



## St. Mary's Parish



#### **Mass Schedule:**

Monday through Friday 9:00 AM

Saturday Vigils 5:00 PM 7:30 PM

Sunday

7:30 AM

9:30 AM Family Mass (C.L.O.W. Sept. – May) 11:30 AM Sung Mass

Holy Days: As announced

#### **Adoration Schedule:**

First Fridays from 9:30-10:30 AM and as announced.

### Our Mission: "To know Christ and to make Him known."

8 Church St., Holliston, MA 01746 Website: www.stmarysholliston.com Email Address: St.marys1870@gmail.com Rectory Phone: (508) 429 - 4427 Religious Education Phone: (508) 429 - 6076

Dear Visitors: Welcome! We are delighted that you chose to worship with us this day. Please introduce yourself to the priest, and if you are interested in becoming a member of the parish then please register through our website or by calling the rectory. Please also be aware that for generations it has been the custom at St. Mary's to kneel together for a silent Hail Mary at the end of Mass. Please join in!

**Confession:** Saturdays from Noon to 12:45 PM, or by appointment.

Anointing of the Sick: Any time by appointment. Please call as soon as you are aware of a serious illness or upcoming surgery.

**Baptism:** The 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of each month. To register for Baptism Preparation call 429-4427.

Marriage: Please call at least 6 months in advance of your desired wedding date. Congratulations!

#### 2023 ST. MARY'S PARISH GRAND ANNUAL UPDATE

"What return can I make to the Lord for all He has done for me?" Psalm 116

2023 Grand Annual goal to cover operating expenses: \$150,000.00

Grand Annual parishioner support received to date: - \$103,766.00

Parishioner support still needed to reach 2023 Grand Annual goal: \$ 46,234.00

% of 2023 Grand Annual achieved to date:

% of St. Mary's families who have now made their Grand Annual gift:

70 %

As the Grand Annual continues, contributions may be placed either in the gold G.A. envelope you received in the mail, or in a separate envelope clearly marked "Grand Annual." G.A. envelopes may be mailed to 8 Church Street or dropped through the Rectory Office Door Mail-slot. Any collection basket passed at Mass may also be used.

As explained in the special mailing to all parishioners, the \$150,000 goal will fund staff salaries, the Sister Ricci House bathroom renovations and the two Church Boiler Pumps, which currently are leaking. Your generous support will assure the financial health of our parish continues.

Thank you for your support of this most important annual collection!

#### **PARISH STAFF:**

Rev. Mark J. Coiro, Pastor
The Xaverian Fathers, Weekend Assistance
Deacon John D. Barry, Permanent Deacon
Deacon Ronald A. Dowding, Permanent Deacon
Deacon Martin Breinlinger, Senior Deacon
Mrs. Fran Crespi, D.R.E., Grades K-7
Mr. Sean Jacobs, D.R.E., Grades 8-10, Youth Minister
Ms. Abigail Kelley-Lanser, Organist, Director of Music
Mrs. Mary Beth Harris, Parish Secretary
Mrs. Jennifer Burgett, Religious Education Secretary
Ms. Mary Sanning, Business Manager
Mrs. Najat Whalen, Sacristan
Mr. Billy Hanson, Parish Facilities
R & R Landscaping, Cemetery Care
CECOND COLLECTION LACT WEEKEND.

#### SECOND COLLECTION LAST WEEKEND:

Retired Women Religious \$4,448.25. Thank you.

#### LAST SUNDAY'S PARISH OFFERTORY:

End Series	
Automatic Giving:	\$ 5,625.50
WeShare:	\$ 3,143.00

Offertory Envelopes Dropped/mailed

to the office: \$ 6,680.00 Total Offertory: \$ 15,448.50

Thank you for making up any missed weekly parish support. The fiscal health of your parish depends on it. God bless you!

#### **MASS INTENTIONS:**

Saturday	November 25
5:00	Eleanor Budra, 40 <sup>th</sup> Anv.
7:30	John and Helen Shannahan
Sunday	November 26
7:30	People of St. Mary's
9:30	St. Mary's Altar Servers
11:30	Joseph, Esther and Cathy McCarron
Monday	November 27
9:00	Holy Souls in Purgatory
Tuesday	November 28
9:00	Frank and Olga Proto
Wednesday	November 29
9:00	Speros Lourandos
Thursday	November 30
9:00	Agrippina Bender, 21 <sup>st</sup> Anv.
Friday	December 1
9:00	Fr. Issa & the People of our Sister
	Parish, Our Lady of Fatima, Beit Sahour
Saturday	December 2
5:00	Donald Cotton
7:30	People of St. Mary's
Sunday	December 3
7:30	Stephen Fogarty, 34th Anv.
9:30	William Reynolds, 22 <sup>nd</sup> Anv.
11:30	Thomas Brady

**THE ROSE FOR LIFE:** Is sponsored this week by the Kevin Reilly Family. Please join them in prayer for an unborn child. To sponsor the Rose for Life for 2024 please call 429-4427.



Dear Members of the St. Mary's Parish Family,

To see the face of God is our ultimate goal and aspiration as human beings. St. Paul says that "now we see as through a glass darkly," but that in the life to come "we shall see Him face to face and in His light see light and know the splendor of God forever." The thought of spending all eternity looking upon God's face might seem rather less than exciting, until we remember that to see God is to see all truth, all possibility, all that has ever been or could be.

Dante captured this perfectly in his image of the "Heavenly Rose," wherein are ranked like petals in a flower all the holy saints and angels of God. Describing the angels, Dante says, "These beings, since their first bliss in the sight of God's face, in which all things are revealed, have never turned their eyes from their delight." (Paradiso, Canto XXIX)

Although we long for the day when the beatific vision will be ours, today Christ reminds us that we are to seek Him on earth always in the faces of those who are poor or suffering. "Whatsoever you do to the least of these, you do unto me..." (Matthew 25:40).

So often Saint Mother Theresa spoke of seeking Jesus "in His most distressing disguise," an invitation to recognize our Savior's face in the faces of those very persons to whom we may find it most difficult to relate. We may never perfectly see Jesus' face in this life, but we touch Him nonetheless whenever we give, forgive, lift up, or otherwise embrace in love our fellow human beings.

That is why I am so very proud and grateful for the response of our parishioners to the Cardinal's Emergency Winter Clothing Drive for Immigrants and Refugees. Your generosity was truly tremendous, as seen by the following list of items. Many different kinds of donations were made, but they all have this in common – they are destined for the Lord. They are gifts to the Lord. And the Lord will not forget your kindness to Him in His time of need. In His own words, "I was naked and you clothed me." (Matthew 25:36).

God bless you!

Rev. Mark J. Coiro



- 319 Winter Coats
- 42 Pairs of Boots
- 751 Toothbrushes
- 269 Tubes of Toothpaste
- 498 Pairs of Socks
- 302 Bars of Soap
- 1,353 Diapers
- 88 Deodorant Sticks
- 22 Bottles of Mouthwash
- 6 Combs
- 154 Bottles of Shampoo
- Washcloths
- 49 Boxes of Kleenex
- 121 Pairs of Gloves
- 41 Pairs of Sneakers
- 305 Sweaters / Sweatshirts
- 93 Pairs of Pants
- 184 Hats
- 12 Blankets
- 142 Pairs of Pajamas
- 52 Scarves/Shawls
- 20 Snow Pants

# FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT ~ DONUTS, JUICE & COFFEE

The Welcoming Committee invites all parishioners and their families to stop into Fr. Haley Hall after the 9:30 AM Mass <u>next Sunday</u>, <u>December 3</u>, for donuts, juice and coffee! Two members of the Parish Pastoral Council will be attending and welcome any comments or ideas you have for St. Mary's. Join us!

#### **UPSTAIRS CLOW**

Next Sunday, December 3, the Children's Liturgy of the Word will take place in the main church at the 9:30 AM Mass. Happy Advent!





**ADVENT IS COMING NEXT SUNDAY!** Advent, the start of a New Year in the Church, starts next Sunday, December 3. Beginning the Church's liturgical year, Advent (from, "ad-venire" in Latin or "to come to") is the season encompassing the four Sundays (and weekdays) leading up to the celebration of Christmas. The Advent season is a time of preparation that directs our hearts and minds to Christ's second coming at the end of time and to the anniversary of Our Lord's birth on Christmas.

From the earliest days of the Church, people have been fascinated by Jesus' promise to come back. But the scripture readings during Advent tell us not to waste our time with predictions. Advent is not about speculation. Our Advent readings call us to be alert and ready, not weighted down and distracted by the cares of this world (Lk 21:34-36). Like Lent, the liturgical color for Advent is purple since both are seasons that prepare us for great feast days. Advent also includes an element of penance in the sense of preparing, quieting, and disciplining our hearts for the full joy of Christmas. Read below to learn about the many spiritual offerings at St. Mary's during this season of preparation for the Coming of the Lord!

#### FEAST OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION ~ A HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION:

Thursday, December 7 Vigil Mass at 6:30 PM. Friday, December 8 Feast Day Masses at 9 AM and 7 PM. The Immaculate Conception is that sacred moment when Mary was conceived in her mother Anna's womb and specially protected by God from any touch of original sin. In this way, Mary became the new Eve, a new beginning for the human race and a pure vessel to receive the Son of God and bear Him into the world. This is the Patronal Feast of the United States of America, a nation consecrated to Mary under her title as the Immaculate Conception.



GIVE A GIFT: December 9 and 10 at all Masses. Once again, we ask the people of St. Mary's to help make Christmas truly a season of sharing. All items go to needy families in Boston, and are distributed through two inner city Catholic parishes. Please bring an article of new clothing and a new toy, unwrapped together in a plain bag or gift bag with a tag stating "Boy" or "Girl" and size or age up to age 18. No adult gifts please. Kindly place your gift in front of St. Mary's altar at any Mass the weekend of December 9 and 10. Gift bags only please.

**COOKIE WALK FOR HAITI:** December 9 and 10, after all Weekend Masses. Long rows of tables will be set up in the Lower Church Hall – tables

loaded down with over 2,000 delicious homemade cookies baked by St. Mary's Middle School Youth Group Members. For \$6, you may purchase an empty cookie bag, then "walk" down the rows of tables and select a dozen cookies which youths (wearing plastic gloves) will place in your bag. All proceeds will benefit the poor of Haiti, a deeply impoverished nation recently rocked by a presidential assassination, a major earthquake, and a hurricane.

**ADVENT ADORATION WITH CONFESSION:** Every Monday of Advent, December 4, 11, and 18, from 7 - 8 PM. Bring your day to a restful end by basking in the True Presence of our Eucharistic Lord. Clear and quiet your soul from all that has come between you and God by making a good Confession – especially if it has been awhile. Confession is a healing encounter with Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of sins. The Lord's mercy, healing, and grace are given to us through this encounter. In it Jesus also strengthens us to resist future or ongoing temptation. The Sacrament of Confession is a moment of accountability for us before the Lord. The Lord's forgiveness and mercy is infinite. Nothing

we have done can ever separate us from experiencing God's forgiveness through this sacrament. Confession will also continue to be offered on Saturdays in the church from Noon to 12:45 PM, except on December 23 when Confessions will not be heard.

**THE LIVING STONES OF BETHLEHEM:** Tuesday, December 12, from 7 - 8 PM in the church. Come learn more about Bethlehem, and the "Living Stones of the Church," the Christians who live there today. The presentation will include slides and stories from our Parish Visit to Beit Sahour last March. We will also pray for peace in the Holy Land. Photo Right: Fr. Issa, Pastor of our Sister Parish.





LESSONS & CAROLS: Sunday. December 17, from 5 - 6 PM in the church. Join us for an evening of beautiful music and scripture, anticipating the wondrous birth of our Lord Jesus. This year's Lessons and Carols will feature St. Mary's Adult Choir under the direction of Abbev Kelley-Lanser. The program will include familiar carols as well as choral music by Victoria, Willcocks, Praetorius, and more. Our organist will be Brandon Santini who will offer a recital from 4:30 – 5 PM. Bring the whole family and fill your Christmas preparations with plenty of holiday cheer!

MIDDLE SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP MEETING: Our next Meeting is <u>next Sunday, December 3</u> from 6:30 – 8 PM in the Parish Center. There will be faith, friendship, fun, and signups for the December 15 Caroling, Pizza Party, Christmas Lights Trip. Friday, January 5, 7 PM, Celtics vs Utah Jazz payments are also due tonight. Any and all 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> Graders are invited. Bring a friend!



**TGIF** (Teens Gather In Faith): Awesome job prepping the Winter Clothing donations last Sunday! We next Gather in Faith on Sunday, December 10 from 7 - 8:30 PM in Fr. Haley Hall. Enjoy a Christmas Party and begin to experience the joy and meaning of the Savior's Birth. Parents are invited from 8 - 8:30 PM for the "big" Mississippi Mission Trip presentation with Q & A. All Mission Forms will be passed out tonight.

**SAINT QUOTE FOR OUR YOUTH:** "Dear young people, like the first disciples, follow Jesus! Do not be afraid to draw near to him, to cross the threshold of his dwelling, to speak with him, face to face, as you talk with a friend (cf. Ex 33:11). Do not be afraid of the "new life" he is offering."

- Pope Saint John Paul II

WINGS (Women in God's Spirit): WINGS is a ministry of encouragement and enrichment for women of all ages who seek to deepen their faith and grow in relationship with God and one another. We have successfully concluded our Fall 2023 In Person and Virtual Season "Prayer – A Conversation with God." To view these recorded presentations visit our WINGS webpage <a href="https://stmarysholliston.com/women-in-gods-spirit-w-i-n-g-s/">https://stmarysholliston.com/women-in-gods-spirit-w-i-n-g-s/</a>. Watch for details on our Winter Season starting in mid-January. For additional information about the WINGS ministry, please call Jen Schiller at 617-852-9632 or Diane Collins at 508-259-7795 or visit our webpage <a href="https://stmarysholliston.com/women-in-gods-spirit-w-i-n-g-s/">https://stmarysholliston.com/women-in-gods-spirit-w-i-n-g-s/</a>. To register for WINGS, email <a href="mailto:stmaryswingssecretary@gmail.com">stmaryswingssecretary@gmail.com</a>.

**ST. MARY'S MARRIAGE FELLOWSHIP:** Join St. Mary's Marriage Fellowship on Sunday, December 3 for a family-based service project making holiday crafts for the Holliston Senior Center. Drop by for an afternoon of fun in the Lower Church from 2 - 5 PM. Children are very welcome. Come for as long as you're able! RSVP to <a href="mailto:stmarysmarriagefellowship@gmail.com">stmarysmarriagefellowship@gmail.com</a>.

WHAT IS THE ROSE FOR LIFE? In every Sunday bulletin you see the name of an individual or family who has sponsored the "Rose for Life" that week. This tradition began at St. Mary's twenty-seven years ago. The cost of sponsoring the rose is \$10. Part of this goes to purchase a single rose which is placed in front of the statue of Mary in our church every Saturday morning, remaining there all week as a visible reminder to please pray for the health and safety of unborn children.

The rest of the offering is given to the Pregnancy Help Program of the Archdiocese of Boston, a beautiful ministry that assists individuals in crisis pregnancies. Pregnancy Help offers free and confidential counseling, referrals and assistance on a wide range of medical, social service, housing and financial issues. Many women come to Pregnancy Help feeling totally alone, isolated and abandoned by family, friends and partners. Others have some support but they are confused and frightened about what to do. Whatever a particular woman's situation might be, Pregnancy Help provides a safe place where she can come, speak from her heart and find the support she needs.



Each year, Pregnancy Help assists more than 350 new clients at their two locations in Brighton and Natick. All their services are free and confidential. Pregnancy Help is staffed by nurses and bilingual caseworkers who have been trained to offer a wide range of support. Their services extend through all stages of pregnancy, from pregnancy testing through delivery and into the postpartum period. Clients range in age from high school students to women in their 40's. Services are offered in English, Spanish and Portuguese. More information at: http://www.pregnancyhelpboston.org/

**BOOK OF REMEMBRANCE:** Through the month of November, traditionally referred to as the "Month of the Holy Souls" the Book of Remembrance will be in front of the Baptismal Font and Easter Candle in the church. You are invited to write the names of your own departed loved ones in the book. Their intentions will then be included in all the Masses celebrated at St. Mary's during November. May God welcome them into the light and perfect peace of His presence.

today!

**HOLLISTON PANTRY SHELF HELP:** Regular coffee, peanut butter, jelly, sugar, ketchup, mayonnaise, Chunky Soup, cookies, canned turkey/chicken, canned fruits, pasta sauce, canned tomatoes, toilet paper and cake and brownie mixes. Donations may be dropped off in the bin by the main parking lot entrance.

**TO THE FRIENDS OF GINNY EVANS:** It was with much thought and prayer and a heavy heart that we decided to put our mom in a Nursing Home. But it also gives us peace of mind to know she is safe and cared for. We know she would love to get a card or phone call or even a visit if you are in the area. Ginny Evans, Oak Knoll Health Care Center, 9 Arbetter Drive, Rm. 224B, Framingham, MA 01701, 508-877-3300.

**NEWSLETTER COLLATING <u>TOMORROW</u>**: Please join us this Monday, November 27 starting at 9:30 AM in Father Haley Hall to assist in our collating of the December / Advent Newsletter. All are welcome and needed!



Christ the King Sunday, the final Sunday of the Liturgical year, is a feast day that focuses on the authority of Christ. While the problems our world faces today differ from the particular events that inspired Pope Pius XI to establish this feast in the 1920s, his message and call to honor Christ the King in a society that denies the authority of Our Lord is no less pertinent now than it was then.

#### **History of the Feast**

The Solemnity of Christ the King is a newer feast in the Catholic Church; it was established by Pope Pius XI in 1925. The pontiff was witness to a turbulent time

in the world's history. Secularism was on the rise and dangerous dictatorships were emerging in Europe and beyond. Christ had long been referred to as King, but Pope Pius and the Christian faithful saw the respect and reverence for Christ's authority waning in the midst of the unrest during the first part of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. In response, the feast was set with the intent to reaffirm and refocus faith and respect in the kingship of Jesus. On the importance of the public world recognizing the kingly authority of Jesus, Pope Pius XI wrote:

"When once men recognize, both in private and in public life, that Christ is King, society will at last receive the great blessings of real liberty, well-ordered discipline, peace and harmony. Our Lord's regal office invests the human authority of princes and rulers with a religious significance; it ennobles the citizen's duty of obedience.

Further, if princes and magistrates duly elected are filled with the persuasion that they rule, not by their own right, but by the mandate and in the place of the Divine King, they will exercise their authority piously and wisely, and they will make laws and administer them, having in view the common good and also the human dignity of their subjects. The result will be a stable peace and tranquility, for there will be no longer any cause of discontent."

Pope Pius XI was hoping for these effects to occur:

That nations would see that the Church has the right to religious freedom.

That leaders and nations would see that they are bound to give respect to Christ.

That the faithful would gain strength and courage from the celebration of the feast, as we are reminded that Christ must reign in our hearts, minds, wills, and bodies.

The feast was initially fixed to the final day of October, the day before All Saints Day. Later, in 1969, Pope Paul VI moved the feast to the last Sunday before Advent, to emphasize the importance of the feast. This is fitting within the Church year. The liturgical year begins with Advent, the season of awaiting the coming of Christ, and now the year ends with celebrating the Kingship of Christ.

#### History of the Title "Christ the King"

While the feast is relatively new, the tradition of calling Christ "King" is not. Jesus is referred to as King throughout the New Testament: *To the King of ages, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory for ever and ever. Amen* – 1 Tim 1:17

Nathan'a-el answered him, "Rabbi, you are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!" – John 1:49

Now Jesus stood before the governor; and the governor asked him, "Are you the King of the Jews?" Jesus said, "You have said so." – Mt. 27:11

And this will be made manifest at the proper time by the blessed and only Sovereign, the King of kings and Lord of lords. – 1 Tim 6:15

And they sing the song of Moses, the servant of God, and the song of the Lamb, saying, "Great and wonderful are thy deeds, O Lord God the Almighty! Just and true are thy ways, O King of the ages!" – Rev. 15:3

And from Jesus Christ the faithful witness, the first-born of the dead, and the ruler of kings on earth. To him who loves us and has freed us from our sins by his blood. – Rev. 1:5

On his robe and on his thigh he has a name inscribed, King of kings and Lord of lords. – Rev. 19:16

Clearly "King" was one of the earliest titles given to the Son of God. The title does not refer to a status of an earthly king, which many of the Jews had been expecting – someone to overthrow the Roman rule and be earthly king of the Israelites. Rather He came to be the spiritual king; His kingdom is in heaven, not confined to the earth alone. In respecting the name of Christ the King, and in celebrating the yearly feast, both citizens and leaders are to remain reverent and devoted to the higher authority of Christ.

CLOW - CHILDREN K-6: CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD: Today, Sunday, November 26, the children will be dismissed from the main church with a Leader to the lower church hall to listen and learn what Jesus teaches us in the Gospel reading. Younger children are welcome but must be accompanied by their parents and be able to sit and engage in the lesson.

#### RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASSES THIS WEEK

DAY	GRADE	GRADE
Sun., Nov. 26	NO CLASSES	
Mon., Nov. 27	GR-2 at 4:30 PM*	
Tues., Nov. 28	GR-2 at 4:30 PM*	GR-5 at 4:00 PM
	GR-6 at 4:00 PM	GR-6 at 5:00 PM
	GR-10 at 7:00 PM	
Wed, Nov. 29	GR-2 at 4:30 PM*	GR-7 at 6:00 PM
Thur., Nov. 30	GR-4 at 4:00 PM	GR-5 at 4:00 PM
	GR-10 at 7:00 PM	
Sun., Dec. 3	Pre-K at 9:15 AM	GR-1 at 8:10 AM
	GR-4 at 10:45 AM	GR-5 at 10:45 AM

#### PLEASE HELP FILL OUR MONITOR NEEDS

**BELOW:** Contact us at 508-429-6076 if you can monitor a session. We need your help!

**GR-2 & 3: 1 Monitor** - alt. Sun. 10:45 AM - 12:15 PM **GR-4 & 5: 1 Monitor** - alt. Sun. 10:45 AM - 12:15 PM

**GR-4 & 5: 1 Monitor** - alt. Thurs. 4:00 - 5:30 PM

GR-6: 1 Monitor - alt. Sun. 4:00 - 5:30 PM

#### **CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS NATIVITY:**

Christmas Nativity rehearsal dates are Saturday 12/3, 12/9, and 12/16 from 9 - 10 AM. Parents are to bring their children to Fr. Haley Hall and check in with Deb Frey and the adult volunteers for their children's roles.

#### **GRADE 2 FIRST PENANCE REVIEW SESSIONS:**

Grade 2 children will have a review session for the Sacrament of Penance on Monday, Nov. 27 for the Sunday 8:10 AM classes; on Tues., Nov. 28, for the Sunday 10:45 AM classes; and on Wed., Nov. 29 for the Wednesday classes. If your child was unable to attend the October Inscription Mass please bring your child to the Penance review by 4:15 PM for a Mini-Inscription.

#### **GRADE 2 FIRST PENANCE SERVICE DATES**

**AND TIMES:** Our second grade children will be offered the Sacrament of Penance on Friday, December 1 at 6:30 PM and on Saturday, December 2 at 10:30 AM. Parents must check in their children fifteen minutes before the Penance Service begins by entering the Washington Street front entrance doors only. Please keep all the children in your prayers.

**CONFIRMATION I AND II:** Grade 10 classes meet on Tuesday, November 28 and Thursday, November 30 from 7:00 - 8:30 PM. Please check into Fr. Haley Hall.

#### PROTECTING GOD'S CHILDREN TRAINING

WORKSHOP: All new volunteers in any capacity and ministry must take the Protecting God's Children (PGC) Training. Please check our bulletin each week for the newly scheduled PGC Workshops.

Participants must pre-register for a session. Here's how: "Go to www.Virtusonline.org. Click on "First-time Registrant" and select "Boston, MA (Archdiocese)" as your organization. You will have to create a VIRTUS log-in before proceeding to register. Follow the prompts after this."

CORI RENEWAL ALERT: All active and new volunteers (18+ years) must have a completed 2024 CORI form on file in our office to serve in a ministry. Volunteer renewals may submit a copy of driver's license, along with signed/completed CORI form and email directly to <a href="mailto:st.marysre1870@gmail.com">st.marysre1870@gmail.com</a> for processing. New volunteers must have information verified in person by any staff member. Please note: If a FY2023 form has already been submitted, we do not need another.

#### **ADVENT WREATHS AND CANDLES:**

On Sunday, December 3, the Church enters the Liturgical season of Advent.

One of the symbols used in the Church

today is the Advent wreath. Many families light their Advent Candles before their evening meal and pray together. Advent wreaths with a brass candle holder are \$15.00 each and a set of Advent candles is \$6.00. These items will be available on Sunday, December 3 in the Center Lobby after the 9:30 AM & 11:30 AM Masses.

#### **GRADES 5 AND 7 COORDINATORS ARE STILL**

**NEEDED:** Please contact Fran Crespi if you are interested and able to help. Training is provided. Please call 508-429-6076 or <a href="mailto:st.marysdre1870@gmail.com">st.marysdre1870@gmail.com</a>.

Please note that R.E. Coordinators are responsible for guiding and assisting both teachers and students in growing in their relationship with Christ and His Church. Since this is done best by example, all parish coordinators are required to be regularly practicing members of the St. Mary's Worshipping Community.

#### GRADE 2 TEACHER / COORDINATOR

**MEETING:** On Thursday, December 7 at 7:30 PM, the Grade 2 teachers will meet in Room 3-4 for the second semester, to prepare classes for the children to learn about receiving their First Holy Communion.