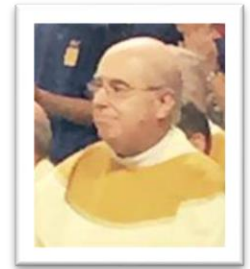


25th Sunday in Ordinary Time

September 24, 2017



American Heritage Girls – AHG

We have a wonderful opportunity for young girls at our Parish, our Catholic American Heritage Girls Troop. I thought you would appreciate an update. – Msgr. Bronkiewicz

On Saturday morning on September 16, 2017, American Heritage Girls Troop CT6877 from our St. Mary Parish and School celebrated the AHG National Day of Service by serving the needy clients at the St. Thomas Merton Center Soup Kitchen in Bridgeport, CT.

Our hard-working young ladies arrived in Bridgeport ready to work at 7:30 am. They prepared center pieces, set tables, unstacked the chairs, made and distributed 140 goodie bags, led and sang grace, helped to serve condiments and socialized and played games with the clients as you can see below.

"My favorite part was watching the people smile when we gave them the goodie bags" said Lyla Wolf, 7-year-old and 2nd year Tenderheart from St. Mary School. Riley Mitchell, 3rd year Tenderheart shared "My favorite part was playing games with them."

American Heritage Girls Troop CT6877, chartered by St. Mary Parish in Ridgefield, is a Catholic Troop that provides a faith-based alternative to traditional girl scouting programs. Troop Coordinator, Jennifer Mitchell, who prepared this update, shared that "Although we are a Catholic troop, you do not have to be Catholic to be a part of our troop; we welcome all girls interested in sharing our mission to build women of integrity through service to God, family, community and country. In an increasingly secular world, American Heritage Girls provides girls with an opportunity to develop faith-friendships, service opportunities and to come to see the beauty of the world in a Christ-centered environment. "

If you would like to learn more about AHG Troop CT6877 please visit www.AmericanHeritageGirls.com or e-mail jenmitchell@comcast.net.





MASS READINGS & INTENTIONS

MONDAY, September 25

Ezr 1:1-6/Lk 8:16-18

7:00 AM Dante Ligi

12:00 PM Otto and Frances Pambianchi

TUESDAY, September 26

Ezr 6:7-8, 12b, 14-20/Lk 8:19-21

7:00 AM Charles Harry

12:00 PM Gunter Roller

WEDNESDAY, September 27

Ezr 9:5-9/Lk 9:1-6

7:00 AM Joe Browne

12:00 PM Vivienne Dalton

THURSDAY, September 28

Hg 1:1-8/Lk 9:7-9

7:00 AM Dante Ligi

12:00 PM Mary Paterniani

FRIDAY, September 29

Dn 7:9-10, 13-14 or Rv 12:7-12a/Jn 1:47-51

7:00 AM Kieran Maher and Nicky Maher

12:00 PM Sara & George Kerestes

SATURDAY, September 30

Zec 2:5-9, 14-15a/Lk 9:43b-45

8:00 AM Andrew Donovan

4:30 PM Ryan Adams

SUNDAY, October 1

Ez 18:25-28/Phil 2:1-11 or 2:1-5/Mt 21:28-32

Church

7:30 AM Conrad and Mary Sponberg

9:15 AM Thomas Carey

11:15 AM Michael and Helen Turansky

Hall

10:30 AM Kathryn Drew

12:00 PM Parishioners of the Parish

5:00 PM Joseph Sorgie



ONLINE SUGGESTION BOXES!

Thank you for your ideas for our **Church Refurbish** and our **Parish!**
Go to www.smcr.org for links.

NEW CONFESSION SCHEDULE

In response to recent Parishioner feedback, we are offering additional Confession times:

--**Tuesdays and Thursdays from 12:30-1:00pm**, after our Noon Mass

--**Sunday from 4-4:45pm**, before our 5pm Mass

These new times are in addition to our regular **Saturday Confessions from 3:30 to 4:30pm**.

FUNERAL AND WAKES

Parish funerals & wakes are now posted on our website.



GOD'S PLAN FOR GIVING

WEEKLY YEAR-TO-DATE

September 17, 2017	\$22,881	\$837,412
September 18, 2016	\$22,196	\$884,141

Hospitality House

2017	\$4,999
2016	\$5,857



2017 ANNUAL CATHOLIC APPEAL

PARISH GOAL	\$305,000
RAISED TO DATE	\$356,949
% OF GOAL	117.03%

Thank you for your generosity and support!

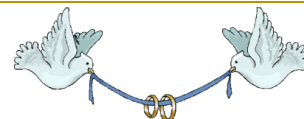
Prayers for the Sick

Please remember our sick in your prayers, especially **Josie Connelly, Conor McLaughlin, Fr. Lionel Medeiros, and Thomas Mendez**. 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 **Jack Dempsey van Eyk, Henry Lewis Farrand, and Dominic Anthony Iulucci**, who were baptized in our Church last weekend.



Marriage Banns

I. Thomas George Hausheer & Danielle Marie Vontobel

Worldwide Marriage Encounter

"The Lord is kind and merciful, slow to anger, and rich in compassion." Help to encourage our compassion and forgiveness by attending a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend. The next WWME Weekends are Nov 3-5, 2017 in Manchester, CT and Sep 29-Oct 1, 2017 in Morristown, NJ. For more information, call Dennis & Jane Lamondy at 860-481-3720 or visit us at <https://wwwmectw.org/>.



Saint Mary School

RIDGEFIELD

Fall Schedules! Go to www.smcr.org for the 2017-2018 Religious Ed Calendars. Registration is now online. Visit our Parish Website to learn about our new Family Formation Program.

While it is just September, SMS 7th and 8th grade students have begun the process of evaluating their options for High School. Representatives from Catholic High Schools have hosted information sessions for our 7th and 8th grade students and their families. Our Assistant Principal, Mrs. Liz Manno, helps guide our families through the process.

Success is best measured by results, and students who have graduated from SMS have made very successful transitions into high school. SMS alumni are enrolled in both public and private high schools including:

- Academy of Our Lady of Mercy - Lauralton Hall
- Brunswick School
- Convent of the Sacred Heart
- Fairfield College Preparatory School
- The Hopkins School
- Immaculate High School
- Iona Preparatory School
- Kennedy Catholic High School
- North Salem High School
- Joel Barlow (Redding) High School
- Ridgfield High School

Saint Mary School is currently enrolling students in select grades for the 2017-2018 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.smsridgfield.org.

RESPECT LIFE COMMITTEE

Project Rachel/Entering Canaan Healing Events:



Men's Day of Healing – October 7, 2017

Women's Day of Healing – October 7, 2017

Women's Hope and Healing Weekend* - November 10-12, 2017 (Closed group for those who attended a Women's Day of Healing, October 7, 2017.)

Please contact Project Rachel at 203.895.3554 or 203.416.1619 or email at projectrachel@diobpt.org for help or more information.

Please note: The October Respect Life Meeting has been rescheduled to Thursday morning, October 5, at 10:00 AM, in the Barn.

DEFENDING OUR RELIGIOUS LIBERTY



"In a diverse society like ours, people will disagree on moral issues. A majority should not be able to impose its way of

life on others by using the government to coerce people into violating their consciences. The Catholic Church teaches that religious freedom has to do with immunity from coercion. Immunity from government coercion is a right that all citizens in this country should enjoy. So in asking for an exemption to the HHS mandate to fully accommodate deeply held moral and religious beliefs, we are simply asking that the government give us the space to fully participate in American life." -- Cardinal Daniel N. DiNardo, archbishop of Galveston-Houston & president of the USCCB.

VIRTUS® VIRTUS TRAINING will be offered at St. Excellence Mary Parish on September 28th from 7 - 9pm in the Day Chapel. Please register at VIRTUSonline.org.

FAITH FORMATION CORNER



Faith, Hope & Love!

So faith, hope, love abide, these three; but the greatest of these is love. 1 Corinthians 13:13

Faith, hope, and love are known in Catholic tradition as the "theological virtues." They are virtues which are revealed, supernatural, and, strictly speaking, impossible for us to develop on our own. There are other virtues in the Catholic tradition (prudence, temperance, justice, and fortitude) known as "cardinal virtues." Cardinal virtues are natural virtues. They are the sorts of virtues we can arrive at and even practice using common sense, wisdom, and a little moxie. But the theological virtues are supernatural gifts. God gives them to us or we do not possess them at all. And he gives them to us so we can give them back to him. He gives us the grace to believe and so we exercise faith in him. He gives us "a future and hope" (Jeremiah 29:11) and so we hope in him. He gives us love and so we have love for him that overflows in love of our neighbor. Despite the opinions of some Christians, Paul was careful to note that the greatest of these virtues is not faith, but love. But love without faith is impossible, for faith roots us in God. Ask God for the power to exercise faith, have hope, and show love today. Catholicexchange.com



12-DAY PILGRIMAGE NORTHERN ITALY

September 15th – 26th, 2018

Visit Rome, Assisi, Florence, La Verna, Padua, Venice, and Stresa. Spiritual Director: Bishop Frank J. Caggiano. Go to www.smcr.org for more details and itinerary.



Friday September 29th 12 NOON to 5 PM
 Saturday September 30th 10 AM to 4 PM
 Sunday October 1st 8 AM to 4 PM

60% of profits donated in your name to ST. MARY CHURCH
 Mention Monsignor's name to receive an additional 15%.

St. Mary School conference room Questions? bob@libertygoldct.com

CATHOLIC ACTION

VOLUNTEER: SERVING LUNCH

Two or three volunteers needed. Commitment: appx 2x/month, weekdays of your choosing, Mon-Fri. Hours: 11:45am-1:00pm. Where: Congregate Housing, 51 Prospect Ridge. For more info or questions, contact Suzanne MacAvoy, 203 438-7056, sdmacavoy@hotmail.com

DONATE: FOOD PANTRY

In the month of September, collected food will go to the Saint Joseph Parenting Center. Collection bins are in the Church and Hall. Thank you for your generosity!



MARQUETTE COUNCIL OF THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

Our order was founded in 1882 on the principles of charity, unity and fraternity. The Marquette Council's activities started here at St. Mary Parish in 1894 and have continued uninterrupted for over 120 years. Our goal is to offer our members and their families an opportunity to share God's love through service to our Priests, Parish and community. Want to enrich your faith & model strong values for your family? Learn more at www.KOFC.org or contact Phil Del Giudice, Grand Knight, Compass_grp@yahoo.com.

PILGRIM VIRGIN

This year we celebrated the 100th anniversary of the apparitions of Our Lady of Fatima. Our Lady'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. Invite the Pilgrim Virgin of Fatima Statue into your home. To schedule a visit call Elma Stoveken, 203-894-1341.



RCIA

RCIA is the Church's way of helping people become members of the Roman Catholic Church. It is concerned with the formation of a person into a fuller understanding of our Catholic faith, so that he or she can comfortably pray and serve within our Church. Contact DRE, Pat Postiglione, 203-438-7335.



Thank you for your feedback on our homilies. Go to www.smcr.org for a link to our HOMILY SURVEY.

EUCHARISTIC ADORATION



Our Adoration Chapel, the oldest one in Connecticut, is open 24/7. The entrance is near our Religious Ed Office. Stop by anytime or sign up for an hour:

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	X	X	O	X	X
2am-3am	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
3am-4am	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
4am-5am	X	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	X	X		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	X
2pm-3pm	X	X	X	X		X	X
3pm-4pm		X	X	X	X	X	X
4pm-5pm	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	X	X	X
11pm-12M	X		O		X	X	X

How blessed are we to be able to spend time with Jesus in our Adoration Chapel in spiritual conversation before His sacramental presence. Show your love by signing up or by substituting for difficult hours. To do so, please call Bill & Monica @ (914)-533-2832.

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 sung and prayed. Please join us!

The TEACHING MASS has been rescheduled to November 18th. RSVP on our Parish website.



ST. MARY PARISH MEN'S MINISTRY

Take an opportunity to deepen your relationship with the Lord - along with 50 to 60 other like-minded men. How about spending a weekly hour and half experiencing our Men's Ministry on Saturday mornings from 6:30-8:00AM? 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!**

SAVE THE DATE: Movie Night!
Oct. 21 - Miracle Hour & Horton Hears a Who