

# St. Patrick Church

Collinsville, Connecticut

Dedicated 1852

*"It is here that through the strength of Heaven, we teach the Word, Jesus Christ, the Tradition of His Church and celebrate His Divine Mercy."*

Serving the communities of Avon, Burlington, Canton, Collinsville and St. Thérèse, Lilavois, Haiti

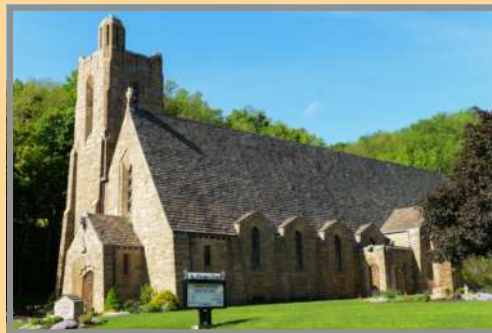


Photo courtesy LePetit Studio

## Parish Ministries

### **Altar Server Ministry**

Mr. Peter Hollenbeck: (860) 693-8499

### **Choir Director**

Mr. Chris Casey: (860) 904-8138

### **Building & Grounds Committee**

Peter Hollenbeck: (860) 693-8499

### **Haitian Ministry**

Mrs. Sharon Fuller: (860) 916-7610

### **Human Needs Ministry**

Mrs. Terry St. Gelais: (860) 916-6163

### **Lectio Divina**

Mr. Rich Stoops: (203) 910-5588

### **Youth Ministry Program**

Coordinator Needed

ym@spcolct.org

### **Liturgy Committee**

Call Rectory: (860) 693-8727

### **Men's Fraternity**

Mr. Rich Stoops: (203) 910-5588

### **Men's Retreat**

Mr. Moe Poirier: (860) 693-4692

Tom Turick: (860) 605-9092

### **Parish Council President**

Mr. Rob Dupre: (860) 299-3335

### **Imago Dei (Pro-Life) Ministry**

Mrs. Carline Thurston: (860) 899-4044

### **Rosary at Cherry Brook**

Mrs. Carline Thurston: (860) 899-4044

### **Social/Hospitality Ministry**

CHAIRPERSON NEEDED

### **SPYRIT 6th, 7th & 8th Grade Youth Group**

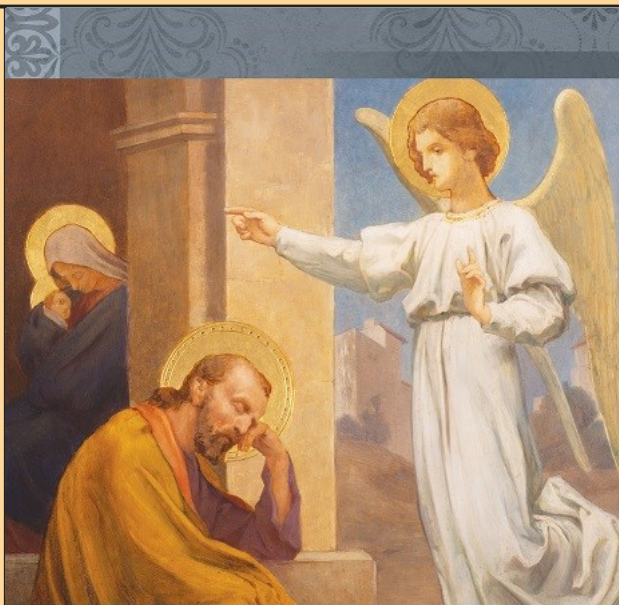
CHAIRPERSON NEEDED

### **Usher/Greeter Ministry**

Mr. David Sherman: (860) 810-8594

### **Women of St. Patrick's**

(860) 693-8727



## 4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

"Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary your wife into your home." - Mt 1:20

Illustration from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CED

### **St Patrick's Cemeteries**

Our parish has two active cemeteries Calvary Cemetery in Collinsville and St Patrick's in Burlington. Call the Office for more details.

### **Handicapped Access**

Please enter through the rear entrance of the Church

### **Allergies**

Parishioners suffering from gluten should speak to the Pastor about their needs. We have low gluten options available.

50 Church Street

Collinsville, CT 06019

(860) 693-8727

www.sp4c.org

### **Rev. Collins I. Anaeche**

*Pastor*

fr.anaeche@aohct.org

Ext 302

### **Dcn. Ken Bangs**

*Deacon*

dcn.bangs@aohct.org

### **Terry St Gelais**

*Admin Assistant*

aa@sp4c.org

Ext 306

### **Jessica Sanzo**

*Faith Formation*

*Coordinator*

ffd@spcolct.org

Ext 303

### **Coordinator Needed**

*Youth Ministry &*

*Confirmation Coordinator*

ym@spcolct.org

### **Chris Casey**

*Music Director*

keyscasey@aol.com

### **Rectory Office Hours**

Monday - Thursday

10:00am - 4:00pm

**Closed Friday**

### **Ordinary Mass Schedule**

Saturday 5:00pm

Sunday 8:00am & 10:00am

Mon, Tues, Wed 8:00am

### **Holy Day Mass Schedule**

Please see bulletin for times.

### **Holy Hour & Adoration**

Typically, the last Wednesday of every

Month from 7:00 - 8:00 pm

(Please check the bulletin for any schedule changes.)

### **Reconciliation**

Saturday 4:00 - 4:30pm

### **Ministry to the Homebound**

If you wish to receive communion, please call the Rectory.

### **Baptism**

Please call the Rectory

### **Marriage**

Please make arrangements at least six months in advance.

## ST. PATRICK'S PARISH

### Mass Intentions FOR THE WEEK

#### Saturday, December 20

5:00 pm Parishioners of St Patrick

#### Sunday, December 21

8:00 am Frank Lauretti Jr. as requested by Christine & Rich Masotti

10:00 am Parishioners of St Patrick

#### Monday, December 22

8:00 am Parishioners of St Patrick

#### Tuesday, December 23

8:00 am Paul A Muhs as requested by the Bangs Family

#### Wednesday, December 24

4:00 pm Parishioners of St Patrick

8:00 pm Paul A Muhs as requested by the Bangs Family

#### Thursday, December 25

8:00 am John & Jennie Kostrisak as requested by Kostrisak Family

10:00 am Enderline Anaech

#### Friday, December 26

8:00 am No Mass

#### Saturday, December 27

5:00 pm Parishioners of St Patrick

#### Sunday, December 28

8:00 am Parishioners of St Patrick

10:00 am Paul & Beverly Bangs as requested by the Bangs Family

### Faith Formation

DATE	TIME	EVENT
Dec 21	9-10 AM	Class Group A Bridge Team Meeting
	11:15-12:30 PM	Confirmation Year 1
	12:45-2:00 PM	Confirmation Year 2
	6-7 PM	First Holy Communion
	6-7:30 PM	Class Group B
Dec 24 - Jan 4 - NO CLASSES CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY		
 Wishing you and your family a blessed Christmas and a happy New Year!		
Jan 11	9-10 AM	Class Group A
		Confirmation Year 1
		Confirmation Year 2
		First Holy Communion
	6-7:30 PM	Class Group B



#### Holy Hour and Eucharistic Adoration

Our Holy Hour and Eucharistic Adoration will be held on the last Wednesday of the month.

#### Schedule of Holy Hour and Eucharistic Adoration

January 28,	7:00 PM	April 29,	7:00 PM
February 25,	7:00 PM	May 27,	7:00 PM
March 25,	7:00 PM	June 24	7:00 PM

## Parish Support

#### Week of 11/27/25 to 12/3/25

Weekly Collections (Envelopes & Cash): \$ 2,247.00

Weekly Collection (Online Giving): \$ 1,825.00

Weekly Collections Total (Env./Cash/Online): \$ 4,072.00

**Facilities** \$ 25.00

#### Monthly -N/A

Monthly Collection (Envelopes & Cash) \$ 0.00

Monthly Collection (Online Giving) \$ 0.00

Monthly Collection Total \$ 0.00

**Grand Total: \$ 4,097.00**

*Thank you for your continued support of St Patrick's Parish*

#### Week of 12/4/25 to 12/10/25

Weekly Collections (Envelopes & Cash): \$ 4,088.00

Weekly Collection (Online Giving): \$ 1,277.00

Weekly Collections Total (Env./Cash/Online): \$ 5,365.00

**Facilities** \$ 218.00

#### Monthly -Christmas Flowers & Decorations

Monthly Collection (Envelopes & Cash) \$ 840.00

Monthly Collection (Online Giving) \$ 75.00

Monthly Collection Total \$ 915.00

**Grand Total: \$ 6,498.00**

*Thank you for your continued support of St Patrick's Parish*

## Christmas

### BOOK PROGRAM

Christmas season is the perfect time to "slow down to the speed of joy".

St Patrick's Parish will have a gift for you at Christmas Mass. All adults & teenagers will receive a copy of the Dynamic Catholic book, "Slowing Down to the Speed of Joy". Real Christian joy erupts within us when we allow an experience to touch the very depths of our souls. That cannot be rushed. This book offers practical insights and timeless wisdom necessary to banish "busy" and "urgent" from our lives!

*We thank Kristine Davis who sponsored this book program*

# Reflections—Everyday Stewardship RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS

## St. Joseph the Steward

St. Joseph is one of the greatest examples of stewardship we have in the Gospels. Here is a man who understands care and reverence for the property of God, a man chosen to be steward over the very life and breath of God's Son and Spouse.

Joseph was mindful. He recognized what belonged to God. When he understood that Mary was to be the mother of God, he was not jealous or bitter. He did not presume to claim ownership over her.

Joseph was prayerful. He accepted the opportunity to be in relationship with God, even if it was in a radical and unexpected way. How many of us would trust a crazy dream we have where an angel tells us our fiancée is carrying the Son of God? Well, those of us who are already profoundly connected to God through prayer. Joseph was open to receiving God, and so he was open to the truth in a way many of us would not have been.

Joseph was gracious. Even before he had full understanding of the situation, he was unwilling to expose Mary to shame. He did not give himself over to feelings of betrayal.

Joseph was committed. He persevered. The Lord had no shortage of strange and even dangerous-sounding tasks for Joseph, but he submitted to each one.

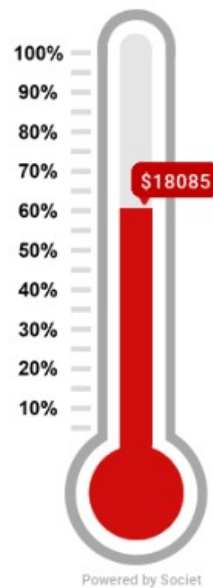
Joseph was accountable. When he awoke from his dream, "he did as the angel of the Lord had commanded him, and took his wife into his home."

Joseph was a man entrusted with many gifts, and he gave of them wisely. Let us pray that we have the grace to follow in his example.

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

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Goal: \$30000



## 2025 ANNUAL PASTOR'S APPEAL

As of 12/10, we have raised  
**\$18,085** towards our goal of  
\$30,000.

**Thank you to those who have  
already contributed!**

If you have not already done so,  
please prayerfully consider making  
a donation to the Pastor's  
Appeal. Donations of any  
amount are appreciated and will  
go towards funding the replacement  
of some of the worn-out exterior  
wood walls of the rectory, which  
require urgent attention. We hope  
you will prayerfully consider  
participating in this Appeal.



## You're invited



**St Mary's Parish**, 942 Hopmeadow St, Simsbury, is offering a **Quiet Advent Mass** for those who are grieving the loss of a loved one this past year. You and your family are invited to attend this gentle gathering for Mass on **Monday, December 22 at 7:00 pm**. Followed by a reception. Sponsored by St Mary's Bereavement Ministry. No registration required. Questions may be directed to St Mary's at 860 658-7827.



**Advent  
Reconciliation  
Monday,  
December 22  
6:00 pm to  
7:00 pm**

## Readings for the week of December 21, 2025

Sunday: Is 7:10-14/Ps 24:1-2, 3-4, 5-6 (7c, 10b)/Rom 1:1-7/Mt 1:18-24

Monday: 1 Sm 1:24-28/1 Sm 2:1, 4-5, 6-7, 8abcd/Lk 1:46-56

Tuesday: Mal 3:1-4, 23-24/Ps 25:4-5ab, 8-9, 10 and 14/Lk 1:57-66

Wednesday: Morning: 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16/Ps 89:2-3, 4-5, 27 and 29/Lk 1:67-79

Thursday: *Vigil*: Is 62:1-5/Ps 89:4-5, 16-17, 27, 29 (2a)/Acts 13:16-17, 22-25/ Mt 1:1-25 or 1:18-25 *Night*: Is 9:1-6/Ps 96:1-2, 2-3, 11-12, 13 (Lk 2:11)/Ti 2:11-14/Lk 2:1-14 *Dawn*: Is 62:11-12/Ps 97:1, 6, 11-12/Ti 3:4-7/Lk 2:15-20 *Day*: Is 52:7-10/Ps 98:1, 2-3, 3-4, 5-6 (3c)/Heb 1:1-6/Jn 1:1-18 or 1:1-5, 9-14

Friday: Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59/Ps 31:3cd-4, 6 and 8ab, 16bc and 17/Mt 10:17-22

Saturday: 1 Jn 1:1-4/Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12/Jn 20:1a, 2-8

Next Sunday: Sir 3:2-6, 12-14/Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5 (see 1)/Col 3:12-21 or 3:12-17/Mt 2:13-15, 19-23

## GOSPEL MEDITATION - ENCOURAGE DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE-

### December 21, 2025—Fourth Sunday of Advent Matthew 1:18-24

A priest friend recently told me a remarkable story. One of his cousins reported having a vivid dream in which an angel told him the family needed to exhume their grandmother's body from a cemetery in New York and return it to her birthplace in Romania. She had been dead nearly 10 years. As you might expect, the family thought it was, well, crazy. But astonishingly they exhumed her body. It was incorrupt, showing no signs of decomposition. That experience sparked healing, faith, and reconciliation throughout the family.

In this Sunday's Gospel, Joseph also receives a dream. He's confused, afraid. But in the quiet of sleep, God speaks: "**Do not be afraid to take Mary your wife into your home**" (Matthew 1:20). When he wakes, Joseph acts. He doesn't overanalyze or dismiss the message. He trusts, and acts.

God still speaks — not necessarily through literal dreams but through those deeper intuitions of the heart. St. Ignatius of Loyola taught that God's voice draws us into peace, courage, and love. But we have to listen to it. Advent is a time for stillness. As we prepare for Christ's coming, we're invited to enter that quiet space where God's voice can be heard. When and how do you become most receptive to God? Is it in silence? In prayer? In nature? At Mass? This week, go there. Be still. Listen. And like Joseph, have the courage to act on what God shows you.

— *Father John Muir*

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### Bringing Up the Gifts this weekend of Dec 24/25:

**4:00 Mass** -First Communion Candidates  
Mary Hollenbeck, Jacob Manion, James Marich,  
Daniel & Michael Violante

## Saint of the week - St Stephen, The First Martyr



The Acts of the Apostles tells the story of St. Stephen, the first Christian martyr. A man filled with grace and power, he worked great wonders among the people. Some Jews debated with St. Stephen but could not match his wisdom and spirit. Eventually, a charge of blasphemy was brought up against him, and the local population demanded that he be tried and sentenced. He was seized and carried before the Sanhedrin.

Despite the danger he faced, in front of the Sanhedrin and his accusers, St. Stephen gave a long speech about the history of Israel and the blessings that God had given upon His chosen people. He talked about how Israel had become disobedient despite God's abundant mercy. This enraged his accusers, and eventually the crowd dragged him out of the city and stoned him to death. Even in his final moments, St. Stephen displayed great forgiveness and even asked God not to hold the sins of his attackers against them. Hundreds of years after his death, he is still a role model for us to follow.

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## YOUTH CHRISTMAS CHOIR

Rehearsal for the Youth Christmas Choir will be on Sunday, December 21 immediately following the 10:00 mass. Anyone interested in joining the Choir please just show up. Rehearsals will end at 12:00 noon. The Choir will sing for the Christmas Pageant mass at 4:00 pm on December 24th. For more information, please **contact Chris Casey at 860-904-8138** or email him at [keyscasey@aol.com](mailto:keyscasey@aol.com).

## Word of Life † December 21

"O Blessed Mother, at the angel's word you went in haste to the aid of your cousin Elizabeth. Although pregnant yourself, you placed her needs before your own. By your example of radical solidarity, teach us to reverence and protect those in need, without conditions or expectations... Obtain for us the grace to bring Christ to any expectant mother who is alone and afraid."

USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities Prayer for Radical Solidarity ([www.respectlife.org/prayer-for-radical-solidarity](http://www.respectlife.org/prayer-for-radical-solidarity))

## Mass Intentions—Just to let you know !

Starting January 2026 all mass intention donations for both weekday and weekend masses will be \$10. Please call or email the Parish Office to schedule a mass intention.





December 22	Pageant Rehearsal 6:00pm
December 24	Parish Office is closed for holiday
December 24	Children's Pageant & Children's Christmas Mass 4:00 pm
December 25	Christmas Day masses 8:00 am & 10:00 am



## Men's Retreat Jan 16-18, 2026 Theme: Pilgrims of Hope!

Holy Family Retreat Center West Hartford, CT.  
(75th Anniversary)

Faith is a journey! We never know where it will take us.. During this year's retreat we can become better Pilgrims of Hope. Hope is a theological virtue given to us as a gift from God. Hope can be difficult to explain but we know that when we have it we never want to lose it! Join us on this journey -a sacred pilgrimage with God.

More information available on these Themed retreats at Holy-familyretreat.com

You may even be able to attend your first retreat without any cost. Come and join the men from your parish and other local churches who will attend the same retreat. Similar retreats are also available for Women, the first one being Jan 9-11

St. Patrick's Chairpersons:

Tom Turick 860-605-9092

Moe Poirier 860-693-4692

### New Member Registration /Change of Registration

If you are new to the Parish, or have a new address, email or phone number, please complete this form and drop it in the collection basket.

It may also be mailed to:

St Patrick Church, 50 Church St, Collinsville, CT 06019

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Street \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

☐ New Registration ☐ Change of Information ☐ Request Envelopes



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