

*But for you who fear my name,
there will arise the sun of justice
with its healing rays.*

Malachi 3:20



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 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 2nd & 4th 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!

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
 Mrs. Lisa Dufault, High School 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

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday November 15
 5:00 Thomas Fleming
 7:30 Holy Souls
Sunday November 16
 7:30 People of St. Mary's
 9:30 Jack Cashman
 11:30 Rev. Robert Butler
Monday November 17
 9:00 Roy Salvi
 11:00 Funeral ~ Nancy C. Hoye
Tuesday November 18
 9:00 Paul T. Shea
Wednesday November 19
 9:00 Vincent Scaduto, 39th Anv.
Thursday November 20
 9:00 Orlando Espinol
*At this Mass we also rejoice to celebrate the Baptism, First Communion, and Confirmation of our new sister, **Olivia Catullo**. Please keep her in prayer these last few days of preparation!*
Friday November 21
 9:00 Joe Fernandes
Saturday November 22
 5:00 Jacqui Rossini
 7:30 Carmen Chiango
Sunday November 23
 7:30 People of St. Mary's
 9:30 John Stefanov
 11:30 Deceased Members of the Knights of Columbus




MONDAY MORNING NEWSLETTER

COLLATING: Please join us tomorrow, Monday, November 17, anytime from 9:30 AM to 1:00 PM in Fr. Haley Hall to assist in our collating of the Special Advent Newsletter. All are welcome and needed!

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS NATIVITY: Families with Grade 1 - 4 children have been sent a sign-up form by email inviting their children to take a role in the Christmas Nativity pageant at the 4:00 PM Vigil Mass on Christmas Eve. Rehearsals are scheduled for Saturday 12/6, 12/13 and 12/20 at 9 AM. Registration forms must be received by Monday, November 24 by snail mail to the address on the form, or you may email it to: Special.Innkeeper1224@gmail.com. Let us adore Him!

"Lord, grant me the grace to love You so perfectly that I may fear nothing but to offend You."

– St. Teresa of Ávila



STEWARDSHIP
Managing God's Gifts To Us

2025 Grand Annual Kick Off!

The Grand Annual is the single most important collection for our parish each year. Combined with the weekly offertory, it allows St. Mary's to cover her operating costs. Please carefully review the Grand Annual information provided by the Finance Council and **return the gold Grand Annual envelope you receive in the mail as soon as possible.** ★ **If you have not received yours yet, please write your envelope number on one of the extra Grand Annual Envelopes provided at the doors. Thank you!**

* Gold Grand Annual Envelopes may be mailed in, dropped off through the Rectory Office Door Mail-slot, or placed in the collection baskets at Mass. Please keep Grand Annual gifts separate from regular weekly offertory support. If not using the Gold Envelope, please make sure that whatever envelope you use is clearly labelled 2025 Grand Annual. Thank you!

PARISH OFFERTORY LAST WEEKEND:

| | |
|----------------------|--------------|
| Automatic Giving: | \$ 3,881.00 |
| WeShare: | \$ 4,009.15 |
| Offertory Envelopes: | \$ 7,822.00 |
| Total Offertory: | \$ 15,712.15 |

SECOND COLLECTION NEXT WEEKEND:
 For Retired Women Religious (nuns). Please give generously in recognition of the important role religious sisters have had in the Archdiocese of Boston. These holy women have dedicated their lives in faithful service to God's people. Now in their infirmity it is appropriate that we support them. Were you blessed to have a Sister in your life? Let us be thankful now!



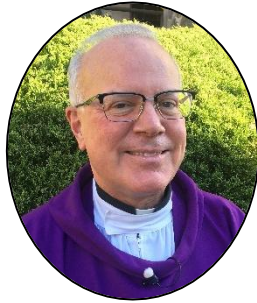
FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

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

This past Monday morning I notified all parishioners of the imminent passing of Fr. Mark Mahoney, who ministered here in the 1990's. Just a few weeks ago, it was discovered that Father Mahoney, age 65, had very advanced cancer. He was placed on palliative hospice care and passed to God this past Monday evening at Regina Caeli in Boston.

Please continue to pray for this good and holy priest, as he now sees face to face the God he served so well. Please pray also for his family, as well as for the Parish Family of St. Julia's in Weston / Lincoln, where he was the pastor.

A Rite of Reception of the Body will be held this Friday, November 21, at 2:30 PM at Saint Julia's Church, 374 Boston Post Road, Weston. Fr. Mahoney will Lie in State from 3:00 - 7:00 PM. A Funeral Mass will be held on Saturday, November 22 at 10:30 AM. Burial is private.



Those wishing to view the livestream (and recording) of the Funeral Mass may use this link:
<https://stjulia.org/livestream-archive-masses/>.

As we near the end of the Church's liturgical year, the Scriptures turn our gaze toward ultimate things - judgment, fulfillment, and the triumph of God's justice. The prophet Malachi gives us a vivid image this Sunday: a day "*blazing like an oven*," when all that is false and proud will be consumed; yet for those who fear the Lord, "*the sun of justice will rise with healing in its rays*."

The phrase "fear of the Lord," is easily misunderstood. When our modern ears hear the word "fear," we often think of terror, anxiety, or dread. But that is not what the prophet or the Church means. God does not desire cowering servants, but beloved sons and daughters. True fear of the Lord is not the panic of one awaiting punishment. It is the reverent awareness that God is holy, majestic, and loving beyond measure.

As the Psalmist says, "*With the Lord there is mercy, and plentiful redemption*." (Ps 130:7) To "fear" Him, in the biblical sense, means to take Him seriously - to hold Him in awe and wonder, to recognize His glory and our dependence upon Him. It is the opposite of indifference. It is the heart awakened by love that whispers, "*Lord, I never want to lose You*."

The fear of the Lord is a gift of the Holy Spirit, one of the seven named in Isaiah 11. It teaches us humility, obedience, and wisdom. This holy fear opens us to grace; it orients our hearts toward what pleases God and away from what wounds love. The fear of the Lord is not about being scared of God, but being scared to hurt God. It is the reverence of a child who loves his father too much to betray his trust.

St. Francis de Sales put it beautifully: "*We must fear God out of love, not love Him out of fear*." When love is the motive, fear becomes reverence; when reverence deepens, love matures into fidelity.

The fruit of holy fear is healing. Malachi promises that for those who fear the Lord, "*the sun of justice will rise with its healing rays*." It is striking that the prophet pairs fear with healing. How can that be? It's because the one who stands humbly before God - the one who acknowledges both divine majesty and personal frailty - becomes open to restoration.

The proud heart, closed in on itself, cannot receive light. But the reverent heart, turned upward, is warmed and healed. When we fear the Lord rightly, we allow His justice to purify and His mercy to renew. We are not destroyed by His fire; we are refined by it.

So how can we cultivate this holy fear in our lives?

In prayer: Begin each day with a moment of awe, thanking God for the gift of life and asking to walk in His presence.

In decision-making: Ask not, "What do I want?" but "What pleases God?" Holy fear reminds us that our choices ripple in eternity.

In relationships: Speak and act with the awareness that every person is sacred, including our enemies. The fear of the Lord teaches respect for others as His beloved children.

In struggle or success: Whether we are suffering or thriving, holy fear keeps us grounded. It reminds us that all comes from God and all returns to Him. Including ourselves.

The more we live in awe, the more joyfully we live in trust. The fear of the Lord is not a chain, it is the beginning of freedom. For the one who fears the Lord need not fear anything else!

May His sun of justice rise upon you always.

Rev. Mark J. Coiro



FOR THOSE IN NEED

SNAP SACK GRAB & GO: The Holliston Food Security Resource Team is offering FREE "SNAP Sacks" to anyone in need. There is no ID needed and no questions asked. People just drive up, roll their window down and we give them a bag of food. **This will run every Monday and Friday night for the month of November.**

FOR OUR PARISH

THANKSGIVING DAY MASS: Mass will be celebrated at 9:00 AM Thursday, November 27. Please bring an item of food that will be part of your Thanksgiving meal to be blessed, and then take it home with you for your family table. A collection will be taken at Mass and donated to the Holliston Food Pantry. Mass will be followed by coffee and doughnuts in Fr. Haley Hall.

EQUESTRIAN ORDER: Last weekend, seven St. Mary's Knights and Dames received promotions for their fidelity in helping support Christianity in the Holy Land. They are shown here with our pastor Fr. Mark, along with two former parishioners who were also promoted - Kristin and Matt Ward! We are so grateful for all those helping to keep hope alive during these challenging times in the Lands made holy by Christ.

Free "SNAP Sacks"
(Grab & Go Meal fixings)

One Per Vehicle-No Questions Asked
Mondays and Fridays



MEAL #1: PASTA
Box of Pasta
Can of (vegetable) Sauce
Loaf of bread

OR



MEAL #2: SOUP
2 Cans Soup
1 Bag of Ready Salad
Loaf of bread

Come to **73 Charles St. (Pantry)**
between
4:30-6:00PM

Stop your car
Roll your window down
We will hand you a "SNAP" Sack

enjoy your meal!

#NO HUNGER. JUST HOLLISTON.





HOLLISTON PANTRY SHELF: Food items needed at the Pantry: Progresso Soup, Campbell's Chunky Soup, Campbell's Tomato Soup, Campbell's Cream of Chicken Soup, Campbell's Cream of Mushroom Soup, canned fruit cocktail, canned peaches, tuna fish, pasta sauce, pasta (various), snacks and juice boxes.

Donations may be dropped off in the tan bin by the main parking lot entrance here at St. Mary's, or to the bins outside 73 Charles Street. Learn more at: <https://www.hollistonpantrysshelf.org/>.

THE ROSE FOR LIFE: The Rose is sponsored this week by the Butler Family. Please join them in prayer for an unborn child. Sponsor a Rose by emailing st.marys1870@gmail.com. The donation is \$10, to purchase the rose that week, and the remainder is donated to the Pregnancy Help Program.

THANKSGIVING COLLECTION: As we do each year, a collection will be taken at St. Mary's 9 AM Thanksgiving Day Mass and donated entirely to the Holliston Pantry Shelf.

2025 GRAND ANNUAL WORK: One of the Grand Annual projects got underway this week with the demolition of the deteriorated cement stairs on the rectory side of the church. These have required repeated repairs and are finally being totally redone. Thank you to all making this work possible through your Grand Annual support.



FOR OUR PARISH

2025 GRAND ANNUAL LAUNCH WEEKEND!

For sixty-five years, this has been the single most important annual collection at St. Mary's. Combined with the weekly Offertory, the Grand Annual allows our parish to cover her operating expenses, including the upkeep of our facilities, and the salaries of our eight hard-working employees.

This year's Grand Annual goal is \$150,000 - the same as last year's goal which was achieved. The largest facilities item covered by this year's Grand Annual is the replacement of the two industrial Heating and Air Conditioning Units on the Parish Center Roof. These are both 46 years old and failing.

Another item involves lighting upgrades right here in the church. If you have felt lately that the back of the church has gotten darker, you are correct. After forty years, multiple fixtures in the nave are so worn and cracked that they can no longer accept bulbs and must be replaced.

Other Grand Annual items include an automatic door for better handicapped access to the parking lot elevator entrance; church exterior painting repairs; and also an increase to our Parish Youth Ministry budget. St. Mary's Youth Ministry programs have exploded in recent years, and so have the costs associated with them. We believe our people value these programs highly and want to see them remain strong.

A complete list of Grand Annual items is provided here:

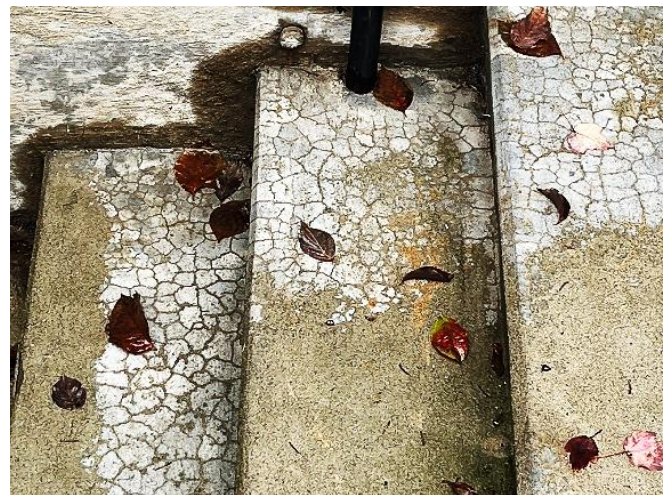
- \$49,000 Staff Salaries
- \$47,000 Replacement of both failing industrial HVAC units on the Parish Center Hall roof.
- \$17,000 Middle and High School Youth Ministry Programs. Bus costs have almost doubled, and scholarship need for the Mission Trip (\$1,200 for a teen or adult) has increased.
- \$14,000 Installation of pew seat upholstery.
- \$ 8,000 Lighting Fixtures for Hall Stage, Church Nave, and Lobby.
- \$ 5,500 Concrete Repairs - demolition and new pouring, side and front church stairs.
- \$ 5,500 Exterior Rectory and Church, Interior Sr. Ricci House, Painting and Repairs.
- \$ 4,000 Handicap push plate door system for parking lot elevator entry.

Very soon, if not already, you will receive a special mailing containing your gold, 2025, Grand Annual envelope. We ask that you please return it with your gift this weekend, or as soon as you are able. It may be mailed in or dropped in ANY Mass collection basket.

As you know, 15 years ago St. Mary's successfully paid off debts totaling 1.2 million dollars. Since then, through your good stewardship, we have been able to pay our bills, and our parish remains debt free. Your generous support of the 2025 Grand Annual will allow us to continue that way.

These are difficult economic times for many. But we ask you to please do what you can, *according to your means*, to help our parish reach its 2025 Grand Annual goal.

And thank you for all that you do to build up Saint Mary's - this beautiful family of faith, that is our Parish Home. God bless you!



FOR OUR DEPARTED

PARISH 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.

FOR WOMEN

WINGS (Women in God's Spirit): 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 2025 Season "Spiritualities of the Catholic Church." We learned about the Augustinian, Dominican, Franciscan, Benedictine, and Jesuit (Ignatian) spiritual traditions. To view these recorded presentations, visit our WINGS webpage <https://stmarysholliston.com/women-in-gods-spirit-w-i-n-g-s/>. Watch for details on our Winter Season starting in late January. For additional information about the WINGS ministry, please call Jen Schiller 617-852-9632 or Diane Collins 508-259-7795. To register for WINGS, email stmaryswingssecretary@gmail.com.

FOR MEN



COR ~ ST. MARY'S FAITH ENRICHMENT PROGRAM FOR MEN: All men of St. Mary's parish age 18 and older are invited to join us for faith enrichment, scripture, catechesis, prayer and brotherhood at our next Cor meeting on **Thursday, December 11**, in Father Haley Hall at 7 PM. Our meeting will feature an excellent guest speaker, Deacon Don LaRose, who will deliver his presentation entitled, "Proof of the Resurrection." This is our final meeting of the Fall season, so don't miss it!

The next season of Cor is set to begin in February. Further details on dates and location will be provided soon. Our mission is to help and support the men of St. Mary's parish in their quest to deepen their relationship with God, through scripture, catechesis, prayer and small group discussions. For more information, contact StMarysCor@gmail.com.



FOR MARRIAGE

ST. MARY'S MARRIAGE FELLOWSHIP: Our next Monthly Meeting will be **this Thursday, November 20**, from 6:30 - 8 PM in Sister Ricci House (onsite childcare). This is a parish ministry that provides opportunities for married couples to connect and grow together spiritually. The ministry meets for fellowship and a brief reflection on topics related to marriage, raising children, faith formation, and service. Whether you are newly married or have been together for many years, we'd love to meet you! For more information email stmarysmarriagefellowship@gmail.com. Welcome!

FOR THE EARTH



RECYCLING EVENT WITH GREEN TEAM JUNK REMOVAL - NEXT SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 22: St. Mary's Knights of Columbus Council #14224 have teamed up again with Green Team Junk Removal for another big recycling event. The event will run from 9 AM to 1:00 PM

next Saturday, November 22 at St. Mary's Church parking lot. As usual, computers, TV's, printers, and other electronic devices will be accepted. We will also accept mattresses, box springs, snow blowers, stoves, tires, push lawn mowers, EMPTY propane tanks, stoves, fire extinguishers, water heaters, washers, dryers, microwaves and much, much more. A donation charge by item will be collected.

FOR OUR YOUTH

HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP TGIF (Teens Gather In Faith):



JOIN US **TONIGHT**, Sunday, November 16, 7:00 - 8:45 PM in Fr. Haley Hall for our third TGIF Meeting (bring a friend)! TGIF is open to ALL TEENS in Grades 9 - 12. For more information, contact: Lisa Dufault at st.marystgif1870@gmail.com.

If you have not already submitted your TGIF registration/waiver/release, please do so and bring it to tonight's meeting. We need these on file for you to take part in meetings and attend trips!



Last Sunday, 14 of our TGIF Teens and three adult chaperones attended the Worcester Diocesan Youth Rally at Anna Maria College in Paxton. Hundreds of High School Teens enjoyed inspiring talks, praise and worship music, games, Eucharistic Adoration and Mass. What a beautiful day immersed in our Catholic faith!



FOR OUR YOUTH

MIDDLE SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP:



Our Next Event is the GR. 7 Nursing Home BINGO on Friday, November 21. **Our Next Meeting is Sunday, December 7, 6:30 - 8 PM in Fr. Haley Hall.** There will be Sign-Ups for Christmas Cookie Walk Sales, the December 19 Nursing

Home Caroling / Shrine Lights Walk / Pizza Party Event, and the January 23 Snowtubing Trip! And as always - Faith, Friendship, Service, and Fun in the Lord. Open to all 6th, 7th, and 8th Graders. Bring a friend!

Last Tuesday, 42 members of Saint Mary's Middle School Youth Group spent their Veterans Day off from school playing paintball. The day was cold with even a few tiny snow flurries, but running around in the woods, climbing towers, and racing through the Ghost Town kept us warm! The blue and red teams battled it out in games of elimination, raise the flag, and other teambuilding exercises. Father Mark started the day with a prayer for all veterans, and for peace in the world. Amen!



CLOW ~ CHILDREN K-6 ~ CHILDREN’S

LITURGY OF THE WORD: Today, November 16, the children will be dismissed to the lower church hall to listen and learn what Jesus teaches us in the Gospel.

Please note: Younger children **must be accompanied by their parents** and able to sit and engage in the lesson. Older children are welcome to assist the adult leaders.

CATECHESIS OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD FOR GROUP “B” MEETS TODAY:

The session begins promptly at 8:00 AM in the Atrium located in Sister Ricci House. Ms. Febo and Mrs. Krenselewski, and our trained assistants, will greet your children and escort them to the Atrium.



Children have learned about the Liturgical Colors of the Church year and the Model Altar. They learned that Jesus speaks to us now through the Holy Bible, our most special book. The season of Advent will arrive soon and the

children will learn about the Prophecies of Light and the many Names of the Messiah.

| DAY | CLASS | CLASS |
|--------------------|--|--|
| Sunday, Nov. 16 | CGS-B at 8:00 AM GR-1 at 8:10 AM | GR-4 at 10:45 AM GR-5 at 10:45 AM |
| Monday, Nov. 17 | GR-3 at 4:00 PM Ministry Fair | |
| Tuesday, Nov. 18 | GR-4 at 4:00 PM GR-5 at 4:00 PM | GR-6 at 4:00 PM GR-9/10 at 7:00 PM |
| Wednesday, Nov. 19 | GR-2 at 4:15 PM GR-4 at 4:00 PM | GR-9/10 at 7:00 PM |
| Sunday, Nov. 23 | CGS-A at 8:00 AM GR-2 at 8:10 AM GR-2 at 10:45 AM | GR-3 at 7:55 AM GR-3 at 10:45 AM GR-6 at 4:00 PM |
| Tues., Nov. 25 | GR-6 at 4:00 PM | |
| Wed., Nov. 26 | No Classes | |
| Thursday, Nov. 27 | Thanksgiving | |
| Sunday, Nov. 30 | Thanksgiving Break | |

CONFIRMATION PROGRAM 2025-2026:

- **Grade 7 Confirmation I, Session 4:** meets on Tuesday, December 2 or Wednesday, December 3 at 7:00 PM in Fr. Haley Hall.
- **Grade 8 Confirmation II, Session 4:** meets on Monday, December 1 or Thursday, December 4 at 7:00 PM in Fr. Haley Hall.
- **Grade 9/10 Confirmation:** (Last year for Grades 9 and 10), **Session 2:** Tuesday, November 18 or Wednesday, November 19 at 7:00 PM in Fr. Haley Hall.

ADULT FAITH FORMATION: Monday, November 17, Session 3:

“The Bible Timeline” series continues on “The Story of Salvation” in Room 3-4 at 10:00 AM. If you are unable to attend the second session, please contact the Religious Education Office at 508-429-6076.

HOLLISTON NEWCOMERS & NEIGHBORS THANKSGIVING 2025 DONATION DRIVE:

Holliston Newcomers & Neighbors is helping to provide gift cards to those in need through the Holliston Pantry Shelf and other local organizations that support the Holliston youth such as Head Start and Wayside Youth & Families. Many families depend on these gift cards to make their Thanksgiving Day a special one. Once again HNN is asking for monetary donations to support these efforts. Please visit their webpage <http://www.hollistonnewcomers.org/donations> and select Thanksgiving or if you prefer to mail your donation, please send a check made out to Holliston Newcomers & Neighbors to: Katrine Giroux, 147 Mohawk Path, Holliston and note that it is for Thanksgiving. We are also collecting handmade Thanksgiving Cards which can be dropped off at 922 Highland Street, Holliston - a bin will be at the front door. Please submit your cards or donation by Sunday, November 16. Thank you!

GRADE 3 TRADITIONAL MINISTRY FAIR ~ MONDAY, NOVEMBER 17 AT 4:00 PM IN

FR. HALEY HALL: All Grade 3 children are to attend. Fr. Mark, the Children’s Choir, Altar Servers, Lectors and Extraordinary Eucharistic Ministers will teach the children the importance of their ministries in the Church during the celebration of our Sacred Liturgy, known as the Mass. Grade 3 Children will be invited to consider joining the children’s choir.



ADVENT FAMILY MINI-RETREAT:

Begin the Season of Advent with prayer and reflection with Deacon Ron Dowding on “The True Story and Lessons of Saint Nicholas” ~ in the church on Saturday, December 6 at 10:30 AM. Refreshments are offered in the Lower Church Hall following the retreat.



CHILDREN’S CHRISTMAS NATIVITY:

Families with Grade 1- 4 children can sign up to participate in a role in the Christmas Nativity Pageant at the 4:00 PM Vigil Mass on Christmas Eve. Rehearsals are scheduled for

Saturday 12/6, 12/13, and 12/20, from 9 - 10 AM. We still need **ten more children** to take roles. Registration forms must be received by **Monday, November 24** by snail mail to the address on the form or email to: Special.Innkeeper1224@gmail.com.