



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

February 18, 2018
The First Sunday of Lent

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, Music Director
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

Rebecca Michel~
Music Director
Mario Petrella, Cantor
Laure Welch, Cantor

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.

Mass Schedule

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Saturday, February 17, 2018

- 4:00 PM** For the People of St. Gianna Parish—SB
4:30 PM Rev. Genaro J Testa—SM
5:00 PM Guise Chien Van Le by His Wife Nahn and Family—SH

Sunday, February 18, 2018

- 8:30 AM** Francesco Cerone by His Family—SB
9:30 AM Theresa and Pat Roncaioli by Barbara Judycki—SH
10:30 AM Raymond Aneiro by His Family—SM
11:00 AM Patrick Crowley by the Jameson Family—SB
11:30 AM Syro Malabar Mass—SH

Monday, February 19, 2018

- 8:30 AM** Afonso Arcari by Lucy Peluso—SB
9:00 AM SH
9:00 AM Judy Metzler—SM

Tuesday, February 20, 2018

- 8:30 AM** SB
9:00 AM Rev. John J. Bennett—SM

Wednesday, February 21, 2018

- 8:30 AM** Mary Brennan by Reggie Finno—SB
9:00 AM Mathai George, 88th Birthday, by His Family—SH
9:00 AM Rev. Lawrence J. Leclair—SM

Thursday, February 22, 2018

- 8:30 AM** Richard Grieco, for healing, by Reggie Finno—SB
9:00 AM SH
9:00 AM Rev. Stanislaus F. Kaminsky—SM

Friday, February 23, 2018

- 9:00 AM** SH
9:00 AM Rev. Chester A. Bieluch—SM
6:00 PM Syro-Malabar Mass

Saturday, February 24, 2018

- 8:30 AM** Special Intention—SB
9:00 AM Zulmira Capaz, 12th Anniversary, by Her Family—SH

- 4:00 PM** Dr. Joseph Formeister by His Family—SB
4:30 PM James DiToronto, 19th Anniversary, by Marie DiToronto—SM
5:00 PM Mary Prenata, 59th Anniversary, by Bob and Pat Hilliard—SH

Sunday, February 25, 2018

- 8:30 AM** For the People of St. Gianna Parish—SB
9:30 AM Helen Kawka, Happy Name Day, by Marta Mostek—SH
10:30 AM Robert and Mary Corradino by James and Jean Corradino—SM
11:00 AM Rosa Ficocelli by Her Family—SB
11:30 AM Syro-Malabar Mass—SH

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

Church of St. Brigid

SOCIAL ACTION COMMITTEE NEWS

THANK YOU!

The Social Action Committee thanks all those who helped provide dinner for approximately 150 homeless men at the Immaculate Conception Soup Kitchen on Tuesday February 13. The men were greatly appreciative of the meal they received.

LADIES GUILD NEWS

SBLG Supper Club

The February Supper Club is Tuesday, February 20, 2018 at 6:15 p.m.. We'll be going to Olive Garden at Corbin's Corner and are looking forward to a festive, fun-filled, delicious time. Be sure to join us. Call Maureen [860-521-0820] to be added to the reservation.

OLC WOMEN'S RETREAT

The annual Women's Retreat at Our Lady of Calvary in Farmington will be held from March 9 to 11. The theme is "Make Me an Instrument of Your Peace." It promises to be a spirit-filled weekend. For more information, contact Laurie-Ann at 860-953-4063. You may also contact OLC at 860-677-8519 or ww.ourladyofcalvary.net. More information is available in the February St. Brigid Ladies' Guild Bulletin.

SBLG TRAVEL GROUP

Join us on a 3-day trip to Atlantic City, Monday, April 30 to Wednesday, May 2. Per person costs are: \$249 double occupancy, \$328 single. Included: Round-trip motorcoach transportation, two nights lodging in AC, 2 breakfasts and 1 dinner, day-long tour of Cape May, and a casino bonus. Fliers available on the vestibule bulletin board. For more information or reservations, call Sheila (860 232-6915) or Betty (860-233-3422). Reservations and payment in full due immediately. Thank you.

KNIGHTS of COLUMBUS LENTEN FOOD DRIVE

St. Brigid Knights of Columbus will be having a can food drive for the 40 days of Lent. One can for every day of Lent is suggested (if you are able—all donations are welcome!) Suggested items: tuna fish, soup, peanut butter, pasta. Collected items will be distributed to food banks, and shelters.

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday: First Sunday of Lent; Rite of Election; Rite of Calling the Candidates to Continuing Conversion; Rite of Sending
Monday: Presidents' Day; Julian Calendar Lent
Wednesday: St. Peter Damian
Thursday: Chair of St. Peter the Apostle; Washington's Birthday
Friday: St. Polycarp; Abstinence

TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — God's covenant with Noah when he was delivered from the flood (Genesis 9:8-15).

Psalm — Your ways, O Lord, are love and truth to those who keep your covenant (Psalm 25).

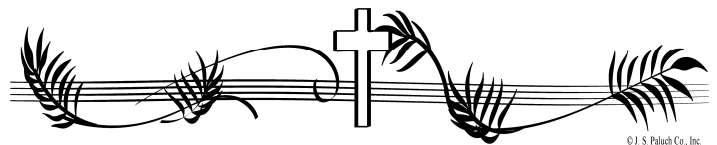
Second Reading — The water of the flood prefigured baptism, which saves you now (1 Peter 3:18-22).

Gospel — This is the time of fulfillment. The kingdom of God is at hand (Mark 1:12-15).

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.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Lv 19:1-2, 11-18; Ps 19:8-10, 15; Mt 25:31-46
Tuesday: Is 55:10-11; Ps 34:4-7, 16-19; Mt 6:7-15
Wednesday: Jon 3:1-10; Ps 51:3-4, 12-13, 18-19; Lk 11:29-32
Thursday: 1 Pt 5:1-4; Ps 23:1-3a, 4-6; Mt 16:13-19
Friday: Ez 18:21-28; Ps 130:1-8; Mt 5:20-26
Saturday: Dt 26:16-19; Ps 119:1-2, 4-5, 7-8; Mt 5:43-48
Sunday: Gn 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18; Ps 116:10, 15-19; Rom 8:31b-34; Mk 9:2-10



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CATHOLIC SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE

The Catholic Graduates Club of Greater Hartford, Inc. is offering three scholarships of \$2,000 each to any Catholic student who is a Hartford county resident attending an accredited secondary school and who wants to attend a four year college beginning in the fall of 2018. The basis for selection is need, scholarship, character, leadership and achievement. The application deadline is March 15, 2018. To apply, see your principal or school counselor or if your school does not have this information, please go to www.Catholicgraduatesct.org.

Church of St. Helena

LADIES NIGHT OUT

Sponsored by the St. Helena Women's Guild. The Women of St. Helena's are invited to join in an evening of camaraderie and fun at the Beachland Tavern, 1128 New Britain Avenue, West Hartford on Wednesday, February 28th at 6:00 pm. (Separate checks will be provided.) RSVP Karen Bliss at 860-521-2902 or kmb bliss2902@comcast.net by Sunday February 25th. Please provide your name and your best contact information in the event we need to cancel due to weather.



FIRST FRIDAY HOLY HOUR

Let us take advantage of Adoration which brings us closer to Jesus as we spend time with the Creator of all things. Join us for First Friday Holy Hour after the 9:00 am Mass on March 2, 2018. All are welcome!

COME ONE, COME ALL!

The St. Helena CCD middle school students are presenting their annual Pancake Breakfast. The date is March 4 after the 9:30 Mass in Fr. Murphy Hall. Tickets are \$7.00 for adults, \$3.00 for kids 5 to 12. Kids 5 and under are free. All proceeds go to support the poor in Haiti. Tickets can be purchased this weekend or next and will be available at the door.

SAVE THE DATE!

The 9th annual CT Walks For Haiti will be held on Saturday, April 21, 2018, with a send-off from St. Peter Claver Parish Center. Registration opens at 10:30 a.m. with music, Haitian-made crafts, great food, children's games and a silent auction, so there is plenty for non-walkers to enjoy. The 2.5 mile walk through West Hartford Center and Blue Back Square will start at noon. Proceeds will fund projects of six 501(c)3 charities that are currently helping their Haitian communities provide critical nutritional and medical services. Check out our website: www.ctwalksforhaiti.org to learn about these dedicated charities. We hope that you will join us on the walk! Your past support has been greatly appreciated. If you can't walk but would like to donate, we have a CrowdRise fund raiser on our website. Contact Karen Fritsche (karenlfritsche@gmail.com) or 860-521-4150, or Karen Noël-Freda (860-561-2054) or johnfreda@earthlink.net if you wish further information. Ct Walks for Haiti is an all-volunteer, tax exempt organization under IRS Section 501(c) 3. All donations are tax deductible.

SYRO-MALABAR NEWS

SEASON OF LENT: According to the Latin Rite, the Great Lent starts on Ash Wednesday. There are 46 days between Ash Wednesday and Easter. Since Sundays are the celebration of the Lord, they are exempt from Lenten observance. When excluding the six Sundays during the season of the Great Lent, they are only 40 days of Lent.

The Eastern churches have 50 days for the Great Lent starting with seven Sundays before Easter (Petratha) and ending with Easter. The Lent is observed continuously for 40 days as Jesus fasted in the wilderness, enduring the temptation of Satan and preparing to begin his ministry. The culmination of this is on the 40th Friday. The following days are for the observance of the passion of the Lord and his glorious resurrection. Thus the 50 days lent starts with the feast of Petratha (The Eve of Great Fast) and ends with the great feast of Easter.

FRIDAYS IN LENT: We will have the Holy Mass and Stations of the Cross for all seven Fridays in the Church of Saint Helena during Lent. Afterwards all are invited to join to the Church Hall to the soup supper. Special thanks to Mr. Roy Mathew and family and Mr. Sebastian Abraham and family for sponsoring the soup supper on February 16 and February 23 respectively

FOOD SHARING PROGRAM TO SUPPORT HARTFORD CATHOLIC WORKER HOUSE

The St. Helena Food Sharing program will collect items and can be brought in at any time and left in Fr. Murphy Hall. It is delivered on the 2nd and 4th weekends but is gratefully accepted anytime during the month. Items needed are: Peanut butter, tuna fish, beef stew, juices, low sugar cereals, pastas, pasta sauce, soups, and macaroni & cheese. Please leave your donations in Fr. Murphy Hall. Thank you for your continued generosity to all who have kept St. Helena's Food Sharing program going for almost 40 years.

Crossfire: Catholic Young Adults

Crossfire is a group for young adults (ages 20s and 30s) to live their faith through Bible study, community service, and fellowship, at St. Thomas the Apostle Church in West Hartford. We meet every Tuesday at 7:30 p.m. for Bible study, and social gatherings and community service projects are scheduled throughout the month. All young adults ages 20s-30s are welcome! Please contact Anna Eisen at sta.crossfire@gmail.com for more information.

Church of St. Mark the Evangelist



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS ST. VALENTINE'S DAY BREAKFAST

The St. Mark Knights of Columbus are sponsoring a St. Valentine's Day Breakfast on Sunday, February 18, from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. in the Parish Center.

Tickets are \$7 for adults and \$3 for children ten and under. For tickets, please contact Glen Baldi at 860-798-9715 or g.baldi@comcast.net.

Proceeds will support various church initiatives. Support our church by supporting the Knights' breakfast! Bring your special Valentine for a delicious breakfast and a complimentary red rose!



MUNSONS CHOCOLATE FUNDRAISER

St. Mark's annual candy sale has begun. If you would like to support our religious education program by purchasing some delicious Easter candy please pick up a form in church or at our office. The order forms are due on February 28th.



THANK YOU

to everyone who donated to the annual White Socks Collection for South Park Inn, Hartford, last month. We collected 442 pairs! The residents will be truly grateful.



LAY CARMELITES of GREATER HARTFORD

Do you want to deepen your prayer life? Do you want to enrich your spiritual journey by joining a lay community that strives to cultivate intimacy with God as we serve others? Is God calling you to become a Lay Carmelite? We meet in Wethersfield the 4th Wednesday evening of the month. Call Susie Okamoto at 860 231-8893 for more details.

REMINDER

When preparing your collection envelopes, please remember that all checks should be made out to St. Gianna Parish. Thank you for your continued support.

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.

LENTEN CONFESSIONS

What an extraordinary gift—the gift of divine forgiveness! This year, prepare for Easter by receiving the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

Monday will be “confession day” in every *parish* throughout the Archdiocese, but visit ConfessionMondays.com to look up parish locations and times.

Our condolences are extended to the family and friends of:

Raymond Aneiro

and

Muriel Deck

who entered into eternal rest.



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.

PHONE FAST FRIDAYS DURING LENT

The Archdiocese of Hartford is embarking on its second annual phone fast Lenten campaign. Last year, we referred to it as *I Phone Fast!* This year, we have modified the name to: *Phone Fast Fridays* (#PFF). The mantra of the campaign tells us that: “*Silencing our busy phones, will give God a chance to call our hearts.*” Last year, we asked the faithful to abstain from using their cell phones on Ash Wednesday, and Good Friday only. The campaign was met with such enthusiasm that we decided to expand it to include every Friday during Lent.

Parish Annual Collection 2017—Update:

Amount pledged: \$115,171.00

Amount collected: \$112,628.50

Number of contributors: 494

Total number of potential contributors: 1,938

Religious Education

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ST. HELENA RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS

REMINDER

There will be no Religious Education Classes on Tuesday, February 20 due to Winter Vacation. Classes will resume the follow week.

St. Helena Religious Education Pancake Breakfast

SAVE THE DATE! Please join us on Sunday, March 4, as the 6th, 7th, and 8th Grade Religious Education students will be hosting a Pancake Breakfast in Father Murphy Hall immediately following the 9:30 a.m. Mass. Tickets will be on sale next weekend and will also be available on the day of the breakfast at the door. The cost for this wonderful meal is \$7.00 for Adults, \$3.00 for Children 5 to 12 and Free for Children under 5. All proceeds from the breakfast will be sent to Haiti, so please help support this wonderful event. All are invited and we hope to see you there.

ST. MARK RELIGIOUS EDUCATION FAMILY RCIA

Several families are preparing to become fully initiated into the Catholic Church. If you would like to have more information about this program please call LouAnn @ 860-236-3545.

RCIA for Adults

The Rite of Sending will take place on Sunday, February 18th as two candidates and one catechumen prepare to participate in the Rite of Election at the Cathedral later that afternoon.

LENT SCRIPTURE CLASSES

The "Why" of Liturgy

Join Father Metzler for a discussion of the "Why" of Liturgy on Tuesdays February 20th and 27th, and March 6th and 13th at 10:30 a.m. in the St. Mark Parish Center. To register call 860-236-3545 or email sheila.stmark@yahoo.com

How Are We Saved by Jesus: The Death of Jesus and Our Redemption

Join us for a scriptural discussion about Jesus' redemptive death leading to salvation of humankind. The classes are scheduled for Thursdays, March 15 and March 22 at 7:00 in the parish center. Presented by Charles Conaghan. Pre-registration is not required.

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..."

OPEN HOUSE DATES

Thursday, February 22nd & March 1st
9 AM to 4 PM & By Appt.

INVITE YOUR FRIENDS & FAMILY TO LEARN MORE ABOUT OUR SCHOOL!

We Offer

Strong Academic Programs
Tuition Assistance

Free and/or Reduced Breakfast & Lunch
Free Bus Transportation

Please RSVP (860) 561-2130, ext. 106

SAVE THE DATES!

Kick-off St. Patrick's Weekend Festivities
At SBSAS' Comedy Show

(New Date) Friday, March 16th at 6:30 PM
Tickets: \$20

Includes: Light Dinner, Cash Bar & Raffles
Laugh with our very own: Bob Cattel

Nationally Recognized Headliners
David DiLorenzo

Jerry Caruso

Tickets are selling fast, so hurry and get your ticket!

Potluck Global Cuisine & Multi-Cultural Night

Fri., April 6th at 6:30 PM

\$10 Adults \$3 Children 12 and Under

The "2018 GALA"

Sat., May 5th at 6:30 PM

Advance Tkt.: Price \$35

After February 23rd Tickets Are \$50

VIP Table of 10 \$300

School Office Hours

Mon, Tues, Thurs. and Fri. 7:30 AM to 3:30 PM

Wed., 7:30 AM to 3:30 PM

REMEMBER....

St. Brigid St. Augustine Partnership School Is A Nurturing Environment

Where We Are Committed To Academic Success!

For more information call:

(860) 561-2130, ext. 106

athompson@stbstapartnership.ed.uk12.net

Thank You!

Lenten Season special events...



**Holy Hour and Vespers/Evening Prayer...Sundays @ 5:00 p.m.
at St. Brigid Church**

**Sacrament of Reconciliation...Mondays 6:00 - 7:00 p.m.
...in all three churches...**

**Adult education series on the Why of Liturgy ...
Tuesday, 20 February, 10:30 a.m.
St. Mark Pastoral Center**

**Stations of the Cross...Friday, 23 February, 7:00 p.m.
St. Peter Claver Church**

PARISH WISH LIST- 2018 ... a new wrinkle for our parish... check it out!

No one likes to spend money – without knowing where it is going. Here is an opportunity to make a special offering to our parish, (in memory of a loved one, if you wish) and know exactly where the money is going! Items may be purchased, and costs shared by more than one person - if you so desire. Contributors will be acknowledged.

Hosts for Mass	\$1,800	parish annual cost
Altar wine	\$1,500	parish annual cost
Altar candles	\$ 2,000	parish annual cost
Easter/Paschal Candles	\$ 175 / candle (3 candles total)	parish annual cost
Missalettes	\$5,000	parish annual cost
Palms (Palm Sunday)	\$ 500	parish annual cost

Lenten **fast** and **abstinence** regulations :
fasting = 1 substantial meal, plus 2 other
light meatless meals allowed
mandatory on Ash Wednesday &
Good Friday
encouraged on other days of Lent
persons 18 - 60 years old

abstinence = no meat, or even soup/gravy
made from meat
mandatory on Ash Wednesday,
Lenten Fridays, & Good Friday
persons 14 years & older

From Fr. Devine...

*Please see the Reading Tables for the
Archdiocesan Policy
Statement
about
Communion from the Chalice and the
flu, 2018.*

