

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

MON., FEB. 9	6:30	+	Dorothy Considine (<i>Birthday</i>) - Daughter	Mass Intentions 
	9:00	+	Suzanne Dorman – Family	
TUES, FEB. 10	6:30	+	Eleanore Flanagan – Family	
	9:00	+	Marion Schapert – Paul & Rosalie DeMarco	
WED., FEB. 11	6:30		Blessed Mother’s Intentions	
	9:00	+	Raymond Marmion – Regina & Dominic Ippolito	
THU., FEB. 12	6:30		Dot Clarke (<i>Health & Blessings</i>) – Marie Miller	
Dif	9:00		Diggins Family (<i>Health & Blessings</i>) – Ann & Jim Kelleher	
FRI., FEB. 13	6:30	+	Louis DiMatteo – DiMatteo Family	
	9:00	+	Rosaire Lavigne – Kevin & Shannon Burns	
SAT., FEB. 14	8:00	+	Dorothea Schaub – Mike & Mary Marinaccio	
	5:30	+	Julia & Nicholas Macelletti – Mike & Joan Macelletti	
SUN., FEB. 15	7:00	+	Barbara Jean Ellis – Terri Rotella	
	8:30	+	Edward Gallagher, Sr. – Family	
	10:00	+	William Hayes – Coral & Bill Presti	
	11:30	+	Camille Tortosa – Brenda & Donald Craig	
	5:30	+	Jennifer Perna – Paul & Lisa Bankowski	

GOAL: \$15,000

COLLECTION: \$13,959

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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*  
**Steve DeMarco:** *Parish Council President*  
**Jane Shannon:** *Cemetery Administrator*

**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (743-4557)**

**Mary Ferri:** *Director*  
**Peggy Gavin:** *Secretary*  
**Dennis Nauheimer (RCIA):** 794-9488

**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 celebrated.*

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## *Fr. Corey's Comments*

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➤ *I always said that if you prepare ahead, you are ahead of the game. St. Valentine's Day is Saturday, February 14<sup>th</sup>. Tradition says that this date was the day on which birds chose their mates. There are many traditions and tales associated with romantic activities on Valentine's Day: the first man an unmarried woman saw on the 14<sup>th</sup> of February would be her future husband; if the names of all a girl's suitors were written on paper and wrapped in clay and the clay put into water, the piece that rose to the surface first would contain the name of her husband-to-be; if a woman saw a robin flying overhead on Valentine's Day, it meant she would marry a sailor. If she saw a sparrow, she would marry a poor man and be very happy. If she saw a goldfinch, she would marry a rich person. Of course, Roses are a wonderful thing on Valentine's Day. Roses are the traditional gift given on Valentine's Day, but they're certain to be well-received any time of year. But before you buy roses, know what message you're sending. The color of a rose can have a very different meaning from what you intend. To ensure that your love understands what the roses you bestow mean, check this guide as to rose colors and their meanings:*

*Red Roses proclaim "I love you." They are the ultimate symbol of romantic love and enduring passion. Florists can't keep up with Valentine's Day demand for red roses, which makes them especially expensive in February.*

*Yellow Roses indicate friendship and freedom -- so don't send them if your intentions are romantic and long-lasting. Yellow roses are also appropriate for sending congratulations to newlyweds, graduates, Texans, and new mothers. Pale Pink Roses connote grace, gentleness, and gratitude. Light Pink Roses mean joy to behold, express fun and happiness. Deep Pink Roses say "Thank you." Lilac Roses indicate the sender has fallen in love at first sight with the recipient and is enchanted. White Roses symbolize truth and innocence. They also send other messages: "I miss you" and "You're heavenly". Peach speaks of appreciation, gratitude, and also sympathy. Orange roses communicate enthusiasm and desire on the part of the sender. Dead Roses, regardless of the original color, say "It's over" loud and clear.*

*COMBINED ROSES: Put two or more colors of roses together, and a new rose meaning arises:*

*White Roses + Yellow Roses are a symbol of harmony. Red Roses + Yellow Roses are a message of happiness and celebration. Red Roses + White Roses are an indication of bonding and harmony.*

*More rose symbolism: While roses are traditionally presented in bouquet form, these are also acceptable: Single Red Rose, "I love you". Single Rose Any color, "I thank you". Two Roses entwined, an engagement or marriage is imminent.*

*Then there is the symbol of the heart. The red heart is an old symbol for love. Centuries ago, people did not know that the heart pumps blood through the circulatory system. However, they did know that the heart beats faster when a person is excited or upset. For this reason they believed that the heart was the center of our feelings. This idea remains today in certain sayings, such as, "It does my heart good," or "I'm broken-hearted," or "sick at heart".*

*The candy gift is most obvious, sweets for the sweet. But, then we come to St. Valentine and his story. There are varying opinions as to the origin of Valentine's Day. Some experts state that it originated from St. Valentine, a Roman who was martyred for refusing to give up Christianity. He died on February 14, 269 A.D., the same day that had been devoted to love lotteries. Legend also says that St. Valentine left a farewell note for the jailer's daughter, who had become his friend, and signed it "From Your Valentine". Other aspects of the story say that Saint Valentine served as a priest at the temple during the reign of Emperor Claudius. Claudius then had Valentine jailed for defying him. In 496 A.D. Pope Gelasius set aside February 14 to honor St. Valentine.*

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

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*Gradually, February 14 became the date for exchanging love messages, and St. Valentine became the patron saint of lovers. The date was marked by sending poems and simple gifts such as flowers. There was often a social gathering or a ball.*

*In the United States, Miss Esther Howland is given credit for sending the first valentine cards. Commercial valentines were introduced in the 1800's, and now the date is very commercialized. The spirit of good continues as valentines are sent out with sentimental verses, and children exchange valentine cards at school. So, my gentlemen parishioners I AM GIVING YOU FAIR WARINING and IDEAS.... Valentines Day is coming – don't forget to get a gift!!*

➤ *This past week the Holy See lifted the excommunications of the four bishops of the Society of St Pius X, whose illicit ordinations in 1988 by the late Archbishop Marcel Lefebvre placed the top rank of the lead traditionalist group in formal schism. To break it down simply, Pope Benedict is trying to unify the Church bringing those back who have gone astray and healing the Body of Christ. What will happen with these Bishops and clergy is unclear right now. They did not agree with Vatican II especially the 'New Mass'. If you had read the New York Times recently you would have seen that they reported that one of the Bishops refuses to believe there was a Holocaust and also believes that the U.S. Government was responsible for 9/11. Both of these statements are absurd and should not cloud what the Holy Father was trying to do. By lifting the excommunications, the Pope was not giving credence to one of these Bishop's wacky personal opinions about the world. The Holy Father is interested in bringing back to the unified fold of the Church those who have separated themselves for liturgical, spiritual or theological reasons. Many are talking about it but don't confuse the two issues.*

➤ *We received a lovely note from Kathleen Gillen, the Director of Social Services of Bethel which said: "Dear Father Corey, Thank you and the parishioners of St. Mary for the generous donation to the community Council of Bethel. Thank you also for the many gifts purchased from the Giving Tree at Christmas. Your kindness is so appreciated by your Bethel neighbors." From me... Thank you for looking out for our neighbors.*

➤ *Hey, Father, you going to watch the Super Bowl? Well, I have to admit, neither team does too much for me. But, I think you should know a little about NBC this year. An ad that promotes the potential of all life will not be shown on NBC during the Super Bowl on the grounds that it involves "political advocacy or issues." After several days of negotiations, an NBC representative in Chicago advised CatholicVote.org on Wednesday of it's decision not to run an ad that features President Barack Obama and concludes with the tagline, "Life: Imagine the Potential.". Brian Burch, president of CatholicVote.org said there was "nothing objectionable in this positive, life-affirming advertisement." He then noted the irony that while NBC refused their ad for being advocacy-based, an ad of People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals -- an advocacy group -- was rejected because it depicted "a level of sexuality exceeding our standards." The organization was then given a detailed list of edits that would make the spot acceptable. "NBC claims it doesn't allow advocacy ads, but that's not true. They were willing to air an ad by PETA if they would simply tone down the sexual suggestiveness," said Burch. "The purpose of our new ad is to spread a message of hope about the potential of every human life, including the life of Barack Obama," said Burch. "We are now looking at alternative venues to run the ad over the next several weeks." The ad aired on BET in Chicago on Inauguration Day. It has become an Internet hit with over 700,000 views in seven days. The ad was in the top 10 "most viewed" category on YouTube on Inauguration Day, Jan. 20.*

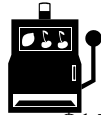


**ST. MARY SOCIAL COMMITTEE**

invites all parishioners to attend the **MARDI GRAS SOCK HOP**, on **SAT., FEB. 21<sup>st</sup>**, which will feature music from the 50's, 60's, and 70's. Cost: \$10.00 per person. You may sign up in the vestibule after Mass.

**ST. MARY SOCIAL COMMITTEE** is conducting a day trip to **MOHEGAN SUN** on **President's Day, MON., FEB. 16**.

We will have 6 hours at the Casino. Cost is \$25pp. Mohegan is offering a \$30 coupon - \$15 for food, \$15 free bet. The bus will leave St. Mary at **9:30am**, leave Mohegan Sun at **5:30pm**, and arrive back at St. Mary around **7:30pm**. Please call the **Rector** (744-5777) to reserve your seat and send your check for **\$25**, made payable to **St. Mary Church**, to the Rector.



**ATTENTION ALTAR SERVERS:**

There will be a **training session** on **FRI., FEB. 13<sup>th</sup>**, from **3:00-5:00pm**. This is also an opportunity for those who wish to be altar servers to be trained in serving at Mass. For more information please call **Fr. Cyrus** (744-5777) or email: **frcyrus@comcast.net**.

**FAST & PRAYER GROUP FOR LENT**

There will be a meeting after the 8:00am Mass on **SAT., FEB. 21<sup>st</sup>**, for a presentation on fasting and prayer followed by a question and answer period. Coffee and donuts will be served. Any questions, please call **Deacon John** (744-2106) after 7pm.



**ST. MARY BOOK CLUB - February Book:**

**The Lamb's Supper "The Mass as Heaven on Earth"**, by **Scott Hahn**. Please join **Deacon John** in the **Children's Room** at **7:30pm**, on **TUES., FEB. 24<sup>th</sup>**, for discussion. **March Book:** **"Becoming Who You Are"**, by **James Martin, S.J.**



**Going Once, Going Twice, SOLD!**

Saint Mary School is hosting their **15<sup>th</sup> Annual Auction** on **SAT., MAR. 28<sup>th</sup>**, at the **Stony Hill Inn**. Would you be interested in donating a new and unused item? Do you have a local business, or are you a service professional who would like to donate a new product, service or gift certificate? We would be grateful for any support for our school. For donation information please call **Cindy Iazzetta** (730-8026).

**NO SCHOOL: WINTER BREAK**  
**MON., FEB. 16 & TUE., FEB. 17.**



*We extend our gratitude to all who joined us during Catholic Schools Week. It was a pleasure.*

**ATTN: TEENS & PARENTS**

There is a **mandatory Mission Trip/Retreat Meeting** today, **SUN., FEB. 8<sup>th</sup>**, at **6:30pm**, in the **Parish Hall**.



**ST. MARY CONTEMPORARY FOLK GROUP**

Anyone who would like to play piano with the Contemporary Folk Group may call **Debbie Caraluzzi** (730-0804). Debbie is also looking for a guitarist, so please give her a call.



**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS**

**NEXT REGULAR MEETING:**

**MON., FEB. 9<sup>th</sup>**, at **8:15pm**, in the **Parish Hall**.

**Dec. Knight Of The Month: John Licari**

**Dec. Family Of The Month: Horan Family**

The Knights would like to congratulate the winners of our **Free Throw Contest**:

**Age 10 - Scott Nesbitt, Kiley Banks;**

**Age 11 - John Jerolimo, McKenna Raymond;**

**Age 12 - Emily Burke;**

**Age 13 - James Jerolimo, Priscilla Licari;**

**Age 14 - Shane Raymond.**

## Coming Events

### ST. MARY MEN'S RETREAT IS COMING!

Wives, Mothers, Sweethearts! Do you want your husband, son, or fiancé to be a better man in a matter of days? A weekend retreat will do it. Get him to sign up early. The retreat begins the evening of FRI., MAR. 20<sup>th</sup>. For information you may call the Retreat Center (860 521-0440), register online www.holyfamilyretreat.org, call Nick Santarelli (203 470-7102). Men's Retreat: March 20-22.



WOMEN'S RETREAT – Sometimes, we just need to pull back from those everyday experiences that pose a threat to our spiritual well-being. We need to withdraw to a place of “safety” to regroup. So, join us at the Holy Family of Nazareth Center, in Monroe, on APR. 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>. Any questions, please call Deacon John (744-2106) after 7pm.

### DANBURY EMMAUS RETREAT

for teens currently in high school will be from FEB. 20<sup>th</sup> – 22<sup>nd</sup>, at the Seton Newman Center, Immaculate High School. For more info. call Sheehans (426-3253).



The mission of our CARITAS PROGRAM, which is still underway, is to reach out to members of the St. Mary Parish community to offer physical, spiritual and emotional support. At this time 50 people have volunteered to help. We hope to support every person in need whether it is a ride, a visit for someone who is homebound, a meal for a family, an extra set of hands for a family with a newborn, a respite for a caregiver or any of the thousands of needs that each of us has at some time in our lives. If you are in need, or you know someone who is – ***We can help!*** Please call the Rectory (744-5777). Your information will be given to a Caritas program coordinator who will get back to you.

## odds "n" ends



I.H.S. ENTRANCE EXAMS are scheduled for WED., FEB. 11<sup>th</sup>, at 4:30pm, and SAT., MAR. 14<sup>th</sup>, at 8:30am. To register call Mike Bonelli (744-1510, Ext. 157), or you may e-mail him: mbonelli@immaculatehs.org.

### IHS \$100,000 TUITION RAFFLE DRAWING

is SUN., MAR. 8<sup>th</sup>. Tickets are \$100 each, and only 3,000 tickets will be sold. The winner can choose to use the raffle proceeds to pay tuition at any accredited school in the country! If you would like to buy a ticket, please call John Brosz (203 744-1510, Ext. 144) or e-mail him: jbrosz@immaculatehs.org.



*During the year it would be great to pray for by name those who are volunteering to protect and serve our country. If you know anyone, please call the Rectory (744-5777) with the name, rank, branch of service and assignment, and we shall publish them in the bulletin periodically as well as keeping a list for our prayers.*

**Dave & Ann Perkins, Captains in the Army,**  
serving in Afghanistan  
**James Perkins, 1<sup>st</sup> Lieutenant in the Army,**  
serving in Baghdad  
*Sons, Daughter-in-law of Dave & Pat Perkins*

**Thomas Burke, Lance Corporal in the**  
**Marines, serving in Iraq**  
*Son of Debbie & Tom Burke*

**Roger Bellamy, Staff Sergeant in the Air**  
**National Guard, serving in Afghanistan**  
*Husband of Madeline Bellamy, and*  
*Father of Andrew, Hayden, Shelby & Grant*

**Todd Angell, Corpsman in the Navy, serving**  
**in Kuwait**  
*Son of Mary Angell*