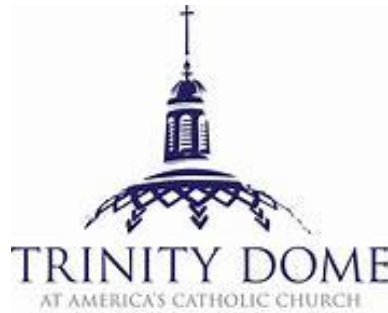


Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

January 21, 2018



Thank You for Your Generosity!

On December 8th the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary Lectionary, Donald Cardinal Wuerl, Archbishop of Washington, blessed the completed mosaic in the Trinity Dome of the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception. Five cardinals, twenty-three bishops, nearly ninety priests and over four-thousand religious and lay faithful gathered to celebrate the event.

As you know, Bishop Caggiano had asked parishes in our Diocese, that were able, to make a voluntary contribution toward to project to help offset the Diocese of Bridgeport's \$300,000 project assessment. Sixty-three Parishes in the Diocese made contributions for a combined total of \$131,504.62!

Thank you to all in our Parish who were able to participate and gave so generously to the Dome Project, which will inspire countless Catholics and pilgrims to Washington for years to come.

With sincere gratitude,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Msgr. Larry Bronkiewicz".

Msgr. Larry Bronkiewicz

Pastor



MASS READINGS & INTENTIONS

MONDAY, January 22

2 Sm 5:1-7, 10/Mk 3:22-30

7:00 AM John Wagner - 2nd Anniversary
12:00 PM Angelo Mannarino

TUESDAY, January 23

2 Sm 6:12b-15, 17-19/Mk 3:31-35

7:00 AM Maurizio DeSimone
12:00 PM Hope Hughes

WEDNESDAY, January 24

2 Sm 7:4-17/Mk 4:1-20

7:00 AM Catherine McGavin
12:00 PM Angelo Mannarino

THURSDAY, January 25

Acts 22:3-16 or Acts 9:1-22/Mk 16:15-18

7:00 AM Dina Casavecchia
12:00 PM John Hyland

FRIDAY, January 26

2 Tm 1:1-8 or Ti 1:1-5/Mk 4:26-34

7:00 AM Georgine Tulipani
12:00 PM Rick Ligi, Jr.

SATURDAY, January 27

2 Sm 12:1-7a, 10-17/Mk 4:35-41

8:00 AM Joseph Strilowich
4:30 PM Parishioners of the Parish

SUNDAY, January 28

Dt 18:15-20/1 Cor 7:32-35/Mk 1:21-28

Church

7:30 AM Dante Ligi
9:15 AM Santo Cambareri
11:15 AM Andrew Ridzik

Hall

10:30 AM Kathleen Howard
12:00 PM Otto Pambianchi
5:00 PM Robert Linnon

Register at our Parish! It's easy. Stop by our Parish Office or go to our website. We welcome you!



Pope Francis chose his papal name because of the humility and austerity of St. Francis of Assisi. While Archbishop of Buenos Aires, he lived in a simple apartment and rode the bus. When he went to Rome to participate in the papal election, he flew economy!



GOD'S PLAN FOR GIVING

WEEKLY YEAR-TO-DATE

January 14, 2018	\$23,966	\$46,702
January 15, 2017	\$23,618	\$43,707

Facilities Repair

2018	\$4,478
2017	\$4,899

2017 ANNUAL CATHOLIC APPEAL

PARISH GOAL	\$305,000
RAISED TO DATE	\$363,234
% OF GOAL	119.09%

Contribution Tax Statements

Contribution Tax Statements will be mailed out in January to all Parishioners who contributed to our Parish Offertory this year. All contributions must have been received by December 31, 2017, in order to be acknowledged for 2017 tax status.

Prayers for the Sick

Please remember our sick in your prayers, especially **Olivia Avate, Fr. John Baran, Jeanne Mastandrea, Pat Ruhl and Jane Ventrella.**

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.



RCIA



RCIA - Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults - is meeting in January. This group is open to anyone who would like to receive the Sacrament of Baptism, Confirmation and/or Holy Eucharist. All are welcome to join and learn more about the Catholic Faith. For more info and dates, call Pat Postiglione, 203-438-7335 or ppostiglione@smcr.org

MEALS ON WHEELS



Know someone homebound, ill, disabled or recovering from surgery? Contact Meals on Wheels of Ridgefield at mealsonwheelsofridgefield.org or 203-438-8788 to learn about our delicious, low cost program to help those unable to cook for themselves.

Religious Education



Confirmation classes are on January 21st and 22nd. This month's theme is "How Do I Build the Kingdom?" - a look at the Corporal and Spiritual Works of Mercy. Service forms are due as well as the Gospel Reflections for the month of December.

Our Midnight Run is on Friday, January 26th. Middle School Volunteers are needed for soup and sandwich making.

Family Formation classes are on February 4th, 5th, and 6th when we will study the Covenants that God made with Noah, Abraham and Moses.

RESPECT LIFE COMMITTEE

The victims of this "throwaway" culture are precisely the weakest and most fragile human beings — the unborn, the poorest, the sick and elderly, the seriously handicapped, *etc.* — who are in danger of being 'thrown away,' expelled from a system that must be efficient at all costs.

www.smcr.org/respect-life



DEFENDING OUR RELIGIOUS LIBERTY

Fifty years ago, the Second Vatican Council adopted a declaration on religious freedom called, *Dignitatis Humanae*. In it, it says that religious freedom includes the freedom to practice our faith in public. In our culture, some tend to think that religious liberty means only that individuals can worship without interference from the government. This understanding is inadequate. Religious schools, hospitals, and charities should be able to operate in accordance with their faith. Indeed, the work of these organizations is part and parcel of their faith. They are expressions of religious mission, and religions must have the space to live out their missions.

Let us pray that legislators who work to replace the federal health care mandate will read and be inspired by *Dignitatis Humanae*.

20th ANNIVERSARY



Saint Mary School
RIDGEFIELD

Middle School Midterms

Students in Grade 6-8 recently completed midterm exams. SMS believes that having midterm and final exams in middle school better prepares students for high school, improves study skills, cultivates organizational skills, and develops the skill of retaining material. Our alumni agree with us, often citing these tests as one of the ways SMS prepared them for high school. The best part of exams – the annual Middle School Breakfast held at the completion of exam week!

Saint Mary School is currently enrolling students in select grades of Preschool through Grade 8 for the 2017-2018 school year, as well as accepting applications for the 2018-2019 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.

FAITH FORMATION CORNER

Spend Time Reading & Meditating on God's Word

In Ephesians 6:17, the apostle, Paul, writes "And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God." If we hope to understand God's teachings and let them guide us, spending quality time with the Bible will help us accomplish this goal. By exploring our faith in new ways, we can find many treasures. Inspiration, peace of mind, wisdom, compassion, fellowship and the saving love of Jesus can be found along the path. If we resolve to refresh our faith through any of these opportunities, our journey as Catholics can be revitalized in ways we never imagined.

Beliefnet.com



PRE-BAPTISM CLASS

Pre-Baptism instruction is required for parents who have not had any within five years and wish to have their child baptized. Our next class will be held Wednesday, **March 14th** from 7:30-8:30pm in the Barn. Please call our Parish Office to register.

CATHOLIC ACTION

MIDNIGHT RUN

The next scheduled Midnight Run is January 26th. Needed items: medium to lightweight jackets, hooded sweatshirts, jeans, new underwear (M-XL), socks, blankets, backpacks, lightly used sneakers & shoes, and travel size toiletries, including toothpaste and mouthwash.



Drop off donations at the Barn from 7:30am to 3:30pm, January 19-25. Volunteers are needed to sort and fold clothing, pick up and return the van and to go on the Run. To volunteer, call Bob Wendel, 914-325-6860.

VOLUNTEERS: LUNCH & BINGO

Two or three volunteers needed to serve lunch. Commitment is appx 2x/month, weekdays of your choosing, Mon-Fri. Hours: 11:45am-1:00pm. ALSO needed: 2 Bingo Callers. Wednesdays 1-2:30. Commitment - 1 hour a month. Where: Congregate Housing, 51 Prospect Ridge. For more info or questions, contact Suzanne MacAvoy, 203 438-7056, sdmacavoy@hotmail.com



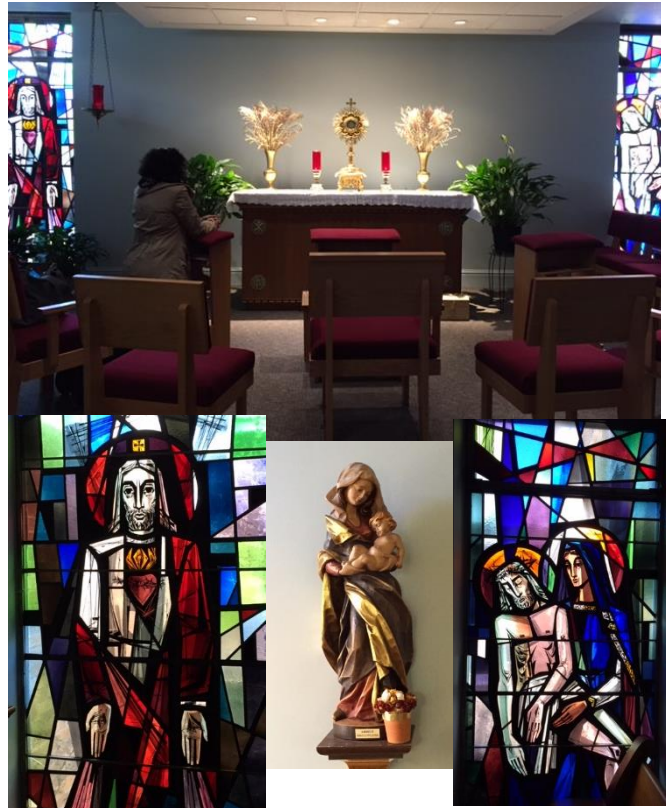
DONATE: FOOD PANTRY

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



EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Our Adoration Chapel, the oldest one in Connecticut, is open 24/7. Entrance near our RE Office. Stop by anytime or sign up for an hour.



"The Church and the world have great need of Eucharistic adoration. Jesus waits for us in this sacrament of love. Let us be generous with our time in going to meet Him in adoration and contemplation full of faith...May our adoration never cease...Anyone who prays to the Eucharistic Savior draws the whole world with him and raises it to God."—Pope John Paul II
 Our Adoration Chapel is quiet and peaceful. Jesus welcomes you to visit with Him anytime of the day or night. To sign up for an hour at Chapel either go to our website or call Bill or Monica Brown @ 914-533-2832. Thank you & God bless.

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION SEMINAR

St. Joseph's Seminary (Yonkers), Friday, February 16, 7pm
 Presentation by James Monti, Author of "Praying in the Presence of Our Lord." More information and registration: nyliturgy.org/workshops
 Contact: liturgy@archny.org or 914.968.6200, x8177



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 wake up call**

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



As we start the new year, let us be reminded of Our Lady's message to us: *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 in 2018. To schedule a visit call Elma Stoveken, 203-894-1341.

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!