



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

May 17, 2020  
*Sixth Sunday of Easter*

**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***

Administrative Center: 1088 New Britain Avenue  
Elmwood, CT 06110  
Phone: 860 236-5965  
Fax 860 233-8016

Karla Dalley, Administrative Officer  
Barbara Judycki, Administrative Assistant  
Office hours: 8:00 am-4:00 pm Mon.--Thurs.  
9:00-4:00 Friday

**Website:**  
saintgiannaparish.org

**Email:**  
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Barbara@saintgiannaparish.org

**Religious Education**

Donna Wolcott, Coordinator  
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www.stbrigidCCD.com

**Music Ministry**

Natasha Ulyanovsky, Music Director  
David Boudreaux, Cantor  
Kelly Boudreaux, Cantor

***St. Mark the Evangelist Church***  
467 Quaker Lane South  
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**Music Ministry**

Greg Flower, Director of Music  
Jennifer Gadaree, Cantor  
Chelsea Lorraine, 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.

# CHURCH SCHEDULE

*Saturday, May 16, 2020*

6:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m. Church Open for Private Prayer (SB and SM)

*Sunday, May 17, 2020*

6:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m. Church Open for Private Prayer (SB and SM)

*Monday, May 18, 2020*

6:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m. Church Open for Private Prayer (SB and SM)

*Tuesday, May 19, 2020*

6:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m. Church Open for Private Prayer (SB and SM)

*Wednesday, May 20, 2020*

6:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m. Church Open for Private Prayer (SB and SM)

*Thursday, May 21, 2020--The Ascension of the Lord*

6:00 p.m. -7:00 p.m. Church Open for Private Prayer (SB and SM)

*Friday, May 22, 2020*

6:00 p.m. -7:00 p.m. Church Open for Private Prayer (SB and SM)

*Saturday, May 23, 2020*

6:00 p.m. -7:00 p.m. Church Open for Private Prayer (SB and SM)

*Sunday, May 24, 2020*

6:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m. Church Open for Private Prayer (SB and SM)

*Note: All "canceled" Mass intentions may be rescheduled for a later date once life begins to return to normal. :-) Throughout this period, as we celebrate private Masses, your Mass intentions will continue to be remembered.*

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

**ACT of SPIRITUAL COMMUNION...for those unable to be at Mass**

My Jesus, I believe that You are truly present in the Most Blessed Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I desire to possess You within my soul. Since I am unable now to receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as being already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You by sin. Amen.

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***A MESSAGE FROM ARCHBISHOP BLAIR...***

*Now that a plan has been proposed for the first stage of re-opening in Connecticut, we can anticipate the resumption of at least some measure of public worship and the administration of the sacraments. May 20 is the next target date in Connecticut for the possible announcement of changes from the governor, but it remains to be seen what those might be. By that date I believe that we can begin to resume some public worship for at least the 50 participants that are currently permitted, and then expand that number as the civil requirements change. Perhaps we will begin with weekday Masses, but that remains to be determined.*

*In order to plan for the reopening of public worship in the Archdiocese I have appointed the Director of Worship, Father Michael Ruminski, to chair a committee of pastors made up of Monsignors Donnelly and Matera and Fathers Jimenez and Donahue. They are charged with making recommendations to me as to how we can best meet the challenge of reintroducing public worship while observing all the necessary medical precautions!*

*Finally, it is my intention to maintain the dispensation from the Sunday obligation for everyone once we resume public worship. I would not want someone genuinely fearful for his or her health, especially the elderly, to be troubled in conscience about their Sunday Mass attendance.*



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# *St. Gianna Parish Events*

## **REV. JOSEPH G. MURPHY BOOK AWARD**

Are you a St. Gianna parish member (of any age) who plans to continue your education at the undergraduate or graduate level this fall? Consider applying for the annual Rev. Joseph G. Murphy Book Award honoring St. Helena's founding pastor. This one time award is offered to persons who are active members of St. Gianna parish at the time of receipt of application. Applications are available on the tables in the vestibules of each church. **The deadline for submission is May 17th.** A book award will be given. For more information contact the Administrative Center at 860 236-5965.

## **For Your Information...**

Parish Mass for the Assumption of the Lord, this Thursday—21 May, will be posted on our YouTube Channel for your convenience—by later Wednesday evening.

## **LIGHT OF BELIEF**

Every believer in this world must become a spark of light.  
—Pope Saint John XXIII

## **A Reminder re: Confessions and Funerals in this Time of Coronavirus**

The Archdiocese has suspended the Sacrament of Reconciliation for the time being. As always, individual confessions can be arranged for almost any time and day by appointment.

Funeral Masses have been suspended at this time as well. Wake services at funeral homes are not to be recommended. Graveside services are still permitted, limited to immediate family, and close friends only, and their number must be in keeping with limits established by civil authorities. Remember, there is always the option of having a Memorial Mass celebrated at a later time after the burial.

## **ARCHBISHOP'S ANNUAL APPEAL**

In June, after years of study, one man is scheduled to be ordained to the priesthood. During the years of preparation for his vocation, he was supported by family and friends – and by everyone who made a gift to the Archbishop's Annual Appeal. When you make a gift to the Appeal, you help meet the cost of priestly formation and education. Please support our seminarians by making a gift to the Appeal 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.com/appeal>. No appeal funds are ever used for legal fees or settlements.

**THE HARTFORD BISHOPS' FOUNDATION**  
**ASSISTING PARISHES IN RESPONSE TO COVID-19**  
**APRIL 30, 2020**

As many of you know, the suspension of parish life has had a significant impact on thousands of families, students, educators, and staff who are served through the 131 parishes and more than 40 Catholic schools across the region, including our parish family.

In response to this crisis, the Archdiocese of Hartford and The Hartford Bishops' Foundation - an independent, lay-governed 501(c)(3) partner of the Archdiocese - are actively supporting our parishes during this time of uncertainty with fundraising and communications guidance, financial assistance, and emergency response efforts. Below is a brief summary of the three initiatives being led by The Hartford Bishops' Foundation that are now underway:

- An **Offertory Restoration Initiative** - Parishes are receiving help and support from Changing Our World, a philanthropic consulting company. Services are helping to set up online giving, social media outreach, and offertory programs.
- A **"Support Your Parish" Campaign**, which invites everyone to make a special gift to their parish to help make up for lost offertory. Through this "special gifts" campaign, everyone is encouraged to do what they can to help their parish. Gifts may be made directly to the parish or through the HBF website.
- HBF has established an **Emergency Response Fund (ERF)** to gather and distribute emergency funds in support of the operational needs of Catholic parishes, schools, and ministries in response to the pandemic. These funds will be disbursed based on need, the availability of funds, and each parish's efforts to raise funds from parishioners. The Foundation is currently securing funds for the ERF as quickly as possible and will inform Pastors once the grant cycle opens and how parishes can apply.

## **HOW YOU CAN HELP**

As we navigate our way through these challenging times together, please prayerfully consider supporting our parish in the following ways:

1. Stay connected by viewing our posted video Masses, reading our parish bulletin, and praying for all those affected by COVID-19.
2. Support us however you can through online giving, mailing envelopes to the Administrative Center, or through the "Support Your Parish" Fund on The Hartford Bishops' Foundation website.
3. Consider a special gift to support the greatest needs of our Archdiocese and its parishes by contributing to the Emergency Response Fund.

**For more information about The Hartford Bishops' Foundation,**  
**please visit: <https://www.hartfordbishopsfoundation.org>**

Please contact the Foundation at [hbferf@aohct.org](mailto:hbferf@aohct.org) or call 860-913-2693 for more information about these initiatives.

## THE REASON FOR OUR HOPE

“What is the reason for your hope?” Imagine somebody coming up to you and asking you that question. Not “What are you hoping for?” or “What are you hoping to do?” No, this isn’t about our desires for possessions or aspirations for life, it’s “Why do you hope?” Peter today tells us that we ought to be ready to give an answer to this question. Truth be told, few of us spend much time thinking about why we hope. Luckily, the scriptures today give us our answers. We hope because Christ suffered for us, in order that we might come to God. We hope because we know that, in the Spirit, God grants us another Advocate through Christ to remain with us always. No matter what we might hope for, whatever we might hope to do, we must always first know and proclaim the reason for our hope: the presence of God in Christ, with us through the power of the Spirit.

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## COVID 19 (CORONAVIRUS) – POLICY FOR ST. GIANNA PARISH

All church door handles, pew tops, and hardcover hymnals are now regularly being sanitized.

We continue to actively monitor the building for your safety.

The Administrative Center telephone (860) 236-5965 will be regularly checked for messages. Priority items for your interest will be described on our phone greeting message, and changed as need be.

At this time, the updated bulletin continues to be available in our church buildings and seasonal material on the reading tables.

Always remember,

**LIFE GOES ON—may the Risen Lord strengthen you for the long haul.**

## SAINT RITA OF CASCIA (1381-1457)

### May 22

If you’re ever in Philadelphia on May 22, forget parking anywhere near Saint Rita’s shrine. Cars line streets and fill medians as throngs pack a candlelight vigil and six Masses, honoring this patroness of lost causes, hopeless situations, and—as her statue in countless churches built by twentieth-century immigrants testifies—difficult marriages, troubled homes, and alienated children. Wise people warn, be careful what you pray for. “Divine Savior,” Rita prayed, “let me suffer like you!” Obedient to parents who refused her wish to become a nun, Rita married a man who returned her devotion with twenty years of abuse. When enemies murdered him, Rita’s two sons swore revenge. Paintings depict her pointing the angry boys toward Christ crucified, whom she begged to restrain them. Within the year, both sons died. Alone now, Rita went to the convent but was refused. The nuns feared violence, since one of them was related to the murderer. Rita arranged peace between the families, made vows, and became much sought after as a counselor and intercessor for forty years on earth—and ever since in heaven.

—Peter Scagnelli, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS

**Grab and Go Mother's Day** prayers and gifts are available at both St. Brigid and St. Mark Church and outside the St. Mark Parish center. Look for the bright pink bags...

**May Crowning**—This year Father Joseph will be conducting the May Crowning on May 17th at 11:30 am outside at the Marian Garden at St Mark Church. Feel free to come and watch from the safety of your car. After Father has left, you are welcome to bring flowers from your home to our garden. There will be vases for you to place the flowers in anytime throughout the week. We have left Miraculous Medals of Mary in a small container by Mary's feet for you to take. All we ask is that you say a Hail Mary when you visit. Thanks!

**Faith-Filled Friends Food Drive**—St. Mark Church is planning a food drive for the end of the month. We are still working out the details. If you are a Confirmation Prep Student and would like to help, please email Mrs. Everett. More details will be sent out to the kids once we have a specific date and time.



### **Sixth Sunday of Easter May 17, 2020**

“I will ask the Father, and he will give you . . . the Spirit of truth.”  
— *John 14:16-17*

### **READINGS FOR THE WEEK**

Monday: Acts 16:11-15; Ps 149:1b-6a, 9b;  
Jn 15:26 — 16:4a  
Tuesday: Acts 16:22-34; Ps 138:1-3, 7c-8;  
Jn 16:5-11  
Wednesday: Acts 17:15, 22 — 18:1; Ps 148:1-2,  
11-14; Jn 16:12-15  
Thursday: Acts 1:1-11; Ps 47:2-3, 6-9; Eph 1:17-  
23; Mt 28:16-20 (for Ascension);  
otherwise  
Acts 18:1-8; Ps 98:1-4; Jn 16:16-20  
Friday: Acts 18:9-18; Ps 47:2-7; Jn 16:20-23  
Saturday: Acts 18:23-28; Ps 47:2-3, 8-10;  
Jn 16:23b-28  
Sunday: Acts 1:12-14; Ps 27:1, 4, 7-8; 1  
Pt 4:13-16; Jn 17:1-11a;  
or (for Ascension)  
Acts 1:1-11; Ps 47:2-3, 6-9;  
Eph 1:17- 23; Mt 28:16-20

### **SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES**

Sunday: Sixth Sunday of Easter  
Monday: St. John I  
Wednesday: St. Bernardine of Siena  
Thursday: The Ascension of the Lord  
(unless transferred to Sunday);  
St. Christopher Magallanes and  
Companions  
Friday: St. Rita of Cascia

### **TODAY'S READINGS**

**First Reading** — The people of Samaria accepted the word of God preached by Philip; they received the Holy Spirit (Acts 8:5-8, 14-17).

**Psalm** — Let all the earth cry out to God with joy (Psalm 66)

**Second Reading** — Act with gentleness and reverence toward all, so that when you are maligned those who defame you will be the ones put to shame (1 Peter 3:15-18) *or* 1 Peter 4:13-16.

**Gospel** — I will not leave you orphans, but will come to you (John 14:15-21) *or* Jn 17:1-11a.

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