

A large stained glass window depicting the Holy Family. The Virgin Mary is seated in the center, holding the infant Jesus. Joseph stands to her left, looking down at the child. The background is filled with colorful geometric patterns and stars.

# Saint Mary Parish

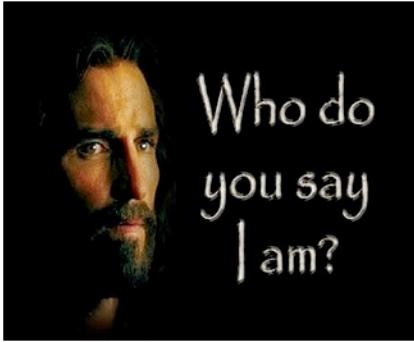
[Www.billericacatholic.org](http://Www.billericacatholic.org)

**FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY**

*N*ow, Master, you may let your servant go in peace, according to your word, for my eyes have seen your salvation, which you prepared in sight of all the peoples, a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and glory for your people Israel.

Luke 2:29-32 (NAB)

*The Holy Family of  
Jesus, Mary and Joseph*



## Adult Faith Formation

***Who do you say that I am?***

***Prayer is at the root of knowing Christ***

Imagine the delight of Simeon (a devout man whom the Spirit was upon) and Anna (an elderly prophetess who "worshiped night and day with fasting and prayer") to be at the temple when Mary and Joseph brought Jesus to be presented to the Lord. Their lives of prayer and holiness granted them the opportunity to gaze upon the face of the child Jesus and know with certainty that He was the long-awaited savior. May we, too, be rooted in prayer so that we are able to let the "peace of Christ control our hearts" and to show "heartfelt compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience" until He comes again.

We hope you will consider joining us at one of our next WDYSTIA presentations on ***Jesus: Person of Prayer***. In the Gospel this weekend we hear that "The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favor of God was upon him." What must have those early years for the Holy Family been like? Jesus would have been an obedient son, studied Scripture and learned to pray. We begin to see the fruits of those hidden years when Jesus comes to the Jordan to be baptized, followed by forty days of fasting and prayer in the desert.

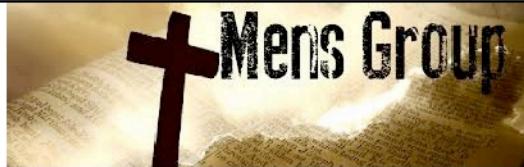
Come and hear more about Jesus' prayer life and how we can become persons of prayer ourselves at one of the following presentations:

### Jesus: Person of Prayer

Sunday, January 18 at St. Theresa: 3:30 - 5PM

Tuesday, January 20 at St. Mary: 7 - 8:30 PM

Thursday, January 22 at St. Andrew: 7 - 8:30 PM



### SATURDAY MORNING DISCIPLES

Would you like to share your faith in an informal setting? All men are invited to join the "Saturday Morning Disciples."

They meet on Saturday mornings from 8:00 - 9:00AM at St. Andrew Parish in Fr. Wilson Hall to the readings for the Mass of the weekend and to share their faith. For information, contact Mike Sullivan at [imsullyman@aol.com](mailto:imsullyman@aol.com).

### VOCATIONS

Would you like to help support vocations in our Parish and Diocese? We are widening our efforts for

Vocations, both for Priests and for Marriage.

If you have some time to help with the programs, please contact Deacon Phil at [deaconphildibello@gmail.com](mailto:deaconphildibello@gmail.com).





# CATHOLIC COMMUNITY OF BILLERICA NEWS

## Introducing our new and improved website!



We are pleased to announce that we have updated [www.BillericaCatholic.org](http://www.BillericaCatholic.org) to be more modern and also work well on tablets and smart phones. Our work is not done, but it is a large first step. Should you discover any missing information, any inaccuracies, or any issues with the site, please e-mail Deacon Phil at [Deacon.Phil.DiBello@gmail.com](mailto:Deacon.Phil.DiBello@gmail.com).

Thanks to Ted Collins for his enormous help in setting up the new web site! To keep moving with this momentum, though, we are looking for a volunteer to help keep BillericaCatholic.org up-to-date. If you have experience with WordPress and can spare a few hours per week, please contact Father Shawn or Deacon Phil - we would be happy to chat about what needs to be accomplished.

And, while you're at it, why not make <http://www.BillericaCatholic.org> your home page? It is a great way to keep up-to-date on everything that is going on in the Parishes of our Collaborative!



### Solemnity of Mary Masses

Wednesday, December 31st

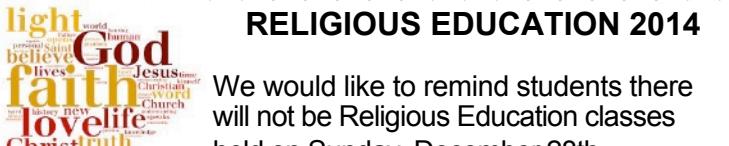
Saint Theresa      4:00 PM

Thursday, January 1st

Saint Mary      9:00 AM  
Saint Andrew      11:00 AM



III. Peter Connolly and Sue Ann Bodenrader

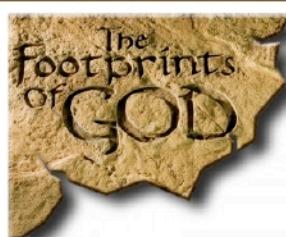


### RELIGIOUS EDUCATION 2014

We would like to remind students there will not be Religious Education classes held on Sunday, December 28th.

Religious Education classes will resume in the new year on January 4, 2015.

Happy New Year to all students and catechists from the entire Religious Education staff !



### VIDEO SERIES: "FOOTPRINTS OF GOD"

Fr. Marty and Deacon Al will be offering a video series called "Footprints of God". This series is a fast-paced, entertaining biography, travel documentary, Bible study, apologetics course and Church history study rolled into one remarkable adventure! All are welcome, consider bringing a snack to share with the group during the break time.

The next presentations will be at St. Theresa's Hall on ~

January 7, 2015 - Jesus- The Word Became Flesh

January 21, 2015 TBA- Last Night

COME JOIN US !!!



### BIBLE STUDY THURSDAYS 12:30 - 2:PM

The Catholic Community of Billerica holds a Bible Study Group that meets at St. Mary's in the church hall.

All are welcome to attend !

For more information, please contact Kent at [Kent68@juno.com](mailto:Kent68@juno.com)

### 2015 CALENDARS



We would like to thank Susan & Fran Burns from Burns Funeral Home for donating our new parish calendars for the Billerica Catholic Community.

*Mass Schedule*

Saturday	<b>December 27 2014</b>
9:00	Virginia Stimpson, <i>Memorial</i>
4:00	Robert Wade, <i>3rd Anniversary</i>
Sunday	<b>December 28, 2014</b>
9:00	Joseph Lally and the Joyce & Lally Families, <i>Anniversary</i>
12:00	Mary and Frances McCarthy & Phillip Lawrence Mitchell; <i>Anniversary</i>
Monday	<b>December 29, 2014</b>
9:00	
Tuesday	<b>December 30, 2014</b>
	<i>No Mass Scheduled</i>
<b>Wednesday December 31, 2014</b>	
Thursday	<b>January 1, 2014</b>
9:00 AM	<b>Solemnity of Mary</b>
Friday	<b>January 2, 2014</b>
	<i>No Mass Scheduled</i>
Saturday	<b>January 3, 2014</b>
9:00	
4:00	Donald McCaffrey & Pamela Bunney; <i>Memorial</i>
Sunday	<b>January 4, 2014</b>
9:00	
12:00	Abraham Varghese, <i>Memorial</i>

Please remember in your prayers,

*Donald Kirkness*

who has returned home to God.

We pray that God will grant him the peace in His heavenly kingdom and send His Holy Spirit to comfort his loved ones left here on earth.

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.

**PASTORAL TEAM**

**Very Rev. Shawn W. Allen, Pastor**

**Rev. Martin Dzengeleski, Parochial Vicar**

**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**

**WEEKEND MASSES**

**SATURDAY**      **St. Andrew 4:00 PM**

**St. Mary 4:00 PM**

**St. Theresa 4:00 PM**

**SUNDAY**      **St. Andrew 7:30 & 10:00 AM**

**St. Mary 9:00 AM and Noon**

**St. Theresa 8:00 & 10:30 AM and 5:00 PM**

**WEEKDAY MASS**

**Monday, Wednesday, Saturday 9:00AM**

**Confessions—Saturday 3:15-3:45PM**

**OFFICES**

**Rectory Phone: 978-663-2215**

**Rectory Fax: 978-663-0127**

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

**Email: [parish@stmarybillerica.com](mailto:parish@stmarybillerica.com)**

**OFFICE STAFF**

**Christine Kilburn, Office Manager**

**[parish@stmarybillerica.com](mailto: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**

**[cccd@stmarybillerica.com](mailto:cccd@stmarybillerica.com)**



Please remember in your prayers,

*Donald Kirkness*

who has returned home to God.

We pray that God will grant him the peace in His heavenly kingdom and send His Holy Spirit to comfort his loved ones left here on earth.



December 28th - No Religious Education Classes  
- One Collection

December 31st - Mass 4:00 PM St. Theresa

January 1st - Mass 9:00 AM St. Mary  
11:00 AM St. Andrew

January 4th - Religious Education Classes Resume  
- Baptismal Prep St. Theresa Hall 7:00 PM  
- One Collection

January 7th - Footprints of God St. Theresa Hall 7:00 PM

January 10th - Movie Night St. Theresa Parish

January 11th - Monthly Maintenance Collection

January 13th - Women's Club

January 18th - 2nd Collection  
All Together Sunday  
Baptisms 1:30 PM



## Your Questions Answered



For questions about the parish or information on any of the following topics, please contact the person listed below.

### Are you new to the area and have questions about the parish?

Please feel free to call Chris Kilburn at 978-663-2215 or email her at [parish@stmarybillerica.com](mailto:parish@stmarybillerica.com) and she will be happy to speak with you.

### Mass Intentions

Please call Chris Kilburn at 978-663-2215 or email her at [parish@stmarybillerica.com](mailto:parish@stmarybillerica.com) and she will be happy to help you.

### Religious Education

If you have questions regarding Religious Education, please call Mrs. Dubbs (Grades 1-6) at 978-663-2215 Ext.11 or Mr. Spinale 978-663-2215 Ext. 20.

### Infant & Adult Baptism and who can be a Godparent ?

Please contact Chris Kilburn at 978-663-2215 to obtain more information.

### Weddings

Congratulations on your engagement! Please call 978-663-3624 to schedule an appointment with Adrienne Cullen, the Pastoral Associate ,at least 6 months prior to the wedding.

### Adult Confirmation

For more information on this, please contact Deacon Phil DiBello at [Deacon.Phil.DiBello@gmail.com](mailto:Deacon.Phil.DiBello@gmail.com) .

### Homebound and Sick

Do you know of someone who is homebound and would enjoy a visit from a priest or Spiritual Care Companion? Our parish has a ministry to the homebound. If you know someone in the parish and would like a visit to receive the Eucharist, please call the rectory at 978-663-2215 to arrange a visit. 5



**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, Uncle Lou Cat; Judith Foppiano—Rest in peace; A. Eileen Rymill, Marie Hayes; My family, Marlyne P & Ann P.; Eternal peace for R.B., gratitude for answered prayers; Healing and comfort for Rachael, Theresa, Bill, Lila, Tony, Mary, Joe, Jean; Success with court; ; Son at college; Kathy Waters, Joe Donohue; Son to get work, sister's illness, friends daughter to get better; Mike's healing; Jenna & sick children all over the world; Family; Special Intention; Mary Giles, Richard, Ed, Joan for health; Peace on earth.



**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS®**

Join our fraternal organization of Catholic Men and help us in our works supporting the sick, poor, elderly, disabled and the unborn.

Next event - Tootsie Roll Charity Golf Tournament on Sept 22nd  
Call Steve at 667-6536 or go to [www.BillericaKofC.org](http://www.BillericaKofC.org)



## BIBLE DETECTIVE

See what you can discover for yourself about the background to the readings.

### THE BOOK OF SIRACH

Where in the Bible is the Book of Sirach to be found? Is it known by any other title as well? Do we know who wrote this book, and when?

### THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO LUKE

Mary and Joseph took the baby Jesus to the temple in Jerusalem. Find out what the temple looked like at that time. When was the temple built, and what happened to it?

This visit to Jerusalem forms one of the joyful mysteries of the rosary. What is this mystery called? How many other joyful mysteries are there, and what are their names?

## FILL IN THE CAPS

The sentences below are missing key words. Can you find the correct ones? (They are all in today's readings.)

1. He \_\_\_\_\_ up \_\_\_\_\_ who \_\_\_\_\_ his mother.
2. My son, take care of your \_\_\_\_\_ when he is old; \_\_\_\_\_ him not as \_\_\_\_\_ as he lives.
3. Children, \_\_\_\_\_ your parents in \_\_\_\_\_, for this is \_\_\_\_\_ to the Lord.
4. They \_\_\_\_\_ him up to \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_ him to the Lord.
5. The child grew and became \_\_\_\_\_, filled with \_\_\_\_\_; and the \_\_\_\_\_ of God was upon him.

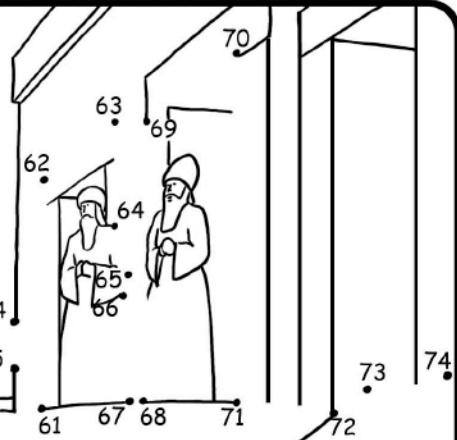
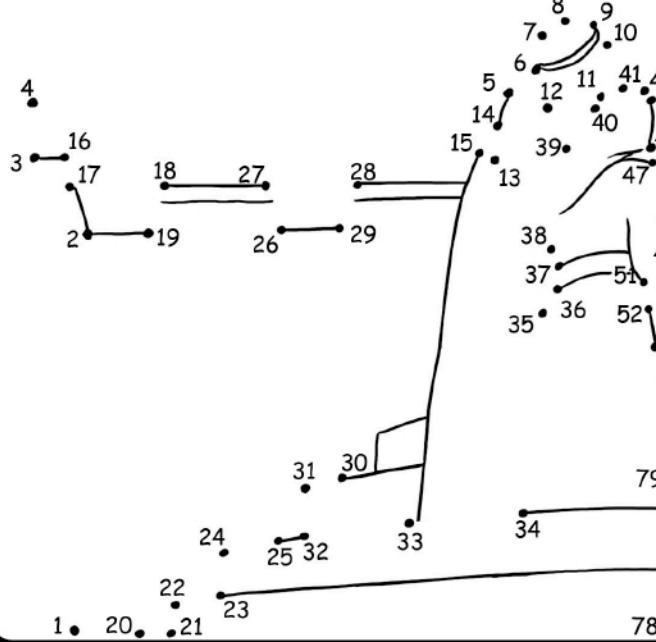
ANSWERS

1. stores, riches, reveres 2. father, grieve, long  
 3. obey, everything, pleasing 4. took, Jerusalem, present  
 5. strong, wisdom, favor

## CONNECT THE DOTS

GOSPEL READING: LUKE 2: 22-40 or LUKE 2:22, 39-40

THE PRESENTATION



David Fielding