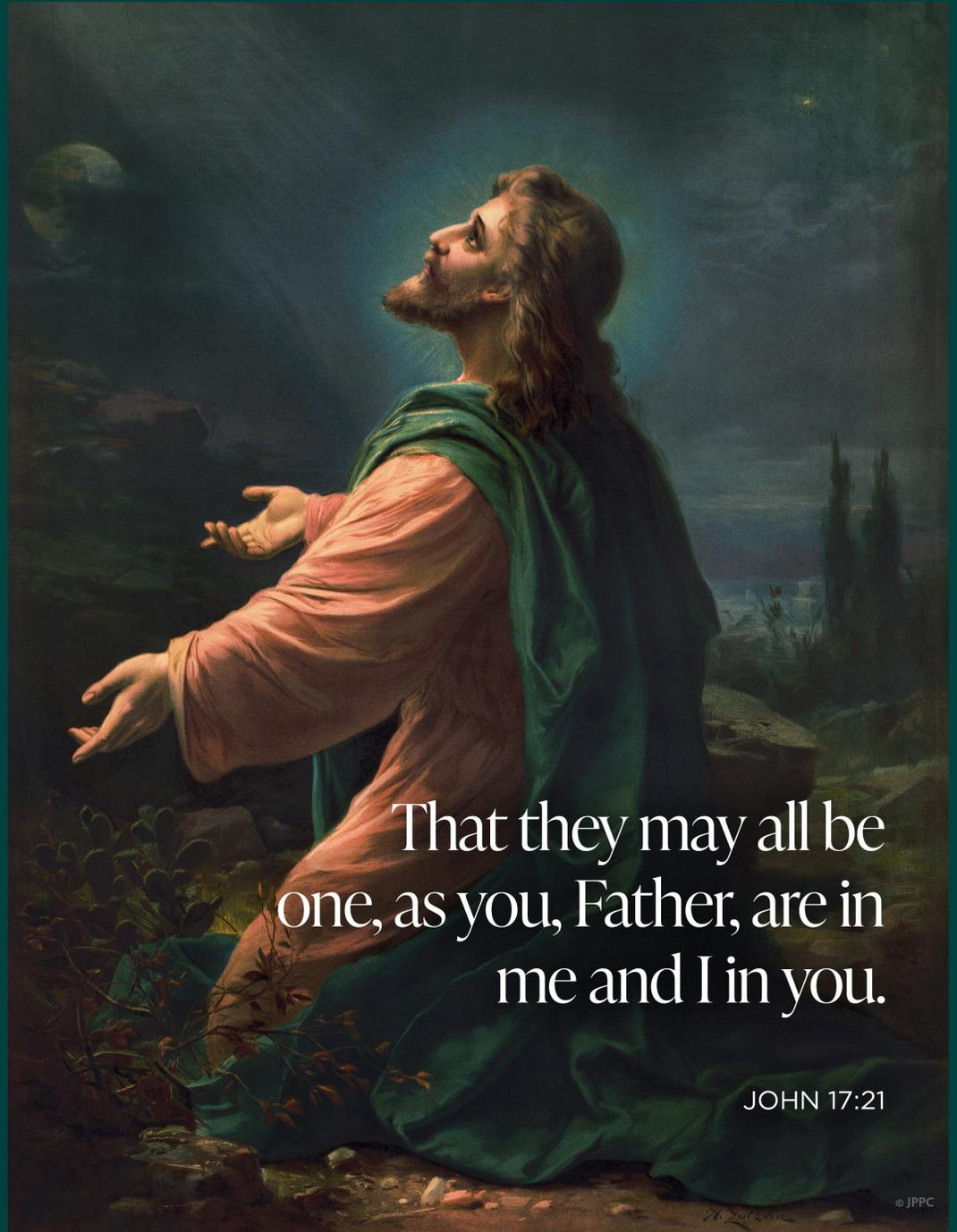


# Saint Mary Parish

SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

JUNE 1, 2025



That they may all be  
one, as you, Father, are in  
me and I in you.

JOHN 17:21

© JPPC

26 Dodgingtown Road, Bethel, CT 06801

Phone: (203)744-5777

Website: [www.stmarybethel.org](http://www.stmarybethel.org) Email: [stmaryoffice@comcast.net](mailto:stmaryoffice@comcast.net)

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

PARISH SUMMER OFFICE HOURS:

9am –1:00 pm, Mon. – Closed on Fridays

(Closed Weekends and Holidays)

## FATHER COBEY'S EPISTLE

† **From a sermon by Saint Augustine, bishop —**  
***No one has ever ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven***

Today our Lord Jesus Christ ascended into heaven; let our hearts ascend with him. Listen to the words of the Apostle: If you have risen with Christ, set your hearts on the things that are above where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God; seek the things that are above, not the things that are on earth. For just as he remained with us even after his ascension, so we too are already in heaven with him, even though what is promised us has not yet been fulfilled in our bodies.

Christ is now exalted above the heavens, but he still suffers on earth all the pain that we, the members of his body, have to bear. He showed this when he cried out from above: Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me? and when he said: I was hungry and you gave me food.

Why do we on earth not strive to find rest with him in heaven even now, through the faith, hope and love that unites us to him? While in heaven he is also with us; and we while on earth are with him. He is here with us by his divinity, his power and his love. We cannot be in heaven, as he is on earth, by divinity, but in him, we can be there by love.

He did not leave heaven when he came down to us; nor did he withdraw from us when he went up again into heaven. The fact that he was in heaven even while he was on earth is borne out by his own statement: No one has ever ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man, who is in heaven.

These words are explained by our oneness with Christ, for he is our head and we are his body. No one ascended into heaven except Christ because we also are Christ: he is the Son of Man by his union with us, and we by our union with him are the sons of God. So the Apostle says: Just as the human body, which has many members, is a unity, because all the different members make one body, so is it also with Christ. He too has many members, but one body.

Out of compassion for us he descended from heaven, and although he ascended alone, we also ascend, because we are in him by grace. Thus, no one but Christ descended and no one but Christ ascended; not because there is no distinction between the head and the body, but because the body as a unity cannot be separated from the head.

† **From the Confessions of Saint Augustine, bishop —**  
***Our heart is restless until it rests in you***

You are great, Lord, and worthy of our highest praise; your power is great and there is no limit to your wisdom. Man, a tiny part of your creation, wishes to praise you. Though he bears about him his mortality, the evidence of his sin and the evidence that you resist the proud, yet this man, a tiny part of your creation, wishes to praise you. It is you who move man to delight in your praise. For you have made us for yourself, and our heart is restless until it rests in you.

Lord, help me to know and understand which is the soul's first movement, to call upon you for help or to praise you; or if it must first know you before it can call upon you. But if someone does not know you, how can he call upon you? For, not knowing you, he might call upon someone else instead of you. Or must you first be called upon in order to be known? But Scripture says: Unless they believe in him, how shall they call upon him. And how shall they believe unless someone preaches to them?

Those who seek the Lord will praise him. Seeking the Lord they will find him, and finding him they will praise him. Lord, let me seek you by calling upon you, and let me call upon you believing in you, for you have been preached to us. Lord, my faith calls upon you, the faith you have given me, the faith you have inspired in me by the incarnation of your Son and through the ministry of your preacher.

How shall I call upon my God, my Lord and my God? For when I call upon him, I am really calling him into myself. Where within me can my God come? How can God who made heaven and earth come into me? Lord my God, is there anything in me that can

## FATHER COREY'S EPISTLE

contain you? Can heaven and earth, which you have made and in which you have made me, contain you? Or is it true that whatever exists contains you since without you nothing would exist?

Since I do indeed exist and yet would not exist unless you were in me, why do I ask you to come to me? I am not now in hell, yet you are there. For the psalmist says: If I descend into hell you are there. Therefore, my God, I would not exist at all, unless you were in me; or rather, I would not exist unless I were in you from whom and by whom and in whom all things exist. Yes, Lord, it is so. To what place do I call you to come, since I am in you? Or from what place are you to come to me? Where can I go beyond the bounds of heaven and earth, that my God may come to me, for he has said: I fill heaven and earth?

Who will help me to find rest in you? Who will send you into my heart to inebriate it, so that I will forget my evil ways and embrace you, my only good? What are you to me? Have mercy on me, that I may speak. What am I to you that you command me to love you, and grow angry and threaten me with terrible punishment if I do not" Is it then a small sorrow not to love you?

In your mercy, Lord my God, tell me what you are to me. Say to my soul, I am your salvation. So speak that I may hear you. The ears of my heart are turned to you, Lord; open them and say to my soul: I am your salvation. I will run after your voice and I will lay hold of you. Do not hide your face from me. Let me see your face even if I die, for if I see it not, I shall die of longing.



## 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., MAY 31

4:30 + Paul Livornese — Wife Lucille

### SUN., June 1

7:00 + Jeanne Clarke — Family

8:30 + Mary Legnard — The DeRoin Family

+ Patricia Miles — Peter & Veronica Barra

+ Louis Anthony — Rosalie & Paul DeMarco

+ Richard Schlemmer — The Nelson Family

+ Caleb & Danae Youket — The Folan Family

+ Joseph Fontana — The Folan Family

+ Eugene Kelly — The Folan Family

+ Gene McCrory — The Folan Family

+ Charlie Grant — The DiMatteo Family

+ Waldemar Miniewicz — Family

+ Steve Oldham — Bob & Deb Nelson

+ John Hill — The DeRoin Family

11:00 + Salvatore Alongi — The Alongi Family

### MON., JUNE 2

9:00 + Eulita Balocos — Helen

### TUES., JUNE 3

9:00 + Thomas Materazo — The Drury Family

### WED., JUNE 4

9:00 + Bill Scollon — Wife

### THU., JUNE 5

9:00 + Mark Grunert — Pat & John Grunert, parents

### FRI., JUNE 6

9:00 + Eleanor Bruckmann — The Kallberg Family

### SAT., JUNE 7

9:00 + Carlo Mazzoli Taic — Fulvio & Elide Tramontina

4:30 + George Aiello — John & Susan Geier

### SUN., June 8

7:00 + Gloria Lucas

8:30 + Vincenzo Conte — Todd & Debra Smith

11:00 + Helen Hyland — The Ruhl Family



## AROUND THE PARISH

Because of the lack of attendance, **FIRST SUNDAY ADORATION** will be discontinued for the summer and will be revisited in the Fall. Saturday Adoration at 3pm will continue.

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 **June 14**. 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 **YOUNG ADULT** group (ages 21-35) meets every 3rd Thursday of the month. Look them up on Instagram at avemarie1882.

The **ST. MARY ADULT CHOIR** practices in Father McGivney 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 **ST. MARY YOUTH CHOIR** sings once a month and rehearse every Wednesday from 5-6pm in Father McGivney Hall. For more info contact Leanna Hinger at YouthChoir.StMary@gmail.com.

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 BOOK GROUP** welcomes all adults! "Spiritual reading has made many saints" (St. Josemaria Escriva). Our next book is A Song for Nagasaki: The Story of Takashi Nagai by Paul Glynn, S.M. Read about the inspiring life of this Japanese scientist, Catholic convert, and survivor of the atomic bomb, who was named a Servant of God in 2021. We will meet on **June 4 at 7 pm** in the Quiet Room. You can listen to the audiobook on the Hallow app and on Formed. You can borrow a copy with your Library card through a special interlibrary loan request using FindItCT.org. Or you can purchase a copy online from Ignatius Press or Amazon.

## WEEK AT A GLANCE

### Sunday, June 1

12:15pm Pre Baptism Class  
(Father McGivney Hall)

### Monday, June 2

8:20am Rosary

### Tuesday, June 3

8:20am Rosary

6:00pm 8th Grade St. Mary School Graduation

### Wednesday, June 4

8:20am Rosary

5:00pm Children's Choir Practice  
(Father McGivney Hall)

7:00pm Adult Choir Practice  
(Father McGivney Hall)

### Thursday, June 5

8:20am Rosary

### Friday, June 6

8:20am Rosary

6:30 Missionaries of the Family  
(Notre Dame Center)

### Saturday, June 7

8:20am Rosary

3:00pm Adoration

3:00pm Confessions

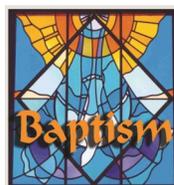
### Sunday, June 8

12:15pm Baptism



*The flowers on the altar this week were donated in memory of Thomas Materazo from the Drury Family*

## God Bless those recently Baptized



Lincoln James Tomaszewicz  
Amelia Correale  
Bodhi Noel Pirraglia Kavanagh  
Andrew Paul Milan  
Samuel Jakoboski

### Offertory for the Weekend of May 17/18, 2025

Collection: \$7,796.00 On-Line Giving: \$4,416.00

### Offertory for the Weekend of May 18/19, 2024

Collection: \$7,041.00 On-Line Giving: \$4,556.00

*Thank you for your generosity!*

**• 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 Religious Education**  
**24 Dodgingtown Road**  
**Bethel, CT 06801**  
**203-743-4557**

**stmarybethelreliqed@gmail.com**  
**stmarybethel.org**



**CROSS  
 ROADS**

Monthly Regular Meetings  
 Community Service Opportunities  
 Retreats and Other Events

Email [StMaryCrossroads@gmail.com](mailto:StMaryCrossroads@gmail.com) to get on  
 the email list for upcoming event schedule

Middle School Ages

FAITH | COMMUNITY | FUN



**RCIA**  
 RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS

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 rediscover, the truth, wonder and mystery of our Catholic faith! The RCIA program prepares you to be received as members of the Catholic Church. Our new sessions are **from 12:30-2:00pm in Father McGivney Hall** beginning in September and every Sunday thereafter.

If you are interested in participating or learning more about the RCIA program, call (203)744-5777 or email Deacon Eric Keener at [dnkeen-er@diobpt.org](mailto:dnkeen-er@diobpt.org).

**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

**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](mailto:kentmaggie@sbcglobal.net). Your name will be added to the email chain. Thank you!

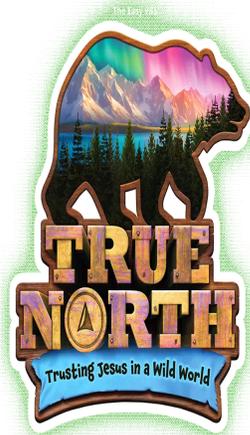


Mother Cabrini Shrine  
Met Cloisters  
Dinner

# PILGRIMAGE

JUNE 28TH  
DEPARTING 11:00AM  
PRICING TO FOLLOW

## Join us for St. Mary Vacation Bible School



June 23-27, 2025

9:00-11:45

St. Mary Parish Hall

\$55.00

Ages 3-10

Child \_\_\_\_\_

Age \_\_\_\_\_ Gender \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

Parent email \_\_\_\_\_

Allergies, medical condition or special need \_\_\_\_\_

In case of Emergency, contact \_\_\_\_\_

Phone number \_\_\_\_\_

For more info contact Mary Ferri 203 743 4557 or  
faithformation@stmarybethel.org

I understand that neither St. Mary Church,  
nor any of its employees or volunteers is responsible for any injury sustained  
by my child. I accept full responsibility for any medical expenses as a result  
of any such injury sustained.

Parent/Guardians \_\_\_\_\_

(Signature)



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](http://www.osvonlinegiving.com/994)

or

[www.stmarybethel.org](http://www.stmarybethel.org) and click on the online giving link

### THE POPE'S INTENTIONS FOR THE MONTH OF JUNE

**That the world might grow in compassion** Let us pray that each one of us might find consolation in a personal relationship with Jesus, and from his Heart, learn to have compassion on the world.

# St. Mary School

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

## REGISTRATION FOR 2025-2026 SCHOOL YEAR IS NOW OPEN

We are now accepting applications for PreK-- Grade 8. Please visit our website at [www.stmarybethelct.org](http://www.stmarybethelct.org) and click on "Apply Now". We do anticipate waitlists in many grades so please apply as soon as possible. If you have any questions, please contact Geraldine Henn, Enrollment Director at [admissions@stmarybethelct.org](mailto:admissions@stmarybethelct.org) or call 203-744-2922.

Please visit us on FACEBOOK ("St. Mary School, Bethel"), INSTAGRAM ("stmaryschoolbethel"), and TWITTER (@SaintMaryBethel) to see photos and news of the latest happenings at SMS!



The Knights of Columbus are looking for Catholic men of faith to help in our mission of charitable works to support St. Mary Parish and the greater Bethel community. If you're at least 18 years of age, we invite you to join us! To watch a video about what we do, see the link or QR code below.

<https://youtu.be/D4NLkqr54I>

To contact us, call our Grand Knight Lang Reese at 410-693-6795 or email us at [gkofpavia@gmail.com](mailto:gkofpavia@gmail.com)



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS  
PAVIA COUNCIL 48



MALTA HOUSE  
HOPE FOR LIFE



## Bottles for Change

Collect your change and return between Mothers Day and Fathers Day to the collection box after mass to Support Malta House

ST. MARGUERITE BOURGEOYS & ST. MARIANNE COPE PARISHES

# SHRINES OF FRANCE

OCTOBER 7 - OCTOBER 17, 2025

### HIGHLIGHTS:

- NOTRE DAME CATHEDRAL
- SACRE-COEUR
- CHAPEL OF OUR LADY OF THE MIRACULOUS MEDAL
- BASILICA OF ST. THÉRÈSE
- PARIS, LYON, NEVERS, LOURDES



**FEBRUARY 11, 6PM**

INFORMATION

MEETING

ST. MARGUERITE HALL

collette

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

VISIT [HTTPS://GATEWAY.GOCOLLETTE.COM/LINK/1297239](https://gateway.gocollette.com/link/1297239) OR CONTACT MARY ELLEN AT [MARYELLENTIERNAN@ICLOUD.COM](mailto:MARYELLENTIERNAN@ICLOUD.COM) OR 845.600.5425

## Prayer for Strength for the Day

“As I begin my day, I turn to You, Lord, and ask for strength. Be my rock whenever the day shakes me. Guide me through the day as I navigate choppy waters that might come my way. Empower me to speak up when I need to, even if my voice shakes. Help me to feel tall in situations that make me small. Be the light that empowers me in darkness. Most of all, help me feel Your loving embrace this day and all days.

Amen.”

## AROUND THE DIOCESE

**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 of furniture or household goods so that we can continue to move people Off The Streets! 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](mailto:otsdanburymr@gmail.com) with any questions you may have or scan the code for a list of items we can accept.



**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!!

**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](mailto: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](mailto:cescalante@maltahouse.org).

### 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.

### NEW DAY BEREAVEMENT PROGRAM SPRING SESSION REGISTRATION NOW OPEN

Thursday afternoons 2:00 – 3:30pm  
March 27 – May 29

Your loss may be recent or long ago.

We are here to help you on your journey to healing where you are invited to share your story, and to find comfort in a supportive, confidential environment.

God will support you in your sorrow, and He will walk with you as you begin your journey through loss to healing.

Meetings take place in a small-group confidential setting, at:  
St. Marguerite Bourgeoys Church  
138 Candlewood Lake Road  
Brookfield, CT

and are led by trained bereavement facilitators. There is no charge. Please go to the following website to submit a Program Inquiry Form or you can contact Carolyn Killian at 203-404-0023.

[Ctcemeteries.org/newday](http://Ctcemeteries.org/newday)

Once the form is submitted, you will hear from one of our bereavement ministers regarding the next steps.



### SERVING OUR COMMUNITY

Supporting the Bishop's Appeal unites us as One in Christ to help the needy and most vulnerable, providing supportive services that enable families to rise out of poverty, overcome barriers and achieve self-sufficiency and independence.

MAKE YOUR GIFT TODAY!

[www.2025BishopsAppeal.org](http://www.2025BishopsAppeal.org)

To support this important ministry and work in our Diocese, please consider making your gift to the Bishop's Appeal today! Visit: [www.2025BishopsAppeal.org](http://www.2025BishopsAppeal.org)



Sun.: Acts 15:1-2, 22-29 Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8 Rv 21:10-14, 22-23 Jn 14:23-29

Mon.: Acts 19:1-8 Ps 68:2-3ab, 4-5acd, 6-7ab Jn 16:29-33

Tues.: Acts 20:17-27 Ps 68:10-11, 20-21 Jn 17:1-11a

Wed.: Acts 20:28-38 Ps 68:29-30, 33-35a, 35bc-36ab Jn 17:11b-19

Thu: Acts 22:30; 23:6-11 Ps 16:1-2a and 5, 7-8, 9-10, 11 Jn 17:20-26

Fri.: Acts 25:13b-21 Ps 103:1-2, 11-12, 19-20ab Jn 21:15-19

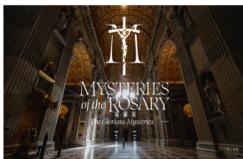
Sat.: Acts 28:16-20, 30-31 Ps 11:4, 5 and 7 Jn 21:20-25

Sun.: Acts 2:1-11 Ps 104:1, 24, 29-30, 31, 34 1 Cor 12:3b-7, 12-13 or Rom 8:8-17/ Jn 20:19-23 or Jn 14:15-16, 23b-26



## This Week on Formed

Week of June 01, 2025



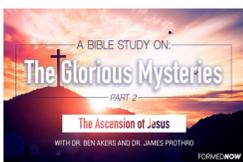
### The Glorious Mysteries of the Rosary

Enter into the Glorious Mysteries of the Rosary like never before with this incredible series from Paradisus Dei.



### The Ascension | Sacred Art

Join Dr. Ben Akers and Taylor Kemp to expand your knowledge of sacred art. In this episode on Formed, they discuss The Ascension of Christ by Jacopo Tintoretto.



### A Bible Study on the Glorious Mysteries: The Ascension

Join Dr. Ben Akers and professors from the Augustine Institute Graduate School as they walk through the Glorious Mysteries of the Rosary through the lens of Sacred Scripture.

Our parish has a Formed subscription. Visit [signup.formed.org](http://signup.formed.org) and select our parish name.

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

**ST. MARY SCHOOL (744-2922)** Scott Smith, *Principal*  
**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (743-4557)** Mary Ferri, *Director*  
 Maggie Kent, *Secretary*

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

**UNITED YOUTH MINISTRY** ☎ ☎\*☎☎ ☎☎☎ ☎☎  
**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](http://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](mailto: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.

# 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 dnkeener@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. Lang Reese gkofpavia@gmail.com

**Ave Maria - Young Adults** Where card games, Wii Tournaments, 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 homebound 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** 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** 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