

SAINT THERESA OF AVILA PARISH

JANUARY 5, 2025

10 SAINT THERESA AVENUE WEST ROXBURY, MA 02132

617-325-1300 sttooffice24@gmail.com



EPIPHANY

OF THE LORD

THE VISIT OF THE MAGI

They prostrated themselves and did him homage. Then they opened their treasures and offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. Matthew 2:11

SAINT THERESA OF AVILA PARISH

IN COLLABORATIVE WITH SAINT JOHN CHRYSOSTOM PARISH

SAINT THERESA OF AVILA

Saturday Vigil: 4:30 pm in Main Church
Sunday: 8:00 am, 10:00 am in Main Church
Daily: Monday, Wednesday, Friday 8:30 am
Holy Days: As announced
Confessions: Thursday 6:30 –7:00 pm in the Chapel.

Exposition of Blessed Sacrament: Wednesday morning
following 8:30 A.M. Mass

SAINT JOHN CHRYSOSTOM

Saturday Vigil: 4:00 pm
Sunday: 7:30 am, 9:30 am
Daily: Tuesday, Thursday 4:30pm,
Saturday 8:30am
Holy Days: As announced
Confessions: Saturday morning 9:15-9:45 A.M.
Exposition of Blessed Sacrament: Saturday morning
following 8:30 A.M. Mass

MASS INTENTIONS

WEEK OF JANUARY 5, 2025

Saturday, January 4

4:30 P.M. Angelo Martignetti—Memorial Mass

Sunday, January 5

8:00 A.M. Reverend James T. Kelly
10:00 A.M. Alfonso Jayme—Anniversary Mass
Sylvester Cassidy—Anniversary Mass

Monday, January 6

8:30 A.M. Reverend Thomas P. Donohoe-Memorial Mass

Wednesday, January 8

8:30 A.M. No Intention

Friday, January 10

8:30 A.M. Reverend Richard E. McQuade-Memorial Mass

Saturday, January 11

4:30 P.M. Reverend James F. Rafferty—Memorial Mass

Sunday, January 12

8:00 A.M. No Intention
10:00 A.M. Harry Melia—2nd Anniversary Mass

CLERGY

Reverend John J. Connolly, Jr. — Pastor
Reverend Charles J. Higgins
Deacon Brian Kean

STAFF

PRINCIPAL OF SAINT THERESA SCHOOL

Mrs. Mary Kate Stepatos
www.sttheresaschoolboston.com • 617-323-1050

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Grades 1-5: Ms. Rosetta Mark rmark@staboston.org
Grades 6-10: Ellen Murphy, emurphy@staboston.org

RCIA

Susan Abbott, sttadultfaith@gmail.com

COORDINATOR OF YOUTH MINISTRY

Rudy Flores, rudy.flores@holynameparish.com

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DIRECTOR OF FACILITIES

Michael O'Brien, mobstsj@gmail.com

PARISH SECRETARY

Carol O'Brien, sttoffice24@gmail.com

Mon. Tues. Wed. Thurs. 9:30 A.M. —12:00 Noon

MISSION STATEMENT

PRAYER OF SAINT THERESA OF AVILA

*Christ has no body now on earth but yours;
yours are the only hands with which He can do His
work,
yours are the only feet with which He can go about the
world,
Yours are the only eyes through which His compassion
can shine forth.
Christ has no body on earth now but yours.*



Pope St. John XXIII National Seminary encourages prospective candidates between 30 and 60 years to discern a possible vocation to Priesthood. We host "First Friday Visits" where men discerning the priesthood are invited to join the Seminary community for prayer, fellowship, and dinner. These brief and informal evenings begin at 5:00 PM and conclude by 7:30 PM. During their visit here, the men will join the community for Holy Hour and Evening Prayer, followed by dinner with the seminarians and an opportunity to tour the Seminary. If a candidate wishes to speak with a priest faculty member during his visit, we will arrange for that as well. There is also the option to attend virtually via the Chapel live-stream link of evening prayer followed by a Zoom meeting. The Zoom meeting link is available once registered. The next visit is scheduled for

Friday, January 10, 2025

If you know of a man interested in pursuing a possible vocation or who may benefit from a visit to Pope St. John XXIII National Seminary, please have him reach out to Msgr. William Fay. Professor of Philosophy and Theology Pope St. John XXIII Seminary Office: 781-899-5500 x127 E-Mail: FirstFriday@psjs.edu



CATHOLIC CHARITIES FOOD PANTRY



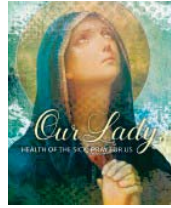
The Catholic Charities Food Pantry remains in desperate need of donations, especially now with rising prices. The situation continues to be urgent for many families. You may bring your contributions of food to the rectory garage on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 11:00 A.M.—1:00 P.M. Thank you for your ongoing generous sup-

REMEMBER THOSE WHO SERVE



If you would like your relative or friend who is serving in the military to be remembered in the prayers of our parish, please provide their name, rank, service branch, and location if applicable. You can call the Parish Office (617-323-4410 / 617-325-1300) or email stoffice24@gmail.com

PRAYER FOR THOSE WHO ARE ILL



LORD, OUR GOD, HELP OF THE HELPLESS, BE NEAR OUR FRIENDS AND NEIGHBORS WHO SUFFER THIS DAY. GRANT THEM STRENGTH, PEACE OF MIND AND HEART, AND RENEWED HEALTH IF IT BE YOUR WILL, THROUGH CHRIST OUR LORD. AMEN.

Tim Albert, Gary Anderson, Joseph Anderson, Mary Antonellis, Michelle Baker, Alan Bartlett, Marilyn Barry, Margaret Barto, Catherine Bielawa, Stephen Bisordi, Joseph Blackman, Diane Blaskiewicz, Kevin Boettger, Margaret Bomba, Jr., Damien Brennan, Chet Broderick, Katie Broderick, Paul Broderick, Kendall Buczynski, Stephanie Buczynski, Frank Budukiewicz, Geraldine Bulman, Joan Bumila, Larry Burke, Allen Cameron, Lisa Carden, Maria Cemrania, Jeanne Clancy, Nicholas Cleary, Brendan Cogavin, Charles Collins, John Collins, Rose Connolly, Mary Connors, Eileen Corrigan, Teresa Costa, Tom Cunningham, Richard Curran, Jr., Debra Daum, Gary D'Avila, Mary DeSantis, Lorraine DeVirgilio, Cristina Donatelli, Claire Donohoe, Kristen Doty, John J. Doyle, Kathleen Durepo, John Ellis, Helen Evans, Audrey Fallon, Barbara Farulla, Joseph Federico, Mary Feeny, Rose Finn, Joseph Fisher, Griffin Fleishman, Charles Fleming, Patrick Flynn, Dan Foley, Neil Foley, Terry Forkins, Ben Fox, Nora Frasier, Karen Glazer, Louise Gogg, Louise Goodwin, Eleanor Gordon, Colin Andrew Greco, Stephan Grundy, Patricia Hade, Denise Hamilton, Ann Hanlon, Patricia Dolan Harwitz, Elizabeth Heffernan, Mary D. Hennessey, Jackie Hess, Barbara Hickey, Louise Marie Hogan, Eleanor Howard, Janet Hughes, Meaghan W. Hussey, Kyle Johnson, Lily Joyce, Phil Keating, Mary Kenny, Karen Kostek, Irene Kyricos, Kylee LeSourd, Madison Paige Losuts, Taylor Anne Lynch, Lois MacDonald, Thomas Mahoney, Kathleen Maloney, Shawn Patrick Maloney, Elizabeth Matalobos, Jason McCann, Michael McCarthy, Patrick McCarty, Linda McClelland, Helen McCloskey, Mildred McDermott, Kara McGonagle, Erin McGuirk, Ellen McKenna, Jessica McKenzie, Joanne McKenzie, Neil McLaughlin, Paul McNamara, Hilda Mendise, Anna Minotti, Cynthia Monahan, Joe and Cindy Morello, Deanna Morrissey, Maryellen Mulkern, Pat Mullen, Honora Murphy, Annie Murray, Maria and Michael Nadile, Donna Nazzaro, Bruce Newman, Billy O'Brien, Mary O'Brien, Sister Mary O'Brien, Daniel O'Connor, Jay O'Connor, Natalie O'Connor, Patrick O'Connor, Barbara Page, John Palumbo, Virginia Palumbo, Steve Papia, Sheila Papia, Nicole Pellagrino, James Perri, Carol Pitman, Marie Polo, Virginia Prendergast, Kathy Psarros, Kathleen Quinn, Barton Ramos, Josephine Rappa, Steven Ricchiuti, Theresa Ricco, Joel Rivera, Kate Robbins, Kathleen Ryan, Merry and Lawrence Samonte, Stephen Shea, Jeannie Schlosky, Gina Scrima, John Sera, Kevin Shea, Zachary Shea, Claire Sloane, Terry Smart, Catherine Spellman, William Spicer, Albert Spiniello, Diane Carr Staton, John Sullivan, Patsy Sullivan, Philip Sullivan, Timothy Sullivan, Irene Supino, Steve Theodorakis, Mary Timony, Ellen Tobin, Joshua Torremoro, Edward Treseler, Jr., Edward Treseler, Sr., Peter and Stephen Usherwood, Albert Vincentio, Ellen Vogel, Mary Walsh, Paula Ward, Catherine Watson, Brian Webber, Cassandra Welles, Bill Whitcomb, Anthony Young, and Florence Yu

Prayers for my brother Thomas who is in need of a kidney transplant.

If you know of anyone on this list who is no longer in need of prayers please call the rectory to have their name removed 617-323-4410

SAINT THERESA CHAPEL is open for private prayer Monday through Friday from 8:30 A.M. until 4:30 P.M.

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

THE FIRST NOWELL

THE FIRST NOWELL

Verses



1. The first No - well, the an - gel did say,
 2. They look - ed up and saw a star
 3. And by the light of that same star
 4. This star drew nigh to the north - west,
 5. Then en - tered in those wise men three,
 6. Then let us all with one ac - cord



1. Was to cer - tain poor shep - herds in fields as they lay;
 2. Shin - ing in the east, be - yond them far;
 3. Three wise men came from coun - try far;
 4. O'er Beth - le - hem it took its rest,
 5. Full rev - 'rent - ly up - on the knee,
 6. Sing prais - es to our heav - 'nly Lord;



1. In fields where they lay keep - ing their sheep,
 2. And to the earth it gave great light,
 3. To seek for a king was their in - tent,
 4. And there it did both stop and stay,
 5. And of - fered there, in his pres - ence,
 6. Who with the Fa - ther we a - dore



1. On a cold win - ter's night that was so deep.
 2. And so it con - tin - ued both day and night.
 3. And to fol - low the star wher - ev - er it went.
 4. Right o - ver the place where Je - sus lay.
 5. Their gold and myrrh and frank - in - cense.
 6. And Spir - it blest for ev - er - more.

Refrain



No - well, No - well, No - well, No - well,
 Born is the King of Is - ra - el.

Text: Irregular with refrain; trad. English Carol, 17th cent.; verse 6, alt. Music: Trad. English Carol, 17th cent.

PSALM 72: THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD, ALL YEARS



℞. Lord, ev - ry na - tion on earth will a - dore you.

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 Music: Owen Alstott, © 1977, 1990, OCP. All rights reserved.

FROM THE CHOIR LOFT

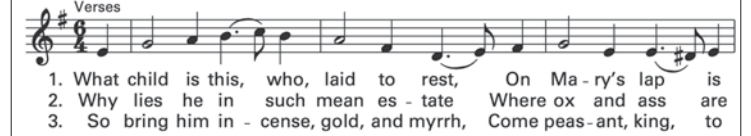
Attention all singers! We have reached the time of year in which the St. Theresa Parish Choir is gearing up for the upcoming season. We are always looking for new members...particularly men and younger singers for our balance. It is a wonderful community building experience to make music with new friends. Early 20s and up are welcome. Rehearsals are 6:30 - 8:00pm every Wednesday and we sing each Sunday at the 10:00 Mass. See Brandon Santini, the music director, to inquire.

WHAT CHILD IS THIS


GREENSLEEVES

PREPARATION HYMN

Verses

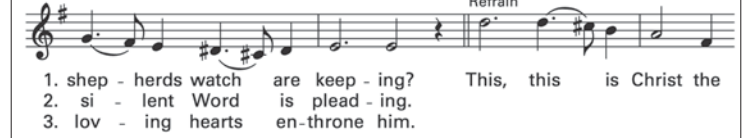


1. What child is this, who, laid to rest, On Ma - ry's lap is
 2. Why lies he in such mean es - tate Where ox and ass are
 3. So bring him in - cense, gold, and myrrh, Come peas - ant, king, to




1. sleep - ing? Whom an - gels greet with an - thems sweet, While
 2. feed - ing? Good Chris - tian, fear: for sin - ners here The
 3. own him; The King of kings sal - va - tion brings, Let

Refrain



1. shep - herds watch are keep - ing? This, this is Christ the
 2. si - lent Word is plead - ing.
 3. lov - ing hearts en - throne him.

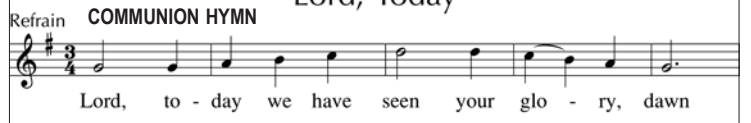


King, Whom shep - herds guard and an - gels sing; Haste,
 haste to bring him laud, The babe, the son of Ma - ry.

This song may be combined with *Child of the Poor*; use accompaniment and instructions found for *Child of the Poor*.
 Text: 87 87 with refrain; Bramley and Stainer's *Christmas Carols New and Old*, 1871; William C. Dix, 1837-1898.
 Music: Trad. English melody, 16th cent.; Bramley and Stainer's *Christmas Carols New and Old*, 1871.

Lord, Today

Refrain **COMMUNION HYMN**



Lord, to - day we have seen your glo - ry, dawn
 fol - lows the night. We, your peo - ple who walked in
 dark - ness now have seen a great light.

Verses



1. A child is born, a Son giv - en
 2. The Lord is king, the na - tions re -
 3. O Beth - le - hem, you are from of
 4. The days will come, the Lord prom - ised
 5. New light has dawned up - on all the



us, on him do - min - ion shall rest.
 joyce, let all God's peo - ple be glad. The
 old, too small a - mong Ju - dah's clans.
 us, when God would raise up a shoot
 just, glad - ness for up - right of heart. Re -



His name shall be Won - der - ful God,
 heav - ens shall pro - claim jus - tice for all.
 From you shall come a rul - er this day,
 to rule the land, reign as a king,
 joyce in the Lord, you faith - ful ones.

D.C.



Coun - sel - or, Prince of Peace.
 Glo - ry has filled the land.
 shep - herd to guide the land.
 whose name is Lord the Just.
 Give thanks to God's great name.

Text: Mike Balhoff, b.1946
 Tune: Darryl Ducote, b.1945, Gary Daigle, b.1957
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RECESSIONAL HYMN

WE THREE KINGS

KINGS OF ORIENT

Verses

1. We three kings of O - ri - ent are; Bear - ing gifts we
 2. Born a King on Beth - le - hem's plain, Gold I bring to
 3. Frank - in - cense to of - fer have I: In - cense owns a
 4. Myrrh is mine; its bit - ter per - fume Breathes a life of
 5. Glo - rious now be - hold him a - rise, King and God and

1. tra - verse a - far Field and foun - tain, Moor and moun - tain,
 2. crown him a - gain, King for - ev - er, Ceas - ing nev - er
 3. De - i - ty nigh; Prayer and prais - ing Glad - ly rais - ing,
 4. gath - er - ing gloom; Sor - rowing, sigh - ing, Bleed - ing, dy - ing,
 5. Sac - ri - fice; "Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia!"

Refrain

1. Fol - low - ing yon - der star. O star of won - der,
 2. O - ver us all to reign.
 3. Wor - ship him, God on high.
 4. Sealed in the stone - cold tomb.
 5. Sounds through the earth and skies.

star of night, Star with roy - al beau - ty bright; West - ward
 lead - ing, still pro - ceed - ing, Guide us to thy per - fect light.

Text: 88 44 6 with refrain; based on Matthew 2:1-11.
 Text and music: Carols, Hymns and Songs, 1863; John H. Hopkins, Jr., 1820-1891, alt.



Parishioners can request a Prayer Shawl for someone by contacting Carol O'Brien at sttoffice24@gmail.com or by calling 617-323-4410. Every prayer shawl is different and perfect. Donations of completed shawls may be dropped off in the parish office, Monday—Thursday 9:30 —12 Noon or when you come to Mass. Thank you, PHM. (Parish Health Ministry)..

AL-ANON now meets in person every Wednesday night, 7:00-8:00 P.M. at Saint John Parish Center. New members always welcome! Please call the Parish Office for more information. 617-323-4410

SCRIPTURE READINGS 2022

EPIPHANY SUNDAY Jan 2, 2022	Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord Is 60:1-6/Ps 72:1-2,7-8,10-11,12-13/Eph 3:2-3,5-6/ Mt 2:1-12
MONDAY Jan 3	The Most Holy Name of Jesus 1 Jn 3:22—4:6/Ps 2:7bc-8,10-12a/Mt 4:12-17, 23-25
TUESDAY Jan 4	Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton, Religious 1 Jn 4:7-10/Ps 72:1-2, 3-4, 7-8/Mk 6:34-44
WEDNESDAY Jan 5	Saint John Neumann, Bishop 1 Jn 4:11-18/Ps 72:1-2, 10, 12-13 /Mk 6:45-52
THURSDAY Jan 6	Saint Andre Bessette, Religious 1 Jn 4:19—5:4/Ps 72:1-2,14and15bc,17/Lk 4:14-22a
FRIDAY Jan 7	Saint Raymond of Penyafort, Priest 1 Jn 5:5-13/Ps 147:12-13, 14-15, 19-20 /Lk 5:12-16
SATURDAY Jan 8	1 Jn 5:14-21/Ps 149:1-2,3-4,5-6a and 9b/Jn 3:22-30
BAPTISM OF THE LORD SUNDAY Jan 9	Feast of the Baptism of the Lord Is 42:1-4,6-7 or Is 40:1-5,9-11/Ps 29:1-2,3ac+4, 3b+9b-10 or Ps 104:1b-2, 3-4, 24-25, 27-28, 29-30/Acts 10:34-38 or Titus 2:11-14;3:4-7/Lk 3:15-16,21-22



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- **What is Marriage? God's Plan for Love and Life**
- **The Sacrament of Matrimony: You, Me, and Jesus**
- **The Rite of Marriage: The Consent We Give and Live**
- **Finances: Let's Talk Money**
- **Five Spiritual Practices for Marriage and Family Life: Keeping Christ at the Center of our Marriage**
- **The Mass: The Presence of Christ**
- **Marital Sexuality: Love's Perfect Design**

To sign up for this Marriage Preparation Program, offered virtually by the Archdiocese of Boston, please visit www.bostoncatholic.org/familylife/transformedinlove

PROJECT RACHEL

Are you – or someone you know – seeking peace after an abortion? For more information about retreats or other services, contact Project Rachel at 508.651.3100 or help@projectrachelboston.com.

SOLEMNITY OF THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

By Fr. Larry Rice

“All of creation is changed by the appearance of Christ.”

In popular tradition, the feast of Epiphany commemorates the arrival of the three kings at the stable in Bethlehem where Christ was born. The gospel reading for the day—Matthew 2:1-12—tells the story. Over the years, a lot of tradition has grown around this story. Many people will tell you that the magi were three kings, named Caspar, Balthazar, and Melchior, and they may note that Caspar is traditionally depicted with darker skin. But if you read those twelve short verses from Matthew’s Gospel, it becomes clear that we really know very little about the magi. We don’t know their names. We don’t know where they came from—Matthew only says “from the east.” We don’t even know that they were kings. The word used by Matthew is “magi,” meaning someone learned in esoteric knowledge. Some translations call them “astrologers,” but the only basis for that is the statement that they were following a star. And even the star itself is a mystery. Astronomers can chart the movement of the stars back in time, but they can’t seem to agree about the existence of an astronomical event that would explain the reference. And even the most casual observer would have a hard time explaining what it would mean for a star to move through the sky and then stop over a particular place. Regardless of who the magi were and how the star showed them the way, the most significant

part of this event is the identity of the one who is made know—Jesus, the newborn king, who is worthy of homage by all men and women. The meaning of the epiphany that occurs in this gospel passage is that the “the newborn king of the Jews” is revealed to and recognized by people from far and distant lands. The appearance of mystical signs in the sky makes the point that all of creation is changed by the appearance of Christ. Because God has chosen to become human, all creation and all the people of the earth can experience the redemption he has come to bring.

Fr. Rice is Vocations Director for the Paulist Fathers.





A CHRISTMAS BLESSING

On the final week of CCD classes before the Christmas break, students from Saint Theresa and Saint John parishes held a drive to benefit patients at the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute. The drive was held in memory of the mother of one of our students whose Funeral Mass was celebrated at Saint John Parish earlier in December. Collection items included socks, warm blankets, lap robes, hats, puzzles, and books for patients who are undergoing infusion therapy at Dana Farber. There was 100% participation among our students as they worked together to assemble bags for delivery and to comfort their friend. Over 300 gift bags were assembled and will be delivered to the patients after the holidays. As their parents, you should be very proud of the response from the students and very proud of yourselves for helping them with this drive. We thank you and we know the patients at the Dana Farber will also be grateful for this extraordinary response



“And the King will answer and say to them, ‘Truly I say to you, to the extent that you did it for one of the least of these brothers or sisters of Mine, you did it for Me.’”

Journey OF Faith

THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

In Word & Deed

A Global Positioning System (GPS) is a great device to have on a journey. It gives accurate directions and helps the driver navigate unfamiliar territory. With some models, however, it is important to use your computer to update its maps. Otherwise, you might end up short of your destination or taking a very long route to get there—if you get there at all.

The Magi undertake a long and difficult journey because they are convinced that the star they see is of Divine origin. Their GPS is the Glorious Power of a Star and it serves to lead them to Bethlehem where they see the Holy Infant. By their actions, they acknowledge this special Child and leave their gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. Theirs was a successful journey.

We're all on a journey of faith and in need of guidance. Our GPS is the Great Power of our Savior. He becomes the Way, the

Continued on back



WE HAVE SEEN

HIS STAR IN THE EAST

ADORE

AND HAVE COME

WITH GIFTS TO

ADORE THE *Lord.*

BECAUSE YOU ARE FOLLOWERS OF CHRIST, WHO APPEARED ON THIS DAY AS A LIGHT SHINING IN DARKNESS, MAY HE MAKE YOU A LIGHT TO ALL YOUR SISTERS AND BROTHERS.

Solemn blessing | Roman rite



FAMILY LIFE:

TO WALK AS ONE

Some kids in the parish school were doing an informal survey about New Year’s resolutions. No one in our school is sure why we make them, since no one seems able to keep them, even though they focus on something we can do or change that will make us better people, or help us accomplish our goals. Have you made your New Year’s resolution? More importantly, will you keep it?

New Year’s Day marks a new beginning, another notch in the life that measures time’s progress. We often use the image of a journey to describe it. Journeys are trips with a purpose and we journey through time, through faith, through life, with a purpose—something that we do that gives us a sense of meaning and value.

In the spirit of this feast day, here’s a spiritual resolution that is one we can keep.



Make progress in your spiritual journey. Set a goal, make a plan, and then accomplish it. Choose something that will make a difference in the way you pray, or believe or practice your faith. Write it out and put it in a place where you will read it often, reminding yourself to stay on course. A year from now, you’ll be amazed at just how far you’ve come!

~James Gaffney

Today the Bridegroom claims his bride, the church, since Christ has washed her sins away in Jordan’s waters; the magi hasten with their gifts to the royal wedding; and the wedding guests rejoice, for Christ has changed water into wine, alleluia.

MORNING PRAYER
ROMAN RITE



This is the glorious day on which Christ himself, the savior of the world, appeared; the prophets foretold him, the angels worshiped him; the magi saw his star and rejoiced to lay their treasures at his feet.

God’s holy day has dawned for us at last; come, all you peoples, and adore the Lord. *—Office of readings | Roman rite*

In Word & Deed

Continued from front

Truth and the Light, leading us on the path to eternal life. Make sure you update frequently. Prayer, Scripture, Sacraments and good deeds will keep

us in contact with Him, enabling us to recognize Him wherever He may lead us.

~James Gaffney



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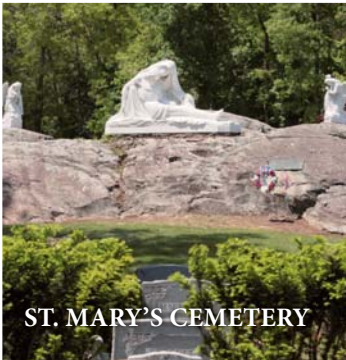
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ST. MARY'S CEMETERY

St Mary's Cemetery in Needham, founded in the 1870's, is the parish cemetery of Mary Immaculate of Lourdes. The Cemetery is a reverent resting place for those awaiting reunion with the Risen Lord. The decision to pre-plan and purchase interment rights is a responsible and thoughtful gesture, sparing loved ones the stress of making difficult decisions during a time of grief and loss.

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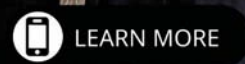
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