

Third Sunday of Lent

March 19, 2017



2017 Annual Catholic Appeal Prayer

In the Gospel for Ash Wednesday, Jesus stresses the importance of 3 penitential practices – prayer, fasting and almsgiving – all of which help us to deepen our relationship with the Lord. Our 2017 Annual Catholic Appeal is an opportunity for almsgiving because it enables us to reach out to those in need. Below is this year's Annual Catholic Appeal Prayer. Let it remind us during this Sacred Season of our Lord's words to us on Ash Wednesday!

Msgr. Bronkiewicz

Almighty and ever-faithful Lord we gratefully acknowledge
Your mercy and we place our trust in You.

Bless us with generosity that in love
We may freely share our gifts with others.

Bless us with understanding that we may
Wisely use the gifts God has given us.

Bless us with a true sense of joy –
The fruit of generous and grateful giving.

May the Holy Spirit inspire us to respond to the
2017 Annual Catholic Appeal, Sharing God's Gifts,
Transforming Lives with generous love.

May Mary, the Mother of God, be with us to inspire, guide and protect us.

We ask this in Jesus' name. Amen.



MASS READINGS & INTENTIONS

MONDAY, March 20

2 Sm 7:4-5a, 12-14a, 16/Rom 4:13, 16-18, 22/Mt 1:16, 18-21, 24a or Lk 2:41-51a

7:00 AM Sean Donovan

12:00 PM Bernice Sesody-2nd Anniversary

TUESDAY, March 21

Dn 3:25, 34-43/Mt 18:21-35

7:00 AM Robert A. Law, Jr.

12:00 PM Lena Mastriani

WEDNESDAY, March 22

Dt 4:1, 5-9/Mt 5:17-19

7:00 AM Bridget Goode

12:00 PM Gennifer Renfrew

THURSDAY, March 23

Jer 7:23-28/Lk 11:14-23

7:00 AM John Martin Connor

12:00 PM Lina Montaro

FRIDAY, March 24

Hos 14:2-10/Mk 12:28-34

7:00 AM Owen McCorry

12:00 PM Kazimer E. Tarnowski

SATURDAY, March 25

Is 7:10-14; 8:10/Heb 10:4-10/Lk 1:26-38

8:00 AM Emma Kalland

4:30 PM Elsie Bartolucci

SUNDAY, March 26

1 Sm 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a/Eph 5:8-14/Jn 9:1-41 or 9:1, 6-9, 13-17, 34-38

Church

7:30 AM Parishioners of the Parish

9:15 AM Phillip & Mary Louise Murray

11:15 AM Luigina Martone

Hall

10:30 AM Mildred Marianacci

12:00 PM Pietro Ruggiero

5:00 PM Ryan Adams

Our next Pre-Baptism Class (required for parents who have not had a class within five years and wish to have their child baptized) will be held **Wed., May 10th** from 7:30-8:30pm in the Barn. Call the Parish Office to register.



GOD'S PLAN FOR GIVING

WEEKLY YEAR-TO-DATE

March 12, 2017	\$24,702	\$248,721
March 13, 2016	\$22,835	\$260,279

Hospitality House

2017	\$7,071
2016	\$6,281

This week's 2nd collection is for Lent.

Next week's 2nd collection is for Catholic Relief Services.

Prayers for the Sick

Please remember our sick in your prayers, especially **Theresa Avento, Mary Jo Calamai, Patti Capilli, Bill Casey, Jeanne Mastandrea, Tom McCarthy, Barbara Ortonowska and Pat Ruhl.** For the sake of privacy, only immediate family members may add someone to our prayer list. Individuals will be removed monthly unless we are otherwise notified.



Baptisms

We welcome to the Family of God and our Parish Family, **Olivia Ann Quinn and Leah Mackenzie Stange** who were baptized in our Church last weekend.



Stations of the Cross



Stations of the Cross are held every Friday evening during Lent at 7:30pm in our Church.

Lenten Regulations

All Fridays of Lent are days of abstinence from meat for all those who are 14 and over.

Confession Opportunities in our Church

Every Saturday at 3:30pm

March 24th - 7pm (before 7:30pm Stations of the Cross)

March 24th - 8pm (after Stations of the Cross)

March 28th - 12:30-1:30pm (after the noon Mass)

April 4th - 4:30-6:00pm (come while your kids are in CCD!)



CT STATE COUNCIL

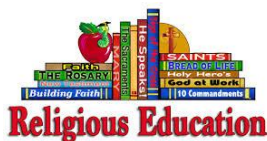
Stations of the Cross and Benediction Sponsored by Knights of Columbus

April 9, 2017, Palm Sunday, Shrine of St. Margaret, 2523 Park Avenue, Bridgeport, CT 2:00 PM.
Main Celebrants: Bishop Caggiano, and Msgr. J. Peter Cullen, State K of C Chaplain, Mass at 11:00 AM (optional).

Stay Home and Get Better



Out of consideration for other Parishioners, please do not come to Church or the Adoration Chapel if you are sick. Stay home and get better. Coming to Church sick can expose others to illness.



TELL BISHOP FRANK!

If you are between the ages 12 and 29, you are invited to share your thoughts on prayer, faith, and your relationship with Christ @ www.tellbishopfrank.org. The survey is open now through April 15, 2017.

VOICES FOR EASTER!



The Saint Mary Parish Choir warmly welcomes new members who wish to sing for the upcoming Easter season only -- although we would hope you would stay on longer! There is much wonderful music planned, and we would be grateful for your contribution. All ages and levels are welcome, including teens. Please contact our Music Director, Darren Motise, 203-438-6538 x300 or djmotise@aol.com.

RESPECT LIFE COMMITTEE



Recalling God's precious gift of Life and His forgiving mercy, please join His Excellency Bishop Frank Caggiano of the Diocese of Bridgeport as he leads us in prayer this Lent for the Family...for moms, dads, and children.

When: Saturday, March 25, 2017 at 12:45 p.m.
Where: At the public entry driveway of Planned Parenthood, 44 Main Street, Danbury, Connecticut

40 Days for Life, Danbury Lenten Prayer Vigil
www.40daysforlife.com/local-campaigns/danbury/

Join us for the next Respect for Life meeting on April 5th at 7pm in the Day Chapel. www.smcr.org/respect-life

DEFENDING OUR RELIGIOUS LIBERTY



Every Saturday at 3:30pm in our Church, Parishioners have the opportunity to go to Confession. Additional times are offered through our Centers of Mercy, which were established during the Year of Mercy. Prepare yourself for the coming of Christ by giving yourself the gift of forgiveness and continue to pray for religious freedom that it will remain our most cherished and inalienable right. Visit www.smcr.org for a link to Centers of Mercy confession times and places.



Saint Mary School
RIDGEFIELD

Substitute Teachers Needed

Saint Mary School is seeking Substitute Teachers for all grade levels, Preschool, Elementary, and Middle School. Candidates must have a college degree. Teaching certification is preferred. Openings are available for all levels, Preschool – Grade 8. Come experience teaching in an environment where the focus truly is the **whole** child. For more information, contact our Main Office. If you are interested, please complete an online application via the Diocese of Bridgeport at: <http://www.applitrack.com/diobpt/onlineapp/>

Saint Mary School is currently accepting applications for the 2017-2018 school year. For more information, or to set up a tour, please contact Anna O'Rourke at (203) 438-7288, or visit www.smsridgefield.org.



Lent is derived from the word *lencten*, which is Anglo-Saxon for springtime. Lent originated in the first three centuries A.D. and, over the centuries, developed from a one or two-day observance to forty days (recalling the 40 day fasts of Christ: Matthew 4:2; Moses, Exodus 34:28; and Elijah, 1 Kings 19:8).
nyfaithformation.org

FAITH FORMATION CORNER



Walking by Faith in Lent

Walking & Praying in your Neighborhood

If you get a springy day (or if you are tough and can go out in the cold), do a service to your neighborhood by taking a walk, noticing things around your neighborhood and praying about them. You can pray for specific people that you know or don't know as the case may be. You can give thanks for the beautiful things in your neighborhood and for mercy on the broken places. Be creative! Get outside! Have some fun! You may see your neighborhood in a new way.

Our Homily Survey link is @ www.smcr.org. We appreciate and value your feedback!

CATHOLIC ACTION

DONATE: EASTER FOOD DRIVE!!!

During the month of March, collected food goes to the Easter Food Drive, sponsored by our Knights of Columbus. Collection bins are in the Church and Hall. Thank you for your generosity!



MARQUETTE COUNCIL OF THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

RAFFLE!!!

This month our council is offering an opportunity to win up to **10 separate all-cash prizes!** Raffle tickets are available in the Parish office at a cost of \$10 each and are available throughout the month of March. **Grand prize: \$5,000. 2nd-\$3,500. 3rd-\$2,000. 4th-\$1,500. 5th-\$1,000. 6th-\$600. 7th- \$500. 8th- \$400. 9th- \$300. & 10th prize is \$200.** Drawing is held by the Ernest Wilson KOC Council on Friday May 5th at the Hartford Marriott. Ticket holders **DO NOT** need to be present to win. Proceeds will go to our Knights of Columbus' charitable works.

PILGRIM VIRGIN

Lent is a time for extra prayer, sacrifice and penance. Our Lady of Fatima's Message to the world: Do penance, amend your life, offend God no more and pray the Rosary daily for world peace and the conversion of sinners. To better prepare ourselves during Lent, invite the Pilgrim Virgin of Fatima Statue into your home. To schedule a visit call Elma Stoveken at 203-894-1341.



Love One Another as I have Loved You

In John 15:12, Jesus says, "This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you." Loving and caring for one another is something Jesus has called us all to do. In Stephen Ministry, people with special gifts for caring put those gifts to use in an organized way, bringing Jesus' love and care to those who need it most. If you know of someone who is hurting, talk to one of our Stephen Ministry Leaders, Mary Ann O'Grady – 203-438-5610 or Jack Hughes – 203-665-0054. Our Ministers are ready to provide focused, confidential, one-to-one Christian care—to help that person experience the healing power of Christ's love.

Immaculate High School's 12th Annual Gala "A Night of Mystery and Intrigue"

April 1, 2017 at the Amber Room Colonnade
Time: 6:30pm – 11:30pm
Ticket price: \$150 per person
Dress attire: Black Tie Optional

Live and Silent Auction - proceeds will support Immaculate High's academic and extracurricular programs. Purchase tickets at www.immaculatehs.org/gala. For more information, contact Debbie Basile at 203-744-1510 ext. 159.

EUCHARISTIC ADORATION



Eucharistic Adoration gives us the opportunity to pray before the exposed Blessed Sacrament. Outside of Mass, we come to Adoration to be with Jesus in the Eucharist, to pray to Him, to listen to Him, to rest in Him, and to keep Him company.

"Could you not wait one hour with me? Do you not know that I thirst for your love?"

O means permanent or substitute adorer urgently needed.
X means 1 additional adorer is needed.
Blank boxes mean 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	O	O	X	O	X	X
2am-3am	O	X	X	X	X	X	X
3am-4am	O	X	X	X	X	O	X
4am-5am	O	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	X
8am-9am	X	O	X		X		X
9am-10am	X	X		X	X	X	X
10am-11am	X			X		X	X
11am-12N	X						X
12N-1pm	X				X	X	X
1pm-2pm	O	X	X	O	X		X
2pm-3pm	X	X	X	X		X	X
3pm-4pm		X	X	X	X	X	X
4pm-5pm	X		X	X	X		X
5pm-6pm	X		X	X	X		X
6pm-7pm	X			X	X	X	X
7pm-8pm	X					X	X
8pm-9pm						X	X
9pm-10pm	X	X			X	X	X
10pm-11pm			X	X	O	X	X
11pm-12M	X		X		X	X	X

Our Parish Adoration Chapel, 183 High Ridge Avenue, is open 24/7. The entrance is near our Religious Ed Office. Stop by anytime or call Bill/Monica @ 914-533-2832 to sign up for a needed hour: **SUN: 2-3am, 3-4am, 4-5am, 1-2pm; MON: 1-2am, 8-9am; TUES: 1-2am; WED: 1-2pm; THURS: 1-2am, 10-11pm; FRI: 3-4am.**

EVERY Thursday evening, 7-9pm, 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

Lent has begun and is an opportunity to deepen our relationship with the Lord. How about spending a weekly hour and half and experience our Men's Ministry on Saturday mornings from 6:30-8:00AM? Think of it as a weekly stop on your Lenten journey - shared with 50 to 60 other like-minded men. Besides having a great and welcoming community, we also serve bagels, coffee & OJ each week to ease the pain of a **very worthwhile wakeup call!**