

# *St. Andrew the Apostle Taunton Catholic Church*

**1<sup>st</sup>  
Sunday  
of Advent**

Therefore, stay awake! For you do not know on which day your Lord will come. *Matthew 24:42*



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](mailto:standrewtaunton@comcast.net)

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

November 30th, 2025

First Sunday of Advent

## ST ANDREW THE APOSTLE WEEKEND MASS INTENTIONS

### Saturday, November 29th

4:00pm — John Pereira

### Sunday, November 30th

8:00am — Theresa Doyle, Lee Charlton,  
Brian & Kathleen Duczkowski

10:30am — Laure, Edward, Fares, & Salwa  
Karam

### Monday, December 1st

8:00am — Jose F., Jose M., and Maria Sousa,  
Fontes Family, Tobey Alford

### Tuesday, December 2nd

8:00am — Special Intention

### Wednesday, December 3rd

8:00am — Joey Murphy

### Thursday, December 4th

9:00am — Joseph & Bertha McNaulty,  
David Robb

### Friday, December 5th

8:00am — Dorothy & John McCaully Sr.,  
John McCaully Jr.

### Saturday, December 6th

4:00pm — George & Aline Clish, Guido &  
Dorothy Spaziani

### Sunday, December 7th

8:00am — Jeffrey Briggs, Matthew Briggs, Brian  
Collins

10:30am — Jose & Laura Moitoso, Ana &  
Antonio Freitas & Deceased Family

### Sanctuary Lamp for week of November 29th



*John Pereira*

### Parish Office

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

508-824-5577 | 508-822-1401 fax

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

### **BAPTISM**

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

### **RECONCILIATION**

Saturday at 3:30pm. 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 meets on the First Saturday of the month, September through June. Beginning with 9:00am Mass, followed by a meeting of fellowship and discussion. All men are welcome.

### **WOMEN AT THE WELL PRAYER GROUP**

This group meets on the Second Saturday of the month. Beginning with the Holy Mass at 9:00am, followed by a fellowship and meditation. All women 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**  
Meets in the church,  
6:00pm to 7:00pm

#### **EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION in CHAPEL**

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

#### **FRIDAY CENACLE PRAYER GROUP**

Meets in the church,  
Friday 1:00pm to 2:00pm

**HANDICAP ACCESSIBLE** With elevator



**FIRST READING****A Reading from The Book of the Prophet Isaiah  
Isaiah 2:1-5**

This is what Isaiah, son of Amoz, saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem. In days to come, the mountain of the LORD's house shall be established as the highest mountain and raised above the hills. All nations shall stream toward it; many peoples shall come and say: "Come, let us climb the LORD's mountain, to the house of the God of Jacob, that he may instruct us in his ways, and we may walk in his paths."  
For from Zion shall go forth instruction, and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem. He shall judge between the nations, and impose terms on many peoples. They shall beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks; one nation shall not raise the sword against another, nor shall they train for war again. O house of Jacob, come, let us walk in the light of the Lord!

**Thanks be to God.**

**Responsorial Psalm****Psalm 122: 1-2, 3-4, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9**

**R. \ Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord.**

I rejoiced because they said to me,  
"We will go up to the house of the LORD."

And now we have set foot  
within your gates, O Jerusalem.

**R. \ Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord.**

Jerusalem, built as a city  
with compact unity.

To it the tribes go up,  
the tribes of the LORD.

**R. \ Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord.**

According to the decree for Israel,  
to give thanks to the name of the LORD.

In it are set up judgment seats,  
seats for the house of David.

**R. \ Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord.**

Pray for the peace of Jerusalem!

May those who love you prosper!

May peace be within your walls,  
prosperity in your buildings.

**R. \ Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord.**

Because of my brothers and friends

I will say, "Peace be within you!"

Because of the house of the LORD, our God,

I will pray for your good.

**R. \ Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord.**

**SECOND READING****A Reading from The Letter of Saint Paul to the  
Romans****Romans 13:11-14**

Brothers and sisters:

You know the time;

it is the hour now for you to awake from sleep.

For our salvation is nearer now than when we first  
believed;

the night is advanced, the day is at hand.

Let us then throw off the works of darkness

and put on the armor of light;

let us conduct ourselves properly as in the day,

not in orgies and drunkenness,

not in promiscuity and lust,

not in rivalry and jealousy.

But put on the Lord Jesus Christ,

and make no provision for the desires of the flesh.

**Thanks be to God.**

**GOSPEL****A Reading from The Gospel according to  
Matthew****Matthew 24:37-44**

Jesus said to his disciples:

"As it was in the days of Noah,

so it will be at the coming of the Son of Man.

In those days before the flood, they were eating  
and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage,

up to the day that Noah entered the ark.

They did not know until the flood came and carried  
them all away.

So will it be also at the coming of the Son of Man.

Two men will be out in the field;

one will be taken, and one will be left.

Two women will be grinding at the mill;

one will be taken, and one will be left.

Therefore, stay awake!

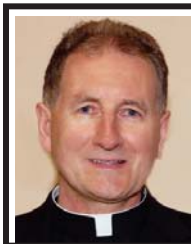
For you do not know on which day your Lord will  
come.

Be sure of this: if the master of the house had  
known the hour of night when the thief was com-  
ing, he would have stayed awake and not let his  
house be broken into.

So too, you also must be prepared, for at an hour  
you do not expect, the Son of Man will come."

**The Gospel of the Lord.**





By Father Edward A. Murphy

## ***Gospel of Matthew***

The word 'advent' means 'coming' or 'arrival.' It's about keeping watch as the preface puts it, we who watch for that day? The focus of the entire season is the celebration of the birth of Jesus the Christ in his First Advent and looking forward to his return as King in his Second Advent. In this double focus on past and future, Advent also symbolizes the spiritual journey of every individual and every community in the here and now.

In spite of all kinds of predictions, allegedly from the sayings of the saints and other holy people, no one knows the time of the Second Coming, only God, and that it will come upon men and women with the suddenness of a rainstorm out of a blue sky. They tell us that that time will come with shattering suddenness on those who are immersed in material things. Noah prepared himself in the calm weather before the flood and when it did come he was ready. But the rest of humanity was lost in the 'eating and drinking and merrymaking' and were caught completely unawares and so were swept away. These verses are a warning to us never to become so immersed in time that we forget eternity. that there is a God and that the issues of life and death are in his hands, and that Whenever his Call comes, at morning, at midday or evening, it must find us ready. However we must remember that the watching of the Christian for the coming of Christ is not that of terror-stricken fear or shivering apprehension, rather it is the eager expectation for the coming of glory and joy.

*Intercom November 2025*

## ***Seeing Your Life Through the Lens of the Gospel***

### **1) On Spiritual Complacency**

People in Noah's day were oblivious until the flood came. Am I similarly asleep, absorbed in life's daily rhythms, while remaining spiritually unprepared? Lord, Shake me from my complacency and keep me watchful for your coming.

### **2) On Being Truly Ready**

Two men will be in the field; one is taken. Does my external Christian activity mask an unprepared heart? Am I living in a state of genuine, moment-by-moment readiness, or am I presuming on God's grace and assuming I'll have more time?

### **3) On the Unexpected Moment**

Jesus compares his return to a thief in the night. Does this sense of holy urgency inform my choices? Or do I live as if that day is far off, structuring my life around everything but the promise of his sudden appearance?

### **4) On Active Watchfulness**

'Therefore keep watch.' This is a command to active, intentional living. What does 'keeping watch' actually look like for me today? Is it merely a head knowledge, or is it transforming my priorities, my prayers, and how I love others right now?



*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 22nd & 23rd will be available in next week's bulletin.  
Thank you.

### Healing Mass Schedule



St. Andrew's:

**Friday,  
December 12**

Rosary: 6:00pm

Mass: 6:30pm

St. Anne's:

Thursday,  
December 18th

Rosary: 6:00pm

Mass: 6:30pm



### **St. Andrew the Apostle Faith Formation Schedule 2025 - 2026**

<u>DATE</u>	<u>GRADES 1- 8</u>	<u>CONFIRMATION GRADES 9-10</u>
11/30/2025	NO FAITH FORMATION - THANKSGIVING	
12/7/2025	Grades 3 & 4	Grade 10
12/14/2025	Grades 5 & 6	Grade 9
12/21/2025	NO FAITH FORMATION - CHRISTMAS	
12/28/2025	NO FAITH FORMATION - NEW YEAR'S	
1/4/2026	Grades 7 & 8	
	Grade 2	
1/11/2026	Grades 1 & 2	Grade 9

\*Confirmation Date will be announced at a later time.

\*First Penance will be during Faith Formation class on 2/22/26.

All parents are welcome to attend.

Contact: [faithformationtaunton@gmail.com](mailto:faithformationtaunton@gmail.com)

### The Man Behind the Camera Awarded the Marion Medal



Congratulations to  
**Walter Cahoon**,  
this year's winner of the  
Marion Medal Award!

The award will be  
presented to Walter on  
Sunday, November 30th  
at St. Mary's Cathedral  
in Fall River at 3:00pm.  
All are welcome to attend.



## Young Adult Section

*By Brooke Pina*

### **What can young adults do to embrace this season of Advent?**

Slow down. Oftentimes we feel like there are a ton of things we need to get done in such a short amount of time that we neglect other things around us. This time of year is meant for more than just working or studying. Take those extra things off your plate and give yourself time to focus on what makes this time of year so special.



## **Mary's Mantle Consecration Week Five**

At the conclusion of week five of our 46-day program, participants maintained their daily practice of prayer, reflection on an assigned virtue or gift, recitation of the rosary, and adherence to fasting. Each day, an additional star was placed on the mantle, symbolizing the strengthening relationship with Mary and her Son. At this stage, Thirty four stars are present, each marking a day of committed participation and spiritual development. This week, let us take a special moment to honor and acknowledge all those who have embraced the discipline of fasting during week five, recognizing our shared path and deepening faith together.

### **Star 28 Resiliency**

was added to Mary's Mantle by  
Lorraine Hickey & Carol Czarn

### **Star 29 Detachment**

was added to Mary's Mantle by  
Pat Chandler

### **Star 30 Poverty**

was added to Mary's Mantle  
by Jodie Bouchard

### **Star 31 Wisdom**

was added to Mary's Mantle  
by Paula Yetman

### **Star 32 Discipline**

was added to Mary's Mantle  
by Sally Medeiros & Darcy Perry

### **Star 33 Mortification**

was added to Mary's Mantle by  
Emelie McDermotte & Karen Harnois

### **Star 34 Boldness**

was added to Mary's Mantle by  
Tobias & Felisvera Depina



### Women of Faith Meeting

The next Women of Faith meeting will be held this Thursday, December 4th, at 7:00pm.



### THE MEN OF ST. JOSEPH



The Men of St. Joseph will be meeting on **Saturday, December 6th** starting with Holy Mass at 9:00am, Rosary and fellowship, followed by a round table discussion.



### *Women of Faith Poinsettia Sales*

The Women of Faith will be taking pre-orders for Poinsettias on the Weekends of November 22nd & 23rd and November 29th & 30th.

Deadline for orders is December 1st. Price is \$15.00 each or 3 for \$40. Orders and payment may be placed in collection basket, or to Women of Faith members. Pickup date will be the weekend of December 6th & 7th.



### CHRISTMAS GIVING TREE

All parishioners are invited to participate in the Parish Giving Tree Program beginning the First Sunday of Advent, **November 30th**.

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 23rd**.

If you know of someone, a family, or you yourself are in need, please contact Tara Sousa at [tarams1231@gmail.com](mailto:tarams1231@gmail.com) or 508-272-1173 or call the parish office. All calls will be handled in confidence.



### **Poinsettia Order Form — \$15.00 each or 3 for \$40.00**



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

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

NUMBER OF PLANTS RED: \_\_\_\_\_ WHITE: \_\_\_\_\_ PINK: \_\_\_\_\_



## The Blessing of an Advent Wreath

The use of the Advent Wreath is a traditional practice which has found its place in the Church as well as in the home. The blessing of an Advent Wreath takes place on the First Sunday of Advent or on the evening before the First Sunday of Advent. When the blessing of the Advent Wreath is celebrated in the home, it is appropriate that it be blessed by a parent or another member of the family.

All make the sign of the cross

**Leader:** Our help is in the name of the Lord.

**Response (R/.):** Who made heaven and earth.

**Reader:** Let us listen to the words of the Prophet Isaiah (Isaiah 1-2 and 5-6) (Alternately, Isaiah 63 (lines 16-17 & 19) or Isaiah 64 (lines 2-7) may be used).

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; Upon those who dwelt in the land of gloom a light has shone. You have brought them abundant joy and great rejoicing, As they rejoice before you as at the harvest, as men make merry when dividing spoils. For a child is born to us, a son is given us; upon his shoulder dominion rests. They name him Wonder-Counselor, God-Hero, Father-Forever, Prince of Peace. His dominion is vast and forever peaceful, From David's throne, and over his kingdom, which he confirms and sustains By judgment and justice, both now and forever. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this!

**Reader:** The Word of the Lord.

R/. Thanks be to God.

**Leader:**

Lord our God,  
we praise you for your Son, Jesus Christ:  
he is Emmanuel, the hope of the peoples,  
he is the wisdom that teaches and guides us,  
he is the Savior of every nation.  
Lord God,  
let your blessing come upon us  
as we light the candles of this wreath.  
May the wreath and its light



be a sign of Christ's promise to bring us salvation.

May he come quickly and not delay.  
We ask this through Christ our Lord.  
R/. Amen.

The blessing may conclude with a verse from "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel":

O come, desire of nations, bind  
in one the hearts of humankind;  
bid ev'ry sad division cease  
and be thyself our Prince of peace.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
shall come to thee, O Israel.

—From "Catholic Household Blessings & Prayers"

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### **St. Andrew's Christmas Novena Begins November 30th!**

November 30th is the feast day of St. Andrew the Apostle. St. Andrew was the very first disciple called by Our Lord, and he is the one who got his brother, St. Peter, to become Jesus' disciple too. We all know how the rest turned out.

The feast of St. Andrew marks the end of the liturgical year and the beginning of a new year with the start of Advent. In fact, the Sunday that falls nearest to St. Andrew's feast day on November 30th is always the first Sunday of Advent.

There are many popular traditions associated with St. Andrew's feast day, especially in those countries that have him as their patron saint, Scotland and Russia. But the most popular St. Andrew's feast day tradition is for everyone, and that is the tradition to begin a Christmas novena prayer on St. Andrew's feast day.

It's called the **St. Andrew Christmas Novena**, or more simply, The Christmas Novena, and it's a wonderful way to enter into the Advent season that is marked by a time of anticipation, penance, and prayer.

While the origins of this prayer are unknown, it is over 100 years old at least and may have come from Ireland.

If the St. Andrew novena was prayed as a traditional nine-day novena, it would end on the Feast of the Immaculate Conception on December 8th. However, this novena prayer is actually traditionally prayed much longer than nine days—it is prayed through all four weeks of Advent.

It is piously believed that whoever recites the St. Andrew Christmas novena prayer FIFTEEN times each day from the feast of St. Andrew (30th November) until Christmas Eve will obtain the favor requested.

It won't be easy to pray this novena 15 times a day for 25 days, but if you are able to, this prayer will undoubtedly leave your heart well-prepared to welcome the coming of Christ. The beauty and sweetness of this prayer will unfold for you through its daily recitation, allowing you to meditate more fully on the profound mystery of the Incarnation.

Go ahead and memorize it, copy and save it to your desktop, print it out and stick it on your car dashboard, write it on your arm, or whatever you need to do to help you remember to pray it each day until Christmas Eve.



#### ***St. Andrew Christmas Novena***



***Hail and blessed be the hour and moment in which the Son of God was born of the most pure Virgin Mary, at midnight, in Bethlehem, in the piercing cold. In that hour vouchsafe, I beseech Thee, O my God, to hear my prayer and grant my desires through the merits of Our Savior Jesus Christ, and of His Blessed Mother. Amen.***

Prayer is an essential part of Advent. Reciting this special novena prayer each day is a simple yet beautiful way to celebrate the spiritual significance of the Advent season and to experience a deeper conversion to Jesus. The St. Andrew Christmas novena is commonly found in many Advent prayer books which are also loaded with many other beautiful prayers and traditions for this time of year.

Have you made the St. Andrew Christmas novena a part of your Advent prayers in the past? If so, what blessings and graces did you receive?



## 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

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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 Apostle  
19 Kilmer Ave. Taunton, MA 02780  
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### **TELEVISED MASS SCHEDULE**

**T C A M TV — Taunton Community  
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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**

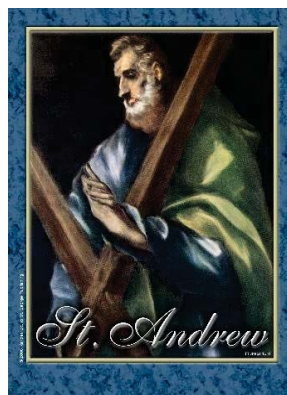
Monday - Friday at 8:00am

Saturday Vigil at 4:00pm

Sunday at 8:00am and 10:30am

### **Saint Andrew the Apostle**

***Feast Day - November 30th***



In the synoptic Gospels, Andrew is a Galilean Fisherman grouped with his brother, Peter, and with James and John in the inner circle of Apostles; in John's

Gospel, he is the disciple of John the Baptist who is the first to follow Jesus and who brings his brother to the Lord. Many traditions about Andrew come from the apocryphal second-century Acts of Andrew, which depicts him as a zealous missionary in the Black Sea region who is crucified—tied to an x-shaped cross—by the Roman governor. Some early church historians also said he evangelized in Greece and Asia Minor. He is the patron saint of Scotland, Russia, Greece, and those who fish for a living.



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