
Fr. Corey's Comments

From Sister Alberta, Sister Anne, Monsignor Scull, Fr. Cyrus, Fr. Ed, Deacon Mike, Deacon John, Seminarian Matthew, all the Staff and myself, I wish you all a very Happy, Joyous, Healthy and Renewed Easter! May the Good News of Christ Risen from the dead enliven your souls so that you can be happy in this life and eternally happy in the world to come. It is because of the Resurrection that we are freed from our sins and the gates of Heaven are opened for us. It is because of the Resurrection that we have hope. It is because of the Resurrection that forgiveness and reconciliation are truly possible. It is because of the Resurrection that all things in Christ are possible. It is because of the Resurrection there is true love in the world. It is because of the Resurrection we have been saved. ALLELUIA, This is the day the Lord has made, let us rejoice and be glad!!

This sermon of St. John Chrysostom is one of my favorites, and I feel it is a wonderful read for Easter.

Are there any who are devout lovers of God? Let them enjoy this beautiful bright festival! Are there any who are grateful servants? Let them rejoice and enter into the joy of their Lord! Are there any weary from fasting? Let them now receive their due! If any have toiled from the first hour, let them receive their reward. If any have come after the third hour, let them with gratitude join in the feast! Those who arrived after the sixth hour, let them not doubt; for they shall not be short-changed. Those who have tarried until the ninth hour, let them not hesitate; but let them come too. And those who arrived only at the eleventh hour, let them not be afraid by reason of their delay. For the Lord is gracious and receives the last even as the first. The Lord gives rest to those who come at the eleventh hour, even as to those who toiled from the beginning. To one and all the Lord gives generously. The Lord accepts the offering of every work. The Lord honours every deed and commends their intention. Let us all enter into the joy of the Lord! First and last alike, receive your reward. Rich and poor, rejoice together! Conscientious and lazy, celebrate the day! You who have kept the fast, and you who have not, rejoice, this day, for the table is bountifully spread! Feast royally, for the calf is fatted. Let no one go away hungry. Partake, all, of the banquet of faith. Enjoy the bounty of the Lord's goodness! Let no one grieve being poor, for the universal reign has been revealed. Let no one lament persistent failings, for forgiveness has risen from the grave. Let no one fear death, for the death of our Saviour has set us free. The Lord has destroyed death by enduring it. The Lord vanquished hell when he descended into it. The Lord put hell in turmoil even as it tasted of his flesh. Isaiah foretold this when he said, "You, O Hell, were placed in turmoil when he encountering you below." Hell was in turmoil having been eclipsed. Hell was in turmoil having been mocked. Hell was in turmoil having been destroyed. Hell was in turmoil having been abolished. Hell was in turmoil having been made captive. Hell grasped a corpse, and met God. Hell seized earth, and encountered heaven. Hell took what it saw, and was overcome by what it could not see. O death, where is your sting? O hell, where is your victory? Christ is risen, and you are cast down! Christ is risen, and the demons are fallen! Christ is risen, and the angels rejoice! Christ is risen, and life is set free! Christ is risen, and the tomb is emptied of its dead. For Christ, having risen from the dead, is become the first-fruits of those who have fallen asleep. To Christ be glory and power forever and ever. Amen!

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

I hope you are as happy with the new Sanctuary as I am. I think the project came out beautifully. If you would still like to offer a gift or a pledge, it would be most helpful as we are still a bit shy of our goal. Any size gift will be gratefully accepted. Pledge/Gift cards are in the vestibule of the Church.

In case your wondering what the symbol in front of the altar represents:



A – Ave -----\

M – Maria -----> Hail Mary Queen

R – Regina ----/

The Stars stand for the twelve apostles and refer to the Book of Revelations, Mary Queen of Heaven.

With the arrival of Spring, I thought you might like to do some planting.

Plant three rows of peas:

Peace of mind;

Peace of heart;

Peace of soul.

Plant four rows of squash:

Squash gossip;

Squash indifference;

Squash grumbling;

Squash selfishness.

Plant four rows of lettuce:

Lettuce be faithful;

Lettuce be kind;

Lettuce be obedient;

Lettuce really love one another.

Plant three rows of turnips:

Turnip for meetings;

Turnip for service;

Turnip to help one another.

Water freely with patience and cultivate with love.

There is much fruit in your garden because you reap what you sow.

To conclude our garden we must have thyme:

Thyme for God;

Thyme for study;

Thyme for prayer.



The **2009 Annual Bishop's Appeal** has begun throughout the Diocese. We have the opportunity to help those being served through our many diocesan programs including Catholic Charities, Catholic and Religious Education, Pastoral Life, and Vocations. With **In-Pew Sunday** coming up this month we hope to have as close to 100% participation as we can. If you'd like to make a gift, you may send in your pledge card, visit the website at: www.bridgeportdiocese.com, or call the **Development Office** (203 416-1479).



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).

COFFEE & ... will be served after the **8:30 & 10:00 Mass** on **SUN., APR. 11th**.



DOROTHY DAY VOLUNTEERS
WED., APR. 7th: Our turn to Cook.

BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP:

Next meeting will be **SAT., APR. 17th**, from **10:30am-12:00noon**, in the **Parish House**.



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
Next Meeting – APR. 12, 8:15pm.
Rosary at 7:45pm in the Church.

The **Knights of Columbus** is a Catholic men's fraternal society dedicated to providing service to Church, community, family and youth. If you are at least 18 years of age and are interested in joining, please visit <http://pavia48.tripod.com>.

ST. MARY CLOTHING BANK
You may drop clothes off every **Thursday**, from **9:30-11:30am**, at the **Senior Center** on School Street.



Clothing Drive

MON., APR. 5th – No Classes.



St. Mary **Annual 5K Fun Run** will be on **SAT., MAY 22nd**. **Fun Run for Kids** 9 years old and under begins at **8:00am**, followed by the **5K Run** at **8:30am**. For further information or to volunteer, please call **Cathy Drury** (203 938-4067). More details to come.



St. Mary **School Carnival** will run from **WED., MAY 12th – SAT., MAY 15th**. Anyone wishing to volunteer to help, please call **Jo Jo Magrone** (203 730-1840).

Come support **St. Mary School Track team** at our first track meet on **SUN., APR. 11th**, from **12:00noon-4:00pm** at **Immaculate High School**.



ST. MARY BOOK CLUB: APRIL BOOK "**Left to Tell**" by **Immaculee Ilibagiza**. Meet in **Children's Room** for discussion on **TUES., APR. 27th**, at **7:30pm**.

SENIOR YOUTH GROUP MISSION

TRIP team will hold a "**Homeless Service Overnight**" on **SAT., APR. 24th**, to raise funds for our **Mission Trip/Retreat** to Camden, NJ in June. We will meet in the **School Gym** at **7:00pm** for a "**Soup Kitchen**" supper, then we'll make cardboard shelters outside for us to spend the night in. During the evening we will be involved in several service projects (i.e., making sandwiches for Dorothy Day, sorting cans for Brotherhood-in-Action, etc.). The Overnight will conclude the following morning with Mass at **7:00am**. We ask for your prayers, food donations for Brotherhood-in-Action (which can be dropped off that evening), and, if possible, a pledge for this fundraiser. What we raise will help cover travel, lodging, food and project costs for our trip. To make a monetary donation/pledge, please call **Kate Fitzgerald** (744-5777). Thank you!





CAMP

July 12-16, 19-23

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

St. Mary School Grounds, Bethel

Cost is \$100 per child per week

This is the 12th year of our summer camp for children in grades k-6 (for the 2009-10 school year). Amusements, Water Slides, Rock Wall, Games, T-shirts, Prizes, Bible and Saint Stories, Arts & Crafts, Songs, Prayer and much more!

Registration forms are available in the vestibule of the Church, at the Rectory, and also on our website at www.stmarybethel.org. Make checks payable to: St. Mary Church, and return forms and payment to the Rectory.

For more information, please call Kate Fitzgerald at 744-5777 or visit our website!

CAMP COUNSELORS: Applications are available for high schools students registered at St. Mary's. They must be returned to the Rectory by TUES., APRIL 6th.

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

MON., APR. 5	6:30 + Joe Quatraro – Soegaard Family
	9:00 + Cathryn Costello
TUES, APR. 6	6:30 + John Prato (<i>Anniv.</i>) – DiMatteo Family
	9:00 + Wilma Taylor (<i>Birthday</i>) – Brenda & Kevin Cleary
WED., APR. 7	6:30 + Sylvana Hanley – Anita Deane
	9:00 + Albertina Machado – Ana Paula Machado & Isabel Maloney
THU., APR. 8	6:30 + Mary Eileen Schultz – Robert & Ana Ross
	9:00 + Carlo Maddalena – Daughter, Rosalie & Paul DeMarco
FRI., APR. 9	6:30 + Robert Eggen – Colin & Matilda Cafferty
	9:00 + John Newell – Family
SAT., APR. 10	8:00 + Mary Deakin – Family
	5:30 + Tony Soegaard – Wax Family
SUN., APR. 11	7:00 + Mary Ryan – Kitty & Charlie Grant
	8:30 + Christian Major – Barb Cregan & Kathy Marusa
	10:00 + Msgr. Edward B. Karl – St. Mary Choir
	11:30 + Tony Soegaard – Santarelli Family
	5:30 + Kellianne Gartland – Family

I – Timothy Larkin & Jennifer Hubal



GOAL: \$15,000

COLLECTION: \$18,618

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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**

Michael Ferrari: *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.*