

Precious Blood Parish

St. Agnes Church



St. Mary Church

70 Gulf Street



SUNDAY MASSES

Saturday Vigil

4:30 pm St. Mary
5:00 pm St. Agnes

Sunday

Saint Mary

8:30 am, 10:00 am, 11:30 am & 4:30 pm

Saint Agnes

7:30 am & 10:30 am.

DAILY MASSES

8:00 am St. Mary
9:00 am (Mon-Fri) St. Agnes

MIRACULOUS MEDAL NOVENA

Benediction and Rosary
Monday @ 7:30 pm St. Mary Church

NOCTURNAL ADORATION

First Friday of the Month
7:00 pm St. Mary

PARISH CLERGY

Rev. Aidan N. Donahue, Pastor
Rev. Lijo Thomas, Parochial Vicar
Deacon Nicholas Genovese
Deacon John Hoffman

PASTORAL ASSOCIATE CHRISTIAN FORMATION

Deacon John Hoffman (203) 878-3571
harold.john.hoffman@gmail.com

PARISH SECRETARY

Danielle Hogan (203) 878-3571
dhogan@pbpmlford.org

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Tori Saxer (203) 877-5874
tsaxer@pbpmlford.org

CEMETERY OFFICE

Robert Lynch (203) 874-9270

ST. MARY SCHOOL

www.saintmaryschoolmilford.org
Principal Deacon Dominic Corrado
(203) 878-6539

PARISH TRUSTEES

Noel Dubois and Dennis Hrabchak

RECONCILIATION

Saturday 3:30 pm—4:30 pm St. Agnes
Monday 6:00 pm—7:00 pm St. Mary
(Except Holidays)

RECTORY OFFICE HOURS

Monday, Wednesday & Friday
9:00 am—2:00 pm.
Tuesday and Thursday
9:00 am—6:00 pm

Bulletin Notices

bulletin@pbpmlford.org
(203) 878-3571



 **DAILY HAPPENINGS**

Monday, Dec 5	Novena 7:30 pm <i>Saint Mary Church</i>
Tuesday, Dec 6	Legion of Mary 10:30 am <i>Rectory Basement</i> Knitting Group 10:00 am <i>St. Agnes classroom</i>
Wed, Dec 7	Legion of Mary 6:30 pm <i>(St. Agnes) double classroom</i>
Thursday, Dec 8	NAMI family to family 7:00pm <i>(St. Agnes) double classroom</i> Choir Rehearsal 7:00 pm <i>St. Mary Church</i>
Friday, Dec 9	Blood Drive 1:00 pm <i>(St. Agnes) Fr. Callahan Hall</i>
Saturday, Dec 10	Lawn Angels Sales 10 am <i>St. Agnes</i> Maggie's Scrapbooking 10 am <i>(St. Agnes) Fr. Callahan Hall</i>
Sunday, Dec 11	Legion Juniors 10am <i>Rectory Basement</i>

**SOLEMNITY OF THE
IMMACULATE CONCEPTION**

This Thursday, December 8, is the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary, a holy day of obligation. Masses will be celebrated at 7:00 AM and 12:05 PM at St. Mary's and at 9:00 AM and 5:30 PM at St. Agnes'.

Congratulations Confirmation Class of 2022

We would like to congratulate the group of 75+ students who will be receiving the sacrament of confirmation this weekend at the cathedral of St. Joseph in Hartford. May the Holy Spirit guide them to share Christ's love with others.



Starting this weekend in Fr. Cronin Hall at St. Mary, the Knights of Columbus will be selling Luminaries. The bags are \$5 each and you are welcome to decorate them as you wish. Stamps and markers will provided by the Knights. All Luminaries will be displayed Christmas Eve and Christmas Day in Fr. Cronin Hall.

Next Weeks Collections

- Dec 8th Immaculate Conception
- Dec 11th Weekly & Monthly



Reminder

Peter F. Phelan Jr.

Christmas Giving Tree Program.

All gifts are to be returned by Sunday, Dec. 11th at 5:30 pm. If you took a tag and did not get a gift, please return the tag so someone else can fulfill the wish. We would not like to disappoint those who are counting on this bit of Christmas cheer. If all tags are gone and you would like to purchase a gift, monetary donations or gift certificates to Stop & Shop, Shop Rite, Walmart & Target are welcome. Please put the monetary and gift donations in the wooden box located under the Giving Tree sign. Thank you! Bob Lessard, 203-874-9076 or email, bless3569@gmail.com

The Precious Blood Ladies Guild will be hosting a "coffee and" today after all Masses at both St. Agnes & St. Mary.



The Saint Agnes Giving Tree is up and ready to go! There is a tree in the back of St. Agnes church as well as one on the center side of the church. Please return gifts with their tags. Gift bags are a helpful way to wrap the presents. If you select a gift card please place it in the designated box near the trees. Gifts should be left at weekend Masses only. No one monitors the tree on weekdays, nor collected on weekends outside of the Mass schedule. Please return all gifts no later than Sunday, December 11th at noon.



**St. Mary School Christmas
Tree & Wreath Sale**



St. Mary School is once again having their annual Christmas tree sale - an annual tradition for over 20 years! Freshly cut Christmas trees, wreaths and cemetery pieces will be available to purchase at St. Mary School. Hours are Mon-Fri 5:00pm - 9:00pm and Sat. & Sun. 9:00am - 9:00pm.



From the Desk of the Pastor . . .

Dear Friends:

This Thursday, December 8, is the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary and a holy day of obligation. There will be four Masses celebrated for the holy day: at 7:00 AM and 12:05 PM at St. Mary's and at 9:00 AM and 5:30 PM at St. Agnes. The holy day celebrates a special grace granted to the Virgin Mary whereby she was conceived without the stain of original sin in view of her role, as predestined by God from all eternity, as Mother of God. The United States has adopted the Virgin Mary, under her title as the Immaculately Conceived Mother of God, as our patroness. Please be sure to take a bulletin with you by way of reminder for the holy day Masses.

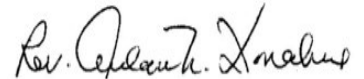
This year, owing to the return of Father Moncy to India for reasons of health and as we wait for a replacement, we have been forced to curtail the Christmas Eve Mass schedule. The lack of a third priest prevents us from having an overflow Mass in the school gym, as has been our custom. The churches will fill quite early for both 4:00 PM Masses. Therefore, it is imperative to try to arrive early if you would like a seat. Furthermore, the lack of numbers of parishioners attending the 10:00 PM Mass at St. Agnes last year led to my decision to have only one Mass at 10:00 PM this year and to celebrate it at St. Mary's. Out of fairness, and with deference to a sense of balance, I opted at the same time to move the 6:00 PM Mass from St. Mary's to St. Agnes.

Since there will be no overflow Mass in the school gym this year, we will not be having a Christmas pageant as has been the custom for a number of years. I have thought about the Christmas pageant and the practice of having it within a Mass on Christmas Eve and I think that the time has come to discontinue it altogether. The Mass itself is a pageant and there is no need for augmentation of any kind by acting out the Christmas story. The Gospels speak sufficiently

for themselves and need no amplification. Going forward, we will be offering instead a "Children's Mass" at one of the Christmas Eve celebrations. This will entail calling the children up and presenting the Christmas story at a level that they can understand and allow them to participate more actively. This is much more in keeping with the thinking of the Church regarding the liturgy.

As for a Christmas pageant of some kind, I think it might be better organized within the St. Mary School community, making use of the music program and religion classes. There is also the possibility of involving children from the parish who do not attend the school. Such a pageant can be presented on a Sunday afternoon in either of our churches, perhaps the Sunday after January 1, when we celebrate the Epiphany, which is often overlooked and underappreciated in our culture.

Have a good week!



Rev. Edward H. Xmalus



Prayer for Vocations to the Priesthood

Heavenly Father, you have created us for a definite purpose.

Grant us the grace to know the path you have planned for each of us in this life, and to respond with a generous "Yes".

Make my parish, my home, an my heart fruitful ground for Your gift of vocations to the priesthood of Jesus Christ.

May our young men respond to Your call with courage and zeal.

Stir among them a desire and the strength to be good and holy priests.

We make our prayer for priestly vocations to You, Father, in the Holy Spirit, through Christ our Lord. Amen

Mary, Mother of the Church, pray for us.

St. Joseph, Patron of our Archdiocese,
pray for us

Blessed Michael McGivney, pray for us.



Mass Intentions



St. Agnes Church

Monday, December 5 Advent Weekday
9:00 Tim Shea by Bob & MaryAnn Hyzynski

Tuesday, December 6 Saint Nicholas
9:00 Robert & Sara Broderick by son Robert

Wednesday, December 7 Saint Ambrose
9:00 Carol Ruggiero by Albert

Thursday, December 8
Immaculate Conception of the Virgin Mary
9:00 People of Precious Blood Parish
5:30 Ann May Dougiello
by Ann May Arsenault

Friday, December 9 Advent Weekday
9:00 In Thanksgiving by MaryJane Robbins

Saturday, December 10 Advent Weekday
5:00 Daniel LaFleur by Patricia Roy

Sunday, December 11
Third Sunday of Advent
7:30 People of Precious Blood Parish
10:30 Deceased members
of the Brunzell Family



NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS

Third Sunday of Advent
(December 11, 2022)
Isaiah 35: 1-6a, 10
Psalm 146: 6-7, 8-9, 9-10
James 5: 7-10
Matthew 11: 2-11

St. Mary Church

Monday, December 5 Avent Weekday
8:00 John Hayes by Barbara Kelly

Tuesday, December 6 Saint Nicholas
8:00 Marie Palmer by daughter Mary Ann

Wednesday, December 7 St. Ambrose
8:00 Lee Zappas by Jean Campagna

Thursday, December 8
Immaculate Conception of the Virgin Mary
7:00 John Kelly by Jean Campagna
12:05 Rev. Vito C. DeCarolus by Joan Havick

Friday, December 9 Advent Weekday
8:00 Dolores Banas by Joe Banas

Saturday, December 10 Advent Weekday
8:00 Dolores Banas by Joe Banas

Saturday Vigil
4:30 Jeffrey Proud by Maria Proud

Sunday, December 11
Third Sunday of Advent
8:30 Ida Stantig
by Joe & Tatiana Monteloeone
10:00 Carol Keefe
by Margaret & Paul Gettinger
11:30 Mrs. Marie Cotter
by Ronald Stewart family
4:30 Joseph, Elizabeth, Donald & Dolores
Platko by family

CHRISTMAS MASSES

Christmas Eve, Saturday, December 24
4:00 PM and 10:00 PM at St. Mary's
(No 4:15 PM in the school gym and no 6:00
PM Mass at St. Mary's)

4:00 PM and 6:00 PM at St. Agnes'
(No 10:00 PM Mass at St. Agnes').

Christmas Day, Sunday, December 25
8:30 AM and 10:30 AM at St. Mary's
10:00 AM at St. Agnes'.

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