



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

January 27, 2019
The Third Sunday of Ordinary Time

Reverend Joseph Devine, Pastor
Reverend Tuan Anh "Andy" Mai, Pastor, St. Andrew Dung-Lac
Reverend Joseph Pullikattil, Parochial Vicar
Deacon Robert J. Hilliard

St. Brigid Church
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Elmwood, CT 06110
Phone: 860 236-5965
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(860) 543-2607
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Music Ministry
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Music Ministry
Greg Flower, Director of Music

St. Brigid St Augustine School
See inside the Bulletin for details

The Celebration of the Grace of God Through The Sacraments

Baptism: Please call the parish Administrative Center in advance to make arrangements.

Reconciliation: By appointment, or on Saturday St. Brigid 3-3:30; St. Mark 3:15-4:00.

Communion: For parishioners who are homebound or hospitalized, contact the Administrative Center.

Marriage: Please call the Administrative Center six months 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 speak to a parish priest or call the Administrative Center for more information.

Mass Schedule

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Saturday, January 26, 2019

- 4:00 PM Veronica Droney by Her Husband Francis,
Daughter Debbie and Family—SB
- 4:30 PM For the People of St. Gianna Parish—SM

Sunday, January 27, 2019

- 8:30 AM Frank Garofalo, 22nd Anniversary, by Gina Garofalo and Family—SB
- 10:30 AM St. Anthony, Thank You, by Sophia Gagnon—SM
- 11:00 AM St. Brigid-St. Augustine Partnership School in Honor of Catholic Schools Week—SB
- 11:30 AM Syro-Malabar Mass—SH
- 2:30 PM Vietnamese Mass—SM

Monday, January 28, 2019

- 8:30 AM SB
- 9:00 AM Dick Cullina, 12th Anniversary, by Bob and Pat Hilliard—SM

Tuesday, January 29, 2019

- 8:30 AM SB
- 6:00 PM Vietnamese Mass—SM

Wednesday, January 30, 2019

- 8:30 AM Birthday Blessings for Tanya Sussilleaux by Her Aunt—SB
- 9:00 AM Rev. James W. Roche—SM
- 10:00 AM SH

Thursday, January 31, 2019

- 8:30 AM SB
- 9:00 AM William MacPherson by Frannie and Charlie Conaghan—SM
- 6:00 PM Vietnamese Mass—SM

Friday, February 1, 2019

- 9:00 AM Msgr. John T. Hynes—SM
- 6:30 PM Solemn Vespers—SB

Saturday, February 2, 2019

- 8:30 AM Deceased Relatives, Friends and Benefactors by Fr. Devine—SB
- 4:00 PM James Tracey, 30th Anniversary, by the Tracey Family—SB
- 4:30 PM For the Soul of Joseph Le Nguyen by the Nguyen Family—SM

Sunday, February 3, 2019

- 8:30 AM For the People of St. Gianna Parish—SB
- 10:30 AM Raymond Aneiro, by the Aneiro Family—SM
- 11:00 AM Joseph and Bridget Quinn by Their 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



You may be wondering “What is the meaning behind the decorations we are seeing on the St. Mark church grounds?”

Our Vietnamese brothers and sisters are preparing for the celebration of their lunar New Year, or “Tet.” For Vietnamese Catholics, Tet is a mix of culture, religion and tradition. It is their biggest cultural celebration of the year. This year Tet will be celebrated February 1-3.

Please keep them in their prayers as they prepare for this important occasion.

huc mung nam moi! Happy New Year!

As the new year begins and the old year is put to rest, all Vietnamese rejoice in their most important holiday—New Year. The living pay homage to the dead, and the younger community members honor their elders. Families are reunified; the coming of spring and the planting season are celebrated. This is a time for relaxation, joy and hope. Tet is the time to settle past mistakes and start anew. It is the height of feasting, parties and gift-giving—especially for children, who are rewarded with red envelopes containing “lucky money.”

Traditionally, this was the time when everyone counted himself or herself one year older. Houses are meticulously cleaned, business accounts are settled, homes are decorated with flowers and budding saplings and everyone buys new clothes. To celebrate the New Year as a family is an essential part of the Vietnamese experience and a way of validating one’s place in the most important group—the family. People visit family and friends, eat special holiday dishes, give gifts, and play games of chance. Firecrackers welcome the New Year. A good Tet augurs a good year ahead.

Tet to the Vietnamese culture, is often described as a combination of New Year’s Day, Christmas, birthdays, Easter, Thanksgiving and Fourth of July. Not only is it a time for reunion with family but also for material and spiritual renewal. Its traditions, folklore, cuisine, music and dances harken back centuries in Vietnamese history and are central to Vietnamese culture.

St. Gianna Parish – 2019, and into the future...

--Fr. Devine will preside one weekend a month at St. Mark Masses. Fr. Joseph will preside likewise at St. Brigid Masses.

--Fr. Joseph and Fr. Andy (new pastor for the Vietnamese community) will reside in St. Mark Rectory. Fr. Devine will continue to reside in St. Brigid Rectory, the administrative center for St. Gianna parish.

--With the departure of both Deacons Jim McCormack and Ray Fugere, Deacon Bob Hilliard will now pursue his ministry at St. Mark.

--Neither Sunday nor daily Masses are cancelled because of snow, and/or school closings. If you can come, (safely, of course!) to church on the given day/time – we’ll be there! Please note and remember - Mass cancellations can occur because of inability to find priestly coverage, and also innocent human error.

--St. Andrew dung Lac (Vietnamese) quasi-parish is now in a five year probationary period viz. their status as parish – hence, the term, “quasi.” During this time, they will seek to grow both their membership and financial base.

Please note: there are no plans whatsoever for the Vietnamese community to eliminate the English community from St. Mark—effective 1 July or whenever. This has been confirmed on 15 January 2019 in conversation among Fr. Devine, Fr. Andy, the Archdiocese of Hartford, LouAnn and Sheila.

St. Gianna Parish Events

Mass Intention Bookings at St. Mark

Please note that intentions for St. Mark Masses are to be booked at the Administrative Center effective January 1, 2019. The Masses will continue to be celebrated at St. Mark.

A message from Father Metzler

Father Metzler would like to extend his sincere gratitude for all of the well wishes he received upon his retirement. He was overwhelmed by the outpouring of love. He did his best to send individual notes but did not have addresses for everyone. Please know he feels blessed by your kindness.

SANDWICH SUNDAY

The Social Action Committee is having a "Sandwich Sunday" this Sunday, January 27! We are requesting that families prepare sandwiches (any kind) to be distributed to the homeless through the Immaculate Conception Shelter. 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.

SAINT BRIGID LADIES GUILD NEWS

To all members of St. Gianna Parish

The St. Brigid Ladies Guild is having a Valentine Craft Night at their February 4th meeting. Come join us as we have fun and make an easy craft for Valentine's day. We will be having desserts following and then our Ladies Guild Meeting. Please join us.

MEAT LOAVES FOR THE HOUSE OF BREAD

The meat loaves for the House of Bread are due Tuesday, February 5 and Wednesday February 6. The Kid's Café and the Day Care Center also need the usual items or any items that you might want to donate. Please remember the request for "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.

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION SOUP KITCHEN

Members of the parish will be preparing and serving dinner to 150 homeless men at the Immaculate Conception Soup Kitchen Tuesday, February 5. 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 Administrative Center during normal business hours.

FOOD DRIVE

The Social Action Committee is holding a food drive the weekend of February 9 and 10. The drive begins on Saturday from 3:00 to 5:00 pm and ends on Sunday from 8:15 to 11:15 am. Flour, sugar, salt, cooking oil, tuna, sardines, coffee, tea, canned fruits/vegetables, pasta and sauce are greatly needed. (Please do not leave any food in the church).



K OF C VALENTINE'S DAY BRUNCH

Join the St. Brigid Knights of Columbus on Sunday

February 10 for a Valentine's Day Brunch after the 8:30 am Mass.

TAX STATEMENTS for 2018

Upon request only, we will begin mailing tax statements in the next week or so. Please call Marie at the Administrative Center to request your Tax Statement. Our number is 860 236-5965.

STREET SANDWICH MINISTRY



The Sandwich Ministry collection is the second Wednesday of every month in the parking lots of St. Peter Claver at 4:30 pm and at St. Mark 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.

Northwest Catholic will administer its entrance exam on Monday, January 28th at 8:30 am. Go to northwestcatholic.org to register for the exam. Walk-ins are also welcome! Please contact Andrew Selig at aselig@nwcath.org with any questions.

TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

Saturday's feast of the Presentation is a day for the blessing of candles. Why does liturgy require candles? In the first years of the church, worship was often at night, and candles and torches were carried from place to place within the worship space as needed. Candles were also a mark of festivity and hospitality when people gathered for prayer in homes, and later on in large buildings with thick walls and dark corners. But even after gaslight and electricity, candles were kept.

Part of the reason has to do with the warm, clean light of a candle's flame. Candles are a good sign of the partnership of God and creation: wax made by bees, gathered and fashioned by human hands into something beautiful and useful. In order for the light to shine, the candle surrenders itself, almost as if it is pouring itself out so that the light can flood into the world. The candle of baptism, placed into our hands, and carried again and again, speaks silently of that same wisdom. If you would save your life, you must lose it. You must pour your life out like Christ so that you may be filled with the light of his love.

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

LADIES OF ST. GIANNA PARISH, our **ANNUAL WOMEN'S RETREAT** at Our Lady of Calvary Retreat will be March 8 to 10th. The theme is "The World Will be Saved by Beauty." Come for the weekend or Commuter Saturday only (March 9th). Cost is \$265 for the weekend, or \$130 for Saturday only with a nonrefundable \$65 registration fee. Any questions, contact Laurie-Ann Templeton at 860-953-4063 or call the retreat house at 860-677-8519 or go to www.ourladyofcalvary.net.

January 2019

The Catholic Church of St. Mark the Evangelist
467 South Quaker Lane
West Hartford, Ct 06110

Dear People of St. Mark Church,

The Smith community would like to thank you for the Thanksgiving and Christmas donations which supported many families and students during the holidays. Your generosity and kindness was heartfelt and appreciated. Many of the families that you helped support would have not enjoyed the holidays the same without your participation.

Our school is blessed and thankful to have such a caring church who care so deeply about our school community. We are dedicated to improving education, citizenship and character of our young students and your example of what it means to give and donate your time, money and effort is a reminder to all of us that, in fact, it takes a village to raise a family.

I hope you take comfort in knowing that your donations were given to families that truly needed the support. We look forward to working with St Mark's church in the future as we are fortunate to have you in our corner.

Sincerely

Teresa Giolito, Principal
Luis Ramirez, Social Worker

Friday, 1 February—Feast of St. Brigid

6:30 p.m.—Solemn Vespers in St. Brigid Church

7:00 p.m.—Wine and Cheese/Dessert Reception in McMahon Hall

ALL ST. GIANNA PARISHIONERS ARE WELCOME



St. Brigid/St. Helena Religious Education

9th & 10th Grade Confirmation Class Reminder

Our 9th & 10th Grade Confirmation classes will be held Sunday, February 10, from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. at St. Brigid/St. Augustine Partnership School.

Third Sunday in Ordinary Time January 27, 2019

*The Spirit of the Lord is upon me,
because he has anointed me
to bring glad tidings to the poor.*
— Luke 4:18a

TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — Rejoicing in the LORD must be your strength (Nehemiah 8:2-4a, 5-6, 8-10).

Psalm — Your words, Lord, are Spirit and life (Psalm 19).

Second Reading — In one Spirit we were all baptized into one body (1 Corinthians 12:12-30 [12-14, 27]).

Gospel — The Spirit of the Lord has sent me to proclaim liberty to captives (Luke 1:1-4; 4:14-21).

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READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Heb 9:15, 24-28; Ps 98:1-6; Mk 3:22-30

Tuesday: Heb 10:1-10; Ps 40:2, 4ab, 7-8a, 10, 11; Mk 3:31-35

Wednesday: Heb 10:11-18; Ps 110:1-4; Mk 4:1-20

Thursday: Heb 10:19-25; Ps 24:1-6; Mk 4:21-25

Friday: Heb 10:32-39; Ps 37:3-6, 23-24, 39-40; Mk 4:26-34

Saturday: Mal 3:1-4; Ps 24:7-10; Heb 2:14-18; Lk 2:22-40 [22-32]

Sunday: Jer 1:4-5, 17-19; Ps 71:1-6, 15, 17; 1 Cor 12:31 — 13:13 [13:4-13]; Lk 4:21-30

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RELIGIOUS EDUCATION AT ST. MARK

Confirmation Retreat

Please keep our second year Confirmation students in your prayers as they attend their Confirmation Retreat this Sunday. A special thank you to the Knights of Columbus for providing the students and their families with brunch prior to the retreat.

Generations of Faith

‘When He had said this, He cried in a loud voice, ‘Lazarus, come out!’ (John 11:42) Jesus doesn’t do funerals. He does resurrections!

Join us for the February GOF Sunday, February 10 at 4:00PM or Wednesday, February 13 at 6:00PM. All are welcome! Call us at 860-236-3545 or email sheila.stmark@yahoo.com to register.

TIME

The holidays are well behind us; the year stretches out ahead. And what sort of year will it be? To judge by the words of Jesus in today’s Gospel, it will be “a year acceptable to the Lord.” And Jesus surely didn’t mean only the next three hundred sixty-five days facing his listeners at that time.

When Jesus announced the “arrival” of God’s favor, it was a message for all time, for every year. Similarly, we read today in Nehemiah how the people gathered with solemnity to hear God’s word as though for the first time. They listened, and then fell to the ground and wept. But the prophet said, “Today is holy . . . do not be sad, and do not weep.”

The “year acceptable to the Lord” is this year. The day that is “holy” is this day. The time to listen is now. What sort of year will you have? What sort of day? God’s help is always here. What you do with each day can be holy and acceptable to the Lord if you but listen to and act on God’s word. Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday: Third Sunday in Ordinary Time;
Catholic Schools Week

Monday: St. Thomas Aquinas

Thursday: St. John Bosco

Friday: First Friday

Saturday: The Presentation of the Lord;
Blessing of Candles; First Saturday;
World Day for Consecrated Life;
Groundhog Day

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



**CALLING ALL ALUMNI, FAMILY MEMBERS,
& FRIENDS....!**

YOU'RE INVITED TO SBSAS'

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS' WEEK CELEBRATION!

Mass for Catholic Schools Week at 11:00 am—St. Brigid

***after* Mass Sunday, January 27 at 12:30 pm**
St. Brigid St. Augustine School

For Coffee & Refreshments
Open House & Enrollment

Learn About SBSAS' Early Kindergarten Preparedness Program
Enrollment Incentives

For 3 and 4-Year Olds & For Students in Grades K thru 8th!

Dollar for Dollar...

SBSAS Has One Of The Best Academic Programs In Town!

Become an SBSAS Board Member

NEEDED: ONSITE SBSAS' "SALES VOLUNTEERS"
AT ST. GIANNA PARISHES

Responsibilities: Promote our events & fundraisers after church services.

NEEDED!

New or Used Love Seat and a Small Office Desk

Look for our Billboard I-84 East Between Exits 44 & 46

OFFICE HOURS: Mon. thru Fri. 7:30 AM to 4 PM

For more info email: athompson@stbstapartnership.eduk12.net or

Call: (860) 561-2130, ext. 106