

## 31<sup>st</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

November 4, 2018



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### 10/28 Homily: As We Pray For the Tree Of Life Synagogue in Pittsburgh

“Jesus, Son of David, have pity on me.” The words of the blind beggar sitting on the roadside as Jesus walks by in today’s Gospel. I wonder if the other bystanders tried to quiet his pleas because they found him too loud or perhaps embarrassing. Of course that also makes me think of the tendency we often see in ourselves to silence the people who say things we don’t want to hear or make invisible the people we do not want to see. At the same time we also recognize ourselves in Bartimaeus. The beggar is us who cries out for attention and healing. The healing of those darker parts of our own inner life, and we all have them.

And then Jesus comes along who wants to hear every one of the voices shouting at him, including Bartimaeus. He dismisses no one. Jesus does not make assumptions about what Bartimaeus needs or wants. He simply asks: “What do you want me to do for you?” You tell me what you need. What is your deepest desire right now? And I wonder what would you or I ask for right now?

If Jesus had asked me on Friday what I wanted him to do for me, my answer would be very different from today. Today is the day after the gruesome attack on families celebrating the life of a newborn at a synagogue in Pittsburgh, PA. Today, with the rest of our nation, we remember the 11 worshippers who were killed as well as the 6 other persons who were injured. Our hearts and prayers go out to the members of the Tree of Life Congregations in Pittsburgh and to all the grieving families of the Pittsburgh Community.

There are indeed many forms of blindness. The blindness of Bartimaeus in today’s Gospel is only one of them. There is also the blindness of hatred, the hatred of others because they are different, because they hold points of view that conflict with our own, because they were born into a different culture, ethnic or racial group, because they belong to a different political party, or because they practice a different religion.

All forms of hatred are the work of evil forces in our world. Anti-semitism is one of those terrible and terrifying forms of hatred that reared its ugly head in Pittsburgh yesterday.

We recognize all forms of hatred, including anti-Semitism, for what they are – a refusal to believe that we are all without exception created in God’s own image and likeness. To intentionally destroy another human life is to deny that truth. Furthermore, hatred is a refusal to believe Jesus Christ himself when he tells us so clearly and plainly to love one another as he has loved us.

Today, we stand along the side of the road and we cry out to the Lord, “Jesus, Son of David, have pity on us!” And he asks us “What do you want me to do for you?”

And we answer: “Help us, Lord, to drive all forms of hatred out of our world, and send your Holy Spirit to help the Jewish Community of Pittsburgh to replant the Tree of Life in their midst. May your Spirit lead them out of the darkness of yesterday’s tragedy to strengthen their faith and restore their hope.

Msgr. Larry Bronkiewicz

Pastor



**MASS READINGS & INTENTIONS**

**MONDAY, November 5**

*Phil 2:1-4/Lk 14:12-14*

7:00 AM Madeline Rothman

12:00 PM Pat Ruhl

**TUESDAY, November 6**

*Phil 2:5-11/Lk 14:15-24*

7:00 AM Our Parish Clergy

12:00 PM Blanche Herring

**WEDNESDAY, November 7**

*Phil 2:12-18/Lk 14:25-33*

7:00 AM Jack Morrisroe

12:00 PM Deceased Members of the Coscio Family

**THURSDAY, November 8**

*Phil 3:3-8a/Lk 15:1-10*

7:00 AM Peace in Our World

12:00 PM Pia Miller

**FRIDAY, November 9**

*Ez 47:1-2, 8-9, 12/1 Cor 3:9c-11, 16-17/Jn 2:13-22*

7:00 AM The Sad and Lonely

12:00 PM Sharon Lavatori

**SATURDAY, November 10**

*Phil 4:10-19/Lk 16:9-15*

8:00 AM Ada Leary

4:30 PM Sandy Ferentini

**SUNDAY, November 11**

*1 Kgs 17:10-16/Heb 9:24-28/Mk 12:38-44 or 12:41-*

**CHURCH**

7:30 AM Conrad and Mary Sponberg

9:15 AM William McGuire

11:15 AM Vincent Ryan Jr.

**HALL**

10:30 AM William Melnick - 5th Anniversary

12:00 PM Parishioners of the Parish

5:00 PM Flattery & Slevin Families



**GOD'S PLAN FOR GIVING**

**WEEKLY YEAR-TO-DATE**

<b>October 28, 2018</b>	<b>\$19,699</b>	<b>\$931,588</b>
October 29, 2017	\$22,927	\$968,643

**All Souls**

2018	\$3,237
2017	\$4,367

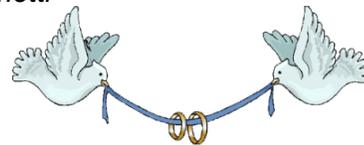


*Prayers for the Sick*

Please remember our sick in your prayers, especially **Matthew Anthony, Betty Begert, Chris Carlson, Veronica Haley, Fr. Lourduraj, Lee and Scott McCaughey, Ann McGuinness, Pat McManus, Margaret Michaels, Anthony Saracini and David State.** Only immediate family members may add someone to our prayer list. Individuals will be removed monthly unless we are otherwise notified.

*Marriage Banns*

*I. Michael Thaddeus Guardino – Lisa Marie Girolametti*



**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, **November 14th** from 7:30-8:30 pm in the Barn. Please call our Parish Office to register.



**IMMACULATE HIGH SCHOOL**

Invites you to attend

The Third Annual

**SCHOLARSHIP BREAKFAST**

To Support Our Adopt-A-Mustang Program



**Keynote Speaker**  
Monsignor Robert E. Weiss

Thursday, November 15, 2018  
7:30 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.  
Amber Room Colonnade  
1 Stacey Road  
Danbury, CT

Register Here

Please RSVP on or before Friday, November 9, 2018  
www.immaculatehs.org/hsbreakfast  
Jeannie Demko (203) 744-1510 x165 - jdemko@myimmaculatehs.org

**RCIA**



*RCIA, the Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults, will have the first gathering of the year this Sunday, November 4<sup>th</sup> from 12:00 to 1:00 in the School Library. If you are curious about the Catholic faith and have not yet received the Sacraments of the Church, please join us! For more info, call Pat Postiglione, 203-438-7335 or [ppostiglione@smcr.org](mailto:ppostiglione@smcr.org).*

**DIVORCECARE**

**Divorce Support Group**

St. Mary Parish is partnering with First Congregational Church in Ridgefield to bring you DivorceCare. We meet Wednesdays from 6:30 to 8:00pm through December 19 at the First Congregational Church. Registration fee is \$20. More info contact Michelle Olsen 203-470-7085.

**CALLING**

**ALL SENIOR CITIZENS!**

Please join us at our next luncheon on Tuesday, November 13! 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, November 12. Suggested donation \$6.

**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.



**CALLING ALL COOKS!**

Join our Dorothy Day House of Hospitality 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. Thank you!

**RESPECT LIFE COMMITTEE**

*Please join us for our next Respect Life meeting on Thursday, November 8, at 10:00 am, in the Parish Office Conference Room.*



**Saint Mary School**

RIDGEFIELD

**OPEN HOUSE DATES**

What is so special about Saint Mary School? We are committed to academic excellence, a strong faith based education, and a nurturing community environment where students thrive intellectually, spiritually, and socially. Our award winning school and dynamic preschool provide a challenging curriculum, a vibrant Catholic education, and active community.

We invite you to come take a closer look. Saint Mary School will be holding a Kindergarten – Grade 8 Open House on Wednesday, November 7<sup>th</sup> from 9-10 am, and a Preschool Open House on Thursday, November 8<sup>th</sup> from 9:30-10:30 am. Meet with other parents, speak with faculty and staff, and see classes in session. To register, for more information about SMS, or to set up a tour, please contact Anna O'Rourke at 203-438-7288 or visit [www.smsridgefield.org](http://www.smsridgefield.org)

**REGISTER >**

Registering at our Parish is an expression of your desire to be part of our Roman Catholic Family of Faith and a commitment to the life and support of our Parish. We invite and encourage you to officially register as a Parishioner. It's easy. Stop by or office or go to our website. We welcome you!

**No Excuses**



If only I had more money, more time, more assistance, more talent. We all have a pretty impressive laundry list of why we can't be of more service to God and to others. Even Saint Paul had his "thorn in the flesh," some private difficulty that seemed to hold him back from being the apostle he sought to be. Paul kept praying for its removal so he could be free of this impediment. Finally he reinterpreted the thorn: not an impediment, but an opportunity to let God be God. Maybe it's time to stop protesting and start serving!

Mark 6:1. "My grace is sufficient for you, for power is made perfect in weakness."

## CATHOLIC ACTION

### Midnight Run: November 9th

The next scheduled Midnight Run is November 9th. Needed items: jackets, hooded sweatshirts, jeans, new underwear (M-XL), socks, blankets, backpacks, lightly used sneakers and shoes.

Drop off your donation at the Barn from 7:30am to 3:30pm, November 2 to 8. Volunteers are needed to sort and fold clothing, pick up and return the van and to go on the Run. Call Bob Wendel at 914-325-6860

### MARQUETTE COUNCIL OF THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS



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).



### EUCHARISTIC 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 @ [www.smcr.org](http://www.smcr.org), or if you do not have computer access, contact Monica and Bill at 914-533-2832.



### PILGRIM VIRGIN

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).

**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, 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.**

### MASS SCHEDULE

**Saturday**  
8:00 AM, 4:30 PM Vigil Mass  
(Church)

**Sunday**  
7:30 AM, 9:15 AM, 11:15 AM  
(Church)  
10:30 AM Family Mass,  
12:00 Noon and  
5:00 PM Youth Mass (Hall)

**Monday - Friday**  
7:00 AM and 12:00 noon  
(Church)

**Holy Days of Obligation**  
Vigil Mass 7:30 PM  
7:00 AM, 9:00 AM, 12:00 Noon  
7:30 PM (Church)

#### Our Mission:

LIVE the gift of our faith, ENRICH our understanding of that gift, and PRACTICE our faith in compassionate service.

### OTHER SACRAMENTS

#### Reconciliation

Every Tuesday & Thursday from 12:30-1PM and every Saturday from 3:30-4:30PM (Church)

#### Baptism

Celebrated each Sunday at 12:30 PM  
New parents must attend a pre-baptism class. Call Parish office to schedule both

#### Marriage

Call Parish Office at least 9 months prior to wedding

#### Anointing of Sick

Call Parish Office to make arrangements

*In case of serious illness or death in the family, call Parish Office immediately.*

#### CEMETERY

203-438-3606

#### ADORATION

Monica & Bill Brown

914-533-2832

**Pastor: Msgr. Laurence R. Bronkiewicz S.T.D.,**  
[msgrlrb@smcr.org](mailto:msgrlrb@smcr.org)

**Parochial Vicar: Rev. Sean Kulacz, frsean@smcr.org**

**Parochial Vicar: Rev. Lourduraj P., O. Praem., frraj@smcr.org**

**Deacons: Robert Salvestrini, salvo95@aol.com**

**Gerald M. Lambert, gmlamb@optonline.net**

**Parish Office Hours: Monday-Friday 10AM-4PM**  
**203-438-6538**

**Parish Receptionist: Kim Macko, kmacko@smcr.org**

**Parish Administrative Assistant: Marcia Giorgio,**  
[mgiorgio@smcr.org](mailto:mgiorgio@smcr.org)

**Communications Manager: Carolyn Haitzsch, chaitzsch@smcr.org**

**Accountant: Barbara Rizzo, brizzo@smcr.org**

**Facilities: Dick Camuso, dcamuso@smcr.org**

**Youth Minister: Brenner LeCompte, 203-438-2394,**  
[blecompte@smcr.org](mailto:blecompte@smcr.org)

**Director of Music: Darren Motise, 203-438-6539, ext. 300,**  
[darren@smcr.org](mailto:darren@smcr.org)

**Rel Ed: Josephine Bove & Meredith Jackson, 203-438-7335,**  
[religioused@smcr.org](mailto:religioused@smcr.org)

**St. Mary School: Anna O'Rourke, Principal,**  
[ouroukea@smsridgefield.org](mailto:ouroukea@smsridgefield.org)

**Executive Director: Dick Camuso, dcamuso@smcr.org**

**Director of Faith Formation: Patricia Postiglione,**  
[ppostiglione@smcr.org](mailto:ppostiglione@smcr.org)

**Parish Finance Council Chair: John Spera,**  
[johnspera57@gmail.com](mailto:johnspera57@gmail.com)

**Pastoral Council Chair: Margaret Scally, msscally@snet.net**

**Director, Pastoral Care: Rev. Sean Kulacz, frsean@smcr.org**

**Director, Liturgy & Worship: Dn. Gerald M. Lambert,**  
[gmlamb@optonline.net](mailto:gmlamb@optonline.net)