



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

January 21, 2018
The Third 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 20, 2018

- 4:00 PM** Veronica Droney, 31st Anniversary, by Her Husband, Francis, Daughter, Debbie, and Family—SB
4:30 PM Anita Monaghan (birthday) by the Monaghan 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

Monday, January 22, 2018

- 8:30 AM** SB
9:00 AM MC James, 8th Anniversary by the Family—SH
9:00 AM Rev. William J. Fitzgerald—SM

Tuesday, January 23, 2018

- 8:30 AM** SB
9:00 AM Rev. Thomas J. Lynch—SM

Wednesday, January 24, 2018

- 8:30 AM** SB
9:00 AM Frances Stala, 12th Anniversary, by Teresa Gluch—SH
9:00 AM Rev. Charles W. McNerny—SM

Thursday, January 25, 2018

- 8:30 AM** Cristino Iafrancesco by His Wife—SB
9:00 AM Rev. Richard P. McBrien, 3rd Anniversary, by His Family—SH
9:00 AM Rev. Richard P. McBrien—SM

Friday, January 26, 2018

- 9:00 AM** Logan Paul, by a Friend—SH
9:00 AM Walter Rausch (First Anniversary)—SM

Saturday, January 27, 2018

- 8:30 AM** SB
9:00 AM Dick Cullina, 11th Anniversary, by Bob and Pat Hilliard—SH
4:00 PM Anne Lombardi by the Cleary Family—SB
4:30 PM Sam Pelc by Norma Spadola—SM
5:00 PM For the People of St. Gianna Parish—SH

Sunday, January 28, 2018

- 8:30 AM** Francis and Mary Tubeck and William and Mary Virginia Auld by James and Virginia Drozd—SB
9:30 AM Lou Judycki, 12th Anniversary, by His Wife—SH
10:30 AM Mattie D'Esopo (Birthday) by Susan and Dick Lindberg—SM
11:00 AM St. Brigid-St. Augustine Partnership School in Honor of Catholic Schools Week—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

SANDWICH SUNDAY

The Social Action Committee is having a “**Sandwich Sunday**” this 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.

LADIES GUILD NEWS

SBLG SUPPER CLUB

The January Supper Club is Tuesday, January 23, 2018 at 6:15 p.m. We'll be going to Beachland Tavern - one of our favorites. Please join us for good food, good company and good fun! Call Maureen [860-521-0820] to be added to the reservation.

LADIES GUILD NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

The deadline for the February Ladies Guild Newsletter is Friday January 26. Please call Regina at 203 240-9683 if you have any news to report.

THE DEMANDS OF DISCIPLESHIP

Today we encounter readings that already have a Lenten feel about them. Nineveh undergoes a forty-day fast, the psalmist reminds us that God alone can show sinners the way, Paul shows us how fleeting the things and events of this world are, and Jesus cries out “Repent!” before he calls his new followers. “Come after me,” Jesus says, but if we are to truly live out the commands and demands of our discipleship through baptism, we must first know our need for conversion, our repentance, our need to believe in the gospel fully. Today’s Gospel opens with the stark reminder of what befell John the Baptist for completely living out his vocation as the herald of Christ and the gospel: he was arrested, imprisoned, and martyred. Though few of us will experience consequences that extreme, we must all be ready to risk some sort of rejection as, heeding the call of Jesus, we live out the kingdom of God at hand, repent of our sins, and believe in the good news of salvation.

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Parish Annual Collection 2017—Update:

Amount pledged: \$114,121.00

Amount collected: \$107,557.25

Number of contributors: 488

Total number of potential contributors: 1,938

TAX STATEMENTS for 2017

Tax statements have been mailed to those who have requested them in the past. Our St. Gianna database has finally been combined. If you did not receive your statement, or if you have not requested one in the past but would like on this year, please call Marie at St. Helena for your (St. Brigid) tax statements. Her number is 860 521-1921.

TODAY’S READINGS

First Reading — The people of Nineveh believed God and turned from their evil ways (Jonah 3:1-5, 10).

Psalm — Teach me your ways, O Lord (Psalm 25).

Second Reading — The world in its present form is passing away (1 Corinthians 7:29-31).

Gospel — This is the time of fulfillment. The kingdom of God is at hand (Mark 1:14-20).

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

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 reflection upon your spiritual life and just taking a rest from the hectic pace of daily life.

For information call Steve Masiuk at 860 236-1475 (St. Brigid), Vic Naleski at 860 521-9419 (St. Helena) or register online at ww.holyfamilyretreat.org.



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.

VOCATION REFLECTION

God's kingdom has drawn near. *Come after Me.* Jesus called Andrew and Peter and James and John. He calls still in our day. Are you willing to drop your nets, listen to the call, and follow him as a priest or religious? Call **Fr. Michael Casey**, Director of Vocations, Archdiocesan Center at St. Thomas Seminary, Tel 860-761-7457, e-mail vocations@aohct.org or visit the web at www.hartfordpriest.com

PRAY FOR VOCATIONS

New Holy Hours for 2018 will be at the following places: Wednesday February 21 at Most Holy Trinity Parish, 68 N. Colony Rd. in Wallingford; Tuesday March 13 at Our Lady of the Angels Convent Chapel, 1315 Enfield St in Enfield; and finally Monday April 16 at St. Maximilian Kolbe Parish, 1 East Main St. in Thomaston.

SYRO-MALABAR NEWS

SEASON OF EPIPHANY: The word Epiphany in Syriac is "Denha". It means dawn, revelation, manifestation, etc. This Sunday, January 21st is the third 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.

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, February 18th.**

TAX STATEMENTS for 2017

Tax statements for 2017 have been mailed. If you did not receive your statement, or if you are new to our Parish and would like to request one for the first time, please call the Parish Office at 860 521-1921. Thank you!

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: 2 Sm 5:1-7, 10; Ps 89:20-22, 25-26; Mk 3:22-30, or any of a number of readings for the Day of Prayer
Tuesday: 2 Sm 6:12b-15, 17-19; Ps 24:7-10; Mk 3:31-35
Wednesday: 2 Sm 7:4-17; Ps 89:4-5, 27-30; Mk 4:1-20
Thursday: Acts 22:3-16 or Acts 9:1-22; Ps 117:1bc, 2; Mk 16:15-18
Friday: 2 Tm 1:1-8 or Ti 1:1-5; Ps 51:3-7, 10-11; Mk 4:26-34
Saturday: 2 Sm 12:1-7a, 10-17; Ps 51:12-17; Mk 4:35-41
Sunday: Dt 18:15-20; Ps 95:1-2, 6-9; 1 Cor 7:32-35; Mk 1:21-28

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.



GOF 2017-2018

Season of Prayer

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.

Defending Our Religious Liberty

Fifty years ago, the Second Vatican Council adopted a declaration on religious freedom called, *Dignitatis Humanae*. In it, it says that religious freedom includes the freedom to practice our faith in public. In our culture, some tend to think that religious liberty means only that individuals can worship without interference from the government. This understanding is inadequate. Religious schools, hospitals, and charities should be able to operate in accordance with their faith. Indeed, the work of these organizations is part and parcel of their faith. They are expressions of religious mission, and religions must have the space to live out their missions.

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.

To the Faithful People of St Mark the Evangelist,

I am writing once again to thank you for your ongoing support of our families at Charter Oak School. Your compassion and generosity mean so much to the families you reach out to every year at Thanksgiving and Christmas with much needed food and clothing. On behalf of those families and on behalf of our entire school, I thank you for shining God's love. "Immanuel-God with us" is the central belief of our faith and the central message of Christmas. God loves us and accompanies us on every step of our walk with Him. You help accompany our families through your giving. We wish you a New Year in which you see God walking closely with you.

Chuck Hummel
School Social Worker

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!

PRO-LIFE THOUGHT OF THE WEEK

"When a woman is facing a difficult pregnancy, the reaction of the first person she tells tends to set the tone for her decision-making. How do we respond in a loving way that is life-affirming for both her and her baby?" Find out in "What to Do When a Friend is Considering Abortion: www.bit.ly/friend-considering-abortion.

USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities
"What to Do When a Friend Is Considering Abortion"
www.bit.ly/friend-considering-abortion



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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

Please keep our Confirmation students in your prayers as they attend their Retreat today, Sunday, at Holy Family Retreat Center. The theme for the day is "Grace Enough". The students and their families will begin the day by attending mass at St. Mark together. The Knights will provide them with breakfast and we will prepare them to attend their retreat. The day will include the celebration of Reconciliation followed by a spaghetti supper.

FIRST RECONCILIATION/FIRST COMMUNION

All First Communion parents will attend a Reconciliation workshop on Sunday, February 11th at 9:00 at the parish center. The history and theology behind the sacrament will be discussed. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Reconciliation will be celebrated for our First Communion class on Wednesday, February 21st at 6:30pm in church followed by a reception for children and families at the parish center.

RCIA

The Rite of Sending for our RCIA catechumen and candidates will be celebrated on Sunday, February 18th at the 10:30 mass. The Rite of Election will take place that afternoon at the Cathedral at 3:00pm.



**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
PLEASE RSVP (860) 561-2130**

CONTINUE TO SPREAD THE WORD!

SAVE THE DATES!!!!

**2nd Annual Comedy Night: Fri., Feb. 9th at 6:30 PM -
Tks: \$20**

**Come & Laugh w/ Hilarious Comedians
Bob Cattel
Jerry Caruso
David DeLorenzo**

(Hurry tickets are selling fast!)

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

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

For more information call:

(860) 561-2130, ext. 106

athompson@stbstapartnership.ed uk12.net

Thank You!



from Fr. Devine...

****make no mistake about it - - We are a Church of the Council.**

In a Church of the Council, we...

continue to learn - no matter how old we are
stand ready to treasure our unchanging faith in new and developing ways
do not automatically hold on to what we once knew, just because we knew
it, or that's the way we always did things
are sensitive not only to people's needs, but also to what the Church
teaches, and would have us practice
renew our baptism promises every year, and live them every day

A columnist in a Catholic newspaper once said:

Catholics generally have nothing to say to people who confront them on their knowledge and understanding of religion and spirituality because by and large Catholics know nothing about the subjects, except to say "I was born a Catholic and I'm going to die one." That is not enough today. Granted we are gradually becoming better informed and the opportunities for learning are becoming more numerous. The pity is that so much ignorance still abounds, that we will not let ourselves grow and admit that we had neither a corner on the market of truth nor did we see it in its depth.

Young and old, we ought to be beyond scandal when we are presented a new insight into an old reality. We cannot afford to coddle and protect, to fear that our prestige, dignity or authority is thereby lessened. The truth is freeing.

ARCHDIOCESAN HIGH SCHOOL COLLECTION

When the High School Collection occurs in all the parishes of the Archdiocese on the weekend of January 27/28, we ask for your participation in helping us reach our 2018 goal of \$250,000.

Your investment will yield significant results, since our Catholic high schools offer students exceptional academics, solid faith formation, and a true spirit of service. We deeply value your support of Catholic school education as we continue to form another generation of faith.

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.