

# *Saint Mary Parish Community*

FIFTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

July 10, 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](http://www.stmarybethel.org)**

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## *Fr. Corey's Comments*

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◆ As we celebrate our Nation's birthday, it is good for us to remember how Catholics were a part of our Country's origins. Although Catholics comprised a significant percentage of Americans only after the rise of immigration in the mid-nineteenth century, there were a few Catholics scattered throughout the colonies before 1776. Some of these played vital roles in the Revolutionary ferment that produced the American nation.

For some revolutionaries, Catholics were intrinsically suspicious allies in the fight for independence. The Quebec Act of 1774, which established the Catholic Church in that province, was one of the precipitating events of the Revolution. It stoked colonists' fears of an alliance between the British monarchy and the Roman pontiff, the two authoritarians conspiring against the rights of free Englishmen. Many Catholics nonetheless fought for independence. The preeminent Catholic patriot was undoubtedly *Charles Carroll* of Carrollton. Heir to the fortune of an early Maryland Catholic family, it was said that Carroll risked more (in financial terms) than any other when he became the only Catholic to sign the Declaration of Independence.

Carroll's cousin, John, was also an important figure in Revolutionary America. *John Carroll* had been a Jesuit priest before the suppression of the order by Pope Clement XIV and had continued to minister as one of the colonies' few priests. Uniquely positioned as an ardent patriot and a Catholic religious leader, he was called upon by the Continental Congress to join *Benjamin Franklin*, *Samuel Chase* and *Charles Carroll* on an unsuccessful mission to Canada to try to convince the colonies' northern neighbor to maintain neutrality during the war with Britain. Carroll would become the first American bishop in 1789.

A thousand miles to the west, another Catholic with less economic clout and fewer connections would also play an important part in the military plans of the Americans. *Father Pierre Gibault* was a missionary of French descent in southwestern Indiana. When the Virginia militia under *Colonel George Rogers Clark* entered the area, Gibault and others met the American commander and pledged the support of the region to the forces of independence in return for assurances of religious freedom. Against the wishes of the bishop of Quebec, Gibault led the French residents of the Vincennes region in cooperating with the Americans.

One important dimension of the Revolutionary War was the battle at sea. The Americans played David to the British Navy's Goliath, but their merchantmen were able to pester the English ships and run their blockades. A key personality in this accomplishment was Irish native *John Barry*, who captained a number of vessels during the war. *John Barry Kelly* sums up the commodore's accomplishments thus:

*Barry's war contributions are unparalleled: he was the first to capture a British war vessel on the high seas; he captured two British ships after being severely wounded in a ferocious sea battle; he quelled three mutinies; he fought on land at the Battles of Trenton and Princeton; he captured over 20 ships including an armed British schooner in the lower Delaware; he authored a Signal Book which established a set of signals used for effective communication between ships; and he fought the last naval battle of the American Revolution aboard the frigate Alliance in 1783. Barry was George Washington's choice to head the United States Navy when the president created it in 1794.*

The infant American military relied heavily on the expertise of foreign officers, some of whom were Catholic. *Marquis de Lafayette* is well known as a staunch French supporter of the American cause. Polish captain *Tadeusz Kosciuszko* fought in Washington's army as a colonel and made important contributions at Ticonderoga and Saratoga. Another Pole, *Casimir Pulaski*, led Washington's cavalry, and died in the battle for Savannah.

Other Catholics furnished vital support for the patriot cause. A notable figure was nurse *Mary Waters*, whose work in patriot hospitals drew the praise of Founding Father (and physician) *Benjamin Rush*. Philadelphia merchant *Stephen Moylan* became Quartermaster General of the Continental Army and later raised a regiment of Pennsylvanians.

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

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Not all Catholics were revolutionaries. The Roman Catholic Volunteers were a loyalist military unit formed in Philadelphia. The New York-based Volunteers of Ireland was another regiment made up of Catholics fighting for King George. Alsace-born *Joseph Cauffman*, a prominent citizen of Philadelphia, remained loyal to England—though his son, Joseph, Jr., served the forces of independence as a medical doctor.

The Vatican remained neutral in the conflict and Catholics were free to choose sides. Many Catholics, conservative and anti-revolutionary, believed that their loyalty lay with Great Britain. Other Catholics thought that the Crown had forfeited Americans' allegiance through tyranny. Events brought American victory, and the colonists became citizens of a new nation.

Though Catholics could be found on both sides of the conflict, the experience of fighting side-by-side with Romanists, the witness of important patriots such as the Carrolls, and the valuable support of France, convinced many Revolutionaries that Catholics were welcome collaborators in the building of a new republic. Catholic participation in the founding did not end with the cessation of hostilities with Britain. *Thomas Fitzsimons* and *Daniel Carroll* (John's brother) were Constitutional Convention delegates from Pennsylvania and Maryland, respectively. They are the two Catholics whose names are affixed to the United States Constitution. Fitzsimons had already distinguished himself as a soldier and leader during the Revolution. A native Irishman, he was an important Philadelphia merchant who won election to an early Revolutionary government post in the face of laws barring Catholics from holding office. Daniel Carroll had served in the Continental Congress and had signed the Articles of Confederation as well. At the constitutional convention, he championed ideas such as popular election of senators and reserving to the states all powers not explicitly delegated to the federal government.

American Catholic historians of the late nineteenth and early twentieth century, through their research and writing, did much to preserve the record of Catholic participation in the founding. *John Glimary Shea* worked tirelessly to uncover historical documents for the colonial and republican eras, and published a four-volume *History of the Catholic Church in the U.S.* *Martin I.J. Griffin*, concerned to present a balanced account of Catholics' role—and to highlight the achievements of fellow Philadelphians—wrote about loyalists such as the Roman Catholic Volunteers, as well as patriots such as Thomas Fitzsimons and John Barry. Griffin edited the earliest major American Catholic historical journal, the *Records of the American Catholic Historical Society*. Library of Congress official *Gaillard Hunt* (who was married to John Carroll's grandniece) and *Father John Rager* investigated the intellectual origins of the founding documents, tracing many of their ideas to Catholic thinkers of the medieval and Reformation periods.

Through the work of these and many other scholars, students of the Founding can come to appreciate the ways in which Catholics helped to shape the contours of this critical period in American history.

◆ The first Mass in the English-speaking American colonies was held on Saint Clement's Island in Maryland on March 25, 1634, and was the beginning of the Archdiocese of Washington

### ◆ Famous American Catholic Athletes

**Baseball:** Joe DiMaggio (1936-51), Tom Glavine (1987-2008), Mike Piazza (1992-2007), Ivan Rodriguez (1991-present), Babe Ruth (1914-1935), Mike Sweeney (1995-present)

**Boxing:** Rocky Marciano (1948-1956), Manny Pacquiao (1995-present)

**Football:** Tom Brady (2000-present), Brett Favre (1991-2010), Vince Lombardi (1954-1969),

**Basketball:** Kobe Bryant (1996-present), Dick Vitale (Basketball Commentator)

## PARISH HAPPENINGS

**The Parish Office Summer Hours:**  
**9am – 2:30pm Mon.- Fri.**

**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!

**MARK YOUR CALENDAR!** Parish trip to see “**Jersey Boys**” on **Sat., Oct. 29** at the Bushnell in Hartford. Details in next week’s bulletin!

## SCHOOL NEWS

**St. Mary School registration** is ongoing for Preschool through 8<sup>th</sup> Grade. Please contact the School for additional information at [www.stmarybethelct.org](http://www.stmarybethelct.org) or at 203-744-2922.

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](http://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](mailto:bill.robintaylor@comcast.net).

## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

**REL. ED. REGISTRATION FORMS** are now available for children in K-8<sup>th</sup> grade. They **must** attend each year in **Grades 1-8** in order to make their sacraments. Forms are available on our website. If your child entering **Kindergarten** or **1<sup>st</sup> grade** is not registered for the Fall, call **Rel. Ed.** (743-4557).

## AROUND THE DIOCESE

**Off The Streets:** We need many hands as this ministry develops to help homeless persons Off The Streets. Every kind of skill needed. Please join us the **3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of each month** at **7:30pm** at the **Congregational Church in Danbury**. Park on the left side of the church (across from City Hall), come into the Church, and go to the **Pilgrim Room**.

## A Letter From Kenny

As you know, a team of teens and adults recently returned from our Mission Trip/Retreat to Chicago. We worked at *The Mission of Our Lady of the Angels* in the Humboldt Park area on Chicago’s west side. This is one of the poorest communities in inner city Chicago, and if you live there, you face joblessness, high rents, high cost of real estate, hunger, violent crime, poor schools, and hazards to health and safety. We worked in many areas of the Mission, including renovating the church and basement, helping at a children’s camp, landscaping, painting and any other chores that Fr. Bob asked of us. We attended daily Mass, prayed the Liturgy of the Hours; had spiritual talks and discussions led by Deacon Joe and Seminarian Matthew, participated in Eucharistic Adoration, went to Confession, and ended most days together with a Walking Rosary. The week was physically exhausting, spiritually challenging and inspiring, and the work was seemingly unending.

We were, however, able to interact with the people in the neighborhood, which was a joy for all of us. In particular, we “adopted” a 12 year old boy named Kenny, who lived around the block from the mission. Kenny begrudgingly attended the Camp in the mornings and then excitedly stayed each afternoon, working side by side with us, sharing stories of his life in Humboldt Park and charming his way into our hearts. One of our Chaperones gave him a Mission Trip Cross, making an honorary member of our group. As the week wore on, we all dreaded saying goodbye to this special boy.

The day before we left, as everyone was on the bus to go back to the University for the night, he asked if he could use the bus microphone to read a letter he wrote to all of us. I would like to share that with you now:

*“To all Connecticut’s on this bus. Thank you for your help with my anger. I notice that you all obviously care for me. Thanks. To Kate, thanks for being there for me. I now can trust someone. Love ya. To Mike and Mike, thanks for understanding what I am going through. I really appreciate that also. Love ya guys. I know I can trust you guys also. To Big Man Joe, thanks for the thing that you gave me to be part of “St. Mary’s” [the cross], that’s what I love the most...and the icee’s! Thanks for helping me fix my bike. To Kenny, Matt and everyone else, thanks for pushing me to go to camp. It’s hard. You all are my bro’s and sisters and as long as you all know you have a place in my heart, I am satisfied. I even love the bus driver. Thanks for letting me project my voice to let people know I love them. I love you guys!”*

I am so proud of the teens (*and adults*) and all the hard work they accomplished on the trip. But the way that they loved this little boy and opened their hearts to him is, I believe, why God led us to Chicago. We were changed by him, and he ended up giving us the best gift of all. Please keep Kenny in your prayers, as we all are!

~ Kate Fitz



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**MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK**

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<b>MON., JULY 11</b>	6:30	+	Paul Cassano – John & Rosa Rooney
	9:00	+	Gloria Anderson – Grace O'Rourke
<b>TUES, JULY 12</b>	6:30	+	Nicholas Santarelli, Sr. – The Bartkus Family
	9:00	+	Antonia Piazza Toscano – The Rooney Family
<b>WED., JULY 13</b>	6:30	+	Arthur Blackman – Wife
	9:00	+	Leo Maddalena – Brenda and Kevin Cleary
<b>THU., JULY 14</b>	6:30		Cathy Lolacono – Art & Bridget Cuomo
	9:00	+	Douglas Ruffles, Sr. – Wife Mary
<b>FRI., JULY 15</b>	6:30	+	Christian Major – Family
	9:00	+	Peggy O'Neill – Family
<b>SAT., JULY 16</b>	8:00	+	Nancy Antunes – Family
	5:30	+	Joseph DiPalma – Daughter
<b>SUN., JULY 17</b>	7:00	+	Edward Cafferty – The Cafferty Family
	8:30	+	Al White – Tom & Mary O'Leary
	10:00	+	Joan Merling – The McAleavy Family
	11:30	+	Antionette "Dolly" Tamborino – Pat & Paul Orsino
	5:30	+	Eleanor Welez – Friends



**WELCOME TO THOSE WHO WERE NEWLY BAPTIZED**

*Connor Joseph Cascudo*

*Sophia Lauren Wyatt*



**III – Edward Hawthorne & Sarah Lund**

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**COLLECTION: \$11,466.00**

**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.**