
MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

MON., APR. 6	6:30	Special Intention	
	9:00	+ Victoria Stankaitis (<i>40th Anniv.</i>) – Gary Stankaitis	
TUES, APR. 7	6:30	+ Carmina Gryskiewicz – Ken & Cindy Roberts & Family	
	9:00	+ Carlo Maddalena – Daughter, Rosalie & Paul DeMarco	
WED., APR. 8	6:30	+ Delores Ventura – Family	
	9:00	+ John Newell – Family	
THU., APR. 9	9:00	<i>Morning Prayer</i>	
<i>Holy Thursday</i>			
FRI., APR. 10	9:00	<i>Morning Prayer</i>	
<i>Good Friday</i>			
SAT., APR. 11	9:00	<i>Morning Prayer</i>	
<i>Holy Saturday</i>	8:00	<i>Easter Vigil</i>	
SUN., APR. 12	7:00, 8:30, 10:00, 11:30am		
<i>Easter Sunday</i>	5:30	<u>NO MASS</u>	



WELCOME TO THOSE WHO WERE NEWLY BAPTIZED



Mackenzie Noelle Bray

Faith Margaret Venezia

Samantha Haydee Joyal-Pena

On **GOOD FRIDAY, APR. 10th**, at the **3:00 Service** there will be a **Special Collection for the Holy Land**. Your financial support helps maintain the Shrines and Churches, as well as the people who care for them.

GOOD FRIDAY: Day of FAST & ABSTINENCE (no eating between meals & no meat). 

GOAL: \$15,000

COLLECTION: \$13,744

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**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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*Perhaps you remember that I spoke about the Sacred Triduum, and I thought this would be a great opportunity to explain the most important time of the Church year. These days celebrate the heart of the Christian faith. Our entire faith leads to and flows from the “happenings” Triduum. The Easter Triduum begins with the evening Mass of the Lord’s Supper on Holy Thursday, continues through Good Friday and Holy Saturday, culminates in the Easter Vigil, and concludes with Evening Prayer on Easter Sunday.*

*Lent ends with the Mass of the Lord’s Supper on Holy Thursday. The three days of the Sacred Triduum are celebrated as if they are one day with the events of these days flowing one after another as if they are one connected and continuous event that begins on Holy Thursday and is completed on Easter.*

*The first day of the Triduum, the Christian Passover, begins with the “Evening Mass of the Lord’s Supper”. It is during this Mass that we celebrate the institution of the Eucharist, the institution of the Priesthood and the giving of the Mandatum. The Mandatum is Jesus’ mandate at the Last Supper when He washes the feet of the disciples and commands that they (and we) do the same... in other words we should be at the service of our brothers and sisters. Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament concludes late that evening, and it represents Jesus’ agony in the garden and our keeping watch with Him.*

*The main event of Good Friday is “The Celebration of the Lord’s Passion”. In the Church’s discipline there is no Mass on Good Friday. The prayer that is prayed includes the reading of the Lord’s Passion, Veneration of the Cross and Holy Communion. It is tradition that the Stations of the Cross are celebrated on Good Friday, a symbolic journey of walking the last steps of Jesus’ final hours. It may seem strange to call this a “celebration”, but without Jesus’ sacrifice on the cross, His perfect sacrifice would not have been offered to the Father, the Resurrection would not have happened, and it is through the Resurrection that we are saved. Please note that what Jesus does on Holy Thursday (He gives His Body and Blood to His disciples and to us) He does physically to the Father on the Cross on Good Friday. The two events are intimately connected.*

*Holy Saturday is somewhat an odd day. In one of the patristic readings of the day (the reading in the Breviary) says that the world is silent; there is a mourning because the earth’s Lord and Master is lying in the tomb. There is an odd quiet in the world. There is no Mass celebrated on this day. We are in mourning, a wake if you will, for Jesus. If you have always wondered how Jesus stayed in the tomb 3 days and thought that Jesus died on Good Friday and rose on Holy Saturday night, how is that 3 days. In those days (and even today) the Jewish people stated that a new day would begin at sunset. (We say that a new day begins at midnight.) So, if Jesus died on Good Friday at around 3 o’clock and was buried before sundown, that would be the first day in the tomb. Then, we have sunset on Good Friday, which would mark the second day that Jesus was in the tomb. Finally, Jesus’ resurrection occurs after sunset on Holy Saturday, and that would mark the third day that Jesus was in the tomb. It is somewhat technical, but it works if we use the marking of time the way our Jewish brothers and sisters set their days.*

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

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*After sunset on Holy Saturday we celebrate the Easter Vigil. On this most holy night we celebrate the Lord's Resurrection and the Sacraments of Initiation. The Vigil contains 4 different yet connected parts. First, there is the Service of Light. A fire is prepared outside, symbolic of Christ's Resurrection, coming forth from the tomb and giving light to the world. The Pascal or Easter Candle is lit, comes into a dark Church, and Christ our light is shared with the congregation. The Exsultet or Easter Proclamation is sung, and it honors the night on which Christ redeemed us. Second, we have the Liturgy of the Word. Seven Readings are provided from the Old Testament and two from the New. (The number can be limited to three from the Old Testament). The Readings provide a map of salvation history from the beginning of time. The Alleluia or praise the Lord is sung again because the Lord of Life is risen from the grave. Third is the Liturgy of Baptism. The blessing of the font, the baptizing of new Christians, the reception of non-Catholic Christians into the Church, the renewal of our Baptismal promises and Confirmation are celebrated. The fourth section is the Liturgy of the Eucharist, the resumption of the rest of Mass: the Offertory, Consecration, reception of Holy Communion and the final blessing. On this night and the next 8 days the Mass is ended with a celebratory double Alleluia at the dismissal.*

*Then, we celebrate the Easter Season. Easter, because of its centrality to our faith has an extended celebration. It is tradition that Jesus ascended 40 days after His Resurrection and then 10 more days until the descent of the Holy Spirit on Pentecost. These 50 days are called the Easter Season. Interestingly, the Sundays during these 50 days are not called the Sundays after Easter but the Sundays of Easter to recognize that these Sundays are all connected.*

*Remember, the Easter Vigil begins outside (weather permitting) with the blessing of the Easter Fire and the Paschal Candle. Though a little longer than regular Mass, this is the most beautiful Liturgy of the Church Year. We welcome people into the Church and hear the story of salvation history. It is usually not as crowded as the Masses on Easter Sunday. If you have never been to the Vigil, give it a try this year; it is a wonderful spiritual event. Also, keep in mind that many visitors will be here on Easter so parking might be a challenge. Please be patient.*

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Confessions:— MON., APR. 6th, 9:30 – 10:00am; TUES., APR. 7th, 7:00 – 9:00pm;
WED., APR. 8th, 5:00 – 6:00pm.

Morning Prayer: 9:00am, Holy Thursday, Good Friday, and Holy Saturday.

Holy Thursday: 7:30pm, Mass of the Lord's Supper, adoration in the Parish Hall until 11:00pm.

Good Friday: 12:00n, Ecumenical Way of the Cross beginning at Bishop Curtis Homes;
(In the event of inclement weather, meet at St. Thomas Church.)
3:00pm, Celebration of the Lord's Passion;
7:00pm, Stations of the Cross.

Holy Saturday: 12:00n, Easter Food Blessing in the Parish Hall;
8:00pm, Easter Vigil Mass (NO 5:30PM MASS ON THIS DAY.)

APRIL



ST. MARY BOOK CLUB – **April Book:**
 “*Mere Christianity*”, by C. S. Lewis.
 Please join **Deacon John** in the
Children’s Room at **7:30pm**, on
TUES., APR. 28th, for group discussion.



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.



CAMP COUNSELOR INTERVIEWS:
MON., APR. 6th, at **6:30pm**, in the **Parish Hall**.

On **SAT., APR. 11th**, children 9 years
 and younger are invited to meet in the
Gym for our **Easter Egg Hunt**, which
 will begin promptly at **9:00am** and be followed by
 “**Breakfast with the Easter Bunny**” which will
 end at 10:30am. The cost for breakfast is \$7.00
 per person advance tickets and \$8.00 at the door.
 Tickets may be purchased after all Masses this
 weekend, **APR. 4/5th**.



JUNIOR YOUTH GROUP – **Flower Delivery**
 for **Bishop Curtis** has been rescheduled
 for **SUN., APR. 26th**, from **11:30-12:30**.
 We’ll meet after Mass and drive over.



ECUMENICAL WAY OF THE CROSS
 On **Good Friday, 4/10**, please meet at **12 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
 while helping those in need.

ANNUAL BISHOP’S APPEAL

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. **Our parish goal is \$130,000**, and
 we hope to have as close to 100% participation as
 we can. The weekend of **APRIL 25-26** will be
In-Pew Sunday. If you’d like to make a gift, you
 may send in your pledge card, call the
Development Office (203 416-1479) or visit the
 website: www.bridgeportdiocese.com.



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

NEXT REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING:
MON., APR. 13th, **8:15pm**, in the **Parish Hall**.

EASTER FOOD COLLECTION
 The Knights are putting together food
 baskets for the needy for Easter. If you
 wish to donate, **MON., APR. 6th**, is your **last day**
 to drop off dry and canned goods in the **Church**
vestibule. Any donation is appreciated.



HOLY THURSDAY MASS
 Children in **3rd – 5th Grade** are
 invited to participate. If interested,
 please contact **Mary Ferri** (743-4557).



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

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).



School News

Early Dismissal: THUR., APR. 9, Holy Thursday.
No School: FRI., APR. 10, Good Friday.



SPRING RECESS will be from **MON., APR. 13th**, to **FRI., APR. 17th**. Classes will resume **MON., APR. 20th**.

Easter Blessings and Joy to all.

St. Mary School would like to extend **Thank You!** our gratitude to all who supported our **Annual Auction** this year. We appreciate your generosity. **Special thanks** to Auction Co-chairs **Cindy Iazetta** and **Marnie Gleissner** for all their hard work.



St. Mary's will host its first **5K Road Race & Fun Run** on **SAT., MAY 16th**.

The **Fun Run** for children 10 and under begins at **8:30am**, followed by the **5K** at **9:00am**. For more info, please call **Eve Olson (744-5540)**.

LIFE IN THE SPIRIT SEMINAR

Join us as we explore deeper the third person of the Trinity, the Holy Spirit. Grow in your understanding of how the Holy Spirit works in and through us on a daily basis. **Life in the Spirit** is a 6-week seminar beginning on **WED., APR. 29th**, at **7:30pm**, in the **Parish Hall**. For information or to register call **Patti Finn (748-7312)** or **Sharon Closius (798-9822)**.

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. **Hospitalized**



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)**.

Diocesan Programs



Are you a practicing catholic over the age of 18 who has not yet received the Sacrament of Confirmation? On **May 31st, 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**.

RETROUVAILLE OF CT. – If your marriage has become troubled and stressed, unloving or uncaring, and even if you are thinking of separation or divorce, or are already, 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 are welcome to attend. For more information please call our confidential number **(1-800-470-2230)** or e-mail **(3001@retrouvaille.org)**.

RACHEL'S VINEYARD RETREAT (Sponsored by the Bridgeport Diocese.)



If you are suffering from the emotional pain of an abortion, come experience the healing love of Jesus Christ during our private weekend retreat from **FRI., APR. 17th – SUN., APR. 19th**. For more info. visit **www.rachelsvineyardbpt.com** or e-mail **Jeremiah31v17@aol.com**

PERMANENT DIACONATE FORMATION

The Diocese is seeking men for a new class in preparation for the Permanent Diaconate. Men must be between the ages of 31 and 60. Applicants should be men of faith and good character; they must be disposed and willing to give the required time and effort to the Diaconate Formation Program. Married and single men may submit applications now through August 31, 2009. For more info. call **Deacon Tony Detje, Program Director, (203 748-5235 or 203 416-1415)**.