

# *St. Andrew the Apostle Taunton Catholic Church*



## First Sunday of Advent

*"Watch, therefore; you do not know when the Lord of the house is coming, whether in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or in the morning. May he not come suddenly and find you sleeping. What I say to you, I say to all: 'Watch!'" (Mk 13: 35-37)*

**Mass is Live-streaming on the website Monday-Friday at 8:00am  
Saturday Vigil at 4:00pm and Sunday at 8:00am and 10:30am**

### **TELEVISED MASS SCHEDULE**

**T C A M TV— Taunton Community Access and Media Inc**

**HOLY MASS : Sunday 3:30pm Tuesday & Thursday 1:00pm**

**COMCAST CHANNEL : 15**

**VERIZON CHANNEL : 22**



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[www.standrewtaunton.org](http://www.standrewtaunton.org)

December 3, 2023

First Sunday of Advent

**ST ANDREW THE APOSTLE**  
**WEEKEND MASS INTENTIONS**

**Saturday, December 2nd**

4:00pm — Marc de Sousa

**Sunday, December 3rd**

8:00am – Antonio Graca Jr

10:30am — Armando Bettencourt

**Monday, December 4th**8:00am — Jose F, Jose M Sousa, The Fontes  
Family, Tobey Alfred**Tuesday, December 5th**

8:00am — Laura and Joaquim Camara Sr

**Wednesday, December 6th**

8:00am — Maria Lidia Narciso

**Thursday, December 7th**

8:00am — James Roberts— 1st Anniversary

**Friday, December 8th**

8:00am — Blessed Mother

6:30pm— Blessed Mother

**Saturday, December 9th**4:00pm — Jeane LaCivita— 1st Anniversary,  
William and Frances Finnerty**Sunday, December 10th**

8:00am – Nora Carroll—4th Anniversary

10:30am — Lois and Frank Cash

**BAPTISM**

Parents who are registered and practicing members of the parish should call the rectory to make arrangements.

**RECONCILIATION**

Before and after all weekend Masses. Or at any time at the Rectory.

**WEDDINGS**

Couples who are registered and practicing members of the parish may call the rectory eight months in advance to make arrangements.

**NEW PARISHIONERS**

We welcome you to our parish! Registration forms are available at the entrances of the church. Please complete the form and return as soon as possible.

**WOMEN OF FAITH**

For more information, please contact Tara Sousa at 508-272-1173 or tarasousa@aol.com

**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS #11914**

For more information, please contact Grand Knight, Bob Crossman, at 508-823-7920.

**MEN OF ST JOSEPH**

The group meet on the First Saturday of every month. Beginning with 9:00am Mass, followed by a meeting of fellowship and discussion. All men are welcome.

**ST VINCENT de PAUL**

508-880-1583

**PRAYER and ADORATION****MONDAY NOVENA**

Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal Novena is held on Monday evenings at 7:00pm with Rosary and Benediction.

**WEDNESDAY Divine Mercy HOLY HOUR**

St Joseph's Chapel, 6:00pm to 7:00pm

**FRIDAY CENACLE PRAYER GROUP**

St Joseph's Chapel, Friday 1:00pm — 2:00pm

**EUCHARISTIC ADORATION in CHAPEL**St Joseph's Adoration Chapel is open  
Daily 7:00am to 7:00pm**HANDICAP ACCESSIBLE**

With elevator



**Sanctuary Lamp for week of**  
**December 2nd**

*Pedro & Maria Martins*  
*Pedro Martins*

**Parish Office**

St. Andrew the Apostle  
19 Kilmer Ave., Taunton, MA 02780

508-824-5577. 508-822-1401 fax

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**FIRST READING****A Reading from the Prophet Isaiah**IS 63:16B-17, 19B; 64:2-7

You, LORD, are our father, our redeemer you are named forever. Why do you let us wander, O LORD, from your ways, and harden our hearts so that we fear you not? Return for the sake of your servants, the tribes of your heritage. Oh, that you would rend the heavens and come down, with the mountains quaking before you, while you wrought awesome deeds we could not hope for, such as they had not heard of from of old. No ear has ever heard, no eye ever seen, any God but you doing such deeds for those who wait for him. Would that you might meet us doing right, that we were mindful of you in our ways! Behold, you are angry, and we are sinful; all of us have become like unclean people, all our good deeds are like polluted rags; we have all withered like leaves, and our guilt carries us away like the wind. There is none who calls upon your name, who rouses himself to cling to you; for you have hidden your face from us and have delivered us up to our guilt. Yet, O LORD, you are our father; we are the clay and you the potter: we are all the work of your hands.

**Thanks be to God.****Responsorial Psalm**PS 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19**R.\ Lord, make us turn to you; let us see your face and we shall be saved.**

O shepherd of Israel, hearken, from your throne upon the cherubim, shine forth. Rouse your power, and come to save us.

**R.\ Lord, make us turn to you; let us see your face and we shall be saved.**

Once again, O LORD of hosts, look down from heaven, and see; take care of this vine, and protect what your right hand has planted the son of man whom you yourself made strong.

**R.\ Lord, make us turn to you; let us see your face and we shall be saved.**

May your help be with the man of your right hand, with the son of man whom you yourself made strong. Then we will no more withdraw from you; give us new life, and we will call upon your name.

**R.\ Lord, make us turn to you; let us see your face and we shall be saved.****SECOND READING****A Reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Corinthians**Cor 1:3-9

Brothers and sisters:

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

I give thanks to my God always on your account for the grace of God bestowed on you in Christ Jesus, that in him you were enriched in every way, with all discourse and all knowledge, as the testimony to Christ was confirmed among you, so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revelation of our Lord Jesus Christ.

He will keep you firm to the end, irreproachable on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.

God is faithful, and by him you were called to fellowship with his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Thanks be to God.****GOSPEL****A Reading from the Holy Gospel according to Mark**Mk 13:33-37

Jesus said to his disciples:

“Be watchful! Be alert!

You do not know when the time will come.

It is like a man traveling abroad.

He leaves home and places his servants in charge,

each with his own work,

and orders the gatekeeper to be on the watch.

Watch, therefore;

you do not know when the lord of the house is coming,

whether in the evening, or at midnight,

or at cockcrow, or in the morning.

May he not come suddenly and find you sleeping.

What I say to you, I say to all: ‘Watch!’”

**The Gospel of the Lord.**



By Father Edward A. Murphy

## ADVENT

Human beings cannot live without hope. Unlike the animals, we are blessed – or cursed – with the ability to think about the future and to fear our actions to shaping it. So essential is this to human life, that human beings cannot live without hope, without something to live for, without something to look forward to. To be without hope, to have nothing to live for, is to surrender to death in despair. But we can find all sorts of things to live for and we can hope for almost anything: for some measure of success or security or for the realization of some more or less modest ambition; for our children, that they might be saved from our mistakes and sufferings and find a better life than we have known; for a better world, throwing ourselves into politics or medicine or technology so that future generation might be better off. Not all these forms of hope are selfish; indeed they have given dignity and purpose to the lives of countless generations.

But one of the reasons why we read the Old Testament during Advent is to learn what to hope for. The people of the Old Testament had the courage to hope for big things: that the desert would be turned into fertile land; that their scattered and divided people would eventually be gathered again; that the blind would see, the deaf hear, the lame walk; that not only their own people, but all the people of the earth, would be united in the blessings of everlasting peace. Clearly, their hopes were no different from ours or from any human beings: lasting peace, tranquil lives, sufficiency of food, an end to suffering, pain and misery.

Thus we hope for the same things as the Old Testament people, for their hopes are not yet realized. But we differ from them in two ways. First, the coming of Jesus in history, as a partial fulfillment of God's promises, immeasurably confirms and strengthen our hope. Secondly, we differ from the Old Testament people because Jesus has revealed to us that God is not afar off, but is already in our midst. Hence the importance in the advent liturgy of John the Baptist and of Mary: because they recognized the new situation, they serve as models for the Church in discerning the presence of our Savior in the world.

## The IMMACULATE CONCEPTION of the BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

In 1858 Our Lady appeared to a poor peasant girl, Bernadette Soubirous eighteen times from February 11<sup>th</sup> to July 16<sup>th</sup>. At the Grotto of Masabielle on the banks of the River Gave, Our Lady confirmed that she was indeed that Immaculate Conception, proclaimed solemnly in Rome only four years previously. These events carried but one and the same message to the world, which was that God wanted Mary's great privilege of her Immaculate Conception to be known and to be honored universally.

Mary stands alone 'full of grace' from the moment of her creation and will always remain as Wordsworth so beautifully put it, "our tainted nature's solitary boast." I think that we should be careful not to confuse this singular Privilege of Mary with the miraculous conception of Jesus Christ her Son. As far as her body is concerned, Mary was created by the operation of natural laws. Her father was St Joachim and her mother, St Anne. The immaculate conception is a spiritual supernatural gift that concerns and touches Mary's soul alone; a gift we know from divine revelation and contained in the Bible and Tradition.

The privilege of the Immaculate Conceptions was the anticipated fruit of Jesus sacred passion, death and resurrection. It was fitting that she who was to bear the savior of the world should herself be preserved by him from sin and its consequences and so be the first to benefit from what he would win for the whole human race. Mary had it made we may say – born without sin, always perfect and living in the same house with Jesus.

Holy Mass - December 8th

Friday 8:00am and 6:30pm

Holy Day of Obligation

*Fr. Edward A. Murphy*



**WEEKLY PARISH ST. ANDREW'S SUPPORT**

Thank you for your support to our Parish family.

The Offertory for the weekend of November 25th & 26th:

Weekly Collection	\$ 3068.00
Winter Grounds & Maint	\$ 1727.00
Candles	\$ 79.00

This week's 2nd Collection - will be for **Fuel & Maintenance**

**Faith Formation**



**ST ANDREW'S CHURCH**

**FAITH FORMATION BEGINS**

SEPTEMBER 17th 9:10am—11:30am  
(includes the Holy Mass) In the CHURCH

<u>DATE</u>	<u>GRADES 1-8</u>	<u>CONFIRMATION</u> <u>GRADES 9-10</u>
12/3/2022	Grades 1& 2	Grade 9
12/10/2022	Grades 3 & 4	Grade 10
12/17/2022	Grades 5 & 6	Grade 9

**REMEMBER in PRAYER**

Please remember in your prayers

*Manuel P. da Silveira  
Eugene J. Murphy Sr.*



Who's funeral Masses were celebrated this past week. As well as our relatives, friends, and benefactors whose Anniversaries occur at this time.



**Welcome to the newly Baptized**

*Eliana Manaelle Benjamin  
Gaia Aime Philippe  
Parker Robert Clinch*

*May God Bless them, their  
Parents and Godparents.*



**SVdP HAT & GLOVE DRIVE**



St. Andrews Conference of Saint Vincent de Paul will be doing a Hat and Gloves Drive in **November and December**. Children, Teens and Adult hats and gloves are being requested. All items **must be new**. Drop off box will be provided at the rear entrance in the addition. Your generosity is appreciated.

**SVdP Christmas Dinner Distribution**

St Vincent dePaul Christmas Dinner Distribution will be on **Saturday December 16th 12:00-2:00pm**. Requests for meals need to be in by December 3rd.

Accepting canned vegetables, boxed stuffing, boxed potatoes, gravy, cake mix or corn muffin mix.

**POINSETTIA SALE**

The *Women of Faith* will be taking pre-orders for Poinsettias. Weekends **November 25/26th** and **December 2/3rd**. Deadline for orders is **December 3rd**. Price is \$10.00 each. Orders and payment may be placed in collection basket, or to Women of Faith members at the doors. **Pickup date will be the weekend of December 9th and 10th.**

**PARISH CHRISTMAS GIVING TREE**



All parishioners are invited to participate in the Parish Giving Tree Program beginning the **First Sunday of Advent, December 3rd**.

Gifts from the Parish Giving Tree go to the needy, the homeless, nursing home residents, and Birthright. Those in need will benefit from your generosity during the holiday season.

*Gifts should be returned no later than Sunday, December 17th.*

If you know of someone, a family, or you yourself are in need, please contact Tara Sousa at [tara-sousa@aol.com](mailto:tara-sousa@aol.com), 508-272-1173 or call the parish office. All calls will be handled in confidence.



**Women of Faith Christmas Party**

Thursday, December 13th  
Segregansett Country Club  
Cocktails at 6:30pm, dinner at 7:00pm.

**POINSETTIA Order Form —\$10.00 each**

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE # \_\_\_\_\_

# Plants : \_\_\_\_\_ RED \_\_\_\_\_ WHITE \_\_\_\_\_ PINK



### Knights of Columbus Chicken Dinner November 18, 2023







The NEW Youth and Young Adult Ministry had their kick-off meeting on November 18th.

The meeting was an introduction with Father Murphy and the group leaders explaining the hopes and ideas for the group. Leaders invited the participants to think what they would like from the Youth Group and bring their ideas to the next meeting.

Also discussed was outreach for new members and the best way to reach the youth and young adults.

**Next meeting will be December 9th at 11:00am. All youth and young adults welcome!**

### Saint Vincent de Paul Thanksgiving Dinners

With the overwhelming generosity of parishioners, over 75 families were able to enjoy a Thanksgiving Dinner.

The SVdP group would like to thank the parishioners for their generosity.





**FEAST OF the IMMACULATE CONCEPTION of  
the BLESSED VIRGIN MARY**



**Prayer to Our Lady of the Immaculate Conception**

O most Holy Virgin, immaculate in body and spirit, look kindly on me as I implore your powerful intercession.

O most Holy Mother, receive my prayers as I present them to God.  
(state your intentions here)

O Mary, Mother of Jesus and our Mother, you intercede for us with your Son.  
O Mary conceived without sin, pray for us who have recourse to thee.

Amen.

**December 8<sup>th</sup> Masses at 8:00am and 6:30pm**

**HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION**

## St. Andrew the Apostle

CITY OF TAUNTON ~ CATHOLIC  
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Fr Edward A. Murphy, Pastor

Priests of LaSalette Shrine, Part-Time

### CHURCH STAFF

Nancy Roberts – Administrator -  
standrewtaunton@comcast.net

Carol Berube – Administrative Assistant –  
508-824-5577

Sally Medeiros -Dir of Religious Education -  
faithformationtaunton@gmail.com

Nathaniel Castro – Director of Music Ministry -  
nathaniel0519@comcast.net

Tara Sousa – Youth Minister

Joseph Teixeira – Maintenance

Sacristans – Susan Orton. Michael Wojcik.  
Richard Alvarnaz. Veronica Briggs

### Parish Offices

St. Andrew the Apostle

19 Kilmer Ave., Taunton, MA 02780

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### **TELEVISED MASS SCHEDULE**

**T C A M TV— Taunton Community Access  
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HOLY MASS

COMCAST CHANNEL : 15

VERIZON CHANNEL : 22

Holy MASS can be seen

\* Tuesday & Thursdays at 1:00pm.  
Sunday at 3:30pm

Mass is Live-streaming on the website

Monday-Friday at 8:00am

Saturday Vigil at 4:00pm and

Sunday at 8:00am and 10:30am





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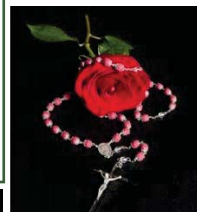
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