

25th Sunday in Ordinary Time

September 18, 2016



Welcome Father Sean Kulacz

Dear friends in Christ,

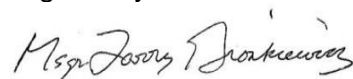
After over six years at our Parish, we say goodbye to Fr. Russ Augustine who is preparing for a new assignment at St. Mark Parish in Stratford, CT, where he will be closer to and able to more easily visit his elderly parents who live in East Haven. On behalf of all of us, I offer sincere thanks to Fr. Russ for his dedication, sense of humor and friendship here at Saint Mary Parish. We wish him the very best in his new ministry of priestly service.

At the same time, we warmly welcome Fr. Sean Kulacz as our new Parochial Vicar. Below is a note from Fr. Sean that he wanted to share with us to help introduce himself. Please be sure, in the coming weeks, if you have an opportunity, to personally welcome Fr. Sean.

Dear Parishioners, I wanted to take this opportunity to introduce myself, and give you some information about who I am. I was born and raised in Pawtucket RI, and my parents still live there, along with my brother and sister-in-law who live in Scituate, RI. I always wanted to be a priest ever since I made my First Communion. Over the years, I worked in my home parish, The Office of Youth Ministry and the Office of Community Service and Advocacy for the Diocese of Providence. I started my formation to the Priesthood in 2000 at the age of 20 at Franciscan University, Steubenville OH. From there, I transferred to St. John Fisher Seminary in Stamford, CT, and finished my bachelor degree at Sacred Heart University in Fairfield. From there I went to Mount St. Mary's Seminary in Emmitsburg, MD. I was ordained a Deacon in 2007 and Ordained a priest May 16, 2009. My first assignment was at St. Stephens in Trumbull then to The Cathedral Parish for the last five years. On a personal note, I'm not much into sports, although I do like bowling, and volleyball. I like amusement parks and roller coasters, playing board games, Star Trek and Sci-Fi movies and shows, walking and bike riding, being near water, traveling, playing on the Wii and Play Station 3, calligraphy and coloring and I enjoy decorating the Church. Most of all, I'm looking forward to serving you at my new assignment!
--Fr. Sean

Welcome Fr. Sean! May your time with us be a blessing to you and our vibrant Catholic Faith Community.

Msgr. Larry Bronkiewicz



Pastor



MASS READINGS & INTENTIONS

MONDAY, September 19

Prv 3:27-34/Lk 8:16-18

- 7:00 AM Susan Rogers Fitch
- 12:00 PM Theresa Collins

TUESDAY, September 20

Prv 21:1-6, 10-13/Lk 8:19-21

- 7:00 AM Ryan Adams - 1st Anniversary
- 12:00 PM Carey Depuy - 1st Anniversary

WEDNESDAY, September 21

Eph 4:1-7, 11-13/Mt 9:9-13

- 7:00 AM Monty Nebinger
- 12:00 PM Frank Collins

THURSDAY, September 22

Ecc1 1:2-11/Lk 9:7-9

- 7:00 AM Deceased Members of the Dziejma Family
- 12:00 PM Logan Fernald

FRIDAY, September 23

Ecc1 3:1-11/Lk 9:18-22

- 7:00 AM Joseph Dragicevich
- 12:00 PM Nancy and John Kearns

SATURDAY, September 24

Ecc1 11:9—12:8/Lk 9:43b-45

- 8:00 AM Elina Baldaserini
- 4:30 PM Jimmy Flattery

SUNDAY, September 25

Am 6:1a, 4-7/1 Tm 6:11-16/Lk 16:19-31

Church

- 7:30 AM Sylvia Marra
- 9:15 AM John Maher
- 11:15 AM Marie F. McGrath

Hall

- 10:30 AM Helen & Michael Turansky
- 12:00 PM Parishioners of the Parish
- 5:00 PM Frederick Faber



GOD'S PLAN FOR GIVING

WEEKLY YEAR-TO-DATE

| | | |
|--------------------|----------|-----------|
| September 11, 2016 | \$23,785 | \$869,660 |
| September 13, 2015 | \$23,134 | \$847,807 |

Facilities Repair

| | |
|----------------|---------|
| September 2016 | \$4,701 |
| September 2015 | \$3,220 |

This week's 2nd collection: Hospitality House



2016 ANNUAL CATHOLIC APPEAL

| | |
|----------------|-----------|
| PARISH GOAL | \$305,000 |
| RAISED TO DATE | \$485,867 |
| % OF GOAL | 159.30% |

Please remember our sick in your prayers, Especially Theresa Avento, Mary Jo Calamai, Patti Capilli, Mary Clark, Donald Drislane, Jean Mastandrea 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.)



*III. Sean Patrick O'Connor-
Mary-Nicole Dorn*

LIFE CHAIN

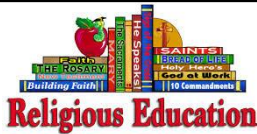
The Life Chain is a nationwide silent witness to the sanctity of life and will take place at 44 Main St., Danbury, in front of Planned Parenthood on Sunday, Oct. 2, from 2:30 to 3:30 p.m., rain or shine. Participants may pick up signs which read "Adoption: The Loving Option", "Jesus Forgives and Heals", and "Abortion Kills Children" with instructions for a prayerful witness. A rosary will be prayed. Please join us. For info call 438-6123.

BAPTISMS

We welcome to the Family of God and our Parish Family **Robert Henry Caban, Colin James Cummins, Lorenzo Carmine Simeone** who were baptized in our Church last weekend.



Special thanks to **Gossett Brothers Nursery** for their much appreciated contribution to the Parish Fair!



Religious Education Classes Begin!

Religious Education classes begin the week of Sunday, September 18, with Commissioning of our Catechists and Blessing of our Parents. Parents and child will be attending orientation during the regularly scheduled class time. Children will be with the Catechist in the classroom beginning the week of September 25th.

RESPECT LIFE COMMITTEE

SIBLING'S RETREAT WEEKEND will be held **September 23-25** (for young adults and up). Contact 877-586-4621 or lumina@postabortionhelp.org to register or more information.



MEN'S DAY OF HEALING - Men suffer from abortion too! If you know someone who is carrying the pain and sorrow of losing a child to abortion, share with them the hope filled message of God's merciful love and forgiveness. Entering Canaan Men's Day of Prayer and Healing is being held on **Saturday, October 29th**.

OCTOBER IS RESPECT LIFE MONTH!

COME JOIN US SHOW OUR LOVE FOR LIFE BY VOLUNTEERING AND/OR EARNING SERVICE HOURS:

- 40 Days for Life - Sept 28 – Nov 26 www.40daysforlife.com
 - Life Chain - October 2nd, 3:00 PM – Main Street in Danbury
 - 40 - The Movie - October 7th at 7:00 pm in Hall
 - Catholic Scouting Diaper Drive – October 8, 9, 16 and 17.
- For more details on any of the volunteer opportunities please email jenmitchell@comcast.net

www.smcr.org/respect-life



DEFENDING OUR RELIGIOUS LIBERTY

Pope Francis has said: "Religious freedom is not only that of private thought or worship. It is the liberty to live, both privately and publicly according to the ethical principles resulting from found truth." This is why it is important that we continue to put pressure on our elected officials to change the federal health care mandate which forces religious institutions to pay for medical procedures that violate their moral principles.

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 state representatives. Let them know that the mandate is in violation of our First Amendment right to religious freedom.



Saint Mary School
RIDGEFIELD

SMS Preschool Hits Record Numbers!

Our youngest learners recently joined the rest of the Saint Mary Family for the 2016-2017 School year. Due to overwhelming interest, we have expanded the program. Our enrollment this year is over 100 students. For 3 year olds, we offer two or three days a week. We offer 4 year olds three, four or five days a week, and our Transitional Kindergarteners come five days a week. All programs can be either half day or whole day, and all classrooms have a certified teacher and an assistant teacher. Saint Mary Preschool offers the opportunity to experience preschool in a true school setting, and the advantage of all that a Kindergarten – Grade 8 Catholic school has to offer.

Saint Mary School is currently enrolling students in select grades from Preschool through Grade 8 for the 2016-2017 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.

SMMC

St. Mary Mothers' Club Welcome Back/Meet and Greet! Come join us **September 20th** from 9:30-10:30am **or** **September 21st** from 7:30-8:30pm in the Day Chapel to see what the Moms' Club is all about! **The first "Toddler Tea" will be held on September 28th from 9:30-11:00am in the Day Chapel.**

Virtus Training

If you are a Parishioner planning to **volunteer in any capacity**, including being a Catechist or Worship Server, **Virtus training is required**. A class is being offered right here in our School building, Room 224, **Wed., September 21 at 6:00 pm**. Go to virtus.org to register.

FAITH FORMATION CORNER

7 Ways to Strengthen Your Catholic Faith



1. **Receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation** Although it's a Sacrament that many of us shy away from, receiving the Sacrament of Reconciliation is a blessing. It's a powerful way to ask God's forgiveness for our sins and a powerful way to receive that mercy. It's an invitation to start anew.
2. **Help People in Need** We are all called to see the face of Christ in others. At the same time, we are all called to let the light of Christ shine within us. Volunteering to help those in need and joyfully giving what we can to assist them is a wonderful way to fulfill both callings. Praying for people on a prayer list and souls in Purgatory are also great ways to bless others. --Beliefnet.com

...continued next week

CATHOLIC ACTION



Walk 4 Water
2016

SAVE THE DATE: October 15, 2016
9am – noon (plus lunch)
Join us for our Annual Community Event,
Walk 4 Water, Benefitting the
Guatemala Water Filter Project!

Saint Mary Parish will walk again to raise awareness about the global water crisis and to provide portable water filters to a rural village in Guatemala. Last year our efforts helped **1,850 people get clean drinking water** in their homes!

Join us for five laps through town, culminating in a Guatemalan-style lunch with music and dance with our sister parish, Saint Peter Parish of Bridgeport. Register or donate at www.smcr.org. For more info contact Maura O'Connor, mauratub05@sbcglobal.net.

DONATE: Food Pantries **On-going**
During the month of **September**, all food collected will go to **The Ridgefield Food Pantry**. The following are some suggested food items: cereal, pasta, rice, canned foods, vegetable oil, and baby food. Also needed: full-size toiletries. Thank you!

DIVORCED & SEPARATED 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, **all faiths are welcome**. **The next meeting will be on September 25th, 7:30 PM - 9:00 PM** in our St. Mary Parish Barn (beige building next to our Church). For more information contact Jim Orkin, 914-420-7564, jamesorkin@gmail.com.

"Sell Your Old Gold" Fundraiser



Friday September 30th 12 NOON to 5 PM
Saturday October 1st 10 AM to 4 PM
Sunday October 2nd 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

PILGRIM VIRGIN

The Pilgrim Virgin of Fatima will remain in the Church Sanctuary for the month of October to remind us of our Lady's request to pray the Rosary daily for world peace. To invite Our Lady into your home or for more info contact Elma Stoveken at 203-894-1341.



EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

O = permanent or substitute adorer urgently needed.

X = 1 additional adorer needed.

Blank boxes = there are 2 or more adorers.

| | Su | Mo | Tu | We | Th | Fr | Sa |
|-----------|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| 12M-1am | X | X | X | O | X | X | X |
| 1am-2am | X | O | O | O | 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 | | | 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 | X | X | X | X | 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 | X | X | X |
| 5pm-6pm | X | | X | X | X | | X |
| 6pm-7pm | X | | | X | X | X | X |
| 7pm-8pm | X | | | | | | X |
| 8pm-9pm | | | | | | X | X |
| 9pm-10pm | X | X | | | X | X | X |
| 10pm-11pm | | | X | X | | X | X |
| 11pm-12M | X | | X | | X | X | X |

Jesus came to earth to set it on fire. At our baptism we are given a candle representing the Light of Christ. We can strengthen each other's faith by our own faith. Let us keep our focus on Jesus who lights our way & visit His Eucharistic Presence in our Adoration Chapel. To sign up to be an adorer or substitute, please call Bill/Monica @ 914-533-2832. God bless you all.

EVERY Thursday evening, 7:00-9:00pm, 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

Membership in the STMMM is a lifetime invitation to come whenever you can! Once a member always a member. Come join us any Saturday @ 6:30AM for bagels, coffee and fellowship. Perhaps your spiritual life needs a tune-up. Come and see how Jesus' teachings can enrich your life and the life of your loved ones. stmmm.org

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 jmpmcnich@yahoo.com or visit www.kofc245.org for more info.