



CCB Parent Connector

St. Andrew, St. Mary & St. Theresa parishes



JANUARY 2018

www.billericacatholic.org

Dear Parents,

Once the presents have been opened and the “holiday” festivities have passed, it may seem like a letdown. All of that work and energy to create joy and memories, and it is over. If you happen to feel that way, I have some great news for you!

The liturgical season of Christmas actually begins with the vigil Masses on Christmas Eve and concludes on the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord, which is January 14 this year. The visit of the Magi is recognized on Epiphany Day, and Christ's baptism is celebrated the first Sunday that follows.

The Epiphany of Our Lord is the Christian feast observed on Jan. 7, 2018. The word “epiphany” comes from the Greek *epiphainen*, a verb that means “to shine upon,” “to manifest,” or “to make known.” The feast of the Epiphany celebrates the many ways that Christ has made Himself known to the world, mainly the three events that manifested the mission and divinity of Christ: the visit of the Magi (*Matthew 2:1-12*), the baptism of Jesus (*Mark 1:9-11*), and the miracle at Cana (*John 2:1-11*).

During the Christmas season, we celebrate the birth of Christ into our world and into our hearts, and reflect on the gift of salvation that is born with Him...including the fact that He was born to die for us. Every Eucharist is like Christmas where the bread and wine are transformed into His flesh, His Body and Blood, and, in a sense, He is born anew on the altar. Perhaps this New Year it would be good to make a resolution to receive the Eucharist each Sunday at Mass. What a beautiful way to keep the miracle of Christmas alive in us the whole year through.

Happy & Blessed New Year to you all,

Orienne

You may also want to check out this website for daily prayer in the New Year!

<https://www.sacredspace.ie/daily-prayer>



Join us for the Billerica Catholic Christmas Pageant!

All ages are welcome!!!!

Date: Sunday, January 7th

Time: 3:00 pm

Place: St. Theresa Church

Next Family Mass is January 28th!

The next family Mass will be on January 28 at 9 AM at St. Mary Church. Join us as our families come together as a community of faith. After Mass, we invite you to join us for light refreshments including activities for the children.



Mom's Group Facebook Page is growing in numbers!



Are you looking to connect with other moms? If you would like an invite to the Billerica Collaborative's Mom's Group on FB, please email Katy Oslin at katym.wood@gmail.com. It is a great way to share happenings and insights with fellow moms, as well as keep up to date on when the Moms Group is meeting. For now, the group has been meeting on Wednesday mornings at St. Mary Rectory at 10 AM.

A FEW IDEAS FOR NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTIONS

1. Go to Sunday Mass as a family. Every Sunday. ☺
2. Begin to pray before dinner. Even a simple: "Thank you Lord for this food. Amen."
3. Go on a date with your spouse. Your marriage is worth the effort.

Have a blessed and holy New Year!