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*Hail Mary Full of Grace. The Lord is With You. Blessed Are
You Among Women, And Blessed is the Fruit of Your Womb,
Jesus. Holy Mary, Mother of God, Pray for Us
Sinners Now and at the Hour of our Death, Amen*



**796 BOSTON RD.
BILLERICA, MASSACHUSETTS 01821
WWW.STMARYBILLERICA.COM**

PASTORAL STAFF

Rev. Francis E. Sullivan, Pastor

Deacon Allan Shanahan

Karen Dubbs, Coordinator of Religious Education (Grade 1-6)

Jim Spinale, Associate DRE (Grade 7-10)

WELCOME TO NEW PARISHIONERS

PASTOR'S NOTES

“No one, whether shepherd or wise man, can approach God here below except by kneeling before the manger at Bethlehem and adoring him hidden in the weakness of a newborn child” (CCC 563)

“To become a child in relation to God is the condition for entering the kingdom. For this, we must humble ourselves and become little. Even more: to become ‘Children of God’ we must be ‘born from above’ or ‘born of God’. Only when Christ is formed in us will the mystery of Christmas be fulfilled in us. Christmas is the mystery of this ‘marvelous exchange’.” (CCC 526)

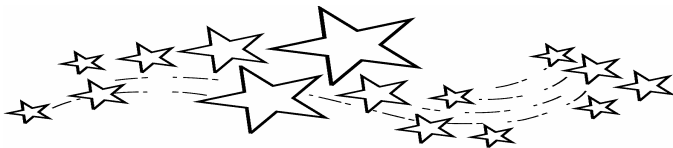
To everyone, wishes for a very happy Christmas. This time which is always extra special for our children, should also glow in our hearts, as worn as those hearts may be, by cares and worries, and concerns. As you gaze upon your Christmas tree, and delight in the joy of your children, reflect back a few years, and thank the Lord for all the love that you have received in so many ways. May we recapture that sense of wonder that we had as a child and see the beauty of this world anew.

I want to thank all of those who have helped St. Mary’s this year by the contribution of their time, talent and treasure. A special thanks to all who are involved in the various ministries in our parish. It is through your devotion of time and effort and love that enable St. Mary’s to carry on the mission entrusted to her. Thank you for your devotion. As we prepare to enter into a new year may our parish continue to grow and continue to be the wonderful place of worship that it is.

From Fr. Evaristus, Deacon Al, myself and all of our staff at St. Mary’s, Merry Christmas, and may God’s Grace and Peace and Joy and Strength be with you and yours throughout the year.

.....

Fr. Sullivan



The Tree of Life

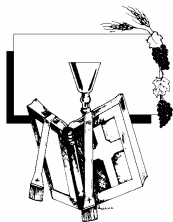


St. Mary’s Memorial tree provides a wonderful remembrance of your loved ones—both living and deceased.

If you would like more information about adding a name to the tree, please call the rectory at 978-663-2215. Names can be engraved on a

“Green Leaf” or a “Gold Leaf”.

Saturday	December 24, 2011
3:30	Memorial; <i>Edwin T. & Phyllis M. Ryan</i>
5:30	4th Anniversary; <i>Adolfo Franquiz</i>
Sunday	December 25, 2011
8:30	
10:30	4th Anniversary; <i>Ralph Newman</i>
12:10	
Monday	December 26, 2011
9:00	
Tuesday	December 27, 2011
9:00	Memorial; <i>Brendam Thomas O’Keefe & Patricia Murphy</i>
Wednesday	December 28, 2011
9:00	
Thursday	December 29, 2011 No Daily Mass
Friday	December 30, 2011
6:30	Month’s Mind; <i>Robert Fitzmaurice</i>
Saturday	December 31, 2011
9:00	
4:00	
Sunday	January 1, 2012
8:30	Memorial; <i>The Connelly Family, the Capezio Family, & the Bjornson Family</i>
10:30	Memorial; <i>Angela Keating</i>
12:10	



Please Pray For.....Michael Munafo; SMA Fathers Francois, Herve, Ben, Nelson, & Charles; Robert ~ Guide him, Mae— watch over & guide her, Nancy and Father Charles, Bob, Give me strength; Mary Lou, Mike C, Rita Morbo, Jo-Ann Miller, Capone family, Moore family, Rayner family, Schoenheiter family, Zammuto family; Son's safety & job security, KR find job with benefits, MC & Barbara recovery from cancer; Peace in our hearts, Dick K. & Mike O'K be healed, Sean be healed; Eternal peace for R.B; Good health for family members; Family peace; All brave men & women fighting for freedom; Tre, Carol, Ryan C; My family - Kay, Nathan, Mary, MB, John, & Ellen; David & Laura Joncas, Paul Bourgeois; Healing for Tony; Son's health; Ann Marie, Mike, Peter A., Joyce Miller, Ruthie, Peggy, Mary Deconto; Michael, For Emily—get things right; Nephew Kody to get better, Son to see house, Keith will find God; Susan, Kathy, Angel, Linda, Darlene, Pat, Julie, Rita, Natalie, Jean, Darlene, Debbie, Marie, Sharon; World Peace, All military men & women, Good health & happiness for my family—John, Herbert & Gerard; Healthy babies; granddaughters health; Krissy's health & a better year for her; Amy's recovery from cancer; Virginia Stimpson; Healthy babies.

Cardinal O'Malley and Priests Begin Consultation Process on Pastoral Planning

On December 5, Cardinal Seán O'Malley and the Archdiocesan Pastoral Planning Commission (APPC) met with priests of the Archdiocese of Boston and with those serving in archdiocesan parishes to begin the consultation process regarding the next phase of Pastoral Planning in the archdiocese.

As part of their scope, the APPC has developed some principles and preliminary recommendations for strengthening the archdiocese's parish-based ministries, evangelization efforts and parish staffing. Further rounds of consultations with archdiocesan and parish leadership will be conducted over the next several months. After receiving input from the consultations, the APPC will then prepare a final recommendation to Cardinal Seán for his decision.

We ask your prayers for this important process and invite you to review the planning materials at www.2012Planning.org

Christmas Offering



Christmas Collection

TODAY'S Christmas collection supports the retirement, medical and financial needs of the priests of the Archdiocese of Boston. Currently, 40% of the priests of our Archdiocese are retired. Each year, we need to raise

10 million dollars to care for them.

We ask that you give generously on behalf of the priests who have devoted their lives to faithfully serve God, including Fr. Joseph Svirskas, Fr. Joseph Laraiia, and Fr. Josphep Rothwell, Jr. who have all served here at St. Mary's.

~ We thank you in advance for your generosity ! ~

PARISH WEEKLY ENVELOPES

Receiving the **Parish Weekly Collection envelopes** is a great way to keep track of your donations to the Parish. When a donation is made, we record it and at the end of the year send out a letter to those who have made donations so that they may record it when they prepare their taxes.

If you would like to begin to receive the envelopes, please call the rectory at 978-663-2215 and Chris will take the information & you will receive your envelopes.

Baptisms

On December 18th through the Holy Waters of Baptism, we welcomed into our Parish Family of Saint Mary's;

Andrew Harrison Stokes, son of Derrick and Anne-Marie (Auger) Stokes and Charlotte Alice Salerno, daughter of Daniel and Laura (Kapala) Salerno

We rejoice with their parents and families at their initiation into the Catholic faith and promise to pray for their continued happiness and good health.



Parish Council

NEXT MEETING

The Next Meeting of our Parish Pastoral Council will be held, **Monday, January 9th at 7PM**, in the **Church Hall**.

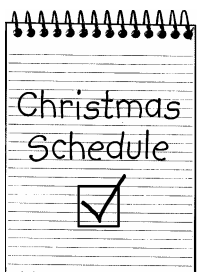
All parishioners are welcome to attend.

Come and hear what is happening in your Parish!



Schedule of Events

- December 24th - 3:30 Mass—Living Gospel Pageant
- 5:30 P Mass
- December 25th - Masses at 8:30, 10:30, 12:10
- January 1st - NO CCD
- January 9th - PPC Meeting 7:P Church Hall
- January 11th - Diabetes Support Group 6:30 PM
- January 22nd - Holy Hour For Life 3:P
- January 29th - Coffee & Donuts
- Blood Pressure Screening
- Baptisms 1:30 PM
- Women's Club Bake Sale



2011 Christmas Mass Schedule

Saint Mary's

Christmas Eve 3:30 PM; 5:30 PM
Christmas Day 8:30;10:30;12:10

Saint Theresa's

Christmas Eve 4:30, 10:30 PM
Christmas Day 8:AM; 10:AM

Saint Andrew's

Christmas Eve 4:PM, 6PM
Christmas Day 8:AM; 10:AM

Saint Malachy's

Christmas Eve 4:PM; 12:AM (Midnight Mass)
Christmas Day 10:A

Saint Margaret's

Christmas Eve 4:30 PM; 7:30 PM
Christmas Day 7:30 AM; 10:A; 12:P



CELL PHONE REMINDER



We respectfully ask that you turn your cell phones off, or on vibrate, before each Mass.

We thank you in advance for your cooperation.



Parish Mission Statement
... to know the Lord
Jesus, to recognize Him in
everyone, and in
all that we do.

MASS SCHEDULE

Sunday: 8:30 AM,
10:30 AM and 12:10 PM
Saturday: 4:00 PM
Daily Mass: 9:00 am (Except Thursday)
Friday at 6:30 PM ONLY

CONFESSIONS

Saturday, 3:15 - 3:45 pm and any time by
appointment.

Confessions also held starting 20 minutes before
each Sunday Mass.

BAPTISMS

Third Sunday of every month at 1:30 pm.
Instructions for parents and godparents provided
the first Monday of every month at 7:00 pm.

ANNOINTING OF THE SICK

LAST Saturday of every month at 4:PM Mass.
LAST Sunday of every month at 12:10 Mass.

Narcotics Anonymous Meetings

Thursday Nights 7:P

MARRIAGE

Please make arrangements six months in advance.

IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

Rectory: 978-663-2215

Fax: 978-663-0127

CCD Office: 978-667-9445

EMAIL

parish@stmarybillerica.com

WEBSITE

www.stmarybillerica.com