

# *St. Andrew the Apostle*

## *Taunton Catholic Church*



## Baptism of the Lord

This is my beloved  
Son, with whom  
I am well pleased.

Matthew 3:17

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)

## ST ANDREW THE APOSTLE WEEKEND MASS INTENTIONS

### Saturday, January 10th

4:00pm — Jose F., Jose M., & Maria Sousa,  
Fontes Family, Tobey Alford

### Sunday, January 11th

8:00am — Paulette Tyler  
10:30am — Oliver Nwachukwu

### Monday, January 12th

8:00am — George Corliss

### Tuesday, January 13th

8:00am — Bertha Florence

### Wednesday, January 14th

8:00am — Jorge & Anne Botelho, Araujo Family

### Thursday, January 15th

8:00am — Florinda Faria

### Friday, January 16th

8:00am — Sean Patrick Young

### Saturday, January 17th

4:00pm — Carol LaChance

### Sunday, January 18th

8:00am — Joseph Vargas  
10:30am — Fr. Thomas O'Dea

### **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.

### Sanctuary Lamp for week of January 10th



*Deborah "Debbie" Roy*

### PARISH OFFICE

St. Andrew the Apostle  
19 Kilmer Ave. | Taunton, MA 02780  
Phone: 508-824-5577 | Fax: 508-822-1401  
[www.standrewtaunton.org](http://www.standrewtaunton.org)

### **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 42:1-4, 6-7**

Thus says the LORD:

Here is my servant whom I uphold,  
my chosen one with whom I am pleased,  
upon whom I have put my spirit;  
he shall bring forth justice to the nations,  
not crying out, not shouting,  
not making his voice heard in the street.  
a bruised reed he shall not break,  
and a smoldering wick he shall not quench,  
until he establishes justice on the earth;  
the coastlands will wait for his teaching.  
I, the LORD, have called you for the victory of  
justice,  
I have grasped you by the hand;  
I formed you, and set you  
as a covenant of the people,  
a light for the nations,  
to open the eyes of the blind,  
to bring out prisoners from confinement,  
and from the dungeon, those who live in darkness.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Responsorial Psalm**      **Psalm 29:1-2, 3-4, 3, 9-10**

**R. \ The Lord will bless his people with peace.**

Give to the LORD, you sons of God,  
give to the LORD glory and praise,  
Give to the LORD the glory due his name;  
adore the LORD in holy attire.

**R. \ The Lord will bless his people with peace.**

The voice of the LORD is over the waters,  
the LORD, over vast waters.  
The voice of the LORD is mighty;  
the voice of the LORD is majestic.

**R. \ The Lord will bless his people with peace.**

The God of glory thunders,  
and in his temple all say, "Glory!"  
The LORD is enthroned above the flood;  
the LORD is enthroned as king forever.

**R. \ The Lord will bless his people with peace.**

**SECOND READING****A Reading from the book of The Acts of the**  
**Apostles**

**Acts 10:34-38**

Peter proceeded to speak to those gathered  
in the house of Cornelius, saying:  
"In truth, I see that God shows no partiality.  
Rather, in every nation whoever fears him and acts  
uprightly  
is acceptable to him.  
You know the word that he sent to the Israelites  
as he proclaimed peace through Jesus Christ, who is  
Lord of all,  
what has happened all over Judea,  
beginning in Galilee after the baptism  
that John preached,  
how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth  
with the Holy Spirit and power.  
He went about doing good  
and healing all those oppressed by the devil,  
for God was with him."

**Thanks be to God.**

**GOSPEL****A Reading from The Gospel according to**  
**Matthew**

**Matthew 3:13-17**

Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan  
to be baptized by him.  
John tried to prevent him, saying,  
"I need to be baptized by you,  
and yet you are coming to me?"  
Jesus said to him in reply,  
"Allow it now, for thus it is fitting for us  
to fulfill all righteousness."  
Then he allowed him.  
After Jesus was baptized,  
he came up from the water and behold,  
the heavens were opened for him,  
and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove  
and coming upon him.  
And a voice came from the heavens, saying,  
"This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well  
pleased."

**The Gospel of the Lord.**



THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD



By Father Edward A. Murphy

*Fr. Edward A. Murphy*

## ***Gospel of Matthew***

It would be useful for us today to reflect on the meaning of our own baptism and how it relates with that of Jesus. We often hear a very simplistic description of the effects of the Sacrament of Baptism as 'taking away original sin and making us children of God.' Many, especially those baptized as infants, may see it as a one-off ceremony, imposed on them by parents to bind them to a way of life in which they have no further say. However, if one truly understands the full meaning of our baptism, this is unlikely to happen.

Baptism is not, as is true of all the Sacraments, an isolated ritual. It takes place in the context of our whole life. Whether we are baptized as children or as adults, what primarily is happening is that we become incorporated, 'embodied', into the Christian community.

We become—not passively, but actively—members of the Body of Christ. It can never be something imposed on us against our will. That is why, for adults, there is now a long process of initiation leading up to Baptism and, hopefully, a further process of community support after the Baptism has taken place.

We are called to be living witnesses of the Gospel, to be the salt of the earth, to be a city on a hill, a candle radiating light in the surrounding darkness. We are called, in short, to be united with the others in our Christian community in the building up of God's Kingdom.

Our baptism is not simply some past event recorded in some dusty parish register. It is a living reality which is to be constantly deepened and enriched.

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

1) Jesus, the sinless Son of God, embraces humility and insists on being baptized to 'fulfill all righteousness.' He joins Himself with humanity's need for repentance. Am I too willing to embrace humility? Am I prone to avoiding situations that I think beneath me, or like Christ, am I willing to enter into the struggles of others to serve and fulfill God's purpose?

2) Jesus' baptism wasn't about confessing personal sin but about obediently inaugurating His mission. His submission to the Father's plan is the model for our own discipleship. There is a difference between just following rituals and inner obedience to God. Is my faith expressed through active steps of obedience to God's will, even when I don't fully understand it?

3) Before Jesus performed any miracles or preached any sermons, the Father affirmed His identity: 'This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased.' Our worth as a human being is not rooted in our productivity or success but in being God's beloved child through Christ. Am I living and striving for a love and approval that I already possess by God's grace?

4) At Jesus' baptism the Trinity is uniquely revealed. the Son in the water, the Spirit descending, the Father speaking. This illustrates the communal nature of God. My faith invites me into this divine relationship. As I reflect on the quality of my connection with God, I ask myself is it a distant transaction, or an intimate, relational communion with the Father, through the Son, in the power of the Spirit?

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

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

**January 3rd & 4th**

Weekend Masses	\$	3,729.00
Diocesan Assessment	\$	1,678.00
Candles	\$	212.00
Solemnity of Mary	\$	1,123.00
Annual Appeal	\$	1,800.00

This week's Second Collection will be for:

**Diocesan Assessment**

Next week's Second Collection will be for:

**Fuel, Maintenance, & Repairs**

### **ST. ANDREW'S MONTHLY PARISH SUPPORT (Online Giving)**

Thank you for your support to our Parish Family. The Offertory for the month of

**December**

Weekend Masses	\$	2,064.00
Fuel & Maintenance	\$	174.00
Annual Appeal	\$	540.00
Diocesan Assessment	\$	70.00
Miscellaneous	\$	256.00

### **Healing Mass Schedule**



**St. Anne's:**

Thursday,  
January 22nd  
Rosary: 6:00pm  
Mass: 6:30pm

**St. Andrew's:**

Thursday,  
January 29th  
Rosary: 6:00pm  
Mass: 6:30pm



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

<b><u>DATE</u></b>	<b><u>GRADES 1-8</u></b>	<b><u>CONFIRMATION GRADES 9-10</u></b>
1/11/2026	Grades 1 & 2	Grade 9
1/18/2026	<b>NO FAITH FORMATION - MARTIN LUTHER KING</b>	
1/25/2026	Grades 3 & 4	Grade 10
2/1/2026	Grades 5 & 6	Grade 9
2/8/2026	Grades 7 & 8	Grade 10
	Grade 2	
2/15/2026	<b>NO FAITH FORMATION - PRESIDENT'S DAY</b>	

\*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)

### ***REMEMBER in PRAYER***

Please remember in your prayers



***Deborah "Debbie" Roy***



whose funeral Mass will be  
celebrated soon.

### **2026 Calendars**



Calendars for this  
upcoming year are  
now available to  
take home.

Thank you to  
Crapo-Hathaway  
Funeral Home for  
being a part of this  
year's calendar.

## Young Adult Section

*By Brooke Pina*

### **How does your faith influence your choices about friends, dating, or social life?**

With anything in my life, certain requirements have to be met or acknowledged before I make any choices about friends or any aspect of my social life. When it comes to people, I will automatically gravitate towards those that are following a path of faith. People who really put their faith in God have a certain aura around them that I really admire, and it can be felt in the way they act towards others and the way they react when things don't go perfectly smoothly. I want to surround myself with people who can remain calm in crazy situations; people who share similar mindsets as me; people who can disagree with someone or even dislike someone without being mean to them. Those are the people that are going to make me better in return. But obviously, not everyone on this earth is like that. There are going to be people I interact with that are just mean for no reason, and it's important to me that I can lean on God in those moments and not crash out over someone else's actions. My faith has also made me realize that those interactions don't matter at all in the grand scheme of things, and I shouldn't be letting those interactions ruin my day. Nothing is worth getting that upset about. Self control is extremely important, and learning to stay calm, walk away, and forgive is a big asset, and I will continue to look for friends who do those things easily, because again, those are the people who will influence me for the better and make it easier for me to live a faithful life.

## Prayer for the Brand New Year

*By Ravn*

It's a brand new year, 2026, my Lord,  
I pray for myself and everyone I love  
For all around me,  
May we be healthy, may our hearts  
stay true,  
Bless every step along our way,  
The darkness fades, Your light will stay,  
In Jesus' name, I pray, **Amen**.

Going to be a long night,  
Down on my knees for God,  
I'm locked in prayer tonight,  
I step away to pray tonight,  
Break every curse,  
No more war,  
I serve the Lord,

Thanks for my mind ,  
Thanks for my life,  
Thanks for my God,  
Thanks for my light,  
Thanks for my fire,  
Thanks for my time,

Thanks for Your guide,  
Thanks for Your sign,  
Thanks for Your shine,  
Thanks for Your sight,  
Thanks for Your line,  
Thanks for Your love,  
Thanks for everything You've given,

Brand new year,  
Brand new year,  
Brand new year,  
You lead my road,

Brand new year,  
Brand new year,  
Brand new year,  
You are my Lord,

In Jesus' name,

**Amen**

### Medjugorje Message

(December 25th, 2025)



“Dear children!  
Also today - when  
God permits me to  
carry to you in my  
arms little Jesus, the  
King of Peace, that He may fill you  
with the ardor of love and peace, so  
that every heart may be similar to  
His Heart in this time of grace - be  
resolute and courageous defenders  
of the love of your God, that in this  
time of grace He may give you His  
peace. Thank you for having  
responded to my call. ”

### Paint Party



The Women of Faith will be hosting a  
Paint Night on Saturday, January 17th, at  
5:00pm. Tickets are \$25 per person and  
proceeds will benefit teens going to  
Steubenville. For tickets, please contact  
Tara Sousa at [tarams1231@gmail.com](mailto:tarams1231@gmail.com) or  
call 508-245-5792.



### Permanent Diaconate Information Nights Scheduled

His Excellency, the Most Reverend Edgar M. da Cunha, Bishop of Fall River, has authorized the formation of a new class for Permanent Deacons beginning in the Fall of 2027. Those interested in pursuing the vocation of the diaconate, scheduled to begin the Aspirancy phase in the Fall of 2027, are invited to submit a preliminary application. These general Information meetings will delve into the process of formation of a deacon for the Diocese of Fall River. The info nights will be held at several locations in the Diocese and via Zoom:

- January 27, 2026 - via Zoom
- February 13, 2026 - St. Ann's Parish Hall - Raynham
- April 27, 2026 - via Zoom

If you have any questions, please contact Deacon Frank Lucca or Deacon Joseph McGinley at [office@frpermanentdiaconate.com](mailto:office@frpermanentdiaconate.com) or contact the Office of the Permanent Diaconate at **508-990-0341**.



Secretariat for  
The New  
Evangelization

### THE ANNUAL WEDDING ANNIVERSARY MASS

YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO  
RENEW YOUR WEDDING VOWS WITH  
MOST REV. EDGAR M DA CUNHA, S.D.V., D.D.,  
BISHOP OF FALL RIVER

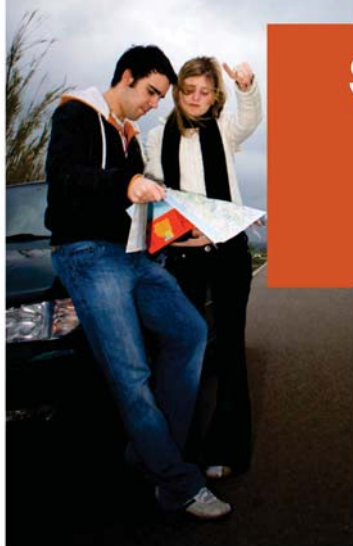
SUNDAY | 3:00pm  
FEBRUARY 08, 2026

Cathedral of Saint Mary  
of the Assumption

327 Second Street  
Fall River, MA 02721

*To register contact your pastor*  
RSVP before January 16, 2026

## searching for the right road?



Too much going on?  
Pulled in a million directions?  
**You're not the only one.**  
In the craziness of life, it doesn't hurt to pause  
and take a look at the big picture:

What's important in my life?  
What am I looking for?  
Where does God fit in?

Find out how other young adults answer  
these questions; learn how faith plays a role  
in their journeys; and take the time to reflect  
on your own path.

Retreatants are invited to look at their lives to  
see where God has been, where God is  
present, and where God is calling them to be.

## Seekers' Retreat

FEBRUARY 20-22, 2026  
LaSalette Retreat Center  
Attleboro, MA

REGISTRATION NOW OPEN!

Newman Catholic Ministry  
is a member of the  
Charis Ministries Retreat Partner Program  
Questions? [flucca@umassd.edu](mailto:flucca@umassd.edu)

*Charis*  
MINISTRIES

A Jesuit ministry to those in their 20s & 30s

Scan QR  
code for  
details



## Residential Weekend



Any married couple that desires  
a richer, fuller life together  
deserves a Worldwide Marriage  
Encounter Weekend. Worldwide  
Marriage Encounter is designed  
to deepen and enrich the joys a  
couple shares together, whether  
they have been married a short  
time or many years.

January 23-25, 2026

### Holy Cross Retreat Center

490 Washington St.,  
North Easton, MA 02356

### Contact

Matt & Julie King

(978) 870-5646

or scan QR code above

## Saint Marguerite Bourgeoys

*Feast Day: January 12th*



Growing up in Troyes,  
France, Marguerite formed a  
special relationship with Our  
Lady. She was turned away by  
two religious communities,

but met the founder of Montreal, Canada,  
when he returned to France to visit his  
sister. He invited Marguerite to open a  
school in the New World; she went, despite  
misgivings, after praying to Mary. From  
that first school in an abandoned stable,  
her ministry grew to include teaching  
women crafts and founding the Sisters of  
the Congregation of Notre Dame. She  
managed to keep her sisters uncloistered,  
despite opposition from the bishop, and  
served as superior for many years. When  
Pope John Paul II canonized her in 1982,  
she became Canada's first female saint.

## Saint Anthony of Egypt, Abbot

*Feast Day: January 17th*

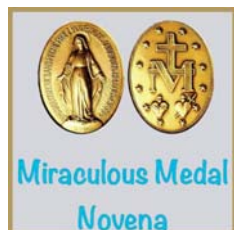
Associated with the beginnings  
of monasticism, Anthony gave  
his inherited lands and wealth  
in Egypt to the poor. From the  
age of about 20 until his death  
at 105 years old, he lived as a hermit in  
remote hilltop and desert locations. What is  
known about him comes from a hagiography  
written by St. Athanasius of Alexandria.  
Around the year 306, Anthony began to  
accept disciples, founding his first monastery  
as a collection of hermits' cells. He cultivated  
a garden, wove rush mats, and fought many  
temptations and demons. Visitors sought his  
wise counsel, collected in the sayings of the  
"desert fathers," and the bishops of  
Alexandria summoned him at age 87 to help  
refute Arianism. He is the patron of basket  
and brush makers, butchers, gravediggers,  
and skin diseases.



### MONDAYS: MIRACULOUS MEDAL NOVENA

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

**Monday at 7:00pm**

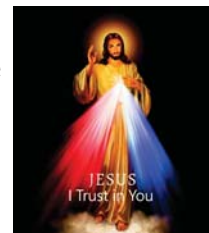


### WEDNESDAYS: DIVINE MERCY HOLY HOUR PRAYER GROUP



Divine Mercy  
Holy Hour for the  
Sick and Dying

**Wednesday at  
6:00pm**



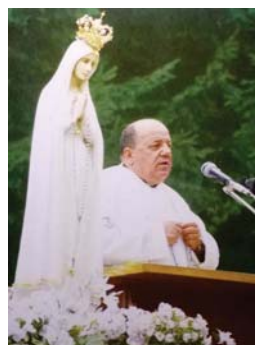
Jesus said to Saint Faustina:  
*"Write that when they say this Chaplet in the presence of the dying, I will stand between MY FATHER and the Dying Person. Not as the Just Judge, but as the Merciful Savior."*

### 1ST THURSDAY: THE WOMEN OF FAITH



This group meets on the **First Thursday of the month.** Meetings are held at **7:00pm.** This group of women host a multitude of events at our parish, including the Penny Sale, Soup-A-Bowl, and the Giving Tree!

### FRIDAYS: MARIAN MOVEMENT OF PRIESTS CENACLE



Laity Prayer Group  
praying for Priests  
Meets Fridays from  
**1:00pm - 2:00pm**  
in St. Joseph's  
Adoration Chapel.  
All are welcome!

### 1ST SATURDAY: THE MEN OF SAINT JOSEPH PRAYER GROUP

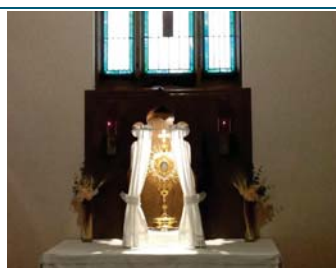
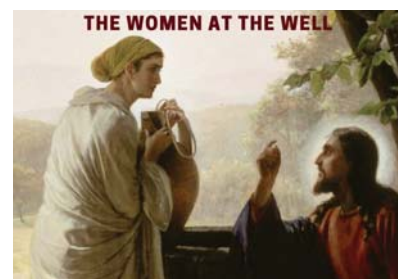
The Men of St Joseph meet every **First Saturday of the Month.** Beginning with Holy Mass at **9:00am**, followed by a meeting in the parish hall for fellowship, discussion and light refreshments. All men are invited to attend.



### 2ND SATURDAY: THE WOMEN AT THE WELL PRAYER GROUP

This group meets on the **Second Saturday of the month.**

Beginning with Holy Mass at **9:00am**, followed by fellowship and meditation, as well as the Holy Rosary. All women are welcome.



### DAILY: EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

St. Joseph's Chapel  
**Daily 7:00am to 7:00pm**  
Come visit and sit with the Lord!

*"Could you not watch one hour with me?"*



## **St. Andrew the Apostle**

**CITY OF TAUNTON ~  
CATHOLIC CHURCHES SOUTH**

***Fr Edward A. Murphy,  
Pastor***

***Priests of La Salette Shrine,  
Part-Time***

### **CHURCH STAFF**

Nancy Roberts — Administrator  
**standrewtaunton@comcast.net**

Brooke Pina — Administrative Assistant  
**508-824-5577**

Brooke Pina — Bulletin Editor  
**brookepina.standrews@gmail.com**

Sally Medeiros, Brooke Pina, Kristin Mohan —  
Dir of Religious Education  
**faithformationtaunton@gmail.com**

Ken Nosul — Organist

Denio Serpa, Luke Mullen, Kristin Mohan —  
Youth Ministers

Joseph Teixeira — Maintenance

Susan Orton, Michael Wojcik, Richard Alvarnaz,  
Veronica Briggs — Sacristans

### **PARISH OFFICE**

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### **TELEVISED MASS SCHEDULE**

Holy Mass can be seen

\*Sundays at 3:30pm\*

\*Tuesdays & Thursdays at 1:00pm\*

**COMCAST**  
CHANNEL: 15

**VERIZON**  
CHANNEL: 22

**TCAM TV** — Taunton Community Access & Media Inc.

### **MASS LIVE STREAM SCHEDULE**

**\*ON WEBSITE \***

Sunday at 8:00am & 10:30am

Monday - Friday at 8:00am

Saturday Vigil at 4:00pm



### **The Baptism of the Lord**

The origin and foundation of Christian Baptism is Jesus. Before starting his public ministry, Jesus submitted himself to the baptism given by John the Baptist. The waters did not purify him; he cleansed the waters. "He comes to sanctify the Jordan for our sake... to begin a new creation through the Spirit and water" (St. Gregory Nazianzen, Liturgy of the Hours. 1, 634). Jesus' immersion in the water is a sign for all human beings of the need to die to themselves to do God's will. Jesus did not need to be baptized because he was totally faithful to the will of his Father and free from sin.

However, he wanted to show his solidarity with human beings in order to reconcile them to the Father. By commanding his disciples to baptize all nations, he established the means by which people would die to sin—Original and actual—and begin to live a new life with God.



**EVERY MASS CAN BE  
VIEWED ON OUR  
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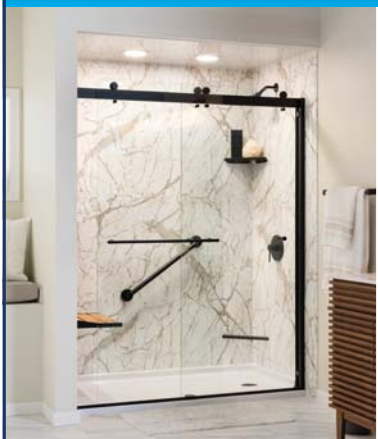


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