
Fr. Corey's Comments

It is most edifying and most beautiful to see people in prayer. People pray in different ways according to their tradition, comfort and personality. Using gestures, body positions and personal expression people lift their hearts, minds and souls in prayer. The Church in her infinite wisdom knew that it is good to pray with our whole selves, so during the Mass the Church has offered recommended gestures to help us pray.

First – The sign of the Cross. This is done at the beginning and end of the Mass. To remind us of our salvation, to enter into Jesus' Passion, Death and Resurrection, to acknowledge and honor the Blessed and Sacred Trinity, to be blessed and renewed in this Sacred Mystery are just some of the reasons why the Church asks us to cross ourselves.

Second – The striking of the breast during the Penitential rite. When we publicly confess our sins at Mass we are invited to strike our breast... our hearts, as a sign of contrition at the words "that I have sinned in my thoughts and in my words, in what I have done and in what I have failed to do".

The next gesture is at the Gospel. When the minister proclaims: "A reading from the Holy Gospel according to" we cross ourselves on our foreheads, lips and heart with the prayer may the Lord be in my mind, my lips and my heart. May the Word of God be in my senses.

During the Creed, our profession of faith, at the words: "by the power of the Holy Spirit, he took flesh and was born of the Virgin Mary ..." we are asked to bow at the profundity and mystery of the Word becoming Incarnate. We have also have been asked to make a reverential bow before receiving Holy Communion. The Church asks us to all universally express our devotion by this common gesture.

I would like to mention our pilgrimage to Rome in November. The dates of the trip are November 4 - 13. There will be two nights in Assisi and seven nights in Rome. We shall be blessed with a Papal audience, a wonderful tour guide and delicious food. The cost of the trip, airfare, hotel, taxes, tip, and five dinners is \$3,199.00. It is a terrific price and a trip of a lifetime. Please give me a call or send me an email to get on the list.

For our Lenten meditation I invite you to read Genesis chapters 3, 4 and 5 – the story of Noah and the flood. Keep these questions in mind: Do I feel called by God? Are there things in my life that I would like to be washed away? Do I understand and believe that God forgives our sins in the Sacrament of Confession? Do I need to go to confession?

A meditation for you from St. Francis before the crucifix.


Most High, glorious God enlighten the darkness of my heart and give me true faith, certain hope, and perfect charity, sense and knowledge, Lord, that I may carry out Your holy and true command.




LENT 2011 – PRAYER & FASTING GROUP




Every *Saturday morning* during Lent, we will meet in the **Children’s Room** at **8:30am** for a group discussion of *“The Spirituality of Fasting: Rediscovering a Christian Practice”*. (Ave Maria Press, 2010) by Msgr. Charles M. Murphy.


COFFEE & will be served after the **7:00, 8:30, & 10:00 Masses** on **SUN., APR. 10th**. 

2012 MASS BOOK IS NOW OPEN.


 You may reserve Masses for 2012 at the Rectory **Mon.-Fri., from 9:00am-4:00pm**. Masses booked this April for **week-ends in 2012** will be limited to **4 per customer**. **More weekend Masses may be booked later.**

DOROTHY DAY VOLUNTEERS


WED., APR. 6th: Our turn to Cook. 


The next **BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP** meeting will be on **SAT., APR. 16th**, from **10:30-noon**, in the **Parish House**. If you will be attending for the first time, please call the **Rectory (203 744-5777)** to confirm. 

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., APR. 11th**, or it will be discarded. **YOU DO NOT NEED TO PICK UP ITEMS YOU DO NOT WANT!** 

ST. MARY BOOK CLUB: APRIL BOOK

 *“Our Lady of Kibeho: Mary Speaks to the World from the Heart of Africa”*, by *Ilibagiza Immaculee*. Join us on **THUR., APR. 28th**, at **7:30pm**, in the **Children’s Room**.

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)**. 




“FUN IN THE SUN”

CAMP COUNSELOR APPLICATIONS:

Available in the vestibule, at the Rectory, or on the website for parish teenagers currently in high school. **Application Deadline: APRIL 8th**.

ST. MARY’S MEN’S MINISTRY

Join us on **Saturday mornings**, from **6:30-8:00am**, in the **Parish Hall** for coffee, bagels fellowship and scripture discussions with Fr. Ed. For more info. please contact **Rick: rlawlor22@comcast.net** or **203-470-8084**. 

Bible Study “Come Discover the Book of Revelation.”

 This spring our St. Mary Morning Bible Study will take an in-depth **“Catholic”** look into the true meaning and purpose of the Book of Revelation. **First session: WED., MAR. 30th**, at **9:30am**, in the **Parish Hall**. To register or for more information, please contact **Rick Lawlor (203-470-8084); rlawlor22@comcast.net**.



Sign-up sheets for **HOLY WEEK SERVICES** and **EASTER MASSES** are in the **Bride’s Room** next weekend or call **Sheila (744-5777)**.



Cursillo can help develop a deeper understanding of what it means to be fully Catholic by being fully Christian. It provides an opportunity for individuals to grow in faith & spirituality through Christian community. To learn more about Cursillo contact **Yvonne (203 797-1361); Yvonne_cecera@hotmail.com**.

PASTORAL CARE at Danbury Hospital

Prior to Your Hospitalization: You or a family member should notify the Rectory.

Upon Admission: You or a family member should notify the registrar that you are a parishioner at St. Mary.



SCHOOL NEWS



Come support St. Mary School Track Team at our first meet today, SUN., APR. 3rd, at 1:00pm, at Immaculate High School

St. Mary School - SPRING RECESS: Easter Break
MON., APR. 18th - FRI., APR. 22nd
Classes resume on MON. APR. 25th.



ST. MARY SCHOOL REGISTRATION



is ongoing for Preschool through 8th Grade. Any questions, contact School (203-744-2922); or www.stmarybethelct.org.

KINDERGARTEN SCREENING: 2011-2012

MON., MAR. 28th, from 8:00am - 2:00pm;
TUES., MAR. 29th from 8:00am - 12:00pm.

INCOMING STUDENT SCREENING: GR. 1-8

WED., MAR. 30th, from 8:00am - 11:00am.

St. Mary School Presents
THE MUSIC MAN

FRI., MAY 13th, at 7:30pm
SAT., MAY 14th, at 7:30pm




Adults : \$12; Students & Seniors: \$8

More information will follow soon!



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS EASTER FOOD COLLECTION

The Knights will be putting together food baskets for the needy for Easter. If you wish to donate, you can drop off canned and dry goods in the vestibule during the day up until MON., APR. 18th. Any donation is appreciated.

The Knights of Columbus will be hosting a  ST. BALDRICKS EVENING on THUR., APR. 7th, at 6:30pm, at the Newtown Country Club. This event is to raise money for childhood cancer. Come cheer on your fellow parishioners as they shave their heads to raise donations for this great cause. Food and beverage available. If you would like to donate, please log on to: www.StBaldricks.org. Any questions please call Bob Nelson (203 748-6797).

Lenten Season



DAILY MASSES

Monday-Friday: 6:30 & 9:00am.

Saturday: 8:00am.

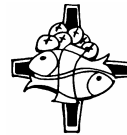
PENANCE: Tuesdays from 7:00-9:00pm
(MAR. 15th - APR. 19th)



STATIONS OF THE CROSS:

Friday nights at 7:00pm
(MAR. 11th - APR. 22nd)

FRIDAYS OF LENT:
Days of ABSTINENCE



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

Knights of Columbus

FISH FRY



NEXT FRIDAY - APRIL 15

5:30-7:30pm - School Gym

All you can eat (Inside table service)

Adults: \$10, Seniors: \$8

Children 5-12: \$5

Family Maximum: \$30

Drive-thru takeout service available.

ST. MARY



Fun-in-the-Sun

July 11-15, 18-22

Monday - Friday, 8:30am-12:30pm

St. Mary School Grounds, Bethel

\$110* per child per week

This is the 13th year of our summer camp for children in Grades k - 6 (for the 2010-2011 school year.)

Amusements, Waterslides, Bungee Jump, Games, T-shirt, Prizes, Bible and Saint Stories, Arts & Crafts, Songs, Prayer and much more!


REGISTER EARLY!

SPACE IS LIMITED!

Registration forms are available in the vestibule of the Church, at the Parish office and on our website at www.stmarybethel.org. Make checks payable to St. Mary Church and return forms and payment to the Parish office. For more information or questions, call Kate Fitzgerald at 744-5777; or visit our website: www.stmarybethel.org!

**\$15 late fee after 6/10/11

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

MON., APRIL 4	6:30 + Tony Soegaard – Knights of Columbus	
	9:00 + Frances DeMato – Agnes & Jim Bishop	
TUES, APRIL 5	6:30 + Link Hurgin – Dave Deakin	
	9:00 + Cathryn Costello – Family	
WED., APRIL 6	6:30 + John Prato – DiMatteo Family	
	9:00 + Albertina Machado – Ana Paula Machado	
THU., APRIL 7	6:30 + Barbara Rorick – Kathy & George Aiello	
	9:00 + Helen DiNapoli – Susan & Ken Osness	
FRI., APRIL 8	6:30 + Albert Doremus – Mr. & Mrs. George Keenan	
	9:00 + Carlo Maddalena – Daughter, Rosalie & Paul DeMarco	
SAT., APRIL 9	8:00 + Richard F. Beston – Family	
	5:30 + Madelon & Joseph Murphy – Carol & Bernie Henry	
SUN., APRIL 10	7:00 + Jennie Yursik – Kitty & Charlie Grant	
	8:30 + Helen & Rev. Frank LaPenna – Steven & Eileen Zemko	
	10:00 + Mary Deakin – Dave Deakin	
	11:30 + Alan Barrett – Family	
	5:30 + John Pica – Evelyn Pica	



WELCOME TO THOSE WHO WERE NEWLY BAPTIZED

Cooper William Dibble

This weekend, APR. 2nd & 3rd, there will be a second collection for
Catholic Relief Services.



COLLECTION: \$14,913

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**PARISH OFFICE (744-5777)**

**Sheila Kurjiaka:** *Bulletin Editor*  
**Kate Fitzgerald:** *Parish 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**

**Michael Ferrari:** *Music Director*  
**Elizabeth Barnes:** *Choir 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 12:45pm.*  
*(Call the Rectory to Schedule.)*

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

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