

Saint Mary Parish Community

THIRY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

November 13, 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: 794-8512

St. Mary Church & Rectory

26 Dodgingtown Road, Bethel, Connecticut 06801

www.stmarybethel.org

Comments From Fr. Cyrus

The Month of November, a Month of Giving Gratitude to God

Two weeks ago while flying across the Pacific Ocean, I happened to glance outside of my airplane window. It was an overnight flight and it happens to be a very beautiful night. The stars are in their utmost splendor. While looking at the stars I started to meditate, since I couldn't sleep and the movies that were playing did not interest me, I prayed to God and gave thanks for the wonderful gifts that I received during the past weeks while in the Philippines. Spending time with family and friends and looking forward to going back to Bethel renewed, rested and ready for another round of busy Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays. While in meditation, I started to think about the things that were waiting for me back in Bethel. The magnificent Solemnity of All Saints, the remembrance of All Soul's Day and also Thanksgiving, all are moments of gratitude to God.

As we all know All Saints Day just passed by and we give thanks to God for the gift of Saints in our lives. They are our brothers and sisters who gave their lives to God and in the service of their neighbors who achieved holiness by doing ordinary things in life. The Church in her wisdom gave us examples to follow, role models to imitate as we continue to live in our present world. All of us are called to the vocation to be holy. Being a saint is not reserved to few people but we are called to sainthood. Each and one of us are called to be living witnesses to the love of God in our confused world.

November is a time likewise to remember our deceased love ones who have gone to their rest in the peace of Jesus Christ our God. It is a time of giving gratitude to God and to offer our prayers for them. I remember when I was young growing up in the Philippines, every November 1st all of us went to the cemetery to offer flowers, and prayers to our deceased family members. It is a tradition that every Filipino follows for centuries. Following my family's tradition before I left my hometown, I visited the tombs of my family giving them honor and offering prayer. When I was doing my prayer in front of my grandmother's tomb, I noticed the many tombs of my ancestors and how I can trace back my lineage, even the fact that I am the third one in the family who became a priest.

November is the month for our favorite holiday, Thanksgiving. Even in the midst of the economic hardships that many of our brothers and sisters are experiencing in their daily lives, we still have to give thanks to God for the many blessings that He gives us. It is a season of hope even in the midst of a hard times, our God is always with us. In my own life as a priest, God gave me so many things that I am very thankful. He gave me a supportive family, wonderful brother priests and deacons, kind friends and you, His people, that I am serving, fulfilling the vocation that I received. I cannot ask for more...what a blessing!

While I was sitting in seat 28K of Boeing 747-400, looking at the stars, flying over the Pacific Ocean, praying to God, I count myself as very lucky man. I thank God for giving me so many wonderful things in life. As we prepare for Thanksgiving and Christmas, we should not forget to pray, asking God for His mercy and giving praise. We have an awesome God who always here to help and protect us.

God bless you always!

PARISH HAPPENINGS

November is dedicated to **Departed Souls**. The **Book of Names** will be in the Sanctuary, to the right of the altar. Write the names of your departed loved ones, and we shall keep them in our prayers during November. Envelopes for **All Souls Day** may be returned any time during November. Masses are offered throughout the year for **Souls in Purgatory**.



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 in November.

FAITH IN THE 21ST CENTURY: The next in this series of talks and discussions led by **Deacon Joe** will be on **Wednesday evening November 16th 7:30pm** in the **Parish Hall** on the topic, **"Saints for Everyday People"**. Come and learn more on how our Faith can answer the questions that we all grapple with!

Bible Study "Come Discover the Book of Psalms"



There are 150 Psalms written by various authors. Psalms are songs that were sung by the people of Israel from the start and play an important role in our Church today. If you wish to have a prayerful life, studying the Psalms is a must. The Book of Psalms is quoted in the New Testament more than any other book in the Old Testament. There is a psalm for every aspect of our Earthly journey and simply put **Psalms teach us how to pray**. Jesus himself prayed the Psalms often. So, if you would like to join us or if you have any questions please contact **Rick Lawlor at 203-470-8084 or email at rlawlor22@comcast.net**. Classes will be on most Tuesday evenings, 7:00 pm in the Parish Hall.

BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP provides a prayerful experience of mutual support and comfort for those who are confronting the loss of a loved one. Our next meeting will be on **SAT. DEC. 3 from 10:30-noon** in the Parish House. Light lunch will follow meeting. If you will be attending for the first time, please call the **Rectory (203 744-5777)** to confirm.



PARISH HAPPENINGS

Next Sat., **Nov. 19th** the **MEN'S MINISTRY** is having a special **8:30-10am** session for all the men who have asked us to start later on Saturday mornings. Please take advantage of our later start and come join us for great discussions, bagels, donuts and coffee.

COFFEE & ... has been rescheduled to SUN., NOV. 20th after the **7:00, 8:30 & 10:00 Masses**.



We will be having **NEW ALTAR SERVER TRAINING** coming up soon! Any young person in fourth grade or above is invited to become an altar server at St. Mary's. If your child is interested, they must attend one of the upcoming training sessions: **Thursday, December 1 at 2:15pm; Thursday December 1 at 7:00pm; or Saturday December 3 at 9:00am**.



ATTN: TEENS & PARENTS Applications for next year's **Mission Trip/Retreat** scheduled for **June 24-30, 2012** to Providence, RI are available on our website and due **with deposit on Wed., Nov. 23**. For more info call Kate Fitz (744-5777).

Our **Mission Trip Team** will be taking orders for **Christmas Wreaths, Kissing Balls, Memorial Blankets and Holiday Log boxes** after all the masses **the weekends of Nov. 19/20 and 26/27** to be available for **pick-up on Sat. Dec. 3rd**. We will also have **advent candles** and **Heavenly Stock** available for purchase on those week-ends.



LECTOR WORKBOOKS for the 2011-2012 year beginning the first Sunday of Advent (11/27) are available in the Vestry. Please check off your name on the sheet provided when you pick one up.

ST. MARY BOOK CLUB: Our next book is **"Teresa of Avila: An Extraordinary Life"**, by **Shirley du Boula**. Join us on **THUR., Dec. 1st at 7:30pm**, in the **Children's Room**.



**MEALS-ON-WHEELS:
WEEK OF DELIVERIES**



SCHOOL NEWS

There will be an **11:15 EARLY DISMISSAL** on *Tuesday, November 15th and Wednesday, November 16th* for Parent/Teacher Conferences.

St. Mary School **BOOK FAIR** will be held in the school Library on *November 14th to November 18th* during school and Parent/Teacher conference hours. All are welcome!

St. Mary's **ANNUAL TURKEY BINGO** will be held on *Friday, November 18th*. Doors open at 6:00 pm and Bingo begins at 7:00 pm. Join us and you'll have a fun time with the entire family! For more information please contact Tracy Lennane-Chimbo at tracylennanechimbo@sbcglobal.net or Jennifer Curnan at j_curnan@hotmail.com.

There will be an **11:15 Early Dismissal** on *Wednesday, November 23rd* and **NO SCHOOL** on *Thursday and Friday, November 24th and 25th* for Thanksgiving. Have a wonderful holiday!

CRAFTERS WANTED! St. Mary School's *Annual Christmas Gala & Craft Fair* will be on *Sat., Dec., 3rd*. If you are interested in a space at the fair, please contact Kathleen Horvath at 203-300-5486 or email at Kathleen.horvath@att.net.

Are you an On-line Shopper? Through an on-line shopping mall called **One Cause**, a percentage of your on-line purchases from hundreds of merchants will come back to Saint Mary's. Log on to www.onecause.com, choose "join", choose your user name and ID, and select a cause. We are listed as "Saint Mary School". One Cause is an easy way to earn money for our school!

See the display in the vestibule of the Church for information on the **Guardian Angel Network**, an opportunity for those who would like to donate to our nationally recognized Blue Ribbon St. Mary School.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Religious Education Office hours are:
Tuesday – Thursday, 9:30am – 2:00pm

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION REGISTRATION FORMS are available online at stmarybethel.org for children in K-8th grade. Children **must** attend each year in **Grades 1-8** in order to make their sacraments. For more info call **Rel. Ed.** at 743-4557.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

NEXT REGULAR MEETING is this *Monday, Nov. 14th at 8:15* in the Parish Hall.



Thanksgiving
Food Drive

PLEASE HELP THOSE IN NEED!! You can drop off your food donations (canned or dry foods, etc.), in the **Church vestibule** every day from **8:00am - 5:00pm**. **Frozen Turkeys** can be dropped off **Mon.-Fri. until 12noon** in the **freezer in the Parish Hall Kitchen**. Monetary donations may be sent to: *Brotherhood in Action, P.O. Box 581, Bethel, Ct. 06801*. **Please be as generous as you can as our food supplies are very low and demand is great!**

AROUND THE DIOCESE

The DANBURY EMMAUS is having a retreat for anyone currently in high school from *December 2-4, 2011* at the *Seton-Newman Center* in Danbury. Call Kristin Nauheimer at 512-5285 for info.

The BETHEL TOASTMASTERS CLUB'S next meeting is scheduled for **Monday, November 21 at 7 PM**. For more information please call Sharon Closius at 203-798-9822 or Pat Wilson-Perkins at 203-797-1967.

The **BETHEL WOMEN'S CLUB Christmas Present Collection** (new, with original tags and unwrapped) **for veterans in long term care and at the Vet House in Danbury** is continuing. A list of items can be found in the church vestibule by the collection bin. Monetary donations can be made payable to **The Bethel Women's Club** and sent c/o **Geier, 15 Andrews Street, Bethel, CT 06801**

CURSILLO 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. For more about **Cursillo** and their three day weekends, call Yvonne Cecera at 797-1361 or yvonne_cecera@hotmail.com

Bethel Senior Center CRAFT FAIR is on *Fri., Nov. 18, (11:30- 4:00) & Sat., Nov. 19, (10:00- 3:00)*. We will have hot dogs, soda, fresh-baked apple pie, other baked goods, a white elephant booth, raffles, and many hand-made crafts for gifts – including Christmas Spiders!

Celebrate Religious Education

As November celebrates National Religious Education Month, we would like to say **“Thank You”** to our DRE Mary Ferri, Secretary Peg Gavin and all those catechists and volunteers who lead our children toward a life-long relationship with Jesus Christ through our Religious Education Program! We, at St. Mary, are very grateful for their heart-felt commitment to the children of our Parish. By participating in this ministry they not only build and strengthen the faith life of our Parish, they also participate in the building of the Kingdom of God. They are beautiful examples that Jesus is alive in our parish!

Prayer for Catechist: *O God our heavenly Father, You have given us the gift of these catechists to be heralds of the Gospel to our Parish Family. We lift them up to You in thanksgiving and intercede for them concerning their hopes and needs. May we be attentive to the presence of Your Word in them, a Word that lifts up and affirms, calls forth and challenges, is compassionate and consoles. We pray that our Parish Family will always be blessed with those who have responded to the call to share in Christ’s prophetic mission as catechists. May we too be open to the universal call to service that Christ addresses to all of His disciples, contributing our gifts to the communion of faith, the Church. We ask this in Jesus’ name. Amen.*

Please pray for our catechists and those they teach:

Kelly Almeida
Catherine Bach
Karen Bailey
Diane Barriere
Peter Baumgartner
Fudgey Belardinelli
Madeline Bellamy
Cathy Blondel
Matilda Cafferty
Pat Carraturo
Angel Chiappetta
Colleen Cote
Elizabeth Cuneo
Tatiana Cuneo
Rosanne Cywin
Kathleen Czel
Sharon Czel
Colleen Daily
Jaclyn Daily
Susan Daly
Darin Del Guardo

Clarine DeRosier
Karin DeShan
Sue Dolan
MaryBeth Falls
Donna Ferrante
Kate Fitzgerald
Kristy Folan
Olivia Franzese
Jeanne Gallagher
Deacon Joe Gill
Mary Guertin
Matthew Guertin
Kevin Hannequin
Matthew Hannequin
Kathleen Keener
Mary Korin
Joanne LaBadia
Jen Larson
Priscilla Licari
Rosann Licari
Nancy LaBalbo

Rick Lawlor
Elaine Lowelander
Cathi McCabe
Kristie Moninaro
Ann Nauheimer
Cameron O’Neil
Sandy Pallas
Lori Paulin
Tracy Quinn
Mary Lou Reseska
Tracy Rogalski
Karen Saunders
Heath Schacht
Michael Shea
Erin Simmons
Frances Slusarz
Shani Specht
Mary Stocks
Barbara Sullivan
Margaret Whelton-Pane
Isabel Wortendyke

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

SAT., NOVEMBER 12	5:30	+	Joyce Bertozzi – Family
SUN., NOVEMBER 13	7:00	+	Mark Moavero – Matthew & Amanda
	8:30	+	June LeBlanc – Friends
	10:00	+	Bernadine Loya (<i>10th Anniv.</i>) -- Family
	11:30	+	Raymond Balasco – Marie & Dominic Broccoli
MON., NOVEMBER 14	5:30	+	Frank & Lucy Chiarella -- Family
	6:30	+	Douglas Ruffles, Sr. – Wife Mary
	9:00	+	Donald & Suzanne Dorman – Family
TUES, NOVEMBER 15	6:30	+	George Woronko – The Sherman Family
	9:00	+	Kay Curran – Patty & Bill Cafero
WED., NOVEMBER 16	6:30	+	T. J. Burke – Eleanor Roche
	9:00	+	Al Dennis (<i>10th Anniv.</i>) – Family
THU., NOVEMBER 17	6:30	+	Timothy Billingham – Eleanor Roche
	9:00	+	Marilyn Raus
FRI., NOVEMBER 18	6:30	+	Cathryn Costello
	9:00	+	Peter Gadarowski – Marie Miller
SAT., NOVEMBER 19	8:00	+	Thomas L. Ryan – Jim & Agnes Bishop
	5:30	+	Mark Vlash – Family
SUN., NOVEMBER 20	7:00	+	Rick Schlosky – The Kaye Family
	8:30	+	Ernest L. Allen, Jr. – The Allen Family
	10:00	+	Arthur L. Horan, Jr. (<i>Anniv.</i>) -- Family
	11:30	+	Erberto Frieri – Rosanne & John Kiley
	5:30	+	Ricky Marron – The Clarke/Falls Family



WELCOME TO THOSE WHO WERE NEWLY BAPTIZED

Avery Andi Bowen Alexandra Lynn Lucadamo Genevieve Yvonne Reifeiss

COLLECTION: \$20,814.00

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*

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.