


**MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK**

<b>MON., FEB. 16</b>	6:30	<i>NO MASS</i>	
	9:00	+ Peggy O'Neill ( <i>Anniv.</i> ) – Family	
<b>TUES, FEB. 17</b>	6:30	Dorothy Burton ( <i>Health &amp; Blessings</i> ) – Marie Miller	
	9:00	+ Souls in Purgatory	
<b>WED, FEB. 18</b>	6:30	+ JoAnne Zayanskosky-Whitaker – Anne Chute	
	9:00	+ Townley Costello – Ann & Jim Kelleher	
<b>THU., FEB. 19</b>	6:30	+ Marilyn Christensen – Family	Mass Intentions 
	9:00	+ Rebecca Hernandez – Lawrence Havey	
<b>FRI., FEB. 20</b>	6:30	For the People of St. Mary Parish	
	9:00	+ Marion Clark – Marilla & Tony DeLuca	
<b>SAT., FEB. 21</b>	8:00	+ Joe Quatraro – Friend	
	5:30	+ Dorothy Marinaccio – Mike & Mary Marinaccio	
<b>SUN., FEB. 22</b>	7:00	+ Nora Marie Hurley O'Donohue – Ann & John Reilly	
	8:30	+ George O'Keefe ( <i>Birthday</i> ) – Family	
	10:00	+ Peter Kirk – Family	
	11:30	+ Catherine Irving – Phoebe Ann Vecchia	
	5:30	+ Jane Broschart – Giarratano Family	

**2010 MASS BOOK WILL BE OPEN ON MARCH 2, 2009.**



*HEAR YE,  
HEAR YE.*

You may reserve your Masses for 2009 and 2010 by stopping by the Rectory Monday through Friday, from 9:00am-4:00pm. Masses booked this March for weekends in 2010 will be limited to four per customer. You may book as many weekday Masses as you like. More weekend Masses may be booked after April.

**GOAL:    \$15,000**

**COLLECTION:    \$13,796**

**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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➤ *This year marks the anniversary of the 16<sup>th</sup> Annual White Mass in the Diocese of Bridgeport. It will be celebrated SUN., MAR., 22<sup>nd</sup>, at 8:30am, at St. Aloysius Church in New Canaan. Breakfast will immediately follow at the Woodway Country Club in Darien. The guest speaker will be Edmund D. Pellegrino, M.D., Chairman of the President's Council on Bioethics. All healthcare professionals in the parish are invited to attend.*

➤ *Two Liturgical reminders, and they are both about bowing. 1.) The liturgy reminds us that as an acknowledgement of the profound meaning of the Word of God taking flesh we should all bow during the Creed at the words: by the power of the Holy Spirit he was born of the Virgin Mary, and became man. This particular bow is similar to a genuflection in that it shows honor and adoration for the mystery of the Incarnation. If you forget when to do it, just watch the deacon and priest during the Creed and get your cue from them. 2.) Before receiving Holy Communion, both the Body of Christ and the Blood of Christ a small bow should be made when the priest, deacon or extraordinary minister says Body of Christ or Blood of Christ, and you answer AMEN. This is the sign of adoration that the Bishops of the United States have chosen for all congregations. Since we are One Body in Christ our gestures should be one.*

➤ *Those pesky cell phones seem to be ringing more and more at Mass. As you enter the Church, please turn them off. The only one to call you at Mass should be God.*

➤ *A long way away 'heads-up'. The Mass schedule on Palm Sunday has always been very tight. The 10:00 and 11:30 Mass have usually run into each other, cars are backed up onto Rte. 302, and people cannot get in or out of the parking lot. This year the 10:00 Mass will include a brief procession. With all this in mind, on Palm Sunday ONLY, the 11:30am Mass will be moved to 12:00noon. It will make everyone's life easier. I will remind you about this change on a regular basis.*

➤ *The flower called "snowdrop" appears in February and is a symbol of hope. According to legend, the snowdrop became the symbol of hope when Adam and Eve were expelled from the Garden of Eden. When Eve was about to give up hope that the cold winters would never end, an angel appeared. She transformed some of the snowflakes into snowdrop flowers, proving that the winters do eventually give way to the spring. The name "snowdrop" does not mean "drop" of snow; it means drop as in eardrop – the old word for earring.*

➤ *Here's some spiritual food for thought, especially for our young people (please read this to your kids) and, in fact, for everyone. These words are from Pope Benedict XVI:*

*"Friends, again I ask you, what about today? What are you seeking? What is God whispering to you? The hope which never disappoints is Jesus Christ. The saints show us the selfless love of his way. As disciples of Christ, their extraordinary journeys unfolded within the community of hope, which is the Church. It is from within the Church that you too will find the courage and support to walk the way of the Lord. Nourished by personal prayer, prompted in silence, shaped by the Church's liturgy you will discover the particular vocation God has for you. Embrace it with joy. You are Christ's disciples today. Shine his light upon this great city and beyond. Show the world the reason for the hope that resonates within you. Tell others about the truth that sets you free."*

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

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➤ *A number of people love to talk about angels. So, here is some information about angels that we as Catholics should know. An angel is a heavenly being, genderless, of a fixed population, who neither marry nor are given in marriage and are distinct from saints (humans become saints in heaven not angels). They are mentioned nearly 300 times in the Bible.*

➤ *There are 9 choirs (or classes) of angels, and they are listed in ascending order, named according to their traditionally assigned duties:*

- 1. Angels – Various symbols are associated with them: musical instruments, thuribles, shields, scrolls and passion emblems.*
- 2. Archangels – Chief angels, mentioned twice in the New Testament, they are messengers from God in significant matters.*
- 3. Principalities – They are depicted as carrying scepters with which they direct God's commands. With archangels and angels they are the heavenly multitude that is in God's ordinary and immediate service in what pertains to the visible world. It was said that countries are assigned to certain principalities.*
- 4. Powers – They are shown with swords; given their names because of their special power in restraining the assault of the evil spirit.*
- 5. Virtues – They are charged with dispensing celestial miracles and accomplishing stupendous works.*
- 6. Dominations – They are shown in royal robes and crowned for their authority; movers of stars and planets.*
- 7. Thrones – They are shown in a kneeling posture of adoration; referred to also in Psalm 9:4.*
- 8. Cherubim (plural of cherub) – They are angels of wisdom, guardians and protectors stationed at Eden (Genesis 3:24), image erected in gold on the ark of the covenant (Exodus 25:18), born YHWH to the rescue of David (2 Samuel 22:11), pictured as four-eyed, blue-winged, and presenting a book, representative of their great knowledge.*
- 9. Seraphim (plural of seraph, "to burn") – They are shown with six red wings and eyes; highest choir of angels, named for the seraphim of Isaiah 6:2; distinguished by their burning zeal and love for the Trinity.*

*By the way, there is an ancient superstition that those born on Good Friday or Christmas day have the power to see and command spirits.*

*Next week I will share with you the names and actions of the 7 Archangels.*

➤ *Are you a practicing catholic over the age of 18 who has not received the Sacrament of Confirmation? On Pentecost Sunday, May 31<sup>st</sup>, at 3:30pm, the Diocesan celebration of Confirmation for Adults will be celebrated at St. Augustine Cathedral, Bridgeport. Diocesan refresher classes are offered on seven consecutive dates from April 14 – May 26, from 7:00 - 9:00pm, at St. Luke Parish in Westport. Adult Confirmation forms are at the Rectory. If you require further information, please call the Diocesan Office for Pastoral Services (203 416-1446) or email: [doconnor@diobpt.org](mailto:doconnor@diobpt.org).*



**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.

**MEALS-ON-WHEELS:  
WEEK OF DELIVERIES**



**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.* for group discussion on **TUES., MAR. 31<sup>st</sup>**, at **7:30pm**.

**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.

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 **Rector** (744-5777). Your information will be given to a Caritas program coordinator who will get back to you.



**YOUTH GROUPS:** Please pick up a new calendar for February, March, and April in the vestibule of the Church.

**JR. YOUTH GROUP** meets for **5:30pm Mass** today, **SUN., FEB. 15<sup>th</sup>**, followed by dinner and games. Pick-up at **7:00pm**.



**SR. YOUTH GROUP** will meet at the **Danbury Ice Arena** for skating on **FRI., FEB. 20<sup>th</sup>**. You must sign up to go. Chaperones needed. Any questions, email Annie: **smbgroup@gmail.com** or call (203 994-6595).

**SENIOR & JUNIOR YOUTH GROUPS**



Soup and Stations of the Cross, **FRI., FEB. 27<sup>th</sup>**, at **6:30pm**.

**ATTN. PARENTS:** Sign up after all Masses this weekend for **"WINTER FUN"**, our mini-version of **"Fun in the Sun"**, on **SUN., MAR. 1<sup>st</sup>**, from **12:30-3:30pm**. Cost is \$10/child. For more info, please call **Kate Fitz (744-5777)**.



You can register children for this year's **"FUN IN THE SUN"** after all the Masses the weekend of **MAR. 1<sup>st</sup>**. Camp will be the weeks of **JULY 6-10** and **13-17**, from **8:30am-12:30pm**. Cost is \$100 per week. Children must **currently** be in grades **K - 6**. Counselor applications will also be available then.

**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS**



**NEXT REGULAR MEETING:** **MON., FEB. 23<sup>rd</sup>**, at **8:15pm**, in the **Parish Hall**.

**KofC St. Mary Photo Contest & Poster Contest**



Next weekend, **FEB. 21-22**, all entries for both will be displayed in the **Parish Hall**. Please stop in after Mass to view the wonderful creativity of our Parish. **Poster awards** will be presented following the **8:30am** Mass; **Photo awards** will follow the **11:30am** Mass.

# SCHOOL DAYS



## 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.



The FATHER/DAUGHTER DANCE will be held on FRI., FEB. 20<sup>th</sup>, from 7:00-9:00pm, in the **School Gym**.



St. Mary's will host the Girls Junior Varsity tournament this weekend at **Immaculate High School**. The Boys Junior Varsity tournament will be FEB. 21<sup>st</sup>-22<sup>nd</sup>, at **Immaculate High School**. The Girls & Boys Varsity tournament will be SAT., FEB. 28<sup>th</sup>, and SUN., MAR. 1<sup>st</sup>, at **I.H.S.**

St. Mary's will host its first 5K Fun Run on SAT., MAY 16<sup>th</sup>. If you would like to volunteer, please call Eve Olson (744-5540). More details to come.



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.

THE RECTORY

WILL BE CLOSED

MON., FEB. 16<sup>TH</sup>



# Coming Events

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

Sign up now for our Parish Retreat at **Holy Family Retreat Center** in West Hartford. It begins on the evening of FRI., MAR. 20<sup>th</sup>, ends at noon SUN., MAR. 21<sup>st</sup>. Enjoy some free time and a chance to think about those things that really matter – like your relations with your family, friends and God. For more info you may call the Retreat Center (860 521-0440), register online www.holyfamilyretreat.org, or call Nick Santarelli (203 470-7102).



## 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).



I.H.S. ENTRANCE EXAMS are scheduled for 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.