

## Third Sunday of Easter

April 30, 2017



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### May – The Month of Mary

This Monday is the first day of May, the month we traditionally connect with the life and role of Mary or Miriam, Mother of Jesus, Mother of God. May 13, 1917, is also the date of the first of 6 apparitions of Mary at Fatima, Portugal.

As Catholics, we venerate Mary in a special way because of her unique place and the role she played in God's plan for our salvation, bringing God's Son into our world. Down through the long history of our Church, devotion to the Blessed Mother has generated special prayers, like the Rosary and the various Marian Litanies, as well as pilgrimages and the naming of churches after Mary under her various titles.

Mary is the model of discipleship and love. She followed her Son like no other disciple, from His birth to the very end of his public ministry, through His Passion, Death and Resurrection. We often find ourselves praying to God through Mary's intercession. Remember it was Mary at the Wedding Feast at Cana who interceded on behalf of the servants who realized that the wine supply was running low! It was she who instructed them to go to her Son.

Prior to becoming Pope, our Holy Father Francis invited us to look to Mary for inspiration. He stated, "We ask her, the first disciple, to teach us to persevere, to accompany us in patience, to strengthen us in hope. We ask her to lead us to an encounter with her Risen Son." As we honor the Blessed Virgin Mary this month and Fatima's 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, let us take the Pope's words to heart.

Mary, Mother of God, intercede for us!

Msgr. Larry Bronkiewicz

Pastor



**MASS READINGS & INTENTIONS**

**MONDAY, May 1**

*Acts 6:8-15/Jn 6:22-29 (273) or, for the Memorial, Gn 1:26—2:3 or Col 3:14-15, 17, 23-24/ Mt 13:54-58*

- 7:00 AM Dec. Members of the Iwinski Family
- 12:00 PM Michael Ruddy

**TUESDAY, May 2**

*Acts 7:51—8:1a/Jn 6:30-35*

- 7:00 AM Jim Epley
- 12:00 PM Edward Powers

**WEDNESDAY, May 3**

*1 Cor 15:1-8/Jn 14:6-14*

- 7:00 AM Jean Esposito
- 12:00 PM Robert Lertora

**THURSDAY, May 4**

*Acts 8:26-40/Jn 6:44-51*

- 7:00 AM Elma and Jim Stoveken - 55th Wedding Anniversary
- 12:00 PM Intentions of The Depuy Family

**FRIDAY, May 5**

*Acts 9:1-20/Jn 6:52-59*

- 7:00 AM Lillian Sturz
- 9:00 AM Lillian Sturz
- 12:00 PM Lillian Sturz

**SATURDAY, May 6**

*Acts 9:31-42/Jn 6:60-69*

- 8:00 AM Tina and Armando Salvestrini
- 4:30 PM Mario & Louise Serfilippi

**SUNDAY, May 7**

*Acts 2:14a, 36-41/1 Pt 2:20b-25/Jn 10:1-10*

**Church**

- 7:30 AM Conrad and Mary Sponberg
- 9:15 AM Phyllis Vigilotti
- 11:15 AM Lucille Tarantino

**Hall**

- 10:30 AM Mary White
- 12:00 PM Parishioners of the Parish
- 5:00 PM Robert Linnon - 7th Anniversary



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

**Birthright Needs Volunteers**

Birthright is an emergency pregnancy service offering free pregnancy tests, friendship counseling and practical support. Our Guiding Principle: It is the right of every pregnant woman to give birth and the right of every child to be born. If you would like to help, please call 1-800-550-4900 for the Birthright nearest you. Training is provided. Thank you.



**GOD'S PLAN FOR GIVING**

WEEKLY YEAR-TO-DATE

|                |          |           |
|----------------|----------|-----------|
| April 23, 2017 | \$22,815 | \$389,265 |
| April 24, 2016 | \$23,965 | \$410,582 |

**Catholic Home Missions**

|      |         |
|------|---------|
| 2017 | \$3,785 |
| 2016 | \$4,029 |

*This week's 2nd collection: Facilities Repair*

*Prayers for the Sick*

Please remember our sick in your prayers, especially **Theresa Avento, Mary Jo Calamai, Josie Connelly, Sally Gagliardi, Jeanne Mastandrea, Tom McCarthy, Jay McMahon, Barbara Ortonowska, Eileen Profeta and Madeleine Rothman.** 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.



*I. Michael Thomas O'Neil  
- Janna Kathleen Hebert*

**BAPTISMS**

We welcome to the Family of God and our Parish Family **Jake Ryder Arnold** and **Marlo Elizabeth Brown** who were baptized in our Church last weekend.

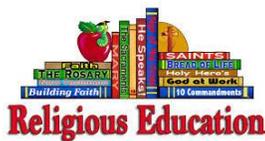


*Candle Intentions  
Church Sanctuary Candle  
is Burning in Loving Memory of  
Judith Knapp*

**CAR DONATIONS NEEDED!**

The **Sisters of Life** are in **urgent** need of reliable vehicles in order to carry out their mission work and evangelization efforts. For more info on donating a vehicle, contact Sr. Mary Karen at (845) 357-3547. **Thank you in advance for your generosity.**





**Congratulations Confirmation Class!**

Congratulations to our 2017 Confirmation Class who were blessed with the gift of the Holy Spirit at their Confirmation. Please keep them and their sponsors in your prayers during this Easter Season.



Saint Mary School  
RIDGEFIELD

**Track and Field**

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 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](http://www.smsridgefield.org).*

**MASS INTENTIONS**

The April 2018 calendar for Mass Intentions will open on Monday, May 1<sup>st</sup>.

Our Homily Survey link is @ [www.smcr.org](http://www.smcr.org). We appreciate and value your feedback!

**FAITH FORMATION CORNER**



**The Miraculous Medal**

July 18, 1830, a mysterious child awakens Sr. Catherine Laboure and leads her to the convent's chapel. There, Sr. Catherine sees the Virgin Mary sitting in a chair. She kneels beside Mary and rests her hands in the Virgin's lap. The two speak for several hours. During the conversation, Mary promises she will return and give the young nun "a mission." A little more than four months later, Sr. Catherine learns what Mary wants. Catherine has a vision of Mary standing in a position similar to the depiction on the medal. Later, the vision changes to include the inscription found on the front side of the medal. Mary speaks to Catherine, saying, "Have a medal struck upon this model. Those who wear it will receive great graces, especially if they wear it around their neck." It was as Mary said. The medal's effects were immediate.

The front of the medal depicts Mary standing on a globe, with the head of a serpent beneath her feet. Circling the oval-shaped medal is the signature, "O Mary, conceived without sin, pray for us who have recourse to thee." On the reverse, 12 stars surround a large "M," from which a cross arises. Below the "M," the medal depicts two flaming hearts. The left heart, circled with thorns, represents Jesus. The right heart, pierced by a sword, symbolizes Mary.

**RESPECT LIFE COMMITTEE**



The child, by reason of higher physical and mental immaturity, needs special safeguards and care, including

appropriate legal protection, before as well as after birth.—UN's Declaration of the Rights of the Child  
Join us for our next Respect Life Meeting on May 3 at 7pm in the Day Chapel. [www.smcr.org/respect-life](http://www.smcr.org/respect-life)

**DEFENDING OUR RELIGIOUS LIBERTY**



The Catholic Church is not asking for special treatment when it comes to the federal healthcare mandate, she is simply asking that every American's right to exercise religious freedom be protected. This right is not only about our ability to go to Mass on Sunday, or to pray the Rosary at home. It is about adhering to the tenets of our faith, so that we can contribute to the common good of all Americans.

Let us pray that as lawmakers make changes to the current mandate that it return the safeguards that protect religious freedom in the Constitution of the United States.

**Teaching Mass**

**Join Us for an Illuminative Evening!**

The Knights of Columbus, Marquette Council, invite you to a very special event at our Parish. Msgr. Bronkiewicz will be offering a dry or "teaching" Mass at 6:30 PM on June 3, 2017 in our Church. Its purpose is to explain the what and why (with a little bit of who and when) of the Sunday Mass, the focal point of our Catholic worship. Please note that this will not be a real Sunday Mass – it will be a catechetical instruction, an opportunity for both frequent and occasional Mass attendees to gain a better understanding of the most important prayer we pray as Catholics.

Please go to <http://bit.ly/Teaching-Mass> or call our Parish Office to RSVP to what promises to be an illuminative hour and a chance to appreciate the Mass in a new, and hopefully more meaningful, light.

**CATHOLIC ACTION**

**MIDNIGHT RUN: MAY 13**

The next scheduled Midnight Run is May 13. Needed Items: medium to lightweight jackets, hooded sweatshirts, jeans, new underwear (M-XL), socks, blankets, backpacks, lightly used sneakers and shoes, toothbrushes, and travel size toiletries including mouthwash and toothpaste.

Drop off your donation at the Barn from 7:30am to 3:30pm, May 8 to 12. Volunteers are needed to sort and fold clothing, pick up and return the van and to go on the Run. To volunteer, call Elma Stoveken at 203-894-1341.

**DONATE: FOOD PANTRY**

In May, collected food 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**

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](mailto:jmpmcnich@yahoo.com) or visit [www.kofc245.org](http://www.kofc245.org) for more info.

**PILGRIM VIRGIN**

This year we celebrate the 100th anniversary of the apparitions of Our Lady of Fatima. Our Lady'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. 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**



Eucharistic Adoration gives us the opportunity to pray before the exposed Blessed Sacrament and another way to experience the presence of Jesus in the Eucharist. Our Parish Adoration Chapel, the oldest one in Connecticut (beginning in 1994), is open 24/7.

The entrance is near our Religious Ed Office. Stop by anytime or call Bill/Monica @ 914-533-2832 or go to [www.smcr.org](http://www.smcr.org) to sign up for a needed hour: *SUN: 2-3am, 3-4am, 4-5am, 1-2pm; MON: 1-2am; THURS: 1-2am; FRI: 3-4am*

O means permanent or substitute adorer urgently needed.  
X means 1 additional adorer is needed.

Blank boxes mean 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   | 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  | X  |    | 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   | O  | 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  |
| 5pm-6pm   | X  |    | X  | X  | X  |    | X  |
| 6pm-7pm   | X  |    |    | X  | X  | X  | X  |
| 7pm-8pm   | X  |    |    |    |    | X  | X  |
| 8pm-9pm   |    |    |    |    |    | X  | X  |
| 9pm-10pm  | X  | X  |    |    | X  | X  | X  |
| 10pm-11pm |    |    | X  | X  | X  | X  | X  |
| 11pm-12M  | X  |    | X  |    | X  | X  | X  |

*Though the Lord promises us eternal life if we follow Him, do we really try to do it & be grateful for it? Let us remember that our sins & failures can sometimes cause us to lose faith & hope. Let us look to the light of Jesus who died and rose for our salvation. Come to our Parish Adoration Chapel. God bless.*

**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**

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!**