

---

---

## *Fr. Corey's Comments*

---

---

➤ *This weekend Father Roger Plante shall visit us. Fr. Plante is a member of The Christian Foundation for Children and Aging. This is a Catholic organization that helps both the young and old in economically developing areas in 24 countries in the world. CFCA's unique sponsorship program is highly personalized. It matches a child, youth or aging person at a project overseas with a sponsor in the U.S. who cares about them and encourages them. For about a dollar a day, a sponsor helps to provide much-needed food, medical and dental care, the chance for a child to go to school, livelihood programs for the families and much more. Please visit Father Plante's tables in the vestibule. This is a great way for a family or an individual to begin Advent and to carry the spirit of Christmas all year long.*

➤ *I arrived back home from my retreat/vacation in Italy this past Saturday. The 9-hour flight took 10½ hours because we circled above JFK for almost two hours. Italy is 6 hours ahead of us, so I do have a little bit of jet lag. I would like to share with you a little about my retreat in Assisi.*

*As I mentioned last year, Assisi is one of the most special places in the world. After about a two-hour train ride from Rome, you can feel the decompression of the Eternal City as you travel through the olive groves and pass through the mountains on your way to the mountain town of St Francis and St. Clare. Though I loved being in Assisi, I still do not like the hills... which are everywhere. I thought it would get easier after a couple of days, but no such luck.*

*Assisi is truly a place of peace. Things are quiet, people are friendly, food is delicious and without a doubt you can feel St. Francis all around you. This year besides visiting the Basilicas of St. Francis and St. Clare (they both are buried at their named Basilicas), I visited Francis' home, the first place he lived after leaving his father's home, the small monastery where he wrote the Canticle of the Sun, San Damiano Church where the Lord spoke to Francis and said "rebuild my Church" and the Porziuncola (the small Church where Francis and his band of brothers prayed everyday). The Basilica of St. Mary of the Angels has been build around the Porziuncola, and it is amazing to see a Church inside a Church.*

*I spent hours in front of St. Francis' tomb and prayed for our parish. If I knew of special needs or intentions, I prayed for those in particular. I lit a candle for the parish that burned on the altar of Francis' tomb. Walking the streets and hills, pondering the views, visiting the many beautiful and ancient Churches enriched and renewed me. There is simpleness in Assisi, a holiness that you can feel and a rustic sense of living that is contagious. PLEASE visit Assisi if you get a chance; it really can calm your soul, brighten your spirit and truly change your life. The people are extremely friendly. They try to understand and speak English and are very patient with your attempts at Italian.*

*By the Cathedral of San Rufino there is a little sandwich shop owned by the Andrea Family. Only locals eat lunch there because it is atop a very painful hill. Each day I was there I had a sandwich that looked like pita bread (pizza dough) that had prosciutto, arugula, and mozzarella. This delicious sandwich made with all fresh ingredients was my reward each day for walking almost straight up this evil hill. Sitting outside with my sandwich and my Coca-Cola Light I would eat and feed the fattest pigeons I have ever seen and understand why Francis fell in love with nature in the most special place.*

*The rest of the food was unbelievable – pasta and a meat dish. Dogs are allowed in restaurants and an older gentleman came into one restaurant with his small dog. They sat on opposite chairs at the table and ate their dinner. Italy is an interesting place.*

---

---

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

---

---

➤ *The Thanksgiving, Advent and Christmas seasons are here. This week there will be one Mass on Thanksgiving Day at 9:00am. I would say that each one of us has something to be thankful for this year. I invite you to come to Mass and join your brothers and sisters in thanking God for His special blessings on our lives. Also, it would be a wonderful idea to join the Ecumenical Service at St. Thomas downtown on Thanksgiving Eve.*

➤ *This year we shall be changing our "Giving Tree" a little bit. There will be no "giving tree". Instead, beginning the first week of Advent we shall have an empty manger in the vestibule of the Church. In the manger will be "paper straw" with needed items and people's wishes for Christmas written on each of them. (I have always felt bad for those who are vertically challenged trying to reach for tags on the tree.) This year all the agencies will be represented, and you would bring your wrapped gifts to Church in the usual manner. The exciting part will be that on Christmas Eve, fresh straw will be placed in the manger as well as the Christ Child. The straw will be blessed, and we invite each person to take some straw and place it in your manger at home. You can make the journey to Bethlehem with Mary and Joseph and connect with the Christmas Miracle with the Prince of peace.*

➤ *I invite you to attend the Mass in honor of Our Lady of Fatima on Tuesday, November 24, at 7:00pm. The statue of Our Lady of Fatima will be here, and attendees will be enrolled in the Brown Scapular. It promises to be a wonderful spiritual experience, and I hope many of you will take the opportunity to come to Jesus through Mary.*

➤ *On the façade of St. Peter Basilica there are two clocks; one on the upper left corner and one on the upper right. The left clock is always the correct time in Rome. The right clock is always off... by a couple hours as well as minutes. Why? The answer is from this past weeks Gospel. It is so that the devil will not know the time or hour when Jesus will return. I thought they had just forgotten to change the batteries.*

*I have a couple of Catholic definitions for you:*

Holy Water – A liquid whose chemical formula is H<sub>2</sub>OLY.

Incense – Holy Smoke.

Jonah – The original Jaws story.

Kyrie Eleison – The only Greek words that most Catholics can recognize besides gyros and baklava.

Magi – The most famous trio to attend a baby shower.

Pew – A medieval torture device still found in Catholic Churches.

Procession – The ceremonial formation at the beginning of Mass, consisting of altar servers, the celebrant and late parishioners looking for seats.

Recessional – The ceremonial procession at the conclusion of Mass led by parishioners trying to beat the crowd to the parking lot.

Ten Commandments – The most important Top Ten list not produced by David Letterman.



# November

## SCHOOL NEWS



**ST. MARY ANNUAL COLLECTION** will be taken up during the **month of November**. Please be as generous as possible to this collection and drop your envelope into the offertory anytime next month.

November is dedicated to the Faithful Departed. Our **Book of Names** will be in the Sanctuary with the Paschal Candle. Please inscribe the names of your departed loved ones so they can be remembered at Mass. Envelopes for the deceased may be returned any time during Nov. Masses are offered throughout the year for *Souls in Purgatory*.



**Special Offering** This weekend, 11/21 & 22, there will be a second collection for the **Catholic Campaign For Human Development**.

Come to our **“CASH-IN YOUR OLD GOLD”** Fundraiser on THUR., DEC. 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> right here at St. Mary's. This time leave your checkbook at home... you take home the money! And, the best news yet... not only will you get a fair price for your gold, but more than 50% of the profits will be donated to our Church. Please look in your jewelry box at home for broken chains, single earrings, jewelry you never wear, and, yes, even dental gold. Further details will follow in next week's bulletin.

### **BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP:**

Our next meeting at the **Parish House** will be on SAT., DEC. 12<sup>th</sup>, from 10:30am to 12:00noon.



**LECTOR WORKBOOKS**, for the 2009-2010 year beginning the **first Sunday of Advent (11/29)**, are available in the **Vestry**. Please sign the sheet provided when you pick one up. Thank you!

There will be an **OPEN HOUSE** today, SUN., NOV. 22<sup>nd</sup>, from 12:30-2:00pm, for prospective students entering **Pre-Kindergarten – 8<sup>th</sup> Grade**. For more info., please call the **School (744-2922)**.



**Thank you** to everyone who helped make this year's **Wine Tasting** an enjoyable night out. It was an evening spent mingling with friends and parishioners while tasting some great wine. Thanks to everyone for supporting this annual event.

WED., NOV. 25<sup>th</sup>: Early dismissal at 11:15am for the **Thanksgiving break**. School will resume on MON., NOV. 30<sup>th</sup>.



### **SMS CHRISTMAS GALA & CRAFT FAIR:**

will be on SAT., DEC 5<sup>th</sup>, from 9:00am – 4:00pm, in the **School Gym**.

Come browse our talented crafters, have your picture taken with Santa (10:00 – 2:00) and have breakfast or lunch at the Holiday Café. From 10:00– 2:00 children can make a gingerbread house or a special Christmas craft. There will also be a Baked Goods table and a Vendor Raffle.

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)**.



**NEW ALTAR SERVERS** will be included in the **December schedule**. Those who no longer wish to serve should contact the **Rectory (744-5777)**.



### **ST. MARY BOOK CLUB: NOVEMBER BOOK**

**“Choosing Forgiveness: Your Journey to Freedom”**; authored by **Nancy Leigh Moss**, a radio talk show host and best selling author. **New date** for discussion: TUES., DEC. 1<sup>st</sup>, at 7:30pm, in the **Children's Room**.





The Holy Sacrifice of the Mass in honor of Our Lady of Fatima will be celebrated on TUES., NOV. 24<sup>th</sup>, at 7:00pm, by Fr. Corey here at St. Mary's. Please bring flowers for Our Lady.



**ECUMENICAL THANKSGIVING SERVICE**

 will be on WED., NOV. 25<sup>th</sup>, at 7:30pm, at St. Thomas Episcopal Church/Bethel.

**CT. MASTER CHORALE** will present its **Holiday Concert** today, SUN., NOV. 22<sup>nd</sup>, at 3:00pm, in the Church. All are invited to start off the holiday season by enjoying a relaxing afternoon of holiday music.



**Shut-Ins** Anyone who is homebound or unable to attend church who would like to receive the Eucharist, especially for holy days, may call Mary Walsh (798-1237) to arrange for a visit.



**Parents and Children:** To get into the true spirit of Christmas come to a meaningful and enjoyable **Advent Family Retreat Weekend** from DEC. 11-13 or DEC. 18-20, at St. Edmund's Retreat Center in Mystic, CT. To register or for more information contact Deacon John & Peggy Scarfi (845 621-7000); or www.endersisland.com.

 **MARRIED COUPLES** – Do the Holidays wear you out? Are you looking for a way to avoid the January blahs? How about a special weekend, for just the two of you? Register for a **Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend** from FRI., JAN. 29<sup>th</sup> – SUN., JAN. 31<sup>st</sup>. For more information or to register please contact Joe and Jane Staszowski (860 644-7260) or meweekend@gmail.com.

**THE RECTORY WILL  
BE CLOSED  
THURSDAY & FRIDAY.**



**odds "n" ends**

**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS**

**Next Meeting – NOV. 23<sup>rd</sup>, at 8:15.**



The **Knights of Columbus** is a Catholic men's fraternal society dedicated service. If you are 18 or older and are interested in joining, please visit <http://pavia48.tripod.com/> or call **John Stocks (778-6615)** for more info.



**Brotherhood-in-Action** would like to thank all who contributed food and dollars to the Thanksgiving collection. With your help we delivered food to 158 adults and 88 children in 85 Bethel homes.

**OFF THE STREETS** is a federally recognized non-profit program whose mission is to get homeless persons out of emergency shelters and into triage housing within a month. This costs about \$500 per person. We help with deposit money, etc. as long as a person has a way of paying the monthly rent. 100% of donations go directly to helping a homeless person get off the streets and stay off. There is no paid staff, and no federal, state or municipal funding; only contributions from individuals, companies, private organizations, churches are accepted. Some of you have already made generous contributions through Dorothy Day Hospitality House while we were getting this program established. You should receive a letter of thanks in the next couple of weeks. (If you don't, please call Deacon Mike.) **Contributions** go to: **Off The Streets, P.O. Box 591, Bethel, CT 06801**. Website: [www.offthestreetsnow.com](http://www.offthestreetsnow.com). Questions? Call **Deacon Mike Oles (733-5880)**.



**SANTA'S WORKSHOP for Dorothy Day**

**SAT., DEC. 19<sup>th</sup>, 2009**

**Santa's Workshop** is a great way to help make this a **Merry Christmas** for the poorest kids in the Danbury area. If you want to get involved, please call **Deacon Oles (733-5880)**.



---

**MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK**

---

<b>MON., NOV. 23</b>	6:30	+	Raymond Considine ( <i>Birthday</i> ) – Daughter
	9:00	+	Msgr. Edward B. Karl – Carol & Ed Roth
<b>TUES, NOV. 24</b>	6:30	+	Andrew Scalero ( <i>11<sup>th</sup> Anniv.</i> ) – Wife
	9:00	+	Msgr. Edward B. Karl – Rosalie & Paul DeMarco
<b>WED., NOV. 25</b>	6:30	+	Deceased Members of the Cilento & DeLosa Families – Rosemarie & Vern Nepple
	9:00	+	Alice West – Eileen Freebairne
<b>THU., NOV. 26</b>	6:30		<b>NO MASS</b>
<i>Thanksgiving Day</i>	9:00		For the People of St. Mary Parish
<b>FRI., NOV. 27</b>	6:30		Jack & Eileen O'Brien ( <i>Health &amp; Blessings</i> ) – Dan Kiah Family
	9:00	+	Edward Trotta ( <i>10<sup>th</sup> Anniv.</i> ) – Family
<b>SAT., NOV. 28</b>	8:00	+	Rosaire Lavigne ( <i>1<sup>st</sup> Anniv.</i> ) – Wife & Children
	5:30	+	Ronald & Suzanne Dorman – Family
<b>SUN., NOV. 29</b>	7:00	+	Suzanne McAuley – Family
	8:30	+	Carol Cuttitta – Viebrock Family
	10:00	+	Donna Westring ( <i>1<sup>st</sup> Anniv.</i> ) – Denise Shost
	11:30	+	Phillip Infurchia, Sr. – Johnson Family
	5:30	+	Kellianne Gartland – Family

---

**WELCOME TO THOSE WHO WERE NEWLY BAPTIZED**



*Alexander Joseph DiMeglio*  
*Louise Clare Shillue*                      *Samantha Leah Tamburri*

---

**GOAL:    \$15,000                      COLLECTION:    \$15,067**

~~~~~

*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.*

|                                                                                                                                        |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b><u>PARISH OFFICE</u> (744-5777)</b>                                                                                                 |
| Sheila Kurjiaka: <i>Bulletin Editor</i>                                                                                                |
| Kate Fitzgerald: <i>Secretary</i>                                                                                                      |
| Paul Orsino: <i>Property Manager</i>                                                                                                   |
| <b><u>RELIGIOUS EDUCATION</u> (743-4557)</b>                                                                                           |
| Mary Ferri: <i>Director</i>                                                                                                            |
| Peggy Gavin: <i>Secretary</i>                                                                                                          |
| Dennis Nauheimer (RCIA): <b>794-9488</b>                                                                                               |
| <i>(Call if interested in becoming a Catholic or completing your<br/>initiation as a Catholic with Confirmation and/or Eucharist.)</i> |
| <b><u>MUSIC MINISTRY</u></b>                                                                                                           |
| Mike Macelletti: <i>Music Director</i>                                                                                                 |
| Elizabeth Barnes: <i>Choir Director</i>                                                                                                |
| Debbie Caraluzzi: <i>Contemp. Group Director</i>                                                                                       |
| <b><u>ST. MARY SCHOOL</u> (744-2922)</b>                                                                                               |
| Sister Anne McCarthy: <i>Principal</i>                                                                                                 |
| Linda Curry: <i>Secretary</i>                                                                                                          |

|                                                                                                                                 |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b><u>MASS SCHEDULE</u></b>                                                                                                     |
| Monday – Friday: 6:30 & 9:00am                                                                                                  |
| Saturday: 8:00am & 5:30pm                                                                                                       |
| Sunday: 7:00, 8:30, 10:00, 11:30am & 5:30pm                                                                                     |
| <b><u>CONFESSION SCHEDULE</u></b>                                                                                               |
| Saturday: 4:00 - 5:00pm.                                                                                                        |
| <b><u>BAPTISMS:</u> Every Sunday at 12:45pm.</b>                                                                                |
| (Call the Rectory to Schedule.)                                                                                                 |
| <b><u>PRE-BAPTISM CLASSES:</u> Twice a Month.</b>                                                                               |
| (Call the Rectory to Schedule.)                                                                                                 |
| <b><u>ARRANGEMENT FOR MARRIAGE:</u></b>                                                                                         |
| <i>Couples must meet with a parish clergyman at<br/>least <u>six (6) months before</u> the marriage is to be<br/>celebrate.</i> |