



Welcome to
Saint Gianna Parish
St. Brigid Church St. Helena Church
St. Mark the Evangelist Church
St. Brigid St. Augustine Partnership School

January 14, 2018
The Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

Reverend Joseph Devine, Pastor

Reverend William R. Metzler, Senior Parochial Vicar

Reverend Joseph Pullikattil, Parochial Vicar

Rev. Francis P. Johnson, Pastor Emeritus

Deacons Raymond J. Fugere, Robert J. Hilliard and James J. McCormack

St. Brigid Church

Rectory: 1088 New Britain Avenue
Elmwood, CT 06110
Phone: 860 236-5965
Fax 860 233-8016
Karla Dalley, Administrative Officer
Office hours: 8:00 am-3:00 pm daily

Website:

www.stbrigidwesthartford.org

Email:

stbrigidchurchwhct@sbcglobal.net

Religious Education

Donna Wolcott, Coordinator
(860) 543-2607
www.stbrigidCCD.com

Music Ministry

Natasha Ulyanovsky, Keyboardist
Kelly Boudreaux, Cantor
David Boudreaux, Cantor

St. Brigid St Augustine School

See inside the Bulletin for details

St. Helena Church

Parish Office: 30 Echo Lane
West Hartford, CT 06107
Phone: 860 521-1921
Fax: 860 521-1129
Marie Tofeldt, Administrative Asst.
Office Hours: 8:00 am -3:00 pm daily

Website:

www.sthelenawesthartford.org

Email:

sthelenawhct@yahoo.com

Religious Education

Donna Wolcott, Coordinator
(860) 521-3661
cre.sthelena@comcast.net

Music Ministry

Mario Petrella~Dir. Of Music Ministry

Rebecca Michel~Keyboardist and
Choir Director

St. Mark the Evangelist Church

Church Office:
467 Quaker Lane South
West Hartford, CT 06110
Phone: 860 233-1269
Fax: 860 233-5791
Marion Valenti, Secretary
Office Hours: 10-12 and 1:00-2:30
Monday, Wednesday and Friday

Website:

www.stmarkwesthartford.com

Email: st_marks_church@snet.net

Religious Education

LouAnn M. Warren, M.A., Director
drelawstmarks@yahoo.com
Sheila Litchfield, Secretary
Sheila.stmark@yahoo.com
(860) 236-3545

Music Ministry

Jennifer Gadaree, Music Director

The Celebration of the Grace of God Through The Sacraments

Baptism: Please call our respective church offices in advance to make arrangements.

Reconciliation: By appointment, or on Saturday St. Brigid 3-3:30; St. Helena 4-4:30; St. Mark 3:15-4:00.

Communion: For parishioners who are homebound or hospitalized, contact our respective church offices.

Marriage: Please call our respective church offices one year in advance
of proposed marriage date to make arrangements.

Holy Orders: Please call the Office of Vocations (860) 242-5573 or www.hartfordpriest.org.
You may also visit your parish priest or call our respective church offices for more information.

MassSchedule

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Saturday, January 13, 2018

- 4:00 PM** Mary F. Davey by Her Family—SB
4:30 PM Rocco DiTaranto by Marie DiTaranto—SM
5:00 PM Maria Agreda, 50th Anniversary, by Her Family—SH

Sunday, January 14, 2018

- 8:30 AM** For the People of St. Gianna Parish—SB
9:30 AM Repose of the Soul of James Frost by His Family—SH
10:30 AM William R. Metzler by His Grandson—SM
11:00 AM Carmella Coiro DeAngelis by Her Brother and Family—SB
11:30 AM Syro Malabar Mass—SH

Monday, January 15, 2018

- 8:30 AM** Gerardo Masi and Family by His Daughter, Maria Nardi —SB
9:00 AM Andrea Murillo, Month's Mind, by Her Family—SH
9:00 AM Sara Grady Corcoran by Nancy and Art Spada—SM

Tuesday, January 16, 2018

- 8:30 AM** SB
9:00 AM James Brazil by Nancy and Art Spada—SM

Wednesday, January 17, 2018

- 8:30 AM** SB
9:00 AM Fr. Joseph Whittel—SH
9:00 AM Ralph Lang by Jane Macaione—SM

Thursday, January 18, 2018

- 8:30 AM** SB
9:00 AM Katherine Jastrzebski, 14th Anniversary, by Her Family—SH
9:00 AM Linda Zinkerman by Mary Jane Spencer—SM

Friday, January 19, 2018

- 9:00 AM** Happy Birthday Mattheio Thattarnperambil by His Family—SH
9:00 AM Harriet and John DelDonno—SM

Saturday, January 20, 2018

- 8:30 AM** SB
9:00 AM Stanley Newborn by the Nguyen Family—SH

4:00 PM Veronica Droney, 31st Anniversary, by Her Husband, Francis, Daughter, Debbie, and Family—SB
4:30 PM Anita Monaghan (birthday) by the Managhan Family—SM
5:00 PM Helen Glazewski by Her Daughter—SH

Sunday, January 21, 2018

- 8:30 AM** Lorraine Farina by Her Family—SB
9:30 AM Richard Cipolla, Happy Birthday in Heaven by Barbara Judycki—SH
10:30 AM Mary Flynn Flemke by Doris and Ed Guillet—SM
11:00 AM For the People of St. Gianna Parish—SB
11:30 AM Syro-Malabar Mass—SH

*SB=St. Brigid; SH=St. Helena;
SM=St. Mark the Evangelist*

Church of St. Brigid



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS ROAST BEEF DINNER CANCELED!

The Knights of Columbus have **canceled** of their annual Roast Beef dinner. It was originally scheduled for Saturday January 13 and then rescheduled January 20th after the 4:00 p.m. Mass. Due to the cold and snowy weather we are having this January, the Knights have decided that it is best if they cancel this dinner altogether. They will see you in March for the Corned Beef Dinner!

SOCIAL ACTION COMMITTEE NEWS

THANK YOU

The Social Action Committee thanks all those who donated, collected or delivered coats during the drive we had last weekend. We provided coats for many needy families in Greater Hartford.

SANDWICH SUNDAY

The Social Action Committee is having a “**Sandwich Sunday**” next Sunday, January 21! We are requesting that families prepare sandwiches (any kind) to be distributed to the homeless. Please put the sandwiches in sandwich bags and label them. We will be at our usual drop off spot in front of the church between 8:15 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. Questions? Call Steve at 860 236-1475.

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION SOUP KITCHEN

Members of the parish will be preparing and serving dinner to 150 homeless men at the Immaculate Conception Soup Kitchen **Monday, January 22**. If you would like to make a monetary contribution to help with the cost, please put it in an envelope marked “soup kitchen” and drop it in the collection basket or bring it to the Rectory during normal business hours.

Parish Annual Collection 2017—Update:

Amount pledged: \$113,471.00
Amount collected: \$106,907.25
Number of contributors: 483
Total number of potential contributors: 1,938

THE LAMB OF GOD

“Behold the Lamb of God!” We hear this phrase every Sunday at Mass, but there’s a good chance that many Roman Catholics do not know who in the Bible originally spoke it. The phrase appears only in the Gospel of John, on the lips of John the Baptist, who utters it twice. In today’s Gospel reading, John proclaims Jesus as the Lamb of God, and two of John’s own disciples then follow Christ. A little bit later Andrew, who heard John and then followed Jesus, brings his brother Simon to be re-named Cephas, or Peter. A careful look at these Bible verses shows us the mission of everyone baptized into the Body of Christ: we must always proclaim our faith in Christ, so that others will follow him. We may not know how the will of God might work through those we bring to Christ; that is not the point. The point is that our ongoing mission as a church is to bring others to Christ, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world.

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TAX STATEMENTS for 2017

We will begin mailing tax statements to those who have requested them in the past in the next week or so. Our St. Gianna database has finally been combined. Please call Marie at St. Helena for your tax statements. Her number is 860 521-1921.

ROSARY FOR LIFE

Come pray the Rosary for Life on Sunday January 14th following the 10:30 am Mass at St. Thomas the Apostle Church (872 Farmington Avenue, West Hartford). The Rosary for Life is sponsored by the Respect Life Ministry and the St. Thomas Knights of Columbus. Refreshments will be served in the parish center following the rosary.

TODAY’S READINGS

First Reading — Speak, for your servant is Listening (1 Samuel 3:3b-10, 19).

Psalms — Here am I, Lord; I come to do your will (Psalm 40).

Second Reading — Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you? (1 Corinthians 6:13c-15a, 17-20).

Gospel — Andrew found his brother Simon and brought him to Jesus (John 1:35-42).

The English translation of the Psalm Responses from *Lectionary for Mass* © 1969, 1981, 1997, International Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved.

Church of St. Helena

TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

“Ordinary Time” began for us this week. On the old calendar, the feast of the Presentation, still more than two weeks away, was the last day of the Christmas season. Sadly, Bethlehem is hardly a place of peace on earth these days. The ancient Christian community has been largely uprooted by political strife. The Church of the Nativity stands (barely) in remarkable disrepair and disorder in Manger Square. The roof is crumbling, the major doorways are blocked, the wiring is faulty, and the worship life is disrupted by quarrels among Eastern Christians.

The church was founded by the Emperor Constantine in 325, destroyed in a Samaritan revolt in 539, and rebuilt by the Emperor Justinian. When the area came under Muslim control in 638, the holiness of the church was respected, and in return Christians allowed Muslims to pray in the south aisle, a right still upheld. Earlier in that century, invading Persians were ordered to destroy all churches, but when they saw the magi carved over the doorway of the Church of the Nativity, they spared it out of respect for their ancestors who bore gold, frankincense, and myrrh to the same city. The Crusaders restored and redecorated the church by the twelfth century, and it is their plan that survives. Down a few stone steps is a stone grotto with a silver star marking the place of Christ’s birth: when the star was stolen in 1847 it triggered an international crisis that exploded into the Crimean War.

Since 1852, the church has been shared by the Roman Catholic, Greek Orthodox, and Armenian Churches. The Greeks are in charge of the grotto, but don’t enjoy the best of friendships with the Armenians. Catholics have the care of the Chapel of the Manger, and avoid the squabbles by a separate entrance to the Franciscan monastery church of St. Catherine. Pray for peace in Bethlehem!

—Rev. James Field, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

VOCATION REFLECTION

As we return to Ordinary Time, rejoice in the gift of your baptism; pray for and with those who are called to fulfill their baptismal promises as priests, sisters, and brothers. Encourage someone you know to consider a life of service in the church and have them call **Fr. Jeffrey Gubbiotti**, Director of Vocations, Archdiocesan Center at St. Thomas Seminary, Tel 860-242-5573, e-mail vocations@aohct.org or visit the web at www.hartfordpriest.com.

SYRO-MALABAR NEWS

SEASON OF EPIPHANY: The word Epiphany in Syriac is " Denha". It means dawn, revelation, manifestation, etc. This Sunday, January 14th is the second Sunday of Epiphany. This season commemorates Jesus' baptism in the River Jordan and his manifestation to the world. Epiphany, according to the Latin rite calendar, is the visitation of the Magi, three Wise men from the East who visited Jesus after His birth. The saints who witnessed the revealed mystery of Christ through their lives are remembered by the Syro Malabar Church on the Fridays of this season. This period also reminds us of our baptism and the responsibilities we have undertaken with it. Hence, let us strive hard to know Him more intensely and to live like the children of God during this season.

FAMILY NIGHT: The 2018 Family Night is scheduled for this Saturday, January 13th in the Church Fellowship Hall of Saint Helena. The program will start with snacks at 6:00 p.m followed by different cultural programs. **Mrs. Leena Shaji** and **Mrs. Jincy Biju** are the coordinators of the event. All are welcome!

FEAST OF ST. CHAVARA: The feast of St. Kuriakose Elias Chavara was celebrated in the Church on Sunday, January 7th. He was canonized by Pope Francis on November 23, 2014 along with St. Euphrasia both from Kerala, India of the Syro Malabar Church.

SYRO MALABAR ENGLISH MASS: The liturgy of Syro Malabar Church originated in the Middle East and travelled to India first by St. Thomas the Apostle in 52 AD and he preached the Gospel and since then onwards they preserved this language the Aramaic-Syriac in which this liturgy is originally celebrated until 1962 when it translated to the local language MALAYALAM. The word Syro Malabar is coined from the words Syriac (referring to the East Syrian liturgy) and Malabar (the historical name of the southern state of Kerala). **The next English Mass is on Sunday, January 14th.**

TAX STATEMENTS for 2017

If you would like your tax statement for 2017 donations please call the Parish Office at 860 521-1921. We will be mailing these beginning in the next week or so.

Church of St. Mark the Evangelist

YOUR HELP IS NEEDED

We will be collecting white socks for residents of Hartford's shelters. The socks are badly needed during the winter months as most shelter residents are without adequate boots and often must wear two pairs at a time for warmth as they go about their daily activities.

The collection will take place on January 27 and 28, 2018. Red bins will be placed in the Church vestibule for the collection.



MONTHLY FOOD COLLECTION

This month's food collection will be January 13 and 14.

Grocery bags with lists of needed items are being distributed after next weekend's masses. Your contributions are important and make a difference in the lives of those who are less fortunate.



Record of Donations for 2017

If you would like written confirmation of 2017 donations please call and leave a message at the office (860-233-1269) and we will mail them to you when they are ready.

PLAN AHEAD

Ash Wednesday is on Valentine's Day this year. If you are making plans to celebrate the holiday you may want to select an alternate date!

Defending Our Religious Liberty

As *Dignitatis Humanae*, which was adopted by the Second Vatican Council in 1965 states, religious freedom means that not only individuals, but also families, communities, and institutions enjoy the space to live out religious convictions. As parents have a fundamental right to teach their children their faith, companies should also have the right to contribute to the common good by expressing their religious practices. Ultimately, religious freedom belongs to groups as well as individuals.

Let us pray that legislators who work to replace the federal health care mandate will read and be inspired by *Dignitatis Humanae*.

DAILY MASS ON SNOW DAYS



In the interest of safety if West Hartford Schools are closed for inclement weather there will be no morning liturgy.

If there is a delay we will have Mass but please carefully assess the driving/walking conditions before coming out.

MEN- DO YOU NEED WHAT WE HAVE?

Sign up now for St. Gianna Parish's Annual Men's Retreat at Holy Family Passionist Retreat Center in West Hartford. It begins on Friday evening, Feb. 2, 2018 at 6 p.m. and ends on Sunday about noon.

Enjoy some free time and a chance to think about things that really matter – like your relationship with your family, friends and God. For information call Steve Masiuk at 860 236-1475 (St. Brigid), Vic Naleski at 860 521-9419 (St. Helena) or register online at www.holyfamilyretreat.org.



Father Joseph DiSciacca was the featured speaker at the January Generations of Faith festivals of learning.

February GOF dates are Sunday, 4th at 11:45 a.m. and Wednesday, February 7th at 6:00 p.m.

For more information please contact the St. Mark Religion

Education office at sheila.stmark@yahoo.com or call 860-236-3545.

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday: Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

Monday: Martin Luther King, Jr., Day

Wednesday: St. Anthony

Thursday: Week of Prayer for Christian Unity begins

Friday: Julian Calendar Theophany (Epiphany)

Saturday: St. Fabian; St. Sebastian

PRO-LIFE THOUGHT OF THE WEEK

“Pray with a multi-faceted novena that includes a new intention, brief reflection, bonus information, and suggested actions each day. Sign up now & participate Thursday, January 18 – Friday, January 26: 9daysforlife.com”

USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities
www.9daysforlife.com

Religious Education

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ST. BRIGID AND ST. HELENA RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS

BAD WEATHER CANCELLATION REMINDER

CANCELLATION OF CCD CLASSES DUE TO BAD WEATHER WILL BE MADE KNOWN BY TV CHANNELS 3, 8 and 30. Tuesday and Wednesday snow closings will follow West Hartford closings and early school closings.

ST. MARK RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

CONFIRMATION RETREAT

Our second year Confirmation students and their families are invited to attend Mass at 10:30 on January 21st followed by a breakfast hosted by the Knights of Columbus. After talking about what to expect on their Confirmation retreat, parents will drive our students to Holy Family Retreat Center where our teens will be on retreat followed by a spaghetti supper. First year Confirmation students will attend regular class at St. Mark from 6:30-8:00pm.

FIRST COMMUNION CLASSES


Our First Communion students are preparing diligently for their first celebration of Reconciliation. It will be held on Wednesday, February 21st at 6:30 followed by a party in the parish center. There next class is scheduled for Sunday, January 21st at 9:00am.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: 1 Sm 15:16-23; Ps 50:8-9, 16bc-17, 21, 23; Mk 2:18-22
Tuesday: 1 Sm 16:1-13; Ps 89:20-22, 27-28; Mk 2:23-28
Wednesday: 1 Sm 17:32-33, 37, 40-51; Ps 144:1b, 2, 9-10; Mk 3:1-6
Thursday: 1 Sm 18:6-9; 19:1-7; Ps 56:2-3, 9-13; Mk 3:7-12
Friday: 1 Sm 24:3-21; Ps 57:2-4, 6, 11; Mk 3:13-19
Saturday: 2 Sm 1:1-4, 11-12, 19, 23-27; Ps 80:2-3, 5-7; Mk 3:20-21
Sunday: Jon 3:1-5, 10; Ps 25:4-9; 1 Cor 7:29-31; Mk 1:14-20

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St. Brigid St. Augustine Partnership School
100 Mayflower St. West Hartford, CT 0110
(860) 561-2130, ext. 106



"It takes teamwork to build a strong Catholic school..."

Parishioners, Alumni, & Friends
Join Us For Refreshments...
For Our Catholic Schools' Week
OPEN HOUSE
Sunday, January 28th
12:30 PM to 3 PM

Our School Offers
A Nurturing Environment Where We Are Committed to Academic Success!
Strong Academic Programs
Tuition Assistance
Free and/or Reduced Breakfast & Lunch
Free Bus Transportation

CONTINUE TO SPREAD THE WORD!
SAVE THE DATES!!!!
Comedy Night: Fri., Feb. 9th at 6:30 PM -
Tkts: \$20

Global Cuisine & Multi-Cultural Night Fri.,
March 9th at 6:30 PM \$10

The "2018 GALA" Sat., May 5th at 6:30 PM
Advance Tkt.: Price \$35
After February 2nd \$50
VIP Table of 10 \$300

We Need You!
Are You Interested In Volunteering At St. Brigid-St. Augustine Partnership School Or Selling Scrip Gift Cards Or At Our Fundraisers At Mass On Saturdays & Sundays, Please Call Us

Make Sure You Re-register Your Stop & Shop Courtesy Card And St. Brigid-St. Augustine Gets Paid Register it to our SCHOOL ID# 08098

We are still collecting Kellogg's "Box Tops for Education" (Containers are located in the lobby, please let us know if you need one)

School Office Hours
Mon thru Fri.: 8 A.M. to 4 P.M
For more information call:
(860) 561-2130, ext. 106
athompson@stbstapartnership.ed uk12.net

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from Fr. Devine...

We live in a world of CHANGE, and CHANGE demands a response...think of this - - bushes have to be pruned every year, they aren't just fully formed once and for all; cars and property have to be continually maintained and upkept...not just cleaned once for all...time passes, and our bodies grow older - they change - we move along; The phrase, "the journey of life" is probably a familiar one - it refers to the very point I make! As the Spanish would say, '*Somos un pueblo caminando*'... We are a walking/mobile people!

CHANGE...What response are you making to it?

--in body

- regular and prudent doctor visits and medical consultation, if possible
- learn about whatever changes may happen to us as we get older...

--in mind

- the impact of culture and technology have been overwhelming, particularly in recent years ... the challenge presented by these new ideas and concepts - in order just to keep up with so many good things!
- import of sound retirement planning, consulting with professionals, if necessary

--in soul

- while God does not change...people (i.e., the Church) do... we have seen a Church forced to face and admit that fact... the Church has done so with her magnificent blueprint for modern day life known as Vatican Council II ... and yet how many of us are *unfamiliar* with that blueprint, and also the other plans that have followed, and built upon it!!!

to be continued next week...

COUNCIL MEEETINGS—Upcoming

Parish Council-Monday 22 January @ 6:30 p.m.

Finance Council-Monday, 29 January @ 6:30 p.m.

All St. Gianna parishioners are welcome to attend either on or both of these meetings. Location=St. Helena Church, Fr. Murphy Hall, Fr. Kilbride Education Wing. As you enter from the parking lot, the Education Wing door is the door on the extreme right—the one closest to the “highway side” of the parking lot.

GENERATIONS OF FAITH

Thank you to everyone who attended the January GOF. We had a wonderful group of families and individuals who listened to Father DiSciaccia's talk about what we can do in our lives to find peace, knowing that God is present through all the frustrations and joys.

Please note the time change: The Sunday, February GOF will be held at 11:45 a.m. on Super Bowl Sunday, February 4th. A hearty breakfast will be served and our topic will be the Domestic Church. How do you bring prayer into busy family lives? How do you fight the peer pressure that influences our children and weakens their perception of the value of prayer? Once again, the February GOF is scheduled for Sunday, February 4th at 11:45 a.m., or Wednesday, February 7th at 6:00 p.m.