



St. Denis

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St. Margaret Mary

845 High Street • Westwood, MA
781-326-1071 • www.saintmmparish.org



**4TH SUNDAY
OF ADVENT**



When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the infant leaped in her womb, and Elizabeth, filled with the Holy Spirit, cried out in a loud voice and said, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb."
- Lk 1:41-42

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

OLPH

December 19, 2021

Weekend Mass Schedule

St. Denis: Saturday, 4:30 PM • Sunday, 8 AM and 10:30 AM

St. Margaret Mary: Saturday, 4:30 PM • Sunday, 10 AM and 5 PM (outside, weather permitting)

Daily Mass Schedule

St. Denis: Monday – Wednesday at 9 AM

St. Margaret Mary: Monday – Friday at 7:30 AM

Confessions

St. Denis: Saturdays at 3:45–4:15 PM

St. Margaret Mary: Wednesdays at 7–8 PM



From the Desk of Father Bob

As you heard last week at Mass, **Cardinal Sean** has mandated that **all persons wear a face mask** at Mass for the next several weeks. This mandate is made in an abundance of caution. Given the numbers of people coming into Churches over Christmas, his desire is to add this precaution to our pandemic protocols. Please be mindful to wear a mask at Mass until at least January 17th at which time the protocols will be reviewed.

I love the opening prayer for Mass on the fourth Sunday of Advent:

Pour forth, O Lord, your grace into our hearts that we, to whom the Incarnation of Christ your Son was made known be the message of an angel, may by His passion and cross, be brought to the glory of the Resurrection through the same Christ our Lord. Amen.

You may recognize this prayer from the **Angelus**, a popular prayer which dates back to the 16th century. The collect prayer, taken from the fourth Sunday of Advent, summarizes the mystery of Redemption, namely that through Christ's death on the Cross and Resurrection we might have a share in his glory. This prayer is ritualized, of course, at every celebration of the Eucharist. It is known as the Paschal Mystery.

The **Paschal Mystery** is made possible through Mary's fiat, that is, her saying YES to God's invitation to bear and raise His Son. In the Gospel today, we hear that part of the mystery in which Mary, having been visited by the Angel, goes to visit Elizabeth. Even in the womb of his mother, John the Baptist indicates the presence of the long-awaited Messiah. It's worth noting that God uses the "unborn" to proclaim the message of salvation. Note that in preparing for the coming of Christ, Mary gathers with family. Christ is the bond of those relationships through which we have life.

I am mindful that **this time of the year** is not always joyful for many people. The holidays can intensify our losses and grief is felt all the more sharply. I think of all the families that have lost a family member or dear friend this past year. All that we do to celebrate the birth of Christ can be a painful reminder of who is not with us. I encourage you to reach out to those who are grieving. In a similar way, the brokenness of families is often heightened at Christmas. We bring all of it to the altar on Christmas trusting in the healing power of Divine Love.

Let me also encourage you to receive the **Sacrament of Reconciliation** (confession) before or during the Christmas season. Times for confessions are listed in this bulletin. The priest is there to help you make a good confession so please don't be concerned about remembering what to say. We will guide you. That's why we are there!

Thanks to all who have brought gifts for the Advent giving tree. This is a wonderful custom at St. Denis and St. Margaret Mary Parishes.



Christmas Mass Schedule

The Nativity of the Lord (Christmas)

Friday, December 24

2 PM, St. Margaret Mary (This Mass will be outside)
3 PM, St. Denis
4:30 PM, St. Margaret Mary
5 PM, St. Denis

Saturday, December 25

8 AM, St. Denis
10 AM, St. Margaret Mary
10:30 AM, St. Denis

** Please note that masks must be worn to all inside Masses per the Archdiocese of Boston. Christmas Masses do not cover the Sunday obligation for December 26th. There will be no 4:30 PM Vigil Mass on December 25th at either parish. Masses for December 26th will follow the normal Sunday schedule.*

A Note From Karlene Duffy *Helping Haitian Families*



From our Helping Haitian Families event and giving tree at St. Denis, Westwood Catholic has collected more than \$23,000 in cash donations and more than \$4,700 in gift cards. Of course, this is exclusive of the hundreds of new winter apparel items. Bless each of you who contributed financially, materially, physically or prayerfully. Westwood Catholic plans to continue walking with our Haitian brothers and sisters in Christ, please keep them in your prayers. You remain in the prayers of the staff of Westwood Catholic

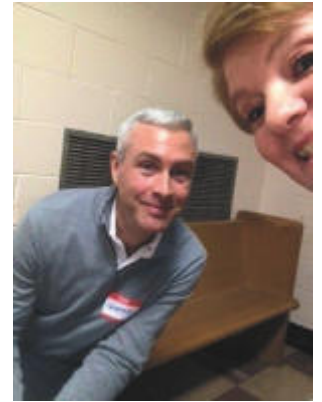
A few weeks ago at Mass I spoke about why we should support the 300 Haitian families who have arrived in the greater Boston area and the 300 who will be arriving. One comment I made was: “So far we have collected \$750. And for that we are grateful and humbled. However, when you divide \$750 among 600 families, it is not a good deal of

money.” Well, Maria, a student at Blessed Sacrament in Walpole took that as a challenge to raise more than we had thus far collected. First, Maria asked for a “dress down day” (students pay to NOT wear their uniforms) at her school with proceeds going to Helping Haitian Families. From that project she raised \$540.



Following that, Maria baked and sold cookies and muffins around her neighborhood and after masses at St. Margaret Mary Parish. From selling her delicious treats, she raised another \$899! Yes, this one daughter of God collected and donated \$1,439 to help our Haitian brothers and sisters in Christ. So next time you hear a sweeping generalization about our youth or about to make one, think about Maria. Pray for Maria that she continues along her path to

holiness and for her parents who have well planted seeds of faith. I have never loved losing until Maria came along.



Masks

In the light of spiking numbers of new COVID cases and the likely increase in those numbers in the upcoming holiday season, Cardinal Seán is mandating that throughout the archdiocese all people attending public Masses, including weddings and funerals, wear masks. This mandate takes effect this weekend (December 18/19, 2021) and expires on January 17, 2022.

Clergy Benefit Trust — Christmas Collection

The upcoming Christmas collection will benefit Clergy Trust which cares for the health and well-being of all diocesan priests in good standing. Whether it is within our parish communities or in the community at large, our priests are making a difference every day. If you are able, please consider a generous gift to the Christmas collection this year. Thank you in advance.

SUPPORT OUR PRIESTS THIS CHRISTMAS

donate at
clergytrust.org

— OR —

SCAN HERE for
Venmo, Google/
Apple Pay, PayPal
via Givebutler.



Supports our priests in good standing

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mass Links

St. Margaret Mary's Saturday 4:30 PM and Sunday 10 AM, as well as the daily Masses are livestreamed on the website at www.saintmmparish.org/livestreaming. The 5 PM outdoor Mass on Sundays is livestreamed on www.facebook.com/saintmmparish.org.

To watch the Sunday, 10:30 AM Mass at St. Denis please use this link:

<https://vimeo.com/event/693318/5fd168d1dc>

5 PM Mass at St. Margaret Mary

The Sunday 5 PM Mass at St. Margaret Mary will be inside for the winter.

In Loving Memory

Please pray for all the deceased of our parishes, including Ruth Brennan, Mary Langley, Mary Frances Sobocinski, Ann Provost and Leona Briggs who were recently born into eternal life, as well as all of our sick and those who have asked for our prayers.

Sister Barbara Lavin

Please pray for Sister Barbara Lavin, a Dominican sister of Peace who is celebrating her 60th anniversary of her consecration.

Office Closure

The parish office will be closed from Monday, December 27 through Friday, December 31.



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SUPPORT OUR PRIESTS THIS CHRISTMAS

donate at clergytrust.org — OR — SCAN HERE for Venmo, Google/Apple Pay, PayPal via Givebutler.



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St. Denis

Sat, Dec. 18	4:30 PM	Jim & Edie O’Sullivan
Sun, Dec. 19	8 AM	Michael Kelly
Sun, Dec. 19	10:30 AM	Kayla Walsh (10 Yr. Ann)
Mon, Dec. 20	9 AM	Teresa & Liam Mullen (Living)
Tue, Dec. 21	9 AM	Ruth Brennan
Wed, Dec. 22	9 AM	Robert Rose & Gregory Donahue

St. Margaret Mary

Sat, Dec. 18	4:30 PM	Louise & Edwin Trask
Sun, Dec. 19	10 AM	Lydia Nolan
Sun, Dec. 19	5 PM	Pro Populo
Mon, Dec. 20	7:30 AM	Thomas Byrne
Tue, Dec. 21	7:30 AM	Sarah Larkin (Living)
Wed, Dec. 22	7:30 AM	Dermot Maher (Living)
Thu, Dec. 23	7:30 AM	Donie Curtin (Living)
Fri, Dec. 24	7:30 AM	

**St. Denis Lector Schedule
Christmas Schedule**

Fri, Dec. 24	3:00 PM	Jim O’Sullivan, Bill Sebet: server
Fri, Dec. 24	5:00 PM	Bill Kearns, Bill Sebet: server
Sat, Dec. 25	8:00 am	Bill Polin, Jack Patterson: server
Sat, Dec. 25	10:30 AM	Karen Vernacchio,, Rob Scafati: server

**Sacramental Giving
Collections: December 12, 2021**

SAINT DENIS	
Weekly Collection.....	\$3,245
SAINT MARGARET MARY	
Weekly Collection.....	\$8,205

Events

Tuesday — Rosary at 8:10 PM at St. Margaret Mary after religious education classes.

Wednesday — Adoration & Reconciliation from 3-8 PM at St. Margaret Mary. The Blessed Sacrament will be solemnly exposed on our altar. There will also be the opportunity to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation from 7-8 PM.



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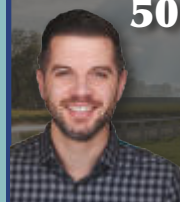
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