St. Andrew the Apostle Taunton Catholic Church



Third Sunday of Advent

John answered them,

"I baptize with water;
but there is one among you
whom you do not recognize,
the one who is coming after
me, whose sandal strap
I am not worthy to untie."

John 1:26-27

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



19 Kilmer Ave . Taunton, MA 02780

508-824-5577 . standrewtaunton@comcast.net

www.standrewtaunton.org

ST ANDREW THE APOSTLE WEEKEND MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, December 16th

4:00pm — Charles & Irene Bousquet

Sunday, December 17th

8:00am — Lenora Perry, Francis Medeiros 10:30am — Joan & Donald Ducharme

Monday, December 18th

8:00am — O'Dea and Dinneen Families

Tuesday, December 19th

8:00am — Yvonne Gordon

Wednesday, December 20th

8:00am — Carol Alvarnaz

Thursday, December 21st

8:00am — Jorge & Anne Botelho, Mr & Mrs Antonio Araujo and family

Friday, December 22nd

8:00am — Firmo Faria, Idalina Silva, August Ferreira, Ana Abreau

Saturday, December 23rd

4:00pm — Emily Santarpia

Sunday, December 24th

8:00am — Michael Mazettis 10:30am — Frank J Casella



Sanctuary Lamp for week of December 16th

Firmo Faria, Idalina Silva, August Ferreira, Ana Abreau

Parish Office

St. Andrew the Apostle 19 Kilmer Ave., Taunton, MA 02780 508-824-5577. 508-822-1401 fax

www.standrewtaunton.org

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



FIRST READING

A Reading from the Prophet Isaiah

IS 6:1-2a, 10-11

The spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me, because the LORD has anointed me; he has sent me to bring glad tidings to the poor, to heal the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives and release to the prisoners, to announce a year of favor from the LORD and a day of vindication by our God. I rejoice heartily in the LORD, in my God is the joy of my soul; for he has clothed me with a robe of salvation and wrapped me in a mantle of justice, like a bride bedecked with her jewels. As the earth brings forth its plants, and a garden makes its growth spring up, so will the Lord GOD make justice and praise spring up before all the nations.

Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm

Lk 1:46-48, 49-50, 53-54

R.\ My soul rejoices in my God.

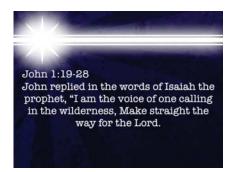
My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord; my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, for he has looked upon his lowly servant. From this day all generations will call me blessed: R.\ My soul rejoices in my God.

the Almighty has done great things for me, and holy is his Name.

He has mercy on those who fear him in every generation.

R.\ My soul rejoices in my God.

He has filled the hungry with good things, and the rich he has sent away empty. He has come to the help of his servant Israel for he has remembered his promise of mercy, R.\ My soul rejoices in my God.



SECOND READING

A Reading from the First Letter of Saint Paul to the Thessalonians 5:16-24

Rejoice always. Pray without ceasing. In all circumstances give thanks, for this is the will of God for you in Christ Jesus. Do not quench the Spirit. Do not despise prophetic utterances. Test everything; retain what is good. Refrain from every kind of evil. May the God of peace make you perfectly holy and may you entirely, spirit, soul, and body, be preserved blameless for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. The one who calls you is faithful, and he will also accomplish it.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL

A Reading from the Holy Gospel according to John Jn 1:6-8, 19-28

A man named John was sent from God. He came for testimony, to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He was not the light, but came to testify to the light. And this is the testimony of John. When the Jews from Jerusalem sent priests and Levites to him to ask him, "Who are you?" He admitted and did not deny it, but admitted, "I am not the Christ." So they asked him, "What are you then? Are you Elijah?" And he said, "I am not."

"Are you the Prophet?" He answered, "No." So they said to him,

"Who are you, so we can give an answer to those who sent us?

What do you have to say for yourself?" He said:

"I am the voice of one crying out in the desert, 'make straight the way of the Lord,"" as Isaiah the prophet said."

Some Pharisees were also sent. They asked him, "Why then do you baptize

if you are not the Christ or Elijah or the Prophet?"

John answered them,

"I baptize with water; but there is one among you whom you do not recognize, the one who is coming after me, whose sandal strap I am not worthy to untie."

This happened in Bethany across the Jordan, where John was baptizing.

The Gospel of the Lord.



By Father Edward A. Murphy

THIRD SUNDAY of ADVENT

Gospel John 1:6-8

John was a witness sent from God. The priests and Levites were interrogators sent by the religious authorities. 'Who are you,' they ask John. 'Are you Elijah?' 'Are you the prophet?' 'Why are you baptizing?' They know neither themselves nor the one stands among them. They are in the dark. That's how it is with interrogators. Witnesses, however, are different. They talk about light. They know the light

John knows who he is and who he is not. He claims for himself neither too much nor too little. That's what makes him a credible witness. He speaks the truth but he is not the truth. He is illumined but he is not the light. He is the voice of one crying out in the wilderness but he is not the Word of God.

Everything about John points to the light and the life of the one who both stands among us and the one who is coming. John will bet his life on that one. That's how it is with witnesses. They live and die based on what they have seen, heard, and experienced.

John's is the voice of hope. His words echo through the wildernesses of our world and our lives. John's, however, was not the first voice of hope. Before John, Mary was proclaiming the greatness of the Lord. She spoke of the one who shows favor to the lowly, offers mercy, and lends the strength of his arm.

Before Mary, there was Isaiah. The Lord anointed him to bring good news to the oppressed, to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives and release to the prisoners. He spoke about God comforting those who mourn and rebuilding the ruins of their lives.

John, Mary, Isaiah. Each one is a witness of hope. They look at the circumstances of their life and world and see a greater reality. They each testify to a life and presence beyond their own. Within each of their voices is the Word that was in the beginning, the Word that enables us to become children of God (John 1). That Word is our ultimate hope.

Seeing your Life through the Lens of the Gospel:

- 1. 'There is one among you whom you do not know'. We can know about Jesus but do we know him? What helps you to know Jesus in a way that enables you to follow in his footsteps, trusting God as he did, and seeing other people as he did?
- 2. John the Baptist came to bear witness to Jesus. Who have been the people who have borne witness to you of the good news of the gospel that God loves you a friend, a parent, a teacher, etc.? To whom have you borne that witness?
- 3. John appears in the story as one who had the courage to be himself in the face of loud and aggressive people. He was also a person who knew his own valve, did not make exaggerated claims and was content with his mission. Can you recall times when you have been able to be yourself, even in the face of criticism from others?
- 4. John was 'the voice of one crying out in the wilderness—announcing confidently to those in the wilderness that they must not despair because God's grace may come to them at any moment. Have you had the experience of being in the wilderness, feeling lost? From whom did you hear a voice that gave you hope? Have you been able to give hope to other people when they were in the wilderness? Do these questions have any special relevance to you in the midst of the current situation in our world? (Intercom Magazine 2023 Dec)



Fr. Edward A. Turphy

WEEKLY PARISH ST. ANDREW'S SUPPORT

Thank you for your support to our Parish family.

The Offertory for the weekend of December 9th & 10th

Weekly Collection \$ 3202.00

Organ Fund & Maintenance \$ 1172.00

Candles \$ 148.00

Immaculate Conception \$ 1010.00

This week's 2nd Collection - will be for **Diocesan Assessment**



REMEMBER in PRAYER

Please remember in your prayers

Manuel P. DaRosa

Mary Katherine (McDonald) LaFlamme

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

Hymns - 3rd Sunday in Advent December 17th

Opening On Jordan's Bank MI #41 Offertory Savior of the Nations, Come MI #54 Communion O Come, O Come Emmanuel

MI #39

Meditation Comfort, Comfort, O My People

MI #60

Recessional The Nagel Gabriel from Heaven Came MI #52

Faith Formation











ST ANDREW'S CHURCH

FAITH FORMATION BEGINS

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

DATE GRADES 1-8 CONFIRMATION

GRADES 9-10

12/17/2022 Grades 5 &6 Grade 9

12/24/2023 NO Faith Formation Classes-

Christmas

12/31/2023 NO Faith Formation Classes-

New Year

1/7/2023 Grades 7 & 8 Grade 10



There will be an altar server training classes for new students ages 8 and older.

If you are interested in learning more about becoming an altar server, there are forms available in the Sacristy.

Classes will begin in the new year.

Please fill out and return.

We have reverted back to our original website name:

www.standrewtaunton.org

If you type in the old site of cstaunton.org you will be redirected to the new website.

Thank you for your patience.



The Youth and Young Adult Ministries met this past Saturday the December 9th.

A good group gathered together in fellowship along with staff.



All are welcome to the next meeting on Saturday, **December 23rd at 11:00am**

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.



Nativity Crèche

In its present form, the custom of displaying figures depicting the birth of Christ owes its origin to St. Francis of Assisi, who made the Christmas crèche for Christmas Eve of 1223.

The blessing of the Christmas manger or nativity scene may take place on Christmas Eve or at another time:

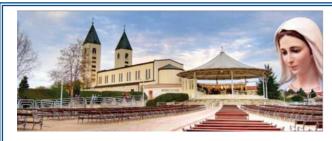
Lord, bless all who look upon this manger; may it remind us of the humble birth of Jesus, and raise our thoughts to him, who is Godwith-us and Savior of all, and who lives and reigns forever and ever. Amen.

PARISH CHRISTMAS GIVING TREE



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.

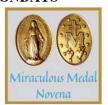


Pilgrimage to Medjugorje

Please join Fr Murphy on his Annual Pilgrimage to Medjugorje on **May 7-16, 2023**, \$3299.00 from Boston.

For more information visit 206Tours website https://www.206tours.com/cms/fredwardmurphy/

MONDAYS



Miraculous Medal Novena

The Miraculous Medal Novena has been held every Monday for 80 years!



WEDNESDAYS



DIVINE MERCY HOLY HOUR PRAYER GROUP

Divine Mercy Holy Hour for the Sick and Dying

Wednesday at 6:00pm

Jesus said to Saint Faustina:

"Write that when they say this Chaplet in the presence of the dying, I will stand between MY FATHER and the Dying Person. Not as the Just Judge, but as the Merciful Savior. Diary 1541.



FRIDAYS



Marian Movement of Priests Cenacle

Laity Prayer Group praying for Priests meets Fridays 1:00pm—2:00pm St Joseph's Adoration Chapel

All are welcome!

1ST SATURDAY





The Men of St Joseph meet every First Saturday of the Month.

Beginning with 9:00am Mass followed by a meeting in the parish hall for fellowship, discussion and light refreshments.

All men are invited to attend

DAILY



EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

St Joseph's Chapel
Daily 7:00am to 7:00pm
Come and Adore the Lord!

"Could you not watch one hour with me?"

NEW Website Overview. Contact Rectory with any questions.

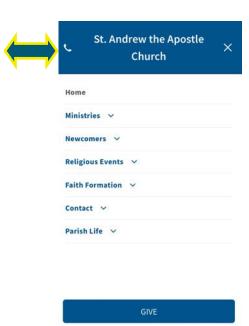
When accessing the new website from a **desktop/laptop**, below the "Welcome to" you can find the **livestream**, and below the livestream are several boxes for the most popular inquiries: **Mass Times**, **Religious Ed**, **Upcoming events**, **Bulletins and Directions**.



When using a **phone or tablet**, below the "Welcome to" is the livestream and informational boxes. In the upper right hand corner, where there is 3 horizontal bars, click on that to get the full menu. The "GIVE" button is accessible on all screens.









St Andrew the Apostle

19 Kilmer Ave. Taunton, MA 02780



CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR'S MASS SCHEDULE

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24, 2023

8:00am Holy Mass

10:30am Holy Mass

4:00pm Vigil Mass

11:30pm Christmas Carols

12:00 Midnight Midnight Mass

MONDAY, DECEMBER 25, 2023

10:30am Christmas Day Mass

MONDAY, JANUARY 1, 2023

Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God

8:00am Holy Mass 6:30pm Holy Mass

All CHRISTMAS Masses will be LiveStreamed on website: www.standrewtaunton.org



Advent confessions will be heard throughout December at any time that is convenient for you.



St. Andrew the Apostle

CITY OF TAUNTON ~ CATHOLIC CHURCHES SOUTH

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 - nathaniel 0519@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 508-824-5577. 508-822-1401 fax



EVERY MASS

CAN BE

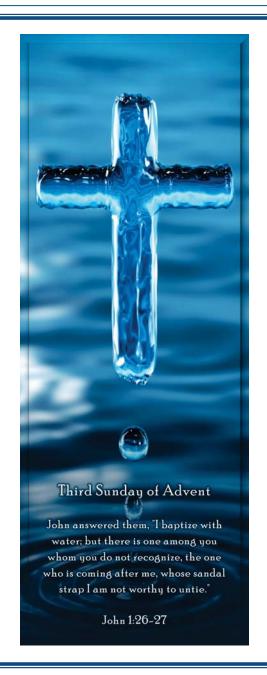
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TELEVISED MASS SCHEDULE

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HOLY MASS

COMCAST CHANNEL: 15

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Holy MASS can be seen

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

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Monday-Friday at 8:00am

Saturday Vigil at 4:00pm and Sunday at 8:00am and 10:30am

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