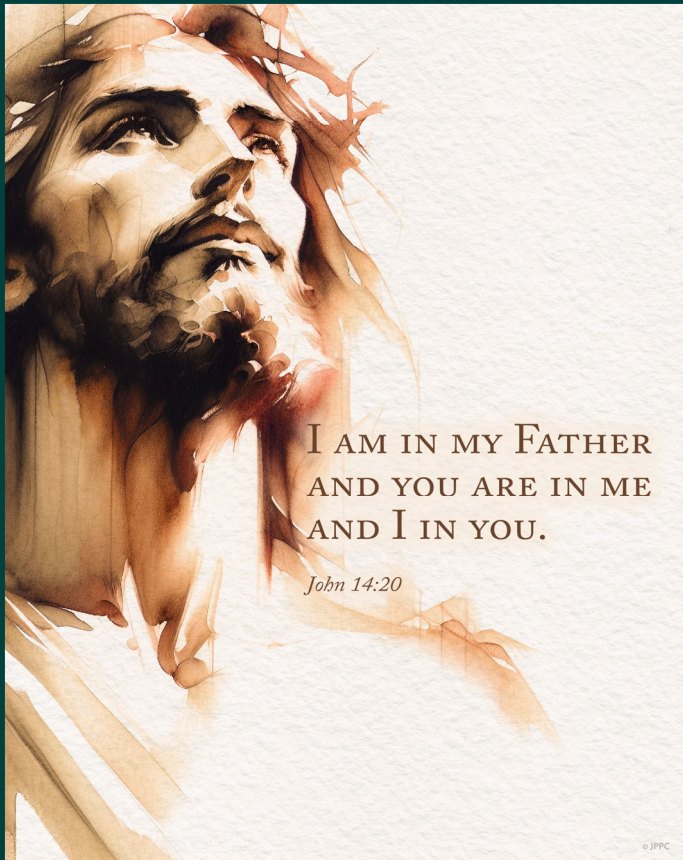


# Saint Mary Parish

May 10, 2026

Sixth Sunday of Easter



I AM IN MY FATHER  
AND YOU ARE IN ME  
AND I IN YOU.

*John 14:20*

26 Dodgingtown Road, Bethel, CT 06801

Phone: (203)744-5777

Website: [www.stmarybethel.org](http://www.stmarybethel.org) Email:  
[rectoryoffice@stmarybethel.org](mailto: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](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.

## FATHER COREY'S EPISTLE

† How often have you met a young adult and thought “Wow, they are so holy”... or looked to them as an inspiration and example for your own faith?

Teens and young adults, especially those in high school or college, are notoriously stereotyped as the opposite of saintly, but there are multiple righteous examples of young Catholics who lived short lives of adventure and holiness. The world might make you think that you have to choose between the fun of being youthful or the sacredness of faith. On the contrary! The two go hand-in-hand.

Prayer, sacraments, and living a holy life not only enhance your life at any age, but they also build your faith so that obstacles, suffering, and other hardships become a part of the adventure—sometimes even to the point where you're able to joke and laugh through them.

These blessed young people are prime examples of how every Catholic can use their enthusiasm to live life to the fullest for Christ—no matter how short the life.

### ***Blessed Chiara Luce Badano's contagious smile and redemptive suffering***

An Italian couple prayed for eleven years for a child before the birth of their daughter, Chiara. She grew up a very loving and considerate girl through the guidance of her parents, joined the Focolare movement (a movement dedicated to the unity of all people), attended daily Mass, and loved climbing mountains. Chiara Luce was graced with beauty and had many friends. One day, while playing tennis, she noticed pain which led to her diagnosis of very serious bone cancer.

Through her experience, others saw the redemptive value of suffering. Her eyes held a bright joy noticed by the many visitors to her hospital room, including her medical team and Cardinal Saldarini. One doctor commented, “Through her smile, and through her eyes full of light, she showed us that death doesn't exist; only life exists.” She offered her suffering to Jesus for the sake of God's will, whether it was the loss of her hair or walking the hallways with another patient despite a painful growth on her spine. She even frequently refused morphine, “I want to share as much as possible in His suffering on the cross.”

Eventually, she was paralyzed and died at eighteen years old in 1990. She gave everything to others — entrusting her life's savings to a missionary friend and even donating the cornea of her brilliant eyes. She had not asked for her illness, but she received it with a faithful love that trusted God with her life. Even as she lay bedridden and facing death, she still insisted on loving others, and as a further testament to love, she asked to be buried in a wedding gown.

boy named Andrea Bartole miraculously recovered from

Her cause for beatification was advanced when young terminal case of meningitis. His parents had prayed for Chiara's intercession, and a panel of doctors determined there was no medical explanation for the event. Chiara was beatified on September 25, 2010. She is often quoted as saying, “I have nothing left, but I still have my heart, and with that I can always love.”

Bl. Chiara Luce Badano, pray that we see the redemption in our sufferings by uniting them with Jesus's suffering on the cross and trusting God's Will!

### ***Blessed Miguel Pro's pranks, wit, and disguises***

When it comes to having fun and being faithful to Christ, one could say that Miguel Pro is, well, a “pro” at it.

Miguel Pro often joked himself into near-death accidents while growing up. Rather than pursue wealth in his father's successful business or marry one of many adorners, Miguel Pro realized his vocation soon after his older sister entered a cloistered convent. Joining the Jesuits in 1909, Miguel Pro traveled through multiple countries while training for the priesthood after a revolution in his native Mexico forced the Society of Jesus to flee the country. He was ordained in 1925 in Belgium, and returned to Mexico the following year. Only twenty-three days later, President Calles banned all public worship and ordered the arrest of all priests.

Fr. Pro took advantage of his little-known status as a priest and celebrated sacraments for the people in disguise as a businessman, taxi driver, beggar, or policeman. He gave everything he could to others, remarking, “As a rule my purse is as dry as Calles's soul, but it isn't worth worrying since the Procurator of Heaven is generous.” The tales of his adventures during his short time as a priest are endless.

In 1927, Fr. Pro was wrongly accused of a bombing attack on Calles, earning him a death sentence via firing squad when he was only 36. Calles hoped that many Catholics would lose spirit with Fr. Pro's death. Instead, Fr. Pro forgave those about to shoot him, refused to be blindfolded, extended his hands like Christ crucified, and shouted, “Viva Cristo Rey!” During his life, he had promised to do the Mexican hat dance in heaven if he met “long-faced saints.” Needless to say, the spirits of Mexican Catholics were not dimmed, but rather were set ablaze by his assassination.

His death was a gift, not a tragedy: “I see God's hand so palpably in everything that almost, almost, I fear they won't kill me in these adventures. That will be a fiasco for me who sighs to go to heaven and start tossing off arpeggios on the guitar with my guardian angel.”

***Blessed Miguel Pro, pray for us that we may be as courageous and creative as you in serving the Lord even if faced with a firing squad.***



# Mass Intentions

**SAT., MAY 9**

4:30 St. Mary Parish

**SUN., MAY 10**

7:00 + Laura O'Donnell — Dave & Mary Fancher  
 8:30 + Florence & James Santos — Don & Anna Marie Santos  
 11:00 + Elsa Neylon & Jeanne Dolan — The Dolan Family

**MON., MAY 11**

9:00 + Michael Shanley (11th Anniv.) — Mom &amp; Dad

**TUES., MAY 12**

9:00 + Robert Bruckmann — The Morton Family

**WED., MAY 13**

9:00 + Diane Avesato — The DeMarco Family  
 5:30 + Mary Schlichtig — Family

**THURS., MAY 14**

9:00 + Marco Bauco — The Wakeman Family  
 7:00 + Souls in Purgatory

**FRI., MAY 15**

9:00 + Joan Rotunda — Peter &amp; Roseanne Dardis

**SAT., MAY 16**

9:00 + Mary Schlichtig — The Folan Family  
 4:30 + Joy Yacano  
 + Loretta Kunicki  
 + Martha Kamp  
 + David Sullivan7

**SUN., MAY 10**

7:00 St. Mary Parish  
 8:30 + Josephine & Erberto Frieri — Children  
 11:00 + Catherine Fisher — The Ruhl Family

**Mass Schedule**Monday-Friday

9:00am

Saturday

9:00am &amp; 4:30pm (Vigil Mass)

Sunday

7:00am, 8:30am, &amp; 11:00am

**Reconciliation**

Saturdays 3:00-4:00pm

**WEEK AT A GLANCE****Sunday, May 10**

12:15pm Baptism

2:30pm Men's Cursillo

6:00pm United Youth

**Monday, May 11**

7:00pm Knights of Columbus

**Tuesday, May 12**

9:30am Women of Faith

3:30pm New Day Bereavement

4:30pm Faith Formation Classes

7:00pm Women of Faith

**Wednesday, May 13**

6:00pm St. Mary School Carnival

**Thursday, May 14**

6:00pm St. Mary School Carnival

6:30pm Bible Study

**Friday, May 15**

6:00pm St. Mary School Carnival

**Saturday, May 16**

4:00pm St. Mary School Carnival

3:00pm Confessions

3:00pm Adoration

**Sunday, May 17**

12:15pm Baptism

2:30pm Men's Cursillo

4:00pm St. Mary School Carnival

6:00pm United Youth

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

**EUCCHARISTIC  
 Adoration**

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.

## AROUND THE PARISH



**Thursday, May 14 is Ascension Thursday, a Holy Day of Obligation.**

**Masses are at 5:30pm on Wed., May 13; and at 9:00am & 7:00pm on Thurs. May 14.**

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](mailto: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 6**. 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](mailto: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).

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.



**MAY DEVOTIONS** to the Blessed Mother will take place on Mondays in May at 7pm in the Chapel at the Notre Dame



# The Bible Timeline

*The Story of Salvation*

Begins Thursday, April 9 in the  
Notre Dame Center at 6:30 pm



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

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.

# COOKING WITH THE SAINTS




**APRIL 11  
MAY 9  
JUNE 6**

**9:00 - 10:30  
PARISH HALL**

**\$15.00 FOR ALL SESSIONS**






## Online Giving

*Be grateful. Give generously.*

**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

# 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](http://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](mailto: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.

St. Mary Church Community presents...

## BINGO NIGHT

Sponsored by Knights of Columbus Council 48

**FRIDAY MAY 22, 2026**



**18+**

\$20 entry fee covers all regular games  
Additional games & food available for purchase  
Doors open at 5:30 p.m.  
Games are played from 6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.  
St. Mary School Gym  
24 Dodgingtown Rd. Bethel, CT

## 48TH ANNUAL ST. MARY SCHOOL CARNIVAL

**SAVE MONEY NOW  
ON YOUR CARNIVAL  
BRACELET!**

**TICKETS**

**MAY 13-17,  
2026**





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](mailto:dnkeener@diobpt.org).

St Mary's  
Bethel

# 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



## STEUBENVILLE 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](http://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](mailto: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](http://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

**Catholic Communication Campaign (Collection date May 17, 2026)** The Catholic Communication Campaign (CCC) supports media efforts that share the Gospel with our neighbors, as well as people across the country. When you contribute to this collection, half of your donation supports the national communications programs of the bishops of the United States, while the other half stays in our diocese to support local communications initiatives.

## 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!



**New Day Bereavement Program**  
**Spring Session Registration Now Open**  
**April 21 – June 16**  
**Tuesday evenings 4:30 – 6:00pm**

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. Mary Church  
 26 Dodgingtown Rd.  
 Bethel

Meetings are led by trained bereavement facilitators. There is no charge.

St. Mary Church is partnering with the Bereavement initiative of the Fairfield County Catholic Cemeteries to offer this program. Please go to their website to submit a Program Inquiry Form or you can contact Carolyn Killian at 203-404-0023.

[www.Thegrief.org](http://www.Thegrief.org)

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



**In support of Malta House, the only transitional living program in the state of Connecticut where a mom can stay with her baby for long-term support as she journeys to independence and hope.**

**The Knights of Columbus Pavia 48 Council will be holding their annual campaign beginning Mother's Day 5/10 through Father's Day June 21.**

**Take a baby bottle home and fill it with your loose change, and return it after masses to one of the Knights of Columbus members by June 21.**

**This is the 4th year for this important campaign in support of babies and motherhood. Over the last 3 years, the St Mary community has donated well over \$ 10,000 to this worthy effort. We thank you for your support to date and look forward to your participation this year**



## YOUNG ADULT FAITH IN ACTION



A vibrant young adult ministry in Stamford is helping young Catholics, like **Thomas Angiolollo**, deepen their faith and find meaningful community within the Church. What began as an invitation to explore fellowship and formation has grown into an active outreach where prayer, Sacred Scripture, service, and shared faith are central.

At Holy Name of Jesus Parish, the monthly Young Adult Mass brings young adults together for Eucharistic adoration, the Sacrament of Reconciliation, the celebration of Mass, and time for fellowship. Through this ministry, participants are discovering a **stronger sense of purpose and a deeper relationship with Christ**, rooted in community and service.

The Bishop's Appeal supports young adult ministries like this one, strengthening parish life, fostering unity, and forming future leaders for the Church.

Please consider supporting our young adult community through the Bishop's Appeal.

**LEARN MORE OR MAKE A GIFT AT**  
**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](mailto: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 May 10, 2026



### St. Damien of Molokai | Catholic Saints

St. Damien was born in Belgium but spent most of his life ministering to lepers in Molokai, Hawaii. An incredible example of holiness, he dedicated his whole life to spreading the Gospel. Sit down with Dr. James Prothro and Mary McGeehan as they discuss the life and witness of this great saint.



### The Sanctuary Youth Series

The Sanctuary Youth Series is centered on the pressing questions that young people are asking about faith and mental health. It provides space to engage these questions and start important conversations in youth ministries and church communities. Drawing on insights from mental health professionals, theologians, and evidence-based research, this educational and interactive course is designed to reduce stigma, increase awareness, and prepare students for a faith journey that includes seasons of flourishing and languishing.



### The Sanctuary Course for Catholics | Trailer

This eight-session course—designed for use in small groups—explores the realities of mental health and illness, as well as the vital need for faith-based community conversations about these topics. The sessions are accompanied by compelling films that feature the stories of Catholics living with mental health challenges, along with the insights of archbishops, theologians, and psychologists.

Our parish has a Formed subscription.  
Visit [signup.formed.org](https://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!!

**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 so that we can continue to provide money for security deposits. The cost of apartments in our area is excessive and there is a shortage of low cost housing. A security deposit could be the deal breaker for someone seeking shelter. 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.

If you would like to support our work, please send contributions to: Off the Streets, PO Box 591, Bethel CT 06801. or donate online by cut and pasting the link below into your browser <https://gofund.me/baa5b98d>



### Offertory for the Weekend of May 2/3, 2026

Collection: \$8,931.00 On-Line Giving: \$5,343.00

### Offertory for the Weekend of May 3/4, 2025

Collection: \$7,229.00 On-Line Giving: \$5,123.00

*Thank you for your generosity!*

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

**That everyone might have food** Let us pray that everyone, from large producers to small consumers, be committed to avoid wasting food, and to ensure that everyone has access to quality food.



Sun.: Acts 8:5-8, 14-17 Ps 66:1-3, 4-5, 6-7, 16, 20 1 Pt 3:15-18 Jn 14:15-21

Mon.: Acts 16:11-15 Ps 149:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6a and 9b Jn 15:26—16:4a

Tues.: Acts 16:22-34 Ps 138:1-2ab, 2cde-3, 7c-8 Jn 16:5-11

Wed.: Acts 17:15, 22—18:1 Ps 148:1-2, 11-12, 13, 14 Jn 16:12-15

Thu.: Acts 1:1-11 Ps 47:2-3, 6-7, 8-9 Eph 1:17-23 Mt 28:16-20

Fri.: Acts 18:9-18 Ps 47:2-3, 4-5, 6-7 Jn 16:20-23

Sat.: Acts 18:23-28 Ps 47:2-3, 8-9, 10 Jn 16:23b-28

Sun.: Acts 1:12-14 Ps 27:1, 4, 7-8 1 Pt 4:13-16 Jn 17:1-11a

**Subscribe to our new channel**

YouTube.com/@TheLiteraryCatholic

Engaging discussions with experts, writers, and authors to inspire your faith and ignite your imagination



a collaboration between the **Diocese of Bridgeport**  
Sacred Heart University and Guild of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus

### 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](mailto:projectrachel@diobpt.org). There is hope after abortion.



## 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

### SIMPLE PRAYERS FOR MOTHER’S DAY

Heavenly Father, I lift up to you today my mother and all mothers. Bless them with strength to continue to care for their children, with the same bold, selflessness Mary showed Jesus. Help my mother and all mothers feel our gratitude and truly know their impact. May we honor them today and on all days as vessels of Your love. In Your name I pray. Amen.

God, today, we celebrate mothers, but the truth is, we ought to celebrate them every day. Their love manifests in small, subtle ways each day—in the mundane that sometimes we can take for granted. We thank you for their sacrificial love and ask you to uplift them today. Thank you for the gift they are in our lives. In Your name we pray. Amen.

When our mothers are tired, Lord, give them strength. When they feel alone, give them comfort. When they feel overwhelmed with the challenges of parenting, help them to know peace. In their darkest moments, be their Light. At times in our lives, our mothers are everything to us, meeting our every need. We ask You to provide them today with whatever gift they need. In gratitude, we pray. Amen.

# MINISTRIES AND VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

## LITURGY

**Adult Acolyte** Provide adult altar service at funerals and memorial services. Rectory Office (203) 744 - 5777

**Altar Server** Support the community in the Church's weekly liturgical celebrations. Father Andrew LaFleur FrLaFleur@diobpt.org

**Lector** Proclaim the scriptures and read the petitions at Mass. 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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