# St. Andrew the Apostle Taunton Catholic Church



# 4th Sunday of Lent

"Jesus said to Nicodemus: 'Just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the desert, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, so that everyone who believes in him may have eternal life."" (Jn 3:14-15)

> 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 : <u>Sunday 3:30pm Tuesday & Thursday 1:00pm</u> COMCAST CHANNEL : 15 VERIZON CHANNEL : 22



19 Kilmer Ave . Taunton, MA 02780

508-824-5577 . standrewtaunton@comcast.net

www.standrewtaunton.org

March 10th. 2024

Fourth Sunday in Lent

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# ST ANDREW THE APOSTLE WEEKEND MASS INTENTIONS

<u>Saturday, March 9th</u> 4:00pm — Special Intentions, Pedro Martins Jr

# Sunday, March 10th

8:00am — Joseph & Margaret Sollecito, Alvarino Fortes, Mary Fortes 10:30am — Joao & Maria Jose Costa, Deceased Family Members

<u>Monday, March 11th</u> 8:00am — Manuel & Etelrrina Moitoso & Family, Holy Souls of Purgatory

<u>Tuesday, March 12th</u> 8:00am — Thomas & Eileen Curry's 13th Anniversary

Wednesday, March 13th 8:00am — Donald Rogers

Thursday, March 14th 8:00am — Jeffery Lucas 6:30pm — Healing Mass

Friday, March 15th 8:00am — Holy Souls of Purgatory

Saturday, March 16th 4:00pm — Raymond J. Ducharme's 23rd Anniversary

<u>Sunday, March 17th</u> 8:00am — Laura & Joaquim Camara Sr. 10:30am — Emily Mae Santarpia

## Sanctuary Lamp for week of March 9th



Jean Mills

# 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

2

## FIRST READING

#### A Reading from the 2nd Book of Chronicles <u>2 Chr 36:14-16, 19-23</u>

In those days, all the princes of Judah, the priests, and the people added infidelity to infidelity, practicing all the abominations of the nations and polluting the LORD's temple which he had consecrated in Jerusalem.

Early and often did the LORD, the God of their fathers, send his messengers to them, for he had compassion on his people and his dwelling place. But they mocked the messengers of God, despised his warnings, and scoffed at his prophets, until the anger of the LORD against his people was so inflamed that there was no remedy. Their enemies burnt the house of God, tore down the walls of Jerusalem, set all its palaces afire, and destroyed all its precious objects. Those who escaped the sword were carried captive to Babylon, where they became servants of the king of the Chaldeans and his sons until the kingdom of the Persians came to power. All this was to fulfill the word of the LORD spoken by Jeremiah:

"Until the land has retrieved its lost sabbaths, during all the time it lies waste it shall have rest while seventy years are fulfilled."

In the first year of Cyrus, king of Persia, in order to fulfill the word of the LORD spoken by Jeremiah, the LORD inspired King Cyrus of Persia to issue this proclamation throughout his kingdom, both by word of mouth and in writing:

"Thus says Cyrus, king of Persia:

All the kingdoms of the earth the LORD, the God of heaven, has given to me, and he has also charged me to build him a house in Jerusalem, which is in Judah. Whoever, therefore, among you belongs to any part of his people, let him go up, and may his God be with him!"

Thanks be to God.

#### **Responsorial** Psalm

#### Ps 137:1-2, 3, 4-5, 6

**R**.\ Let my tongue be silenced, if I ever forget you!



#### SECOND READING

# A Reading from the Letter of St Paul to the Ephesians

#### Eph 2:4-10

Brothers and sisters:

God, who is rich in mercy, because of the great love he had for us, even when we were dead in our transgressions, brought us to life with Christ — by grace you have been saved — raised us up with him, and seated us with him in the heavens in Christ Jesus, that in the ages to come He might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in his kindness to us in Christ Jesus. For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not from you; it is the gift of God; it is not from works, so no one may boast. For we are his handiwork, created in Christ Jesus for the good works that God has prepared in advance, that we should live in them.

#### Thanks be to God.

#### **GOSPEL**

### A reading from the Gospel according to John Jn 3:14-21

Jesus said to Nicodemus:

"Just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the desert, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, so that everyone who believes in him may have eternal life."

For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him might not perish but might have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through him. Whoever believes in him will not be condemned, but whoever does not believe has already been condemned, because he has not believed in the name of the only Son of God. And this is the verdict, that the light came into the world, but people preferred darkness to light, because their works were evil. For everyone who does wicked things hates the light and does not come toward the light, so that his works might not be exposed. But whoever lives the truth comes to the light, so that his works may be clearly seen as done in God.

#### The Gospel of the Lord.

Fourth Sunday in Lent



By Father Edward A. Murphy

# **GOSPEL** of John

'GOD LOVED THE WORLD SO MUCH THAT HE GAVE HIS ONLY SON...' John 3:14-21. The first reading today is like an aftermath account by a reporter of the lowest point in the history of the Jewish people. It records destruction, massacres, enforced exile to Babylon and the leveling ruination of the temple.

Why did God allow this? Why did God not intervene? How could God let this happen? Similar questions were asked about Covid-19 which gripped the entire world. Why did God not stop the pandemic? What does God allow terrorists to maim and kill innocent people? Why did there young people die in a crash? Why was I the victim of horrendous, domestic abuse? Why is there famine in many parts of the world? Why did the 'temple of my family' have to be the one destroyed by addiction? Why do we have to die? Endless questions...

No one has any convincing answers to these profound questions. The readings from Ephesians and the Gospel today give us an image of God who 'loved us with so much love that he was generous with his mercy and brought us to life in Christ' (Eph 2:4). Today's gospel is not about a God who is vengeful and spiteful. 'GOD LOVED THE WORLD SO MUCH THAT HE GAVE HIS ONLY SON' is an expression of God's true nature.

Our Church has faced low points in its history and in recent years has had to be confronted with a dismal, shameful past. As a Church, we failed to preach that GOD LOVED THE WORLD SO MUCH and that each and every one of us is 'God's work of art, created in Christ Jesus to live the good life from the beginning he had meant us to live it' (Eph 2:10). Lent is a springtime of new life and growth. It is a time that helps us to ask difficult questions about flaring injustice and the fragile uncertainty of life. Lent offers us the light, love and compassion of Christ to guide us through personal deserts of darkness and doubts.

'By the River of Babylon' was a Rastafarian song composed in Jamaica in 1970. It is based on today's psalm. It was later popularized by Boney M in 1978. The psalm and the song are full of lament and yet kindled with hope – because no-one can ever stifle or silence the singing of the Lord's song – which is – an unchained melody of eternal love for us all.

#### Seeing your Life through the Lens of the Gospel:

*1*. Jesus speaks of himself being lifted up, a term that can mean a physical lifting, or also exaltation. By this play on words the evangelist explains to us that Jesus' gift of himself in the passion was a glorious revelation of love, despite all its injustice and brutality. Bring to mind occasions when the love shown by Jesus is his passion was a sacrament of God's love for you.

2. It would be very cushy for us if we could be a source of life to others without cost to ourselves. True life-givers know that they need the generosity of being lifted up by giving their lives so that others may have life. Recall when you have had that generosity and give thanks for others who have been like that for you.

3. We receive life from God when our faith enables us to trust in God's love for us. We give life to one another when the love between us is trustworthy. Recall memories of that kind of trustworthy love. For who have you been able to be a 'Jesus person' and give a love that another could trust? Who has shown that kind of love to you and been for you a sacrament of God's love?

Fr. Edward A. Mufly

# WEEKLY PARISH ST. ANDREW'S SUPPORT

Thank you for your support to our Parish family. The Offertory for the weekend of

# March 2nd & 3rd

Weekend Masses	\$ 4,390.00
Diocesan Assessment	\$ 1,980.00
Annual Appeal	\$ 100.00
Candles	\$ 154.00

This week's Second Collection - will be for:

# **Parking Lot Repairs**

Next week's Second Collection - will be for:

# Fuel & Maintenance



Tax contribution reports for 2023 will be available upon request. You can contact the rectory or email the parish office and the form will be prepared as soon as possible.

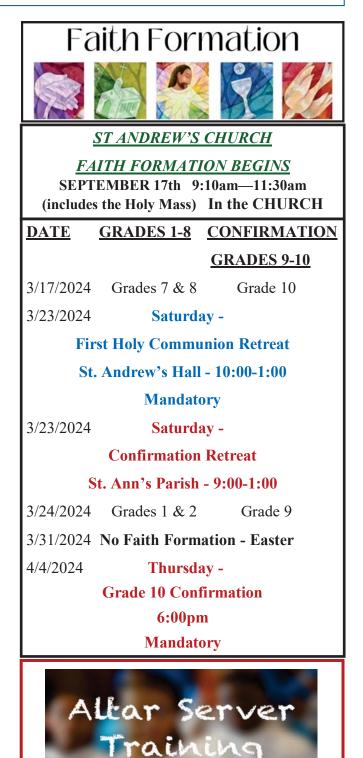
standrewtaunton@comcast.net.

# <u>Pilgrimage to Medjugorje</u>

Please join Fr Murphy on his Annual Pilgrimage to Medjugorje on **May 7-16, 2024**, \$3299.00 from Boston.

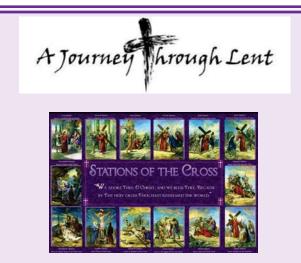
For more information visit 206Tours website https://www.206tours.com/cms/fredwardmurphy/





There will be altar server training classes for new students ages 8 and older: March 3rd, 10th, 17th, and 24th, at 11:30am.

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



#### Fridays in Lent

Rosary and Divine Mercy at 5:00pm

Stations of the Cross at 5:30pm

## Law of Abstinence

1. Those who are 14 years of age and older are obliged to observe the law of abstinence.

2. On days of abstinence, those bound by the law abstain from meat.

3. **On all Fridays of Lent**, abstinence is prescribed. This, of course, includes Good Friday. Abstinence is also prescribed on Ash Wednesday.



## The Penny Sale on Saturday, April 27th

We are accepting donations of <u>NEW</u> items. Items can be left on the bench outside the parish office.

Any questions, contact Kathy Duarte at

508-822-5455

# CHOWDER & FRITTER FUNDRAISER

DATE: Friday, March 22, 2024 @ 6:15PM-7:15PM LOCATION: St. Andrew the Apostle Parish Hall TICKET PRICE: \$12 Adults, \$6 Children Tickets will be available after the Masses on the weekends of March 3rd, 10th and 17th.





Don't know what to cook for Friday night? Tired of fish and chips? Come join us for our annual Chowder and Fritter Friday! We will be serving Clam Chowder and Fritters, and then try your luck at our 50/50 cash raffle. It should be a fun night for all.



For more information contact Robert Crossman at 508-823-7920 or Mike Wocjik 508-822-4254.



St. Andrew Knights of Columbus

## Council #11914 Scholarship

# Application Available

Scholarships will be rewarded in May 2024 to graduating high school seniors who meet the qualifications and are members of the St. Andrew Parish in Taunton. All interested students should contact Laurindo DaGraca at 508-824-4147 or Michael Wojcik at 508-822-4254 of St. Andrew Knights of Columbus or the Guidance Counselor of their school, to obtain an application. All applications must be sent to the scholarship Committee by April 26, 2024. Fourth Sunday in Lent





The Men of St Joseph with Father Phil Davignon



# THE MEN OF ST. JOSEPH PRAYER

"St. Joseph, help me to be like you. Help me to be obedient to the teachings of the Church and faithful to God's commands. Help me to patiently endure my cross each day. Let me be a model of holiness and a pillar of virtue. I solemnly promise to embrace God's will and I accept the challenge to work tirelessly for my family's salvation. Be my guide and companion on this journey. St. Joseph, Terror of demons, pray for us."



St Joseph's Adoration Chapel — Daily 7:00am to 7:00pm



# In Word & Deed

(continued from front)

It can be easy to doubt God's love, especially when we are aware of our sinfulness and failings. But God's love is unconditional. We do not have to earn it, or work for it, or be someone to receive it. God's love is a gift offered to everyone. It is offered to saints and sinners, to the holy and the not so holy. The cross is the sign of God's love for us. On it, He gives you His life: through it, He gives you His love; by it, He gives you eternal life. The language of love is easy to learn and understand. Just open your heart and mind to hear the good news.

- Jim Gaffney

FAMILY LIFE:



C ometimes, when you say or do O something cute as a child, it comes back to haunt you as an adult, especially if you have several older brothers who will not let you forget. A favorite family story is about my youngest brother. When he was a child, he admitted that every day at lunch in school, he would kiss his homemade, chocolate chip cookies before he ate them. When asked why, he replied that he knew they were made with lots of love!

Lent is about making sacrifices and atoning for sins, and becoming better people of faith. Good Lenten practices remind us of our baptismal calling to be better people of faith. But isn't it really about loving others? Isn't the root of most of our sinfulness a failure to love? To make up for our sins and failures, to follow Christ more closely, we need to love

 $\mathcal{W}$ e/are the new pilgrims who must sleep every night beneath a new sky, for either we go forward to the new camp or the whirling earth carries us backward to one behind.

here is no choice but to move, forward or backward. Forward to the clean hut, or backward to the old camp, fouled every day by the passers.

Joyce Cary



relationships, heal past hurts and mend broken hearts and spirits. Love is the antidote to sin.

better, more

The best expressions of love are concrete actions that express our concern and affection. People need to experience our love for them. Just thinking it or saying it doesn't help a whole lot. Real love brings us together with those who need us and want us to be close to them. Acts of kindness and thoughtfulness, offering a helping hand or a listening ear makes a big difference. Even a batch of chocolate chip cookies-or a cup of water-can let others know how much we care.

-Jim Gaffney

Genuine forgiveness is participation, reunion overcoming the powers of estrangement. Cond only because this is so does forgiveness make love possible.

\* Paul Tillich \*



St. Andrew the Apostle

# **St. Andrew the Apostle**

# CITY OF TAUNTON ~ CATHOLIC CHURCHES SOUTH

Fr Edward A. Murphy, Pastor

# **Priests of LaSalette Shrine, Part-Time**

# CHURCH STAFF

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Denio Serpa, Luke Mullen, Kristin Mohan – Youth Ministers

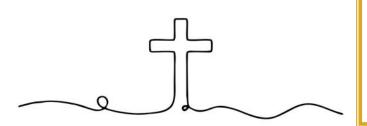
Joseph Teixeira – Maintenance

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

# Parish Offices

St. Andrew the Apostle19 Kilmer Ave., Taunton, MA 02780508-824-5577. 508-822-1401 fax

#### www.cstaunton.org



# Eucharist Revival Series

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"Oh God, you are my Godit is you I seek! For you my body yearns; for you my soul thirsts, In a land parched, lifeless, and without water." Psalm 63:2



EVERY MASS CAN BE VIEWED ON OUR WEBSITE !

All Masses are Livestreamed at

## standrewtaunton.org

Click: Please join us here on "Livestream"

# **TELEVISED MASS SCHEDULE**

**TCAM TV**— Taunton Community Access and Media Inc

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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#### To be truly independent, your personal emergency device needs to work on the go.

MobileHelp® allows you to summon emergency help 24 hours a day, 7 days a week by simply pressing your personal help button. Unlike traditional systems that only work inside your home, a MobileHelp medical alert system extends help beyond the home. Now you can participate in all your favorite activities such as gardening, taking walks, shopping and traveling all with the peace of mind of having a personal alert system with you. MobileHelp, the "on-the-go" help button, is powered by one of the nation's largest cellular networks, so there's virtually no limit to your help button's range.

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Places where your Help Button will work	MobileHelp	Traditional Help Buttons	
At Home	<ul> <li>✓</li> </ul>	✓	
On a Walk	<ul> <li>✓</li> </ul>	×	
On Vacation	<ul> <li>Image: A set of the set of the</li></ul>	×	
At the Park	<ul> <li>✓</li> </ul>	×	
Shopping	<ul> <li>Image: A second s</li></ul>	×	



# Make the smart and ONLY CHOICE when tackling your roof!



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