

Dear friends in Christ,

In light of the recent Pennsylvania Grand Jury report and allegations against Archbishop McCarrick, Bishop Caggiano has written a letter to all in our Diocese, which I share with you below. Let us pray for the healing for all those individuals and communities who have been impacted by this destructive behavior and for those who are working to heal individuals and families. Let us also pray through Mary's intercession that the Holy Spirit will keep guiding our Church in its continuing response to these very important issues. - Msgr. Bronkiewicz, Pastor



OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

DIOCESE OF BRIDGEPORT

238 Jewett Avenue • Bridgeport, Connecticut 06606 • 203-416-1352 • FAX: 203-371-8323

August 18, 2018

My Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

As the recent scandalous events regarding the crimes of sexual abuse against minors have come to light in the Pennsylvania Grand Jury Report and the earlier revelations regarding Archbishop McCarrick, I have been sick to my stomach. Words like horrifying, betrayal, and diabolical come to mind describing the evil abuse that was perpetrated against children, who were robbed of their innocence, and often of their faith and future. The failure of some bishops to report this evil is equally stunning and deeply sinful.

I believe that the Church is facing a moment of crisis that demands honesty and repentance from the bishops and decisive action to ensure that these failures will never happen again. The credibility of the bishops has been tarnished in the eyes of many, including many of our faithful. For some, it has even provoked a personal crisis of confidence in the Church itself, leading some to consider leaving their parishes. This is a wound that has been inflicted upon the Church that will not heal easily.

I invite you to join me to accompany one another during this time of sadness and anger and to strengthen one another in our Catholic faith. The strengthening of faith requires that the bishops of the Church acknowledge past failings among their brother bishops and hold everyone guilty accountable for their failures and crimes, whomever they may be.

The betrayal we feel concerning the cover-up of abuse pales in comparison to the suffering endured by the victims of sexual abuse—our sisters and brothers, nieces and nephews, relatives and friends, who have been so deeply wounded and have struggled with the lifelong consequences of abuse. To those who suffered the evil of abuse, I wish to say that I am deeply sorry for the pain and suffering that you have endured. I am sorry for the times that you came forward and were not heard. I am sorry for the silence of those who could have stopped what you endured. I am sorry that you were betrayed at the hands of those who were to serve as your fathers in faith.

We stand with you and will continue to accompany you with our prayers and resources to find healing and peace. We must make this a defining moment for all those who have suffered, by doing everything humanly possible to root out the sin of sexual abuse from our Church.



MASS READINGS & INTENTIONS

MONDAY, August 27

2 Thes 1:1-5, 11-12/Mt 23:13-22

7:00 AM Cecylia Skrzypecka

12:00 PM Joseph Markey

TUESDAY, August 28

2 Thes 2:1-3a, 14-17/Mt 23:23-26

7:00 AM Our Homebound Parishioners

12:00 PM Laura Sierpina - 1 Year Anniversary

WEDNESDAY, August 29

2 Thes 3:6-10, 16-18/Mk 6:17-29

7:00 AM John D'Ambra

12:00 PM Genevieve Sturz

THURSDAY, August 30

1 Cor 1:1-9/Mt 24:42-51

7:00 AM Louis Remza

12:00 PM Helen Shelava

FRIDAY, August 31

1 Cor 1:17-25/Mt 25:1-13

7:00 AM Frances Pizzitola

12:00 PM Frank Paoletti Sr.

SATURDAY, September 1

1 Cor 1:26-31/Mt 25:14-30

8:00 AM Vocations

4:30 PM Michael Lombardi, Sr.

SUNDAY, September 2

Dt 4:1-2, 6-8/Jas 1:17-18, 21b-22, 27/Mk 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

Church

7:30 AM Dwino and Delphine Pierandri

9:15 AM Parishioners of the Parish

11:15 AM Christopher Manno

Hall

10:30 AM Mary Houlihan

12:00 PM Chauncey and Millie Flannigan

5:00 PM John Francis O'Leary

GRAND PIANO FOR SALE



Our Parish Hall Kawai concert grand piano is now available. The piano is playable, but in need of repair. \$1,500 or best offer. Please contact our Music Director, Darren Motise, for more

details, darren@smcr.org or (845) 242-7276.

Mercy Learning Center seeks volunteers to teach basic adult reading and math in its small group tutor program. New Tutor Training Dates: Monday, August 27th, Friday, September 14th, Friday, September 28th - 9am-3pm. Lunch provided. Contact Lynn Gabriel or Erica Hoffman to register, 203-334-6699.



GOD'S PLAN FOR GIVING

WEEKLY YEAR-TO-DATE

August 19, 2018	\$17,696	\$729,047
August 20, 2017	\$21,851	\$727,020

Hospitality House		
2018	\$5,158	
2017	\$4,048	

Assumption		
2018	\$3,158	
2017	\$3,596	



Prayers for the Sick

Please remember our sick in your prayers, especially **Fr. Robert Beloin, Chris Carlson, Lee and Scott McCaughey, Dean Ralph O'Sullivan, Peggy Sheridan & David State.**

Only immediate family members may add someone to our prayer list. Individuals will be removed monthly unless we are otherwise notified.

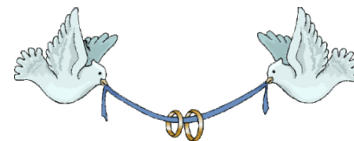
Candle Intentions

A Church Altar Candle

is Burning in Loving Memory of
Louis Remza

Marriage Banns

- I. Kevin Robert Leonard – Stephanie Nichole Lopes*
- II. Peter Michael Carlson – Julianne Murray*



STATUES IN GROTTTO

Please note, we have sold our rental property at 173 High Ridge Avenue, which is adjacent to the school. The statues that were on that property have been moved. We will find a new place for the statues on Church property during our renovation of the Church.

The next St. Mary Respect Life meeting will be Thursday, September 6, at 10 AM, in the Barn.

Mass Intentions for August 2019 will open Tuesday, September 4th.



**ST. MARY PARISH
FALL FAIR**
September 8th
10AM-4PM



VOLUNTEER

**WE NEED YOUR HELP!
VOLUNTEER FOR THE FAIR!
GO TO WWW.SMCR.ORG TO SIGN UP**



CALLING ALL BAKERS!!!!

Bake Shop

Bakers needed! Please drop off baked goodies Friday September 7 between 5-7 pm in the Hall or on the Day of the Fair-September 8. Contact Dorothy.mcnicholas@aol.com.

Cake Walk!

Calling bakers of all ages to donate your favorite cake, pie, cookies or sweets. Donated baked goods will be used as prizes for winners of this fun Fair favorite event. Contact Jillian Savoca at jesavoca@gmail.com or Danielle Trant at danielletrant1@gmail.com to donate.



Drop off: weekend of the Fair

JEWELRY DONATION

We are collecting jewelry, jewelry boxes, jewelry accessories (watches, sunglasses, scarves, etc.) for the Fair. Please drop off donations at the Parish Office. Thank you for your generosity!

**WHITE ELEPHANT, USED TOYS &
USED BOOKS**

DROP OFF DATES

August 26 1-4 pm
August 29 7-9 pm

*Drop off Used Toys & Used Books at Day Chapel &
White Elephant items at Nancy Bossidy Rec Center Gym
(lower level behind the school)*



Saint Mary School
RIDGEFIELD

Back to School Blessing

*Dear Heavenly Father,
For all the children returning to school, send your Holy Spirit as their guide and protector.
Keep them free from danger and unnecessary harm.
Put our sons and daughters in the right place, at the right time to receive your grace.
Let them learn and grow strong. May the presence of your Spirit fill their hearts.
Help us to mature as parents and caregivers.
Bless every family oh Lord.
We entrust our children to you, dear God.
Since from the beginning, they are yours to keep.
In the name of the greatest son of all, Jesus Christ.
Amen.*

We have openings in select grades for the 2018-2019 School Year. We would love to tell you more about what makes Saint Mary School so special. For more information, or to set up a tour, please contact Anna O'Rourke at (203) 438-7288, or visit www.smsridgefield.org.

11TH ANNUAL MEN'S CONFERENCE

Saturday, October 20 from 8am-5pm at Saint Paul's High School in Bristol, CT. More info at www.ctcatholicmen.org.

**FAITH FORMATION
CORNER**



Saint Quotes about Mary Mother of God

"Men do not fear a powerful hostile army as the powers of hell fear the name and protection of Mary."

--St. Bonaventure

"Never be afraid of loving the Blessed Virgin too much. You can never love her more than Jesus did."

--Saint Maximilian Kolbe

"Before, by yourself, you couldn't. Now, you've turned to our Lady, and with her, how easy!"

--St. Josemaria Escriva

We never give more honour to Jesus than when we honour his Mother, and we honour her simply and solely to honour him all the more perfectly. We go to her only as a way leading to the goal we seek - Jesus, her Son."

--Saint Louis Marie de Montfort

"The greatest saints, those richest in grace and virtue will be the most assiduous in praying to the most Blessed Virgin, looking up to her as the perfect model to imitate and as a powerful helper to assist them."

--Saint Louis Marie de Montfort

CATHOLIC ACTION

DONATE: FOOD PANTRY

Food collected in August goes to the Dorothy Day Hospitality House. Collection bins are in the Church and Hall. Thank you for your generosity!



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



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

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.



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 @ smcr.org, or if you do not have computer access, contact Monica and Bill at 914-533-2832.



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**.

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!

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

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

Summer Fridays: 10AM–1PM

203-438-6538

Parish Receptionist: Kim Macko, kmacko@smcr.org

Parish Administrative Assistant: Marcia Giorgio, 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

Director of Music: Darren Motise, 203-438-6539, ext. 300,

darren@smcr.org

Rel Ed: Josephine Bove, 203-438-7335, relgiouised@smcr.org

St. Mary School: Anna O'Rourke, Principal,

orourke@smsridgefield.org

Executive Director: Dick Camuso, dcamuso@smcr.org

Director of Faith Formation: Patricia Postiglione,

ppostiglione@smcr.org

Parish Finance Council Chair: John Spera,

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