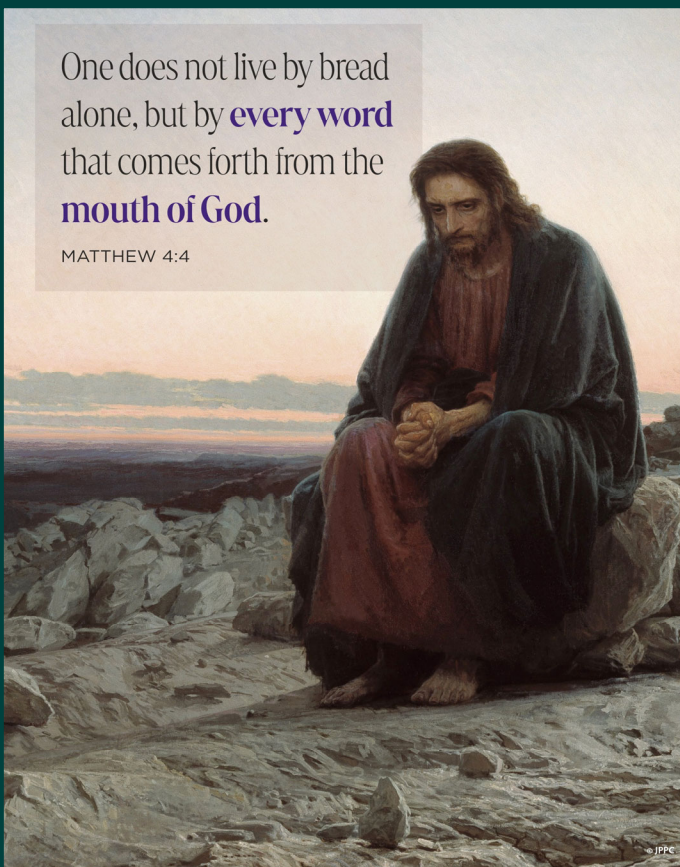


Saint Mary Parish

February 15, 2026
The First Sunday of Lent

One does not live by bread
alone, but by **every word**
that comes forth from the
mouth of God.

MATTHEW 4:4



26 Dodgingtown Road, Bethel, CT 06801

Phone: (203)744-5777

Website: www.stmarybethel.org Email:
rectoryoffice@stmarybethel.org

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.

FROM FATHER COREY

As you remember 8 years ago, in conjunction with Bishop Caggiano, we conducted the **We Stand with Christ** campaign. The monies that we received (through gifts and pledges) we shared with the Diocese of Bridgeport. The rest of the money we used for the renovation of our Church.

The total amount raised for the campaign was \$2,601,100. The total amount given to St Mary was \$1,521,720. The total amount of the project was \$1,519,870

So we had raised enough money to pay for the project. There was one glitch— a good deal of the money was in pledges over five years. The contractors had to be paid in full, but we did not yet have all the money, so we had to take a loan from Fairfield County Bank of \$750,000. We paid off as much as we could through squeezing the offertory. At maturity last May we still owed \$375,000.

Why did we still owe money? A number of people did not finish paying their pledge or some died. Last year we sent letters to each of those households asking for them to either finish paying their commitments or to call me and let me know that completing their commitment was impossible. Unfortunately, I heard from no one!

The amount owed was not only the pledges that were not paid but the interest that was owed on those five years as well.

Luckily, the bank that we use for our normal transactions, Union Savings, gave us a new loan for \$375,000.

The last couple of months we have been able to pay \$102,000 on the new loan. I was to come to you with this issue earlier, but with my cancer diagnosis, I was unable to speak at all Masses. So I come to you today and ask you for your generosity for what I call **We Stand With Christ Phase II**.

Looking at the beautiful outcome of the project, I believe all that donated to this project are happy with the results. At the beginning of the project, some were leery about giving and wanted to see the results first, some wanted to give more but couldn't at the time, and some of you were not members of the Parish when we began the project.

I come today to ask each household to consider helping the Parish to pay off the loan.

I am asking for a gift of \$1,000 paid in one sum or given over ten months. Or a gift of \$500 or pledge over ten months.

I know this is a big ask, but together we need to rid the Parish of this burden. All money will stay in the Parish.

You are always so generous when we are in need. For those who gave would it be possible to give again? If you were not able to give, perhaps you will be able to help now. If you didn't know about the campaign and love the way Church looks, perhaps you might be able to give now. To show you that I am willing to put my money where my mouth is, I will make the first pledge of \$1,000. Knowing this congregation, I know I will not be alone. Thank you for your generosity.



St. Mary Church
26 Dodgingtown Road
Bethel, CT 06801

We Stand with Christ Phase II

I/We pledge/gift \$1,000.00

☐ Over Ten Months

☐ One Time

I/We pledge/gift \$500.00

☐ Over Ten Months

☐ One Time

Name: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____ ☐ Please send me monthly reminders

Please make check payable to St. Mary Church. Pledge/gift can also be given online at stmarybethel.org/giving. If you don't already have one, follow the prompts to create an account.



Mass Intentions

SAT., FEBRUARY 21

4:30 + Rosina Alling — Louis & Cheryl Massimo

SUN., FEBRUARY 22

7:00 St. Mary Parish

8:30 + Anthony Cavalli — Joanne McInerney Stange

11:00 + Deborah Carrizzo — Dave & Mary Fancher

MON., FEBRUARY 23

9:00 + Christopher Wagher — Mary Wagher

TUES., FEBRUARY 24

9:00 + Ashley DeMarco — Paul & Rosalie DeMarco

WED., FEBRUARY 25

9:00 + Carl Mallonee — Susan & David Mallonee

THURS., FEBRUARY 26

9:00 + Margaret Grunert — John & Patricia Grunert

FRI., FEBRUARY 27

9:00 + Gladys Yakabe Grunert — John & Patricia Grunert

SAT., FEBRUARY 29

9:00 + Dominic Maturo — Andrew D'Ambrosio

4:30 + Betty DeSantis — The Jerolimo Family

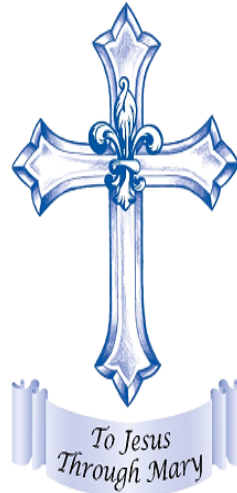
SUN., MARCH 1

7:00 + Ginger Hughes — The Wasp Family

+ Deborah A. Lyons — The Wasp Family

8:30 St. Mary Parish

11:00 + Maureen Hansen — The Ruhl Family



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

WEEK AT A GLANCE

Sunday, February 22

9:30am Faith Formation Classes

12:15pm Baptism

12:30pm OCIA

2:30pm Cursillo

6:00pm United Youth

Monday, February 23

8:20am Rosary

7:00pm Knights of Columbus

Tuesday, February 24

8:20am Rosary

Wednesday, February 25

8:20am Rosary

Thursday, February 26

8:20am Rosary

12:00n Knights of Columbus Blood Drive

7:00pm First Communion Parent Meeting with Bishop

Friday, February 27

8:20am Rosary

7:00pm Stations of the Cross with Adoration

Saturday, February 28

8:20am Rosary

3:00pm Adoration

3:00pm Confessions

Sunday, March 1

9:30am Faith Formation Classes

12:15pm Baptism

12:30pm OCIA

2:30pm Cursillo

6:00pm United Youth



**Every Saturday
between 3:00pm
& 4:00pm in the**

EUCCHARISTIC
Adoration

AROUND THE PARISH

ST. MARY BOOK GROUP welcomes all adults! "Spiritual reading has made many saints" (St. Josemaria Escriva). We are looking forward to discussing The Practice of the Presence of God by Brother Lawrence. It's a short book, but full of great wisdom, offering practical advice for experiencing God in every day life. We will meet on Wednesday March 18 at 7 pm in the Quiet Room. You can purchase a copy online from Catholic booksellers like icspublications.org, tanbooks.com, and catholiccompany.com; or read it for free online at gutenberg.org.

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 **March 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 Thursday of the month with Adoration and a social afterward. 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.

tory for the Weekend of February 14/15, 2026

Collection: \$7,858.00 On-Line Giving: \$4,812.00

Offertory for the Weekend of February 15/16, 2025

Collection: \$3,267.00 On-Line Giving: \$4,688.00

Thank you for your generosity!



God Bless those recently Baptized

Bennett Cronin



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.*

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

Lent



PENANCE: Saturdays from 3-4pm

STATIONS OF THE CROSS WITH ADORATION: Fridays at 7:00pm

SOUP & STATIONS: Friday, March 13 at 6:00pm

HOW THE MASS COMES FROM THE BIBLE ITSELF by Father Corey: Monday, March 16 at 6:30pm in the Church

A WALK THROUGH THE TRIDUUM by Father Andrew: Thursday, March 19 at 6:30pm in the Church

ST. MARY PARISH MISSION WITH THE FRANCISCAN FRIARS OF THE RENEWAL. At all the Masses the weekend of March 21/22 and at 7:00pm Mon., March 23 through March 25.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS FAMILY PASTA DINNERS: Fri., February 20 & Fri., March 20 from 5:30—8:00pm

We are having a **BODY WASH, DOVE SOAP, TIDE, KLEENEX AND NON-ALCOHOLIC MOUTHWASH** beginning Ash Wednesday and continuing through Lent benefitting "The Little Sisters of the Poor". Bins are located in the Vestibule of the Church.

Days of FAST and ABSTINENCE (no eating between meals and no meat): **Ash Wednesday & Good Friday** *(The norms of fasting are obligatory from age 18 until age 59. When fasting, a person is permitted to eat one full meal. Two smaller meals may also be taken, but not to equal a full meal. The norms concerning abstinence from meat are binding upon members from age 14 onwards.)*

Days of ABSTINENCE (no meat): Fridays of Lent



PRAY FOR
PRIESTS

St. John Vianney, intercede for our shepherds

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.



Stay safe!

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.



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

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.



Sat., March 14

8:00AM - 3:00PM

Doors open at 7am for breakfast

St. Catherine of Siena Church
220 Shelton Road, Trumbull, CT

- + Celebration of Mass with Bishop Caggiano
- + Praise & Worship Adoration
- + Eucharistic Procession/Relic Procession
- + Small Group Reflection Discussions
- + Large Group Reflections on Radical Discipleship
- + Confessions Available
- + Breakfast and Lunch Included

with
Fr. Agustino Torres, CFR

Father Agustino Torres, CFR, is a Franciscan Friar of the Renewal and founder of Corazon Puro. He passionately focuses on evangelization, purity of heart, youth ministry and Eucharistic revival. He is a popular host on EWTN, as well as an accomplished author, speaker and spiritual director.



**DIOCESE OF
BRIDGEPORT**



Register now - \$35
formationreimagined.org



We exceeded our goal!

Saint Mary School

Giving Hearts Day

We raised \$25,000 for the school!

Thank you to everyone who donated! With your help we raised significant funds to utilize for our new preschool classroom!



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 holyfamiyretreat.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)



Lent: A Journey of Hope

As we enter the holy season of **Lent**, the Church invites us to deepen our lives of **prayer, fasting, and almsgiving.**

These sacred practices draw us closer to Christ and strengthen our communion with one another.



Lent is a journey of the heart, a time to reflect on God's mercy, renew our commitment to the Gospel, and grow in hope. This hope is not meant to be kept to ourselves; it reaches out, lifts up, and transforms lives.

United as **One in Christ**, we are called to share this hope with our brothers and sisters throughout our diocese. As you prayerfully make your Lenten sacrifices, please consider offering a gift to the **Bishop's Appeal**. Your generosity becomes a living sign of hope and a witness to our shared mission as the Church.

Be assured of our prayers as you begin your Lenten journey. May this season draw us ever closer to Christ and to one another.

Make your gift to the Bishop's Appeal today! Visit: **2026BishopsAppeal.org**

• 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.*



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

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@malthouse.org.



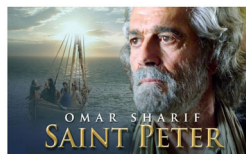
This Week on Formed

Week of February 22, 2026



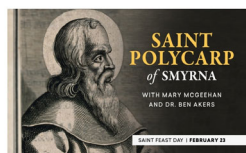
Foretold

From the beginning, God had a plan to save man from sin. With Jesus, that plan was fulfilled. But he also has a specific plan for you. Watch *Foretold* to rediscover God's providential love for you.



Saint Peter

Watch the epic story of the spread of Christianity during the early years of the Church. This film follows the journey of St. Peter through his martyrdom on a cross.



St. Polycarp | Catholic Saints

Join Dr. Ben Akers and Mary McGeehan as they dive into the life of St. Polycarp, a second century bishop and martyr. St. Polycarp was a student of St. John the Apostle, defended the faith against early heresies, and offered his life like Christ as a martyr.

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

An offering from the AUGUSTINE INSTITUTE

Join Thousands of People from Around Connecticut

Mark Your Calendar

Connecticut
MARCH for LIFE

March 18, 2026

PRE-RALLY CONCERT 10:30 AM
RALLY 11:30 AM | MARCH 12:30 PM
CONNECTICUT STATE CAPITOL

210 Capitol Ave, Hartford, CT 06106



For Further Information go to CTMarchforLife.org



BROTHERHOOD IN ACTION

Thank you for your generous support of the Brotherhood in Action. The generous donations of the people of St. Mary's makes it possible for our organization to exist and be able to give those in our community a sense of hope for happy holidays and year-round. If you wish to continue to help our mission throughout the year, monetary donations may be sent to: Brotherhood in Action, P.O. Box 582, Bethel, CT. 06801. Thank you again for your generosity!!

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.



Weekly Readings

Sun.: Gen 2:7-9; 3:1-7 Ps 51:3-4, 5-6, 12-13, 17 Rom 5:12-19 or 5:12, 17-19 Mt 4:1-11

Mon.: Lv 19:1-2, 11-18 Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 15 Mt 25:31-46

Tues.: Is 55:10-11 Ps 34:4-5, 6-7, 16-17, 18-19 Mt 6:7-15

Wed.: Jon 3:1-10 Ps 51:3-4, 12-13, 18-19 Lk 11:29-32

Thu.: Est C:12, 14-16, 23-25 Ps 138:1-2ab, 2cde-3, 7c-8 Mt 7:7-12

Fri.: Ez 18:21-28 Ps 130:1-2, 3-4, 5-7a, 7bc-8 Mt 5:20-26

Sat.: Dt 26:16-19 Ps 119:1-2, 4-5, 7-8 Mt 5:43-48

Sun.: Gen 12:1-4a Ps 33:4-5, 18-19, 20, 22 2 Tm 1:8b-10 Mt 17:1-9



**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., Feb. 23 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!

Lenten Pasta Dinners

**Feb 20, 2026
Mar 20, 2026**

5:30pm-8:00pm

St Mary's School Gym



PRAYER AT NIGHT

(attributed to St. Thomas Aquinas)

Dear God,

Watch, Lord, with those who work or wake or weep tonight.

Give the angels and saints charge over those who sleep.

O Lord, Jesus Christ, tend Your sick ones, rest Your weary ones, bless Your dying ones, soothe the suffering ones, pity all the afflicted ones, shield the joyful ones, and all for Your love's sake.

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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