

Saint Mary Parish Community

NINETEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

August 7, 2011



Father Corey V. Piccinino, *Pastor*

**Father Cyrus Bartolome
Father Edward McAuley
*Parochial Vicars***

**Michael Oles
John DeRoin
Joseph Gill
*Deacons***

Rectory Phone: 744-5777

Rectory Fax: 744-3740

**Sister Anne McCarthy
*School Principal***

School Phone: 744-2922

**Mary Ferri
*Director of Religious Education***

Religious Education Office: 743-4557

**Bob Kozlowski
*Finance Committee Chairman***

Work Phone: 778-9508

St. Mary Church & Rectory

26 Dodgingtown Road, Bethel, Connecticut 06801

www.stmarybethel.org

Fr. Corey's Comments

◆ August 15th is the **Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary**. As you know, it is under the title of the *Our Lady of the Assumption* that our Church is dedicated. This year, the Feast of the Assumption falls on a Monday, and according to the regulations of the Catholic Bishops of the United States, it is **NOT** a Holyday of Obligation. Since, it is our Patronal Feast Day we shall celebrate a Solemn Mass at 9:00 AM with a light reception following in the Parish Hall. (There will also be the regular 6:30 AM Mass on that day.) I invite you to attend Mass on August 15th and pray for God's continual blessings upon our wonderful Parish.

◆ **Father Paul Lalic** died on Sunday, July 24, 2011. He was 86 years old and ordained 53 years. Father Lalic was born on June 26, 1925 in Pampanga in the Philippines. He attended Pampanga Institute and Sacred Heart College there. Father Lalic pursued seminary studies at Berchmans College (Philippines) and Woodstock College in Maryland. He was ordained on June 21, 1958 at Fordham University by Francis Cardinal Spellman.

As a member of the Society of Jesus, Father Lalic was assigned as spiritual director and to teaching positions in college and college preparatory schools in the Philippines. In 1972 he came to serve in the United States as an associate chaplain at Bridgeport Hospital, residing at Saint Catherine of Siena Parish, Trumbull, CT. Father Lalic became a priest of the Diocese of Bridgeport in 1976. He served as pastor of Saint Joseph Parish, Brookfield, CT from 1986-1992 and administrator of Saint Catherine of Siena, Trumbull. He ministered at Saint Camillus Health Center, Stamford, residing at Saint Mary Parish there. Retiring in 1998, Father Lalic resided at Villa Maria Retreat House, Stamford where he served as chaplain to the Bernardine Sisters until ill health prevented active ministry. He lived at Saint Joseph Manor, Trumbull for a time and, most recently, at the home of close friends, Jean and George Jarusinsky, who cared for him in his final days. Please keep Father in your prayers.

◆ Apostolic Nuncio to the United States, **Archbishop Pietro Sambì**, died around 8pm on July 27. Pope Benedict's representative to these shores since 2006 -- and tipped to be in line for a Vatican post just a few weeks back -- Sambì turned 73 in late June. The veteran diplomat -- a beloved figure in chancery and embassy circles alike -- had been in grave condition at Johns Hopkins Hospital in Baltimore following a radical procedure early this month that involved the removal of half of one of his lungs. Having been kept sedated and on a ventilator since complications arose in the surgery's wake, a decision on continuing the archbishop's treatment had been expected before the end of the week.

In his final hours, the Nuncio's sister, niece and nephew were said to be at his bedside after having been called over from Italy last week. The niece on hand was married by Sambì in his last trip to his beloved hometown of Rimini in mid-June. Archbishop Sambì had a wonderful sense of humor and made all who were in his presence feel comfortable and relaxed. Archbishop Sambì installed Bishop Lori after then Bishop Egan became Archbishop of New York.

◆ I offer to you again a renewed understanding on the **reception of Holy Communion**:

The Bishops of the United States have decided that the universal action that we all should take before receiving Holy Communion is a bow to the Blessed Sacrament and then say "**AMEN**" to the statement "**THE BODY OF CHRIST**", or "**THE BLOOD OF CHRIST**".

When it comes to receive Holy Communion, please us the method prescribed by the Church. You have two options: 1) Receive Holy Communion on your tongue by opening your mouth and sticking out your tongue [*please do not bite down on the Eucharist as you may bite the minister's finger*] or 2) Putting one hand on top of the other and then placing the Eucharist into your mouth with the bottom hand. Now many people have decided to make up their own variations of this practice. Let me explain the variations that are not helpful: The laced bridge - Hands linked or intertwined that look like a bridge with a hump in the middle.

Fr. Corey's Comments (Cont.)

Or The Valley - two hands side-by-side pointed downward. Or The Snapper - taking two fingers and grabbing the Eucharist from the minister's hand, or The "V" for victory - two hands with the heels of the palms touching and the fingers pointed straight up. Now, these positions may sound a bit humorous, but they are not allowed or recommended because there is a greater chance to drop the Eucharist in the process of receiving Holy Communion. So, please place the bottom of one hand into the palm of the other and then using the bottom hand to place the Eucharist in your mouth. Again, please, remember to say "Amen" after the minister says: "The Body of Christ" or "The Blood of Christ".

◆ Thank you from one of our homebound parishioners:

*I dreamt death came the other night
and Heaven's gate swung wide,
an angel with halo bright
ushered me inside.*

*And there! To my astonishment
Stood folks I'd judged and labeled;
As "quite unfit" "of little worth,"
And "Spiritually disabled"
Indignant words rose to my lips,
But never were set free,*

*For every face showed stunned surprise –
Not one expected ME!*

◆ Some stories concerning 'Kids in Church':

3-year-old Reese: "Our Father, who does art in heaven, Harold is His name. Amen."

4-year old Kara: "Our Father, who are in heaven, how will I be my name?"

A little boy was overheard praying: "Lord, if you can't make me a better boy, don't worry about it. I'm having a real good time like I am."

One particular four-year-old prayed, "And forgive us our trash baskets as we forgive those who put trash in our baskets."

A Sunday school teacher asked her children as they were on the way to Church, "And why is it necessary to be quiet in church?" One bright little girl replied, "Because people are sleeping."

PARISH HAPPENINGS

The Parish Office will be closed
Monday, August 8.

Parish Office Summer Hours:
9am – 2:30pm, Monday – Friday

ALTAR SERVERS: **All servers** must fill out a new server registration form (available on our website) so we can update our records. If you are no longer serving, please return your albs to the Parish office!

There are still spots available to see "**Jersey Boys**" on **Sat., Oct. 29** for the **2pm show** at the **Bushnell** in Hartford. Call the Parish office for more information and to reserve your seat.

COME SING WITH THE CHOIR!! The **Adult Choir** welcomes singers to become a part of the Music Liturgy! If you are interested in joining, please contact Elizabeth Barnes at 994-6022 for more info. The St. Mary's **Children's Choir** ranges in ages 5th to 8th grade. If you are interested, call Elizabeth at the number above.

We are now beginning to fill our **Parish calendar** with dates and activities for the upcoming year (**Sept. 2011 thru July 2012**). If you are a parish or school group/organization in need of meeting space, please fill out the **FACILITY RESERVATION FORM** (available in the parish office or on our website on the forms page) and return to the parish office ***asap***. As the demand is growing and to ensure that everyone gets the space needed, no space can be reserved until the form is received.

The **Revised Roman Missal** workshops to ready the congregation for the new changes to Mass will be held in the Church on **September 12th at 9:30 AM and 7:00 PM** and on **October 3rd at 9:30 AM and 7:00 PM**. Please feel free to invite others outside the Parish to learn about the New Revised Roman Missal.

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). Anyone who is **homebound** or unable to attend church who would like to receive the Eucharist, may also call **Mary Walsh**.

YOUTH GROUPS

FAN THE FIRE! We're getting a group of teens to head up to St. Rose for their Annual **Fan the Fire Rally**. Join hundreds of other teens from across Connecticut as we rock out, worship, hang out with each other, have fun and grow closer to the Lord. The event is **September 10 from 9am-9pm and the cost is \$45**. It is open to all teens in 8th-12th grades. Interested? Contact Deacon Joe at jagill@email.msmary.edu for more information and the permission slip. We are also in need of chaperones – please let him know ASAP if you can help!

Steubenville East 2011

The teens who attended this year's Steubenville East Catholic Youth Conference wish to thank all St. Mary's Parishioners for their support at our various fundraisers. This was a rewarding and enriching experience for our teens. For some of them, it was the first time they had a true encounter with Christ. Here are some of their reflections in their own words:

This year was my second time going to the Steubenville East Conference and the experience was just as incredible as the first time I went. I deepened my relationship with God so much over the course of the weekend. It was also empowering to spend the weekend with other teens who share my faith.
~ Allison Kallaberg

This experience at Steubenville had opened my eyes to how I was and should be living my life for Jesus. I had previously been a practicing Catholic, but I didn't feel that close to God. I came to realize that I had the wrong intentions and I soon came to appreciate how much God loves and cares for me. My experience changed my outlook on life and my friends. I am so thankful that I made the choice to come to Steubenville again.
~ Julianna Cecera

Being a Catholic in today's world is extremely challenging. There are so many people and temptations to try to make us fail. But now I fully understand that my relationship with God comes first and above all. Due to such a fantastic weekend I'm now fully rooted in all that is God – for God is my Father and the one who loves me and all humanity with a force that is not known to man. Everybody struggles with staying true to their faith and this weekend helps teens and adults to reconnect and recharge our faith, while making wonderful lifelong friends.
~ Lucy Shea

Steubenville is always what I look forward to during the summer. This year it set my heart at peace and I could really concentrate on the things that mean the most to me. It was a wonderful feeling. I'm already excited for next year!
~ Julia Buzak

SCHOOL NEWS

St. Mary School registration is ongoing for Preschool through 8th Grade. Please contact the School for additional information at www.stmarybethelct.org or at 203-744-2922.

St. Mary **Home School Association** is hosting a fund raiser – **“Shop For A Cause”** all day on **Sat., August 27**. This event is sponsored by **Macy's** and is *just in time for back-to-school shopping!* You can purchase a **“Shop For A Cause”** 25% off coupon for \$5 to be used the entire day at Macy's on August 27th. All proceeds go to St. Mary School. **Coupons can be purchased after all the masses the week-ends of Aug. 13/14 and 20/21!**

St. Mary's School **Annual Magazine Drive** starts in **September**. If you would like to renew a magazine subscription or order a new magazine, please visit www.QSP.com to place any orders. For the school to receive credit for your order, please use account number 1089147 or use the school finder tool. If you have any questions, please contact Robin Taylor at 203-826-9761 or bill.robintaylor@comcast.net.

THANK YOU! The members of the **St. Mary School Advisory Board** would like to express our gratitude to all who generously supported the **Guardian Angel Network**. One hundred percent of your contributions allowed for the purchase of many educational enhancements including laptop computers, computer printers, a subscription to *Promise Gospel*, stacking chairs and wooden shelves. These enhancements will further the academic and spiritual growth of our students. We invite your continued support in the upcoming school year. **God bless you!**

Save the dates...

October 10th: St. Mary's **Annual Golf Outing** at the Redding County Club. For additional information, please contact Kathleen or Steve DeMarco at kathleendemarco@charter.net.

October 22nd: St. Mary's **Third Annual Roadrace, "Catch Me If You Can" 10K, 5K, and Kids Fun Run**. A complimentary Training Series will start on August 25th; please contact Mark Foster for more info at:

race.director@stmarysraces.com.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

The Religious Ed office is closed for the summer and will re-open the week after Labor Day.

REL. ED. REGISTRATION FORMS are now available for children in K-8th grade. They **must** attend each year in **Grades 1-8** in order to make their sacraments. Forms are available on our website and can be dropped off at the Parish Office.

AROUND THE DIOCESE

CRUSILLO is designed for Catholics who desire to strengthen their faith, who want to be closer to Christ, and who want to bring Christ to those around them. Our next **UTREYA** meeting will be held in the Parish Hall on **Thursday, August 18th at 7:30pm.**

UPCOMING CURSILLO WEEKENDS -- Join with other men and women who are seeking an opportunity to grow in faith and spirituality through Christian community. The **Men's Crusillo** Weekend begins **Fri. evening Sept. 15th and ends Sunday, Sept. 18th.** The **Women's Weekend** begins **Fri. evening October 13th and ends Sunday, October 16th.** There is still room available. To learn more about Crusillo or how you can experience a 3-day Crusillo weekend contact Yvonne Cecera at 797-1361 or Yvonne_cecera@hotmail.com for more info.

Come visit **Immaculate High School!** The Fall Open House is on Sunday, October 23rd from 11 AM to 2 PM. All 5th through 8th grade students and their families are welcome. Meet our outstanding Faculty, Fine Arts Teachers and Coaches; great opportunity to talk with current IHS parents and students about their experiences! **8th grade students** - register to take Fall entrance exam #1 **Saturday, October 29th** or exam #2 **Saturday, November 5th.** Call 203-744-1510 extension 132 to register for either entrance exam or to schedule a "Mustang for a Day" visit! See www.immaculatehs.org for more information.

MORNING GLORY in Danbury is in need of cereal and pancake mix. For more information and to make a donation, please contact Michele Conderino: 203-748-0848, ext. 231.

AROUND THE DIOCESE

PROTECTING GOD'S CHILDREN

The Diocese requires the participation of **all church and school volunteers in this program.** If you have not attended a training session go to Virtus.org to view the training sessions available in our area.

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., SEPT. 23rd - SUN., SEPT. 25th.** Visit www.rachelsvineyardbpt.com or e-mail Jeremiah31v17@aol.com for more information.

CT BIKE PROJECT: *Connecticut Bike Project* collects and distributes donated bicycles in good shape to the poor of Bridgeport through the Urban Center at St. Charles Parish and their new partnership with Fresh Start - Reentry Program to help those in need of transportation to work and errands especially the economically disadvantaged, individuals with physical or mental disabilities that prevent them from driving, ex-offenders and those without licenses to drive. Bikes can also be dropped off at 96 Hillspoint Road in Westport (please leave them at the house end of the driveway) or you may contact it's founder and Catholic Charities lead volunteer for the project Mr. Brooks Sumberg by email at bsumberg@earthlink.net.

THOMAS MERTON CENTER in Bridgeport needs iced tea and lemonade mix, pancake syrup and containers (not individual servings) of applesauce, oatmeal, pasta, elbow macaroni, toiletries- disposable razors, shampoo, soap, toothbrushes, toothpaste- trial sizes preferred, for their guests. They also need disposable plates and bowls. To help, please drop off at the Merton Center, 43 Madison Avenue, between 8 a.m.-3 p.m., or call Mark Grasso at 203-367-9036.

VACATIONERS - If you are **On Vacation** visiting other areas and would like information regarding Churches in that area, you may either call **1-800-Mass-Times** or visit the website www.Masstimes.org.



When people inquire about Off The Streets, there are generally several typical questions that come up. How many people have Off The Streets helped? How much does it cost to get a homeless person Off The Streets? How many of them are still Off The Streets? How is Off The Streets funded? Well, as you can imagine, when people ask me these questions, any answer I give them is taken with a grain of salt. But recently, a parishioner of St. Edwards Parish, decided to retire from IBM after 29 years, so he could begin to concentrate essentially full-time attention to the business of Off The Streets. His name is Joe Simons, a 4th Degree Knight of Columbus. Here's what his investigations have revealed.

In response to the first question, as of mid-July 2011, Off The Streets has helped 188 individuals (no double-counting) in several categories: 77 have been assisted with security deposits on apartments/rooms; another 28 were helped with back-rental to prevent their eviction; another 54 were helped with various categories of general - often critical one-time expenses such as utility bills, or motel bills for families, etc.; and another 29 were given transportation expenses one-way to their families in at least 20 different states including (Kansas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Illinois, Pennsylvania, etc. etc.) and Puerto Rico. That's 188 individuals who were given a sense of hope and encouragement, who might otherwise be on the streets.

In response to the second question, it costs just about \$500 on average to get a person Off The Streets or keep a person Off The Streets one way or the other.

In response to the third question, we have had no recent contact with about 50 % of our recipients; we presume they are still housed since they have not contacted us nor are they at any of the shelters. An additional 25% are certainly Off The Streets although they do not maintain regular contact with us. Only about 9% of our recipients who remain Off The Streets maintain regular contact with us. And finally, about 17% of our financial recipients have lost their housing – but even within that 17% several have been able to boot-strap themselves back into housing with encouragement with but minimal or no additional financial assistance from Off The Streets.

When we respond to the fourth question, I have begun to look for that glazed look of disbelief in the questioner's eyes. I answer the question by saying that every individual and foundation that funds us is doing so as an Act of Faith. Off The Streets exists and flourishes only through the Power of the Holy Spirit. We accept no government money; we have no fundraisers; it is all done word of mouth; and almost every dollar collected goes directly to assisting a homeless person Off The Streets. We have no office, no paid staff, no overhead expenses. All of our business is conducted on-line or in coffee houses, churches, homes. We have a small Post Office Box that costs \$72.00 per year. We just reduced our phone costs to just \$10.25 per month, yet can access all business on line with google docs and google voice free of charge. All the furniture we obtain for our recipients is donated, and is stored in donated storage facilities until needed.

Meanwhile, the homeless here in Danbury need our help right here, right now, in terms of Prayer, Mentors, Furniture, and Financial Contributions. All contributions are tax deductible and should be made to: OFF THE STREETS, P.O. Box 591, Bethel, CT 06801.

Heartfelt thanks from our homeless community.

God's peace, Deacon Mike

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

SAT., AUGUST 6	5:30	+	William Stevens – Friends of the Family
SUN., AUGUST 7	7:00	+	Charles McCollam – Sister Anne & Sister Alberta
	8:30	+	Dick Masselink – Family
	10:00	+	Mary Deakin – Dave Deakin
	11:30	+	Kathy Summa – Husband Leonard
	5:30	+	Josephine Pieroni – Family
MON., AUGUST 8	6:30	+	Frank Kinsty – Family
	9:00	+	Bruno DeLuca – Wife Natalie
TUES, AUGUST 9	6:30	+	Rev. John J. Kennedy
	9:00	+	Rev. Msgr. Richard F. Scully
WED., AUGUST 10	6:30	+	Cathryn Costello
	9:00	+	Roman Forlastro – Joan Finn & Family
THU., AUGUST 11	6:30	+	Nicholas Santarelli Sr. – The Stevens Family
	9:00	+	Hugh Lee – Mary Ellen Lee
FRI., AUGUST 12	6:30	+	Larry Langlais – The Everett Family
	9:00	+	Peter Clarke (<i>2nd Anniv.</i>) – Family
SAT., AUGUST 13	8:00	+	Frank Kinsky – Family
	5:30	+	Roger Scofield – Family
SUN., AUGUST 14	7:00	+	Douglas Ruffles Sr. – Wife Mary
	8:30	+	Robert Heb – Neil & Susan Callaghan
	10:00	+	John Hamilton – The Laber Family
	11:30	+	Raymond Buzak – The Kallberg Family
	5:30	+	Allen Stein – The DeGennaro Family



WELCOME TO THOSE WHO WERE NEWLY BAPTIZED

Shea Brigid Merrill



III– Chip Keating & Bridget Schaefer
II– Michael Morabito & Sarah Gaigat II– Justin Baigert & Mary Kate Grant

COLLECTION: \$13,927.00

PARISH OFFICE (744-5777)

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 (*Vigil Mass*)
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: *Once 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 celebrated.*