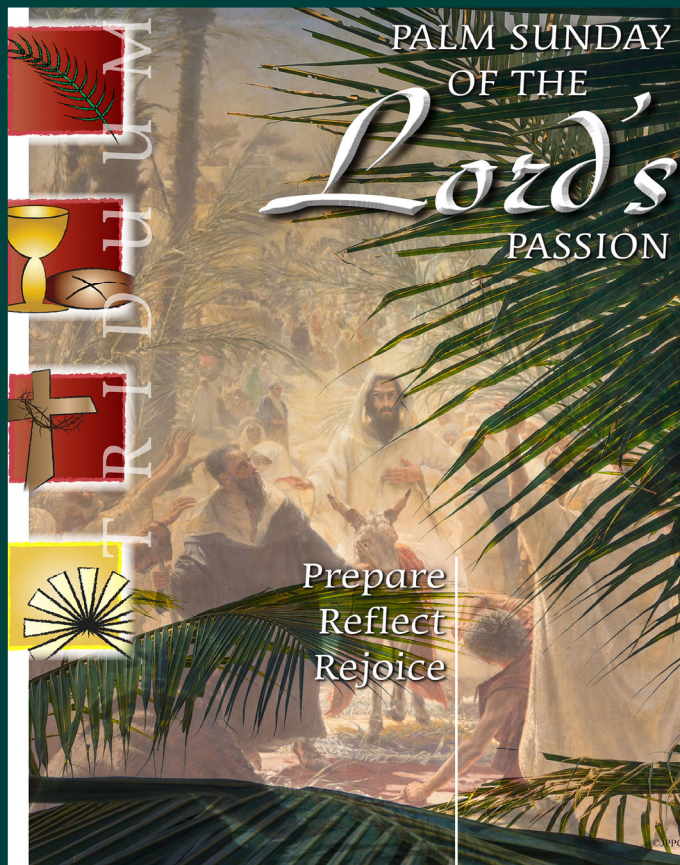


Saint Mary Parish

March 29, 2026

Palm Sunday of the Passion of
the Lord



26 Dodgingtown Road, Bethel, CT 06801

Phone: (203)744-5777

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

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

PARISH OFFICE HOURS:

9am –1:30 pm, Mon. – Fri.

(Closed Weekends and Holidays)

STAFF Father Corey V. Piccinino, *Pastor*
Father Andrew LaFleur, *Parochial Vicar*
Father Milan Dimic, *Resident*
Deacon John DeRoin
Deacon Eric Keener
Kate Fitzgerald, *Bulletin Editor*
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.

FROM FATHER COREY

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



St. Mary Church
26 Dodgingtown Road
Bethel, CT 06801

We Stand with Christ Phase II

I/We pledge/gift \$1,000.00

☐ Over Ten Months

☐ One Time

I/We pledge/gift \$500.00

☐ Over Ten Months

☐ One Time

Name: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____ ☐ Please send me monthly reminders

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

Mass Intentions

SAT., MARCH 28

4:30 + Michael O'Connor — Mary Ferri

SUN., MARCH 29

7:00 + Hugo Greco — Maria & Paul Shanley

8:30 St. Mary Parish

11:00 + Thomas Neylon, Jr. & John T. Dolan — The Dolan Family

MON., MARCH 30

9:00 + John Phelan Sr. — Tom Doonan & Family

TUES., MARCH 31

9:00 + Mary B. Elias — The Morton Family

WED., APRIL 1

9:00 + Emil B. Ravenda, Jr. — Wife & Family

THURS., APRIL 2

7:00pm Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper

FRI., APRIL 3

3:00pm Good Friday of the Passion of the Lord

SAT., APRIL 4

8:00pm The Great Vigil of Easter

SUN., APRIL 5

5:45 Sunrise Mass at Blue Jay Orchard (Weather Permitting)

7:00 St. Mary Parish

8:30 St. Mary Parish

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, March 29

9:30am Faith Formation Classes

12:15pm Baptism

12:30pm OCIA

2:30pm Men's Team Cursillo

6:00pm United Youth

Monday, March 30

8:20am Rosary

Tuesday, March 31

8:20am Rosary

Wednesday, April 1

8:20am Rosary

Thursday, April 2

8:20am Rosary

Friday, April 3

8:20am Rosary

7:00pm Stations of the Cross

Saturday, April 4

8:20am Rosary

10am Easter Egg Hunt

12noon Blessing of the Easter Food

3:00pm Confessions

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

**EUCHARISTIC
Adoration**



The Parish Office will be closed for Easter from Thursday, April 2 through Monday, April 6. We will reopen on Tuesday, April 7. Happy Easter!

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.

ST. MARY BOOK GROUP welcomes all adults! "Spiritual reading has made many saints" (St. Josemaria Escriva). We are taking a different approach this time: readers can choose the book...as long as it's about St. Gemma Galgani! You can purchase books online from Catholic booksellers like tanbooks.com and catholiccompany.com; or read about her for free online at us.archive.org. There also is a website stgemmaalgani.com devoted to this Saint. We will meet on Wednesday May 6 at 7 pm in the Quiet Room.

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 **April 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** is in full swing and is looking for new members in grades 2 and up. They sing once a month and rehearse every Wednesday from 5-6pm in the Parish Hall. For more info, contact Leanna Hinger at youthchoir.st.mary@gmail.com.

The **St. Mary ADULT CHOIR** practices in the Parish Hall on Wednesday evenings from 7:00-9pm. If you are interested in being part of our Parish Choir, please call the Parish Office.

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

If you would like to dedicate **ALTAR FLOWERS** in memory of a loved one at weekend Masses, call the Parish Office at (203)744-5777. Donation would be \$150 and your loved one's name will appear in the bulletin. If you would like the

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

THE POPE'S INTENTIONS FOR THE MONTH OF MARCH

For disarmament and peace Let us pray that nations move toward effective disarmament, particularly nuclear disarmament, and that world leaders choose the path of dialogue and diplomacy instead of violence.

Lent



PENANCE: Saturdays from 3-4pm

STATIONS OF THE CROSS: Fridays at 7:00pm

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



Days of ABSTINENCE (no meat): Fridays of Lent

Offertory for the Weekend of March 21/22, 2026

Collection: \$8,347.00 On-Line Giving: \$4,582.00

Offertory for the Weekend of March 22/23, 2025

Collection: \$6,270.00 On-Line Giving: \$4,429.00

Thank you for your generosity!



PALM SUNDAY (April 13)

Masses are celebrated on: Sat. evening (March 28) at 4:30pm, and Sun. (March 29) at 7:00am, 8:30am, & 11:00am

CONFESSIONS

(last opportunity before the Triduum)

Monday, March 30: 9:30 — 10:00am

Tuesday, March 31: 5:00 — 6:00pm

Wednesday, April 1: 7:00 — 8:00pm

There will also be Confession Day on Monday, March 30 from 3-9pm at St. Joseph (Brookfield) & Saint Peter (Danbury).

DAILY MASSES:

(Mon., Tues., & Wed.) 9am

HOLY THURSDAY (April 2)

10:00am — Chrism Mass at St. Augustine Cathedral in Bridgeport

7:00pm — Mass of the Lord's Supper followed by Adoration until 11:00pm

GOOD FRIDAY (April 3)

12:00noon — Ecumenical Way of the Cross — 227 Greenwood Ave, Bethel

3:00pm — Friday of the Passion of the Lord

7:00pm — Stations of the Cross

(Day of FAST and ABSTINENCE — no eating between meals and no meat.)

HOLY SATURDAY (April 4)

12:00n — Blessing of Easter Food (Father McGivney Hall)

(No 4:30pm Mass)

8:00pm — The Great Vigil of Easter

EASTER SUNDAY (April 5)

Masses are celebrated at: 5:45am Sunrise Mass at Blue Jay Orchards (weather permitting — bring a seat & flashlight), 7:00am, 8:30am, & 11:00am in the Church.

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY (April 12)

Masses are celebrated on Sat. evening at 4:30pm and on Sun. at 7:00am, 8:30am, & 11:00am

3:00pm — Holy Hour including Song, Adoration and the Divine Mercy Chaplet in the Church



As we enter Holy Week, we walk with Christ on the path of His Passion, remembering His profound love and ultimate sacrifice for us.

This sacred week invites us to renew our hearts, deepen our prayer, and recommit ourselves to living as true disciples. Through the 2026 Bishop's Appeal, our diocesan family continues Christ's mission, supporting those in need, forming future priests and leaders, caring for the vulnerable, and strengthening Catholic faith and education across Fairfield County.

Your generosity becomes a living expression of the Gospel, bringing Christ's love to others just as He poured Himself out for us.

May this Holy Week draw us closer to the Lord and to one another as we walk together as One in Christ. To participate in the Bishop's Appeal, please visit 2026BishopsAppeal.org

#2026BishopsAppeal #DioceseofBridgeport
#OneinChrist #HolyWeek



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

Faith Formation classes have resumed. Registration is ongoing.

All children must attend Mass each week. There, the child must fill out the Mass Attendance slip available in the vestibule of the Church. The child then puts the slip in the in the collection basket.

You can register for the 2025/26 school year by

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



Saint Mary Parish	
2026 Bishop's Appeal as of 3/20/26	
Bishop's Appeal Goal:	\$142,500
Total Pledged:	\$40,026 (28%)
Donors to Date:	104 Donors
	
To make a gift, or for more information, please visit us at 2026BishopsAppeal.org , call (203) 416-1470 or scan with your phone.	

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

THEMED RETREAT: Pilgrims of Hope

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



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

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

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

For more info call Mary Ferri — 203 743 4557 (Women's Retreat)

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.



Do you want to grow in your faith? Connect with other women? Explore ways that the wisdom of Scripture can help us cope with the challenges of

modern life?

St. Mary Church offers Walking with Purpose, a Bible study for women. With over 600 parishes participating, Walking with Purpose has helped more than 70,000 women deepen their relationship with Christ!

Why not join us this spring at St. Mary's? If you've never participated before, it's easy to jump in! No Bible study experience is necessary, and there's no pressure to attend every meeting.

Morning and evening groups begin on Tuesday, April 7. We meet in the Father McGivney Church Hall.

Evening Group at 7 pm: We are continuing Discovering Our Dignity - A Study of Women of the Bible. Tuesdays, April 7, 14, 21, 28, May 5, 12, 19, 26, June 2.

Morning Group at 9:30 am: We are following A Study of 2 Timothy - Passionate Discipleship. Tuesdays, April 7, 14, 21, 28, May 5, 12, 19, 26.

Please register by Tuesday, March 17 to allow enough time for us to order books and assign tables.

TO REGISTER FOR THE MORNING OR EVENING GROUP, Call 203-300-1486 . YOU DO NOT NEED TO ATTEND EVERY SESSION! JUST COME WHEN YOU CAN!

Questions? Contact Caroline LaFleur: Phone: 203-300-1486 or Email: la_fleur@sbcglobal.net We look forward to seeing past participants and meeting new ones!

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY

Divine Mercy Sunday was declared by St. Pope John Paul II in the year 2000 to be celebrated on the Second Sunday of Easter each year. The celebration is based upon the words of Jesus, who appeared several times to a Polish nun (now declared a saint) named Faustina Kowalska. He spoke to her about His love and mercy for all persons. In several of His messages to St. Faustina, Jesus described His desire for a special day dedicated to His Mercy. Pope Francis is encouraging the faithful to know the face of God's mercy — Jesus Christ Incarnate — and to show that face of mercy to the world through our words and actions.



Jesus I Trust in You

On this day, you may be granted a plenary indulgence* if you:

1 go to confession

2 receive Holy Communion

3 pray for the pope's intentions



take part in the prayers and devotions held in honour of Divine Mercy in any church or chapel

OR

4 recite the Our Father, the Creed and a devout prayer to the merciful Lord Jesus in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament

Join us on

SUNDAY, APRIL 12

at 3pm in the Church

for a Holy Hour including Song, Adoration and the Divine Mercy Chaplet

* THE REMISSION OF TEMPORAL PUNISHMENT DUE FOR SINS WHICH HAVE ALREADY BEEN FORGIVEN

• 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.

formed™
Forming Catholics for Life.

This Week on Formed

Week of March 29, 2026



Triduum: A Spiritual Pilgrimage

Triduum: A Spiritual Pilgrimage cinematically walks through the locations of the Holy Week story, representing the most important days of human history. Immersed in the Holy Land, the pilgrim is brought tangibly nearer to the story, the landscape, and the reality of the Passion, Death, and Resurrection of Jesus Christ.



The Last Days: The Passion and Death of Jesus the Christ w/ Jonathan Roumie

This filmed presentation of the theatrical production movingly recreates the final moments of Jesus' earthly ministry as a teacher through His crucifixion and death. The play has been seen by thousands worldwide, not only as a live performance but also in live streams and televised broadcasts.



Understanding Palm Sunday

Focusing on the Biblical account of Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem, Dr. Tim Gray and Dr. Ben Akers break open the meaning of why Jesus rode on a donkey, the significance of the palm branches and the singing of Hosanna, and how this event launched Holy Week and the redemption of the world.

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

An offering from the  AUGUSTINE INSTITUTE

CROSS ROADS

Monthly Regular Meetings
Community Service Opportunities
Retreats and Other Events

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

Middle School Ages

FAITH | COMMUNITY | FUN



STAUENVILLE 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



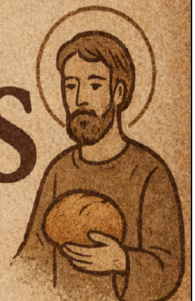
INFORMATION

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

COOKING WITH THE SAINTS



APRIL 11

MAY 9

JUNE 6

9:00 - 10:30

PARISH HALL

\$15.00 FOR ALL SESSIONS





Sun.: Mt 21:1-11 or Is 50:4-7 Ps 22:8-9, 17-18, 19-20, 23-24 Phil 2:6-11 Mt 26:14—27:66 or 27:11-54

Mon.: Is 42:1-7 Ps 27:1, 2, 3, 13-14 Jn 12:1-11

Tues.: Is 49:1-6 Ps 71:1-2, 3-4a, 5ab-6ab, 15 and 17 Jn 13:21-33, 36-38

Wed.: Is 50:4-9a Ps 69:8-10, 21-22, 31 and 33-34 Mt 26:14-25

Thu: Ex 12:1-8, 11-14 Ps 116:12-13, 15-16bc, 17-18. 1 Cor 11:23-26 Jn 13:1-15

Fri.: Is 52:13 — 53:12 Ps 31:2, 6, 12-13, 15-16, 17, 25 Heb 4:14-16; 5:7-9 Jn 18:1-19:42

Sat.: Gen 1:1—2:2 or Gen 1:1, 26-31a Ps 104:1-2, 5-6, 10, 12, 13-14, 24, 35 or Ps 33:4-5, 6-7, 12-13, 20 and 22 Gen 22:1-18 or Gen 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18 Mt 28:1-10

Sun.: Acts 10:34a, 37-43 Ps 118:1-2, 16-17, 22-23 Col 3:1-4 or 1 Cor 5:6b-8 Jn 20:1-9 or Mt 28:1-10



**Knights of
Columbus®**

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

Our next meeting is Mon., March 23 at 7pm.



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!!

Prayer for Holy Week

Lord, let everything I do in the coming Holy Week be inspired by You.

Help me to remember that nothing is important in my life unless it glorifies You in some way. It's so easy to get caught up in the day to day of my life.

Help me to enter fully into your Passion through my Lenten promises and always be reminded that You went to the desert, the garden and the cross for me.

Amen.

GOOD FRIDAY STATIONS OF THE CROSS BETHEL, CT

Begin the Walk at Molten Java
213 Greenwood Ave, Bethel, CT.

Friday, April 3, 12 Noon

Light Lunch to Follow at First Church Bethel, UCC



Sponsored by:
First Congregational Church of Bethel, UCC
Bethel United Methodist Church
St. Mary's Parish
St. Thomas Episcopal Church
Walnut Hill Community Church

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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