

Fourth Sunday of Lent

March 27, 2022



“My son,
**YOU ARE
HERE WITH
ME ALWAYS;
EVERYTHING
I HAVE
IS YOURS.”**

LUKE 15:31

©IPPC



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

Transfiguration of the Lord Parish

Rev. Rodney E. Thibault, J.C.L., Pastor

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. Charlotte Lourenco, 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 with Father Rodney. Please call the parish office to arrange a visit.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Adoration is offered on the 1st Tuesday of each month in Saint Mary Church, beginning at 9:00 am with Morning Prayer and ending at 6:00 pm with Evening Prayer and 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 on line 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

**Friday 7:00 pm Saint Mary Church*
during Lent**

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

MASS Intentions

March 27 -Fourth Sunday of Lent

Saturday **March 26**
 4:00 pm Herman William Lapointe

Sunday **March 27**
 8:00 am Robert Gilmore

Sunday **March 27**
 9:30 am Margaret & William Spadoni

Sunday **March 27**
 11:00 am Maura O’Heir Chapman

Monday **March 28**
 4:30 pm Adolph Soeldner

Tuesday **March 29**
 8:00 am Tony Giglio

Wednesday **March 30**
 4:30 pm

Thursday **March 31**
 8:00 am

Friday **April 1**
 7:00 pm

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April 3 -Fifth Sunday of Lent

Saturday **April 2**
 4:00 pm Joseph Maione

Sunday **April 3**
 8:00 am Catherine Lontok

Sunday **April 3**
 9:30 am Raymond, Jr., William & Richard Vandette

Sunday **April 3**
 11:00 am Leo J. Wagner & Dorothy Simon

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Please join us

Fridays during Lent in Saint Mary Church,
 Father Rodney will be available for
 Confessions from 6:00 – 6:25 pm
 Stations of the Cross will begin at 6:30 pm
 Mass will be celebrated at 7:00 pm

From Father Rodney

Writing to the Christian Community living in Corinth, Saint Paul reminds the Corinthians that the gift of reconciliation is a gift. Paul also reminds them (& us) that the gift of reconciliation is all in part because of the new life we have received in Jesus Christ. He writes, **“Brothers and sisters: Whoever is in Christ is a new creation: the old things have passed away; behold, new things have come. And all this is from God, who has reconciled us to himself through Christ and given us the ministry of reconciliation, namely, God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ, not counting our trespasses against them and entrusting to us the message of reconciliation. (2Cor 5: 17-19).**

As Easter rapidly approaches, we are called to think about the mercy of God as exercised in the Sacrament of Reconciliation. When was the last time you experienced it? Did you not feel liberated by the gift of forgiveness as you acknowledged your sins? I know that is what I try to focus on each and every time I confess my sins and hear those liberating words of pardon.

For the convenience of parishioners, I am available on the Friday evenings of Lent before Stations of the Cross and Mass so that those desirous of the gift of forgiveness have an additional option. I am also in the confessional Saturday afternoons or by appointment. You can always email me at: frodneyccna@gmail.com

Truly prepare yourself for the glory of the Resurrection by shedding yourself of your sins. A clean and pure heart makes it easier to forgive those who have wronged us.





Triduum and Easter Schedule



Holy Thursday
7:00PM at Sacred Heart Church
Mass of the Lord's Supper



Good Friday
3:00 PM at Saint Mark Church
Passion of the Lord

Good Friday
6:30 PM at Saint Mary Church
Stations of the Cross



Easter Vigil
8:00PM at Saint Mary Church
Easter Vigil



Easter Sunday morning
8:00 AM at Saint Mark Church
9:30 AM at Saint Mary Church
11:00 AM at Sacred Heart Church



Act of Consecration of Ukraine and Russia

God of peace and justice,
We pray for the people of Ukraine today.
We pray for peace and the laying down of weapons.
We pray for all those who fear for tomorrow,
that your Spirit of comfort would draw near to them.
We pray for those with power over war or peace,
for wisdom, discernment and compassion to guide their decisions.
Above all, we pray for all your precious children, at-risk and in fear,
that you would hold and protect them.
We pray in the name of Jesus, the Prince of Peace.
Amen.

Pray for Ukraine

Please join together in praying a decade (or more) of the Rosary daily for the people of Ukraine and Russia and for the end of the war. At the back of each of the churches in the Parish there is a blue binder with the Ukrainian colors on the front. If you feel led by the Holy Spirit to do so, please sign your name as a simple commitment to pray daily until the end of this crisis. Sometimes even as a people of God we can feel overwhelmed or powerless when we see the images coming out of Ukraine and hear about demonstrators in Russia being beaten and any independent news sources being shut down. We can lose heart. We often forget that we have the most powerful weapon of all... prayer and when we come together as a community there is real power. Thank you for taking a few moments out of your day to unite with the larger Catholic/Christian community to pray for an end to this crisis.



FAITH FORMATION

Director of Religious Education

Mrs. Elaine Corvese

508-695-3823

Please note new email address:

TransfigurationRelEd@gmail.com

Faith Formation classes for the remainder of the 2021 -2022 year are as follows:

First Grade: Tuesday, March 29th - 4:15 -5:30 pm
Saturday, April 2nd – 10:00 -11:15 am

Second Grade: Tuesday, March 29th- 4:15 -5:30 pm
Saturday, April 2nd – 10:00 -11:15 am

Eucharist Workshop will be held for all second grade students preparing for First Communion. Please attend the workshop offered during your regular class time

Tuesday, April 5th from 4:15 – 5:30 pm

Saturday, April 9 from 10:00 – 11:15 am

Grades 3, 4, and 5 workshops have been cancelled for March and April.

Sixth Grade: Monday, March 28th -6:30- 7:45 pm

Seventh Grade: Monday, April 4th -6:30 -7:45 pm



HOLY EUCHARIST

First Communion will be held on **Saturday, May 14, 2022, at Saint Mary Church,** groups as follows:

10:00 am for students with the last name A-J

1:00 pm for students with the last name K-Z.

Parish Contributions

Collection figures from March 12/13:

\$9,327.79

The figures from our collection for Ukraine will be available next weekend. Thank you!

Ministry Scheduling

The request for availability for the next ministry schedule (April 9/10 through June 18/19) has gone out. Please contact the office by 3.29 if you are unable to log in to Gabriel to enter your dates. You will receive a separate email this week asking for volunteers for Holy Week and Easter. Please contact Monica if you do not receive the email and would like to assist.



In Your Prayers

R. Brent Derick

Paul Briggs, Sr.

*Eternal rest grant unto our beloved dead,
O Lord.*

Let perpetual light shine upon them.

May they rest always in the loving arms of God

Scheduling Baptisms

Parents requesting the baptism of their child should be registered members of the parish who attend weekend Mass on a weekly basis. Baptisms are celebrated on Saturdays at 1:00 pm at 14 Park Street with a maximum of four families. Please contact Monica in the office via email (stmaryna@noozi.com) for more information and visit the parish website www.saintmaryna.com and click on the "Sacraments" tab for more detailed information.

What Are The Requirements To Be a Godparent or Sponsor? If you have been asked to be a godparent, requirements set by the Roman Catholic Church are as follows: You must be a confirmed Catholic, at least 16 years old, registered in a parish and practicing your faith by regular participation at Mass. If you are married, your marriage must be recognized as valid by the Church. If you are currently a member of Transfiguration of the Lord Parish and have been asked to be a godparent, please see Father Rodney after Mass. You may contact the office for more information.

Pope Francis

"Lent is a journey of healing, to live each day with a renewed spirit, a different "style". Prayer, charity and fasting are aids to this: they restore us to a living relationship with God, our brothers and sisters, and ourselves."

~March 18, 2022



Knights of Columbus

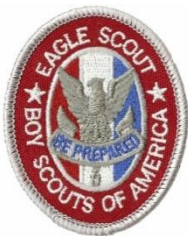
Council #330 of North Attleboro was founded over 120 years ago in 1898 and this Council has always represented the entire Catholic community of North Attleboro. Charity is our leading principle, and our focus is on providing support and assistance locally. We are looking for Catholic men to join our Council and help us support our community as our members have been doing since 1898. If you are interested in learning more about membership, please contact Jim Schromm, jim.schromm@verizon.net or (508) 643-3623.

Donation Statements

The 2021 year end tax reports are available for those parishioners using the budget envelope system. Please contact Monica in the office, email preferred, (stmaryna@noozi.com), if you would like your statement. You may also call (508-695-6161) and leave a message with your name and address. Letters can be mailed or emailed to you.

Benjamin Bonville's Eagle Project Diaper Drive

Benjamin Bonville, a Boy Scout in Troop 23 North Attleboro, is conducting his Eagle Project by running a Diaper Dive to serve to help the mothers and families of North Attleboro and Attleboro. All of the donations will be distributed to Abundant Hope Pregnancy Recourse Center. During the month of March, Benjamin and his fellow Scouts will be collecting diapers of any size. The Diaper Drive Eagle Project will runs through March 31st. Aware, that diapers are expensive, perhaps, you could share the cost with friends. There are pack 'n plays in the main entrance entrances of all churches for your donations continuing through the month of March. Scout Benjamin Bonville thanks you in advance for your generosity in support of his Eagle project.



Men's Group FOR LENT!

Join us next Saturday April 2 at St. John's in Attleboro. John Pridmore will speak on A Limitless Love, God's unending Mercy. Program starts at 7am and runs through 8:15am. Join us at 6:30am for a free breakfast!



Each week stands on its own so even if you can only make one week it will be worth it for you and us!



The Children's choir rehearsals are held at **Sacred Heart following the 11am mass until 1:30pm.** The children's choir will sing on Palm Sunday and Easter Sunday. (More information to follow regarding Mass times) Grade 1-6 and 7-12 are all welcome.

If you play an instrument, we also welcome you to join us! We are always looking for instrumentalists to enhance the liturgy. (String, brass, woodwind, drums/percussion, guitar, bass, piano, etc.) **For more information on either group, please see our music director, Nikkie Barton, after Mass or via e-mail at Transfigurationmusicdirector@gmail.com**

Bulletin Advertisers

Did you know, that we do not pay for the bulletins to be printed, or be available on line each week? Our parish bulletin company, John Patrick Publishing Co., sends us a check each year thanks to the revenue generated from businesses that advertise in our bulletin. We all know that businesses have been struggling during the pandemic, and we greatly appreciate the support of those companies and businesses that have devoted some of their funds to help our parish community. The next time you need some type of service, please take a look at the bulletin. Our vendors can be found in a link on the parish website, or physically on the bulletins. Thank you to those businesses that support us, and thank you for supporting them!

Readings for March 27

FIRST READING

A reading from the Book of Joshua

The LORD said to Joshua, “Today I have removed the reproach of Egypt from you.”

While the Israelites were encamped at Gilgal on the plains of Jericho, they celebrated the Passover on the evening of the fourteenth of the month. On the day after the Passover, they ate of the produce of the land in the form of unleavened cakes and parched grain. On that same day after the Passover, on which they ate of the produce of the land, the manna ceased. No longer was there manna for the Israelites, who that year ate of the yield of the land of Canaan.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

R. Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.

I will bless the LORD at all times;
his praise shall be ever in my mouth.
Let my soul glory in the LORD;
the lowly will hear me and be glad.

R. Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.

Glorify the LORD with me,
let us together extol his name.
I sought the LORD, and he answered me
and delivered me from all my fears.

R. Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.

Look to him that you may be radiant with
joy,
and your faces may not blush with
shame.

When the poor one called out, the LORD
heard,
and from all his distress he saved him.

R. Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.



SECOND READING

A reading from the second Letter of Saint Paul to the Corinthians

Brothers and sisters: Whoever is in Christ is a new creation: the old things have passed away; behold, new things have come. And all this is from God, who has reconciled us to himself through Christ and given us the ministry of reconciliation, namely, God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ, not counting their trespasses against them and entrusting to us the message of reconciliation. So we are ambassadors for Christ, as if God were appealing through us. We implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. For our sake he made him to be sin who did not know sin, so that we might become the righteousness of God in him.

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.

Tax collectors and sinners were all drawing near to listen to Jesus, but the Pharisees and scribes began to complain, saying, "This man welcomes sinners and eats with them." So to them Jesus addressed this parable: "A man had two sons, and the younger son said to his father, 'Father give me the share of your estate that should come to me.' So the father divided the property between them. After a few days, the younger son collected all his belongings and set off to a distant country where he squandered his inheritance on a life of dissipation. When he had freely spent everything, a severe famine struck that country, and he found himself in dire need. So he hired himself out to one of the local citizens who sent him to his farm to tend the swine. And he longed to eat his fill of the pods on which the swine fed, but nobody gave him any. Coming to his senses he thought, 'How many of my father's hired workers have more than enough food to eat, but here am I, dying from hunger. I shall get up and go to my father and I shall say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I no longer deserve to be called your son; treat me as you would treat one of your hired workers."' So he got up and went back to his father. While he was still a long way off, his father caught sight of

him, and was filled with compassion. He ran to his son, embraced him and kissed him. His son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you; I no longer deserve to be called your son.' But his father ordered his servants, 'Quickly bring the finest robe and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. Take the fattened calf and slaughter it. Then let us celebrate with a feast, because this son of mine was dead, and has come to life again; he was lost, and has been found.' Then the celebration began. Now the older son had been out in the field and, on his way back, as he neared the house, he heard the sound of music and dancing. He called one of the servants and asked what this might mean. The servant said to him, 'Your brother has returned and your father has slaughtered the fattened calf because he has him back safe and sound.' He became angry, and when he refused to enter the house, his father came out and pleaded with him. He said to his father in reply, 'Look, all these years I served you and not once did I disobey your orders; yet you never gave me even a young goat to feast on with my friends. But when your son returns who swallowed up your property with prostitutes, for him you slaughter the fattened calf.' He said to him, 'My son, you are here with me always; everything I have is yours. But now we must celebrate and rejoice, because your brother was dead and has come to life again; he was lost and has been found.'"

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ

Fourth Sunday of Lent

What is Laetare Sunday?

The day's theme comes from the entrance antiphon reflecting on Isaiah 66:10-11: "Rejoice, Jerusalem, and all who love her. Be joyful, all who were in mourning; exalt and be satisfied at her consoling breast."

Laetare is the first word — meaning "rejoice" — in the Latin text. On Laetare Sunday (as similarly with the Third Sunday of Advent's Gaudete Sunday) the Church expresses hope and joy in the midst of our Lenten fasts and penances. Call it pink — or, more fittingly, rose — this change in color indicates a glimpse of the joy that awaits us at Easter, just before we enter into the somber days of Passiontide.

The joy of Easter being around the corner is symbolized in a few other interesting liturgical possibilities. During Lent, the General Instruction of the Roman Missal forbids flowers adorning the altar. But on Laetare Sunday (as well as solemnities and feasts within the season), there's a temporary halt to these penitential observations! I remember well decking out the altar with pink roses on that day when I was once a parish liturgy director.

At one time, marriages were generally forbidden during Lent, but Laetare Sunday was often associated as a day when marriages could be celebrated during the penitential season. While marriages are now only forbidden on Good Friday and Holy Saturday, Laetare Sunday is still a fitting day for those wishing to be married before Eastertide.

Laetare Sunday is the Church's way of giving us a "shot in the arm" as we approach the darkness and horror of the days through Good Friday and Holy Saturday. It's an opportunity to savor and keep in the back of our minds what awaits us on Easter Sunday — the reality that Jesus Christ is risen from the dead, and that our hearts will always be filled with joy!

Being aware of traditions and customs assists us in celebrating the beauty of our faith. As you can see, there is much associated with even a nondescript day like the Fourth Sunday of Lent — not to mention the rest of the season, or the 50 days of Easter and beyond. Take advantage of the richness of our Catholic traditions.

With permission - Michael R. Heinlein editor of Simply Catholic.

Laetare Sunday What is it all about?



Treasures from Our Traditions

Today, "Laetare Sunday," breaks the somberness of Lent for a little rejoicing, and the readings all summon us to an awareness of reconciliation. One of the best-loved stories of our tradition is today's Gospel story of the runaway son and the prodigal father. Prodigal, of course, is an adjective meaning "spendthrift or extravagant to a degree bordering on recklessness," and although the boy maxes out the credit cards, it is really the father who is prodigal with forgiveness.

Part of the excitement of this Laetare Sunday is rooted in the ancient catechumenate. Long ago, midway through Lent, the "elect" were focusing more and more on the gift of reconciliation accomplished for them by Christ and about to be realized in the Easter sacraments they were preparing to celebrate. In some places, the elect were even bedecked with roses on this day. A person bedecked with roses sticks out in a crowd; a person formed by the Eucharist and committed to living a life of reconciliation does, too. That's you!

—James Field, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

