



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

September 2, 2018
The Twenty 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
Marie Tofeldt, Administrative Asst.
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. Helena Church

30 Echo Lane
West Hartford, CT 06107
Phone: 860 521-1921
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Website:

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Email:

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Religious Education

Donna Wolcott, Coordinator
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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:
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, September 1, 2018

- 4:00 PM Jim Puchalski by Bea Puchalski—SB
4:30 PM Jean Day by Norma Spadola—SM
5:00 PM Helen Glazewski 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

Monday, September 3, 2018

- 8:30 AM Antonio and Rosina Mirabelli by Their Family—SB
9:00 AM Sam Mancuso by Mary Dilion—SH
9:00 AM John Simeone—SM

Tuesday, September 4, 2018

- 8:30 AM Maria and Francisco DiTaranto by Their Family—SB
9:00 AM Rev. Allen E. Carter—SM

Wednesday, September 5, 2018

- 8:30 AM SB
9:00 AM Polly Cunningham, 1 Year Anniversary, by Mike and Mary Flynn—SH
9:00 AM Susan Marceau, Special Intentions, by the Marceau Family—SM

Thursday, September 6, 2018

- 8:30 AM SB
9:00 AM Abraham Devasia by the Abraham Family—SH
9:00 AM Rev. Zigford Kriss—SM

Friday, September 7, 2018

- 9:00 AM SH
9:00 AM Rev. Vincent T. Ionna—SM

Saturday, September 8, 2018

- 8:30 AM SB
9:00 AM SH
4:00 PM Carl Bellinghausen, Sr. by Brian and Carol Forgione—SB
4:30 PM Deceased Members of the Spadola and Rollo Families by Norma Spadola—SM
5:00 PM SH

Sunday, September 9, 2018

- 8:30 AM SB
9:30 AM Guise Chien Van Le by His Wife, Nhan and Family—SH
10:30 AM Brian Miller by Family and Friends—SM
11:00 AM Antonia and Michele Martucci and Family by Franca and Family—SB
11:30 AM For the People of St. Gianna Parish—Syro-Malabar Mass—SH
2:30 PM Vietnamese Mass—SM

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

from Father Devine...

WHY STAY IN THE CHURCH?

This is a great question, at any time, and certainly now, as much as ever! But, truth be told, it has been an issue from the beginning: people “leaving” Christ and His community of followers. Jesus’ followers were on a rollercoaster ride throughout His life, “crashing” at the time of His Passion and death. Throughout the Bible as well, from start to finish, are plenty of examples of people in an endless cycle of separation, sin, repentance, and return to God/community.

Add to this the perception that in our younger years, the Church seemed so much more stable and strong. But – don’t kid yourself! This does not mean that the Church was better in those times, and certainly not problem-free. As a matter of fact, any survey of Church history reveals numerous challenges, difficult situations, and scandals as part of her fabric in any and every age.

So, why stay? Is the effort really worth it?

Staying in the Church does not at all mean agreement with whatever elements of evil may be present at the given time. As Catholics, we can give plenty of testimony against the evil by the way that we live – our words, attitudes, actions, and decisions. In addition, remaining faithful to our Baptism points to the faith truth that **evil, while real, will NOT have the last word** – that it is and eventually will be overcome by God’s Grace, power, and Love. Check out I Corinthians 15th chapter for ample inspirational evidence!

Well, why do I stay? It is not because that I must – I have free choice, just like everyone else. I stay because God is wonderful, with unbelievable, faithful love which even defeats death itself! I also stay because of my sense that the Church has given me so much more over the course of a lifetime that I could ever give back in return: the Mass, ceremonies, sacraments, Eucharist, its rhythm of prayer, Tradition, guidance, a community of like-minded believers, and other elements as well – I am so grateful! (thank you for that point, Phil Berrigan!).

Why do you stay? Do you know? For Heaven’s sake – I hope you do! If you don’t, see me – I can help!

MISSION CO-OP WEEKEND THIS WEEKEND 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 this weekend.

Maranatha Caring Missions provides free medical clinics in developing countries, feeds the hungry, clothes the naked, provides 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 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.

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

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.* Please call Gina Giacalone at 860 521-8342 or bring your items to 130 Overbrook Road, West Hartford.



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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.



HOLY HOUR/FIRST FRIDAY

During this month which celebrates Our Blessed Mother's birthday, what better present to offer her than to spend an hour of your time adoring her Son, Jesus, in the Blessed Sacrament. Our First Friday Holy Hour will be held on **September 7** after the 9 am Mass at St. Helena's Church. Please come. All are welcome.

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.



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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!

Coffee & Donuts



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COFFE AND DONUT HOSTS NEEDED

Volunteers are needed to help host the Coffee & Donuts. Your responsibilities would be to pick up the donuts from the bakery, set up and clean up afterwards. Coffee and donut hosts serve on a rotating basis every 4-6 weeks depending on how many volunteers there are. The Coffee and Donuts will be resuming on Sept. 16th after the 8:30 Mass. Please contact Lynn Randall @ (860)716-6824 if interested or need additional information.



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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.

MONTHLY FOOD COLLECTION

This month's food collection will be September 8 & 9.

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



ATTENTION LADIES OF ST. GIANNA PARISH!

We invite you to join the St. Brigid Ladies' Guild. Our **Annual Membership Drive** will take place the weekends of **September 8/9 and 15/16** at all masses at St. Brigid. You may also attend our "Welcome Back" meeting in McMahon Hall at St. Brigid on Monday, September 17th, at 7:00 p.m. We will be having ice cream sundaes. Annual dues are \$10.00; \$8.00 for Seniors. Come join us for prayer, service and fellowship!! Any questions, contact, Laurie-Ann Templeton at 860-953-4063.

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.



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.

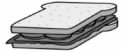
GIVE BACK TO ST. GIANNA

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.

STREET SANDWICH MINISTRY



The Sandwich ministry collection is the second Wednesday of every month in the parking lots of St. Helena at 4:30 pm and St. Mark's at 5:00 pm. Can you make 10 simple sandwiches to help the Hartford shelters? If you would like to join this ministry please call Susan at 860-561-3648.

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.



SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday: Twenty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time
Monday: St. Gregory the Great; Labor Day
Friday: First Friday
Saturday: The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: 1 Cor 2:1-5; Ps 119:97-102; Lk 4:16-30, or, for Labor Day, any readings from the Mass "For the Blessings of Human Labor," nos. 907-911
Tuesday: 1 Cor 2:10b-16; Ps 145:8-14; Lk 4:31-37
Wednesday: 1 Cor 3:1-9; Ps 33:12-15, 20-21; Lk 4:38-44
Thursday: 1 Cor 3:18-23; Ps 24:1bc-4ab, 5-6; Lk 5:1-11
Friday: 1 Cor 4:1-5; Ps 37:3-6, 27-28, 39-40; Lk 5:33-39
Saturday: Mi 5:1-4a or Rom 8:28-30; Ps 13:6; Mt 1:1-16, 18-23 [18-23]
Sunday: Is 35:4-7a; Ps 146:7-10; Jas 2:1-5; Mk 7:31-37

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



A Strong Kindergarten Academic Program
It's Not Too Late! Enroll In SBSAS' Pre-kindergarten Program
For 3 and 4-Year Olds!
Dollar for Dollar... SBSAS is the Best Deal in Town!

SBSAS Offers...

A Strong Kindergarten Academic Program

Retired and looking for a way to make a difference in Catholic education?
Become a SBSAS Board Member
Become an onsite SBSAS volunteer at St. Gianna Parish's
Responsibilities: Promote our events fundraisers after church services.

PART-TIME EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY
Aftercare Teacher's Assistant (Mon. thru Fri. 2 pm to 6 pm)

OFFICE HOURS: Mon. thru 7:30 AM to 3 PM
For more info email: athompson@stbstapartnership.edu or
Call: (860) 561-2130, ext. 106



OLC CELEBRATES 60 YEARS

Our Lady of Calvary Retreat in Farmington will be celebrating its 60th year of ministry with the start of this retreat season. You're welcome to join in the celebrations. The Opening Event

will be Sunday, September 9th from 2:00-4:00pm featuring Morning Star Rising Performance. (Free-will Offering) Call OLC at 860-677-8519 or go to the website at www.ourladyofcalvary.net for more info.



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ARCHDIOCESAN RESPONSES TO THE CLERGY SEX ABUSE ISSUE

The Archdiocese has issued two letters—one from Archbishop Blair and one by Kathleen Nowadsadko, Director of the Office of Safe Environment and Victim Assistance Coordinator. Both should already have been mailed to your homes. In the event that you have not received them, we have made both letters available to you in the vestibules of our respective churches.