



# 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 Choir Mass

Holy Days: Announced

## Adoration Schedule:

First Fridays, 9:30 – 10:30 AM

## Our Mission:

*“To know Christ and to make Him known.”*

8 Church St., Holliston, MA 01746  
Website: [www.stmarysholliston.com](http://www.stmarysholliston.com)  
Email Address: [St.marys1870@gmail.com](mailto: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!

## Confessions:

Saturdays, 12 - 12:45 PM  
**No Confessions Dec. 23**

**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.

# WHAT HAPPENS WHEN THE 4<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY OF ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS EVE ARE THE SAME DAY?

## WE ATTEND MASS TWICE ...

The Sunday Mass Obligation for the Weekend of Saturday, December 23 and Sunday, December 24 remains. The 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent is a distinct and essential part of our spiritual journey to Christmas, even though Christmas Eve is that same Sunday afternoon.

**This year Catholics should therefore plan to attend Mass either Saturday Afternoon or Sunday Morning for the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent, *in addition* to whatever Christmas Mass they attend.**



Those who attend Mass twice on Sunday - in the morning for Advent and then later that day for Christmas - are permitted to receive Communion twice in the same day.

God bless you!

# The Fourth Sunday of Advent

## Saturday, December 23

5 PM George Smith and  
Donna LaRosa  
7:30 PM Vasco, Pauline, David and  
Wayne Brovelli

## Sunday, December 24

7:30 AM Patricia Hern  
9:30 AM Jim Baker  
11:30 AM People of St. Mary's

## Christmas Eve Masses

### Also Sunday, December 24

4 PM Mass in the Church  
4 PM Mass in Fr. Haley Hall  
(Children's Pageant)  
5:30 PM Mass in the Church  
7:30 PM Mass in the Church  
11 PM Midnight Mass in the Church  
(Caroling starts at 10:30 PM)

## Monday, December 25 Christmas Day Masses

9:30 AM Mass in the Church  
11:30 AM Mass in the Church



## 2023 CHRISTMAS COLLECTION

The 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 people of the Archdiocese of Boston. Thank you.

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

In the final days before Christmas, many of us have been rushing to purchase our final presents. Let us remember that the joy and hope brought to us by Christ is the most valuable gift any of us can possess. It is a gift we share with others by witnessing Christ's own love in our lives. At this time of year, however, that witness is well partnered with a more overt invitation to the Lord. Many "lapsed" Catholics mention that when they stopped practicing the faith, it seemed that no one missed them or even noticed. Those who returned to Mass, often cite the fact that someone invited them back.

Christmas is a feast that celebrates all that is true and best in our life as Church. It is a moment of hope, a moment of new beginnings, and a time when even the most cynical, angry, and hardened of hearts often soften a little before the love of Christ. Christ came to invite all of us to follow Him along the royal road of the Cross and into the House of the Father. I hope that during these last hours of Advent many of you will join Christ in extending an invitation to others. I have been at St. Mary's long enough to know that the Father dwells here. His Spirit is very much alive here. And those you invite to Christmas Mass with you, may find something here that turns out to be their most precious Christmas gift of all.

God bless you!

P.S. Something fun for the kids on the next page!



# Santa's Prayer on Christmas Eve

By Warren D. Jennings

The sleigh was all packed, the reindeer were fed,  
But Santa still knelt by the side of the bed.

"Dear Father," he prayed "Be with me tonight.  
There's much work to do and my schedule is tight.

I must jump in my sleigh and streak through the sky,  
Knowing full well that a reindeer can't fly.

I will visit each household before the first light,  
I'll cover the world and all in one night.

With sleigh bells a-ringing, I'll land on each roof,  
Amid the soft clatter of each little hoof.

To get in the house is the difficult part,  
So I'll slide down the chimney of each child's heart.

My sack will hold toys to grant all their wishes.  
An endless supply, like the loaves and the fishes.

I will fill all the stockings and not leave a track.  
I'll eat every cookie that is left for my snack.

I can do all these things Lord, only through You,  
I just need your blessing, then it's easy to do.

All this is to honor the birth of the One,  
That was sent to redeem us, Your most Holy Son.

So to all of my friends, lest Your glory I rob,  
Please Lord, remind them who gave me this job."