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**MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK**

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<b>MON., MAR. 23</b>	6:30	+	Mark Vlash – Family
	9:00	+	Mabel Williams – Cathy Manfredi
<b>TUES, MAR. 24</b>	6:30	+	Eleanor & Frank Carter – Gina & Dan Ippolito
	9:00	+	George Hibbert – Roger & Veronica Hibbert
<b>WED., MAR. 25</b>	6:30		Blessed Mother’s Intentions
	9:00	+	Hugh Lee – Family
<b>THU., MAR. 26</b>	6:30	+	Stratford & Kovner Families – Family
	9:00	+	Joe Freebairn – Wife, Eileen
<b>FRI., MAR. 27</b>	6:30	+	John Piccinnini – Braden Family
	9:00	+	Dorothy Gereg – Family
<b>SAT., MAR. 28</b>	8:00	+	Alice McShane – Brendan Duffy
	5:30	+	Ronald Dorman – Family
<b>SUN., MAR. 29</b>	7:00	+	Alice Myers – Deveney Family
	8:30	+	Sophie Mazur – MacGregor Family
	10:00	+	Helen Marie Moriarty – Stocks Family
	11:30	+	Margaret Orr – Jerolimo Family
	5:30	+	Helen Kovacs –Magner Family



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**WELCOME TO THOSE WHO WERE NEWLY BAPTIZED**

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*Tyler Anthony Cedor*

*Alexis Sydney Hyde*

*Enzo Roma*

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*II – Louis DiMeglio & Sarah Lauderowicz*



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**GOAL:    \$15,000**

**COLLECTION:    \$12,426**

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**LENTEN CONFESSIONS are every Tuesday evening from 7:00-9:00pm during Lent.**

If you can't attend with our group, please try to attend another one. It is a time for reflection and awareness.

**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 tread very lightly when it comes to offertory and donations. I respect completely what people decide to give to the Church with their time, talent and treasure. Make no mistake, our parishioners are extremely generous, not just in what they put into the offertory basket, but the time they give, the talents they offer and the quick and willing service and action they give when the call comes from the pulpit.*

*A number of years ago, Msgr. Karl and our dedicated finance people set \$15,000.00 as a parish weekly offertory goal. As you know, things are going up, people are losing their jobs, belts are tightening and the weather has not been our best friend. Knowing that the economy is difficult and that times are tough and that after 10 years things in the Church need some repair and tender loving care, I humbly ask if you can find it in your means to help us to continue to meet the \$15,000 goal each week. If you miss a week, please try to remember your offertory the next time you come to worship.*

*Please know that I realize times are tough, and we are trying earnestly to find ways to cut back without having to change what everyone likes and expects. If you can help, I would be most grateful. We shall be working on the budget for next fiscal year and will see if \$15,000 is a goal that is appropriate for us. I can't say how grateful I am for your generosity, and I do not want to put any undue burden on anyone. Know of my thanks and prayers for all that you do, and I beg your prayers for our Sisters and Clergy.*

➤ *This week we begin our Parish Mission with Father Michael Laskey. I am very excited because Fr. Mike is a wonderful speaker and has done exceptional things over at Western Connecticut State University. The Mission will begin at 7:00pm on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday evenings and will be in the context of Evening prayer with a talk in the middle. It promises to last no more than one hour on each evening. On Tuesday evening, we will have confessions for one hour after the Mission. Please come, bring your families and don't forget to ask a friend. Here is a little about Fr. Mike:*

**A native of Baltimore, Maryland, Friar Michael Lasky has been with the Conventual Franciscan Friars for 18 years. Friar Michael is a graduate of St. Hyacinth College and Seminary where he earned a BA in Philosophy in 1995 and the Washington Theological Union in Washington D.C. where he earned a Masters of Divinity in 2000. Ministry experience while in formation included: Working with mentally handicapped children in New England, in soup kitchens in Brooklyn, NY, as well as on the floors, ICUs & ER at NYU Medical Center in NYC. He has been in parish life in the Capital Hill area of D. C. and ministered to the poor in the projects of southeast Washington, D.C., and to college students through Campus Ministry at the Catholic University of America. In the '97-'98 academic year, Friar Mike was a Sophomore History Teacher at St. Francis High School in Athol Springs, NY. In 1999 & 2003 he spent summer serving as an English speaking tour guide at the Basilica of St. Francis in Assisi, Italy (tours included commentary on art, architecture and spirituality of the Middle Ages.). In 2000 Friar Mike returned to St. Francis High School in Athol Springs, NY for 5 years; where he was Campus Minister, religion teacher and Religion Department Chair. Since the mid-1990's Friar Mike has been a member of the Franciscan Youth Ministry Team on the East Coast, of which he is now the chair. The major events of this group have been World Youth and Giovanni Verso Assisi, an international program for young adults held once every three years in Assisi, Italy. Friar Mike has spent the past four years at the Newman Center at Western Connecticut State University, where he is Chaplain. In addition, through direct service to the poor in the third world, he has journeyed with students to the island of Jamaica, West Indies and the desert of earthquake torn Chinchu, Peru.**

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## Fr. Corey's Comments

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Here is a little bit about Fr. Ed McAuley:

Father Ed McAuley is the widowed dad of three grown children and a retired public high school Social Studies teacher. He studied at Saint John Fisher Seminary in 2001 before entering Blessed John XXIII National Seminary, a seminary for later vocations to the priesthood, where he completed his studies in 2006, when he was ordained to the priesthood. Father McAuley has previously served as Parochial Vicar at Saint Catherine of Siena parish in Trumbull - the parish where he and his wife were married - and St. Stephen's parish, also in Trumbull. He enjoys spending time with his family and is a fan of the Boston Red Sox, the New York Mets and UCONN basketball.

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### Lenten Season

**PENANCE:** Every Tuesday night, from 7:00-9:00pm, in the Church.

**STATIONS OF THE CROSS:** Every Friday night, at 7:00pm, in the Church.

**FRIDAYS:** Days of ABSTINENCE (no meat)

**PARISH MISSION:** MARCH 23, 24, & 25.

**STATIONS of the CROSS** – Good Friday, 4/10  
Please meet at 12:00 noon on the sidewalk in front of the **Bishop Curtis Homes** for our annual **Ecumenical Way of the Cross**. In the event of inclement weather, we will meet at St. Thomas Episcopal Church. For more details please call **Deacon Mike Oles** (203 733-5880).



### LOAVES & FISHES COLLECTION

is used to feed the hungry and provides an opportunity for us to make sacrifices for those in need. Place your envelopes in the offertory collection anytime during Lent.

### THE GOSPEL:

### THIS IS OUR LIFE!



**PARISH MISSION** – MAR. 23, 24, & 25, 7:00pm.

Three evenings, three perspectives: St. Francis, St. Clare and St Anthony will share with you their way of living, the Gospel in our contemporary world. We will explore prayer, love and relationships. And, also...for Lent St. Francis gave up shopping (find out why on night 1!); St. Clare gave up texting (night 2!); and St. Anthony gave up ?...(come and find out on night 3!)

A **MEMORIAL SERVICE** will be conducted on MON., MAR. 30<sup>th</sup>, at 7:30pm. This service is to remember, honor, pray for and pray to deceased members of our families. After the Service refreshments will be served in the **Parish Hall**. For more details call **Deacon Mike** (203 733-5880).



This weekend, MAR. 21 & 22, there will be a **Catholic Relief Services** collection.

**EASTER FLOWERS:** To make it easier for the decorating committee, we ask that you give a monetary donation for flowers instead of bringing your own. Donations may be put in the basket or brought in to the Rectory.



**ST. MARY BOOK CLUB** – **March Book:**



“Becoming Who You Are”, by **James Martin, S.J.** Please join **Deacon John** in the **Children’s Room** at 7:30pm, on TUES., MAR. 31<sup>st</sup>, for group discussion.

**April Book:** “Mere Christianity”, by **C. S. Lewis** for discussion at 7:30pm on TUES., APR. 28<sup>th</sup>.

**ST. MARY CEMETERY CLEAN-UP**

In preparation for Easter we will be cleaning up at the Cemetery. If there is anything on the grave that you wish to keep, please pick it up by MON., MAR. 29<sup>th</sup>. If not, leave it there. **YOU DO NOT NEED TO PICK UP ITEMS YOU DO NOT WANT!**





**JUNIOR YOUTH GROUP – Flower Delivery**

for **Bishop Curtis** has been rescheduled for SUN., APR. 26<sup>th</sup>, from 11:30-12:30. We'll meet after Mass and drive over.

**SENIOR YOUTH GROUP: Overnight Activity. Start Collecting Donations Now!**

**ST. MARY MEN'S RETREAT-PRAY FOR US**

Please pray for the men of St. Mary Parish who are on their annual parish retreat this weekend at the Holy Family Retreat Center in West Hartford. Pray that these men return with a better understanding of the things that are really important in their lives and the strength to deal with any obstacles they may face.



**WOMEN'S RETREAT** – If you would like to

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>, please sign up in the Vestibule after Mass any weekend in March. Cost of the weekend is \$140.00 Any questions, please call Deacon John (744-2106) after 7pm.

**BIRTHRIGHT** is looking for people to knit or crochet Layette Sets (sweater, hat & booties), newborn size, and 3x3 Blankets for car seats in soft pastel colors. Call Mary Ferri (743-4557) for more info. or when finished.



Are you a practicing catholic over the age of 18 who has not yet received the Sacrament of Confirmation? On May 31<sup>st</sup>, Pentecost Sunday, at 3:30pm, the Diocesan celebration of **Confirmation for Adults** will be celebrated at St. Augustine Cathedral, Bridgeport. Refresher classes are offered on seven consecutive dates from April 14–May 26, from 7:00-9:00pm, at **St. Luke Parish** in Westport. For more info, please contact the Diocese (203 416-1446) or email: doconnor@diobpt.org.



**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS**

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

The Knights invite you to their **FISH FRY** on FRI., MAR. 27<sup>th</sup>, from 5:30-7:30pm, in the Gym. If you don't have time to sit and eat, try our new drive-up, takeout service. Menu and price details are in the vestibule.



**EASTER FOOD COLLECTION**

The Knights will be putting together food baskets for the needy for Easter. If you wish to donate, you may drop off dry and canned goods in the **Church vestibule** anytime until MON., APR. 6<sup>th</sup>. Anything will be appreciated.



**ST. MARY CONTEMPORARY FOLK GROUP**

The **Contemporary Folk Group** is in need of a **pianist**. If you would like to play piano with them, please call Debbie Caraluzzi (730-0804).



**APRIL/MAY LECTOR SCHEDULE**

will be mailed this week. Those who are scheduled to read on Palm Sunday (4/05) are requested to attend a meeting in the **Church** on SAT., APR. 4<sup>th</sup>, at 10:00am. If you can't attend, please call Eileen Clark (743-7084).



**EASTER SCHEDULES** for **Altar Servers, Eucharistic Ministers and Lectors** will be in the **Vestry** next weekend for sign-ups.



**Immaculate High School** will present WEST SIDE STORY on THUR., APR. 2, and FRI., APR. 3, at 7:30pm, and SAT, APR. 4, at 1:30 and 7:30pm. Limited reserved seating tickets are \$18. All other seating and matinees are \$15. Buffet dinner available on Saturday between performances at \$15, children under 6 are free. For tickets call **798-2273**.





St. Mary School Auction Raffle Tickets for a 42" TV will be sold after all Masses this weekend, MAR. 21/22. Proceeds benefit St. Mary School.



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

Our Athletic Banquet will be held today, SUN., MAR. 22<sup>nd</sup>, at 4:00pm.

Congratulations to all who participated in the Science Horizons Fair at New Fairfield High School on SAT., MAR. 7<sup>th</sup>. We had 10 finalists. Special congratulations to Melanie Ravo and Emily Dineen, First Place winners in the Jr. Physical Division and Olivia Dalmedo, Third Place winner in the Jr. Biological Division. These students will go on to the State Finals

RETROUVAILLE OF CT. – If your marriage has become troubled and stressed, unloving or uncaring, or cold and distant, even if you are thinking of separation or divorce, or are already separated or divorced, but you want to try again, then the Retrouvaille program can help you. The next weekend: FRI., APR. 17 – SUN., APR. 19. Although Retrouvaille is Catholic in origin, couples from all or no faith traditions are welcome to attend. For more information please call our confidential number (1-800-470-2230) or e-mail (3001@retrouvaille.org).

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).



**Shut-Ins**



If you are homebound or unable to attend church and would like to receive the Eucharist, especially for holy days, please call Mary Walsh (798-1237) to arrange for a visit.

*Attend the Event of the Season  
Saint Mary School's  
15<sup>th</sup> Annual Auction*

*Featuring our Silent and Live Auctions,  
with several new and exciting items!!*

*Date: Saturday, March 28<sup>th</sup>  
Time: 6:00pm  
Place: Stony Hill Inn  
Cost: \$35 per person*

*Price Includes:  
Salad*

*Choice of: London Broil with Bordelaise sauce,  
or Chicken Piccata  
served with a vegetable medley  
Penne pasta with garlic and oil  
Dinner rolls with butter  
Dessert and Coffee or Tea*

*We have amazing items to fit every budget!  
Come and check out the incredible deals, or  
just come and have a great time!*

*St. Mary School appreciates our Parish support.*

*Would you be interested in donating a new or  
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?*

*For donation information please call  
Cindy Iazzetta (730-8026).*

*To reserve your table please call  
Marnie Gleissner (743-3343).*