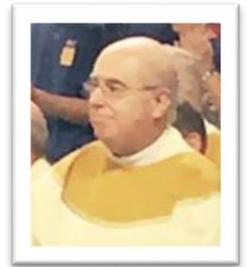


Second Sunday of Lent

February 21, 2016



FORGIVENESS

On Ash Wednesday, our Lord told us in the Gospel to pray, fast and be generous to those in need. During this Holy Season of Lent, in this Extraordinary Jubilee Year of Mercy proclaimed by Pope Francis, let us also keep the eyes of our hearts fixed on the infinite compassion and forgiveness of our loving God, taking advantage of many opportunities to celebrate God's forgiveness through Confession and Absolution in the Sacrament of Penance.

In addition to our Parish regular Saturday 3:00 – 4:00 pm Confessions, Confessions will also be heard before **Stations of the Cross** from 7:00-7:30 pm on Lenten Fridays as well as after **Stations**.

Every Tuesday and Thursday during the Year of Mercy, throughout our Diocese, Confessions will be heard in various Vicariate Centers of Mercy from 7:00-8:30 pm (see flyer in our Bulletin). In our Vicariate Confessions will be heard from 7:00-8:30 pm on Tuesdays at St. Joseph Church, Brookfield and on Thursdays at Sacred Heart Church, Danbury.

May God bless us all with the graces of the Lenten Season, especially the grace of repentance of heart.



Msgr. Larry Bronkiewicz
Pastor



MASS READINGS & INTENTIONS

MONDAY, February 22

1 Pt 5:1-4; Mt 16:13-19

7:00 AM Frank Rowella, Sr.

12:00 PM Marjorie Remza - 8th Anniversary

TUESDAY, February 23

Is 1:10,16-20; Mt 23:1-12

7:00 AM Joseph & Florence Boland

12:00 PM Mary Bunsu

WEDNESDAY, February 24

Jer 18:18-20; Mt 20:17-28

7:00 AM Andrew Nirrengarten

12:00 PM Margaret Mannion

THURSDAY, February 25

Jer 17:5-10; Lk 16:19-31

7:00 AM Casey Dunne

12:00 PM Judy Thompson

FRIDAY, February 26

Gn 37:3-4,12-13a,17b-28a; Mt 21:33-43,45-46

7:00 AM Helen Piacquadio

12:00 PM Andrew J. Brown, Sr.

SATURDAY, February 27

Mi 7:14-15,18-20; Lk 15:1-3,11-32

8:00 AM Katherine Olivo

4:00 PM Bill Schmitt

5:30 PM James Gallagher

SUNDAY, February 28

Rom 5:1-2,5-8; Jn 4:5-42 or 4:5-15,19b-26,39a,40-42

CHURCH

7:00 AM Donald Carlin

9:15 AM Antoinette Bellacosa

11:15 AM Ryan Adams

HALL

8:00 AM Parishioners of the Parish

10:30 AM Paula Debono

12:00 PM Deceased Members of the Kostow Family

5:00 PM Carey Deputy

In addition to our Saturday 3:00 – 4:00 pm Confessions **AND** Diocesan Center of Mercy Confessions, **CONFESSIONS** will also be heard from 7:00-7:30 pm, as well as after **STATIONS OF THE CROSS** (which will begin at 7:30 pm) each Friday evening in our Church.

Please remember our sick in your prayers; especially, Joseph Barone, Mary Jo Calamai, Patti Capilli, Joseph Fenton 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

| | | |
|-------------------|----------|-----------|
| February 14, 2016 | \$22,515 | \$166,433 |
| February 15, 2015 | \$17,340 | \$158,761 |

Ash Wednesday

2016 \$ 4,948

2015 \$ 4,913

Immaculate High School

2016 \$ 3,121

2015 \$ 3,574

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!"

THE IMPORTANCE OF REGISTERING AS A PARISHIONER OF SAINT MARY PARISH



Registration means we belong to a Parish Family of Faith, Hope and Love. It gives us that important sense of belonging to a Community with whom we can joyfully practice our Catholic faith. A Community with whom we hope you will share your time, talent and treasure as much as you are able in a spirit of loving service. A Community in which you can celebrate the Sacrament of Baptism of your child(ren) and in which they will receive the Sacraments of Penance, Eucharist, and Confirmation, and eventually the Sacrament of Marriage.

Registration also makes it possible for our Parish to confirm that you are a practicing Catholic, enabling you to serve as a godparent for Baptism or a sponsor for Confirmation. A practicing Catholic makes every effort to be faithful to Sunday and holy day Masses and to support our Parish.

To participate in our Religious Education Program, families are also expected to register.

Your decision to become a registered member of our Parish Family is an important decision. If we can do anything to help you, please contact us.

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." 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.





SAINT MARY RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

The Noon Mass on February 28 will be our Grade 4 Liturgy. All grade 4 students and their families are welcome. Please bring a baked good or drink for the reception to follow.

Our Priests will be hearing your children's confessions during class time throughout Lent. Please review the Act of Contrition at home with your child.

Thank you to all of our students for all the wonderful Valentine's!!!

DEFENDING OUR RELIGIOUS LIBERTY



The Catholic Church invests in the common good. It runs and operates schools, hospitals, universities, charities and social services. Our government and society have long relied on them for help and taken advantage of the vast network that churches and religious institutions provide to aid people in need and to help form good citizens. But, when we are told we've got to stop being who we are, to put aside our beliefs, or plainly go against our conscience in order to be allowed to contribute to the common good, we must speak out.

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.

BEST LENT EVER

We invite you and your entire family to join Mathew Kelly for Best Lent Ever: **Rediscover Jesus**, a 40-day spiritual journey to encounter Jesus—and yourselves—in a deeply personal way. Go to <http://dynamiccatholic.com/bestlentever/> to sign up to receive a daily e-mail with a short video from Matthew Kelly and a member of the Dynamic Catholic team.



Saint Mary School RIDGEFIELD

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 Principal Anna O'Rourke at 203-438-7288 or visit www.smsridgefield.org

RESPECT LIFE COMMITTEE

In this new culture of human life, respect for every human life is pursued and promoted. This overall respect for every person is based on the following: that everyone is created "in the image and likeness of God," and that everyone's life is clearly seen as sacred and precious in the reality of the "incarnation of the Son of God." Clearly, every human person, born and unborn--from the moment of conception to the moment of natural death, in every and all circumstances and conditions of life--is undeniably always deserving of all that protects, develops, and fulfills one's life. Therefore, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, it is both our obligation and blessing to commit ourselves in a solidarity involved with the promotion of whatever ensures and enhances the spiritual and material wellbeing of every person at all times. This thrust is a multiple effort of prayer, education, advocacy, political activity, and caring services. This effort must be continuous and passionate! For more info visit <http://www.stmarysridgefield.org/respect-life>

**SAVE THE
DATE!**

Our next **Disciples for Life Retreat** will be April 8-10, 2016 at the Seton-Neumann Center in Danbury, CT. Details to follow!

FAITH FORMATION CORNER

If you want to bring happiness to the whole world, go home and love your family.

-Mother Teresa



EUCCHARISTIC 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 | O | X | O | X | X | X |
| 2am-3am | O | X | X | X | O | 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 |
| 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 | | | X | X |
| 11am-12N | X | | X | X | X | | X |
| 12N-1pm | X | | | | X | X | X |
| 1pm-2pm | X | X | | X | X | X | 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 |

Let us remember during the season of Lent what St. Augustine said, "God loves each of us as if there were only one of us." Sign up for an hour & pray at our Parish Adoration Chapel. Please call Bill/ Monica @ (914)533-2832 to do so. God bless.

CATHOLIC ACTION

DONATE: Food Pantries **On-going**

During the month of February all food collected will go to Ridgefield Food Pantry. The following are some suggested food items: Canned fruit, hearty soups (like Progresso), cereal, coffee, rice mixes (like Rice a Roni) canned tuna or Salmon, canned meats (chicken or spam), jelly but not grape. Please no green beans or pasta at this time.

VOLUNTEER: Congregate Housing **On-going**

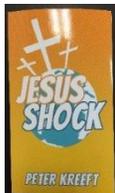
Bingo Calling - 1 or 2 volunteers needed; Wednesdays, 1-2:30 - once a month. Responsibility - set up, call numbers, collect/distribute cards etc.

Contact: Suzanne MacAvoy for more information and/or details, at 203 438-7056, sdmacavoy@hotmail.com, if interested.

THANK YOU!

We at the **St. Joseph's Parenting Center** are so grateful for the generosity of the St. Mary's community in Ridgefield. Your kindness through these years – with food, personal care items and other goods - has allowed us to support many families through their struggles. We just distributed the last few coats you donated us a couple of weeks ago and want to thank you on behalf of all the moms and children that will now be able to stay warm through the winter.

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!



"Jesus Shock" by Dr. Peter Kreeft was our Christmas gift to you. We hope you are enjoying it. To explore the ideas presented in the book in more depth, please join our casual book discussion on **Monday evening, February 29, from 7-8 PM, in our Barn, next to our Church.** Please invite family and friends who may have attended Christmas Mass with you to come also. **Dr. Kreeft will be at St. Mary on Saturday, March 19, in our Parish Hall from 1:00–3:00 pm for discussion and Q&A.**



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 meets every second and fourth Sunday of each month, 7:30 PM - 9:00 PM in the St. Mary Parish Barn (beige building next to our church). For more information contact Jim Orkin, 914-420-7564, jamesorkin@gmail.com.

MARQUETTE COUNCIL OF THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS



Don't you want to be the best role model for your child? The easiest way is to share the faith with your children by spending time with them and "walking the talk." Connect the words to action! Join the Knights of Columbus for the opportunity to serve our church and community together WITH your children. We are looking for Dads and their kids to help us throughout the year. Contact John McNicholas at jnmpmcnich@yahoo.com or visit www.kofc245.org for more info.