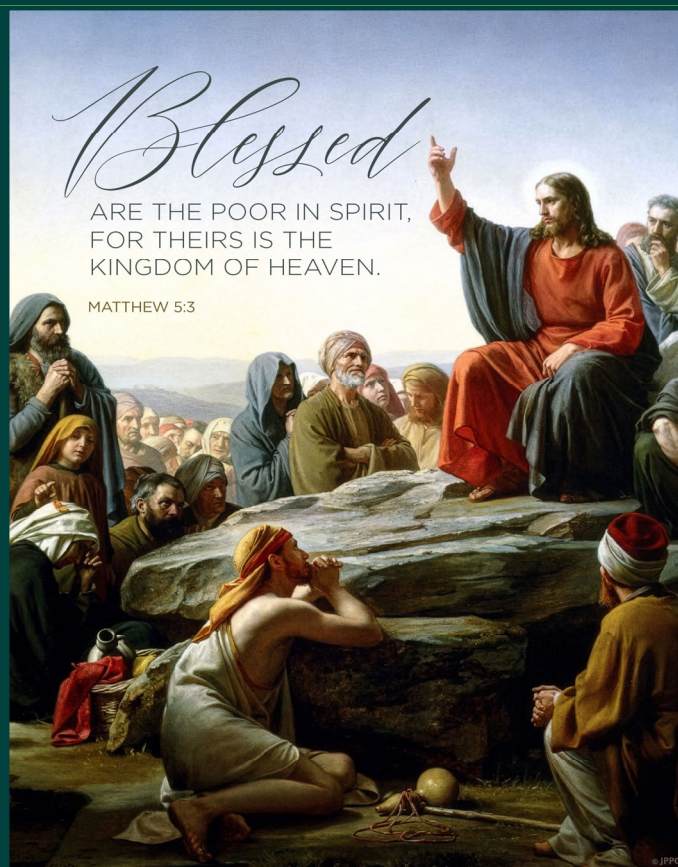


Saint Mary Parish

February 1, 2026

The Fourth 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 –1:30 pm, Mon. – Fri.

(Closed Weekends and Holidays)

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

ST. MARY SCHOOL (744-2922) Jason Ford, *Principal*

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

OCIA (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*

CEMETERY DIRECTOR: Bob DiMatteo (203)744-5777

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, or are 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.

FATHER COREY'S EPISTLE

† WHY CATHOLICS STAND, KNEEL, AND SIT AT MASS, THE THEOLOGY IN EVERY POSTURE

Most Catholics do these gestures automatically...Stand. Sit. Kneel. But very few know why we do them. Yet every posture at Mass is a theological statement, a physical expression of what the soul believes. Let's break it down in simple language, so anyone can understand, and so your scholars, priests, and bishops will appreciate the depth.

WHEN WE STAND, WE ARE A PEOPLE READY TO ACT

Standing is the posture of respect, readiness, and resurrection. In ancient Israel, people stood before a king. At Mass, we stand because:

We are before the King of Kings.

We are a risen People, standing symbolizes resurrection life.

We are ready to listen and respond to God's Word.

This is why we stand:

- At the start of Mass
- During the Gospel
- During the Creed
- During the Lord's Prayer

Standing says: "Speak, Lord. Your servant is ready."

WHEN WE SIT, WE ARE A PEOPLE WHO RECEIVE AND LISTEN

Sitting at Mass is not laziness.

It is the posture of a disciple learning from the Master.

- We are listening to the Liturgy of the Word
- We are reflecting interiorly
- We are letting the Word sink into the heart

Sitting says:

"Lord, teach me."

- During the First Reading
- During the Second Reading

- During the Homily

- During the Offertory

The posture itself is catechesis:

We receive before we offer.

WHEN WE KNEEL, WE ARE A PEOPLE WHO WORSHIP

Kneeling is the most misunderstood posture, yet the most powerful.

In the Bible, people kneel only before God.

Not angels.

Not kings.

Only God.

So Catholics kneel during the Eucharistic Prayer because:

The bread and wine become the Body and Blood of Christ

Christ becomes truly, really, substantially present

We are before the Living God

Kneeling expresses:

- Adoration
- Humility
- Total surrender

It is the body saying:

"Lord, You alone are my God."

This is why we kneel:

- During the Consecration
- After the Holy, Holy, Holy
- Before receiving Communion (in many places)
- During silent adoration

Kneeling is the only fitting posture when Heaven touches earth.

THE BEAUTY OF CATHOLIC WORSHIP

Mass is not random movement. It is a sacred rhythm:

We stand to honor and respond

We sit to learn and receive

We kneel to worship and adore

Body and soul move together.

This is why the Catholic Mass is not just something you watch.

It is something you enter, with your whole being, mind, heart, and body.

FINAL TAKEAWAY

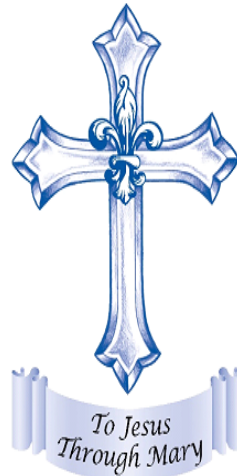
Every posture at Mass is a silent profession of faith:

Standing: I am ready to listen.

Sitting: I am ready to learn.

Kneeling: I am ready to adore.

The body prays with the soul.



Mass Schedule

Monday-Friday

9:00am

Saturday

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

Sunday

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

Reconciliation

Saturdays 3:00-4:00pm



SAT., JANUARY 31

4:30 + Arlene Lathrop — Aunt Mary Jane

SUN., FEBRUARY 1

7:00 St. Mary Parish

8:30 + Nancy Doyle — Bobby Keough

11:00 + Marcella Bartola — Pat Kuhn & Family

MON., FEBRUARY 2

9:00 + Lorraine Valentini — Susan & David Mallonee

TUES., FEBRUARY 3

9:00 + Michelle Maier — The Drury Family

WED., FEBRUARY 4

9:00 + Gary Hazen — The Folan Family

THURS., FEBRUARY 5

9:00 + Eleanor Elias — The Morton Family

FRI., FEBRUARY 6

9:00 + Stephen Gaspar — Debbie Pratson

SAT., FEBRUARY 7

9:00 + Arlene Lathrop — Rich & Nancy

4:30 + Edward Nugent, Jr. — Family

SUN., FEBRUARY 8

7:00 + Teresa Franzese — Fudgy & Ned Belardinelli

8:30 St. Mary Parish

11:00 + Felix Wagher — Mary Wagher

WEEK AT A GLANCE

Sunday, February 1

9:30am Faith Formation Classes

9:30am Parent Enrichment

12:15pm Pre-Baptism Class

12:30pm OCIA

6:00pm United Youth

6:00pm CrossRoads

Monday, February 2

8:20am Rosary

Tuesday, February 3

8:20am Rosary

4:30pm Faith Formation Classes

4:30pm Parent Enrichment

6:00pm General Blessing of the Throats

Wednesday, February 4

8:20am Rosary

Thursday, February 5

8:20am Rosary

4:30pm Faith Formation Classes

4:30pm Parent Enrichment

Friday, February 6

8:20am Rosary

Saturday, February 7

8:20am Rosary

3:00pm Adoration

3:00pm Confessions

Sunday, February 8

9:30am Faith Formation Classes

12:15pm Baptism

12:30pm OCIA

2:30 Cursillo

AROUND THE PARISH



Tuesday, February 3 is the **FEAST OF ST. BLAISE**. We will have individual Blessing of the Throats at the 9:00am Mass and a General Blessing at the 6:00pm in the Church.

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

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 **February 7**. If you wish to attend, please call the parish office at 744-5777 and ask that a group facilitator call you with more information.

The **St. Mary YOUTH CHOIR** is in full swing and is 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.st.mary@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.

The **YOUNG ADULT** group (ages 21-35) meets every 3rd Friday of the month. Look them up on Instagram at [avamaria1882](https://www.instagram.com/avamaria1882).

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. If you would like the **SANCTUARY CANDLE** to be lit for your departed loved one, we shall publish your loved one's name in the bulletin and the priest, while in the sacristy, will pray for the repose of their soul for 7 days. The stipend is \$10. Call the office to make arrangements.

We are in need of lectors for the 7am Mass on Sundays. If you can help out, please call the Parish Office at (203) 744-5777.



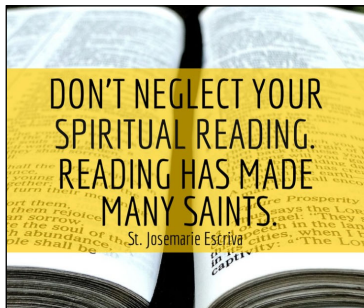
St. Mary Faith Formation
24 Dodgingtown Road
Bethel, CT 06801
203-743-4557

Faith Formation classes have resumed. Registration is ongoing.

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.

You can register for the 2025/26 school year by

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



St. Mary Parish
Book Club

All Adults Welcome!

Please see the Church bulletin for monthly meeting announcements.

MASS POLICY FOR SCHOOL DELAYS/ CANCELLATIONS

If there is a school delay or closing in Bethel due to the weather, please use common sense when venturing out to the 9:00am Mass. If the snowfall is significant, please do not try to navigate the travel conditions as this is a matter of safety.



St. Mary School

A Catholic School of Academic Excellence for Pre-K to 8th Grade

REGISTRATION FOR THE 2026-2027 SCHOOL YEAR IS NOW OPEN! We are now accepting applications for Pre-K -- Grade 8. Please visit our admissions page at www.stmarybethelct.org to apply. We do anticipate waitlists in many grades so please apply early. If you have any questions, contact Geraldine Henn, Enrollment Director, at admissions@stmarybethelct.org or call 203-744-2922.

St. Mary School, Bethel, CT is looking for individuals interested in substitute teaching this coming school year on an as needed basis (not daily). Qualifications for this position are a background check, VIRTUS training and a Bachelor's degree.

We are also looking for part-time employees on a regular schedule for our AfterSchool Club, (after school care for our students). Hours are 2pm-5:30pm on days school is in session. For information about either of these opportunities, please email the school office at office@stmarybethelct.org.

COOKING with the SAINTS



January 3, February 28 & March 28

9:00-10:30 Parish Hall

\$5.00 per child, per session

*Join us for a morning of the saints'
stories and cooking*

Please register at stmarybethel.org



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 one of the Catholic faithful

If your answer is yes to any of these questions, come and discover, or re-discover, the truth, wonder and mystery of our Catholic faith! The OCIA program prepares you to be received as members of the Catholic Church.

Our new sessions begin in September and we meet on Sundays in the Notre Dame Center from 12:30-2pm.

If you are interested in participating our learning more about OCIA, call (203)744-5777 or email Deacon Eric Keener at dnkeener@diobpt.org.



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



HOLY FAMILY
PASSIONIST
RETREAT CENTER

2026 Holy Family Men's Retreat March 6 -8th

2026 Holy Family Women's Retreat April 17-19 2

THEMED RETREAT: Pilgrims of Hope

Faith is a journey! Last year, just months before his passing, Pope Francis called for a jubilee year, and he announced the theme would be Pilgrims of Hope.

As "pilgrims of hope," we must be willing to take risks, to make the effort to understand God's call, and to grow in our faith. The pilgrim doesn't travel aimlessly but allows God to be the North Star, leading us to discover that God is at the heart of our journey.

We invite you to join us this year at Holy Family for your annual retreat as we celebrate our 75th anniversary of ministry. Together, as part of God's beloved creation, we can pursue that blessed goal – life with God as beloved companions and pilgrims of hope.

Visit holyfamilyretreat.org/themed-retreats for more info and to register or call us at 860.760.9705. Holy Family Passionist Retreat Center - West Hartford, CT.

For more info email Rich Bruno kofcbrunomembership@gmail.com (Men's Retreat) or call Mary Ferri — 203 743 4557 (Women's Retreat)

• 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!*



FACEBOOK.COM/CTUNITEDYOUTH

@CTUNITEDYOUTH

WWW.CTUNITEDYOUTH.COM

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

St Mary's
Bethel

CROSS ROADS

Monthly Regular Meetings
Community Service Opportunities
Retreats and Other Events

Email StMaryCrossroads@gmail.com to get on
the email list for upcoming event schedule

Middle School Ages

FAITH | COMMUNITY | FUN

BROTHERHOOD IN ACTION Brotherhood in Action is currently trying to raise money for their Thanksgiving and Christmas food distributions this year. As many of you know, we are not able to acquire food any longer from the Connecticut Food Bank—which was a primary resource for us in the past. Given this, the cost of food, and reduced direct food donations have all put a strain on our resources. And, of course, the need in Bethel just continues to increase as we're up to around 200 families and counting for each distribution.

The good news is that we get a generous discount from Caraluzzi's when we purchase from them, so cash donations really help us to acquire products at a reduced cost. While we know that all of you have contributed in the past, and many of you have already done so again this year—we would appreciate any contribution you could make at this time.

If you wish to continue to help our mission, monetary donations may be sent to: Brotherhood in Action, P.O. Box 582, Bethel, CT. 06801. Thank you again for your generosity!!

Subscribe to our new channel
[YouTube.com/@TheLiteraryCatholic](https://www.youtube.com/@TheLiteraryCatholic)

Engaging discussions with experts, writers, and authors to inspire your faith and ignite your imagination





a collaboration between the Diocese of Bridgeport
Sacred Heart University and Guild of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus

OFF THE STREETS is an all volunteer organization that assists those in need of housing. For those individuals that demonstrate a willingness to get off the streets, we provide security deposits, furniture and household items. We ask you to consider a donation to Off The Streets so that we can continue to provide money for security deposits. The cost of apartments in our area is excessive and there is a shortage of low cost housing. A security deposit could be the deal breaker for someone seeking shelter. On the first Saturday of every month we collect donations between ten and noon at South Street Self Storage located at 39-A South St in Danbury. You can contact Mike at otsdanburymr@gmail.com with any questions you may have or scan the code for a list of items we can accept.

If you would like to support our work, please send contributions to: Off the Streets, PO Box 591, Bethel CT 06801. or donate online by cut and pasting the link below into your browser <https://gofund.me/baa5b98d>



St Mary Parish Vocation Ministry

World Marriage Day, observed on the second Sunday of February (February 8 in 2026), celebrates the sacrament and vocation of marriage and honors faithful spouses worldwide. It encourages couples to renew their vows through special Masses, blessings, and parish events. Rooted in Catholic teaching, the day highlights marriage and family as the seminary of all vocations—the domestic church where children first encounter God's love, grow in faith, and discern their calling to priesthood, religious life, or marriage itself. By strengthening marriages on this day, we foster a culture of life and holiness for all vocations. Happy World Marriage Day! Please pray for sacramental marriages and families!

On February 2nd, the ****Feast of the Presentation of the Lord****—also known as Candlemas, when candles are blessed to symbolize Christ as the light of the world—we joyfully observe the **World Day of Consecrated Life**. Established by Pope St. John Paul II in 1997, this special day honors the men and women who have generously dedicated their lives to Christ through the evangelical counsels, including members of religious orders, consecrated virgins, hermits, and those in secular institutes. They live out vows of chastity, poverty, and obedience, serving as radiant witnesses to the Gospel and reflecting the light of Jesus to all people through prayer, selfless service, and total commitment. Parishes are encouraged to celebrate this gift by praying for these consecrated persons, thanking them for their witness, and asking God for new vocations to enrich the Church.

Let us Pray, Heavenly Father, we thank You for the gift of consecrated life and for calling men and women to follow Your Son more closely through vows of chastity, poverty, and obedience. On this Feast of the Presentation, as Mary and Joseph offered Jesus in the Temple, bless these faithful servants who present their lives as a living sacrifice. Renew their zeal, strengthen them in their calling, and inspire many more to respond generously to Your invitation. May they ever shine as lights for the world. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

LOOKING FOR SOMETHING?

LOOKING
FOR
SOMETHING



If you are missing a pair of glasses, a key, a jacket, a book, a toy, or some other item, you may have left it in the Church. Be sure to check out the boxes in the Usher's room. If you find anything in the Church, please leave it in a box in the Usher's room.

AROUND THE DIOCESE

DIOCESE OF BRIDGEPORT PROJECT RACHEL MINISTRY – *Jesus Keeps on Loving You, No Matter What* The Diocese of Bridgeport's Project Rachel Ministry is here to help you. For confidential assistance or information on upcoming events, please contact Maureen at 203-416-1619 or projectrachel@diobpt.org. There is hope after abortion.



MALTA HOUSE is the only transitional living program in the state of Connecticut where a

mom can stay with her baby for long-term support and a "hand-up" as she journeys to independence and hope. We need your help...

Since opening our doors in 1998, we have welcomed over 700 mothers and babies to our home. But we're not done yet. We are always looking for new volunteers to join our team! Please consider volunteering with us and making a difference in the lives of mothers and babies.

If you are interested in lending your skills and sharing your heart with our moms and babies, please contact Claudia Escalante at cescalante@maltahouse.org.

UNITED YOUTH GROUP WINTER RETREAT

FEBRUARY 13TH-14TH



ECHO

MATT 10:27



\$25 UNITED MEMBERS | \$50 NON MEMBERS
OPEN TO HIGH SCHOOL TEENS
7+8 GRADERS MAY JOIN SATURDAY

formed™
Forming Catholics for Life.

This Week on Formed

Week of February 01, 2026



The Presentation

The Presentation is already foreshadowing the Cross. The offering Mary makes at the Presentation in the Temple becomes manifested and reaches its fulfillment at Calvary.



The Martyrs | Littlest Saints

When a young Christian girl is arrested and imprisoned in ancient Rome, she hears stories of martyrs like St. Catherine of Alexandria and St. Lawrence the Deacon—will she find the strength to make the ultimate sacrifice for her faith?



Martyrs and Monastics

Dr. Ben Akers sits down with Dr. Elizabeth Klein, Professor of Theology at the Augustine Institute Graduate School, to discuss her Short Course: Martyrs and Monastics. Who are the early Church martyrs? What fueled their witness to the faith? How did monasticism develop? These questions and more are addressed in this show.

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

An offering from the AUGUSTINE INSTITUTE

THE POPE'S INTENTIONS FOR THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY

For children with incurable diseases Let us pray that children suffering from incurable diseases and their families receive the necessary medical care and support, never losing strength and hope.

Join us for Malta House Annual CASUAL FRIDAY

Dinner | Fundraiser

Friday, Feb. 6, 2026 @6:30 PM
St. Ann Club, Norwalk

Learn more:

www.maltahouse.org/events

OR scan this code >





Sun.: Is 49:3, 5-6 Ps 40:2, 4, 7-8, 8-9, 10 1 Cor 1:1-3 Jn 1:29-34

Mon.: Mal 3:1-4 Ps 24:7, 8, 9, 10 Heb 2:14-18 Lk 2:22-40 or Lk 2:22-32

Tues.: 2 Sm 18:9-10, 14b, 24-25a, 30—19:3 Ps 86:1-2, 3-4, 5-6 Mk 5:21-43

Wed.: 2 Sm 24:2, 9-17 Ps 32:1-2, 5, 6, 7 Mk 6:1-6

Thu: 1 Kgs 2:1-4, 10-12 1 Chr 29:10, 11ab, 11d-12a, 12bcd, Mk 6:7-13

Fri.: Sir 47:2-11 Ps 18:31, 47 and 50, 51 Mk 6:14-29

Sat.: 1 Kgs 3:4-13 Ps 119:9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14 Mk 6:30-34

Sun.: Is 58:7-10 Ps 112:4-5, 6-7, 8-9 1 Cor 2:1-5 Mt 5:13-16



**Knights of
Columbus®**

If you are at least 18 years of age, we invite you to join us. To contact us call Alan Gambino at (203)910-3733 or Email GKofPavia@gmail.com for more information. Like us on Facebook.com/Pavia48!

Our next meeting is Mon., Jan. 26 at 7pm.

Pray for the Sick



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). If you would like to join our group, send a "Request to Join Prayer Chain" email to Maggie at kentmaggie@sbcglobal.net. Your name will be added to the email chain. Thank you!

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

PRAYER FOR THE LEGAL PROTECTION OF UNBORN CHILDREN

Most precious Lord, You dwelt within the womb of your dear mother, sanctifying the womb, and elevating the dignity of all human life. I pray today for the full legal protection of every unborn child. I also pray that every heart that supports abortion will be changed so as to experience the freedom that comes from living in the Truth. I offer to You, this day, all my sufferings and sacrifices to help atone for every violation against human dignity committed through acts of abortion. Please bring healing, hope, and freedom to all. Mother Mary, pray for me. Jesus, I trust in You.

Amen.

MINISTRIES AND VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

LITURGY

Adult Acolyte Provide adult altar service at funerals and memorial services. Rectory Office (203) 744 - 5777

Altar Server Support the community in the Church's weekly liturgical celebrations. Father Andrew LaFleur FrLaFleur@diobpt.org

Lector Proclaim the scriptures and read the petitions at Mass. Mrs. Susan Dolan (203) 744 - 5777

Eucharistic Minister Assist in the distribution of Holy Communion on weekdays and Sundays. Mrs. Susan Dolan (203) 744 - 5777

Usher Assist with greeting, seating, and the collection at Mass and services. Rectory Office

Cantors/Choir Lead and assist in the music for the 11am Mass and major feasts through the year. Mr. Michael Ferrari music.saintmary@gmail.com

Youth Choir Grade 2+ - will develop vocal skills and musicianship through the singing of chants, hymns and psalms at Masses and special events. Youthchoir.st.mary@gmail.com. (Leanna Hinger)

YOUTH

CrossRoads Middle School Youth Group Join youths (grades 6-8) in the early formative years of their faith by participating in regular meetings, prayer, and social activities. Chaperones and adult aides welcome (must have completed Virtus Training). Ms. Rosie Lifreiri & Mr. Tom Reese stmarycrossroads@gmail.com

UNITED High School Youth Group (St. Mary - St. Joseph - St. Rose parishes) Join other youths (grades 9-12) in the effort to grow in their relationships with Christ and their Catholic Faith, participate in opportunities for service, fun and games, and fellowship. Chaperones and adult aides welcome (must have completed Virtus Training). Mr. Renzo Ortega (203) 240-8059

COMMUNITY

Bereavement Support Group Offers a prayerful experience of mutual support and consolation for those who are confronting the difficulties of losing a loved one. Rectory Office

Faith and Family Nights/Social Committee Join in and assist at various celebrations and social events of the Church year. Rectory Office

Men's Ministry Join other Catholic men in a positive Christian fellowship and learn ways to better strengthen one's personal faith journey. Deacon Eric Keener dnekeener@diobpt.org

Women of Faith/Walking with Purpose A women's ministry dedicated to offering a variety of activities for spiritual growth, fellowship, support, and outreach. Mrs. Caroline LaFleur la_fleur@sbcglobal.net

Knights of Columbus Promote fraternal ties among other Catholic Men and participate in various charitable activities both at the Church and in the local community. Mr. Alan Gambino (203) 910-3733 or Email gkofpavia@gmail.com

Ave Maria - Young Adults Where card games, Wii Tourneys, drinks and appetizers meet adoration, rosary, and catechesis. Fr. Andrew LaFleur frlafleur@diobpt.org

Just Desserts Help in the catering of baked goods and treats for parish celebrations. Rectory Office

Book Club ST. MARY BOOK GROUP welcomes all adults! "Spiritual reading has made many saints." (St. Josemaria Escriva). Rectory Office

SERVICE

Homebound Eucharistic Ministers Bring Communion to the home-bound and those in local nursing homes. Rectory Office

Matthew 25:35 Provides meals for either groups outside of parish (ex, Dorothy Day) or for families in need within the parish. Rectory Office

Parish Hospitality Committee/Photographers Volunteer to help set up, serve, and clean up for Parish receptions. Record events in church or photography of events. Rectory Office

Prayer Line Prayer society that receives intentions and prays regularly for them. Mrs. Maggie Kent Mrs. Deana Chamberlin (203) 731 - 4738 (203) 482 - 7149

Pro-Life Committee that strives to build a culture of life, upholding and promoting the dignity of human life. Rectory Office

Altar Linen Committee Provide regular care for the various linens used at Mass. Rectory Office

St. Martha Cleaning Society Assist in the regular cleaning and upkeep of the Church. Rectory Office

Rectory Volunteer Aides Assist the rectory staff with mass mailings and various projects. Rectory Office

Prayer Shawl and Baby Blanket Making Ministry Mary Ferri 203-743-4557

Religious Articles Store & Catholic Book Fair One weekend in both the Fall & the Spring, as well as Christmas, to help with the distribution of religious goods for purchase. Mrs. Maggie Kent (203) 743 - 4557

EVANGELIZATION & CATECHESIS

Religious Education Catechist Share the Catholic Faith with the children of our parish. Mrs. Mary Ferri (203) 743 - 4557

RCIA Catechist/RCIA Sponsor Accompany and share the faith with those seeking to join the Catholic Church or complete their sacraments. Deacon Eric Keener (203) 744-5777

Missionaries to the Family & Mysteries of the Rosary Mission to support revitalizing the domestic church within our families. Catechesis & programming to help you live out holiness in your marriage and home. Santos Oyola and Juliana Restrepo julyres@hotmail.com

Pre-Baptism Preparation Help teach parents and Godparents of their responsibilities to prepare for Baptism. Rectory Office

Vocations Ministry prays for, encourages, educates and accompanies those discerning any vocation to which God is calling them. Father LaFleur FrLaFleur@diobpt.org

Adult Faith Formation Series Join in ongoing adult faith formation to deepen our understanding and appreciation of the Catholic Faith. Shani Burke-Specht (203) 744-5777

Parish Vocation Ministry prays for, encourages those in their vocation, accompanies those discerning their vocation, celebrates all vocations and educates youth and adults about the beauty of the Catholic vocations of sacramental marriage and family, the priesthood, diaconate and the religious life. Mike Roberts telecom0711@gmail.com.

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