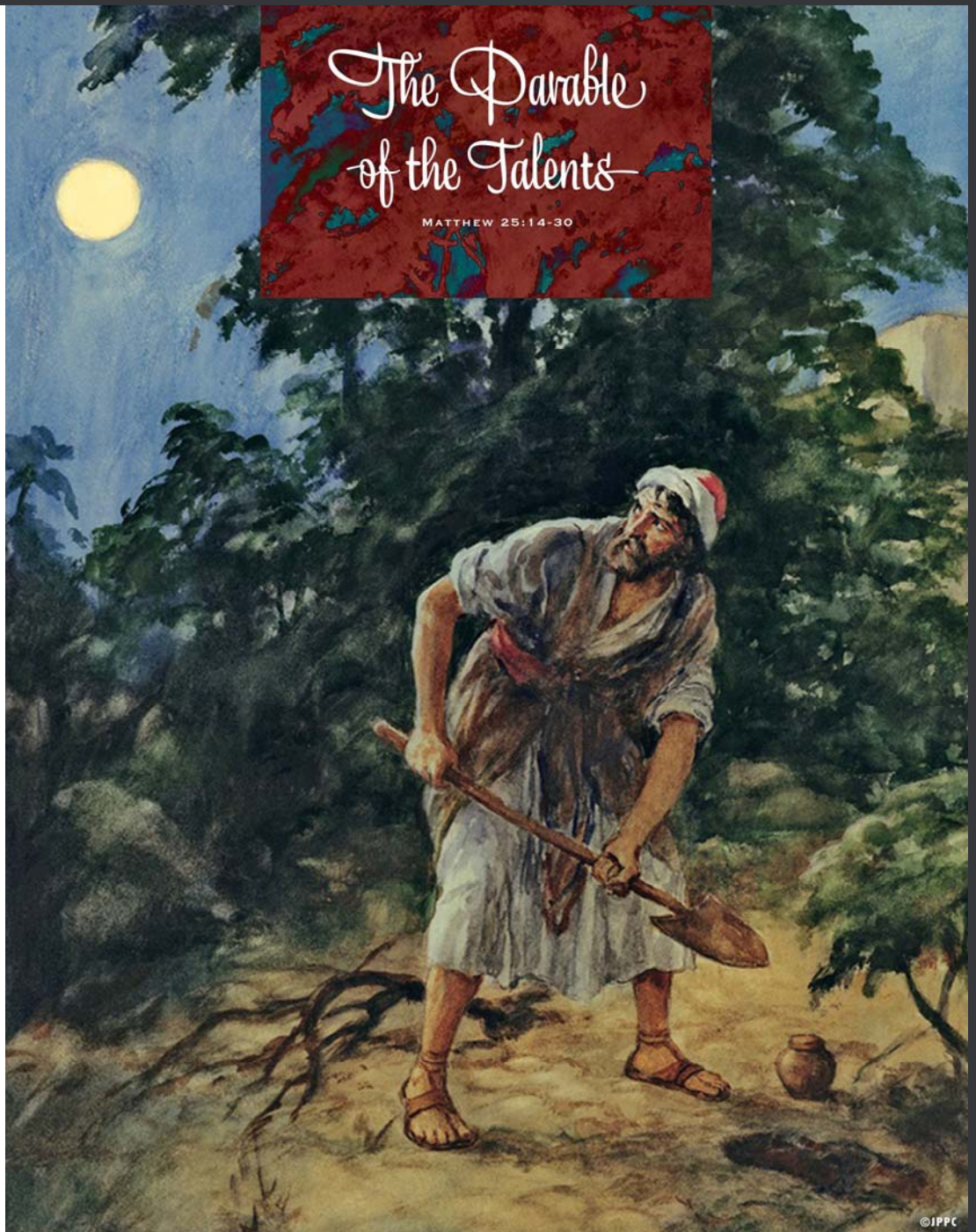


Saint Mary Parish

NOVEMBER 19, 2023

THIRTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



26 Dodgingtown Road, Bethel, CT 06801

Phone: (203)744-5777

Website: www.stmarybethel.org Email: stmaryoffice@comcast.net

Visit us on Facebook: [StMaryChurchBethel](https://www.facebook.com/StMaryChurchBethel)

PARISH OFFICE HOURS:

9am –2:00 pm, Mon. – Thurs.; 9am-Noon on Fridays

(Closed Weekends and Holidays)

FATHER COREY'S EPISTLE

† **A letter of Sulpicius Severus (Epist. 3,6. 9-10. 11. 14-17. 21: SC 133.336-344)** *Martin the poor and humble man*

Martin knew long in advance the time of his death and he told his brethren that it was near. Meanwhile, he found himself obliged to make a visitation of the parish of Candes. The clergy of that church were quarrelling, and he wished to reconcile them. Although he knew that his days on earth were few, he did not refuse to undertake the journey for such a purpose, for he believed that he would bring his virtuous life to a good end if by his efforts peace was restored in the church.

He spent some time in Candes, or rather in its church, where he stayed. Peace was restored, and he was planning to return to his monastery when suddenly he began to lose his strength. He summoned his brethren and told them he was dying. All who heard this were overcome with grief. In their sorrow they cried to him with one voice: "Father, why are you deserting us? Who will care for us when you are gone? Savage wolves will attack your flock, and who will save us from their bite when our shepherd is struck down? We know you long to be with Christ, but your reward is certain and will not be any less for being delayed. You will do better to show pity for us, rather than forsake us."

Thereupon he broke into tears, for he was a man in whom the compassion of our Lord was continually revealed. Turning to our Lord, he made this reply to their pleading: "Lord, if your people still need me, I am ready for the task; your will be done."

Here was a man words cannot describe. Death could not defeat him nor toil dismay him. He was quite without a preference of his own; he neither feared to die nor refused to live. With eyes and hands always raised to heaven he never withdrew his unconquered spirit from prayer. It happened that some priests who had gathered at his bedside suggested that he should give his poor body

some relief by lying on his other side. He answered: "Allow me, brothers, to look toward heaven rather than at the earth, so that my spirit may set on the right course when the time comes for me to go on my journey to the Lord." As he spoke these words, he saw the devil standing near. "Why do you stand there, you bloodthirsty brute?" he cried. "Murderer, you will not have me for your prey. Abraham is welcoming me into his embrace."

With these words, he gave up his spirit to heaven. Filled with joy, Martin was welcomed by Abraham. Thus he left this life a poor and lowly man and entered heaven rich in God's favour.

† **From a homily written in the second century (Cap. 1,1-2, 7: Funk 1, 145-149)** *Christ willed to save those who were perishing*

Brethren, we ought to regard Jesus Christ as God and judge of the living and the dead. We should not hold our Savior in low esteem for if we esteem him but little, we may hope to obtain but little from him. Moreover, people who hear these things and think them of small importance commit sin, and we ourselves sin if we do not realize what we have been called from, who has called us, and to what place, and how much suffering Jesus Christ endured on our account.

How then shall we repay him? What fruit can we bear that would be worthy of what he has given us? For how many benefits are we not in his debt! He has enlightened our minds; he has called us sons as a father does; he saved us when we were about to perish. How then shall we praise him, how repay him for his gifts? Spiritually blind, we worshiped stones and pieces of wood, gold and silver and bronze, things made by men, and our whole life was death. Darkness enfolded us, and nothing but gloom met our eyes. Then, by his will, we escaped from the cloud that enveloped us and recovered our sight. For he saw our many errors and the damnation that awaited us, and knowing that apart from him we had no hope of

Sunday, 11/19	Monday, 11/20	Tuesday, 11/21	Wednesday, 11/22
7:00am, 8:30am, 11:00am & 5:00pm Masses 9:30 Religious Ed Classes 12:30pm RCIA 3:00pm Evening Prayer for the Deceased 6:30pm United Youth	8:20am Rosary 9:00am Mass	8:20am Rosary 9:00am Mass 4:30pm Religious Ed Classes 6:30pm Mysteries of the Rosary	7:00am Mass 8:20am Rosary 9:00am Mass 2:30pm New Day Bereavement 5:00pm Children's Choir 7:00 Adult Choir

FATHER COREY'S EPISTLE

salvation, he pitied us, and in his mercy saved us. He called us when we were not his people and willed us to become his people.

Rejoice, O barren woman who never bore a child; break into shouts of joy, you who never knew a mother's pangs; for the deserted wife shall have more children that she who has a husband. When he says: Rejoice O barren woman who never bore a child, he is speaking of us, for our Church was barren until children were given her. When he says: Break into shouts of joy, you who never knew a mother's pangs, he means that we should not grow weary like women in labor, but tirelessly and in all simplicity offer our prayers to God. He declares that the deserted wife shall have more children than she who has a husband, because faith has now made our people who seemed to

have been deserted by god more numerous than those who were thought to possess him.

Another text says: I have come not to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance, for it is those who are perishing who must be saved. It is a great and wonderful work to uphold those who are falling, rather than those who already stand firm. Christ willed to save people who were in danger of losing their souls, and he has been the salvation of many. When we were on the point of perishing, he came and called us.

Please Join us for

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

each Saturday between 3pm and 4pm. We will also have Eucharistic Adoration on the First Sunday of the Month between the 8:30am and 11:00am Masses.



MASS ETIQUETTE

(DO'S AND DON'TS WHEN ATTENDING THE MASS)

1. **FAST** - Do not eat any food an hour before the mass. Only water is allowed.
2. **COME EARLY** - Allow 10 - 15 minutes of meditation before the mass.
3. **DO NOT EAT** - Eating is not allowed during mass.
4. **DRESS PROPERLY** - This is to show decency and honor to God.
5. **NO PHONES** - Turn your mobile phones off.
6. **GENUFLECT** - Kneel your right knee in the direction of the tabernacle before sitting.
7. **PARTICIPATE** - Sing, respond, listen, and pray.
8. **COMMUNE** - Examine conscience beforehand.
9. **THINK OF OTHERS** - Respect the pew and queue.
10. **BE STILL** - Don't be in a hurry. Enjoy and feel God's presence and thank Him for His graces.

CHURCH HISTORY 101 with Father Mark

Monday, Nov. 27 @ 6:30pm in the Church

In keeping with the year of National Eucharist Revival, Father Mark will speak on the history of EUCHARISTIC MIRACLES and its significance in our faith journey.



Thursday, 11/23	Friday, 11/24	Saturday, 11/25	Sunday, 11/26
8:20am Rosary 9:00am Mass 	8:20am Rosary 9:00am Mass	7:00am Men's Ministry 9:00am Mass 3:00pm Confessions 3:00pm Eucharistic Adoration 4:30pm Mass	7:00am, 8:30am, 11:00am & 5:00pm Masses 9:30 Religious Ed Classes 12:30pm RCIA 6:30pm United Youth

AROUND THE PARISH



**The Parish Office will be closed
Wed., Nov. 22, Thurs., Nov. 23
& Fri., Nov. 24 for the Thanks-
giving Holiday.**

JOIN THE YOUTH CHOIR FOR THE



Rehearsals are every Wednesday from 5-6pm
in the Parish Hall.

The youth choir will sing in an Advent
concert on 12/17 and on Christmas Eve

Open to students in grades 2 and up

please email Leanna Hinger with any
questions- youthchoir.st.mary@gmail.com



Children of the Parish are invited to a

VISIT FROM ST. NICK

**Wednesday, December 6 at
6:30pm in the Parish Hall**

**Join us for cookies, cocoa and a gift as
we celebrate the feastday of St. Nicholas!**



November is dedicated to Departed Souls. **The BOOK OF NAMES** will be in the Sanctuary, to the right of the altar. Write the names of your departed loved ones, and we shall keep them in our prayers during November. Envelopes for All Souls Day may be returned any time during November. Masses are offered throughout the year for Souls in Purgatory.

If you would like to dedicate **ALTAR FLOWERS** in memory of a loved one at weekend Masses, call the Parish Office at (203)744-5777. Donation would be \$150 and your loved one's name will appear in the bulletin.

The **ST. MARY MEN'S MINISTRY** group meets on Saturdays beginning Sept. 9 from 7:00 AM to 8:30 AM in the Parish Hall, followed by the 9:00 AM Saturday Mass. For more information, Deacon Eric Keener at dnkeen-er@diobpt.org.

The **ST. MARY YOUTH CHOIR** is in full swing and always looking for new members in grades 2 and up. They sing once a month and rehearse every Wednesday from 5-6pm in the Parish Hall. For more info contact Leanna Hinger at YouthChoir.StMary@gmail.com. The **ST. MARY ADULT CHOIR** practices in the Parish Hall on Wednesday evenings from 7:00-9pm. If you are interested in being part of our Parish Choir, please call the Parish Office.

BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP provides a prayerful experience of mutual support and comfort for those who are confronting the loss of a loved one. Our upcoming zoom meeting is on **December 2**. If you wish to attend, please call the parish office at 744-5777 and ask that a group facilitator call you with more information.

All adults are welcome to the **ST. MARY BOOK GROUP**. "Always have at hand some approved book of devotion... read stories and lives of the saints, for there, as in a mirror, you can see a picture of the Christian life and adapt their deeds to your use in keeping with your vocation." Our next book is an inspiring modern-day conversion story, *Not God's Type* by Holly Ordway. You can borrow a copy with your library card through finditct.org, or purchase through ignatius.com. Please join us on Wednesday, December 13, 7 pm, in the Children's Room to share your insights with this friendly group.

If anyone regularly attends the 5pm Mass on Sunday evenings, we are in need of lectors and Eucharistic Ministers. Eucharistic Ministers must be 16 or older and Confirmed. If you are interested please let Father Corey know.

Pick-up for the **CHRISTMAS WREATHS** ordered through CrossRoads will be available for pick-up the weekend of Dec. 2/3 in the Parish Hall.

For those who cannot walk up to the Altar during Mass, please sit in the middle of the Church back section.

Beginning December 1, the Church will be open at 8am Monday through Saturday and at 6:30am on Sundays.

The **YOUNG ADULT** group (ages 21-35) meets every 3rd Thursday of the month. Look them up on Instagram at [avemarie1882](https://www.instagram.com/avemarie1882).

NEW DAY BEREAVEMENT PROGRAM

FALL SESSION REGISTRATION NOW OPEN

Wednesday afternoons 2:30 – 4:00pm

October 18 – December 20

Meetings take place in a small-group confidential setting at St. Mary Church and are led by trained bereavement facilitators.

There is no charge.



**Religious Ed Office hours are Mon.,
Tues., Wed., and Thurs. 9:30am-
2pm (203)743-4557**

All children must attend Mass each week. There, the child must fill out the Mass Attendance slip available in the vestibule of the Church. The child then puts the slip in the in the collection basket.

For more information on our Religious Education program, click on the Religious Education tab on our website stmarybethel.org.

REMINDER When the Bethel School System cancels school and/or after school activities, Religious Education is also cancelled. Please check on our website, our Facebook page, Channel 3 or Channel 6 for clarification.

Are you:

- A person who has not been baptized but recognize a need for spirituality in your life and have expressed an interest in learning more about Jesus?
- A Baptized Christian of another denomination who would like to learn about and possibly join the Catholic tradition?
- A Baptized Roman Catholic who has not received the Sacrament of Holy Eucharist and/or Confirmation and would like to become a full participant in the life of the Church?
- Married to a Catholic and attend Mass but just don't know what the next step is to become on of the Catholic faithful?



**Rite of Christian Initiation
for Adults**

If your answer is yes to any of these questions, come and discover, or rediscover, the truth, wonder and mystery of our Catholic faith! The RCIA program prepares you to be received as members of the Catholic Church. Our new sessions are **from 12:30-2:00pm in the Notre Dame Center** every Sunday thereafter. If you are interested in participating or learning more about the RCIA program, call (203) 744-5777 or email Deacon Eric Keener at dnkeen-er@diobpt.org.

FAITH | COMMUNITY | FUN

CROSSROADS



Craft Room

at the

St. Mary Christmas Gala

Sat. December 2nd 9am-3pm

in Saint Mary School

Family Friendly Christmas Crafts
for All Ages!

Proceeds Support Saint Mary School

7th and 8th Graders Invited to Volunteer with Crossroads

Made with PosterMyWall.com



*The flowers on the altar this week
were donated in memory of
Daniel Yee from his wife*



This year for the Christmas Tree in the vestibule we are asking every household to take from the appointed basket a blank Christmas ornament. Each household is asked to decorate this ornament either with a name, picture, coloring, saying, family photo etc. and return it to the receiving basket no later than December 18. These will then be used to decorate the Parish Christmas tree!

2023 ANNUAL GIVING APPEAL

We are very grateful for the generosity shown by so many parishioners who have sacrificed for our Annual Giving Appeal. God has blessed us abundantly — both individually and as a parish community. If you have not yet had an opportunity to return your pledge card, please do so as soon as possible. Every gift is welcome and sincerely appreciated. Thank you!

St. Mary School

Pre-School 3 & 4: Limited spots still available for our PK 3 & PK 4 classes. Please contact Enrollment Director, Linda Garvey, at LGarvey@stmarybethelct.org.

ST. MARY SCHOOL ANNUAL CHRISTMAS CRAFT FAIR is accepting applications for vendors at this time. The Fair will be held on Saturday, December 3 in the school gym from 9am to 3pm. Early bird pricing for vendors committing before November 1! For more information or to register, please email smschristmasgala@stmarybethelct.org, or contact Elisa Nelson at 203-733-9567.

Please visit us on [FACEBOOK](#) ("St. Mary School, Bethel") and [INSTAGRAM](#) ("stmaryschoolbethel") **St. Mary School is hiring for the following positions this school year:**

Long-term gym/physical education substitute teacher (approximately 20 hours per week/5 days) AfterSchool Care: 2-5 days/week from 2:15pm-5:30pm Substitute Teachers: all grades For more information, or to apply, please contact Mr. Scott Smith, Principal, at ssmith@stmarybethelct.org, or at 203-744-2922. For more information, or to apply, please contact Mr. Scott Smith, Principal, at ssmith@stmarybethelct.org, or at 203-744-2922.

ST. MARY CHRISTMAS GIVING PROGRAM

Once again, our parish will collect gifts, gift cards and monetary donations to help Bethel area families during this Christmas season beginning November 18/19. The requests of those in need in our will be in the giving Manger in the vestibule of the Church. After purchasing the gifts, please bring them unwrapped for delivery with the information taped to the gift and place the gift around the manger. We are also in need of generic toys for children under 12, hats, scarves, gloves, coats, and long underwear for children and adults that can also be placed under the manger. We are collecting gift cards as well (grocery stores, Walmart, Target, Gas Cards, etc.) which can be placed in the marked box. The deadline is December 10th, and the gifts cannot be given to the intended if received after that. We appreciate your generosity at this time! If you have any questions, call Mary Ferri at 743-4557.



Mysteries of the Rosary Series Enter into the Mysteries of Christ and Rediscover the Power of the Rosary!

An authentic encounter with Christ leads to our transformation and sanctification. Mysteries of the Rosary integrates deeply reflective insights on the life of Christ, theological truths, and captivating stories together with breathtaking scenery, illuminating sacred art, and inspiring music. By filming on location in the Holy Land, our aspiration is to make the Rosary come alive in the hearts and minds of the participants. Encounters with Christ in the episodes and discussions will lead to even deeper encounters with Him in personal prayer and contemplation. The call to pray is urgent. Join us!

Tuesday Evenings, 6:30pm, Church Hall—November 14-December 19, 2023. Contact Juliana and Tito Oola at julyres@hotmail.com for more information.

Saint Mary School Christmas Craft Fair

When: Saturday, December 2, 2023
Hours: 9:00am to 3:00pm
Where: Saint Mary School
24 Dodgingtown Road
Bethel, CT

Shop Local! Handmade, Unique Gifts & Delicious Treats!
Tons of AMAZING Vendors!
DELICIOUS Breakfast & Lunch Served at our CHRISTMAS CAFE!
Santa's Workshop CRAFT ROOM for KIDS!
SANTA PHOTOS 11am - 1pm
KIDS, BRING your Letters to Santa to send via NORTH POLE EXPRESS MAIL!!

• UNITED YOUTH MINISTRY •

A COLLABORATIVE YOUTH PROGRAM FOR THE PARISHES OF ST. ROSE NEWTOWN, ST. JOSEPH BROOKFIELD AND ST. MARY BETHEL

Follow us on
Facebook & Instagram
for more
information and
updates!



[@CTUNITEDYOUTH](https://www.facebook.com/CTUNITEDYOUTH)
WWW.CTUNITEDYOUTH.COM

United meets on Sunday evenings on the campus of St. Rose unless otherwise noted.



The next meeting of the Knights of Columbus is on Monday, October 23 at 7pm. The **Knights of Columbus** are a Catholic men's fraternal ministry. Charity is the first principle of the Knights of Columbus, and we are Catholic men of faith and men of charitable action. If you are at least 18 years of age, we invite you to join us. Email gkofpavia@gmail.com for more information. Like us on Facebook.com/Pavia48!

John Stocks Memorial Coat Drive

Donate Today!

Share the
Warmth
COAT DRIVE

When: Nov 27-Dec 11

Where: St Mary Parish Hall, Bethel

**Accepting
Adult and Children's New or Gently
Used Coats, Hoodies, Hats, Gloves and
Scarfs**

**Sponsored By Pavia 48 Knights of
Columbus**



The **BETHEL WOMEN'S CLUB** GFWC is once again sponsoring our annual Community Drive for Veterans from November 1st to November 21st to collect Christmas presents for the men and women in long-term care who have bravely fought for our freedom. The items must be new, with original tags and packaging, and unwrapped. A list of items can be found in the church vestibule by the collection bin. We are also supporting the Vet House and the Home for Heroes in Danbury, both of which are homes for local veterans, who were homeless. We ask these men to give us their specific requests, and therefore, we are gratefully accepting monetary donations to fulfill their needs. Checks may be made payable to the Bethel Women's Club GFWC and sent to Bethel Women's Club GFWC, c/o Geier, 15 Andrews Street, Bethel, CT 06801.

St. Pauly Used Clothing Drop Off Shed



Located by the Hall Parking Lot area

- * Please put all clothes in plastic bags no larger than tall kitchen bag size
- * Please tie bags shut
- * Never put in loose clothing
- * No household goods, toys, fabric scraps or pillows

SAINT MARY PARISH

13TH ANNUAL

**"Sell Your
Old Gold"
Fundraiser**



**FOR THIS FUNDRAISER,
YOUR CHECKBOOK STAYS HOME...
AND THIS TIME, YOU TAKE HOME THE MONEY!!!**

Please take a moment to look through your jewelry boxes at home for:

- BROKEN GOLD CHAINS AND BRACELETS
- SINGLE EARRINGS (HALF PAIRS)
- OLD SCHOOL RINGS
- RINGS WITH MISSING STONES
- OLD BOYFRIEND/GIRLFRIEND GIFTS
- JEWELRY YOU NEVER WEAR
- GOLD NON-WORKING WATCHES
- YES, EVEN DENTAL GOLD
- STERLING SILVER JEWELRY, FLATWARE, HOLLOWWARE
- PLATINUM AND PALLADIUM

THEN BRING IT WITH YOU ON:

Friday	Dec. 1	10 AM to 4 PM	Church Hall
Saturday	Dec. 2	9 AM to 4 PM	School
Sunday	Dec. 3	8 AM to 4 PM	Church Hall

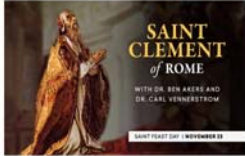
There, our good friend, Bob the gold man, will buy your "old gold" and hand you a check. Then, at least 60% of whatever profits are made after the refining process, will be donated, in your name, to **ST. MARY PARISH !!!**.

Any questions, please email: bob@libertygoldct.com

Like us on Facebook at 'StMaryChurchBethel' and follow us on twitter '@StMaryBethel'

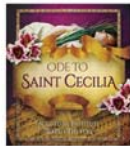
THIS WEEK ON FORMED

Week of November 19, 2023



St. Clement of Rome | Catholic Saints

Sit down with Dr. Ben Akers and Dr. Carl Vennerstrom as they discuss Pope St. Clement of Rome, who was an early Church Father and the third successor to St. Peter.



Ode to Saint Cecilia

The lives of the saints are epic stories and particular expressions of God's grace in humanity. Celebrate St. Cecilia with this audio drama by the Augustine Institute Radio Theatre.



Our Mother Mary

What is Mariology? Learn about this fascinating topic in this interview with Dr. Mark Miravalle, Saint John Paul II Chair of Mariology at Franciscan University of Steubenville.

Our parish has a FORMED subscription.
Visit signup.formed.org and select our parish name.

An offering from the AUGUSTINE INSTITUTE and *gratias agimus*

Offertory for the Weekend of November 11/12 2023

Collection: \$7,106.00 On-Line Giving: \$4,240.00

Offertory for the Weekend of November 13/14, 2022

Collection: \$6,885.00 On-Line Giving: \$4,300.00

Thank you for your generosity!

THE POPE'S INTENTIONS FOR THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER

For the Pope We pray for the Holy Father; as he fulfills his mission, may he continue to accompany the flock entrusted to him, with the help of the Holy Spirit.



BROTHERHOOD IN ACTION The Holidays are only weeks away, and once again you have the opportunity to share with those less fortunate. You may drop off your food donations (canned, dry foods, non-perishables) in the Church vestibule. Monetary donations may be sent to: Brotherhood in Action, P.O. Box 582, Bethel, CT. 06801. Please be as generous as you can as our food supplies are very low and demand is great! Thank you for your generosity!!



Use our online option to contribute to our Parish offertory

Convenient!

Secure and Confidential!

Simple!

Efficient!

Create your account TODAY

Go to: www.osvonlinegiving.com/994

or

www.stmarybethel.org and click on the online giving link



- Mon.:** 1 Mc 1:10-15, 41-43, 54-57, 62-63; Ps 119:53, 61, 134, 150, 155, 158; Lk 18:35-43
- Tues.:** 2 Mc 6:18-31; Ps 3:2-7; Lk 19:1-10
- Wed.:** 2 Mc 7:1, 20-31; Ps 17:1bcd, 5-6, 8b, 15; Lk 19:11-28
- Thu.:** 1 Mc 2:15-29; Ps 50:1b-2, 5-6, 14-15; Lk 19:41-44
- Fri.:** 1 Mc 4:36-37, 52-59; 1 Chr 29:10bcd, 11-12; Lk 19:45-48
- Sat.:** 1 Mc 6:1-13; Ps 9:2-4, 6, 16, 19; Lk 20:27-40
- Sun.:** Ez 34:11-12, 15-17; Ps 23:1-3, 5-6; 1 Cor 15:20-26, 28; Mt 25:31-46

A SIMPLE AND BEAUTIFUL PRAYER

When you wake up say: *Jesus I love you...*

When leaving the house say: *Jesus come with me...*

When you feel like crying say: *Jesus hug me...*

When you feel happy say: *Jesus I adore You...*

When you do something say: *Jesus help me...*

When you make a mistake say: *Jesus forgive me...*

When you go to sleep say: *Thank You Jesus and cover me with Your holy mantle.*

Faith Focus
Thirty-Third Sunday in
Ordinary Time
November 19, 2023



Reflection by Rev. Leonard N. Peterson

This week's parable has long been called "The Parable of the Talents." Right away we have a language problem because a talent was not a coin, but a weight. Its value depended on the metal involved, be it copper, gold, or silver. Silver being the most common metal at that time. So, the value of a talent of silver was considerable. It was worth about 15 years' wages for a working man. You may remember the wager that the fictional Messala bet against Judah Ben-Hur in the movie of that name was a thousand talents. A veritable fortune.

The useless servant in Christ's story stands for the scribes and Pharisees and their attitude to the law and the truth of God. Their whole attitude was to "build a fence around the law" so that it would remain intact.

Anything new was forbidden, so they "buried their talent," which led to a kind of paralysis of the truth of religion. Hence, their hatred of Jesus for His expansion of the Law of Moses.

Like the man who buried his talent, they wanted to keep things exactly as they had been for years. But Jesus taught that there can be no religion without a touch of freedom and adventure.

The parable stresses that we all have differing talents, in the sense of the word here meaning "gifts." God expects us to use our particular talent or talents, in that spiritual sense, for the glory of God and the good of our neighbor. We are not equal in talent, but we can be equal in our effort. So, each member of the Mystical Body of Christ, the Church, has been gifted.

The parable also teaches that those who are punished are the people who will not try. Here we come upon a truth taught so well by Gilbert Keith Chesterton, who wrote that "Christianity has not been tried and found wanting; it has been found difficult and left untried."

Here in the "vestibule" of our National Day of Thanksgiving, we can be grateful for sure of the talent or talents that God has given us, along with the special freedoms we enjoy in America that permit us to share them, along with our time and treasure, so that the poor among us may always have hope in their hearts also.

God love you and Happy Thanksgiving.

Reading I: Proverbs 31: 10-13, 19-20, 30-31 This is an acrostic poem, in which each verse begins with a successive letter of the Hebrew alphabet. It cites the woman's extraordinary work including a reach out to the poor and needy.

Reading II: 1 Thessalonians 5: 1-6 Thessalonica was a thriving port city. St. Paul reflects on the implications of the Day of the Lord for those alive at that time.

The Gospel: Matthew 25: 14-30, or 25:14-15, 19-21 The lesson here is the lifestyle a Christian should lead in this interim before Christ returns in glory, which includes a responsible use of the world's goods.



Mass Schedule

Monday-Friday

9:00am

Saturday

9:00am & 4:30pm (Vigil Mass)

Sunday

7:00am, 8:30am, 11:00am & 5:00pm

Reconciliation

Saturdays 3:00-4:00pm

STAFF Father Corey V. Piccinino, *Pastor*
 Father Mark Pinto, *Parochial Vicar*
 Father Andrew LaFleur, *Parochial Vicar*
 Deacon John DeRoin
 Deacon Eric Keener
 Kate Fitzgerald, *Bulletin Editor*
 Sue Dolan, *Parish Secretary*
 Maggie Kent, *Office Manager*
 Debbie Burke, *Business Manager*
 Paul Orsino, *Property Manager*

ST. MARY SCHOOL (744-2922) Scott Smith, *Principal*

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (743-4557) Mary Ferri, *Director*
 Maggie Kent, *Secretary*

RCIA (203)744-5777 Call if you are interested in becoming a Catholic or completing your initiation as a Catholic with Confirmation and/or Eucharist.

UNITED YOUTH MINISTRY Renzo Ortega (203) 240-8059

MUSIC MINISTRY Michael Ferrari, *Music & Choir Director*

FINANCE COMMITTEE (733-7335) Bob Kozlowski, *Chair*

BAPTISMS: Sundays at 12:15pm (excluding the 1st Sunday of each month). Please call the Rectory at least six weeks in advance to schedule your Baptism and to sign up for the Baptism Class that is required for both parents and Godparents.

These classes are offered on the first Sunday of each month. Anyone requesting a Sponsorship form must be a currently registered and practicing Catholic, and they must attend one of the Baptism Classes to receive it. There is a 3-month waiting period for a sponsorship form for the newly registered. **The Catholic requirements for a Godparent/Sponsor are:** you must be at least 16 years old; received the Sacraments of Baptism, First Holy Communion and Confirmation in the Catholic Church; attend Mass regularly on Sundays and on Holy Days of Obligation; receive the Sacraments of Penance and Holy Communion regularly; sincerely try to follow the moral teaching of the Catholic Church; and if married, were married in the Catholic Church.

ARRANGEMENTS FOR MARRIAGE: All couples must meet with a parish clergyman at least six (6) months before the marriage is to be celebrated.

PASTORAL CARE AT DANBURY HOSPITAL: Prior to your hospitalization, you or a family member should notify the Catholic chaplain at the Hospital.

HOLY COMMUNION FOR THE SICK: To any of those who are homebound or hospitalized and interested in having a visit by a priest, please contact the parish office. Anyone interested in serving in this ministry, please call the Parish Office at 744-5777.

PRAYER LINE: If you or someone you know is in need of prayer, please call our Prayer Line. Our team leader is Maggie Kent (203-731-4738).

SEXUAL ABUSE HOTLINE: ONLINE: www.lighthouse-services.com/diobpt. TOLL FREE TELEPHONE: English speaking USA and Canada: 833-990-0004; Spanish speaking USA and Canada: 800-216-1288 E-MAIL: reports@lighthouse-services.com (must include company name with report). When contacting the hotline, an individual may or may not choose to identify him or herself.



SAT., NOVEMBER 18

4:30 + Concetta Maddalena—Paul & Rosalie DeMarco

SUN., NOVEMBER 19

7:00 + Paul Didia — The DeShan Family

8:30 + Bill Scollon — Family

11:00 + Liz Roche Teed — The Roche/Teed Families

5:00 + Annie Smith — Agnes & Jim Bishop

MON., NOVEMBER 20

9:00 + Eileen Clark (9th Anniv.) — St. Mary Lectors

TUES., NOVEMBER 21

9:00 Blessed Mother's Intentions

WED., NOVEMBER 22

9:00 + Margaret Brenna — Lisa Cooke

THU., NOVEMBER 23

9:00 St. Mary Parish

FRI., NOVEMBER 24

9:00 + Mauro Troetti — The DeRoin Family

SAT., NOVEMBER 25

9:00 + Marie Colardarci — Rich & Nancy

4:30 + Rodney Mallonee — Susan & David Mallonee

SUN., NOVEMBER 26

7:00 + Ernest L. Allen, Jr. (33rd Anniv.) — Allen Family

8:30 + Lois Cathcart — Pat & Marie Kerrigan

11:00 + Edward W. Grunert — Pat & John Grunert

5:00 + Jerry Centrone — Louis & Cheryle Massimo



*This week the **Sanctuary Lamp** will be lit and prayers will be said before each Mass by the priest in memory of **Thomas, Elsa, Frederick & Patricia Neylon from Susan** (daughter/sister)*