
Fr. Corey's Comments

➤ *It is always a good practice to be prepared. Even though I went only as far as being a Cub Scout, I have always put a lot of faith in the Boy Scout motto: Be Prepared. Be prepared for what you might ask. My answer is LENT. Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, February 17th. Instead of waiting until Shrove Tuesday or Fat Tuesday to consider what your Lenten Penance will be, start to consider it now so that Lent may be a time of penance, simplicity and will lead us to the newness of life on Easter.*

So what are we offering as a Parish?

First, our Parish Mission begins on “Carnival Weekend” (the weekend before Ash Wednesday. Father Kevin MacDonald, C.Ss.R., a Redemptorist...(Sr. Anne will testify that these priests are great because they were the Religious Order in her home Parish of Mission Hill Church in a little New England Town called Boston.) Pope John Paul II said of Parish Missions: “I wish to tell all mission preachers to persevere in this magnificent work. It is necessary and urgent today. Blessed are you if you announce the truth of the Gospel, the hope that consoles, the certitude which give joy now and forever. Blessed, too, those parishes and communities, which welcome you in the celebration of a parish Mission, those who have ears to hear and eyes to see the good news of God’s mercy in this life leading to unending happiness forever. To you, preachers and collaborators, to those in the pastoral ministry who cooperate with you and to all who are touched by God’s Spirit through your efforts, I pledge my prayers and impart my blessing”. COME TO THE PARISH MISSION!!! Bring your family and friends. I have it on good authority that Fr. Kevin is a wonderful preacher. There is no greater way to begin Lent than going on retreat.

Second, speaking of going on Retreat. The Men in the Parish are invited to a weekend Retreat at the Holy Family Retreat Center up in Farmington. The dates are: Friday, March 12th to Sunday, March 14th. The guys who have gone have always found it a rewarding experience.

*Third, Mr. Frank Runyeon from television and film will be in our Parish on Sunday, March 7th, at 2:00pm, for a one-man-performance about the faith and living as a disciple of Jesus Christ. This is a beautiful opportunity to have a mini retreat for you and your family with this nationally known star. Acclaimed by critics, scholars, and over 1,000 Catholic and Protestant churches to date, Frank Runyeon performs ecumenical one-man plays of scripture — and speaks with humor about his years in Hollywood — in over 40 states each year. Best known for starring opposite Meg Ryan on CBS, Frank left Hollywood in the 90's to attend seminary. He now hopes to help his audience: rediscover the power of the central stories of Scripture, and laugh (good-naturedly) at the way the media portray the world. Quite a transfer from *As the World Turns*, *Santa Barbara* and *L.A. Law* (among others). Frank will be able to share his talent, his faith in Christ and his ability to touch hearts in a most appropriate way during Lent. Hey, we are bringing in Hollywood, I mean Hollywood, for our spiritual benefit. This too is a spectacular way to fortify your spiritual life during Lent 2010.*

Fourth, we shall celebrate an “Anointing of the Sick” Mass on Saturday, March 13th, at 8:00am. All who have a chronic illness, those who have been slowed by advancement of years, those who might be stressed with emotional sickness, and those who feel the need for physical healing are invited to this Mass. Please call the rectory with your name, so we shall be able to identify you and offer this beautiful Sacrament.

Fr. Corey's Comments (Cont'd.)

Fifth, confessions will be heard every Tuesday evening during Lent from 7:00 to 9:00pm in every Church in the Diocese of Bridgeport. If you haven't been to confession in years, or since last Easter or since Christmas, put the Sacrament of Penance on your calendar as THE THING to do during this Lent. Yes, I am talking to you! Confession is a healing process and can rid the soul of burdens that weigh us down. Parents of children making their Sacraments this year, lead by example and let your child see you going to confession as the good and proper way to lead a good Catholic life and to prepare for all the Sacraments, including Sunday Eucharist.

Sixth, there will be Stations of the Cross every Friday night during Lent. Walking the way of the Passion with Jesus is a great way for us to be reminded what Jesus has done for us and how he can identify with everything we do in our lives. Make the way of the Cross this year not just an option but a date with the Lord who loves you so very much.

Seventh, we are providing you with a Lenten reflection booklet with Scripture, meditations and prayer for your Lenten Journey. We can all use some help in our daily spiritual lives and this booklet will indeed be most helpful. Take one and use it well.

Eighth, new Light House Ministry CD's will be available with Lenten themes. While driving in the car, doing household chores, exercising or just sitting and relaxing, these CD's will proved to be most enlightening for jump starting your daily prayer.

So, that is just a start for right now. Please think of ways that you can give of your time, talent, treasure this Lent so that you may meet the Risen Lord at Easter with heart and soul renewed.

➤ *The Sanctuary Enhancement will begin on Monday, February 15th. I am dedicating the project to Saint Dominic because of his special relationship with the Blessed Mother (our Patron) and the Holy Rosary. We have received from Rome a relic of Saint Dominic for our altar, and I ask you to ask St. Dominic's intercession for a successful project. During the project, daily Mass will be celebrated in the Parish Hall. Any group using the Parish Hall must leave the chairs set up as they are for Mass the next morning. Saturday evening, Sunday and Ash Wednesday Masses will be celebrated in the Church. All funerals will be celebrated at St. Peter's Church in Danbury. The duration of the project will probably last most of Lent. Also, the contributions and pledges have been coming in steadily. I would encourage anyone who has not yet offered a gift to the project to prayerfully consider making a pledge or a one-time gift to the Sanctuary Fund. Please know that if you cannot make a pledge or gift, please pray for the success of the project. Your prayers are most powerful, and I do appreciate all that you do.*

➤ *Looking ahead to the end of Lent, just a reminder that the Palm Sunday 11:30am Mass and the Easter 11:30am Mass will both be celebrated at 12:00noon. If you have ever tried to attend either or both of those Masses, you will remember the lines of cars trying to leave Church and the lines of cars on Rte. 302 trying to get into Church. To give everyone some breathing room we shall move those two Masses back a half hour so Mass attendance will be pleasant for everyone.*



PRAYER & FASTING GROUP –

Please join us in the **Parish Hall** next **SAT., FEB. 13th**, at **8:30am**, when **Lisa Plumb** will give a talk on Fasting. We will meet every Sat. morning during Lent after the 8:00am Mass. Questions? **Deacon John** (203 744-2106).

COFFEE & ... will be served after the **08:30 Mass** on **SUN., FEB. 14th**. **(NO 10:00am Coffee on SUN., FEB. 14th.)**



ST. MARY BOOK CLUB: FEBRUARY BOOK



“The Snakebite Letters”, by **Peter Kreeft**. Join our discussion on **TUES., FEB. 23rd, 7:30pm**, in **Children’s Room**.

ST. MARY MEN’S RETREAT IS COMING!

The Getaway of a Lifetime! Sign up now for our retreat at **Holy Family Retreat House** in West Hartford. It begins the evening of **FRI., MAR. 12th** and ends at noon on **SUN., MAR 14th**. Enjoy a little free time and a chance to think about those things that really matter – like your relationship with your family, friends and God. Call **Nick Santarelli** (203 470-7102) for reservations and information.



ST. MARY’S MEN’S MINISTRY

meets every **Saturday morning** from **6:30-8:00am** in the **Parish Hall**. Please stop by for bagels, fellowship, and faith discussions to help men and their families. Any questions, please call **Dave Whitmore** (203 470-0909).

Contemporary Folk Group is looking for a pianist. If interested, please call **Debbie Caraluzzi** (730-0804).



If you or someone you know is in need of prayer, please call our **Prayer Line**. Our team leaders are **Mary Walsh** (798-1237) and **Colleen Santaniello** (792-0009).



SENIOR YOUTH GROUP



SUN., FEB. 21st – Sign up with **Annie: Hartford Wolfpack Hockey Game. CHAPERONES NEEDED!**

ATTN: SENIOR CITIZENS



Our Senior Youth Group will hold its **Annual Seniors for Seniors Dinner** on **SUN., MAR. 7th**, from **12:30-2:00pm**. Reserve a spot by signing up in the vestibule after Mass.

Service hours will be available every **Wed. night** from **5:00-6:00pm** for all Youth Group members.



We extend our sincere gratitude to all who joined us throughout Catholic Schools Week. It was a pleasure having you visit our school.

REGISTRATION for 2010-2011 SCHOOL YEAR



Registration for **Preschool 3 and 4** year olds will be in the **Gym** on **MON., FEB. 8th**, from **8:00am-12:00noon** and **6:30-8:00pm**. Registration for **Kindergarten thru Grade 8** will be in the **Gym** on **WED., FEB. 10th**, from **8:00am-12:00noon** and **6:30-8:00pm**. To register please bring **copies** of your child’s birth and baptism certificates, a record of immunizations, and \$100 non-refundable registration fee. For more information, call the **School** (744-2922).

NO SCHOOL: WINTER BREAK

MON., FEB. 16 & TUE., FEB. 17.



Anyone who is homebound or unable to attend church and would like to receive the Eucharist, especially for holy days, may call **Mary Walsh** (798-1237) to arrange for a visit.

Lenten Season



ASH WEDNESDAY, FEB. 17th,
is the beginning of LENT.

Masses on Ash Wednesday:

6:30 & 9:00am, 12:05 noon, and 5:30pm.

There will also be a service at *4:00pm*.

Ashes will be distributed at all Masses & 4:00 Service.

DAILY MASSES during LENT (MON. – FRI.):



6:30 & 9:00am.

SATURDAY Mass at *8:00am.*

PENANCE: *Tuesday nights* from *7:00 – 9:00pm*
(*FEB. 22nd – MAR. 30th*)

STATIONS OF THE CROSS: *Friday nights* at *7:00pm*
(*FEB. 19th – APR. 2nd*)

ASH WEDNESDAY and GOOD FRIDAY:

Days of FAST and ABSTINENCE

(no eating between meals and no meat)



FRIDAYS OF LENT: Days of ABSTINENCE (no meat).



The **LOAVES & FISHES COLLECTION** provides an opportunity to make sacrifices for those in need and embrace the Lenten spirit most effectively – the collection is used to feed the hungry. Your envelopes may be placed in the offertory collection anytime during Lent. Please be generous.

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

MON., FEB. 8	6:30	+	Anna Pregoni – Daughter, Gisella
	9:00	+	Betty Ann Finn – John & MaryLou Murray
TUES, FEB. 9	6:30	+	Dorothy Considine (<i>Birthday</i>) – Daughter
	9:00	+	Suzanne & Ronald Dorman – Dorman Family
WED., FEB. 10	6:30	+	Eleanore Flanagan – Tomasko Family
	9:00		Joan Troy (<i>Health & Blessings</i>) – Marie Miller
THU., FEB. 11	6:30		Blessed Mother’s Intentions
	9:00	+	Nicholas Macelletti – Mike & Joan Macelletti
FRI., FEB. 12	6:30	+	Louis DiMatteo (<i>Anniv.</i>) – Family
	9:00	+	Richard Smithwick – Mary & Tom O’Leary
SAT., FEB. 13	8:00	+	Alice McShane & Brendan Duffy
	5:30	+	Joseph McCourt – Stevens Family
SUN., FEB. 14	7:00	+	Edward Kessler – Don & Pat Shean
	8:30	+	Dorothea Schaub – Mary & Mike Marinaccio
	10:00	+	Donald Gray – Mr. & Mrs. George Viebrock
	11:30	+	Frank Maffia – Bill & Coral Presti
	5:30	+	Paul Kalinoski – Mark Rostafin & Ellen Livingston



WELCOME TO THOSE WHO WERE NEWLY BAPTIZED

Juliana Kathleen Romero

GOAL: \$15,000

COLLECTION: \$14,013

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*If you, or a family member, are planning a stay at Danbury Hospital,  
please inform the Rectory so a member of the clergy may visit.*

**PARISH OFFICE (744-5777)**

**Sheila Kurjiaka: *Bulletin Editor***  
**Kate Fitzgerald: *Secretary***  
**Paul Orsino: *Property Manager***

**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (743-4557)**

**Mary Ferri: *Director***  
**Peggy Gavin: *Secretary***  
**Dennis Nauheimer (RCIA): 794-9488**  
*(Call if interested in becoming a Catholic or completing your  
initiation as a Catholic with Confirmation and/or Eucharist.)*

**MUSIC MINISTRY**

**Mike Macelletti: *Music Director***  
**Elizabeth Barnes: *Choir Director***  
**Debbie Caraluzzi: *Contemp. Group Director***

**ST. MARY SCHOOL (744-2922)**

**Sister Anne McCarthy: *Principal***  
**Linda Curry: *Secretary***

**MASS SCHEDULE**

**Monday – Friday: 6:30 & 9:00am**  
**Saturday: 8:00am & 5:30pm**  
**Sunday: 7:00, 8:30, 10:00, 11:30am & 5:30pm**

**CONFESSION SCHEDULE**

**Saturday: 4:00 - 5:00pm.**

**BAPTISMS: *Every Sunday at 1:00pm.***  
**(Call the Rectory to Schedule.)**

**PRE-BAPTISM CLASSES: *Twice a Month.***  
**(Call the Rectory to Schedule.)**

**ARRANGEMENT FOR MARRIAGE:**

***Couples must meet with a parish clergyman at  
least six (6) months before the marriage is to be  
celebrate.***