



Third Sunday of Advent

12/12/2020 - 12/20/2020

Welcome to Mater Dei Parish!



DAILY & WEEKEND MASS SCHEDULE

DAILY MASSES

MONDAY THROUGH FRIDAY:
9:00 AM, 12:00 NOON, & 4:00 PM
& SATURDAY MORNING AT 9:00 AM
ALL MASSES ARE AT ST. MARY'S

MASS IS ALSO CELEBRATED
EACH FRIDAY AT ST. JAMES AT 4:00 PM

WEEKEND MASSES

SATURDAY: 4:00 PM @ ST. MARY'S
5:30 PM @ ST. BENEDICT'S
SUNDAY: 8:30 AM @ ST. EDWARD'S
9:30 AM @ ST. MARY'S
10:30 AM @ ST. JAMES
11:00 AM @ ST. MARY'S



THERE ARE STILL A FEW DATES IN DECEMBER REMAINING TO SCHEDULE MASSES. PLEASE CALL THE PARISH OFFICE AT (802) 334-5066 IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO SCHEDULE A MASS IN MEMORY OF A LOVED ONE OR TO MARK A SPECIAL OCCASION.



Thank You for Your Generosity to our Mater Dei Parish Churches

Week of December 7, 2020



Envelopes:	\$ 1,309.00
Loose:	\$ 3,368.75
Online:	\$ 372.00
TOTAL:	\$ 5,049.75
Budget:	\$10,439.00
Surplus/Deficit:	\$- 5,389.25

There is a special collection next weekend for the Fuel. Please be as generous as possible.

Christ Our Hope: Building A Vibrant Church

Mater Dei Parish has received **78** gifts totaling **\$117,750**, which is **25%** of our parish goal. Thank you to everyone who

has so generously donated to the campaign. Our parish has **700 families**. If you have not yet contributed, please prayerfully consider how you can help. Every gift makes a difference. Your sacrifice will help us build a vibrant parish now and well into the future.



Blessing the Symbols of Christmas

Each Sunday during Advent, we have been blessing a symbol of the Christmas season.



Next Sunday, December 20th, is the Fourth Sunday of Advent when we bless the most important symbol of the Christmas season - baby Jesus.

Please bring your baby Jesus to Mass next Sunday to be blessed.



Christmas Angels at St. Mary's & St. Benedict's

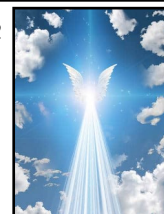
St. Mary's and St. Benedict's still have some angels remaining on their trees with the sex, age and gift ideas for children from disadvantaged families in the Northeast Kingdom.

If you have not already done so, please consider taking an angel from the tree to purchase a gift and make a child's Christmas brighter!

Please return your unwrapped gift in a Christmas bag with the angel securely attached to the bag by **Thursday, December 17th** to either St. Mary's, St. Benedict's, or to the parish office.

May God bless you for your generosity.

Please pray for the repose of the souls of † Dean Burns, Jr., † Donna Kuras & Father Paul's Uncle † Ram and for their grieving families.



RCIA CONTINUES
THIS WEEK ON
DECEMBER 15TH



RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION FOR ADULTS

IT'S NOT TOO LATE TO BEGIN LEARNING MORE ABOUT OUR CATHOLIC FAITH, PREPARING TO RECEIVE THE SACRAMENTS OF BAPTISM, HOLY COMMUNION OR CONFIRMATION, OR STARTING THE FORMAL PROCESS OF JOINING THE CATHOLIC CHURCH.

THE NEXT RCIA CLASS IS ON;
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 15TH, 2020
TIME: 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM

WHERE: ST. MARY'S RECTORY
SUBJECT: THE HOLY SPIRIT

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CALL
DEACON WARD NOLAN AT (802) 624-4964
OR EMAIL NEKDEACON@GMAIL.COM



The One who calls you is faithful.

Will you be faithful to His call? Pray for the grace to be a faith-filled witness of God's love. If God may be inviting you to be a priest, deacon, brother or sister, please contact Fr. James Dodson, Director of Vocations, at the Vocation Office at **(802) 658-6110 X 2275** visit **vocations@vermontcatholic.org**.

VOCATIONIST'S CORNER



Please pray for the Vocationist Sisters in Martinsville, N.J. who have all contracted the Corona Virus.
Heal them, O Lord, we pray!



ADVENT CONFESSIONS

Many opportunities still remain to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation at all our parish churches during the Advent season.

St. Mary's

Sunday, **December 13th:** 12:00 pm - 1:00 pm
Friday, **December 18th:** after 4:00 pm Mass
Sunday, **December 20th:** 12:00 pm - 1:00 pm following 11:00 am Mass

St. Edward's

Monday, **December 14th:** 10:00 am - 12:00 pm
Monday, **December 21st:** 10:00 am - 12:00 pm

St. James

Sunday, **December 20th:** 9:30 am - 10:30 am before 10:30 am Mass

St. Benedict's

Saturday, **December 12th:** after 5:30 pm Mass
Saturday, **December 19th:** after 5:30 pm Mass

You are also invited to call the parish office at (802) 334-5066 to schedule an appointment for Confession with one of our priests.



The Secret of True Joy

Today is Gaudette Sunday...the Sunday of joy. Not repent but rejoice is the message! Why must we rejoice? We must rejoice because Jesus comes to bring good news to the poor; bind up our hearts that are broken; proclaim liberty to captives and freedom to those in prison.

Jesus comes to bind up hearts that are broken. We all experience brokenness. Our hearts are broken with grief when someone dear passes away. We feel broken when we fail to attain the goals we have set for ourselves or others have set for us; when someone close to our hearts betrays our love; when long standing friendships suddenly snap; when we suffer from disabilities and are unable to do what we did before; when we have to depend on others for our daily needs. Jesus comes to heal this brokenness. He comes to make whole what has been broken. All that we need is to show Him how we are broken and wounded, and trust him to make us whole.

We were made for happiness. God wants us to be happy, not only in the world to come but in this world as well. But the sad thing is that we look for happiness in the wrong places. Happiness is an inside job; it comes from the presence of God within us... the secret of true joy!

Golden Seniors Gifts for Belaire Residents

St. Mary's is seeking donations to purchase Christmas gifts for our residents at Belaire.



If you can help, please put your donation in an envelope earmarked for nursing home gifts and place it in the collection basket or drop it off at the parish office.

We want our nursing home residents to know that we are thinking of them during the Christmas season even if we are not able to see them.

Other area organizations are donating to Newport Health Care.

Your support is greatly appreciated!

St. Edward's Giving Tree



Giving Tree gifts are due this weekend! If you have not had time yet to bring your gift, you can bring it directly to Michaud Manor. Please tell them that your gift is from Mater Dei Parish and should be given to Mamie so she can place it with the other gifts from St. Edward's.

Please bring your gift to Michaud Manor as soon as possible so it can be placed in "Self Quarantine" before the gifts are given to the residents for Christmas.

Thank you for your generosity. May God bless you all for your sharing spirit



Adoration and Holy Mass at St. James

Adoration has now begun at St. James each Friday at 3:00 pm followed by the celebration of Mass at 4:00 pm.

All are welcome to join us.

MATER DEI PARISH WEBSITE

DON'T FORGET TO CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE AT **MATERDEIVERMONT.COM**



FOR REFLECTIONS ON EACH OF OUR SUNDAY READINGS BY FR. TOM, FR. BENNY & DEACON WARD, BLOGS BY OUR PRIESTS, DEACON & FRED BARKER, AND SO MUCH MORE PARISH INFORMATION. CLICK ON OUR FACEBOOK PAGE TO CELEBRATE DAILY MASS.

Prepare ye the way of the Lord!