

The Nativity of the Lord

December 25, 2022



Saint Mary 14 Park Street + Sacred Heart 58 Church Street + Saint Mark 105 Stanley Street
North Attleborough, Massachusetts

Transfiguration of the Lord Parish

Rev. Michael A. Ciryak, Temporary Parochial Administrator

Rev. Deacon Joseph E. Regali

Mrs. Monica T. Forte, Administrative Assistant

Mrs. Jean Howard, Business Manager

Mrs. Elaine Corvese, Director of Religious Education, Grades 1-8 & Confirmation

Ms. Nicole Barton, Music Director

Mr. Miguel Peixoto, Buildings Supervisor

Mr. James Kitsock, Building Maintenance

Saint Mary-Sacred Heart School

Mrs. Lisa Serak, Principal

57 Richards Avenue,

North Attleborough, Massachusetts 02760

(508) 695-3072 FAX (508) 695-9074

smsh@smsh.dfrcs.org www.smshschool.com

Saint Mary Cemetery

Mr. Jarrod Ward, Superintendent

Towne Street

North Attleborough, Massachusetts 02760

(508) 695-1173 or email ripco@comcast.net

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saint Mary Church • Saturday 3:00 pm

Sacrament of Baptism

Baptisms are scheduled on Saturday afternoons at 1:00 pm, with a limit of four families at each baptism. Please contact Monica Forte in the office at stmaryna@noozi.com for more information and available dates.

Sacrament of Marriage

Marriage is usually celebrated on Saturday morning and afternoon. Please contact the Parish Office at least nine months in advance to begin preparation.

Sacrament of the Sick

Pastoral care to those in need of the sacrament of the sick is arranged through the parish office. Please call to arrange a visit.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Adoration in January will be offered on the first Friday of the month at Saint Mary Church, beginning at 9:00 am Mass and ending at 6:00 pm with Benediction.

Parish Offering

If you are attending in person, you may drop your contribution in the collection basket. You are welcome to mail your budget envelope to the parish office, at 14 Park Street, North Attleborough, MA 02760. You may also leave your envelope in the drop box located outside the parish office door, to the right on the landing. Or you can use this link for online giving:

<https://app.gabrielsoft.com/guest/mafrdiocese/31>

Thank you for your ongoing support!

Weekend Masses

Saturday 4:00 pm Saint Mary Church

Sunday 8:00 am Saint Mark Church

Sunday 9:30 am Saint Mary Church

Sunday 11:00 am Sacred Heart Church

Weekday Masses

Monday 4:30 pm Saint Mary Church

Tuesday 8:00 am Saint Mark Church

Wednesday 4:30 pm Saint Mary Church

Thursday 8:00 am Communion Service

Saint Mark Church

Links to: Transfiguration of the Lord Facebook page
<https://www.facebook.com/Transfiguration-of-the-Lord-Parish-North-Attleborough-106529317647894/>

YouTube at <https://tinyurl.com/ysfaxaty>

Parish Office

14 Park Street, North Attleborough,
Massachusetts 02760

Parish e-mail • stmaryna@noozi.com

Parish website • www.saintmaryna.com

Phone 508-695-6161 Fax 508-695-5248

Faith Formation • TransfigurationRelEd@gmail.com

Faith Formation • 508-695-3823

December 25 – The Nativity of the Lord



All Christmas Eve and Christmas Day Masses are offered in memory of those in whose names our Christmas flowers were donated.

Saturday December 24

4:00 pm Saint Mary
6:00 pm Saint Mark
8:00 pm Sacred Heart

Sunday December 25

8:00 am Saint Mark

Sunday December 25

9:30 am Saint Mary

*Please note no 11:00 am Mass
on Christmas Day*

Monday December 26

4:30 pm

Tuesday December 27

8:00 am Rita Kelleher

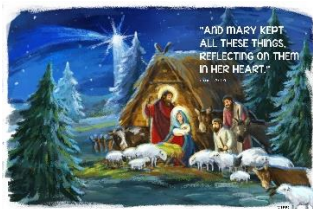
Wednesday December 28

4:30 pm Manuel & Maria Pereira

Thursday December 29

8:00 am

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January 1 – Mary, Holy Mother of God

Saturday December 31

4:00 pm Pauline Hastings

Sunday January 1

8:00 am For the People of the Parish

Sunday January 1

9:30 am Deacon James J. Meloni, Jr.

Sunday January 1

11:00 am S. Celine Rainville, SUSC

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Parish Contributions

Collection figures from Dec. 10/11:
10,780.89

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CHRISTMAS

C is for a **CHILD** named Jesus,
who was born in Bethlehem.

H reminds us of the **HEAVENS**
and the angels who watched over him.

R is the **REJOICING**
and the happiness that we know this day.

I means that we are all so **IMPORTANT**
that he was sent to take our sin away.

S can only mean he is our **SAVIOR**
who taught us all to care.

T is for the **TRADITION**
of Christmas for all of us to share.

M is for the **MIRACLES**
that he brings to everyone who calls.

A tells us that he's **ALWAYS**
there even when darkness falls.

S the last and most important,
stands for our **SALVATION**, the very
meaning of His birth.

*May the true meaning of Christmas touch your
hearts this year and move us all to a deeper faith,
hope, and love!*

*May the Prince of Peace, Jesus Christ, guide and
guard your hearts and homes this Christmas and in
the New Year of 2023!*

**MERRY CHRISTMAS
AND A BLESSED 2023!**





Christmas Mass Schedule 2022

Christmas Eve

Saturday, 24 December 2022

4:00 PM Saint Mary Church

6:00 PM Saint Mark Church

Christmas Mass during the Night

Saturday, 24 December 2022

8:00 PM Sacred Heart Church

Christmas Masses

Sunday, 25 December 2022

8:00 AM Saint Mark Church

9:30 AM Saint Mary Church



Masses for the Solemnity of Mary the Holy Mother of God

Saturday, 31 December 2022

4:00 PM Saint Mary Church

Sunday, 1 January 2023

8:00 AM Saint Mark Church

9:30 AM Saint Mary Church

11:00 AM Sacred Heart Church

Parish Office Christmas Hours

Please note the Parish Office closes at noon on December 23 and will reopen on Thursday, December 29.



Wedding Anniversary Celebration

A special Mass of thanksgiving will be celebrated for couples observing significant wedding anniversaries (including first year). This celebration will take place on Sunday, February 12, 2023, at 3:00 p.m. at St. Mary Cathedral in Fall River. If you would like an invitation, please let Father Michael know, or email the parish office as soon as possible. Information must be sent to Fall River by January 13.

Advent Adopt-A-Family Project

Please accept my sincere appreciation for your consistent generosity to the Adopt-A-Family project. Although many are struggling, so many families found ways to again be most generous to this effort. This year we provided for families who were especially in need of our

collective love and support. Because of your unselfish assistance, we provided



clothing for the children and parents. There were also books, games and the typical trappings of Christmas. In addition we were able to provide assistance for utility bills and will be able to support some with assistance during the year. The St. Vincent de Paul Society of Transfiguration Parish provided enough food and goodies for all and delivered all the gifts just before Christmas. The success of this project is such an expression of love from all who sacrifice so that others may experience the wonderful magic that comes with this very blessed season of the year. May God Bless us all now and in the New Year. Most gratefully, Betty Poirier, Chairperson

Eucharistic Adoration

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament is offered on Tuesdays in December at Saint Mark following the 8:00 am Mass and concluding at 1:00 pm.

Please note in January, Adoration will move from Tuesdays to First Friday and will be in Saint Mary church.

*"When Our Lord sees pure souls coming to visit Him in the Blessed Sacrament He smiles on them. They come with the simplicity that pleases Him so much."
(St. John Vianney)*

We invite you to answer His call.
Adoration hours in January: Saint Mary Church, Friday, January 6th, beginning 9:00 a.m. and ending at 6:00 p.m. with Benediction
For more information call Joanne Regali (508-643-3821) or Arlene Hall (508-801-2243). Please leave a message if the call is not answered immediately.

Knights of Columbus

The Knights of Columbus is a fraternal Catholic organization focused on Charity, Unity, and Fraternity. Council #330 has been serving the Catholic community of the Transfiguration of the Lord Parish since 1898. The Council is committed to assisting local causes that align with our Catholic values such as the Parish, St Mary-Sacred Heart School, Adopt-a-Family, and Abundant Hope. If you are interested in becoming a member or have questions, please contact Jim Schromm at jim.schromm@verizon.net

Knights of Columbus Coat Drive

Thank you to all who donated to this year's drive! All donations will be given to the SVDP



Clothing Center in Attleboro, which distributes clothing for free to those helped by our SVDP conferences here in

North Attleborough and the surrounding communities. God bless you for your help.

FAITH FORMATION

Director of Religious Education

Mrs. Elaine Corvese

508-695-3823

TransfigurationRelEd@gmail.com

Faith Formation 2022-2023 Schedule
ALL CLASS CALENDARS CAN BE FOUND
ON THE PARISH WEBSITE UNDER THE
FAITH FORMATION TAB

Grades 1 and 2: Classes: Tuesday, January 10, Saturday, January 14.

Grades 6 and 7: The next class for 6th Grade is Monday, January 23, and 7th Grade is Monday, January 30.

Grades 8 and 9: The next class for 8th Grade will be held Wednesday, January 11 and 9th Grade will be held on Wednesday, January 18.

*Blessings and peace to you and your family at
Christmas and into the New Year!*



Transfiguration of the Lord Respect Life Group

The next meeting of the Respect Life Group will take place on Monday, **January 9, 2023 at 6:30 pm in Saint Mary Church Hall.** We hope you will join us as we develop this new respect life vision in our parish. Please email or call Joanna Wissler wissler5@verizon.net or 508-243-5307 for more information.

Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph ~ December 30, 2022



Prayer to the Holy Family

O Jesus, look graciously upon our family here before you. Once more we consecrate ourselves before you – our trials and joys – that our home may ever be the shrine of peace, purity, love and faith. Protect and bless all of us, both absent and present, and be merciful to those departed.

O Mary, loving Mother of Jesus, and our Mother, pray to Jesus for our family, for all the families of the world, to guard the cradle of the newborn, the schools of the young and their vocations.

O Joseph, holy Guardian of Jesus and Mary,
assist us by your prayers
in all the necessities of life.

Be present at the pillow of the sick and dying
so that we may all be united to
Jesus and Mary and you for all eternity.

Amen

Transfiguration of the Lord Parish Saint Vincent de Paul Society

Inspired by Gospel values, the Society of St. Vincent de Paul, a Catholic lay organization, leads women and men to join to grow spiritually by offering person-to-person service to those who are needy and suffering in the tradition of its founder, Blessed Frédéric Ozanam, and patron, St. Vincent de Paul. The Society meets on the 2nd Thursday of the month in the parish hall in Saint Mary Church. Please join us!



Call for Assistance

If you need assistance, please call the help line for our parish Saint Vincent de Paul Society. They can offer information about the types of assistance available. Please call 508-212-4755 for help or more information.

Reentry Mentor Training Opportunity

In conjunction with the Attleboro District St. Vincent de Paul Society, the Mansfield Knights of Columbus Council 420 is looking for people who would be willing to mentor, "Big Brother or High Sister" style, returning citizens involved with the SVdP Immersion Reentry Program. Volunteers are needed to follow up with people returning to their communities from incarceration to check on well being and to offer encouragement, advice, and help in goal setting.

A six-week Mentor Training Course (2hr/week) will be offered in January 2023. Are you inspired to help someone regain their life?

This program is open to anyone that has an interest. You do not have to be a member of the Saint Vincent de Paul Society or Knights of Columbus to join.

Please contact: Sean Costello at 508-369-8627 or email scostello3086@comcast.net to learn more about this program or to sign up for the mentoring program.

Christmas Flowers



Many thanks to all who made donations to our beautiful Christmas flowers. All envelopes are wrapped and placed with our flowers during the Christmas season.

Housekeeping Requests

Please help us keep our parishes clean and tidy. Before leaving the church, please return the kneeler to the upright position. Please take your bulletin home and throw away any debris; tissues, wrappers, etc. Trash containers can be found at the main entrances to the church. We also ask that you supervise any children who are in need of the restrooms during Mass, and that they be used only if urgently needed. Please help us keep our parish clean and welcoming to all who may come after you. *Thank you for your assistance!*

ARE YOUR WEDNESDAY MORNINGS FREE?

An Invitation for Women to Join The Women's Spirituality Group

- Meet like-minded women to help you live out your faith
- Increase your knowledge about your faith and the Bible.
- Make new friends

Morning Group: Wednesday, 9:00-10:30 AM at Saint Mary Church in the meeting room (formerly the Chapel). Park in the back lot and enter the side door using the steps or the ramp.

New session begins Wednesday, January 4th with an opening gathering. On January 11th and 18th we will cover the last two chapters of "Reclaiming Friendship"- Walking With Purpose's latest bible study.

On January 25th until the end of the session (5/24), we will be studying the Women of the Old and New Testament using Lisa Brennkmeier's book "Discovering Our Dignity".

- No need to attend every session (but you'll want to!)
- No class on Ash Wednesday or Holy Week
- Come join us!

Try us out and see if it's a good fit.

- The group is open to women outside of our parish, so please invite your friends- All are welcome!

For more information and to register email Janet Kent at buffalokent@comcast.net or call 508-699-4446 or email Janet Pion at jpion@me.com or call 508-942-1548. Hoping you will try the group out!

Saint Mary –Sacred Heart School Save the date

Considering a Catholic education for your student?
Come explore Saint Mary-Sacred Heart School during our Open House on Sunday, January



22, anytime between 12:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. This event is open to all current SSMH families as well as new & prospective

families. You will experience a real sense of how wonderful our school really is!

- Meet current students, their families and SSMH alum
- Visit classrooms
- Meet our teachers & administration
- Take a student/parent/teacher led school tour
- Ask questions

We welcome you to discover the Saint Mary-Sacred Heart School community and enroll your student to become a Saint. Visit us at www.ssmhschool.com.

SSMH Pajama Drive

"And do not forget to do good and to share with others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased."

Luke 6:30

Saint Mary-Sacred Heart School recently held a pajama drive in preparation for Christmas. During the first week of Advent students were asked to bring in a pair of pajamas for a child in need. The SSMH school community came together in service and collected 286 pairs of pajamas which were delivered to Christmas is For Kids/Attleboro.



In addition to the donation of pajamas, students learned how putting Jesus' directive to love one another into action will have a positive effect in their own lives.



Readings for December 24

4:00 pm, 6:00 pm and 8:00 pm

Page 47 in our missalette

The Nativity of the Lord during the Night

First Reading

A reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah

The people who walked in darkness
have seen a great light;
upon those who dwelt in the land of gloom
a light has shone.
You have brought them abundant joy
and great rejoicing,
as they rejoice before you as at the harvest,
as people make merry when dividing spoils.
For the yoke that burdened them,
the pole on their shoulder,
and the rod of their taskmaster
you have smashed, as on the day of Midian.
For every boot that tramped in battle,
every cloak rolled in blood,
will be burned as fuel for flames.
For a child is born to us, a son is given us;
upon his shoulder dominion rests.
They name him Wonder-Counselor, God-Hero,
Father-Forever, Prince of Peace.
His dominion is vast
and forever peaceful,
from David's throne, and over his kingdom,
which he confirms and sustains
by judgment and justice,
both now and forever.
The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this!
The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm

**R. Today is born our Savior,
Christ the Lord.**

Sing to the LORD a new song;
sing to the LORD, all you lands.
Sing to the LORD; bless his name.

**R. Today is born our Savior,
Christ the Lord.**

Announce his salvation, day after day.
Tell his glory among the nations;
among all peoples, his wondrous deeds.

**R. Today is born our Savior,
Christ the Lord.**

Let the heavens be glad and the earth rejoice;
let the sea and what fills it resound;
let the plains be joyful and all that is in them!
Then shall all the trees of the forest exult.

**R. Today is born our Savior,
Christ the Lord.**

They shall exult before the LORD, for he comes;
for he comes to rule the earth.

He shall rule the world with justice
and the peoples with his constancy.

**R. Today is born our Savior,
Christ the Lord.**

Second Reading

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to Titus

Beloved: The grace of God has appeared, saving all
and training us to reject godless ways and worldly
desires and to live temperately, justly, and devoutly
in this age, as we await the blessed hope, the
appearance of the glory of our great God and savior
Jesus Christ, who gave himself for us to deliver us
from all lawlessness and to cleanse for himself a
people as his own, eager to do what is good.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God

Gospel

The Lord be with you.

And with your spirit.

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke
Glory to you, O Lord.

In those days a decree went out from Caesar
Augustus that the whole world should be enrolled.
This was the first enrollment, when Quirinius was
governor of Syria. So all went to be enrolled, each
to his own town. And Joseph too went up from
Galilee from the town of Nazareth to Judea, to the
city of David that is called Bethlehem, because he
was of the house and family of David, to be
enrolled with Mary, his betrothed, who was with
child. While they were there, the time came for her
to have her child, and she gave birth to her firstborn
son. She wrapped him in swaddling clothes and
laid him in a manger, because there was no room
for them in the inn.

Now there were shepherds in that region living in
the fields and keeping the night watch over their
flock. The angel of the Lord appeared to them and
the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they
were struck with great fear. The angel said to them,

“Do not be afraid; for behold, I proclaim to you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. For today in the city of David a savior has been born for you who is Christ and Lord. And this will be a sign for you: you will find an infant wrapped in swaddling clothes and lying in a manger.” And suddenly there was a multitude of the heavenly host with the angel, praising God and saying:

*“Glory to God in the highest
and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests.”*

The Gospel of the Lord

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ

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Readings for December 25

8:00 am and 9:30 am

Page 49 in our missalette

The Nativity of the Lord at Dawn

First Reading

A reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah

See, the LORD proclaims

to the ends of the earth:

say to daughter Zion,

your savior comes!

Here is his reward with him,

his recompense before him.

They shall be called the holy people,

the redeemed of the LORD,

and you shall be called “Frequented,”

a city that is not forsaken.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm

R. A light will shine on us this day:

the Lord is born for us.

The LORD is king; let the earth rejoice;

let the many isles be glad.

The heavens proclaim his justice,

and all peoples see his glory.

R. A light will shine on us this day:

the Lord is born for us.

Light dawns for the just;

and gladness, for the upright of heart.

Be glad in the LORD, you just,

and give thanks to his holy name.

R. A light will shine on us this day:

the Lord is born for us.

Second Reading

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to Titus

Beloved:

When the kindness and generous love

of God our savior appeared,

not because of any righteous deeds we had done

but because of his mercy,

He saved us through the bath of rebirth

and renewal by the Holy Spirit,

whom he richly poured out on us

through Jesus Christ our savior,

so that we might be justified by his grace

and become heirs in hope of eternal life.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel

The Lord be with you.

And with your spirit.

A reading from the holy Gospel

according to Luke

When the angels went away from them to heaven, the shepherds said to one another, “Let us go, then, to Bethlehem to see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us.” So they went in haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the infant lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known the message that had been told them about this child. All who heard it were amazed by what had been told them by the shepherds. And Mary kept all these things, reflecting on them in her heart. Then the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, just as it had been told to them.

The Gospel of the Lord

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ





Diocese of Fall River
Office of the Bishop
Most Reverend Edgar M. da Cunha, S.D.V., D.D.

Bishop da Cunha's 2022 Christmas Message

Dear Friends in Christ,

In the Gospel account by Luke, an angel appears to the shepherds to announce the birth of Christ, saying: "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests" (Luke 2:14).

From that Gospel has come the oft-used phrase in Christmas cards and carols, "Peace on earth, goodwill toward men." Perhaps we have shared this as a greeting during the season. Although meant as a sincere sentiment, one longed to be brought to fruition, the world continues to live in darkness.

For centuries, God tried to bring people together to live in harmony. They would always return to evil, sin, division, and rejection of God. Finally, God sent His Son, Jesus, to become one of us and to show us, by word and deed, what God expects of us, and to show us how to live in love, peace, and harmony. The prophet Isaiah says, "For a Child is born to us, a Son is given to us; upon His shoulder dominion rests. They name Him Wonder-Counselor, God-Hero, Father-Forever, Prince of Peace" (Isaiah 9:5).

Yes, Jesus is the Prince of Peace; yet peace continues to elude us.

After 2000-plus years of Christianity, we live in a divided world confronting sin, evil, hatred, racism, injustice, and war. Because we have rejected the teaching of Jesus and the Word of God and have embraced a secularized way of life, we are facing these problems and seeing the suffering of so many people throughout the world.

I know we would all like to live in a world guided by justice, peace, harmony, and love. A world that is reflective of the light and peace of Jesus. The way to embrace the life God intends for us is to return to the Lord, listen to his Word, and follow his teachings. Otherwise, the world, each one of us, and especially the next generation, will pay a very high price.

My profound hope this Christmas is that hearts everywhere will be open to Jesus and that the gift of the peace of Christ will reign in our Diocese, in our country, and around our world. May harmony and understanding overcome discord and division wherever they exist.

In closing, let me assure you, my brothers and sisters in the Diocese of Fall River, that you have my heartfelt prayers and best wishes for a very happy, joyful, and Merry Christmas. May God bless you and your loved ones now and in the coming New Year.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Most Reverend Edgar M. da Cunha, S.D.V.
Bishop of Fall River

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