Saint Mary Parish

October 11, 2026

Twenty-eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time



26 Dodgingtown Road, Bethel, CT 06801

Phone: (203)744-5777

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

Visit us on Facebook: StMaryChurchBethel

PARISH OFFICE HOURS:

9am –1:30 pm, Monday – Friday

(Closed Weekends and Holidays)

STAFF **Father Corey V. Piccinino*, Pastor , Vicar for Clergy & Religious for the Diocese of Bridgeport***
Father Johnson Singarajan, *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) **Michelle Powrie, 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

† **How much do you really know about the Catholic Church** — its saints, teachings, historical events, etc.? With school getting back in session, we've created a fun quiz to test your knowledge of all things Catholic. The categories cover anything from Mary to papal documents to American churches. Take the quiz by yourself or with family, and see how well you did by using the answer key at the end.

Vatican II

1. Two different popes presided over the Second Vatican Council.

True

False

2. How many documents were approved by the Second Vatican Council?

A. 5

B. 12

C. 16

D. 19

3. This future pope was the first since the council to have no role in it at all.

A. Pope Francis

B. Pope Benedict XVI

C. Pope St. John Paul II

D. Pope John Paul I

4. Of the following, which was not a theme of any document of the Second Vatican Council?

A. Ecumenism

B. Racism

C. Bishops

D. Scripture

5. Including the Second Vatican Council, how many ecumenical councils have been recognized by the Catholic Church?

A. 7

B. 15

C. 19

D. 21

Could-be saints

1. Pierre Toussaint, a former slave in New York City, declared venerable in 1996, did this type of work, from which he gained a sizable income, most of which he gave away in charity.

A. Carpentry

B. Hairdressing

C. Teaching

D. Map making

2. Which author's daughter, who founded a community of Dominican sisters to care for terminally ill cancer patients with few resources, is a candidate for canonization?

A. Mark Twain

B. F. Scott Fitzgerald

C. William Faulkner

D. Nathaniel Hawthorne

3. Dominican Father Samuel Mazzuchelli, declared venerable in 1993, founded a variety of churches, including which following state?

A. Texas

B. Iowa

C. Florida

D. Pennsylvania

4. Father Edward Flanagan, founder of the Boys Town orphanage in Nebraska and whose canonization cause is underway, was played in the 1938 film "Boys Town" by which actor?

A. Bing Crosby

B. Spencer Tracy

C. James Stewart

D. Gregory Peck

5. Sister Blandina Segale, whose canonization cause opened in 2014, is known for her work in the American Wild West and is remembered for an encounter with which famous outlaw?

A. Butch Cassidy

B. Jesse James

C. Billy the Kid

D. Bronco Bill

Answers:

Vatican II	**Could-be saints**
1. True	1. B
2. C	2. D
3. A	3. B
4. B	4. B
5. D	5. C



SAT., OCTOBER 10
4:30 + Rob Ferri — The Ferri Family

SUN., OCTOBER 11
7:00 For the Deacons — St. Mary Rosary Group
8:30 + Gary Hazen — The Folan Family
11:00 St. Mary Parish

MON., OCTOBER 12
9:00 + Anthony Bedini — Dardis/Morrissey Family

TUES., OCTOBER 13
9:00 + Ann Stosser & Kathleen Brennan Stosser — Family

WED., OCTOBER 14
9:00 + Frances Piccinino (11th Anniversary)

THURS., OCTOBER 15
9:00 + Francis Piccinini — Family

FRI., OCTOBER 16
9:00 + Kevin Fitzgerald (7th Anniv.) — Family

SAT., OCTOBER 17
9:00 + Gerard Valentini — Susan & David Mallonee
4:30 + St. Mary Parish

SUN., OCTOBER 18
7:00 + Souls in Purgatory
8:30 + George Viebrock, Sr. — The Viebrock Family
11:00 + Domenic Broccoli — Family



The flowers on the altar this week were donated in memory of Leon Anziano (1st. Anniv.) from 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, October 11
12:15pm Baptism
9:30am Religious Education
12:30pm OCIA

Monday, October 12
7:00pm Knights of Columbus

Tuesday, October 13
9:30am Women of Faith
4:30pm Religious Education
7:00pm Women of Faith

Wednesday, October 14
5:15pm Youth Choir
6:30pm Confirmation Parent Meeting
7:00pm Adult Choir

Thursday, October 15
4:30pm Religious Education
6:30pm Bible Study
7:00pm Ave Meeting

Friday, October 16

Saturday, October 17
7:00am Men's Ministry
3:00pm Confessions
3:00pm Adoration

Sunday, October 18
9:30am Religious Education
12:15pm Baptism
12:30pm OCIA
9:30am Parent Enrichment Meeting
6:00pm United Youth



*This week the **Sanctuary Lamp** will be lit and prayers will be said before each Mass by the priest for Tom Smith from Pat Kuhn & family*



The Parish Office will be closed on Monday, October 12th for Columbus Day.

OCTOBER DEVOTIONS to the Blessed Mother will take place on Mondays in October in the Notre Dame Center Chapel at 7pm. Each devotion will have the Rosary, prayers and Litany of the Immaculate Heart of Mary.

The **ST. MARY MEN'S Group** meets on Saturdays from 7:30 AM to 9 AM in Father McGivney Hall, followed by the 9:00 AM Saturday Mass. For more information, Rich Bruno at Bruno11955@gmail.com

ST. MARY PARISH BOOK GROUP welcomes all adults! "Spiritual reading has made many saints" (St. Josemaria Escriva). Our next book is Peter: Keys to Following Jesus by Tim Gray. It's readily available from Ignatius Press and other online book stores. Or easily listen to the audiobook on FORMED, a free resource available courtesy of St. Mary Parish (go to signup.formed.org and select our parish name). Please join us on ***Wednesday October 21*** at 6:00 pm in the Notre Dame Center.

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 ***October 10.*** 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 5:15-6pm 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.

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.

Please join us to pray the **ROSARY** every morning from Monday through Friday at 8:20am in the Church.

Saint Mary SCHOOL

FAITH · FAMILY · ACADEMICS

Contact admissions@stmarybethelct.org to schedule a visit.

24 Dodgingtown Road | Bethel, Connecticut 06801

203-744-2922 | www.st.marybethelct.org

Enrollment remains open for the 2026–2027 school year. To learn more or schedule a personal tour, please contact admissions@stmarybethelct.org or contact Geraldine Henn, Enrollment Director at 203-744-2922.

The winner of the September ***SMS 10 Month Club Raffle*** has been selected and notified - the winner is Dewitt O. of Bronx, NY.

St. Mary School is looking for individuals interested in substi -tute teaching this coming school year on an as needed basis. Qualifications for this position are a Bachelor's degree, VIRTUS training and a background check. We are also seeking part-time employees on a regular schedule (days can vary) for our After School Care Club. Hours are 2pm-5:30pm on days school is in session. For information about either of these positions, please email the school at office@stmarybethelct.org, or call 203-744-2922.

Small Things. Great Love.

Saint Mary School, Bethel

At Saint Mary School, prayer is part of each day. As we pray the Rosary together, our children learn to turn to Mary and grow closer to her Son, Jesus.

This past week, we honored Our Lady of the Rosary with special intention, praying for our school and parish community and entrusting our students, families, teachers, and staff to her loving care.

Our theme, "Do small things with great love," reminds us to carry that prayer into our daily actions. A kind word, a helping hand, and a welcoming smile are simple ways our children can share the love of Christ.

As we look forward to Columbus Day on Monday, we wish our families and parishioners a peaceful weekend, with opportunities to rest, spend time together, and give thanks for God's blessings.

Thank you for keeping Saint Mary School in your prayers and supporting the gift of Catholic education. May we continue to grow together in faith and do small things with great love.

Michelle Powrie

Principal,

Saint Mary School

St. Mary Religious Education
24 Dodgingtown Road, Bethel, CT 06801
203-743-4557
Hours: Mon.-Thurs. 9:30am-2pm
stmarybethelreliged@gmail.com
stmarybethel.org

Registration forms for the 2026/27 year have gone out in the mail for current families. After September 1 you must register in person at the Religious Ed Office.

In-person Registration for the Sacraments are as follows. Please remember to bring your payment:

Confirmation Registration is on October 14 at 6:30pm. Parent & Child must attend.

CROSS ROADS

Looking for volunteers for Cross-Roads Youth Group -- a great opportunity for adults and for youth 16+ to help us form a great experience for children 6th grade and older to have fun and continue their faith formation.

Info meeting will be October 18, 2026 11:00 in the school contact Mary for more info or to volunteer meferri@aol.com .



OCIA
Order of Christian Initiation of Adults

New Classes Begin Sept. 20th in the Notre Dame Center 12:30-2:00

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 rediscover, 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.

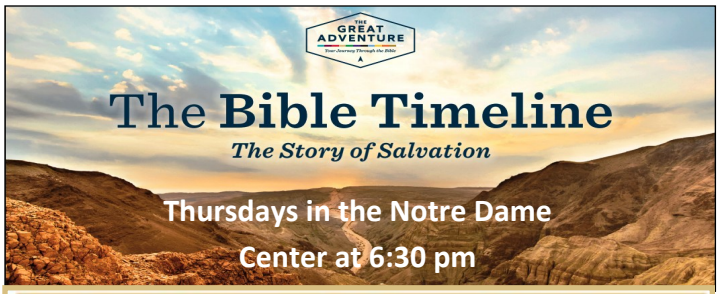
Offertory for the Weekend of Octobber 3/4, 2026

Collection: $9,161.00 On-Line Giving: $5,678.00

Last year's offertory for the Weekend of October 4/5, 2025

Collection: $8,606.00 On-Line Giving: $5,406 .00

Thank you for your generosity!



Come Discover the Story of Scripture...
Come Grow in Faith...
Come Experience God's Word
in a New Way...
Come When You Can!

You do not need to attend every session to benefit. Whether you join us for a few evenings or the entire series, you will grow in your understanding of God's Word and His plan for your life.

Thursdays, October 1 – November 19, 2026
6:30 PM - Notre Dame Center

This fall's study explores the story of Israel's desert wandering through the Exile of Judah, revealing how the trials, challenges, and faithfulness of God's people remain deeply relevant to us today.

Each session includes:

- An engaging video presentation
- Group discussion and fellowship
- Deeper understanding of Sacred Scripture

Featuring renowned Catholic author and scholar Jeff Cavins, a former Protestant pastor whose teachings have helped thousands better understand the Bible and the Catholic faith.

Altar Server Training

October 24th 9:30, Parish Hall

Grades 4 - 12

We need a few more servers!
Please join us!
You can earn Community Service hours.

RSVP to Mrs.Keener
eallkeener@gmail.com

We look forward to seeing you soon!





OPEN HOUSE

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 8 12:30 - 2:00

24 Dodgingtown Road Bethel, CT

stmarybethelct.org

What makes St. Mary School special? It's a place where children are known, supported, challenged, and encouraged to grow in faith every day.

Families are invited to experience St. Mary School firsthand at our Open House on Saturday, November 8, from 12:30–2:00 p.m. Meet our teachers, visit classrooms, learn about our academic programs, and discover what makes our school community so special.

Whether you are considering St. Mary for your child, know a family who may be looking for a Catholic school, or simply want to learn more about the school serving our parish community, we invite you to join us.

Come see what it means to learn, belong, and grow at St. Mary School.



• 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!

UNITED Youth

FACEBOOK.COM/CTUNITEDYOUTH
@CTUNITEDYOUTH
WWW.CTUNITEDYOUTH.COM

United meets on Sunday evenings on the campus of St. Rose unless otherwise noted.

St. Mary Bethel Parent Enrichment

Helping you to strengthen your faith so that you can strengthen your family.

1	2	3	4	5
SESSION 1	SESSION 2	SESSION 3	SESSION 4	SESSION 5
The Mass	**The Catechism (Pillars)**	**The Sacraments**	**Moral Living**	**Prayer**
Discover the meaning and parts of the Mass and how it brings us closer to Jesus.	Explore the four pillars of the Catechism of the Catholic Church: Creed, Sacraments, Moral Life, and Prayer.	Discover how the sacraments bring God's grace into our lives.	Learn how to grow in virtue, make faith-filled choices, and build a life of prayer.	Deepen your relationship with God through different forms of prayer and make prayer a part of daily life.
FOCUS ON:	FOCUS ON:	FOCUS ON:	FOCUS ON:	FOCUS ON:
• The parts of the Mass • What happens at each part • How to participate more fully	• The Nicene Creed • The 4 pillars • How it guides our daily lives	• The 7 sacraments • Their meaning and purpose • *Marriage as the spiritual foundation of the family.*	• The Ten Commandments • Conscience and decision making • Living as a missionary disciple	• Types of prayer • The Our Father • Creating a prayer routine

	Sunday 9:30-10:45	Tuesday, 4:30 -5:45	Thursday, 4:30 -5:45
The Mass	10/18/2026	10/20/2026	10/22/2026
The Creed	11/15/2026	11/17/2026	11//19/2026
The Sacraments	1/10/2027	01/12/2027	01/14/2027
Morale Life	02/28/2027	03/02/2027	03/04/2027
Prayer	04/04/2027	04/06/2027	04/08/2027

All sessions will be held in the Notre Dame Center. (previously the Convent)

Questions Shani Burke Specht 203-501-7594, shaniburkespecht@hotmail.com

Knights of Columbus Pavia 48

Tootsie Roll Drive

OCTOBER 17/18

After Saturday and Sunday Masses at St Mary's

26 Dodgingtown Rd, Bethel, CT

Women of Faith

LADIES Bunco GAME NIGHT

Friday, November 6, 2026
6:00 PM

Come join us for a fun evening of Bunco, laughter, fellowship and friendship!

PLEASE BRING:
- Your favorite beverage
- A dessert or appetizer to share

$5.00 Donation

Donation helps cover the cost of prizes.

RSVP BY NOVEMBER 1
Please RSVP to:
rectoryoffice@stmarybethel.org

Women of Faith
FAITH ♥ FELLOWSHIP ♥ FUN

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/mqkfLnpZwhI



Sun.: Isaiah 25:6-10a / Psalms 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6 / Philippians 4:12-14, 19-20 / Matthew 22:1-14 or Matthew 22:1-10

Mon.: Galatians 4:22-24, 26-27, 31-5:1 / Psalms 113:1b-2, 3-4, 5a, 6-7 / Luke 11:29-32

Tues.: Galatians 5:1-6 / Psalms 119:41, 43, 44, 45, 47, 48 / Luke 11:37-41

Wed.: Galatians 5:18-25 / Psalms 1:1-2, 3, 4, 6 / Luke 11:42-46

Thu: Ephesians 1:1-10 / Psalms 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4, 5-6 / Luke 11:47-54

Fri.: Ephesians 1:11-14 / Psalms 33:1-2, 4-5, 12-13 / Luke 12:1-7

Sat.: Ephesians 1:15-23 / Psalms 8:2-3ab, 4-5, 6-7 / Luke 12:8-12

Sun.: Isaiah 45:1, 4-6 / Psalms 96:1, 3, 4-5, 7-8, 9-10 / 1 Thessalonians 1:1-5b / Matthew 22:15-21

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 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

OTS HELP PAGE





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!!

formed
Forming Catholics for Life

This Week on Formed

Week of October 11, 2026



An Ardent Heart

This film tells the dramatic story of Lupe Valdes, a best-selling writer who investigates the apparitions of the Sacred Heart of Jesus in search of inspiration for her next novel. Guided by an expert in sacred mysteries, she discovers the historical evidence of the mystical revelations of the Sacred Heart to St. Margaret Mary



St. Teresa of Avila

A powerful epic mini-series shot on location in Spain that tells the story of one of the most amazing women in history, St. Teresa of Avila. With meticulous attention to detail and historical accuracy, this acclaimed major film production is the definitive film on the life of this great saint.



St. Ignatius of Antioch

Learn about St. Ignatius of Antioch, a remarkable saint who died a martyr for his fidelity to Christ in this episode of Catholic Saints with Dr. Ben Akers and Taylor Kemp.

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

An offering from the Augustine Institute



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 OCTOBER

For mental health ministry Let us pray that the mental health ministry be established throughout the Church, helping to overcome the stigma and discrimination of persons with mental illnesses.



Mustang for a Day Shadow Visits - We invite all prospective students to shadow a current student and live a day in the life at our school as a Mustang For a Day. While spending a day is not mandatory as part of the application process, it is an excellent way for students to learn more about what it's like to be an Immaculate High School student.

Visiting students will meet their Student Ambassador host in the main office upon arrival. At dismissal, students will meet with our Director of Enrollment to discuss their day and ask any questions they may have. Register today at immaculatehs.org/visit.

Join us on Sunday, October 18, for our annual Open House at Immaculate. This event will allow students and parents to meet with faculty, administrators, athletic staff and current students, as well as tour the classrooms, newly renovated science labs, dining hall, Chapel and Fitness Center. You will learn about our athletic, fine arts, spiritual life and extracurricular offerings. Register today at immaculatehs.org/visit

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

or

www.stmarybethel.org and click on the online giving link

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.

10 THINGS TO TELL GOD THIS OCTOBER

1. Thank You for bringing me into a new month.
2. Go before me into every day ahead.
3. Give me wisdom for the choices I will have to make.
4. Protect my family and everyone I love.
5. Help me release what September left heavy on my heart.
6. And give me strength for whatever this month holds.
7. Open the doors that are right for me, and close the ones that are not.
8. Give me peace while I wait on what I have prayed for.
9. Let October bring some of the answers and good news I have been hoping for.
10. Lord, I place this whole month in Your hands.

October belongs to You, Lord.
Lead me through it. 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. Kathleen Keener eajkeener@gmail.com

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

St. Mary Men's Group Join other Catholic men in a positive Christian fel-lowship and learn ways to better strengthen one's personal faith journey. Rich Bruno at bruno11955@gmail.com

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. Rectory Office

Just Desserts Help in the catering of baked goods and treats for parish celebrations. Rectory Office

Book Club ST. MARY BOOK GROUP welcomes all adults! "Spiritual reading has made many saints." (St. Josemaria Escriva). Rectory Office

SERVICE

Homebound Eucharistic Ministers Bring Communion to the homebound and those in local nursing homes. Rectory Office

Matthew 25:35 Provides meals for either groups outside of parish (ex, Dorothy Day) or for families in need within the parish. Rectory Office

Parish Hospitality Committee/Photographers Volunteer to help set up, serve, and clean up for Parish receptions. Record events in church or photography of events. Rectory Office

Prayer Line Prayer society that receives intentions and prays regularly for them. Mrs. Maggie Kent Mrs. Deana Chamberlin (203) 731 - 4738 (203) 482 - 7149

Pro-Life Committee 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

Bible Study Spring and fall for 8 weeks each. Peter Baumgartner (pjbaumgart@yahoo.com) or Rich Bruno (bruno11955@gmail.com)

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.