



Second Sunday of Advent

*Behold, I am sending
my messenger ahead of you;
he will prepare your way.*

Mark 1:2

Saint Mary Parish

796 BOSTON ROAD
Billerica, MA 01821

CATHOLIC COMMUNITY OF BILLERICA

You are invited, welcomed, accepted, loved and respected at St. Mary Parish and the Catholic Community of Billerica. No matter what your present status in the Catholic Church, no matter what your current family or marital situation, no matter your personal history, age, background, race, or color, no matter what your own self-image or esteem. If you are new to our parish, please introduce yourself after Mass, or call our Parish Office to register. We want to know and serve you.

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Rev. Gerald Souza, *Parochial Vicar*
Rev. Hal Obayashi, *Parochial Vicar*
Rev. John J. McCormick, *Senior Priest in Residence*
Rev. Robert Caprio O.F.M., *Weekend Assistant*
Deacon Phillip DiBello, *Permanent Deacon and Director of Ministry and Faith Formation*
Deacon Allan Shanahan, *Permanent Deacon*
Adrienne Cullen, *Pastoral Associate*

MASSES

Saturday Mass
4:00PM

Sunday Masses
9:00AM, 12:00 NOON

Weekday Mass
Monday, Wednesday, Saturday 9:00AM
Confessions—Saturday 3:15-3:45PM

OFFICES

Rectory

Rectory Phone: 978-663-2215

Rectory Fax: 978-663-0127

Hours: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday 8:00AM - 1:00 PM

Email: parish@stmarybillerica.com

WWW.BILLERICACATHOLIC.ORG

OFFICE STAFF

Christine Kilburn, Office Manager
parish@stmarybillerica.com

Angela Nice Director of Music Ministry

Karen Dubbs, Coordinator of Religious
Education Grades 1-6

Jim Spinale, Asst. Director of Religious
Education Grades 7-10

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

DECEMBER 7TH, 2014



A note from Adrienne on Advent

What are we waiting for? And how are we waiting?

As we enter into this holy season of Advent, it may be helpful to think about what we are preparing for, what we are actually waiting for. We read in

Philippians 3:20, "For our citizenship is in heaven, from which also we eagerly wait for a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ." If we take these words to heart, we are saying that our sights are on heaven and that we know Jesus Christ will come again and want to be prepared.

Merriam Webster defines eager as "very excited and interested: feeling a strong and impatient desire to do something or for something." Perhaps we could learn from children, who eagerly await the arrival of Santa. They are on their best behavior because they believe that they will be rewarded when Santa finally arrives/returns. Likewise, we should want to live as Disciples of Christ each and every day so that we are prepared for His return and thus receive our reward in Heaven. Our "waiting" for the coming of Jesus Christ should not be passive, but rather a joyful and deliberate living out of His teachings and commandment to "Love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength...and love your neighbor as yourself."

If the focus is on doing God's will this Advent, we may discover we have less time and interest in finding the perfect gift or stressing out about having the best holiday party. We will be too busy "eagerly awaiting" the coming of our Savior, Jesus Christ.

A THANK YOU FROM THE ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

thank
you!

The St. Vincent De Paul Society wishes to thank the parishioners of St. Theresa's, St. Mary's and St.

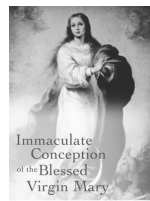
Andrew's for their generous donations to the Thanksgiving meal program. We were able to supply a full Thanksgiving meal ,turkey, stuffing ,vegetables, gravy ,sweets and more to 53 families in Billerica. A special thank you to the Religious Ed grades 3,4 and 5 who provided assorted sweets and beautiful Holiday banners that each family was able to take home and enjoy.

CHRISTMAS EVE GOSPEL TABLEAU

Rehearsal for our Gospel Tableau will be held at **10:AM on Saturday, December 13th**. Students who will be participating should plan on attending the rehearsal.

Children in Grades 1 and up are encouraged to participate in the tableau. We are looking for shepherds, angels, wise men, and more.

The Mass will be celebrated at 4:00PM on Christmas Eve. Please join us !



FEAST OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

This **Monday, December 8th** is the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of Mary, a Holy Day of Obligation. Masses will be celebrated on Monday at the following locations and times:

St. Mary Church	9:00 AM
St. Andrew Church	12:05 PM
St. Theresa Church	7:00 PM

Christmas Flowers in Remembrance of Loved Ones

We will be decorating the church with beautiful Christmas flowers as we get nearer to Christmas. **If you would like to make a donation so that some of these flowers will be placed in memory of loved ones, there will be a second collection for this purpose NEXT SUNDAY— DECEMBER 14th.**

You may also put your donation in the collection in a separate envelope marked for this purpose. **Please note on the envelope who you will be remembering.**

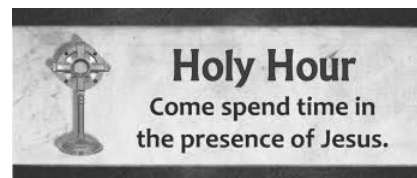


CATHOLIC COMMUNITY OF BILLERICA NEWS

HOLY HOUR DURING ADVENT

Where: St. Andrew Church

When: Monday Evenings from 6:00—7:00 PM



Parishioners, family and friends are encouraged to spend an hour with the Lord from 6:00-7:00pm on Monday evenings during Advent at St. Andrew Church. The Holy Hour will include time for silent prayer, Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Benediction. Take some time for yourself and come to rest before Lord. Fr. Gerald will hear confessions during this time for those who may wish to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation.



CATHOLIC COMMUNITY OF BILLERICA CHRISTMAS CONCERT

The Catholic Community of Billerica will present a Christmas Concert **THIS Sunday December 7, 2014 at 2:30pm at St Theresa of Lisieux Parish.**

Come and enjoy the joyous, festive music of the St. Andrew's choir, the St. Mary's Folk group, the St. Theresa's Children's choir, St. Mary's choir, St. Theresa's Youth choir, and St. Theresa's choir. Refreshments will follow in the Parish Hall. What a wonderful way to prepare for the true meaning of Christmas !

We hope to see you all there !



Weekly Collection

WEEKLY OFFERTORY
Weekend of 11/29 & 11/30/2014

Weekly Goal - 6,500.00
(Needed to maintain the parish)

Total Offertory Collected : \$ 6,178.00

Weekly Deficit: \$ 322.00

*Thank you to the parishioners of St. Mary's for
your generosity*

Christmas Gifts for Mother Teresa's Missionaries of Charity

Once again, St. Mary's will be helping the Mother Teresa Missionaries of Charity this Christmas.

Gift labels are available in baskets located at the entrances to the church **THIS weekend**. If possible, we ask you to take one as your gift pledge for a child or an elderly person.

We ask that gifts *be returned* to the church hall **NEXT weekend (December 14 & 15th)** so that we may deliver them to the Sisters before Christmas.

We thank you for generous donation !

ADVENT PENANCE SERVICE



The priests of the Catholic Community of Billerica will conduct a town-wide Advent Penance Service at **St. Theresa Church on Sunday evening, December 14th at 6:30 PM**. This is wonderful opportunity for all to come to the beautiful Sacrament of Reconciliation before Christmas.



Mass Schedule

Saturday December 6, 2014

9:00

4:00 *Anna Vahey; 3rd Anniversary*

Sunday December 7, 2014

9:00 *Alforzina DeRosa; Memorial*

12:00 *Elaine Moriconi; 13th Anniversary*

Monday December 8, 2014

9:00

Tuesday December 9, 2014

No Mass Scheduled

Wednesday December 10, 2014

9:00

Thursday December 11, 2014

No Mass Scheduled

Friday December 12, 2014

No Mass Scheduled

Saturday December 13, 2014

9:00

4:00 *Alec Bulmer; 4th Anniversary*

Sunday December 14, 2014

9:00 *Saint Mary's Benefactor's Society*

12:00 **Terry Donovan, 15th Anniversary**
Daniel Cunningham, Memorial

JOIN US FOR
ADVENT



Schedule of Events

- December 7th** - CCB Christmas Concert 2:30 PM
St. Theresa's
- Baptismal Prep 7-8:30 PM St. Theresa
- One Collection
- December 8th** - Immaculate Conception
9:A St. Mary; 12:05 PM St. Andrew;
7:PM St. Theresa
- Holy Hour St. Andrew's 6-7 PM
- December 9th** - St. Mary's Women's Club 6:45 PM
- December 13th** - Movie Night—St. Theresa Hall
- Christmas Tableau Rehearsal 10AM

Prayer Requests



Please Pray For.....Son's Safety & job security & health, MD & WD Operations, MC & Jean & Debbie recovery from cancer, Barbara & Jane R.I.P., Drew-Swimming accident, PJ— lyme disease recovery, James R.; The Billerica Collaborative;

God bless our wonderful priests; Our parents, Rob, Peter, Marc, Myron, Ann Marie & John, Peggy & Mike, Michelle, Mike, Lauren, & Giovanna, Fred Scheu, Billy Powers; Judith Foppiano—Rest in peace; A. Eileen Rymill, Marie Hayes; Keep my family safe; My family, Marlyne P; Eternal peace for R.B., gratitude for answered prayers; Healing and comfort for Rachael, Joe & Angela, Mary, Jean, Bill, and Tony; Help with legal problems; All souls in purgatory; Harrison's recovery; Herman Wiitala; Scott and Donna; Kevin Walsh Joann Coppola; Son at college; Pray for Patsy Hawes-Goss & Shirley Crawford.

CATHOLIC COMMUNITY OF BILLERICA DAILY MASS SCHEDULE

Daily Mass at St. Mary's: 9:00 AM

Monday , Wednesday, Saturday

Daily Mass at St. Andrew's: 12:05 PM

Monday , Thursday, Friday

Daily Mass at St. Theresa's: 9:00 AM

Tuesday, Thursday, Friday

BAPTISMS

Third Sunday of every month at 1:30 pm.

Instructions for parents and godparents provided the first Sunday of every month at 7:00 pm at St. Theresa Parish Hall

MARRIAGE

Please call the parish office to make arrangements six months in advance.

Tel: 978-663-3968

Fax: 978-262-2280



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