

**St. Mary's Church ~ Our Lady of the Isle  
Rhode Island's First Roman Catholic Parish**

**National Historic Place  
Established April 8, 1828**



Pastor: Rev. Kris von Maluski  
Pastor Emeritus: Rev. George McCarthy  
Finance Manager: Mary O'Neill  
Director of Music: Kyle Medeiros

Located at Corner of Spring St. and Memorial Blvd.

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**MASS SCHEDULE**  
**SATURDAY: ST. MARY'S 5:15PM** ←  
**SUNDAY: 8:00AM**  
**SUNDAY: 11:00AM**

**DAILY MASSES at 7:30AM**  
**ST. MARY'S: Monday, Wednesday**  
**ST. AUGUSTIN'S: Tuesday and Friday**

**JANUARY 1st - Mass at St. Augustin's** ←  
**at 9:00AM**

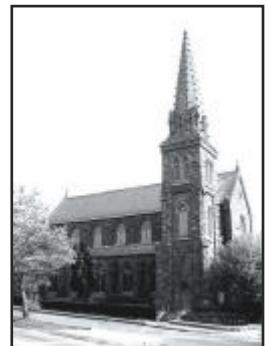
**VIEW MASS AT ST. MARY'S  
ONLINE**

<https://www.facebook.com/watch/stmarynewport/>

**Confessions:** by appointment and ...  
Saturday 8:00 AM to 8:30 AM  
in St. Mary's breezeway  
(between the garage and the rectory  
during the pandemic)

**Upcoming Baptism Dates:**  
Baptisms will be conducted individually  
during the pandemic.  
(contact Fr. Kris to make an inquiry)

*We are proud to be a  
Stewardship Parish:  
Sharing our Time, Talent and  
Treasure  
with our community.  
Our mission is to continue the  
work of Jesus Christ through  
worship, education,  
stewardship and service.*



## FR. KRIS' KORNER



Merry Christmas to all. Today we focus on the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph and how much we can learn from them. Through blessings, wonders and even sufferings the Holy Family remained deeply rooted in their trust in God. Just imagine how beautifully the family showed their love for each other. We can try to imagine the fun and the love that filled Joseph and Mary's home; their gatherings filled with laughter and their telling of some very captivating family stories – after all, raising the Son of God must have been fascinating. However, not everything was easy for them; for the first few years they lived in hiding and fear in Egypt because an angel warned Joseph that Herod was trying to find the baby Jesus to murder him. The newlyweds found themselves alone in a foreign land, separated from their relatives when they undoubtedly needed them most. So many people today can relate to being apart from their family; kids off to college, family members moving out-of-state to find employment, sons, daughters, husbands, wives, mothers and fathers away on deployment or away on business, or some are forced to be separated because of the coronavirus! And what family hasn't faced fear, uncertainty and sorrow? Don't forget that Mary became a widow after the death of her beloved husband Joseph and later she experienced the death of her only child. As this year comes to an end, may we all look back on what has happened in our own family's lives. For some, 2020 might have been a horrific year; a year with financial setbacks, illness or loss of a loved one. Blessed are those who escaped any negative consequences from the pandemic. Every family has their own personal stories to tell. People often thank me for sharing stories about my own family; I share my family's sorrows and celebrations with honesty and vulnerability so that others may feel they are not alone in their own family struggles. What a strange upside-down world 2020 has been; however it reminded us to focus on our blessings, to appreciate each other all the more, to forgive each other more quickly, and to generously share words and deeds of love. As we say good-bye or good riddance to 2020 please learn from the Holy Family to rely on God, to appreciate your blessings and to pay them forward in 2021; let us consciously and purposely make 2021 a bright and happier new year. May God bless us all.

## MASS INTENTIONS FOR DEC 28 - JAN 3

Monday: †David Murphy

Tuesday: NO MASS - Fr. Kris on vacation

Wednesday: NO MASS - Fr. Kris on vacation

**9:00AM Friday:** People of St. Augustin's and St. Mary's

Saturday 5:15PM: †Arlene Custy

Sunday 8AM: People of St. Mary's

Sunday 11AM: People of St. Mary's

## POINSETTIAS DONATIONS



Thank you to all who made contributions to our Christmas flowers and to those who gave in memory of loved ones. Donors will be posted next weekend.

## DECORATING OUR CHURCH



St. Mary's has taken great pride throughout the years to decorate our beautiful church for Christmas. Thank you to our volunteers who decorated the church on Dec 20<sup>th</sup>. It was a monumental task, but because of the pandemic, all this was accomplished by just four people! We hope you like our new refreshing look. The 400 poinsettias along the back wall of the sanctuary have been retired. Each year we will create a surprising new design thus adding some excitement to attendance at Christmas Masses.

## THANK YOU FOR YOUR SACRIFICES THIS YEAR

As 2020 is coming to a close and a vaccine is on the way, many of our parishioners have consciously made sacrifices for the last ten months. Thank you for being considerate of others while out and about - keeping social distance - wearing a mask - not travelling - and not congregating in large groups. Your sacrifices will not go unnoticed when you stand before the Lord.



## THANK YOU FATHER KRIS

A very special thank you to Fr. Kris for his diligence and strength during this pandemic. He was able to bring Mass to us in person and online. We are thankful that he has remained healthy and has been able to get us through this unprecedented time and also we thank him for his continual spiritual guidance.

### JANUARY 1ST

#### SOLEMNITY OF THE MOTHER OF GOD

Mass for Mary - Mother of God will be held at St. Augustin's Church at 9:00AM. Please note, because of the Pandemic, it is NOT a Holy Day of Obligation this year.

### ST. MARY'S ANNUAL COLLECTION

We are called to be stewards of our beautiful and historic church and school building. Repairs are constantly being made so that we do not experience any cataclysmic events. In today's world, nothing is inexpensive so we depend on the generosity of our parishioners. During the last driving rainstorm we discovered numerous and severe leaks in the north roof.

Each registered Parishioner has received our Annual Parish Financial Report along with an envelope for the ANNUAL COLLECTION for Maintenance and Repairs. Please drop your donation off at Mass or send it to the office:

**St. Mary's Church, P.O. Box 547 Newport, RI 02840**

We hope you are proud of the work we do that ensures St. Mary's Church, Newport, a National Historic Place, will serve our community for generations to come.

### FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY—FAMILY PRAYER

*We give you thanks Lord God  
who has blessed us with life and love.  
You have given us the gift of family.  
Help us to nurture and to protect,  
to guide and to love one another.*

*Through the intercession of the Holy Family:  
Jesus, Mary and Joseph - protect us.  
Give us wisdom and courage,  
joy and faithfulness  
in responding to our special vocation  
as a Christian family  
so we may help each other  
to grow in grace and love  
to the glory of God. Amen.*

## NURSING HOMES RESIDENTS

Thanks to your thoughtfulness and donations we were able to bring bags and bags of Christmas Joy to two nursing homes in our area: Village House and Heatherwood. Each resident received a Christmas Card and a decoration for their room. The staff was extremely appreciative of our parishioners' kindness. Thank you for your generosity and for caring for those who would have been forgotten this year. Each one of you performed the Corporal Work of Mercy to Comfort the Afflicted. Someone whom you do not know will approach you as you enter heaven and say to you *"Thank you for that gift you gave to me in 2020 during the pandemic. It meant the world to me to know someone was caring enough to think of me."* Or perhaps it will be Jesus who will say to you...*"Whatsoever you did for the least of my brothers and sisters, you did for me."*



As we were delivering the gifts to Village House the daughter of one of the residents told us that we were angels for our compassion. GREAT JOB EVERYONE!

### HAVE A VERY BLESSED CHRISTMAS SEASON

On Dec 26th, Christmas sections in stores will look like either a bomb hit them, or the shelves will be bare; Christmas is OVER will be the message. Please remember that the 12 Days of Christmas begin AFTER Christmas day. For it is not just one day, it is an entire SEASON so please continue to wish people a Merry Christmas until Jan 10th on the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord. This fact has long been forgotten; spread the good word.



**Thank you to our volunteers and staff who  
have worked during this Advent and  
Christmas season in the midst of a  
pandemic.**

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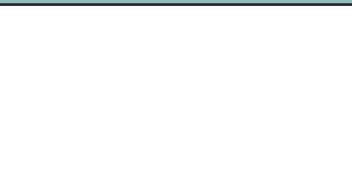
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