



**THE SECOND SUNDAY IN
ORDINARY TIME
JANUARY 17, 2016**

Saint Mary Parish

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

This year we celebrate the important milestone of 50 years of solidarity with the Church in Latin America and the Caribbean with the Collection for the Church in Latin America the weekend of January 23-24. The Church there faces many challenges. Often, there are too few priests to meet the needs of the many communities they serve, or the communities themselves are simply too isolated to have access to other important resources for the faith.

Strategies to train and support evangelization leaders are vital to reach those who are disconnected from the life and mission of the Church. For the past 50 years, the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops through its Subcommittee on the Church in Latin America has helped 25 countries in Central and South America as well as the Caribbean confront challenges to the faith. With your support, they have been able to develop catechetical programs and youth and young adult ministries, train lay leaders and catechists, and expand religious and seminary formation.

Please be generous in this collection, and take this opportunity to share your faith with families in Latin America and the Caribbean. Your support will truly make a difference.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

+Frank J. Caggiano

Most Reverend Frank J. Caggiano
Bishop of Bridgeport

Living Our Faith

MASS READINGS & INTENTIONS

MONDAY, January 18

1 Sm 15:16-23; Mk 2:18-22

9:00 AM Gunter Roller

TUESDAY, January 19

1 Sm 16:1-13; Mk 2:23-28

7:00 AM Michael Connolly & Family

12:00 PM Mr. & Mrs. Rinaldo Goelkel

WEDNESDAY, January 20

1 Sm 17:32-33, 37, 40-51; Mk 3:1-6

7:00 AM Lena and Steve Najger

12:00 PM Betty Wattendorf

THURSDAY, January 21

1 Sm 18:6-9, no:1-7; Mk 3:7-12

7:00 AM Bob Bunsu -1st Anniversary

12:00 PM Andrew Nirrengarten

FRIDAY, January 22

1 Sm 24:3-21; Mk 3:13-19

7:00 AM Dorothy Vona

12:00 PM Carey Depuy

SATURDAY, January 23

2 Sm 1:1-4, 11-12, 19, 23-27; Mk 3:20-21

8:00 AM Michael P. Ventrella

4:00 PM Hope Hughes

5:30 PM John Kearns

SUNDAY, January 24

Neh 8:2-4a,5-6,8-10; 1 Cor 12:12-30 or 12:12-14,27;

Lk 1:1-4, 4:14-21

CHURCH

7:00 AM Ryan Adams

9:15 AM Manual Monteiro

11:15 AM Daniela Michilli

HALL

8:00 AM Mary Paterniani

10:30 AM Parishioners of the Parish

12:00 PM Deceased Members of the Oleksiak

5:00 PM Frederick Faber

PLEASE NOTE: This Monday, January 18, in observance of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, there will be only **one Mass at 9:00 am.** Our Parish Offices and School will be closed.

Please remember our sick in your prayers; especially, Joseph Barone, Patty Capilli and Margaret Mulligan.

(To respect individual privacy, only immediate family members may add someone to our prayer list. Individuals will be removed monthly unless otherwise notified.)



GOD'S PLAN FOR GIVING

WEEKLY YEAR TO DATE

January 10, 2016	\$22,015	\$ 50,618
January 11, 2015	\$21,708	\$ 52,676

Facilities & Repairs

January, 2016 \$4,789

January, 2015 \$3,965

FROM THE PASTOR: "How do you express your love for God? Some of the ways of expressing love are by giving and by serving joyfully!"

CONTRIBUTION TAX STATEMENTS

2015 Contribution Tax Statements will be mailed in January 2016 to all Parishioners who contributed to our Parish offertory this year. All contributions must be received by December 31, 2015 to be acknowledged for 2015 contribution status.



BAPTISMS

We welcome to the Roman Catholic Family of our Parish, **Max Richard Murphy and Autumn Grace Shephard** who were baptized in our Church last weekend.

PILGRIM VIRGIN

On May 12, 1982 Pope John Paul II arrived at Fatima to give thanks to Our Lady of Fatima for sparing his life from an attempted assassination on May 13, 1981. In his evening homily he said: "Pray, pray much. Say the rosary every day as our Lady had requested at Fatima." While still in the Christmas Season, continue to celebrate the birth of Jesus by inviting the Pilgrim Virgin Statue to your home—a wonderful Marian devotion for your family. To schedule a visit call Elma Stoveken at 203-894-1341.



Candle Intentions

*A Church Altar Candle
is Burning in Loving Memory of
Pablo Alexis Ortega*

*Adoration Tabernacle Candle
is Burning in Loving Memory of
Pablo Alexis Ortega*



Learning Our Faith



SAINT MARY RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

The grade 5 Liturgy will be held on January 31 at 12 noon in our Parish Hall.

DEFENDING OUR RELIGIOUS LIBERTY

Pope Francis has emphasized that: "religious freedom is not simply freedom of thought or private worship. It is the freedom to live according to ethical principles, both privately and publicly."

If you haven't done so already, please voice your opposition to the federal health care mandate by calling U.S. Secretary of Health and Human Services Sylvia Mathews Burwell at 202-205-5445, and your elected representatives. Let them know that the mandate is in violation of our First Amendment right to religious freedom.

WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER

MARRIED COUPLES: One way to make your marriage even more special than it already is; a positive, simple, common sense private experience between husband and wife that revitalizes marriage. A weekend away renews the romance and excitement you experienced during your dating days. A Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend will help you enjoy life with a new closeness to each other and God.

Upcoming dates: February 26-28, 2016.

For more information about Worldwide Marriage Encounter or to register for an upcoming weekend, please contact Paul and Kim Gilbert at (860) 376-0440 or meweekend@gmail.com or visit www.wwmect.org.



Saint Mary School
RIDGEFIELD

Our Amazing Alumni

One thing that makes Saint Mary School special is the dedication of our Alumni. Whether they return to SMS to attend the Christmas Pageant, to volunteer at the Father Daughter Dance, to play basketball in the Catholic Schools Week Middle School vs. Teachers and Alumni Basketball Game, or to volunteer when they are home from college on break, our Alumni continue to be a part of our family long after they graduate from SMS.

Saint Mary School is currently enrolling students for the 2016-2017 school year. For more information about SMS, or to set up a tour, please contact Anna O'Rourke at 203-438-7288 or visit www.smsridgefield.org.

RESPECT LIFE COMMITTEE

"To all the members of the Church, the people of life and for life, I make this most urgent appeal, that together we may offer this world of ours new signs of hope, and work to ensure that justice and solidarity will increase and that a new culture of human life will be affirmed, for the building of an authentic civilization of truth and love." (Pope John Paul II, Evangelium Vitae, The Gospel of Life)

For more info, Visit www.stmaryrespectlife.org

FAITH FORMATION CORNER

Kindness

"Spread love everywhere you go. Let no one ever come to you without leaving better and happier. Be the living expression of God's kindness, kindness in your face, eyes and in your smile." --Mother Teresa



Sharing Our Faith

CATHOLIC ACTION

DONATE: Midnight Run

Date: January 22

There will be a Midnight Run on January 22. Items needed to distribute to the homeless in New York City: Heavy coats, blankets, sleeping bags, hooded sweatshirts, new thermal underwear (M-XL), socks, jeans, hats and gloves, lightly used shoes and sneakers, travel size toothpaste, soap, shaving cream, razors, and tooth brushes. Drop items off at the Barn Between 7:30 am and 3:00 pm. Volunteers needed to sort and fold clothing, pick up and drop off the van, and go on the run. For info call Elma Stoveken at 203-894-1341.

DONATE: Food Pantries

On-going Our

Parish food collections for the needy will continue throughout the year, rotating monthly through several local charities, including the Ridgefield Food Pantry, Dorothy Day Hospitality House in Danbury, and the Saint Joseph Parenting Center in Stamford. The basket of food brought up during the offertory symbolizes our gifts of food to those in need. Please consider bringing a nonperishable item of food with you to Sunday Mass. Bins are located outside the Hall and the Church.

ST. MARY CEMETERY CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS

Beginning on or about February 1st (weather permitting) we will begin the process of cleanup in preparation for the spring season. If you wish to retrieve any Christmas decorations, please do so by February 1st. Please refer to the posted **Cemetery Decoration Schedule and Regulations**, which can be found on either the Parish website or at our Cemetery office/garage. If you have any questions, please contact Donna Barber at the Cemetery Office 438-3606 or cell phone 203-733-4658. Thank you for your understanding.



Knights of Columbus

FREE THROW CHAMPIONSHIP BOYS and GIRLS AGES 10 – 14



All boys and girls ages 10 to 14 are invited to participate in the local level of competition for the 2016 Knights of Columbus Basketball Free Throw Championship on Wednesday January 20 (Snow date: Mon., January 25.) in The Nancy Bossidy Rec Center. Winner's progress through local, district, and state competitions. All boys and girls will compete in their respective age divisions. All contestants on the local level will receive certificates, and winners receive plaques. Participants are required to furnish proof of age and written parental consent. Registration is between 6:30-7:00PM. Forms may be downloaded from the St. Mary's website (<http://stmarysridgefield.org/knights-of-columbus>) or be picked up and at the Religious Ed. Office. Contestants may bring the form or register at the event, and must have a parent sign the registration form. For more info, contact Tim O'Connell 203-545-3027.

EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

O= permanent or sub urgently needed. X=1 add is needed.
Blank boxes=there are 2 or more adorers.

	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
12M-1am	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
1am-2am	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
2am-3am	O	X	X	X	X	X	O
3am-4am	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
4am-5am	X	X		X	X	X	X
5am-6am	X	X		X			X
6am-7am	X		X	X	X		X
7am-8am	X		X	X	X	X	
8am-9am			X		X		X
9am-10am	X	X		X	X	X	X
10am-11am	X	X	X			O	X
11am-12N	X		X	X	X		X
12N-1pm	X				X	X	X
1pm-2pm	X	X		X	X	O	X
2pm-3pm			X	X		X	X
3pm-4pm	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
4pm-5pm	X	X	X	X	X		X
5pm-6pm	X		X		X		X
6pm-7pm	O		X		X		X
7pm-8pm	X			X		X	X
8pm-9pm			X			X	X
9pm-10pm	X	X				X	X
10pm-11pm		X			X	X	X
11pm-12M	X	X	X		X	X	X

Abraham Lincoln said, "The best thing about the future is that it comes one day at a time." This gives us all a daily opportunity to improve our lives. With the Lord's help & guidance this can be attained. Sign up for our Adoration Chapel to pray & take each day as it comes. Please call Bill or Monica @ (914)533-2832 to sign up. God bless us.

EVERY Thursday evening, 7-9:00 pm, in our Adoration Chapel, the Chaplet of Mercy, 7 Sorrows of Our Blessed Mother and 15 decades of the Rosary are sung and prayed. Please join us!



ST. MARY PARISH MEN'S MINISTRY

To paraphrase Paul, one of our founders: *We come to MM to be fed in our faith. We come to build fellowship. We strive to be better fathers, friends and coworkers. We have each other's back in good times and in bad; and we always leave our egos at the door. Come any Saturday@6:30 in the Hall and check it out for yourself. Go to Stmmm.org for more info*

DIVORCE & SEPARATION SUPPORT GROUP

If you are divorced, in the process of divorcing, or separated, come join our friendly, safe, confidential and uplifting support group that focuses on spiritual and emotional healing. While this group is Catholic in practice and nature, persons of **all faiths are welcome**. The group will meet every second and fourth Sunday of each month, 7:30 PM - 9:00 PM in the St. Mary Parish Barn (beige building next to the church). For more information contact Jim Orkin, 914-420-7564, jamesorkin@gmail.com.