

## St. Mary of the Assumption

Brookline, Massachusetts

### We Remember in Prayer

Your prayers are requested for Lois Anderson, Jason Attride, Rose Bell, Jack Boland, Glen Brodeur, Bob Butler, Dick Butler, Paula Cieplik, Dot Critchley, Dorothy Dalton, Gerald Dean, Gisa Delgado, Pat Devine, Jim Dewire, Colleen Donahue, Terry Dooley, David Farrell, Meg Ferrigno, Michael Gately, Jose Gomez, Joan Hamilton, Flemming Iverson, Ethel Johnson, Kiran Kenney, Cameron Kerr, Joanne Lambert, Ann Larkin, Allyn Lynch, Theresa Mahan, Dr. Anthony Maiella, Anastasios Mallios, Eilis McComiskey, Zarek Merza, Geraldine Miller, Michael Mullarkey, Ann Mulligan, Peggy Mullins, Janice Murphy Sweeney, Christine Reti, Michael Riley, Maeve Rock, Bob Sachetti, Virginia Solomon, Joseph Spinner, Nadege St. Paul, Jacob Sydney, Gene Townsend, Dan Tynan, Sr., Bernard W., Brady Wein, Sister Doris Wiswell, Katherine Zukotynski, the faithful departed, including Mary A. Ewanouski, Fr. Thomas Fleming, Timothy J. Galvin, Sr. Dorothy Hart, Patricia Lungu, Mary Mattie, Francis McCone, Richard Nyhan, Jim Rice, Ann Valcho and those for whom prayers have been requested.

#### Saturday, December 31

4:00 p.m. Richard Gillis, Memorial

#### Sunday January 1

9:00 a.m. Catherine I. Belair, Anniversary

9:30 a.m. Rose DiMarco, Memorial

11:30 a.m. Kim Alan Hamer, Memorial

#### Monday, January 2

12:10 p.m. Rosemary Kickham, Anniversary

#### Tuesday, January 3

12:10 p.m. Robert Fish, Anniversary

#### Wednesday, January 4

12:10 p.m. Catherine Finn, Anniversary

#### Thursday, January 5

12:10 p.m. Anthony & Mary Arsenault & Family

#### Saturday, January 7

4:00 p.m. Theresa Lawlor, Birthday Memorial

#### Sunday January 8

9:00 a.m. Billy Kirrane, Memorial and  
Jim & Julia McMahan, Anniversary

9:30 a.m. Paul Casey, Anniversary

11:30 a.m. Tom & Cecilia Robinson, Anniversary

*The Lord bless you and keep  
you!*

### ST. MARY'S PRAYER ROSARY GROUP

January 26 at 7:00 p.m. in the lower church

### SUNDAY MORNING ROSARY GROUP

Every Sunday following the 11:30 a.m. Mass

### NOVENA TO ST. ANTHONY FOR THE UNEMPLOYED

Tuesdays following the 12:10 pm Mass

### ST. MARY'S BOOK CLUB

The book for December is *Sputnik Sweetheart* by Haruki Murakami. We meet on Monday night December 26th at 7:00 pm in the rectory. New members are welcome.

### ST. MARY'S AFGHAN GROUP

Our next meeting will be held on Sunday, January 29<sup>th</sup> from 1:00 – 3:00 p.m. in the school cafeteria. New members are always welcome to join with us.

### SACRAMENT OF ANOINTING OF THE SICK

This weekend January 7 after the 4:00 p.m. Mass  
and January 8 after the 8:00 a.m. Mass

### GIVE THE GIFT OF MUSIC IN HONOR OF SOMEONE

If there is a music lover on your Christmas list, consider donating to the pipe organ restoration fund in that person's honor. Gifts may be given in any amount, in honor of living people or in memory of the deceased. You may also give in celebration of a special event such as a wedding anniversary or the birth of a child. A plaque with the names of all honorees will be installed at the completion of the organ renovations (around Easter). Your gift will help us continue to bring beautiful music to our liturgies, and will preserve our wonderful pipe organ for years to come. To donate, see Arthur Rishi for a donation form, or stop by the rectory office during business hours.

### READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: 1 Jn 2:22-28; Jn 1:19-28

Tuesday: 1 Jn 2:29 — 3:6; Jn 1:29-34

Wednesday: 1 Jn 3:7-10; Jn 1:35-42

Thursday: 1 Jn 3:11-21; Jn 1:43-51

Friday: 1 Jn 5:5-13; Mk 1:7-11 or Lk 3:23-38 [23, 31-34, 36, 38]  
Saturday: 1 Jn 5:14-21; Jn 2:1-11  
**Solemnity of Mary, The Holy Mother of God**

invisible God, God's face is shown to us and God's presence is made known to us in faithful and loving kindness.

**December 31/January 1**

**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS**

**ST. MARY'S CAMPUS**

**January 1:** Happy New Year. No class.

**January 8:** Class.

**ST. LAWRENCE CAMPUS**

**January 1:** Happy New Year. No class.

**January 8:** Class.

**SNOW POLICY**

In the event that religious education classes are cancelled, an email announcement will be sent out by 8 am that morning. Cancellations will also be announced on **WBZRadio 1030am & WBZ-TV**.

**RCIA**

Congratulations to Jasmine Byrd, Jennifer Clark, David Dorfman, Courtney Jump, Paula Lopes, Victoria Norausky, Gnamanzie Traore and Matt Williams. Please keep them in your prayers as they move forward to the Easter Sacraments.

**THANK YOU:**

To all who participated in our Gift of Love program. The outpouring of generosity was extraordinary. We were able to help over 250 people have a Merry Christmas. A special thank you to all who participated in our program by helping sort the gifts, write out tags and most of all by purchasing a gift.

**END OF YEAR CHARITABLE GIFT GIVING**

If you are considering year end Charitable Giving, I ask you to consider St. Mary's Parish. Of particular need is assistance for the School and also the Parish Restoration Fund, which is used 100% for the maintenance and upkeep of the Church and other buildings. Any consideration is most appreciated. (Fr. Brian)

**THE BLESSING WE RECEIVE**

The blessing we experience in Christ Jesus is proclaimed in Numbers as the special blessing for the people of Israel. They and we are to be blessed by the invocation of God's loving kindness, the shining glory of God's face turned toward us in love, not away from us in anger. We are blessed by God's own peace! Our wish and our hope are fulfilled in this blessing, which is made visible in the coming of Jesus. In Jesus, the image of the

**A NEW YEAR'S MESSAGE**

Thanks to all in the parish for the many ways you show that you are part of the Body of Christ. This would not be possible without our staff, ministers, volunteers and council members with their collective prayers and actions in order to bring forth God's Kingdom through His grace. It is truly an honor to serve you as your pastor and am grateful for all the prayer, support and counsel you have given to me. Please continue to do so! As we enter this New year to celebrate Christ's birth allow me to share these stunning words by Joseph Veneroso: "God knows how it feels to cry like a baby and die like a criminal. God knows how it feels to work with rough hands on rougher wood and walk this earth with calloused feet and taste the sweetness of precious food shared one last time with parting friends. God knows comfort in a mother's arms, longing for a father's love, sadness at a brother's loss, strength of a sister's undying loyalty. God knows why a heart overflowing with love erupts with anger when people hurt one another. God knows the joy of life restored when the dead arise and the lost are found. God knows this not by being God alone but because a woman once said 'Yes' and God became one of us." A Blessed and Holy New year to all.  
Fr. Brian

**TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION**

On this feast, we can see how devotion to Mary has been a beacon of hope to the sick throughout history. In the new cathedral of Los Angeles, the faithful enter through a single door topped by a striking sculpture of Mary with arms stretched down in compassion. Sculpted into the massive bronze doors are the titles of Mary most treasured by various cultures. Many of them speak of how the sick are consoled by a sense of Mary's presence. Dorothy Day once recalled St. Bonaventure's remark that after the Lord's long forty days of fasting in the desert, when he was diminished and weak from his struggle, the angels who ministered to him went first to the Blessed Mother's house. There they saw the soup that was on her stove, and took some to the Lord so that he would delight in it even more since his mother had prepared it. "Of course," said Dorothy Day matter-of-factly. In praying the rosary

and savoring the stories of Mary's steadfast love in the face of all suffering, the sick are strengthened by one of our tradition's most shining treasures, and the whole Church is enriched.