

Saint Mary Parish

June 28, 2026

Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary
Time

Whoever does not take up his cross
and follow me is not worthy of me.

Matthew 10:38



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 SUMMER HOURS:

9am –1:30 pm, Mon. – Thurs., closed Fri-
day.

(Closed Weekends and Holidays)

STAFF Father Corey V. Piccinino, *Pastor , Vicar for Clergy & Religious for the Diocese of Bridgeport*
Father Andrew LaFleur, *Parochial Vicar*
Father Milan Dimic, *Resident*
Deacon John DeRoin
Deacon Eric Keener
Kate Fitzgerald, *Bulletin Editor*
Carolyn Schlichtig, *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

† The first beatifications of Pope Leo XIV's pontificate took place on May 17 in the cathedral in Chambéry. Below are some of the ones included:

- The fifth of eleven children of a French statesman and scholar, **Father Camille Costa de Beauregard** (1841-1910) abandoned the practice of the faith briefly in his late teenage years, until he was inexplicably drawn to enter Chambéry's cathedral—at which point, he was given the grace to return to the practice of the faith and the grace of a priestly vocation (Dicastery for the Causes of Saints, Salesian Bulletin).

Ordained a diocesan priest in 1866, he refused an invitation to enter the Vatican diplomatic service and instead devoted himself to the care of orphans whose parents died in a cholera epidemic. As the number of orphans in the area grew, he founded an orphanage where students received education and voca-



tional training. He twice refused invitations to become a bishop and remained the orphanage's director until his death.

Pope St. John Paul II declared Father Costa venerable in 1991. The miracle that paved the way for his beatification, as recounted by the dicastery, took place the autumn after Father Costa's death, when a boy at the orphanage threw burrs into a ten-year-old classmate's eye. The eye became inflamed, and despite the care of an ophthalmologist,

the vision in the eye grew steadily worse. A nun bandaged a relic to the boy's eye, and after nine days, the eye was completely healed.

At the conclusion of his May 18 papal installation Mass, Pope Leo hailed Blessed Costa as a "witness of great pastoral charity."

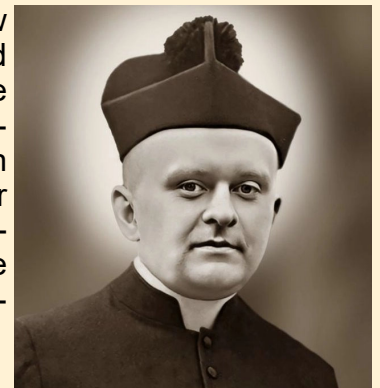
- On May 24, **Father Stanisław Streich** was beatified as a martyr outside the cathedral basilica in Poznań, Poland (video).

Born in 1902 and ordained to the priesthood in 1925, Streich became pastor of a parish in Luboń, Poland, in 1935. "Here he undertook the construction of a new church

and dedicated himself with great commitment to pastoral care, creating catechesis and prayer groups for children, young people, and adults," the dicastery recounted. "He did much to help workers, the unemployed and needy families, from whatever social and political background. This industriousness of his was frowned upon by the followers of Communist ideology."

Streich persisted in his ministry despite threatening letters and the desecration of his church. In 1938, five days before his martyrdom, his Communist assassin was seen entering the confessional, and the priest left the confessional visibly upset. He was shot to death during Mass the following Sunday. Twenty thousand people attended his funeral.

Blessed Stanisław Streich was "killed in hatred of the faith in 1938 because his work on behalf of the poor and workers irritated followers of the Communist ideology,"



Pope Leo said the day after the beatification Mass. "May his example inspire priests in particular to give themselves generously in the service of the Gospel and their brothers and sisters."

Mass Intentions

SAT., JUNE 27

4:30 + Jennifer Ponzoni — The Wakeman Family

SUN., JUNE 28

7:00 + Phyllis Ponzoni — The Wakeman Family

8:30 + Julianne & Jack MacGregor — The MacGregor Family

11:00 Saint Mary Parish

MON., JUNE 29

9:00 + Beverly O'Connor — Mary Ferri

TUES., JUNE 30

9:00 + Lorraine Valentini — Susan & David Mallonee

WED., JULY 1

9:00 + Dorothy & James McCabe—The McCabe Family

THURS., JULY 2

9:00 + Dorothy & James McCabe—The McCabe Family

FRI., JULY 3

9:00 + Rosalie DeMarco — Gladys & Len Ackley

SAT., JULY 4

9:00 + Edward McElroy — The Charno Family

4:30 For a Blessed Nation

SUN., JULY 5

7:00 For St. Mary Parish

8:30 + Patricia Ackerman — Ellen McShane

11:00 + Patricia Neylon — The Dolan 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, June 28

12:15pm Baptisms

2:30pm Men's Cursillo

6:00pm United Youth

Monday, June 29

7:00pm Knights of Columbus

Tuesday, June 30

Wednesday, July 1

Thursday, July 2

6:30pm Bible Study

Friday, July 3

Saturday, July 4

3:00pm Confessions

3:00pm Adoration

Sunday, July 5

12:15pm Baptism Class

2:30pm Men's Cursillo

6:00pm United Youth



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

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 **July 11**. 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** rehearses every Wednesday from 5-6pm in the Parish Hall. For more info, contact Leanna Hinger at youth-choir.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).

ST. MARY BOOK GROUP welcomes all adults! "Spiritual reading has made many saints" (St. Josemaria Escriva). NEW time, NEW place! Read and talk about the timeless Christian classic, The Screwtape Letters by C.S. Lewis. The book is readily available through interlibrary loan and from online booksellers. Many Catholic commentators have recommended it as a must-read; and there's a lot of Catholic commentary published about it. We will meet on Wednesday July 29 at 6:00 pm in the Notre Dame Center.

Are you a Catholic woman seeking a closer relationship with Christ? If so, prayerfully consider attending a **3-DAY RETREAT** at Graymoor in Garrison, NY, September 17-20, 2026. Many St. Mary Parish women have already attended! This fulfilling experience is offered by our Diocese's Cursillo Community. For information, please email cur-sillonews.fairfieldcounty@gmail.com or call Susan at 203-733-1269.

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.

SAVE THE DATE: On Sunday afternoon, September 13 from 2-4pm, we will have a 40th Ordination Anniversary Party for Father Corey at Bennett Park in Bethel. There will be food and refreshments and entertainment to celebrate the years of dedication and service to the people of our diocese!

St. Mary Religious Education

24 Dodgingtown Road

Bethel, CT 06801

203-743-4557



stmarybethelrelied@gmail.com

stmarybethel.org

Registration forms for the 2026/37 year have gone out in the mail for current families. You can find online registration on our website [@stmarybethel.org](http://stmarybethel.org).

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.



God Bless those recently Baptized

Lucia Estelle Vazques

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



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.

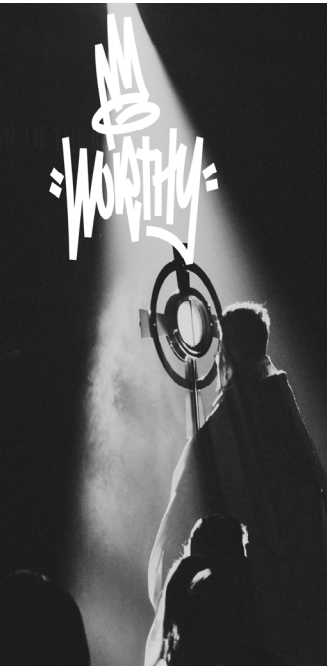
Offertory for the Weekend of June 20/21, 2026

Collection: \$7,406.00 On-Line Giving: \$5,147 .00

Offertory for the Weekend of June 22/23, 2025

Collection: \$8,857.00 On-Line Giving: \$4,381.00

Thank you for your generosity!



STUEBENVILLE YOUTH CONFERENCE

JULY 10-12, 2026

Inviting high schoolers into a life-changing encounter with Christ!

Registration now open!

An overnight weekend retreat on the campus of Franciscan University in Steubenville, Ohio.

steubenvilleconferences.com/mc3

I N F O R M A T I O N



Open to teens entering high school in the fall of 2026 through 2026 graduates

Cost: \$300 (for teens belonging to United parishes St. Rose, St. Mary Bethel, St. Joseph Brookfield) | \$350 (for non-United)

youth@strosechurch.com



St. Mary Church
26 Dodgingtown Road
Bethel, CT 06801

We Stand with Christ Phase II

I/We pledge/gift \$1,000.00

I/We pledge/gift \$500.00

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.

☐ Over Ten Months

☐ One Time

☐ Over Ten Months

☐ One Time

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!

Look out for your raffle tickets coming in the mail soon!

2026 PARISH RAFFLE

1st PRIZE: \$20,000 American Express Gift Card

2nd PRIZE: \$6,000 American Express Gift Card

3rd PRIZE: \$4,000 American Express Gift Card

4th PRIZE: \$1,000 AMEX Gift Card

5th PRIZE: \$1,000 AMEX Gift Card

6th PRIZE: \$1,000 AMEX Gift Card

7th PRIZE: \$1,000 AMEX Gift Card

8th PRIZE: \$1,000 AMEX Gift Card

9th PRIZE: \$1,000 AMEX Gift Card

10th PRIZE: \$1,000 AMEX Gift Card

11th PRIZE: \$1,000 AMEX Gift Card

12th PRIZE: \$1,000 AMEX Gift Card

13th PRIZE: \$1,000 AMEX Gift Card

thirteen (13) prizes to be awarded; totaling \$40,000.00

Tickets are \$25 each

-Extra tickets available at the parish office-

DRAWING:

August 15, 2026 at 11pm

Streamed LIVE at www.parishraffle.com

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.

The winner of the June SMS 10 Month Club Raffle has been selected and notified - the winner is Treishana H. of Bethel. This concludes the drawings of the 10 Month club winners for the 2025-2026 school year.



VACATIONERS - If you are visiting other areas and would like information regarding Churches in that area, you may either call 1-800-Mass-Times or visit the website [www. Masstimes.org](http://www.Masstimes.org).

Celebrate Priesthood This Father's Day



This Father's Day, we honor the men who have devoted their lives to Christ and His Church.

Msgr. Edward Surwilo – 61 years of priestly service, bringing comfort, guidance, and presence to families in Stamford. Even in retirement, he continues to serve, celebrating Mass, funerals, and supporting parish ministries.

Fr. James Grosso – Former pastor of St. Leo Parish, whose decades of ministry brought joy, faith formation, and pastoral care to generations of parishioners. In retirement, he continues to celebrate the sacraments and accompany the faithful.



Their lives remind us of the importance of priestly vocations and the ongoing support they need. The Bishop's Appeal makes this possible by caring for priests, assisting retired clergy, and supporting the formation of future priests.

Give today to honor priesthood and ensure the next generation of priests is formed in faith and service. Visit: 2026BishopsAppeal.org



The Knights of Columbus are a Catholic fraternal service order founded by Blessed Michael McGivney in 1882. We support the principles of Charity, Unity, Fraternity & Patriotism in the Parishes of St. Mary Bethel, St. Patrick Redding & nearby communities. Charity is the first principle of the Knights of Columbus, and we are Catholic men of charitable action. If you're at least 18 years of age, we invite you to join us. Our meetings are held every second and fourth Monday at 7pm in Father McGivney Hall.

To contact us, call Alan Gambino at (203)910-3733 or Email us at gkofpavia@gmail.com

To watch a video about what we do, use the link or QR code below.

<https://youtu.be/mqkfLnpZwhl>



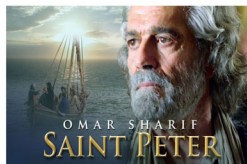
This Week on Formed

Week of June 28, 2026



Pier Giorgio Frassati: If I Didn't Have Love

This is a classic Italian film that celebrates the life of Blessed Pier Giorgio Frassati (1901-1925), re-released in honor of his 2025 canonization. Frassati was a joyful, athletic young man from a wealthy Italian family who gave his life in service to the poor, the sick, and the marginalized as a powerful witness of Christian charity. An avid mountain climber and leader in Catholic youth and social action, he died of polio at 24, leaving a lasting legacy of faith and joy.



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.



Paul the Apostle | The Bible Collection

The church's greatest enemy became Christ's most prolific messenger. Beautifully shot in the Moroccan desert, Paul the Apostle is a sweeping saga of the man who brought the Gospel to the Western world.

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

An offering from the  AUGUSTINE INSTITUTE



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!!

Change Lives on a Couple Saturday Mornings with Off The Streets !

Would you consider giving 2-3 hours on a Saturday morning of your choice to help deliver or collect furnishings or household items? Your help means that we can say "Yes!" to an individual or family who needs basic furnishings for their new home! We call these deliveries Moves. They begin at 10:00 AM each Saturday from Prime Storage in Danbury, and typically take about two hours. Tasks include helping to move everyday household items, and such apartment sized pieces as mattresses, end tables, chairs, single dressers, & loveseats.

Using only volunteers, Off The Streets helps those experiencing homelessness who are referred by local social services, and have a way to pay rent going forward. We help fund security deposits, and provide basic apartment sized furniture to help create a comfortable home. Most Saturdays, we help individuals or families to make a fresh start.

We really need YOU! You can help as an individual, a family, an organization or a business. Please, would you give it a try? We also have a number of other volunteer opportunities that do not include all the heavy lifting.

Ask any OTS volunteer – it's a blessing to do this work. It's perfect for families with teens too! If you would like to volunteer or learn more than you can contact Mike Roberts at 203-249-3586.



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.



THE POPE'S INTENTIONS FOR THE MONTH OF JULY

For respect for human life *Let us pray for the respect and protection of human life in all its stages, recognizing it as a gift from God.*



Sun.: 2 Kgs 4:8-11, 14-16a Ps 89:2-3, 16-17, 18-19 Rom 6:3-4, 8-11 Mt 10:37-42

Mon.: Acts 12:1-11 Ps 34:2-3, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9 2 Tm 4:6-8, 17-18 Mt 16:13-19

Tues.: Am 3:1-8; 4:11-12 Ps 5:4b-6a, 6b-7, 8 Mt 8:23-27

Wed.: Am 5:14-15, 21-24 Ps 50:7, 8-9, 10-11, 12-13, 16bc-17 Mt 8:28-34

Thu.: Am 7:10-17 Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 11 Mt 9:1-8

Fri.: Eph 2:19-22 Ps 117:1bc-2 Jn 20:24-29

Sat.: Am 9:11-15 Ps 85:9 and 10, 11-12, 13-14 Mt 9:14-17

Sun.: Zec 9:9-10 Ps 145:1-2, 8-9, 10-11, 13-14 Rom 8:9, 11-13 Mt 11:25-30

Diocese of Bridgeport Project Rachel Ministry – Jesus Keeps on Loving You, No Matter What

"As we approach Lent, please allow me to speak to all who carry the unbearable sadness and guilt of an abortion experience. Be assured that Jesus keeps on loving you, no matter what. I pray that God plants a seed of hope in every heart that is overwhelmed by sadness and despair from participation in abortion. This Lent, the Lord's mercy awaits you. Allow Him to heal you and lift your sadness into joy." – Bishop Daniel E. Thomas, Chairman, USCCB Committee on Pro-Life Activities.

The Diocese of Bridgeport's Project Rachel Ministry is here to help you. For confidential assistance or information on upcoming events, please contact Maureen at 203-416-1619 or projectrachel@diobpt.org. There is hope after abortion.

MALTA HOUSE is the only transitional living program in the state of Connecticut where a mom can stay with her baby for long-term support and a "hand-up" as she journeys to independence and hope. We need your help... Since opening our doors in 1998, we have welcomed over 700 mothers and babies to our home. But we're not done yet. We are always looking for new volunteers to join our team! Please consider volunteering with us and making a difference in the lives of mothers and babies. If you are interested in lending your skills and sharing your heart with our moms and babies, please contact Claudia Escalante at cescalante@maltahouse.org.

Pilgrimage to Our Lady of Guadalupe with Bishop Caggiano, Fr. Joseph-Anthony Kress, and Molly & Chris McMahon

Plus an unforgettable trip to the Sisters of Mary Girlstown

October 9-12, 2026

A Journey of Faith & Joy: Guadalupe to Girlstown

- Encounter the miraculous image of Our Lady of Guadalupe
- Walk up Tepeyac Hill, where the Blessed Mother appeared to St. Juan Diego in 1531
- Attend Daily Mass
- Come to Intimately Know a Future American Saint Venerable Aloysius Schwartz
- Witness how the Sisters of Mary are transforming the lives of poor children through education, faith formation, and vocational skills training



ACT FAST!
Limited Space
Register Today!



Most Reverend Frank J. Caggiano,
Bishop of the Diocese of Bridgeport



Reverend Joseph-Anthony Kress,
O.P.,
Promoter of the Rosary &
Co-host of Godsplaining



Molly & Chris McMahon,
Founders of Catholics at the
Shore

EASY WAYS TO REGISTER

<https://worldvillages.org/events/caggiano>



SCAN to register online or
Call our office Mon-Fri 8AM-4PM EDT
1 (800) 662-6316

Consecration of the United States to the Sacred Heart of Jesus

Most Sacred Heart of Jesus:

You know the longings of our hearts, and you desire that we enjoy friendship with you.

From your pierced side, you have poured out the wellspring of life, for which we thirst.

Your heart burns with a love for all people to return to a right relationship with you.

We celebrate the abundant gifts you have given this nation, founded on the self-evident truths that our Creator has endowed all people with the right to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.

We make reparation for the offenses against you and against human dignity that have taken place in this nation.

May our hearts be united to yours, so that our families and communities enjoy peace and happiness; may broken relationships be reconciled, injustices repaired, and the wounds of our land be healed.

May your holy Catholic Church serve as a sign, pointing all people to your infinite love.

O Desire of Nations and Center of History, we ask you to bless these United States of America.

Who live and reign with God the Father in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, have mercy on us!
Immaculate Heart of Mary, pray for us!



Do you have questions of faith as you journey with chronic illness?

Are you a caregiver who seeks comfort in prayer?

Do you feel distanced from Jesus in your struggle with ongoing pain?

Are you wondering, "Why me, God?"



ST. MARY CHURCH

WELCOMES

The Peace in the Storm Project

A ministry of accompaniment for caregivers and persons with chronic illness or ongoing pain.

St. Mary Church is delighted to announce its participation in *The Peace in the Storm Project* at our parish with a small, faith-sharing group for persons living with chronic illness, pain, and other health challenges. Through regular meetings, participants will have the opportunity to reflect on scripture, the sacraments of the Catholic Church, prayer, and fellowship, using the devotional, *Peace in the Storm: Meditations on Chronic Pain and Illness*, Discussion Guides and other resources provided through *The Peace in the Storm Project*

We will have a meeting on Wednesday, July 15 from 5:30 - 6:30 at the Notre Dame Center.

If you are interested in joining the *Peace in the Storm* group or for more information, please contact: rectoryoffice@stmarybethel.org and leave your name and phone number and someone will contact you.

For more information:
www.thepeaceinthestormproject.com

The Peace in the Storm Project offers resources and support in the Catholic tradition for faith communities to accompany caregivers and persons with chronic illness, pain, and other life challenges so that all may grow in faith, fellowship, and enthusiasm for God's abiding love and peace. *The Peace in the Storm Project* is a nonprofit organization, IRC Section 501(c)(3), EIN 99-4026336.

www.thepeaceinthestormproject.com

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. Rectory Office (203) 744 - 5777

Eucharistic Minister Assist in the distribution of Holy Communion on weekdays and Sundays. Rectory Office (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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