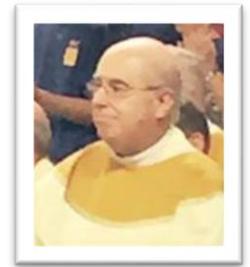


Second Sunday of Lent

March 12, 2017



Lenten Spiritual Journey

As disciples, the Lord invites us to reach out to the poor, the sick, the elderly, and lonely in our community, and to forgive our enemies, friends, neighbors, and even family members who may have harmed us. In these and many other ways, we are challenged to follow His ways, not the ways of our world, to transform in our hearts and minds and be a good example for others.

During Lent some of our Parishioners attend daily Mass and/or pray the Rosary as a family each day. Many commemorate the Passion of Jesus through the "Stations of the Cross" in our Church each Friday at 7:30pm. Others will make our upcoming Disciples for Life Retreat March 24-26th, and we hope to welcome many to our Lenten Friday Fish Fry on March 24th. All of these can help us to enter more fully into our Lenten spiritual journey with the Lord.

The Lord in His mercy gives us the grace and time to seek renewal and conversion. He gives us the great Sacrament of Reconciliation, and He gives us this Holy Season to draw closer to Him. Let us use this time wisely as we make our way together toward the Celebration of the Lord's Resurrection.

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

Msgr. Larry Bronkiewicz

Pastor



MASS READINGS & INTENTIONS

MONDAY, March 13

Dn 9:4b-10/Lk 6:36-38

7:00 AM Neil Glasser

12:00 PM Ron Bordash

TUESDAY, March 14

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

7:00 AM Alma Marino

12:00 PM Lorraine Perrotta - 2nd Anniversary

WEDNESDAY, March 15

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

7:00 AM Delphine Pierandri

12:00 PM Clare Walsh

THURSDAY, March 16

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

7:00 AM Sean Donovan

12:00 PM Josephine Solley

FRIDAY, March 17

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

7:00 AM Murphy & Fogerty Family

12:00 PM Carey Depuy

SATURDAY, March 18

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

8:00 AM Donald Edman

4:30 PM Evo Fronzi

SUNDAY, March 19

Ex 17:3-7/Rom 5:1-2, 5-8/Jn 4:5-42 or 4:5-15, 19b-26, 39a, 40-42

Church

7:30 AM Grace Corbalis

9:15 AM Aldo Girolmetti

11:15 AM Elizabeth Haughney

Hall

10:30 AM Joseph & Antonina Gueci

12:00 PM Joey Lucisano

5:00 PM Parishioners of the Parish

Our next Pre-Baptism Class (required for parents who have not had a class within five years and wish to have their child baptized) will be held **Wed., May 10th** from 7:30-8:30pm in the Barn. Call the Parish Office to register.



Calling all Senior Citizens! Please join us at our next luncheon this Tues., March 14th! 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](tel:203-438-7288) by Monday, March 13. (In case of inclement weather, the luncheon will be cancelled and not rescheduled.) Suggested donation \$6.



GOD'S PLAN FOR GIVING

WEEKLY YEAR-TO-DATE

March 5, 2017 \$23,778 \$199,445

March 7, 2016 \$25,248 \$212,308

Facilities Repair

2017 \$4,961

2016 part of offertory

Ash Wednesday 2017 \$5,818

Ash Wednesday 2016 \$4,948

This week's 2nd collection is for Diocesan Hospitality Hse. Next week's 2nd collection is for Lent.

Prayers for the Sick

Please remember our sick in your prayers, especially **Theresa Avento, Mary Jo Calamai, Patti Capilli, Bill Casey, Jeanne Mastandrea, Tom McCarthy, Barbara Ortonowska and Pat Ruhl.** 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.



Candle Intentions

Church Sanctuary Candle

is Burning in Loving Memory of **Robert A. Law, Jr.**

A Church Altar Candle

is Burning in Loving Memory of **James J. Cally**

Hall Sanctuary Candle

is Burning in Loving Memory of **Tom Glancy**

Baptisms

We welcome to the Family of God and our Parish Family, **Connor James Mormile**, who was baptized in our Church last weekend.



Stations of the Cross

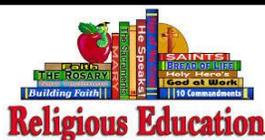
Stations of the Cross are held every Friday evening during Lent at 7:30pm in our Church.

Lenten Regulations

All Fridays of Lent are days of abstinence from meat for all those who are 14 and over.

Loaves and Fishes

We encourage you to put aside the cost of one meal per week and enclose it in the "Loaves and Fishes" envelope for the poor in our area. Envelopes are available at the Church and Parish Hall entrances and at our Parish Office.



20th ANNIVERSARY



Saint Mary School

RIDGEFIELD

Substitute Teachers Needed

Saint Mary School is seeking Substitute Teachers for all grade levels, Preschool, Elementary, and Middle School. Candidates must have a college degree. Teaching certification is preferred. Openings are available for all levels, Preschool – Grade 8. Come experience teaching in an environment where the focus truly is the **whole** child. For more information, contact our Main Office. If you are interested, please complete an online application via the Diocese of Bridgeport at:

<http://www.applitrack.com/diobpt/onlineapp/>

Saint Mary School is currently accepting applications for the 2017-2018 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.

The **Grade 7 Family Liturgy** will be held on Sunday, March 19th, at the 12 noon Mass in the Parish Hall. All grade 7 students and their families are invited to attend. Please bring a baked good or drink for the reception to follow in the Nancy Bossidy Recreation Center.

Congrats to our Second Graders who celebrated the Sacrament of Reconciliation this past week!

St. Mary Adult Choir Needs You!



Our Choir sings at the 9:15am Sunday Mass and rehearses 7:30-9:00pm Thursdays. We are looking for volunteer Cantors and Instrumentalists as well. Members who prefer to join us for the Easter and Christmas seasons only are

welcome. Call Music Director, Darren Motise, 203-438-6538 x300 or email djmotise@aol.com.

RESPECT LIFE COMMITTEE



Every Catholic is a missionary of the Good News of human dignity redeemed through the cross. While our personal vocation may determine the form and style of our witness, Jesus calls each of us to be a leaven in society, and we will be judged by our actions. No one, least of all someone who exercises leadership in society, can rightfully claim to share fully and practically the Catholic faith and yet act publicly in a way contrary to that faith." Us Bishops, *Living the Gospel of Life*, 1998, n. 14.

Join us for the next **Respect for Life meeting on April 5th at 7pm in the Day Chapel.** www.smcrc.org/respect-life

DEFENDING OUR RELIGIOUS LIBERTY



President Trump has pledged that his administration will do everything in its power to defend and protect religious liberty. We urge the fulfillment of this promise, including an end to regulations and other mandates by the federal government that force people of faith to make impossible choices. The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops has expressed their fervent hope that the new leadership will reinstate basic protections for religious freedom.

The Bible was put together in the period of the early Church when the books of the New Testament were composed and collected. The early Church decided which books to include and divided them into chapters and verses.



Johannes Gutenberg, the inventor of the printing press, was Catholic, and the first book ever printed was the Catholic Bible.

WHITE MASS IN DANBURY



There will be a White Mass for Healthcare Professionals and all who serve the sick celebrated at 9:00am by Most Reverend Frank J. Caggiano at Saint Peter Church, 104 Main Street, Danbury followed by brunch at Ridgewood Country Club, 119 Franklin Street, Ext. Reverend Myles Sheehan, SJ, MD will address Pope Francis' vision of the Church as a Field Hospital: What does it mean to health care providers? Sponsors \$100 (includes 2 tickets) Individuals \$25 For more information call Janet Davis, 203-416-1636.

FAITH FORMATION CORNER



Serve without Complaint

While necessary, every job has aspects that are tedious, messy and unrewarding. However, they can be opportunities to grow in virtue: humility, patience, self-discipline, etc. When you dread doing your work, smile and say a prayer; offer it up for a special intention or in thanksgiving for a favor received. "And your Father who sees in secret will repay you." Matthew 6:4.

CATHOLIC ACTION

DONATE: EASTER FOOD DRIVE!!!

During the month of March, collected food goes to the Easter Food Drive, sponsored by our Knights of Columbus. Collection bins are in the Church and Hall. Thank you for your generosity!



St. Patrick's Day Toddler Tea

The Mothers' Club will be hosting a St. Patrick's Day Toddler Tea on Wednesday, March 15th, from 9:30-11:00 in our Day Chapel. Please join us for crafts, snacks, and fun!

MARQUETTE COUNCIL OF THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS



**RAFFLE!!!
Grand Prize \$5,000!**

This month our council is offering an opportunity to win up to **10 separate all-cash prizes!** Raffle tickets are available in the Parish office at a cost of \$10 each and are available throughout the month of March.
Grand prize: \$5,000. 2nd-\$3,500. 3rd-\$2,000. 4th-\$1,500. 5th-\$1,000. 6th-\$600. 7th- \$500. 8th- \$400. 9th- \$300. & 10th prize is \$200.
 Drawing is held by the Ernest Wilson KOC Council on Friday May 5th at the Hartford Marriott. Ticket holders DO NOT need to be present to win. Proceeds will go to our Knights of Columbus' charitable works.

PILGRIM VIRGIN

Lent is a time for extra prayer, sacrifice and penance. Our Lady of Fatima'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. To better prepare ourselves during Lent, invite the Pilgrim Virgin of Fatima Statue into your home. To schedule a visit call Elma Stoveken at 203-894-1341.



Love One Another as I have Loved You

In John 15:12, Jesus says, "This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you." Loving and caring for one another is something Jesus has called us all to do. In Stephen Ministry, people with special gifts for caring put those gifts to use in an organized way, bringing Jesus' love and care to those who need it most. If you know of someone who is hurting, talk to one of our Stephen Ministry Leaders, Mary Ann O'Grady – 203-438-5610 or Jack Hughes – 203-665-0054. Our Ministers are ready to provide focused, confidential, one-to-one Christian care—to help that person experience the healing power of Christ's love.

EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

Lent is the Perfect Time to Spend a Holy Hour Before the Blessed Sacrament

Eucharistic Adoration gives us the opportunity to pray before the exposed Blessed Sacrament, which is held in a "monstrance" (gold stand) so that the Host is clearly visible to all who come to pray.



One of the real ways that Jesus remains with us is through his sacramental presence in the Eucharist. At Mass, the gifts of bread and wine are consecrated on the altar by the words of Our Lord in the hands of the priest. The bread and wine become the Body and Blood, soul and divinity of our Lord. The Eucharist isn't simply a symbol or sign of Christ. Jesus is truly present in the Eucharist under the appearance of bread and wine. Outside of Mass, we come to Adoration to be with Jesus in the Eucharist, to pray to Him, to listen to Him, to rest in Him, and to keep Him company.

"Let us be generous with our time in going to meet Him in Adoration!" (John Paul II)

PERPETUAL ADORATION

Our Parish Adoration Chapel, 183 High Ridge Avenue, is open 24/7. The entrance is near our Religious Ed Office. Stop by anytime or call Bill/Monica @ 914-533-2832 to sign up for a needed hour:

SUN: 2-3am, 3-4am, 4-5am, 1-2pm; MON: 1-2am, 8-9am; TUES: 1-2am; WED: 1-2pm; THURS: 1-2am, 10-11pm; FRI: 3-4am
The full adoration schedule is at www.smcr.org

"Could you not wait one hour with me? Do you not know that I thirst for your love?"

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 are sung and prayed. Please join us!



ST. MARY PARISH MEN'S MINISTRY

Lent has begun and is an opportunity to deepen our relationship with the Lord. How about spending a weekly hour and half and experience our Men's Ministry on Saturday mornings from 6:30-8:00AM? Think of it as a weekly stop on your Lenten journey - shared with 50 to 60 other like-minded men. 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!**

Our Homily Survey link is @ www.smcr.org. We appreciate and value your feedback!