
Fr. Corey's Comments

♦ *I do not want to seem to be rushing the new year, but the season of Advent is only about ten and one half months away. Remember, the First Sunday of Advent is when the Church puts into use the Revised Roman Missal. I shall speak more to the question of "why" this is happening in future bulletins, but I want to let you know what we shall be doing to make an easy transition.*

During the Spring and the Fall we shall run explanation sessions during the morning and evening so that people of all ages will be able to attend. We also have purchased booklets that we shall place into the bulletin during the Fall, so you can take the changes home and at your leisure read up and possibly discuss them with your families. There will be instructions given to St. Mary School children as well as St. Mary Religious Education students. Finally, during the Fall, we shall conduct a session on one weekend, 15 minutes before each Mass to make the changes clear and understandable.

Do not fear!!! The changes are not that dramatic. They simply are a return to the original translation that all the other languages of the world use, and if you can remember when the Mass first changed from Latin to English, these translations were used then. If you remember the PEOPLE'S Mass book, you will certainly remember these changes. (In fact, the changes will affect the priest more than the congregation. We'll probably have our heads in the Sacramentary for a good while to come.)

Besides the usual missalettes we shall have in the pews a one page quick guide that will be easy to use for children and adults alike. I find these changes most exciting, and the language is most beautiful. We shall get used to the Revised version quickly and easily.

♦ *Again this year during Lent the Diocese will be conducting the Annual Tuesday evening Confessions in each Parish from 7-9:00pm. Mark your calendars and tell your friends to "come home for Lent... the light will be on."*

In connection with Lent our annual Parish Mission will take place the first full week of Lent. Father James Flavin, from the Archdiocese of Boston, will be our speaker. Father Flavin will speak at all Masses on the First Sunday of Lent and continue with his talks on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday of that week. The weekend we begin is March 5 and 6, and the talks will be presented on March 7, 8 and 9. Mark it down now so that your Lent will begin with this spiritual renewal.

♦ *I know that the snow has been difficult for everyone this year. One place especially hard hit has been St. Mary Cemetery. Our very hard-working Cemetery people, Jason Laughinghouse and his crew, have done an excellent job in keeping up the Cemetery conditions. But, Mother Nature has had her way, and the conditions at the Cemetery are currently hazardous. After a difficult burial last Saturday, I decided to take a closer look around. There is just one lane available for driving. The reason: the plows have to be extremely careful not to get too close to the sides of the road for fear of disturbing a graveside or tomb stone. Many of the tombstones are buried in the snow. In many places, with the melting and refreezing, ice is now many inches thick. It is difficult, if not impossible, to clear a gravesite for a new burial because of snow-covered graves and the possibility of damaging another grave. Because of the gravel, walking is treacherous. For all these reasons, for the safety of mourners and families, funeral home staff and Cemetery workers, I have, after consulting with the Cemetery Board, decided to close the Cemetery for burials until the end of February.*

It is much too dangerous to have burials now, and I don't want to add physical injuries on top of the sadness of a burial of a loved one. PLEASE be assured that I will be getting reports from Jason as to the conditions of the Cemetery, and I shall be making trips there a number of times each week. If the weather cooperates, I shall open the Cemetery for burials as soon as possible, hopefully before the end of the month.

I shall keep you informed on this matter. I have been told that a number of Cemeteries around the state are doing the same thing. In fact, on the trip to the Cemetery last Saturday, I did get stuck in the upper section. I know that the closing may cause difficulties, but we need to consider the welfare of everyone involved. Many thanks for your cooperation and understanding.

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

Just a 'heads-up', when the little children leave Mass to use the restroom, I think it is a prudent idea that a family member accompany them. Just a thought.

I can't resist.....

*What do snowmen eat for lunch?
Icebergers!*

Where do snowmen go to dance? Snowballs!

How do snowmen travel around? By icicle!

What sort of ball doesn't bounce? A snowball!

Sorry, but if you don't laugh at it you will probably cry.

LENT 2011-02-03

PRAYER & FASTING GROUP

Every *Saturday morning* during Lent, beginning MARCH 12th, we will meet at 8:30am in the **Parish Hall** for a group discussion. This year's read will be, "*The Spirituality of Fasting: Rediscovering a Christian Practice*". (Ave Maria Press, 2010). Author: Msgr. Charles M. Murphy, S.T.D.

Bible Study ST. MARY BIBLE STUDY




Our Bible Study group is taking a "*Catholic*" look into the true meaning of the Book of Revelation. Join us on Tuesday evenings, FEB. 8, 15, & 22, at 7:00pm, in the **Parish Hall**. For more info. please contact Rick Lawlor (203 470-8084); rlawlor22@comcast.net.



ST. MARY'S MEN'S MINISTRY



Come join us on Saturday mornings, from 6:30-8:00am, in the **Parish Hall** for fellowship and scripture discussions with Fr. Ed along with coffee and bagels. For more information please contact Rick Lawlor: rlawlor22@comcast.net or 203-470-8084.

The next **BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP** meeting will take place SAT., FEB. 12th, from 10:30-noon, in the **Parish House**.  If you'll be attending for the first time, please call the Rectory (203 744-5777) to confirm.

ST. MARY BOOK CLUB: FEBUARY BOOK



"The Saint's Guide to Happiness: Practical Lessons in the Life of the Spirit", by **Robert Ellsberg**. Join us on THU., FEB. 24, at 7:30pm, in **Children's Room**.

MARCH BOOK: "*Rome – Sweet – Home: Our Journey to Catholicism*", by **Scott Hahn – Kimberly Hahn**.

ST. MARY MEN'S RETREAT IS COMING!
TRY THE PAUSE THAT REALLY REFRESHES

Our annual retreat weekend at **Holy Family Retreat House**, West Hartford, begins on FRI., MAR. 4th and ends at noon on SUN., MAR 6th. It will be a weekend of good rest, good food and inspiring talks that will bring you closer to God. You'll come away with a new perspective on life. Make your reservations now. Call Nick Santarelli (203 470-7102).



Danbury Emmaus High School Teen Retreat
FRI., FEB. 18th – SUN., FEB. 20th, 2011

Anyone currently in high school is invited to attend at the Seton Newman Center in Danbury for a weekend that you will never forget. Come and deepen your relationship with God. or get to know Him for the first time, while you make friendships that will last a lifetime! If interested, please call Kristin Nauheimer (203) 512-5285.

SCHOOL NEWS

YOUTH NEWS

ST. MARY SCHOOL REGISTRATION



for **Preschool through 8th Grade** will be: **MON., FEB. 7th**, from **9:00–11:30am** and **6:30–8:00pm**, and **WED., FEB. 9th**, from **9:00–11:30am**. If there is a cancellation due to inclement weather an additional registration will be held on **WED., FEB. 16th**, from **9:00–11:30am**. For more information please call the **School (203-744-2922)**, or email: **www.stmarybethelct.org**.

Sweetheart Saturday Dinner, Dance, & Auction will be held on **SAT., FEB. 12th**, from **6–11:00pm**, at the **Cultural Center**, 65 Sand Pit Road, Danbury. Tickets are available \$75 per person or \$150 per couple. All information can be found on the event website **www.sweetheartsaturday.com** as well as ticket purchases. For more information, please contact **Ruth or Erik Apotheker** at **eapotheker@comcast.net**.



There will be a **Girls JV Basketball Tournament** on **FEB. 5th - 6th**, at **Immaculate H.S.**



CURSILLO is one of many methods available to us to renew and refresh our spiritual lives. It is designed for Catholics who desire to strengthen their faith. Our next Ultreye will be on **THUR., FEB. 17th**, at **7:30pm**, in the **Parish Hall**. To learn more contact **Yvonne (203 797-1361)**; **Yvonne_cecera@hotmail.com**.

STEUBENVILLE EAST YOUTH CONFERENCE, JULY 22-24, University of Rhode Island, Kingston, offers the ultimate Catholic experience for teens to encounter Christ in His sacraments and in His Church. **\$262/person – \$60/person deposit**. For more info. call **Sharon Closius (203 798-9822)**.



MISSION TRIP TEAM will hold a “**Cookies, Cupcakes, & Carnations**” Valentines Sale after all Masses next weekend, **FEB. 12th - 13th** (while supplies last!). It’s a great chance to get some sweets for your sweetie! Proceeds go towards our Mission Trip to Chicago.

JUNIOR & SENIOR YOUTH GROUP

Souper Bowl of Caring is a national movement of congregations, schools, community organizations and individuals caring. Souper Bowl of Caring equips and mobilizes youth to positively impact their communities by collecting money or food on or near Super Bowl weekend. 100% of the collections are donated directly to the charity of each group's choice. In our case, St. James Daily Bread Food Pantry. **Final Collection: Super Bowl Sunday (2/06/11)** at **First Congregational Church, Bethel**



A NOTE FROM DEACON MIKE:

OFF THE STREETS: Many parish-ioners have been trying to make donations of household goods as we help people get out of the homeless shelters into a room of their own. We now have a drop point for household items at the parking lot at the rear of the United Methodist Church (next to Country Touch), across from the Bethel Municipal Center on the first Saturday of each month from **10:00–noon** (weather permitting). Please bring any usable items such as beds, linens, towels, kitchenware, microwave ovens, bathroom items, dressers, tables, chairs, TVs, lamps, blankets, pots, pans, small appliances, and non-perishable food items. If you have questions, please contact **Richard Schlemmer (203 948-1820)**.

Sweetheart Saturday Dinner, Dance, & Auction will be held on ***SAT., FEB. 12th***, from ***6-11:00pm***, at the **Cultural Center**, 65 Sand Pit Road, Danbury. Tickets are **\$75 per person**. All information can be found on the event website as well as ticket purchases, www.sweetheartsaturday.com. For additional information, please contact ***Ruth or Erik Apotheker*** at epotheker@comcast.net.



MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

MON., FEB. 7	6:30	+	Mary Agnes Kinsky – Family
	9:00		Andrea Campado (<i>Health & Blessings</i>) – Falguera Family
TUES, FEB. 8	6:30	+	Cathryn Costello
	9:00	+	Pascual Montoya – Cafferty Family
WED., FEB. 9	6:30		Ed Reynolds (<i>Health & Blessings</i>)
	9:00	+	Dorothy Considine (<i>Anniv.</i>) – Daughter
THU., FEB. 10	6:30	+	Eleanore Flanagan – Family
	9:00		Dylan DeWitt (<i>Health & Blessings</i>) – Aunt Katie
FRI., FEB. 11	6:30		Blessed Mother’s Intentions
	9:00	+	James Ryan – Connie Siler
SAT., FEB. 12	8:00	+	Hector Charles Maruzzella – Missimer Family
	5:30	+	Vincent Armenio – Lavelle Family
SUN., FEB. 13	7:00	+	Louis DiMatteo – Family
	8:30	+	Nicholas Verderosa – Pete & Joanne Verderosa
	10:00	+	Kathy Balster – Coral & Bill Presti
	11:30	+	Corina Trombetta – Pat & Paul Orsino
	5:30		Francis Falguera (<i>Health & Blessings</i>) – Family



WELCOME TO THOSE WHO WERE NEWLY BAPTIZED

Brady Pierce O’Marra

COLLECTION: 15,150

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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: *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  
 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:** *Twice 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.*