Welcome to

Saint Gianna Parish

St. Brigid Church St. Helena Church
St. Mark the Evangelist Church
St. Brigid St. Augustine Partnership School

December 30, 2018

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

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-4:00 pm daily

Website:
saintgiannaparish.org
Email:
Karla@saintgiannaparish.org

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
Fax: 860 521-1129

Website:
saintgiannaparish.org
Email:
Marie@saintgiannaparish.org

Religious Education
Donna Wolcott, Coordinator
(860) 521-3661

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
Greg Flower, Director of Music

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

Saturday , December 29, 2018
4:00 PM Jerry Nardi Sr. by His Wife and Family—SB
4:30 PM Gerald & Helen Fellows by David Fellows—SM
5:00 PM Mercedes Zegarra, 1st year Anniversary, by Her Family—SH

Sunday, December 30, 2018
8:30 AM
9:30 AM William J Stadelmyer, 20th Anniversary, by Raymond and Karen Bliss—SH
10:30 AM James Richard, 35th Anniversary, by the Richard Family—SM
11:00 AM Frank Rovella by His Wife and Family—SB
11:30 AM Syro-Malabar Mass—SH
2:30 PM Vietnamese Mass—SM

Monday, December 31, 2018
8:30 AM Zbigniew Mlodecki by His Wife—***SB***
9:00 AM Erika Vavrousek, 25th Anniversary, by Her Daughter and Family—SM

4:00 PM Holy Day Vigil Mass—SB
4:30 PM Holy Day Vigil Mass—SM

Mary, Mother of God

Tuesday, January 1, 2019--Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God
10:30 AM SM
11:00 AM For the People of St. Gianna Parish—SB
12:30 PM Vietnamese Mass—SM

Wednesday, January 2, 2019
8:30 AM SB
9:00 AM SH
9:00 AM SM

Thursday, January 3, 2019
8:30 AM Respect for the Holy Name of Jesus—SB
9:00 AM SM
6:00 PM Vietnamese Mass—SM

Friday , January 4, 2019
9:00 AM SM

Saturday, January 5, 2019
8:30 AM In Reparation to the Immaculate Heart of Mary—SB
9:00 AM SM

4:00 PM
4:30 PM

Sunday, January 6, 2019
8:30 AM
10:30 AM For the People of St. Gianna Parish—SM
11:00 AM The Deceased of the Preli 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…

As we enter a new calendar year, for many there is opportunity for a fresh start, and for hope. We often make promises/resolutions grounded in such feelings. Nevertheless, it seems that new year's resolutions are made to be broken, and then forgotten. *Why is this so frequently the case?*

One possible answer is that we don't bring God into the picture.
Do we consult God in regard to what we should or should not do…talk to Him about it, and then quietly listen - even over a period of hours, days and weeks, as need be? Trust *God's* direction in regard to what is truly for our own good, as well as the best ways to get there! What is that great text message … *Heaven and earth will pass away, my words will not…*

SOLEMNITY OF MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD

December 31
St. Brigid: 4:00 pm
St. Mark the Evangelist: 4:30 pm

January 1, 2019
St. Brigid: 11:00 am
St. Mark the Evangelist: 10:30 am

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING—Tuesday 15 January, 6:30-8:00 p.m.
St. Brigid Church, McMahon Hall
Recent highlights….
—St. Gianna Parish Council Constitution—considerations
—Stewardship presentations—how can this work at St. Gianna
—Security at weekend Masses

In the FOOTSTEPS of JESUS
Visit the HOLY LAND on **May 17-27, 2019**

You are invited to join with Fr. Joseph Pullikattil and Bro. Dominic for the trip of a lifetime. Create an unforgettable memory of the places where Jesus walked. Come away with the Lord to experience what is often called the Fifth Gospel, the Holy Land. You will never experience in the same way again. We begin with an evening departure from New York, JFK to Amman, Jordan. Among many other things we will see are Cana, Nazareth, Sea of Galilee, the Mount of Beatitudes, Mount Tabor, Jerusalem, Bethlehem, Bethany and Mount Olives. The approximate cost of the trip $2599 per person; includes land and air transportation, hotels, meals and entrance fees to all sites. For details and questions please call Bro. Dominic at 215-971-3319 or 215-934-5615.

Sheehan Hilborn Breen will Continue until further notice as a Food and Personal Care Collection Site to Benefit the West Hartford Food Pantry
1084 New Britain Avenue, West Hartford

Most needed items: (canned fruit, canned meats, pasta, pasta sauce, rice, peanut butter, cold cereal, soups and personal care products) Please be sure items are not expired.
Bring your items to Sheehan Hilborn Breen Funeral Home 1084 New Britain Avenue West Hartford from 9 am -4 pm Monday - Friday. Please place the items in the container just inside the back door. Or if you prefer, call us and someone will come out to your car to pick up the items. 860-561-3800

St. Gianna Parish Events

Celebration for Father Metzler
Retiring after 47 years of Religious Life
Please join us as we commemorate
the retirement of Father Metzler
During this event, Father will be presented
with a gift on behalf of the entire parish

Sunday, January 6, 2019
2:00 – 4:00 PM
St. Mark Pastoral Center

Mass Intention Bookings at St. Mark
Please note that intentions for St. Mark masses must be booked at the St. Brigid rectory effective January 1, 2019. The masses will continue to be celebrated at St. Mark.

MASS OFFERING FOR 2019
Please note: the Mass offering for St. Gianna Parish for 2019 are $15 for weekday Masses (including Saturday morning) and $20 for weekend Masses. Thank you.

MEAT LOAVES FOR THE HOUSE OF BREAD
The meat loaves for the House of Bread are due Tuesday, January 8 and Wednesday January 9. The Kid's Café and the Day Care Center also need the usual items or any items that you might want to donate (**they have made a special request for mayonnaise, and prefer part-boiled rice if you are donating rice).** Please call Gina Giacalone at 860 521-8342 or bring your items to 130 Overbrook Road, West Hartford.

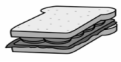
WANTED – OLD PHOTOS
In preparation for the 100th Anniversary of St. Brigid Church in 2019, we are looking for any photos of events that occurred at St. Brigid to be posted in the back vestibule of the church. We are especially looking for any photos that may have been taken at the old church. All photos 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.

Please join Father Metzler as he celebrates his last Mass here at St. Mark on Sunday, December 30th at 10:30 a.m.

GOOD NEWS
Yes! In 2019, the Wednesday morning Mass will continue to be scheduled at St. Helena's, along with "coffee and" afterward. Mass will be celebrated at 10:00 AM. The only time there will not be Mass will be if a holy day (e.g. Assumption, Ash Wednesday) or funeral(s) falls on a Wednesday. All are welcome to come and join us!

COAT DRIVE
The St. Brigid Social Action Committee will be holding a coat drive the weekend, January 5 and 6. It will benefit the less fortunate of Hartford. Please remember the less fortunate by dropping off usable clean coats in plastic bags at our spot in front of the Church on Saturday from 3:00 to 5:00 pm or on Sunday from 8:15 am to 11:15 am. Please do not leave any clothes in the church.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS ROAST BEEF DINNER TICKET SALES
The St. Brigid Knights of Columbus are having their annual Roast Beef dinner on Saturday January 19th after the 4:00 p.m. Mass. The Knights will be in the vestibule after all the Masses the weekends of January 5 and 6 and January 12 and 13 selling tickets. This is one of the dinners that often sells out so you may want to pick up those tickets ahead of time to assure yourself of some of the Knights' finest food-- and support their good works as well. Tickets will also be available at the Administrative Center from 8:30-4:00, Monday –Friday until they sell out. The Knights do not anticipate that there will be any tickets available at the door for this event!

STREET SANDWICH MINISTRY

The Sandwich Ministry collection is the second Wednesday of every month in the parking lots of St. Mark at 4:30 pm and St. Peter Claver at 5:00 pm. There is no longer a pickup at St. Helena. 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.

TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

Today's feast is new as feasts go, and it sets us this year in a very modern crisis. Amid conflicting schedules and commitments, a young man, testing the limits, has strayed from his parents and gone off to the big city. Mary and Joseph search frantically, only to find the child Jesus in the temple, conversing with the elders and scholars of the law, who are amazed at his wisdom.

In the time of Jesus, the temple was the religious center of Jewish ritual. Outside of Jerusalem, people gathered in the synagogues, centers of learning, for daily prayer and study. Still, everyone longed to journey to the temple to participate in the offerings, and to fulfill certain obligations of the law that could only be done there. On this feast, we catch a glimpse of the family of Jesus: parents dealing with the normal stresses of raising a child, and yet completely grounded in the ways of faith and tradition.

There has always been an appreciation in Christianity for the value of pilgrimage—the journey to holy places that is a symbol of our life's journey to God, and a sense of connection to important events in our family history. During the Christmas season, many of us undertake pilgrimages to the family homestead for festival meals, to the parishes where we were formed in the faith, or perhaps even to a beautiful manger scene or festival of lights. There are few better days than this in our calendar for spending time with the family, especially on a short pilgrimage to a favorite place. Just make sure that no one gets left behind!

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

THANK YOU!! To the more than **38,700** generous donors have pledged over **$9,900,000** to the 2018 Archbishop's Annual Appeal, ***Our Faith, Our Future!!***

As the year is coming to a close, this may be your last chance to help the Archbishop's Annual Appeal achieve the goal of ***$10 Million*** in the 2018 tax year!

This year's Appeal goal has been a challenge – but it is nothing compared to the challenge many suffer with each and every day of their lives. For the third year in a row - Thanks to the generosity of the donors to this year's Archbishop's Annual Appeal, ***Our Faith, Our Future***, the Vicariate Outreach Program has been able to provide over **$1,000,000** in critical funding to over 200 local, community based, organizations. This funding provides support to families and individuals for life's basic necessities: a warm meal, a bag of groceries, a place to sleep, or a place to turn for guidance and support. The Annual Appeal is one way to share our blessings and express thanks for the blessings with which God has graced us with our neighbors.

All funds contributed to the Archbishop's Annual Appeal are used exclusively for the purposes outlined in the Appeal literature, which can be found at www.archdioceseofhartford.org/appeal-impact-2/ . No Appeal funds are ever used for legal fees or settlements

If you have not yet made a gift, please prayerfully consider, making your pledge or gift today. Every gift makes a profound difference in the lives of countless individuals and families throughout our Archdiocese, in a way that exceeds anything we could hope to achieve on our own. Please visit the Appeal website at www.archdioceseofhartford.org and follow the link ***Our Faith, Our Future***, to learn more and make your pledge or gift today.

LAST CHANCE, ONLINE GIVERS!

Please remember that the St. Brigid, St. Helena and St. Mark online giving church sites will be shut down tomorrow, December 31, 2018. Unless you move your account to St. Gianna online giving, your online giving will cease as of December 31.

Religious Education

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HOME IS WHERE THE FAMILY IS

The idea, dream, and reality of family is so strong and durable that we use it to describe all that is best about human gatherings. We speak of the family of nations, of our church and parish families. The greatest compliment we can pay a friend or gracious host is to say that we feel at home with them, we feel part of the family.

Families are the first crucibles in which love is tested and tempered. Jesus himself was one of three people who lived in the shadow of each other. This family, like our own, did not always "get it right," but they always tried to. These three "amateurs" were on holiday, and one of them got lost. Two were worried sick and took great measures to find the third, a boy after all, who was seeking the meaning of his calling. He found his vocation—to do his Father's work—but he also returned home with his parents.

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TODAY'S READINGS

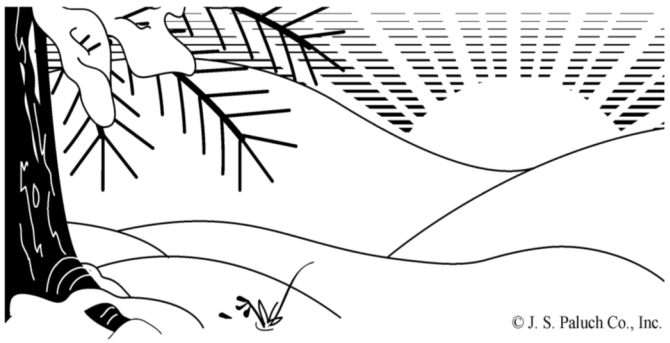
First Reading — Hannah conceived, and at the end of her term bore a son whom she called Samuel (1 Samuel 1:20-22, 24-28) *or Sirach 3:2-6, 12-14*.

Psalm — Blessed are they who dwell in your house, O Lord (Psalm 84) *or Psalm 128.*

Second Reading — See what love the Father has bestowed on us that we may be called the children of God (1 John 3:1-2, 21-24) *or Colossians 3:12-21 [12-17].*

Gospel — The boy Jesus remained behind in Jerusalem, but his parents did not know it. They found him in the temple, in the midst of the teachers (Luke 2:41 -52).

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.



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION AT ST. MARK

JANUARY GENERATIONS OF FAITH: EVERYONE IS WELCOME!

January's Generations of Faith dates are Sunday, January 13 at **4:00 PM** and Wednesday, January 16 at **6:00 PM**. For registration information email Sheila at sheila.stmark@yahoo.com, or call 860-236-3545.

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph December 30, 2018

Beloved, we are God's children now;
what we shall be has not yet been revealed.
— 1 John 3:2a

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday:	The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph
Monday:	Seventh Day within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord; St. Sylvester I: New Year's Eve
Tuesday:	The Octave of the Nativity of the Lord; Mary, the Holy Mother of God; World Day of Prayer for Peace; New Year's Day
Wednesday:	Ss. Basil the Great and Gregory Nazianzen
Thursday:	The Most Holy Name of Jesus
Friday:	St. Elizabeth Ann Seton; First Friday
Saturday:	St. John Neumann; First Saturday

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday:	1 Jn 2:18-21; Ps 96:1-2, 11-13; Jn 1:1-18
Tuesday:	Nm 6:22-27; Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8; Gal 4:4-7; Lk 2:16-21
Wednesday:	1 Jn 2:22-28; Ps 98:1-4; Jn 1:19-28
Thursday:	1 Jn 2:29 — 3:6; Ps 98:1, 3cd-6; Jn 1:29 -34
Friday:	1 Jn 3:7-10; Ps 98:1, 7-9; Jn 1:35-42
Saturday:	1 Jn 3:11-21; Ps 100:1b-5; Jn 1:43-51
Sunday:	Is 60:1-6; Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-13; Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6; Mt 2:1-12

Happy New Year's
From

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

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS
Faith
Knowledge
Discipline
Action
DIVIDENDS FOR LIFE

2019/2020 ENROLLMENT STARTS NOW!
Open House & Enrollment
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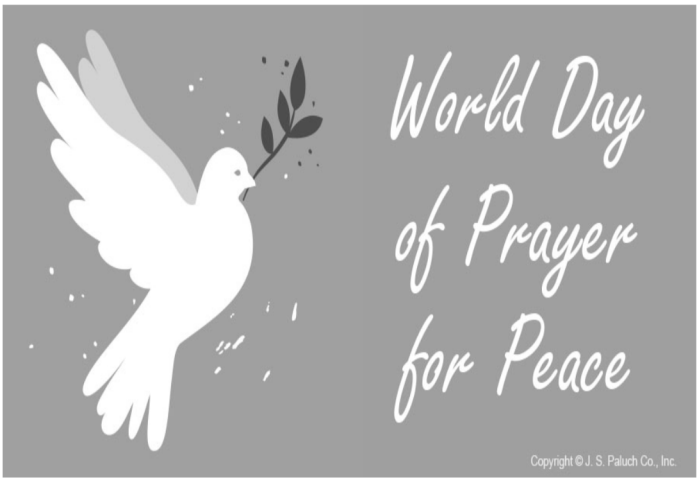
SBSAS Has One Of The Best Academic Programs In Town!

****NEEDED!****
New or Used
Love Seat and a Small Office Desk

Become a SBSAS Board Member

NEEDED: ONSITE SBSAS' "SALES VOLUNTEER" AT ST. GIANNA PARISHES
Responsibilities: Promote our events & fundraisers after church services.

OFFICE HOURS: Monday thru Friday 7:30 AM to 3 PM (re-opening Jan. 2)
For more info email: athompson@stbstapartnership.eduk12.net or
Call: (860) 561-2130, ext. 106



ULTREYA

Cursillistas, and all who are interested in Cursillo, we will be holding our first monthly Ultreya on Wednesday, Jan 2nd at 7 pm at:

Sacred Heart Church hall
66 Cottage St.
Kensington / E.Berlin, CT

All are welcome. Please bring a friend.
RSVP to jbrzezinski@comcast.net