

Mass Intentions This Week

("†" Indicates this person is deceased)

- Saturday, March 28, Lenten Weekday
 8:00 AM †Gloria & Geek Parente
 by the Vento Family
- Sat., March 28, Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord
 4:00 PM †Our Parishioners
- Sun., March 29, Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord
 8:30 AM † Audrey Nelson
 by her husband
- 11:00 AM †Norma Samala by her family
- Monday, March 30, Monday of Holy Week
 7:00 AM April Richter, *Happy Birthday*
 by Frank Palmer
- Tuesday, March 31, Tuesday of Holy Week
 8:00 AM †Letecia Arambulo
 by her family
- Wednesday, April 1, Wednesday of Holy Week
 7:00 AM †Diana Louise Palmer
 by Frank Palmer
- Thursday, April 2, Mass of the Lord's Supper
 9:00 AM Morning Prayer
 7:30 PM †For all Priests of our Diocese
- Friday, April 3, Good Friday
 9:00 AM Morning Prayer
 3:00 PM Liturgy of the Passion and
 Death of our Lord & Communion
- 5:30 PM Soup & Bread Supper
 7:00 PM Stations of the Cross
- Saturday, April 4, Holy Saturday
 9:00 AM Morning Prayer
 10:00 -11:00 AM Confessions
 12:00 PM Blessing of Easter Food
 8:00 PM Easter Vigil Mass offered for
 the Parishioners of St. Bridget's
- Sunday, April 5, Easter
 8:30 AM Parishioners of St. Bridget's
 11:00 AM Parishioners of St. Bridget's

Please pray for the departed souls of our loved ones, especially Alice Carella, recently departed member of our parish. Grant them eternal rest and comfort in the arms of our Lord.



Good Friday Guidelines: Good Friday is a day of fasting and abstinence. As outlined on the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops' website on Lenten fasting and abstinence, "fasting is obligatory for all who have completed their 18th year and have not yet reached their 60th year. Fasting allows a person to eat one full meal. Two smaller meals may be taken, not to equal one full meal. Through our works of prayer, fasting, and abstinence, let us heed the prophet Joel's exhortation to return to God with our whole heart (2:12)."



Holy Week and the Easter Triduum:

Our High Holy Days are celebrated during Holy Week on Holy Thursday, Good Friday and Holy Saturday – the Easter Triduum. It's when we celebrate who we're all about as Catholic Christians.

April 2nd, Holy Thursday:

- 9:00AM morning prayer
- 7:30 PM the Mass of the Lord's Supper, we will celebrate the institution of the priesthood and the Eucharist.
- Adoration at the Repository following the Mass until midnight.

April 3rd, Good Friday (a day of fasting and abstinence):

- 9:00AM morning prayer
- 3:00 PM the Service of the Lord's Passion
- Good Friday Soup & Bread Supper 5:30 - 6:45 PM
- Stations of the Cross 7:00PM

April 4th, Saturday:

- 9:00AM morning prayer
- Confessions will be heard on Holy Saturday morning, from 11:00 AM to 12:00 PM.
- Blessing of your Easter Food at 12:00 PM

April 4th, Saturday, 7:30 PM, Easter Vigil Mass:

The Easter Vigil is the holiest celebration of our liturgical year. We warmly invite all parishioners to share in this beautiful Mass, rich in sacred symbol and prayer. As we gather in vigil, we open our hearts to renewal and to the transforming grace of Christ's Resurrection.

April 5th, Easter Sunday:

- Mass will be celebrated at 8:30 AM & 11:00 AM.
- Children's Easter Egg Hunt after the 8:30 AM Mass

~ Financial Support of Our Parish ~

March 22, 2026

Donations	2026	2025
Weekly	\$2,466.00	\$2,733.00
Capital Improve.	\$847.00	\$778.00
Online Giving	\$1,521.90	\$1,026.00
Poor Box	\$545.00	\$32.00
Candles	\$228.00	\$194.00

Thank you for your continued support. Your generous gifts help us reach the weekly budgeted amount necessary to operate and sustain our parish.



Have you considered supporting our parish via online giving? Getting started is easy—just scan this QR code or visit our website, www.stbridgetofireland.com and click the online giving link.



Palm Sunday – The Entry into Holy Week

Palm Sunday of the Lord’s Passion invites us into one of the most striking moments in the Church’s liturgical year: a day marked by both triumph and sorrow. The readings lead us from joyful acclaim to the depths of Christ’s suffering, revealing the mystery at the heart of our salvation.

The Gospel begins with Jesus’ entrance into Jerusalem, where the crowds greet Him with palm branches and cries of “Hosanna!” They recognize Him as a king, yet their understanding is incomplete. They expect a political savior, one who will restore earthly power. Still, Jesus accepts their praise, entering humbly on a donkey, fulfilling the prophecy of a gentle and peaceful king. This moment reminds us how easy it is to welcome Christ when He meets our expectations—but how quickly our loyalty can falter when He does not.

The tone shifts dramatically as we hear the Passion narrative. The same voices that cried “Hosanna!” will soon shout “Crucify Him!” In this, we are confronted with a sobering truth: the crowd is not just a group from the past; it represents each of us. Whenever we choose sin over love, indifference over faith, or self-interest over sacrifice, we echo those cries.

Yet the heart of these readings is not human failure, but divine mercy. In the second reading from Philippians, we hear of Christ who “emptied Himself,” taking the form of a servant and becoming obedient even to death on a cross. This self-emptying love—total, humble, and sacrificial—is the path to our redemption. Jesus does not cling to power or avoid suffering; He enters fully into our brokenness to heal it from within.

Palm Sunday calls us to walk with Christ into His Passion, not as distant observers but as participants. We are invited to examine our own hearts: Where do we resist the cross? Where do we struggle to trust God’s plan? And where is Christ calling us to deeper humility and love?

As Holy Week begins, the Church offers us a profound invitation: to journey with Jesus from the palms to the cross, and ultimately to the empty tomb. If we remain with Him—through both joy and suffering—we will come to know more deeply the saving power of His love.

- Fr. Jim Bates, Pastor

New Member of St. Bridget’s Memorial Fund

✠ Alice Carella

enrolled by Elsa Del Mazzio & family

Saint Bridget Memorial Fund is for those who wish to “memorialize” their loved ones (living or deceased) in perpetuity. Mass is offered at least once a month for all those enrolled. Memorial cards are available to acknowledge the enrollment. Please contact the parish office to enroll your loved ones.

Need more information? Please visit our website:

www.stbridgetofireland.com



Bishop Caggiano has designated Monday, March 30th as “Reconciliation Monday”

throughout the Diocese of Bridgeport.

Reconciliation Monday offers a powerful opportunity for the faithful to encounter the

Lord’s mercy in a profound and personal way. Parishes within each of the nine Deaneries which comprise our Diocese will offer the Sacrament of Reconciliation from 3:00 pm to 9:00 pm.

Priests will be hearing Confessions at the following locations in our area on Reconciliation Monday from 3 pm to 9 pm:

- ◆ St. Aloysius Parish: 21 Cherry Street, New Canaan
- ◆ St. Thomas More: 374 Middlesex Road, Darien
- ◆ St. Matthew Parish: 216 Scribner Avenue, Norwalk
- ◆ Church of St. Cecilia/St Gabriel: 1184 Newfield Avenue, Stamford
- ◆ St Mary Parish: 566 Elm Street, Stamford



Soup & Bread Supper - Good Friday, April 3

5:30–6:45 PM. Please join us for a light Soup & Bread Supper before the evening Stations of the Cross. There is no cost for the meal; however, free-will donation baskets will be available to help defray expenses and to support Loaves and Fishes. Stations of the Cross will begin promptly at 7:00 PM. What better way to observe Good Friday than by walking the path of our Lord through the Stations of the Cross? We hope you can join us for this meaningful evening of fellowship and prayer.

Good Friday Collection (April 3, 2026)

Pope Leo has asked our parish to support the Pontifical Good Friday Collection, which helps Christians in the Holy Land, where they are now less than 2% of the population. Your support is essential to help the Church minister in parishes, provide Catholic schools, and offer religious education.

The Pontifical Good Friday Collection also helps to preserve the sacred shrines of Christianity, including in Jerusalem, Nazareth, and Bethlehem, to name only a few.

The pandemic had hit Christians in the Holy Land particularly hard. Most of them depend on pilgrimages for work. The war and now the Iranian conflict have made their situation even more dire. In these times of crisis, the Pontifical Good Friday Collection is necessary to meet the basic needs of the People of God still living in this Land and to maintain a Christian presence where the Church was born.

When you contribute to the Pontifical Good Friday Collection, you join with Catholics around the world in solidarity with the Church in the Holy Land. PLEASE BE GENEROUS!

For more information about Christians in the Holy Land, visit www.myfranciscan.org or www.custodia.org

