



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

August 26, 2018
The Twenty First 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
Marie Tofeldt, Administrative Asst.
Office hours: 8:00 am-3:00 pm daily

Website:

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Email:

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Religious Education

Donna Wolcott, Coordinator
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Music Ministry

Natasha Ulyanovsky, Music Director
Kelly Boudreaux, Cantor
David Boudreaux, Cantor

St. Helena Church

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Music Ministry

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

St. Brigid St. Augustine School

See inside the Bulletin for details

St. Mark the Evangelist Church

Church Office:

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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:

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Religious Education

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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, August 25, 2018

- 4:00 PM** Francis and Mary Tubeck and William and Mary Virginia Auld by James and Virginia Drozd—SB
4:30 PM Rev. Richard C. Phillips—SM
5:00 PM For the People of St. Gianna Parish—SH

Sunday, August 26, 2018

- 8:30 AM** Rosa and Cristino Ficocelli by Their Family—SB
9:30 AM Mary Tierney by Karen Fritsche—SH
10:30 AM Patrick Shannon, 3rd Anniversary, by the Shannon Family and Son, John—SM
11:00 AM Rosa and Cristino Ficocelli by Their Family—SB
11:30 AM Syro-Malabar Mass—SH
2:30 PM Vietnamese Mass—SM

Monday, August 27, 2018

- 8:30 AM** Carlo D'Olympio by His Family—SB
9:00 AM SH
9:00 AM Theresa Rita Marceau by Susan Marceau—SM

Tuesday, August 28, 2018

- 8:30 AM** Zbigniew Mlodecki by His Wife—SB
9:00 AM Jean Pericolosi—SM

Wednesday, August 29, 2018

- 8:30 AM** SB
9:00 AM Robert Bouvier by His Wife—SH
9:00 AM Special Intentions by Susan Marceau—SM

Thursday, August 30, 2018

- 8:30 AM** SB
9:00 AM Peg and Art Kallinich, 20th Anniversary, by Ed and Jane McKenna—SH
9:00 AM Rev. John F. McDonald—SM

Friday, August 31, 2018

- 9:00 AM** SH
9:00 AM Rev. James T. O'Connell—SM

Saturday, September 1, 2018

- 8:30 AM** SB
9:00 AM SH
4:00 PM Jim Puchalski by Bea Puchalski—SB
4:30 PM Jean Day by Norma Spadola—SM
5:00 PM Helen Glawzewski by Her Daughter—SH

Sunday, September 2, 2018

- 8:30 AM** In Loving Memory of Robert "Bob" McCaffrey by The Morander Family—SB
9:30 AM For the People of St. Gianna Parish—SH
10:30 AM Raymond Aneiro by His Family—SM
11:00 AM Theodore and Genevieve Sanko by the Sanko Family—SB
11:30 AM Syro-Malabar Mass—SH
2:30 PM Vietnamese Mass—SM

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

from Father Devine...

It goes without saying that the past week or two have been a *hard news* time for the Catholic Church. Much of the publicity given to the priest pedophilial/bishop cover-up scandal has been significant, strong, and appropriate. In the middle of such an experience, it can be very tempting, very easy for any one of us to throw our hands up into the air, say "What's the use?" and walk away from the Church. We ask, "Will this news from the past ever end?"

Feelings of shame, embarrassment, disappointment, and anger are currently in abundant supply.

****These episodes are quite sober reminders about evil – on several fronts.**

The power and attraction of evil.

It is always a force and presence in our lives ... always!

It does not necessarily lessen or go away over time.

It can be compared to cancer – once it gets in you, you live in its shadow – always.

In God's Providence, it exists side-by-side with good.

Sins and faults which repeat in our lives give proof of the above.

Evil does not respect persons.

Evil goes after everyone –including God Himself (!) – e.g., Jesus in Gethsemane
Jesus' desert temptations
Jesus on the cross

Just because I am a priest, it does not mean that evil stays away from me – some would argue that its attacks are intensified for this very reason.

The best tools against evil are the Grace of God, and personal Humility.

We cannot resist and win against evil, relying on our own strength:

without God's Grace – forget it!

The Humility referenced above is realism, personal knowledge and familiarity with our own strengths, weaknesses, and limitations. It is one of the basic skills mandatory for happiness and success in life. It also paves the way for Wisdom in later years.

MISSION CO-OP WEEKEND SEPTEMBER 1 AND 2 AT ST. GIANNA PARISH

Remember the custom of an in-parish visit when a visiting missionary would come to speak about their work and appeal for your financial help. This will occur in our parish Labor Day weekend.

Maranatha Caring Mission was established to provide free medical clinics in the developing countries, feed the hungry, clothe the naked, provide clean water to the thirsty, and other works as the Spirit directs. It is in keeping with the injunction of our Lord Jesus in Matthew 25 :40 "whatever you do to the least of my brethren that you do unto me." Our mission at Maranatha is to share the love of Jesus and reach out to the poor. The first clinic was established in Umueje, Anambra State, Nigeria.

The people in the area are predominately peasant farmers who live in impoverished, abject and unhealthy conditions, and lack health care. Eye disease is very prevalent in Umueje and its surrounding towns. Several patients are suffering from one eye disease or the other and the majority of these patients are susceptible to cataracts. This is because Umueje and its surrounding towns are mostly riverine communities so that **RIVERBLINDNESS** or onchocerciasis and filariasis are prominent in the area due to the parasites from the water. The majority of these rural dwellers are peasant farmers producing rice and cassava with crude implements. During the harvesting and processing of rice and cassava, their eyes are often affected in some circumstance, the injury sustained to the eye lens leads to traumatic cataracts.

In one year, we provided free medical care to 6,558 patients and performed sixty-seven (67) CATARACT surgeries and twenty-three PTERYGIUM, a total of ninety (90) :free eye surgeries were performed in 2017. It costs equivalent of \$100 to perform one cataract surgery and \$20 to provide one month of eye care after the cataract surgery. We have 53 patients on the waiting lists for cataract surgeries.

Please we need your help to continue to provide care and services to the poor. God bless you and your families for all you do.

With prayerful wishes, Sr. Regina Mgbakor.

St. Gianna Parish Events

FAREWELL TO JERRY ERWIN AND PAUL OUELLETTE

At the end of August, Jerry and Paul will retire from their custodial positions at St. Brigid after numerous years of faithful service. You are invited to wish both of them well on Sunday, 9 September, after the 11:00 am Mass. The reception will be held in McMahon hall. All are welcome.

MEAT LOAVES FOR THE HOUSE OF BREAD

The meat loaves for the House of Bread are due **Monday September 3 and Tuesday September 4.** *The Monday/Tuesday dates are for September only.* The usual other items are needed as well. The Kid's Café and the Day Care Center also need the usual items or any items that you might want to donate. Please call Gina Giacalone at 860 521-8342 or bring your items to 130 Overbrook Road, West Hartford.

THANK YOU FROM THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS!

The Knights of Columbus would like to thank the parishioners of St. Brigid and St. Helena for their generous donations to the Veterans Collection that was held the last two weekends. Your generosity filled 8 of the large boxes that were in the vestibules of our two churches. The supplies were brought down to the South Park Inn on Monday morning. The money that was collected is to be donated to Fisher House in West Haven, a veteran's housing community that was recently completed. Once again, thank you!

LADIES GUILD NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

The deadline for the September St. Brigid Ladies Guild Newsletter is Friday September 7. Please call Sheila at 860 232-6915 or email her at msja62@comcast.net if you have any news to report. Thank you.

IT'S TIME FOR CHOIR!

Come back to Choir and bring your friends! Our first official rehearsal is Sunday September 9 at 9:45 am, and will continue on Sundays at the same time. I also welcome any new members to join the choir at this time. Not only will you make great friends but you will become an important part of St. Brigid Church, adding to Sunday Mass celebrations and important holiday and holy day Masses. If you can sing a hymn, you can join the choir--come join us!

KERALA FLOOD RELIEF FUND

The southern Indian state of Kerala is coming out of the biggest natural disaster the state has faced in a century. Hundreds of lives lost, and Hundreds of thousands were displaced. Please join hands to support the flood-affected families. The Syro Malabar church at St. Helena is raising a flood relief fund to aid the recovery efforts of Kerala. Your checks can be made payable to Syro Malabar church or visit Syro Malabar Mission Hartford in Facebook or go to www.syromalabarct.org and click donate using credit/debit card. Thank you for your support.

SCHOOL SUPPLIES DRIVE

The St. Brigid Church is having a **School Supplies Drive** from Saturday August 25th through Sunday September 16th. The drive will benefit St. Brigid St. Augustine Partnership School. Please put school supplies such as pencils, pens, spiral subject notebooks, small boxes of crayons, glue sticks, highlighters, construction paper, markers, rulers, erasers, calculators, and solid color backpacks in the box in the vestibule. The drive ends Sunday September 16th. If you have any questions concerning the drive, please contact Steve at 860-236-1475 or Rick at 860 236-4210.

The St. Mark Knights of Columbus are having a Mum Sale

The Knights of Columbus are having their annual mum sale on Saturday, September 15th and Sunday, September 16th after both St. Mark masses. The mums are 8 inches and available in four colors: pink, yellow, burgundy and orange (\$8 each). To pre-order, contact Jerry Freda at 860-236-0015.

WANTED – OLD PHOTOS

In preparation for the 100th Anniversary of St. Brigid Church in 2019, we are looking for any photos of events that occurred at St. Brigid to be posted in the back vestibule of the church. We are especially looking for any photos that may have been taken at the old church. All photos received will be copied and returned to those who have submitted them. Please drop off any photos to St. Brigid Rectory. If you have any questions, please contact Donna Wolcott at 860.543.2607.

TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — The LORD, our God, protected us along our entire journey (Joshua 24:1-2a, 15-17, 18b).

Psalm — Taste and see the goodness of the Lord (Psalm 34).

Second Reading — Christ nourishes and cherishes the church because we are members of his body (Ephesians 5:21-32 [5:2a, 25-32]).

Gospel — We have come to believe and are convinced that you are the Holy One of God (John 6:60-69).

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.

GIVE BACK TO ST. GIANNA

We are looking for at least two folks to help us with cleaning of **St. Brigid Church**. The commitment would be once every 6-7 weeks and consists of dusting, vacuuming, windows and washing altar cloths. If you are interested or have questions, please contact Betsy DeBlieux at 860-231-1954.

Help the children learn about Jesus by teaching on Saturdays in the **St. Brigid Religious Education**

Program. In order to keep our class sizes down, we need the following teachers: Grade 4, Grade 5 and Grade 6. If you would like more information about teaching, please call Donna Wolcott at 860.543.2607.

We are blessed to have many talented people who lend their dedication and skills as Lectors, Choir members, Ushers, Funeral Mass Servers and Altar Servers. If you are interested in any of these **St. Helena** ministries, you are more than welcome to join them. Please contact Fr. Joseph at 860-521-1921 for more details.

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday: Twenty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time

Monday: St. Monica

Tuesday: St. Augustine

Wednesday: The Passion of St. John the Baptist

Saturday: Blessed Virgin Mary; First Saturday; World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation

Twenty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time

August 26, 2018

As for me and my household, we will serve the LORD.

— *Joshua 24:15b*

TRUST

I may trust Jesus too little, but I can never trust him too much.

—Anonymous

LAY CARMELITES: Meet monthly on 4th Wednesdays at Sacred Heart Church, Wethersfield, 5:30-9 p.m. Cultivate the interior life with like-minded adults. Information: Susan Okamoto, 860-231-8893.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: 2 Thes 1:1-5, 11-12; Ps 96:1-5; Mt 23:13-22

Tuesday: 2 Thes 2:1-3a, 14-17; Ps 96:10-13; Mt 23:23-26

Wednesday: 2 Thes 3:6-10, 16-18; Ps 128:1-2, 4-5; Mk 6:17-29

Thursday: 1 Cor 1:1-9; Ps 145:2-7; Mt 24:42-51

Friday: 1 Cor 1:17-25; Ps 33:1-2, 4-5, 10-11; Mt 25:1-13

Saturday: 1 Cor 1:26-31; Ps 33:12-13, 18-21; Mt 25:14-30

Sunday: Dt 4:1-2, 6-8; Ps 15:2-5; Jas 1:17-18, 21b-22, 27; Mk 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

OCCUPANCY

The value of life does not depend upon the place we occupy. It depends upon the way we occupy that place.

—St. Thérèse of Lisieux

ARCHBISHOP'S ANNUAL APPEAL UPDATE

Thanks to all of our parish families for your continued support of the 2018 Archbishop's Annual Appeal "***Our Faith, Our Future***". Our efforts as a family of faith provide a wonderful opportunity to touch and improve the lives of thousands.

Thanks to your commitment and dedication we support and enhance ministries and charitable initiatives that respond to our brothers and sisters who are hurting or in need of a helping hand.

"Through the generosity of our parish community, **\$108,299.50** has been pledged to this year's effort; this is **23.19%** of our financial target. I encourage everyone to consider a gift that is appropriate for them; let's work together to exceed our parish goal. Every gift makes a difference and has an incredible impact. Thank you for your consideration."

Religious Education

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RELIGIOUS EDUCATION AT ST. MARK GENERATIONS OF FAITH: BELIEVE IT! LIVE IT! SHARE IT!

This season, we will focus on encounters with Jesus as told in the Gospel of John. The first half of the Gospel focuses on various signs that Jesus provides to people when they encounter Him. These signs or miracles convince many to follow Him. Following Jesus changes lives. It is no different today! Have we lost our way? Let us encounter Jesus together. It could be the turning point you needed! The first gathering will be an Open House to introduce people to GOF who have not experienced it. The Open House is scheduled for Sunday, September 23rd at 4:00 in the Pastoral Center at St. Mark. Come get a cup of coffee and hear more about Generations of Faith.

TEACHER GATHERING

Teachers for the Sacraments, RCIA, Children's Liturgy and GOF will gather for prayer and materials on Wednesday, September 12th. *Eight Miraculous Encounters with Jesus* will be explored. It is going to be an amazing year!

PARENT MEETING

All parents of children in grades K-10 who intend to participate in St. Mark's Religious Education programs should attend a meeting on Sunday, September 16th at 4:00 in the St. Mark Pastoral Center. This includes:

- All parents of children/teens who come to **Generations Of Faith (GOF)** for religious education classes
- Parents of students who will attend **sacrament classes for Reconciliation/Eucharist and Confirmation**
- Parents of children who are catching up with studies in the **children's catechumenate** program

We look forward to the opportunity to share with parents our plans for the upcoming year. Let us take you on a short journey through the Gospel of John and give you the information you need to plan the year.

ADULT CONFIRMATION CLASS

We are starting a class for adults who have not been prepared for Confirmation. Call us at 860-236-3545 to enroll. Confirmation will be celebrated at the Cathedral for adults in November.

St. Brigid/St. Helena Religious Education

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION REGISTRATIONS

Registration packets were mailed to all families whose children were enrolled in our Religious Education Program. Classes begin in Grade 1 and go through grade 11, when the students receive the Sacrament of Confirmation.

Please take a few minutes to look over the letter, fill out the registration form and return it with your payment as soon as possible. Registration forms for fall Religious Education Classes **should be returned to the Religious Education Office by September 1**. For St. Brigid, classes for grades 1 through 3 will be held on Saturday mornings from 9:30 a.m. to 10:45 a.m. Grades 4 through 8 will be held on either Saturday mornings from 9:30 a.m. to 10:45 a.m. or Wednesday evenings from 7:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., so be sure to indicate which day you prefer.

For St. Helena, classes for grades 1 through 5 will be held on Monday evenings from 4:15 p.m. to 5:15 p.m. at St. Helena. Grades 6 through 8 will be held on Monday evenings from 7:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at St. Helena.

Confirmation classes for grades 9 and 10 will be held once a month on a Sunday afternoon from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. If you have not received your registration letter please call Donna Wolcott at 860-543-2607, as soon as possible.

If your child will be participating in sports at his or her school and there may be a conflict, please register for class now, indicate this on the form and call me when classes begin in September to arrange for the work to be done at home until the sport has ended. Only one sport per year please. This does not apply for grades, 3, 9, 10 and 11. We appreciate your help with this process for registration.

Families that are new to our Religious Education Program can register for classes by calling Donna Wolcott at 860-543-2607. A registration packet will be sent to you, so that you can mail in your registration. **Please don't wait until the fall to register.**

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

Proudly Celebrates The 1st Day of School...
Wednesday, August 29th



Share w/ Friends & Family!

Give Your Child a Head Start
Enroll In SBSAS' Pre-kindergarten Program
For 3 and 4-Year Olds!

SBSAS Offers...

- Strong Academic Programs
- Award Winning Science Dept.
 - Tutorial Help
- Student-Centered Approach To Learning
 - 12:1 Student/Teacher Ratio
 - Tuition Assistance
- Free and/or Reduced Breakfast & Lunch
 - Free Bus Transportation

OFFICE HOURS: Mon. thru 7:30 AM to 3 PM

For more info email: athompson@stbstapartnership.eduk12.net
Call: (860) 561-2130, ext. 106