



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

November 3, 2019
The Thirty-First Sunday in 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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Chelsea Lorraine, Cantor
Connor Shirshac, Cantor

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.

MassSchedule

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Saturday, November 2, 2019

- 4:00 PM** Anthony Pedro, 25th Anniversary, by His Family—SB
4:30 PM For the People of St. Gianna Parish—SM

Sunday, November 3, 2019

- 8:30 AM** Michele Ragone, Francesco & Camilla Abbatemarco, Edmundo & Carmela Ragone and Vito Biancamano by Antonietta Ragone—SB
8:30 AM Vietnamese Mass—SM
10:30 AM Peter and Marian Forte by Their Family—SM
11:00 AM For the Deceased of St. Gianna Parish 2019—SB
11:45 AM Syro-Malabar Mass—SH
2:30 PM Vietnamese Mass—SM

Monday, November 4, 2019

- 8:30 AM** All Souls Remembrances—SB
9:00 AM All Souls Remembrances—SM

Tuesday, November 5, 2019

- 8:30 AM** All Souls Remembrances—SB
6:00 PM Vietnamese Mass—SM

Wednesday, November 6, 2019

- 8:30 AM** Maria and Francesco DiTaranto by Their Family—SB
9:00 AM Donald Cone by Ken, Ann and Michelle Bach—SM
10:00 AM SH

Thursday, November 7, 2019

- 8:30 AM** Lucien Gendreau, 7th Anniversary, by His Family—SB
9:00 AM SM
6:00 PM Vietnamese Mass—SM

Friday, November 8, 2019

- 9:00 AM** SM

Saturday, November 9, 2019

- 8:30 AM** Roxanne D'Aquino by the St. Brigid Knights of Columbus—SB
8:30 AM Syro-Malabar Mass—SH
4:00 PM Giuse Le Van Chien by His Wife and Family—SB
4:30 PM Deceased Members of the Ramino Family by Their Family—SM

Sunday, November 10, 2019

- 8:30 AM** For the People of St. Gianna Parish—SB
8:30 AM Vietnamese Mass—SM
10:30 AM The Freda and Whalen Family by The Freda Family—SM
11:00 AM The Cerone and Faerenga Families by Their Family—SB
11:45 AM Syro-Malabar Mass—SH
2:30 PM Vietnamese Mass—SM

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

Festive Concert In Celebration of St. Brigid Church's 100th Anniversary

November 3rd at 4 pm

Jevgenija Lisicina, Organist – Latvia, Riga Dome Cathedral

Kelly Boudreaux, Soprano

David Boudreaux, Tenor

Laurentiu Rotaru, Bass – Baritone

St. Brigid Choir

Natasha Ulyanovsky, Organist/Choir Director

Sunday Vespers service will follow the concert from 5 PM – 5:30 PM

OFFICE OF THE DEAD—Evening Prayer—All Souls

Monday, 4 November, St. Brigid Church, 6:30 p.m.

All are welcome to attend.

from Fr. Devine...

Priests' Convocation 2019 – 14-16 October

You may have heard that many priests were gathered together recently in Groton with the Archbishop and his assistant bishops, to consider some key issues facing our local archdiocesan church. Homilies, parish evangelization, and personal wellness were among the major presentations. Time was also given to a consideration of present and future parish realities. One course of action presented was the lessening of the number of pastorates – in effect combining pastor positions (not necessarily *churches*) in a given town in order to lessen the number of priests required for this service. The current number of priests currently serving in the archdiocese is approximately 160. By the end of year 2029, ten years out, that number is forecast to be approximately 90. It is hoped that this measure will help “right size” us for the immediate to medium range future.

If you have questions, let me know, and as always, I'll try to answer.

Syro Malabar Church Raffle

The Syro Malabar Catholic community in the Archdiocese of Hartford is holding a raffle to raise money to purchase the Church of Saint Helena in West Hartford. Tickets are available at the Administrative Center (St. Brigid Rectory) with Barbara Judycki and at St. Mark Church with Fr. Joseph. Tickets are \$100 each. The drawing will be on 24th December 2019.

The first prize is a **Toyota Camry LE**. Second prize is **2 oz. Gold coins**; third prize is 2 airline ticket to India; and there are 5 consolation prizes of \$100 Amazon gift cards for 5 winners.

UNPLANNED MOVIE BEING SHOWN IN AVON

The movie, *Unplanned*, will be shown at St. Ann's Church, 289 Arch Rd., Avon, on Sunday, Nov. 10th at 2pm in the hall connected to the church.

Three speakers will take questions after the movie: Deacon David Reynolds, Liaison to the Catholic Conference of Bishops; Anne Boers, Coordinator for 40 Days for Life; and Lynn Reynolds, Director of Two Hearts Pregnancy Center in Torrington. This movie dramatizes the story of Abbey Johnson who quit her job as Director of a busy Planned Parenthood clinic in Texas and became an active pro-life Catholic.

St. Gianna Parish Events

ST. MARK'S ANNUAL WINTER HATS, GLOVES AND COATS COLLECTION—2019

Our annual collection for winter hats, gloves and coats continues through this weekend, November 2nd and 3rd. "Tree" Boards will be at the church entrances. Please take leaves for hats and/or gloves and return chosen items to the church by November 3rd. **New or gently used winter coats will be collected in the vestibule through November 3rd.**

All items collected will be given to Catholic Charities and to shelters in Hartford.

Please call John Clark (860 521-7257) with questions. Thank you for your generosity!

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. 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.

THANK YOU FROM THE ST. MARK'S KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS



The St. Mark's Knights of Columbus would like to thank all the parishioners of St. Gianna who so generously supported their mum sale in September. The proceeds from the sale will support the Confirmation students as they attend their retreat later this month. Thank you again!

HATS, GLOVES & WHITE SOCKS DRIVE

The St. Brigid Social Action Committee is having a Hats, Gloves & White Athletic Socks Drive. The drive will benefit local shelters. There is a box in the vestibule for donating new hats, gloves & white athletic socks. The drive will run from November 9/10 through November 23/24 (after the 11 am Mass). Please contact Steve at 860-236-1475 or Rick at 860-236-4210 if you have questions.

Thirty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time November 3, 2019

The LORD lifts up all who are falling
and raises up all who are bowed down.
— *Psalm 145:14*

LADIES GUILD NEWS

LADIES GUILD MEMBERSHIP TEA

ALL LADIES OF ST. GIANNA WELCOME! The SBLG Membership Tea will be held on Monday, November 4th at 7 pm in McMahan Hall. We will be welcoming new members to our Ladies' Guild. If you still wish to join us as new member, please contact Laurie-Ann Templeton at 860-953-4063.

MEAT LOAVES FOR THE HOUSE OF BREAD

The meat loaves for the House of Bread are due Tuesday, November 5 and Wednesday November 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 call Gina Giacalone at 860 521-8342 or bring your items to 130 Overbrook Road, West Hartford.

LADIES GUILD CHRISTMAS DINNER

The Ladies Guild Christmas dinner will be held December 3 at the **Back Nine Tavern at Stanley Golf Course (The banquet room)**. We will begin at 6:30 pm. The cost will be \$30 for everyone regardless of meal choices. Dinner choices are Grilled Herb Chicken Breast; Stuffed Sole; or Beef. As usual, you may pay at the November Ladies Guild meeting, come to the Administrative Center (or mail in your payment to the Administrative Center, with your envelope marked Ladies Guild Christmas Party) or call Sharraine at 860 841-1711.

SPECIAL NOTE: ST. MARK'S FOOD COLLECTION

November's food collection at Saint Marks will take place on Saturday, November 23rd and Sunday November 24th. **Grocery bags with needed items will be distributed at the weekend Masses.** Thanks for your support!

The food collection returns to its regularly scheduled second Sunday of each month in December.

Thanksgiving Basket Volunteer Stuffers needed!

November 24 after the 10:30 Mass we will be gathering at St. Mark's as we stuff baskets for those in need this Thanksgiving. If you have an hour or two, please join us as we help practice the corporal works of mercy as we "feed the hungry".

Confirmation Students are especially encouraged to help; just email Mrs. Everett or sign up in class on November 3rd.

BULLETIN SUBMISSION DEADLINES

Dear Good People of St. Gianna,
Thank you so much for all your submissions for the bulletin. As we get into this busy upcoming holiday season (you can already see that our bulletin is becoming full!), I ask that you **please** submit your requests to me for regular bulletins by **2 pm on Fridays**. If we have an early bulletin, I will let you know in advance when those deadlines are. The Bulletin is substantially complete by Friday of each week. When I receive submissions all day Monday (a payroll day for St. Gianna) into Tuesday, not only does it increase the chances for error, but it increases the likelihood that something will be omitted. If we could try to have Bulletin submissions by mid-afternoon Fridays going forward, *I would be so grateful*. Thank you!

West Hartford Catholic Adult Enhancement Program

The West Hartford parishes of St. Gianna, St. Timothy, St. Thomas, and St. Peter Claver will be sponsoring an event on November 6th (7 to 8:30 pm) and November 7th (9 to 2 pm) (both events will take place at St. Peter Claver). Jennifer Ristine served at the site of the archaeology dig in Israel as director of the Magdala Institute, and is an Author and Retreat Leader and will be with us to lead a reflection on “Mary Magdalene”: insights from Ancient Magdala. This reflection will be followed by a mini retreat day. Both events will be held in St. Peter Claver parish hall. **They are free and open to all** – for more information **please contact Nancy Kunak at 860-523-4773 to sign-up for the retreat.** Information regarding this program will be in the back of our churches.

Dignity of Life Seminar

St. Gianna Beretta Molla Parish along with The Catholic Cemetery Association will be hosting a presentation focused on educating our Parish families about the challenges facing practically every family: Maintaining the dignity of life during end-of-life decisions. *The Catholic Cemeteries Association* will conduct the Seminar with the assistance of an Elder Care Attorney, and Funeral Director. We will answer questions on how to manage these elements of the golden years. The seminar should take about an hour and 30 minutes. Refreshments will be served. Kindly register.

These sessions will be offered at St. Mark Pastoral Center. - located at 467 Quaker Lane South, West Hartford, CT at 2:00 PM and at 6:30 PM on Wednesday, November 6th, 2019. **To Register:** Please pick-up a flyer in the Churches, and fill-out the portion of the flyer indicating which of these two Seminars you will be attending. Please drop the bottom portion in the Seminar basket provided. For information, please call the Administrative Center at (860) 236-5965.

2019 TRIENNIEL COLLECTION FOR THE ARCHDIOCESE OF THE MILITARY

Every three years, we have a collection for the Archdiocese of the Military Services, USA (AMS). This year, St. Gianna will be taking that collection up on November 17th. Publicity about that collection, as well as envelopes for it, will be at the back of our churches. You will not have envelopes in your regular church envelope packet because this collection only occurs **every 3 years**. The AMS relies solely on private donations: it receives no funding from our government, and of course has no churches where it can take up collections. It supports those serving in the US armed forces, those in military academies, those in treatment at VA hospitals, as well as civilian employees and families of the aforementioned. To support this collection, take an envelope from the back of the church, use a plain white envelope of your own marked “AMS” or go to our online giving site and select the “Archdiocese of the Military Services” collection to give.

ADULT ENRICHMENT CLASSES! OPEN TO EVERYONE IN ST. GIANNA PARISH

The books are in!

If you have signed up to attend the fall book study on Bishop Barron's new book titled *Letter to a Suffering Church: A Bishop Speaks on the Sexual Abuse Crisis*, please pick up your book in the back of the church after Mass. Each participant has a book with their name on the front. If you would like to join this study or would like a copy of the book, please email Sandy Everett at sandy.st.mark@gmail.com and we will make sure you receive a copy. Due to the sensitive nature of the topic we are asking those who read the book to return to St. Mark's for a spirit led discussion at St. Mark's Parish Center on Wednesday November 20th at 6:30pm.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION AT ST. MARK

Elementary and Middle School classes are in session this weekend, November 3rd at 9:00.

Please remember that we dismiss at 10:15 from the Church! All Parents need to enter the church to pick up your child from the front pews at 10:15 so they can attend Mass as a family. Do to safety reasons, **we are not releasing children to the parking lot.** Thanks for your understanding.

All students need to remember to bring your workbook and folder to each class.

Confirmation Prep Classes are in session this weekend, November 3rd at 6:30 in the parish center. All students should have their plan for community service written out for Father to review. If you have not received information via email, please call or email Sandy Everett at sandy.st.mark@gmail.com. Confirmation Prep classes end at 8:00pm. Our next Confirmation Prep class will December 1st and will **begin at 5:00.** All children will be fed pizza during class as this class will extend into wreath making at 6:30.

The Confirmation Prep Retreat is November 16th at St. Brigid Church from 7:00-8:30pm. **This retreat is a mandatory requirement for Confirmation, and 9th and 10th grades are expected to attend.** Our presenter is Sean Forrest who is a dynamic speaker, author and founder of the Haiti 180 Mission. Parents are encouraged to attend as well.

If you would like more information on Religious Education classes for this year, please contact Sandy Everett via email at sandy.st.mark@gmail.com or call the office at 860-236-3545.

Mark your calendars!

The annual parish wide **Advent Wreath Making** event is scheduled for the first Sunday of Lent, December 1st at 6:30 in the St. Mark's Parish Center. Join us for a fun, faith filled event to kick off our Advent season.

Everyone is invited! Sign-up sheets will be at the exits of the church or you can just email Sandy at sandy.st.mark@gmail.com.



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SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday: Thirty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time;
National Vocation Awareness Week;
Daylight Saving Time ends
Monday: St. Charles Borromeo
Tuesday: Election Day
Saturday: The Dedication of the Lateran Basilica

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Rom 11:29-36; Ps 69:30-31, 33-34, 36;
Lk 14:12-14
Tuesday: Rom 12:5-16b; Ps 131:1bcde-3; Lk 14:15-24
Wednesday: Rom 13:8-10; Ps 112:1b-2, 4-5, 9;
Lk 14:25-33
Thursday: Rom 14:7-12; Ps 27:1bcde, 4, 13-14;
Lk 15:1-10
Friday: Rom 15:14-21; Ps 98:1-4; Lk 16:1-8
Saturday: Ez 47:1-2, 8-9, 12; Ps 46:2-3, 5-6, 8-9;
1 Cor 3:9c-11, 16-17; Jn 2:13-22
Sunday: 2 Mc 7:1-2, 9-14; Ps 17:1, 5-6, 8, 15;
2 Thes 2:16 — 3:5; Lk 20:27-38 [27, 34-38]

DO YOU HAVE QUESTIONS ON ANNULMENTS? Would you like to know about the process? Many Catholics have asked the following questions about the Church's position on divorce, annulments, and marriage:

- “*Can a divorced person receive Holy Communion?*”
- “*Can a divorced person marry in the Catholic Church?*”
- “*Why might a non-Catholic consider or need an annulment?*”
- “*Does a divorced person need an annulment when the marriage was performed only by a Justice of the Peace?*”

Often these questions and others have been met with misleading, misguided, and sometimes wrong responses. Perhaps you, a family member, or a friend needs sound, clear information. If so, please contact the Metropolitan Tribunal of the Archdiocese of Hartford at 860-541-6491 or e-mail at Tribunal@aohct.org. You can also visit our website at <https://archdioceseofhartford.org/metropolitan-marriage-tribunal/>.

Workshops and informational sessions about annulments are now being offered. The current schedule is as follows:

12/4 – St Teresa of Calcutta Parish, Manchester 6:30 pm

12/5 – St Peter Claver Parish, West Hartford 7:00 pm

ARCHBISHOP'S ANNUAL APPEAL

It is not too late to give to the 2019 Archbishop's Annual Appeal!! It is only with **YOUR** help that we will be able to achieve the Annual Appeal goal of **\$10 Million!** This year's Appeal goal may be a challenge – but it is nothing compared to the challenge many suffer with each and every day of their lives. The Archbishop's Annual Appeal helps provide the critical funding needed to feed the hungry, shelter the homeless, counsel those in despair, offer much-needed assistance to the unemployed, and make medical care available to those without health insurance. Your gift to the 2019 Appeal will help to continue these and other vital ministries, services, and programs that reach out to so many in need.

All pledges can be paid through December 31st 2019 towards this year's Appeal. Your gift will make a difference in the lives of countless individuals. Please visit the Appeal website at www.archdioceseofhartford.org and follow the link ***Sharing the Joy of the Gospel for Generations***, to learn more and make your gift today. 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 <https://archdioceseofhartford.org/aaa-2019-last-years-appeal-impact/>. No Appeal funds are ever used for legal fees or settlements.

A GREAT AND GLORIOUS GOD

Our readings today ponder two powerful truths: God is infinitely greater than we are; and God provides every kind of help so we can discover and share in God's glory. The reading from Wisdom reminds us that we are tiny compared to “the LORD of the whole universe.” Nevertheless, God preserves and nurtures us out of perfect love. If we feel tiny, weak, and sinful compared to God, we are blessed! God's greatness sustains and strengthens us. Saint Paul encourages the Thessalonian Christians with the same message. He reminds them that God alone makes the Church holy. He prays that everything they undertake will be for the glory of God. Luke's Gospel shows us what this looks like in real life: Zacchaeus, feeling small and excluded, looks for Jesus. Jesus finds him and gives him the strength he needs to repent of his sins and glorify God.