

For today in the city of David
a savior has been born for you who is
Christ and Lord.

Luke 2:11



Saint Mary's Catholic Church

Gathering around the table of the Eucharist the Saint Mary's family is committed to building on our deep roots of faith and the teachings of Jesus. Our community embraces a future where all are welcome and encouraged to discover and share their gifts, grow their faith and serve all God's people.

MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday: 4:00 pm

Sunday: 8:00am & 10:30 am

Weekdays (Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday) 9:00 am

OFFICE HOURS—PHONE ONLY

Monday, Wednesday, Friday

9:30am-12:30pm

Thursday

9:00am-11:00am

One Power Street, Norton, MA 02766

Telephone: 508 - 285-4462

Fax: 508 - 285-5589

www.stmarysnorton.com

SACRAMENTS

BAPTISM

Celebrated on the 2nd and 4th Sundays. Parents must meet with Judy Burgess, the Parish Coordinator to schedule the Baptism.

RECONCILIATION

Please call the Office to make an appointment.

FIRST EUCHARIST & CONFIRMATION

A two year preparation program is required for each sacrament.

Contact the Faith Formation Office

MATRIMONY

Registered and practicing members of the parish should contact the parish office at least 8 months in advance to make arrangements.

HOLY ORDERS / RELIGIOUS VOCATION

Please speak to Fr. Tim or visit www.FallRiverVocations.org

MINISTRY TO SICK

Please call the office to schedule a visit



Please introduce yourselves to Fr. Tim and/or Deacon Alan so that we can better serve you. We hope that you will become involved with our parish, and we look forward to your presence and participation each week.

Very Rev. Timothy P. Reis, V.F.

Rev. Philip A. Davignon

Deacon Alan J. Thadeu

Anna McReynolds

Diane Ehrlich

Patsy Gillespie

Judy Burgess

Anna McReynolds

Jan Meier

Jean Davidson

Mark Bowditch

Pastor

Mass Assistant

Permanent Deacon

Secretary

Parish Bookkeeper

Religious Education

Assistant DRE

Pastoral Coordinator

Music Director

Bingo/Site Manager

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SVdPAtleboro.org

www.NortonKofC11690.org



Masses can be viewed via live stream on Facebook (St. Mary's Church, Norton Ma) or on our parish website (www.stmarysnorton.com).

Thursday, December 24, 2020

4:00pm Parishioners
6:00pm Parishioners

Friday, December 25, 2020

Midnight Parishioners
10:00am Parishioners

Saturday, December 26, 2020

4:00pm Annette DesMarais

Sunday, December 27, 2020

8:00am Joseph Nova
10:30am Donald Heim & Joseph Hall

Monday, December 28, 2020

9:00am Rev. James J. McConnell

Tuesday, December 29, 2020

9:00am Joseph Daley

Wednesday, December 30, 2020

9:00am Claire McAllister

Thursday, December 31, 2020

4:00pm

Friday, January 1, 2021

9:00am Victor Teixeira

Saturday, January 2, 2021

4:00pm Robert Powers

Sunday, January 3, 2021

8:00am Evelina Teixeira
10:30am Virginia "Dolly" Rich

Please pray for the repose of the soul of *Rev. Maurice J. O'Connor*, whose funeral was celebrated this past week as well as the *victims of Covid 19 and deceased family members and friends*. May the souls of the faithful departed through the mercy of God rest in peace. Amen.

Act of Spiritual Communion Prayer

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.

Candles of Remembrance Burn This Week



In Memory of Deceased Parishioners

&

For the Intentions of the Lefebvre Family

To memorialize a candle in memory of a loved one, call the parish office (508-285-4462).



Distribution of Holy Eucharist after will take place after the 10:30am Mass (approximately 11:15am) until 11:45am on Sunday for those watching live stream Mass on television and do not feel ready to attend Mass in person.



If anyone would like to receive the Sacrament of the Sick prior to an upcoming hospital stay, please call the office to arrange a time or speak to Fr. Tim after Mass.



Financial Summary

Weekly Financial Summary not available at time of bulletin submission deadline.



We will be starting the Century Club for 2021. Payments are not due until after Christmas. Membership forms are available from the Ministry Team. Please consider joining in on the fun! Two winners will be drawn each month starting at the end of January, the prize is \$50.00. At the end of the ten months we have our final drawing and dinner (*We Hope!!*) when there will be a chance to win up to \$2,500.00. Currently there are 66 members who have signed up. Don't know what to buy someone for Christmas? Why not purchase a Century Club membership! Fr. Tim buys his family each a membership and they have been pleasantly surprised to receive a check in the mail when they win. Give your loved ones a chance to win some extra cash instead of that fruit cake this year.





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

Bishop da Cunha's 2020 Christmas Message

Dear Friends in Christ,

Christmas is upon us, although seemingly a bit different this year. Because of the pandemic, many of us will not be celebrating in the ways we typically associate with Christmas - large family gatherings, holiday parties, seasonal concerts, and caroling.

However, I firmly believe that this can be a very special Christmas with less emphasis on many of the external and social dimensions of the season. What we have instead is an opportunity to focus more on the spiritual aspect—the true meaning of Christmas: the coming of Christ into our lives and into our world. So my prayer and hope for each one of you is that, as you celebrate Christmas this year - as family, as friends, as a community of faith – Jesus will be at the center of all that you do, the purpose for all you do and give meaning to all you do. Let us put Jesus back into Christmas, and as the saying goes, make Jesus truly the “reason for the season”.

This year, more than ever before, is a time to remember the blessing of the Octave of Christmas. The Catholic Church does not keep the celebration of Christmas to December 25th only. Christmas is celebrated over eight days, from Christmas Day to January 1st, the Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God. What a marvelous opportunity to embrace the joy of the season, allowing the Light of Christ to dispel the darkness of the past nine months. Just as I did during Advent, I again encourage you as a family to place Christ at the center of your celebrations.

To all of us in the Diocese of Fall River, may the coming of Christ, the Prince of Peace, fill us with a new peace, one that only He can give. Let us embrace not only His peace, but the joy of this season. I believe we will get through all the challenges ahead of us with the Lord's help. In His presence, in His grace, we'll reach a unique place this year where we can truly say that Christmas is about Christ.

May the peace, hope, and joy of this season be with us now and remain with us far beyond this Christmas. May these gifts, that only God can bestow upon us, reign in our hearts, in our homes, and in our world. May God bless you and your loved ones, and may you enjoy a very happy, joyful, blessed, and Merry Christmas.

Merry Christmas! Feliz Natal! Feliz Navidad! Joyeux Noël!

Sincerely yours in Christ,

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

47 Underwood Street • Fall River, Massachusetts 02720-3701
Telephone: 508-675-1311 • Facsimile: 508-679-9220



Rev. Maurice J. O'Connor
October 8, 1928 - December 15, 2020

This past Tuesday, at a Mass of Christian Burial, our parish family bid farewell to Fr. Maurice J. O'Connor, fondly known to many as Fr. "Moe". Fr. Moe passed away at Marian Manor in Taunton after a series of health issues.

Ordained a priest for the Archdiocese of Boston in 1953, he retired nearly twenty years ago, making Taunton his home. It was not long after settling there that he began a second vocation in the Diocese of Fall River, assisting at parishes in Taunton as well as at our own St. Mary's in Norton.

Fr. Moe was a person of deep spirituality and a seeker of knowledge. On many occasions he would offer Bible studies and other types of programs to share his own intellect with laity who sought expand their own understanding of their Catholic identity.

He had the knack of getting to know everyone he encountered at the parishes in which he assisted, never forgetting a person's name or story.

My relationship with Moe evolved when I was responsible for the merger of two Taunton parishes. He became part of the Mass schedule, heard confessions and offered spiritual guidance to many. Moe was a good friend, offering support and assistance of any kind.

These past two years have been a challenge for him. An independent person, his physical decline and mobility restrictions weighed heavily upon him. But greater than his independence was his trust in the Lord Jesus. This enabled him to accept and join his sufferings to the cross of Christ, an intricate part of discipleship and answering the call of priestly service.

Fr. Moe, we will miss you. Thank you for your faithful ministry. May God grant rest to your noble soul.

Fr. Tim



**ST. PAUL CENTER
 FOR BIBLICAL THEOLOGY**

By Dr. Scott Hahn

In the New Beginning Christmas (Mass During the Day)

Isaiah 52:7-10, Psalm 98:1-6, Hebrews 1:1-6,
 John 1:1-5, 9-14

The birth of Jesus marks a new creation, the start of a new heavens and a new earth (see Isaiah 65:17; 2 Peter 3:13). That's why the first words of today's Gospel reprise the Bible's first words - "In the beginning" (see Genesis 1:1).

Jesus is the Word that God spoke when He said, "Let there be," and all things came to be (see Genesis 1:3,26). The Wisdom through whom all things were made (see Proverbs 8:22-31; Wisdom 7:21-27), Jesus is also the mighty Word by whom God sustains all things.

The Word of God (see Revelation 19:13) has become flesh. This is the mystery we sing of in today's Psalm - the revelation of mankind's salvation in the sight of the nations.

The Word comes as God and king, we hear in today's First Reading. Enthroned at God's right hand (see Psalm 110:1), He is the royal Son who has received all the nations as His inheritance (see Psalm 2:8).

The Word comes, too, as a heavenly high priest, as we hear in today's Epistle. Through His blood, He accomplished atonement and purification from sin (see Exodus 30:10; Hebrews 6:20; 10:3-7, 11-13).

And by this, He has made it possible for each of us to live as children of God, as "new creations" (see 2 Corinthians 5:17; Galatians 6:15).

In the beginning, God made men and women in His image (see Genesis 1:27). In the new creation, He brings that divine image to perfection in Jesus, who is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation, and the firstborn from the dead (see Colossians 1:15, 18).

Let us resolve this Christmas to give Jesus rule over our hearts, to ever more mold our hearts in the image of our Creator - that the Christ-child may be the firstborn of a worldwide family of God (see Colossians 3:10; Romans 8:29).

*A service of the St. Paul Center for Biblical Theology
 www.SalvationHistory.com*




2020 Christmas Flower Memorial List Given In Loving Memory of...

James Donovan Sr.
Brianna Rooney
Ronald & Sally Conlon
Josephine DePaul
Mark & Paul Power
Margaret & Leo Croft
Nina & Bill Byrnes Sr.
Kalaczniak Family
Daniel P. Araujo Sr.
Claire & John McDonald
Viola E. Araujo
Erin Rodriques
John Drane
Lucinda Rodriques
Mabel & Elwood McReynolds
Christine Estabrook
Harold & Patty Rogers
The Fredette Family
Antone & Theresa Faria
Joe & Julie Duggan
Viola Morse & Manuel Rogers
Antonetta & Augustine DeCesare
Leo & Pauline Best
Carolyn Pierce
Pat Titus
The Baptista Family
Paul Ehrlich
The DeWitt Family
Bernice & Clifford Titus
Robert Laverty
Anthony Staples Sr.
Ray & Diane Saleeba
Edward Staples Sr.
Rene Charpentier
James Walsh
Frank & Genoeffa Arieta
The Murphy Family
Ronald Arieta

The Conway Family
Donna Marie Arieta Medeiros
John "Jack" O'Brien
Walter & Stephanie Tokarz
Emelia Fonseca
McCann & Blake Families
Rosa Fernandes
Josephine & Edward Beach
Andrew Dumont
Steven M. Fernandes
Michael DelVecchio
Richard & Mary Neville
Daniel & Viola Araujo
John & Veronica Bettencourt
Alfred & Alice Lacaillade
Pattie Thibodeau
Anna Allaire
Nicholas M. Instasi Jr.
Pat Fritsche
Albert & Mary Pizzano
Lawrence, Joseph & John Boran
Rita Oliver
Rev. John Steakem
Cesar Aguiar
Thomas & Esther Noice
Steve McCracken
Jaquie McNamara
Eileen Merritt
Connie Rouillard
Stan Johnson
The Bertone Families
The Grise Families
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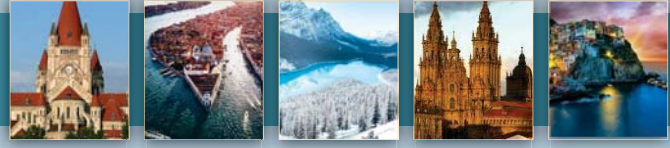


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