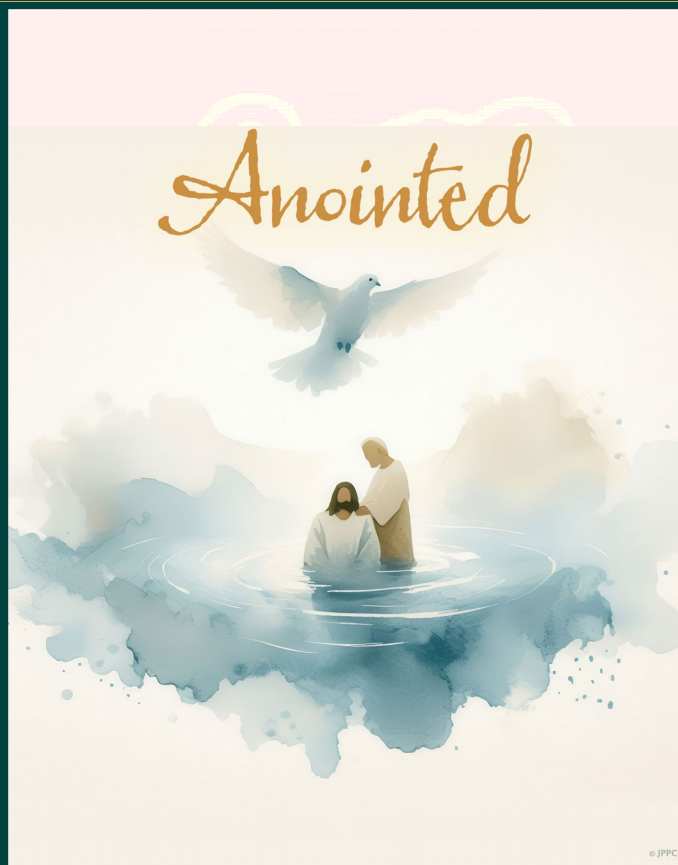


Saint Mary Parish

January 11, 2026

THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD



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

† From a Sermon by Saint Gregory of Nazianzus, bishop — *The baptism of Christ*

Christ is bathed in light; let us also be bathed in light. Christ is baptized; let us also go down with him, and rise with him.

John is baptizing when Jesus draws near. Perhaps he comes to sanctify his baptizer; certainly he comes to bury sinful humanity in the waters. He comes to sanctify the Jordan for our sake and in readiness for us; he who is spirit and flesh comes to begin a new creation through the Spirit and water.

The Baptist protests; Jesus insists. Then John says: I ought to be baptized by you. He is the lamp in the presence of the sun, the voice in the presence of the Word, the friend in the presence of the Bridegroom, the greatest of all born of woman in the presence of the firstborn of all creation, the one who leapt in his mother's womb in the presence of him who was adored in the womb, the forerunner and future forerunner in the presence of him who has already come and is to come again. I ought to be baptized by you: we should also add, "and for you," for John is to be baptized in blood, washed clean like Peter, not only by the washing of his feet.

Jesus rises from the waters; the world rises with him. The heavens like Paradise with its flaming sword, closed by Adam for himself and his descendants, are rent open. The Spirit comes to him as to an equal, bearing witness to his Godhead. A voice bears witness to him from heaven, his place of origin. The Spirit descends in bodily form like the dove that so long ago announced the ending of the flood and so gives honor to the body that is one with God.

Today let us do honor to Christ's baptism and celebrate this feast in holiness. Be cleansed entirely and continue to be cleansed. Nothing gives such pleasure to God as the conversion and salvation of men, for whom his every word and every revelation exist. He wants you to become a living force for all mankind, lights shining in the world. You are to be radiant lights as you stand beside Christ, the great light, bathed in the glory of him who is the light of heaven. You are to enjoy more and more the pure and

dazzling light of the Trinity, as now you have received—though not in its fullness—a ray of its splendor, proceeding from the one God, in Christ Jesus our Lord, to whom be glory and power for ever and ever. Amen.

† From the Detailed Rules for Monks by Saint Basil the Great, bishop — *The ability to love is within each of us*

Love of God is not something that we can be taught. We did not learn from someone else how to rejoice in light or want to live, or to love our parents or guardians. It is the same, perhaps even more so, with our love for God: it does not come by another's teaching. As soon as the living creature (that is, man) comes to be, a power of reason is implanted in us like a seed, containing within it the ability and the need to love. When the school of God's law admits this power of reason, it cultivates it diligently, skillfully nurtures it, and with God's help brings it to perfection.

For this reason, as by God's gift, I find you with the zeal necessary to attain this end, and you on your part help me with your prayers. I will try to fan into flame the spark of divine love that is hidden within you, as far as I am able through the power of the Holy Spirit.

First, let me say that we have already received from God the ability to fulfill all his commands. We have then no reason to resent them, as if something beyond our capacity were being asked of us. We have no reason either to be angry, as if we had to pay back more than we had received. When we use this ability in a right and fitting way, we lead a life of virtue and holiness. But if we misuse it, we fall into sin.

This is the definition of sin: the misuse of powers given us by God for doing good, a use contrary to God's commandments. On the other hand, the virtue that God asks of us is the use of the same powers based on a good conscience in accordance with God's command.

Since this is so, we can say the same about love. Since we received a command to love God, we possess from the first moment of our existence an

innate power and ability to love. The proof of this is not to be sought outside ourselves, but each one can learn this from himself and in himself. It is natural for us to want things that are good and pleasing to the eye, even though at first different things seem beautiful and good to different people. In the same way, we love what is related to us or near to us, though we have not been taught to do so, and we spontaneously feel well disposed to our benefactors.

What, I ask, is more wonderful than the beauty of God? What thought is more pleasing and satisfying than God's majesty? What desire is as urgent and overpowering as the desire implanted by God in a soul that is completely purified of sin and cries out in its love: I am wounded by love? The radiance of the divine beauty is altogether beyond the power of words to describe.



SAT., JANUARY 10

4:30 + Charlie Grant — Peg Kennedy

SUN., JANUARY 11

7:00 + Rob Ferri — The Ferri Family

8:30 St. Mary Parish

11:00 + Erberto Frieri (15th Anniv.) — Children

MON., JANUARY 12

9:00 + Patricia Egan — Bob & Arlene Leonard

TUES., JANUARY 13

9:00 + Eugenio Scucchi — Fulvio & Elide Tramontina e Famiglie

WED., JANUARY 14

9:00 + Richard McEvoy — The Paris Family

THURS., JANUARY 15

9:00 + Rudolph Luechinger — Susan & David Mallonee

FRI., JANUARY 16

9:00 + Charlie Grant — Carol Roth

SAT., JANUARY 17

9:00 + Donald & Anna Marie Kenny — Drury Family

4:30 + Donald Wakeman — The Wakeman Family

SUN., JANUARY 18

7:00 + Jaga Misra — Patrick Simonelli

8:30 + Ben Cuttitta — The Viebrock Family

11:00 St. Mary Parish



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, January 11

9:30am Faith Formation Classes

12:15pm Pre Baptism Class

12:30pm OCIA

6:00pm United Youth

Monday, January 12

8:20am Rosary

Tuesday, January 13

8:20am Rosary

4:30pm Faith Formation Classes

Wednesday, January 14

8:20am Rosary

Thursday, January 15

8:20am Rosary

4:30pm Faith Formation Classes

Friday, January 16

8:20am Rosary

Saturday, January 17

8:20am Rosary

9:00am Confirmation Retreat

9:00am Reconciliation Retreat

9:30pm Confirmation Sponsor Meeting

3:00pm Adoration

3:00pm Confessions

January 18

9:30am Faith Formation Classes

12:15pm Pre Baptism Class

12:30pm OCIA

6:00pm United Youth





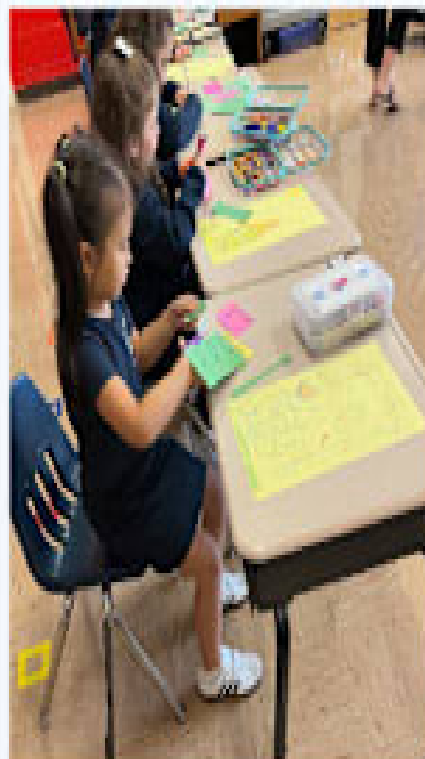
**Saint
Mary
SCHOOL**

FAITH • FAMILY • ACADEMICS

JOIN US FOR OPEN HOUSE

Wednesday, January 21, 2026

6:00 - 7:30 pm



**Experience all that St. Mary School
has to offer. Meet our faculty, staff,
student and parent ambassadors.**

**Click [here](#) to register or for
questions, please contact
admissions@stmarybethelct.org**

**Saint Mary School
24 Dodgingtown Road Bethel, CT
203-744-2922**

AROUND THE PARISH

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.



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 clicking the Faith Formation tab online on website.

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.

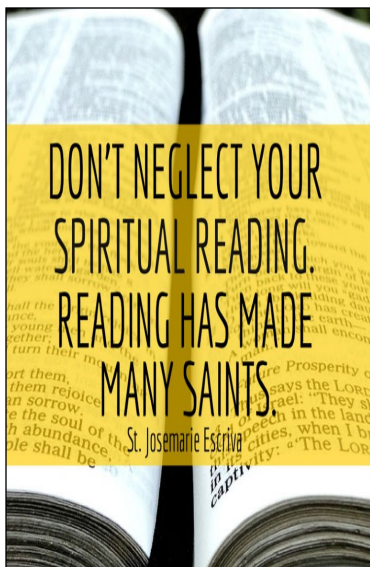
ST. MARY CHRISTMAS GIVING PROGRAM

Thank you to all who donated to our St. Mary Christmas Program. Because of the overwhelming generosity of our Parish, so many children and families will be blessed with gifts under the tree this Christmas. We are so grateful for our Parish Community and your kindness and giving spirit. Merry Christmas! "It's not how much we give, but how much love we put into giving." -Mother Teresa

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 Parish

Book Club

All Adults Welcome!

Please see the Church bulletin for monthly meeting announcements.

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

Epiphany House Blessing



Using blessed chalk, mark the current year and the initials of the Magi above the outside doorways to your home. Place a cross in between each of the letters. The Epiphany door blessing includes symbols for all 3 kings who visited Baby Jesus, plus the numbers of the current year. The "20" is for the first 2 numbers of the year, the 3 letters are the first initial of each king (Caspar, Melchior, and Balthasar), and the last 2 numbers are the last half of the year. The "C, M, B" also stands for the Latin blessing *Christus mansionem benedicat* which means "Christ bless this house". on top of every door in the house. It should look something like this.

20+C+M+B+26

After completing the above markings, pray the following prayer:

May all who come to our home this year rejoice to find Christ living among us; and may we seek and serve, in everyone we meet, that same Jesus who is Lord of all people forever and ever. Amen.

We will have blessed chalk available in the vestibule of the Church.



**HOLY FAMILY
PASSIONIST
RETREAT CENTER**

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

THEMED RETREAT: Pilgrims of Hope Men's Retreat

March 6-8th 2026 Pilgrims of Hope Men's Retreat at Holy Family Passionist Retreat Center - 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.

**merry
christmas**
AND HAPPY NEW YEAR

FROM
**UNITED YOUTH
MINISTRY**

SERVING ST ROSE | ST JOSEPH | ST MARY

rortega@ctunitedyouth.com

St Mary's
Bethel

**CROSS
ROADS**

HAPPY NEW YEAR

7th & 8th Graders

FAITH | COMMUNITY | FUN

email: stmarycrossroads@gmail.com

St Mary Parish Vocation Ministry

Oh, come Holy Spirit! We joyfully invite you to ignite our hearts with love, virtue, and grace as we support Catholic vocations in our parishes! Let's lift up in prayer and encouragement those who have embraced their calling and accompany those still discerning their path. Together, let us multiply the number of practicing Catholics, sacramental marriages, and vibrant holy families, all contributing to the growth of our Church, the consecrated and the ordained! May our faith deepen as we listen attentively for Your direction, courageously saying yes and going in haste to answer your call, just as our Blessed Mother did on the day of the annunciation.

Mary, Mother of God and St Serra pray for us!

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.

The Andy McGann Comhaltas branch and the Danbury LAOH are presenting their annual **MASS TO HONOR ST. BRIGID** on Saturday, January 31st at 11 am at St. Peter's R.C. Church, 104 Main Street in Danbury, CT. Music and readings will be in Irish and English. There will be a reception hosted by the Danbury LAOH in the parish hall with light refreshments following the Mass. All are invited to attend!

BROTHERHOOD IN ACTION Thank you for your generous support of the Brotherhood in Action Thanksgiving and Christmas food drive. 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 a 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!!



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.

A NOTE OF GRATITUDE FROM OFF THE STREETS

On behalf of Off The Streets I would like to thank all St. Mary's Parish supporters to express our sincere gratitude for the outpouring of support in the form of furniture and financial donations. It is deeply appreciated and will undoubtedly contribute to moving more people in need Off The Streets!

Furthermore, for those parishioners interested in acquiring more detailed information regarding the impact of these contributions or in seeking opportunities to further assist opportunities, avenues for communication have been provided. Interested parties are invited to contact Mike via text message at 203-249-3586 or, alternatively, to access additional details through the QR code provided.



This Week on Formed

Week of January 11, 2026



Reborn

Reborn explores the deeply personal power of Baptism, bringing to light the spiritual reality for parents and godparents and, most importantly, the child being baptized. Rendered with a cinematic beauty that's become the hallmark of the Augustine Institute's film productions, Reborn presents the foundation of the Church's teaching on Baptism, with a step-by-step explanation of the rite itself, including its profound place in Scripture and Tradition.



The Desert Fathers (Part 1) | Littlest Saints

In this special two-part episode, we follow the stories of three famous desert fathers—St. Anthony the Great, St. Macarius, and St. John the Dwarf—as they navigate the perils of the desert in search of its great spiritual riches.



The Desert Fathers (Part 2) | Littlest Saints

In this special two-part episode, we follow the stories of three famous desert fathers—St. Anthony the Great, St. Macarius, and St. John the Dwarf—as they navigate the perils of the desert in search of its great spiritual riches.

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 JANUARY

For prayer with the word of God Let us pray that praying with the word of God be nourishment for our lives and a source of hope in our communities, helping us to build a more fraternal and missionary Church.



Sun.: Is 42:1-4, 6-7 or Is 55:1-11 or Acts 10:34-38 or 1 Jn 5:1-9 Ps 29:1-2, 3-4, 3, 9-10 or Is 12:2-3, 4bcd, 5-6 Acts 10:34-38 Mt 3:13-17

Mon.: 1 Sm 1:1-8 Ps 116:12-13, 14-17, 18-19 Mk 1:14-20

Tues.: 1 Sm 1:9-20 1 Sm 2:1, 4-5, 6-7, 8abcd Mk 1:21-28

Wed.: 1 Sm 3:1-10, 19-20 Ps 40:2 and 5, 7-8a, 8b-9, 10 Mk 1:29-39

Thu.: 1 Sm 4:1-11 Ps 44:10-11, 14-15, 24-25 Mk 1:40-45

Fri.: 1 Sm 8:4-7, 10-22a Ps 89:16-17, 18-19 Mk 2:1-12

Sat.: 1 Sm 9:1-4, 17-19; 10:1 Ps 21:2-3, 4-5, 6-7 Mk 2:13-17

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



The December Issue of *The Bridge* Is Here!

The Diocese of Bridgeport's monthly newsletter is now available — filled with Bishop Caggiano's Advent message, ways to live the season well, upcoming events, opportunities to serve, and inspiring programs happening across our diocese.

Scan the QR code to read the full issue and stay connected to all the good happening in our diocesan family. Or visit: <https://simplebooklet.com/thebridgedecember2025>

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!



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](https://www.facebook.com/Pavia48)!

Our next meeting is Mon., Jan. 12 at 7pm.

Offertory for Christmas 2025

Collection: \$49,824.00 Online Giving: \$2,733.00

Offertory for Christmas 2024

Collection: \$22,136.00 Online Giving: \$2,325.00

Offertory for the Weekend of December 27/28, 2025

Collection: \$11,949.00 On-Line Giving: \$4,267.00

Offertory the Weekend of December 28/29, 2024

Collection: \$9,957.00 On-Line Giving: \$4,553.00

Offertory for the Weekend of January 3/4, 2026

Collection: \$8,850.00 On-Line Giving: \$7,788.00

Offertory for the Weekend of January 4/5, 2025

Collection: \$7,684.00 On-Line Giving: \$4,199.00

Thank you for your generosity!

PRAYER FOR THE NEW YEAR

Lord God, Creator of new beginnings, please help me start this New Year with a clear vision of Your purpose. Help me establish strong and healthy rhythms that set the pace for the rest of the year. When I'm tempted to look back to better days, remind me that You are preparing a bright and beautiful future for me. With You, I cannot fail. Thank You, Lord, for leading me in strength and wisdom this New Year.

In Jesus' name, 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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