
Fr. Corey's Comments

It is with great joy, abundant pride and a touch of sadness that I congratulate the 8th grade graduates of Saint Mary School. I have been at Saint Mary parish for seven years in a variety of capacities, and so, together we have watched these young men and women grow and develop into the well-educated, faith-filled people who are ready to tackle high school and the world beyond. My thanks to all our dedicated parents, our superb faculty and staff, and, of course, the best principal on the East Coast, Sister Anne. It will indeed be sad to see our graduates go, but, of course, they will still be with us in the parish.

Also, congratulations to all our women and men who are graduating from Immaculate and Bethel High School. High School is not always easy because of social changes, more intense academics, and personal growth. You folks made it through with the help of your parents, siblings, friends and teachers.

Finally, great job to those getting their degrees from colleges and universities. What a great accomplishment! Now, it's time for the real world. Best of luck and God bless.

Interestingly enough, a young person in the parish asked me what the word "Pope" meant. The origin of the word is Greek (pappas) and Italian (papa), that means Father. Pope Leo the Great (440-461) was the first to use it officially. The Pope also has other titles reserved to him: Bishop of Rome, Vicar of Christ, Supreme Pontiff (meaning bridge builder) of the Universal Church, Patriarch of the West, Primate of Italy, Successor of St. Peter, Prince of the Apostles, Servus servorum Dei (servant of the servants of God) and Sovereign of Vatican City.

Answers to last week Catholic Trivia Questions:

- 1. A vimp is a veil or shawl that altar servers wear over and around their shoulders to hold the miter and crosier when a bishop celebrates Mass.*
- 2. A credence table is a small table near the altar where the vessels for Mass are placed before they are used at the altar. (They are also placed there after Holy Communion).*
- 3. There are 9 days in a novena.*
- 4. Chrism is oil blessed by the Bishop during Holy Week. (He blesses it by breathing upon it). The oil is used in 4 ways: at Baptisms, Confirmations, Ordinations, and to anoint altars. It is not used to anoint the sick. Oil of the Sick or Infirm is used to anoint the sick.*

This weeks questions:

- 1. What is a luna or lunette?*
- 2. What is a baldacchino?*
- 3. How many colors for vestments can be used at Mass and name them?*
- 4. What does the title Monsignor mean?*

For Your Information

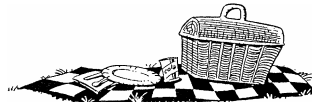
The Rectory office hours are usually 9:00am-4:00pm, Monday through Friday. They will be posted in the bulletin if they are different. (Please note that there is a lunch time worked into that schedule, so if you call and get voice mail, someone will call you back right after lunch.) There is no secretarial staff on weekends. This may seem a bit strange, but the priests have days off during the week. If we had Saturday and Sunday off, things would be very quiet on the weekends. So, Fr. Ed has Monday and Tuesday off, I have Wednesday and Thursday off, and Fr. Cyrus has Thursday and Friday off. The reason I share this information is so you will not think we are ignoring you if you call on our days off, and we do not immediately get back to you. The parish staff can direct your phone call if you need to speak to a priest, and if you ever call and get the voice mail, we offer a “serious emergency” number so you can get in touch with a priest immediately. If you call and get the voice mail, please follow the instructions, and you can leave a message on any of our voice mails.

CONCERNING THE SWINE FLU

It has been recommended by the Diocese that the following temporary precautionary measures be taken during this flu outbreak.

- We shall not have the Cup of Precious Blood at Mass.
- We encourage all to receive Holy Communion in the hand.
- We encourage all not to shake hands during the sign of peace but to verbally wish each other the sign of peace, smile or nod.
- We have Purell in the bench for Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist, and they have washed their hands before Mass. The clergy in the sanctuary also has Purell in case of a cough or sneeze.
- If you are ill, please stay home until you are better. There is no sin occurred if you are not feeling well.

Thank you for your cooperation.



JUNE

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ATTENTION: ST. MARY VOLUNTEERS

There will be a **VIRTUS TRAINING** session in the **Parish Hall** this evening, SUN., JUNE 7th, at 6:00pm. All volunteers over the age of 18 in the Diocese of Bridgeport **must** be Virtus trained. You may register online at www.virtus.org.

COFFEE & ... will be served after the 8:30 & 10:00 Mass on SUN., JUNE 14.



ST. MARY BOOK CLUB – JUNE BOOK:

 “*The Return of the Prodigal Son*”, by **Henri J. M. Nouwen**. Join **Deacon John** in the **Children’s Room** on TUES., JUNE 30th, at 7:30pm, for a group discussion.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL, JULY 27 – 31, 9:00-11:45am, for children 3-8 years old.

Cost: \$15.00. Registration forms are available at the Rectory or on our website: www.stmarybethel.org.



Eucharistic
Ministers



Altar
Servers

Schedules for JULY & AUGUST are due out. If you cannot serve any weekend during these months, please call Sheila (744-5777) by FRI., JUNE 19th, so you will not be scheduled for that week. Please call if you no longer wish to serve.



Immaculate High School presents an ALUMNI CONCERT on THURS., JUNE 11th. Tickets: \$15 for students, alumni and seniors; \$20 for adults. For more information call Mary Raymond (744-1510, ext. 131) or email: rpianomary@aol.com.

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).





Registration

KINDERGARTEN GRADUATION will be on **TUES., JUNE 9th**, at **10:00am**, in the **Gym**.

EIGHTH GRADE GRADUATION will be on **FRI., JUNE 12th**, at **7:00pm**, in the **Church**.

EARLY DISMISSAL: **MON. JUNE 15th**, and **TUES., JUNE 16th** (*last day of School*).

*All are invited to join us for our closing Liturgy on **FRI., JUNE 16th**, at **9:00am**. It will be an opportunity for us to thank God for the many blessings bestowed upon us this school year.*

Come Sing with the Choir! The adult choir welcomes singers to become part of our Music Liturgy. If you are interested in joining, please call **Elizabeth** (798-0076).



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

NEXT REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING:

MON., JUNE 8th, **8:15pm**, in the **Parish Hall**.

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 interested in joining our ranks, please visit **http://pavia48.tripod.com/** or call **Paul DiMarzio** (778-2840).

Congratulations to the recipients of this year's Pavia Council awards who are being honored at the **Council's Annual Scholarship Ceremony** on **THUR., JUNE 11th**.

- David Whitmore** – **Bernard J. Dolan, Sr. Memorial Scholarship**
- Susan Hannagan** – **Arthur J. Mannion, Sr. Memorial Scholarship**
- Hannah Greenwood** – **Nino Vaghi Good Sportsmanship Award**

Religious Education REGISTRATION – Religious Ed. is available for children in grades K-8. They **must** attend each year in **Grades 1-8** in order to make their sacraments. If you have a child entering **Kindergarten or 1st grade** who is **not** yet registered for the Fall, please call **Rel. Ed.** (743-4557), and we will send you a form

PERMANENT DIACONATE FORMATION

The Diocese has a new preparation class for the Permanent Diaconate. Interested men must be between the ages of 31 and 60, be men of faith and good character, and must be disposed and willing to give the required time/effort to the Diaconate Formation Program. Married and single men may submit applications now through **August 31, 2009**. For more information please call **Deacon Tony Detje, Program Dir.**, (203 748-5235 or 203 416-1415).



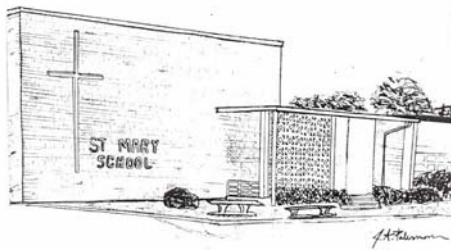
SUMMER ENRICHMENT EXPERIENCE



Immaculate High School will offer a summer enrichment experience aimed at maintaining or improving academic proficiency over the summer. The programs are designed to enhance academic skills that are necessary to be successful in our college prep program.

The Math and English Readiness classes are scheduled opposite each other so students can benefit from both. Additional readiness programs are being offered in Algebra, AP Calculus (AB), and Intro. to college Algebra/Math IV Trig.

Enrichment classes are also being offered in specific areas of interest: Conversational Chinese, Oil Painting, College Essay Prep, and Animal Study. The Animal Study Program will be a fun and exciting adventure. Students will be introduced to lab work and observations and field study. check at **www.ImmaculateHS.org**, for more information. **Registration ends June 12th**.



Catch the Spirit

St. Mary School, a Christ-centered educational community, is dedicated to fostering Catholic faith and values while striving for academic excellence within a nurturing family atmosphere.

St. Mary School Advisory Board Update – Year-end Reflections

On Sunday, June 7th, St. Mary School will mark its 45th anniversary as a regional beacon of Christ-centered education and cap a year-long Blue Ribbon School celebration with a special Communion Breakfast. It has truly been an outstanding year for our school, one which has continued to remind us what a special place St. Mary School is and how fortunate we are to have it as a central part of our parish community.

The excitement began back in early September, when St. Mary School was named one of 320 “No Child Left Behind-Blue Ribbon Schools” by the U.S. Department of Education. The NCLB-Blue Ribbon Schools Program honors public and private elementary, middle and high schools that are either academically superior or that demonstrate dramatic gains in student achievement to high levels.

While high academic achievement is critical to the nomination process, only those schools exhibiting all around excellence – community service in particular – actually achieve Blue Ribbon status. St. Mary School was one of just 50 private elementary schools nationwide and the only elementary school in Connecticut – public or private – to receive this distinguished award this past year. Since it was established in 2002, no other school in Fairfield County or the Diocese of Bridgeport has earned this award.

The Blue Ribbon award recognizes St. Mary School as one of America’s most successful schools and is a testament to its dedicated staff, hardworking students, involved families and supportive parish community. The school consistently ranks among the top 10% of private elementary schools nationwide in math and reading assessments.

But academic excellence is only one part of what makes St. Mary School special. The faculty and staff have created a nurturing environment that fosters development of the whole child – spiritually, intellectually, emotionally, physically and socially –

and instills in all of its students the foundational Catholic faith and values system that will help guide them in an ever-changing world.

Our school continues to offer a modern, first-rate educational experience for all grades from Preschool through grade 8. A full computer lab, PCs in every classroom and interactive SMART boards in most classrooms complement the curriculum. In the past few years, we have expanded our extra-curricular programs to include not only a school band, but also an award-winning LEGO® robotics club, an intensive week-long Missoula Children’s Theatre® program and a large K-8 track & field team. These are in addition to our ongoing basket-ball, cheerleading and after-school care programs. In short, we are truly blessed to be able to offer our parish youth a superior faith-filled academic environment and developmental experience.

Financially-speaking, we are holding our own in spite of the current economic headwinds. Thanks to the efforts of our Finance Committee and the community’s continued strong support of our fundraising efforts, tuition for next year will be only slightly above this year’s level. Importantly, student enrollment remains steady. At this point, we expect to have 222 students in grades PreK3 through 8 next year, the same level of enrollment as this current school year.

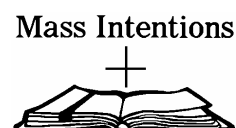
We hope that these highlights will entice those of you still looking for the best school fit for your PreK3 through 8th grade children to consider St. Mary School. We encourage you to contact the school at (203) 744-2922 or speak with any school parent to learn more about what our school has to offer in terms of academics, personal development, community involvement and especially Catholic faith formation. General information can also be found on our website at www.stmarybethelct.org.

Thank you for your ongoing support and prayers. We wish you a fun-filled and safe summertime.

The St. Mary School Advisory Board is charged with assisting Sister Anne and her staff with facilities planning, marketing & development, financial planning and long-term strategy. We encourage all parishioners to get involved in any area in which you have some expertise or interest. Financial contributions – big or small – are also appreciated, as we are largely “self-funded”. For more information on how you can help, please contact Sean Folan (Board chairperson) at 744-2669 or folan@comcast.net.

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

MON., JUNE 8	6:30	+	Rev. Robert Nugent – Gina & Dan Ippolito
	9:00		Diane Troy (<i>Health & Blessings</i>) – Marie Miller
TUES, JUNE 9	6:30	+	Rev. Robert Nugent – John & Linda Curry
	9:00	+	John Flannery – Family
WED., JUNE 10	6:30	+	Inda Butler – Kathy & George Aiello
	9:00	+	Joseph C. Bolduc – Perkins Family
THU., JUNE 11	6:30	+	Rev. Robert Nugent – School Sisters of Notre Dame
	9:00	+	Tony Soegaard – John & Linda Curry
FRI., JUNE 12	6:30	+	Wilma (Nan) Taylor – Brenda & Kevin Cleary
	9:00	+	Katherine & Walter Beck – John & Mike Macelletti
SAT., JUNE 13	8:00	+	Ann Cholewinski – Anna & Felix Bonacci
	5:30	+	Mary Pizzarello – Edith Jaccarino
SUN., JUNE 14	7:00	+	Jennifer Timm (<i>1st Anniv.</i>) – Grandmother
	8:30	+	Mary Pizzarello (<i>Anniv.</i>) – Edith Jaccarino
	10:00	+	Hercules Centioni – Courtemanche Family
	11:30	+	Daniel Vecchia – Phoebe Ann Vecchia
	5:30	+	Walter Kowalski – Family



III – *Michael Rossini & Julia Caso*
I – *Richard Gerety & Robyn Frazao*

GOAL: \$15,000 COLLECTION: \$13,355

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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*  
**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 celebrate.*