

## Second Sunday of Easter

### Divine Mercy Sunday

April 8, 2018

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### Showering the World with Divine Mercy

Today we celebrate **Divine Mercy Sunday**. Pope Francis has urged us to embrace this day and truly reflect a spirit of mercy, repentance and reconciliation in our lives. On this day, one week after Easter, we are reminded why Jesus died on the cross and rose from the dead.

This is what the Church has to say in part about this great feast: "During the Church's millennium celebration in 2000, Pope John Paul II declared that the Second Sunday of Easter be known as "Divine Mercy Sunday." Prior to this celebration, the Pope also wrote a profound encyclical called "Rich in Mercy" which explained our Catholic faith in God's infinite mercy. Our Holy Father looked to a holy woman of Poland, Sr. Faustina, as a witness of the message of Divine Mercy Sunday that God's mercy is greater than our sins.

Please join us this Sunday afternoon at 3pm in our Church for a Holy Hour devoted to God's mercy.

Wishing you a blessed day!

Msgr. Larry Bronkiewicz  
Pastor

In St. Faustina's *Diary*, she recorded a message from Jesus about the extraordinary graces He wants to pour out upon souls through the devout reception of Holy Communion on Divine Mercy Sunday. Jesus says, "The soul that will go to confession and receive Holy Communion [on that day] shall obtain complete forgiveness [or remission] of sins and punishment" (699).



**MASS READINGS & INTENTIONS**

**MONDAY, April 9**

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

7:00 AM Andrew Murphy

12:00 PM Ridea Ligi

**TUESDAY, April 10**

Acts 4:32-37/Jn 3:7b-15

7:00 AM Andrew Murphy

12:00 PM Digby Barrios

**WEDNESDAY, April 11**

Acts 5:17-26/Jn 3:16-21

7:00 AM Mary Houlihan

12:00 PM Patricia E. Murphy

**THURSDAY, April 12**

Acts 5:27-33/Jn 3:31-36

7:00 AM Anna Marie Daubert

12:00 PM John G. Gilchrist

**FRIDAY, April 13**

Acts 5:34-42/Jn 6:1-15

7:00 AM Annamae Jacobs

12:00 PM Paula McGovern

**SATURDAY, April 14**

Acts 6:1-7/Jn 6:16-21

8:00 AM Pat Ruhl

4:30 PM Barbara Ward

**SUNDAY, April 15**

Acts 3:13-15, 17-19/1 Jn 2:1-5a/Lk 24:35-48

**CHURCH**

7:30 AM Anthony & Nora Smith

9:15 AM John Selby

11:15 AM Desmond Reilly

**HALL**

10:30 AM Parishioners of the Parish

12:00 PM Teresa Avento

5:00 PM Deceased Members of the Oleksiak



**GOD'S PLAN FOR GIVING**

**WEEKLY YEAR-TO-DATE**

<b>March 25, 2018</b>	<b>\$27,054</b>	<b>\$282,208</b>
March 16, 2017	\$23,775	\$276,610

<b>Hospitality</b>		
<b>2018</b>	<b>\$7,551</b>	
2017	\$7,071	

<b>April 1, 2018</b>	<b>\$25,063</b>	<b>\$307,271</b>
April 2, 2017	\$22,733	\$299,343

<b>Easter Offering</b>		
<b>2018</b>	<b>\$33,632</b>	
2017	\$29,299	

<b>Good Friday</b>	<b>\$3,385</b>	
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*Prayers for the Sick*

Please remember our sick in your prayers, especially **Mike DeSerio, Shelagh Featherstone, Margaret Hughes, Lee & Scott McCaughey, Jennie Palmieri, Gloria Putnam and Vincent Ryan**: 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.



**After the Diagnosis...A Guide for Living**

Have you or someone you love received a serious diagnosis? Are you a caregiver for a loved one dealing with a serious illness? The challenges of these situations can become overwhelming, the anxieties and pressures a heavy burden to bear. Father Thomas Lynch and co-author Barbara Mariconda have spent the last 7 years addressing these issues in their soon-to-be released critically acclaimed book: **After the Diagnosis...A Guide for Living**. Fr. Tom and Barbara share with you the practical strategies and insights that can transform this phase of life that all of us will eventually face. Join them at their Book Launch, Signing and Q&A Session at the St. James Parish Hall, Sunday, April 29<sup>th</sup> from 1-4pm. For more information, [journeytothesoulbooks.com](http://journeytothesoulbooks.com).

*I highly recommend this book for anyone who has received a diagnosis of serious illness and wishes to seek healing and hope. I also commend it to anyone who desires to learn how to live life fully, one day at a time.* --**Most Reverend Frank Caggiano, Diocese of Bridgeport.**



**Fair Donations: Jewelry & Accessories**

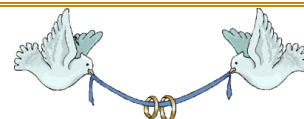


Our Fall Fair is in September! We are in need of donations of jewelry, jewelry boxes, jewelry displays, accessories (watches, sunglasses, scarves, etc.). Donation drop off: Parish Office. Thank you so much, in advance, for your generosity...Ruth VDN

**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 on Wednesday, **May 9<sup>th</sup>** from 7:30-8:30 pm in the Barn. Please call our Parish Office to register.



**Marriage Banns**

*I. Nicholas Formus – Crystal Morter*

## RCIA

RCIA 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 our Catholic Faith. For more info, call Pat Postiglione, 203-438-7335 or [ppostiglione@smcr.org](mailto:ppostiglione@smcr.org)



20th ANNIVERSARY



Saint Mary School  
RIDGEFIELD

## Track and Field Program

On your mark, get set, GO! Saint Mary School students in grades Kindergarten – Grade 8 are eligible to participate in the Saint Mary School Track Program. As members of the Danbury Parochial League, students may compete in both individual track and field events, and can participate in a relay. Students practice weekly, attend two meets at Immaculate High School, and if they qualify, are invited to an All-Star Meet. The program provides a great team experience in a supportive environment.

Saint Mary School is currently 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](http://www.smsridgefield.org).

**Calling all Senior Citizens!** We missed you in March, but are ready for Spring! Please join us at our next luncheon on Tuesday, April 17! Rosary begins in the Hall at 11:30, Mass will be at 12:00, with lunch to follow. Come enjoy good food and good company. Please RSVP to Saint Mary School's Office, 203-438-7288 by Monday, April 16. (Please note that Office will be closed the week of April 8 for Spring Break). Suggested donation \$6.

## Save the Date

DISCIPLES 4 LIFE  
RETREAT

St. Mary Parish Retreat



May 18 ~ 20, 2018

Seton-Neumann Center  
Danbury, CT

LUKE 5:1-11

## Pre-purchase St. Mary Cemetery Space

"I felt good knowing I was sparing my family the burden of making this decision at a difficult time in their lives."

Secure your family heritage at St. Mary Parish. Visit [www.smcr.org](http://www.smcr.org) for

more info and FAQs or call Donna Barber at the cemetery office, 203-438-3606.



## DEFENDING OUR RELIGIOUS LIBERTY

The Administration has pledged that it will defend and protect religious liberty. The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) has urged the fulfillment of this promise, including an end to regulations and other mandates by the federal government that force people of faith to make choices that go against their religious principles.

**DIVORCE & SEPARATION SUPPORT GROUP** meets Sundays at 7:30pm in the Barn, next to our Church. All faiths welcome!

## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

### Dorothy Day House of Hospitality

Join our DD volunteers to occasionally prepare salads and/or a tray of food for the main course that we serve the third Sunday of each month. Please contact [mbreilly28@gmail.com](mailto:mbreilly28@gmail.com) if interested.

## FAITH FORMATION CORNER



### April – A Month of Celebration

After our solemn commemoration of the last days and death of Our Lord we will spend the month of April celebrating. As Spring breaks forth even nature will join us as buds and blooms begin to surface, and we spend this month basking in the joy of the Resurrection. We continue throughout the entire month to cry out, "Christ is risen, Christ is truly risen." Easter offers us the opportunity to begin again as though we were newly baptized. The unfathomable mercy of God is made manifest today if we but accept God's most gracious offer. Easter is the feast of feasts, the unalloyed joy and gladness of all Christians. This truly is "the day that the Lord has made." From Sunday to Sunday, from year to year, the Easters of our lives will lead us to that blessed day on which Christ has promised that He will come again with glory to take us with Him into the kingdom of His Father. Catholicculture.org

Mass Intentions for March 2019 are now available in the Parish Office.

**CONFESSIONS THIS SUNDAY** will be in our Church (not the Parish Hall) after the Divine Mercy Sunday service.

**CATHOLIC ACTION**

**MIDNIGHT RUN**

The next scheduled Midnight Run is April 27th. 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, April 23-26. 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.



**DONATE: FOOD PANTRY**

Food collected in April goes to the Ridgefield Food Pantry. 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](http://www.KOFC.org) or contact Phil Del Giudice, Grand Knight, [Compass\\_grp@yahoo.com](mailto:Compass_grp@yahoo.com).

**PILGRIM VIRGIN IS BACK!**

The Pilgrim Virgin statue is ready to travel to your home upon request. The message of Fatima remains the same and is more urgent than ever: say the Rosary daily for peace in the world, pray for the conversion of sinners and observe First Saturday Devotion. To arrange for a visit of the Pilgrim Virgin statue to your home, please call Elma Stoveken at 203-894-1341 or email at [jstoveken@comcast.net](mailto:jstoveken@comcast.net).



Our Music Director, Darren Motise, will play an organ recital at The United States Military Academy at West Point on Sunday, April 22<sup>nd</sup> at 4pm. The concert will take place in the magnificent Cadet Chapel, which houses the world's largest church organ. Repertoire will include works by Bach and Duruflé. Admission is free.

**EVENT RENTAL SPACE**

Need a place to gather after a Baptism, Funeral or Wedding Rehearsal? St. Mary Parish offers a variety of venues for social events and meetings, including our Parish Barn for smaller groups and our Parish Hall for larger groups, up to 245. Dance floor, free parking and on-site caterer available. Please contact our Parish Office, 203-438-6538, for more information.

**EUCCHARISTIC 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 = permanent or substitute adorer urgently needed.  
X = there is at least 1 adorer. 2 adorers are desired.

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	O	X	X	O	X	X
2am-3am	X	X	X	O	X	X	X
3am-4am	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
4am-5am	X	X		X	X	X	X
5am-6am	X	X	X	X		X	X
6am-7am	X	X	X	X		X	O
7am-8am	X	O	X	X	X	X	X
8am-9am	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
9am-10am	X	X	X		X	X	X
10am-11am	X	X		X		X	X
11am-12N	O	X	X	X	X		O
12N-1pm	X	X		X	X	X	X
1pm-2pm	X	X		X	X	X	O
2pm-3pm	X	O	X	X		X	X
3pm-4pm	X	X	X		X	X	X
4pm-5pm	X				X	X	X
5pm-6pm	X			X	X		X
6pm-7pm	X	X	X		X	X	O
7pm-8pm	X	X				X	X
8pm-9pm	X	X	X			X	X
9pm-10pm	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
10pm-11pm	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
11pm-12M	X	X	X	X	X	X	X

As we continue to celebrate our Lord's Resurrection on this Second Sunday of Easter, Divine Mercy Sunday, we gather again at the empty tomb outside of Jerusalem. Today reminds us again of the Paschal Mystery, which revealed so clearly our Lord's great mercy and love which endures forever. This afternoon there will be a special service at 3 PM on our Church at which the Chaplet of Divine Mercy, encouraged by St. Maria Faustina, will be prayed. Like all prayer, the Chaplet deepens our relationship with the God who loves us more than we can imagine. It may be said at any hour, especially during your own adoration hour in the Presence of the Blessed Sacrament. Call Bill or Monica at 914-533-2832 to sign up as an adorer or substitute or sign up at our website. God bless us all.

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!



**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.**