

Fifth Sunday of Lent

March 18, 2018



JESUS IS A GREAT CONVERSATIONALIST!



THE PAINTING TO THE LEFT DEPICTS A VERY FAMOUS SCENE IN THE 4TH CHAPTER OF JOHN'S GOSPEL – JESUS MEETING THE SAMARITAN WOMAN AT THE WELL.

THEY TALKED AND TALKED AND TALKED AND LISTENED TO EACH OTHER.

WHEREVER WE MEET JESUS, WE CAN DO THE SAME!

Msgr. Larry Bronkiewicz

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Msgr. Larry Bronkiewicz".

Pastor



MASS READINGS & INTENTIONS

MONDAY, March 19

2 Sm 7:4-5a, 12-14a, 16/Rom 4:13, 16-18, 22/Mt 1:16, 18-21, 24a or Lk 2:41-51a

7:00 AM Michael Ceponis
12:00 PM Aldo Girolmetti

TUESDAY, March 20

Nm 21:4-9/Jn 8:21-30

7:00 AM Maria Ingrasciotta
12:00 PM Lena Mastriani

WEDNESDAY, March 21

Dn 3:14-20, 91-92, 95/Jn 8:31-42

7:00 AM James O' Neill
12:00 PM Josephine Connelly

THURSDAY, March 22

Gn 17:3-9/Jn 8:51-59

7:00 AM Robert Best
12:00 PM Lis Godinho

FRIDAY, March 23

Jer 20:10-13/Jn 10:31-42

7:00 AM Ann Nappi
12:00 PM Alice Skinner

SATURDAY, March 24

Ez 37:21-28/Jn 11:45-56

8:00 AM Rose Boykas
4:30 PM Parishioners of the Parish

SUNDAY, March 25

Mk 11:1-10 or Jn 12:12-16/Is 50:4-7/Phil 2:6-11/Mk 14:1—15:47 or 15:1-39

Church

7:30 AM Dina Casavecchia
9:15 AM Conrad and Mary Sponberg
11:15 AM Joseph LaPera

Hall

10:30 AM Intentions of Michael & Ann Smith
12:00 PM Alfred Tulipani
5:00 PM Massina Frattini



GOD'S PLAN FOR GIVING

WEEKLY YEAR-TO-DATE

March 11, 2018	\$23,795	\$228,938
March 12, 2017	\$24,702	\$229,389

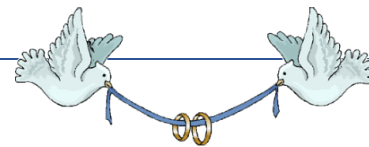
Catholic Relief Services

2018	\$4,234
2017	\$4,598

Prayers for the Sick

Please remember our sick in your prayers, especially **Mike DeSerio, Margaret Hughes, Lee & Scott McCaughey, Jennie Palmieri and Vincent Ryan:**

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.



Marriage Banns

III. Michael Steven Chavez & Christine Eileen Magill



BAPTISMS

We welcome to the Family of God **Brady Patrick Shaw** who was baptized in our Church last week.



STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Stations of the Cross will be prayed in our Church every Friday at 12:30pm as well as 7:30pm during Lent. (Good Friday at 12pm.)

MEATLESS LENTEN FRIDAYS

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

LOAVES AND FISHES

“Loaves and Fishes” is a Lenten Campaign to help feed the hungry of Fairfield County. 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.



Candle Intentions

A Church Altar Candle

is Burning in Loving Memory of Florence DiVasto

Clergy Hospital Visits

Until further notice, please contact our Parish Office directly in the event of an admission to Danbury hospital.

SPRING GALA

Thursday, April 19, 6-9:30pm

Woodway Country Club, Darien, CT

Join Most Reverend Frank J. Caggiano, Bishop of Bridgeport, in **celebration and support of Catholic education**. Proceeds will support Foundations in Education and provide hundreds of children from low-income families quality education focused on Catholic values and character formation at our Diocesan schools. Proceeds from the Gala will also promote innovation and leadership initiatives in our Catholic schools, thus benefiting our students even further. For more info, contact Karen Sportini at kSPORTINI@foundationineducation.org or 203-416-1671.

RESPECT LIFE COMMITTEE



www.smcr.org/respect-life



DEFENDING OUR RELIGIOUS LIBERTY

In a letter to the U.S. Senate, the United States Conference for Catholic Bishops (USCCB) urged the Senate to respect life when changing the health care mandate. The USCCB says no health care reform plan should compel us or others to pay for the destruction of human life, whether through government funding or mandatory coverage of abortion. Long-standing "Hyde Amendment" protections must extend to any relevant health care plan in order to prevent federal funding of abortion and not as a temporary fix or future promise.



DIVORCE & SEPARATION SUPPORT GROUP meets Sundays at 7:30pm in the Barn, next to our Church. No meeting 4/1. All faiths welcome!

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.

Saint Mary School is currently enrolling students in select grades of Preschool through Grade 8 for the 2017-2018 school year, as well as accepting applications for the 2018-2019 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.

Important update: 2018 Annual Catholic Appeal

The 2018 Annual Catholic Appeal will not be conducted this year in our Parish. It will be included as part of our major Diocesan Campaign in which we are now preparing to participate. Parishioners will not receive a separate ACA solicitation this year. Please pray for our Parish as we begin this important endeavor.

FAITH FORMATION CORNER



His Greatest Gift: Himself

Our Catholic faith is so rich in symbols. Typically, we base our faith on many signs: the witness of love and the peace and happiness that often fills our hearts. But what happens to our faith when we enter the dark night of trials and difficulties? Do we continue to trust God when we no longer can see or feel signs that he cares?

The kind of faith we need when faith matters most comes from a relationship of trust. Real trust. We choose to trust God for who God really is and how much God really cares.

The next time you receive Jesus in the Eucharist, realize that you are consuming his body and blood and uniting yourself to his divinity. At the same time, Jesus is uniting himself to you. Of course the greatest gift that Jesus shares with us is Himself!

CATHOLIC ACTION

VOLUNTEERS: LUNCH & BINGO

Two or three volunteers needed to serve lunch. Commitment is appx 2x/month, weekdays of your choosing, Mon-Fri. Hours: 11:45am-1:00pm. ALSO needed: 2 Bingo Callers. Wednesdays 1-2:30. Commitment - 1 hour a month. Where: Congregate Housing, 51 Prospect Ridge. For more info or questions, contact Suzanne MacAvoy, 203 438-7056, sdmacavoy@hotmail.com



DONATE: FOOD PANTRY

Food collected in March goes to the Knights of Columbus Easter Food Drive. Collection bins are in the Church and Hall. Thank you for your generosity!



MARQUETTE COUNCIL OF THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

Our order was founded in 1882 on the principles of charity, unity and fraternity. The Marquette Council's activities started here at St. Mary Parish in 1894 and have continued uninterrupted for over 120 years. 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 or contact Phil Del Giudice, Grand Knight, Compass_grp@yahoo.com.

PILGRIM VIRGIN IS BACK!

Damaged on her last visit, the Pilgrim Virgin statue is now repaired and ready to travel again to your home upon request. The message of Fatima remains the same and is more urgent than ever. On Her final visit to Lucia, Francisco and Jacinta, Mary identified herself as the Lady of the Rosary and appeared with St. Joseph and the child Jesus, again asking that the Rosary be said daily for peace in the world. She also requested prayers for the conversion of sinners and First Saturday devotions. The Rosary is the prayer, which sustains and increases our faith. To arrange for a visit of Our Lady to your home, please call Elma Stoveken at 203-894-1341 or email at jstoveken@comcast.net.



EUCCHARISTIC 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:

O = permanent or substitute adorer urgently needed.
X = there is at least 1 adorer. 2 adorers are desired.

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	X	O	X	X
2am-3am	X	X	X	O	X	X	X
3am-4am	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
4am-5am	X	X		X	X	X	O
5am-6am	X	X	X	X		X	X
6am-7am	X	X	X	X		X	X
7am-8am	X	O	X	X	X	X	X
8am-9am	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
9am-10am	X	X	X		X	X	X
10am-11am	X	X		X		X	X
11am-12N	O	X	X	X	X		O
12N-1pm	X	X		X	X	X	X
1pm-2pm	X	X		X	X	X	O
2pm-3pm	X	O	X	X		X	X
3pm-4pm	X	X	X		X	X	X
4pm-5pm	X				X	X	O
5pm-6pm	X			X	X		X
6pm-7pm	X	X	X		X	X	O
7pm-8pm	X	X				X	X
8pm-9pm	X	X	X			X	X
9pm-10pm	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
10pm-11pm	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
11pm-12M	X	X	X	X	X	X	X

As we focus on our lives in Christ during Lent, we pray for the grace & strength to bring us closer to Christ. A few ways in which we can become closer to Jesus is by frequent confession, daily prayers & Mass, visits to our Adoration Chapel, the Divine Mercy Chaplet, the holy Rosary among others. As we progress in our prayer life we become stronger in our relationship with God. Please join us at our Chapel by signing up at our website or by calling Monica or Bill Brown @ 914-533-2832. God bless us all.

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

LENT IS A GREAT TIME TO TRY MEN'S MINISTRY MEETINGS! Lent is an opportunity to deepen our relationship with the Lord. How about spending a weekly hour and half experiencing 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 wake up call!**



RCIA

This group is open to anyone who would like to receive the Sacrament of Baptism, Confirmation and/or Holy Eucharist. All are welcome to join and learn more about the Catholic Faith. For more info, call Pat Postiglione, 203-438-7335 or ppostiglione@smcr.org