Lord, but it does so with assurance. The song doesn’t say, “If he comes, we will rejoice.” Instead, we sing, “Rejoice, rejoice! Emanuel will come to thee O Israel.” In other words, as Christians, we can already rejoice because we have confidence that the promise made will be fulfilled.

The Church’s Liturgy during Advent teaches us about hope. Hope is best expressed in quiet and steadfast confidence. The Advent wreath illumines the darkness little by little. It burns with quiet but unmistakable confidence in victory. In the midst of such overwhelming destruction of the Jewish people, Isaiah arrives and his words strengthen the people to remain faithful—even though all seems lost. The sublime and calm tone of the chant “O Come O Come Emmanuel” is not some clamorous musical version of a pep talk. It sustains the soul by its noble simplicity. It suggests that although the clamor of the surrounding world is often deafening, there is a young girl named Mary in whose silent womb the Word that saves is made flesh. And this Word speaks eternally and can never be silenced.

The Advent Liturgy teaches us something also about our life together as companions on the road. In witnessing the lives of our brothers and sisters in Christ, we grow in hope. Fame and fanfare do not offer hope. They usually offer fleeting entertainment. They come quickly and pass just as quickly. But, it is in the quiet and faithful lives of our companions that we are strengthened to remain faithful to the path. Their faithful example makes us rejoice because we recognize in them a sign of God’s presence. They are like the Advent wreath in darkness. They are like Isaiah in the midst of turbulence. They are like the quiet and sublime chant in the midst of a lot of racket.

Our friends in Christ teach us not to despair but rather to have confidence that we are on the path to everlasting joy.

Your Brother in Christ,

Fr. David Barnes