

ASSUMPTION PARISH

faith - community - prayer



JANUARY 31, 2021

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TIM BISSAILLON

MAINTENANCE

KNOW



“I know who you
are—the Holy One
of God!”

MARK 1:24

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

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Office Hours

@ST. MARY'S RECTORY

159 Church Street

Cheshire, MA 01225

413.743.2110

THE OFFICE IS CURRENTLY
CLOSED DUE TO COVID-19



Connect

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Masses & Confession

ST. MARY OF THE ASSUMPTION

INDOOR MASS - MAIN CHURCH

SUNDAYS AT 9:30 A.M.

JOIN US FOR MASS INSIDE OR SIT IN
YOUR CAR AND TUNE IN TO 91.3 ON
YOUR STEREO AND LISTEN

Mass Intentions

SUNDAY, JANUARY 31, 2021

9:30 a.m. Bonnie-Lou Dufur
Req. by Her Husband, Bob

MONDAY - SATURDAY

No Daily or Saturday Masses

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 2021

9:30 a.m. Raymond V. Boutin
Req. by His Wife & Family

PARISH GIFTS

ALL GIFTS GIVEN IN MEMORY OF
THE DECEASED PARISHIONERS
OF ASSUMPTION PARISH

NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

MY PARISH APP - ST. MARY'S

Our app is a great way to stay connected to the parish during the pandemic. Now that we do not use missals, you can have access to the readings, responsorial psalms, Gospel readings, prayers, our bulletin, and much more!

How to get the app on your smart phone or tablet (it's free!):

Apple & Android Devices:

- Visit the App Store (Apple) or Google Play Store (android)
- Search for and download myParish
- Open the myParish App
- Search for Cheshire zip code (01225)
- Select Assumption Parish and add it as a favorite
- You're now ready to check out all the app offers

EMBRACING CHANGE IN CHRIST

It's officially one month since we popped the champagne, toasted 2021, and wrote down a list of resolutions. This is usually the time when we start to take a good, hard look in the mirror to assess what we have done - or have not done - with the first month of this brand-new year.

New years can be scary, can't they? Full of promise, sure, but also full of room for failure. Full of space for our old baggage, old fears, and the continuation of old mistakes.

The same can be said of Christ, and the new life he offers us, if we are brave enough to accept it. Opportunities like that can be intimidating. In that moment, we might find ourselves like the man with the unclean spirit crying out: "What have you to do with me, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us?"

Jesus is a comforter of the afflicted; he is a consoling figure, but he is also a challenging one. Sometimes we have grown attached to our afflictions. The ideas of correcting bad habits or forming new ones is frankly terrifying to us. We have a voice deep inside who sees Christ and his invitation to repentance, and it cries out in fear: "I know who you are!"

When we live in the present, disavowing the baggage of the past or fear of the future, we submit ourselves to the promise of redemption. Let us be brave everyday stewards and invite Christ's healing power into our lives. We won't regret it - I'm sure the demoniac never did.

-Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

*All were amazed and asked one another,
"What is this? A new teaching with authority.
He commands even the unclean spirits and they
obey him." His fame spread everywhere through
the whole region of Galilee - Mk 1:27-28*

OUR GIVING

You may now give to our parish in the following ways:

- Mail a check/your envelope to the parish office
Make checks payable to ST. MARY'S
- Drop your envelope in the collection basket at Mass
(our parishes will ensure your envelopes are directed to your home parish)
- Set up online giving via the instructions below

JANUARY 3, 2021

Regular Collection	\$3,045.00	Fuel	\$205.00
Christmas	\$120.00	Solemnity	\$55.00

Thank you for your continued support of our parish!

ONLINE GIVING

Our online giving system is easy to use and may be accessed via our website or via the link below.

The online giving system utilizes "Stripe" a payment processing interface used by thousands of businesses including Google, Amazon, and more! The interface links with our online parish database, so gifts made to the parish may be tracked on your online account.

1. Visit stmarys.breezechms.com/give/online
2. Next, enter the dollar amount you would like to give.
3. Choose to give via credit card or bank transfer (ACH)
4. Enter your information.
5. Choose if you would like your give to be one time, weekly, bi-weekly, monthly, or yearly.
6. Click "Donate Now" and your payment will process.

MASS UPDATE

WEEKEND MASSES

Masses are currently being held in Adams and Cheshire at their regularly scheduled times. **In order to provide the safest environment for everyone, we strongly encourage as many people as possible to take advantage of the FM transmitter option to listen to Mass outside:**

Adams - listen on 91.7 FM

Cheshire - listen on 91.3 FM

At St. Mary's, you may listen from anywhere in the church parking lot or in the adjacent school lots. We distribute Communion near the chapel entrance on the driveway at the end of Mass.

Please be sure to thoroughly review and follow the COVID guidelines listed to the right. Also, if you have any potential symptoms of a cold or are not well, please do not seek to receive Communion, even outside. Our Extraordinary Ministers are still in contact with the occupants of other vehicles, and with other volunteers, so it is important we all do our part to keep our parish family healthy.

- Thank you for doing your part to keep everyone safe!

IMPORTANT COVID & HEALTH NOTICES

*****If you have tested positive for COVID and have attended one of our Masses or entered one of our buildings, please contact the parish office. Contacting us directly will allow us to quickly contact trace, notify others, and further disinfect our spaces.**

*****If you have traveled outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, please follow State and Local guidelines and either have a COVID-19 test within 72 hours before entering the State or quarantine for 14 days after arriving in the State.**

Now that we are in cold and flu season, in addition to COVID, we kindly ask that you be sure to adhere to the following guidelines:

- Wear a mask, wash your hands, hand sanitize
- Social distance and avoid personal contact with others
- Stay home if you have a fever, cough, shortness of breath, cold symptoms, and/or feel generally unwell
- Consider listening to Mass on the radio from our parking lot on 91.3 FM, watching online, or via TV if you are in a high risk category (the Dispensation from attending Mass is still in place)

GOSPEL MEDITATION – ENCOURAGE DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE

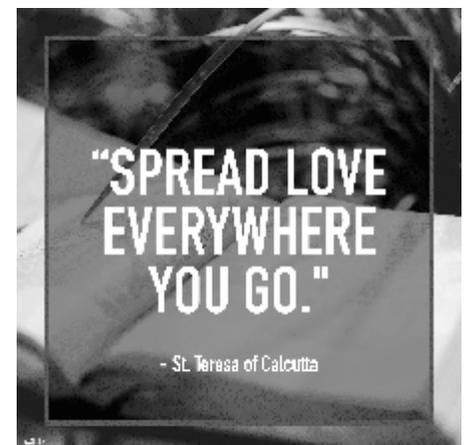
Most of us are quiet people who desire to live a good and holy life, promote the values and mission of the Gospel as best we can, and desire to one day inherit the surprise of life eternal God promises to us. We are not trail blazers. We are simple people who want to do the simple things of life well. But there are others who left a more profound impact along the way of the paths they walked. Folks like Dorothy Day, Martin Luther King, Thomas Merton, Gandhi, St. Teresa of Calcutta, and many others left lasting impacts and legacies. Like Moses, they show us by word and deed who God is and what integrity and a purpose driven life look like. They show us how to be holy. We need Moses people like these to give us inspiration, hope, and an example of holy living.

We do not need to do what they did or even mirror their relationship with God. Each one of us is God's special creation, with a purpose and soul known only to us. We need to learn how to open up and

bring, without compromise, our soul-ness to life. We know when someone is authentic and centered because they always point to truth, even though they struggle and sin themselves, and they embody an unspoken timeless wisdom that just sounds and feels right. Jesus taught with this same type of authority and it astonished many who listened. We do not need to move mountains, advance a cause, write books, or become notable. All we have to do is become credible witnesses of the faith we profess. Moses people can teach us how to do this.

St. Oscar Romero was an amazing man and a Moses figure for sure. He saw God in the burning bush and brought the flame of Gospel faith to the poorest of the poor, challenging the evils of the society in which he lived. He was tireless and persistent. He must have gotten very close to the problem because it cost him his life. He suspected it would. St. Romero said, "When we leave Mass, we ought to go out the way Moses descended

Mt. Sinai: with his face shining, with his heart brave and strong to face the world's difficulties." We can learn from this wisdom. If we allow the power of the Mass to truly transform us, we will leave that holy encounter changed. Our face will shine, and we will have courage. We can then bring what we have received to life's challenges. That sounds doable, doesn't it? Because of the example of our simple holiness, people will be amazed.
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