



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

December 6, 2020
Second Sunday of Advent

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:

Karla@saintgiannaparish.org
Barbara@saintgiannaparish.org

Religious Education

Donna Wolcott, Coordinator
(860) 543-2607

Music Ministry

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

St. Mark the Evangelist Church

467 Quaker Lane South
West Hartford, CT 06110

Website:

saintgiannaparish.org

Email:

Karla@saintgiannaparish.org
Barbara@saintgiannaparish.org

Religious Education

Sandra Lee Everett
sandy.st.mark@gmail.com
(860) 233-1269

Music Ministry

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

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, December 5, 2020

- 4:00 PM* Albert and Rita Lewis by Their Family—SB
4:30 PM Roland Veilleux, 25th Anniversary, by His Family—SM

Sunday, December 6, 2020

- 8:30 AM* For the People of St. Gianna Parish—SB
10:30 AM Anna Pageotte, 32nd Anniversary, by Lonni Bos—SM
11:00 AM Thomas Witkovic by the Parker Family—SB

Monday, December 7, 2020

- 8:30 AM* Maria Jara by Rosa and Michael Peluso—SB
9:00 AM Sabino Padilla by His Family—SM

Tuesday, December 8, 2020

- 8:30 AM* In Honor of the Immaculate Conception by Anna—SB
9:00 AM For the People of St. Gianna Parish—SM

Wednesday, December 9, 2020

- 8:30 AM* Connie Samuelian by the Saint Brigid Ladies Guild—SB
9:00 AM Sabino Padilla by His Family—SM

Thursday, December 10, 2020

- 8:30 AM* Angela Mancini, Birthday Wishes, by Angela Mancini and Donna Wolcott—SB
9:00 AM Sabino Padilla by His Family—SM

Friday, December 11, 2020

- 9:00 AM* Sabino Padilla by His Family—SM

Saturday, December 12, 2020

- 8:30 AM* Lynn Griffin by Her Family—SB
4:00 PM Giuseppi Corpaci by His Wife—SB
4:30 PM Maurice Mulcahy, 13th Anniversary, by His Wife, Margaret—SM

Sunday, December 13, 2020

- 8:30 AM* In Thanksgiving—SB
10:30 AM For the People of St. Gianna Parish—SM
11:00 AM Francisco Nunes by His Wife and Family—SB

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

from Father Devine...

In the beginning, God created heaven and earth. (Genesis 1:1)

Throughout history, God has *continued* to create.

Now, today – God creates.

God just doesn't create us, and then walk away...

He “creates” us all the time!

One of the secrets of life is to be aware of the Creator's work each day...

to appreciate it, at least “after the fact.”

Remember last Sunday's readings:

We are the clay and you the potter...we are all the work of your hands.

What I say to you, I say to all: 'Watch!'

JOIN US FOR HOLY HOUR and EVENING PRAYER—TONIGHT

Sunday 6 December, 5:00 p.m. (SB)

Join us for holy hour and evening prayer (SB).

All are welcome.



MARK'S JESUS

Mark's Gospel is the shortest and tersest of all four. The discourses of Jesus tend to be terser as well. Mark's portrayal of Jesus has none of the poetry of the Sermon on the Mount or the Sermon on the Plain as in Matthew or Luke, nor the extensive, reflective “I Am” discourses as in John. Mark's Jesus “cuts to the chase,” we would say today. This is reflected quite well in today's passage.

It is no accident that the dialogue of Jesus at this point in the Gospel according to Mark—the concluding words about the end of the world—immediately before his passion, is riddled with exclamation points and an overall sense of urgency.

We would do well to re-tool our own way of living this Advent, for we live in a world urgently in need of hearing the message of Jesus proclaimed. It's time for us to “wake up!” and get out into the world to do it.

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ARCHBISHOP BLAIR EXTENDS THE MASS DISPENSATION

In light of the recent increase in coronavirus cases within the state of Connecticut and continued uncertainty regarding the extent and duration of the coronavirus in the state and throughout the Archdiocese of Hartford, Archbishop Blair has now extended the dispensation from the obligation to attend Mass on Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation for all the Faithful of the Archdiocese of Hartford through Tuesday, February 16, 2021, which is the eve of Ash Wednesday.

St. Gianna Parish News and Events

MONTHLY FOOD COLLECTION

This month's food collection at St. Mark is December 12 and 13. Your contributions are important and make a difference in the lives of those who are less fortunate.

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.

St. MARK GIVING TREE

There are still a few gift tags left on the tree in the church. Please feel free to help us help others. Giving Tree gifts are due back to the parish center by December 13 (Sunday) at noon.



HOLD THE DATE!
Saturday, December 19,
2020

5:00 p.m. – St. Brigid
Church

1st Annual Tree Lighting
Ceremony

More Info to Come!

Thanksgiving Food Collection

Thank you to all who helped with our Thanksgiving Food Drive. Together we were able to provide 24 meals for families at Charter Oak and Smith Schools AND have enough food to fill a van of donations for a Hartford food bank! Special thanks to Karen Noel Freda and Joe Faenza for heading this project up.

Advent Wreath Making Kits: While we were not able to gather together for the annual wreath making activity at St. Mark's, advent marches on. Special thanks to Ed Czapla for assembling almost 100 wreath packets which were distributed just before Advent at the food drive and after Masses. This year, the St. Mark's Knights of Columbus donated the spiffy purple bags which made the distribution of the wreathes so much easier. We look forward to gathering together next year for the wreath making but we are thankful this tradition has continued.

St. BRIGID GIVING TREE

St. Gianna's Parish Council is sponsoring a Giving Tree at St. Brigid Church to brighten the spirits of the residents of the St. Mary's Home in memory of Beth Demanski. The Tree will be in the church vestibule the weekends of November 27/28 and December 5/6. The tree will be adorned with tags, each of which contains a requested item from St. Mary's 'wish list' of needs/wants for the residents. Please take a tag and return your wrapped gift, with tag attached, to the church vestibule no later than Sunday, December 13. The Social Action Committee will deliver the gifts to St. Mary's home. Please keep this most worthy cause in mind as you prepare for Christmas, and the Social Action committee thanks you very much in advance.



St. Gianna Parish News and Events

GIVE THE GIFT OF MEMBERSHIP THIS SEASON

Invite a Catholic Man to become a Knight of Columbus. Free online membership* for new online membership applications submitted the **entire month of December**

Visit kofc.org/joinus. Enter code MCGIVNEY2020.

Questions? Email membership.west@ctcouncil.org.

www.ctstatecouncil.org

Follow us at [Facebook.com/ConnKofC](https://www.facebook.com/ConnKofC)

*regular dues are \$30/year

DECEMBER FOOD DRIVE

Join the St. Brigid Knights of Columbus Council during the month of December (until December 24th) in collecting food. Bring your donation of non-perishable cans, bags or boxes to the designated area in the vestibule of St. Brigid Church. The Knights will be collecting it from the vestibule on a regular basis to ensure that it is distributed to families that need it most. Thank you for your generosity during the busy Christmas season!



TOY DRIVE

The St. Brigid Social Action Committee is holding a Toy Drive December 12th and 13th. Please drop off **only new toys** at our usual drop off spot in front of the Church on Saturday from 3 to 5 p.m. and Sunday from 8:15 to 11:15 a.m. **Gift cards are also welcome.** These unwrapped toys should be suitable for children ages birth to 12 years of age and will be donated to the San Juan Center who will distribute them to Hartford families in time for Christmas. Please do not leave any toys in the Church.

CHRISTMAS FLOWER INTENTIONS

Donor:

Mrs. Francesca Biancamano

Mrs. Laura J. Carrier

Ms. Jackie Chiaradia

Mrs. Clara Espiefs

Ms. Ida Houle

Rudolf & Ginette Kempf

Mrs. Ralph Lang

Mr. Michael Miga

The O'Connor Family

Mrs. Beatrice Puchalski

Mrs. Antonietta Ragone

Intention:

Vito, Angelina & Francesco Biancamano; Camilla & Francesco Abbatemarco; Giuseppe & Francesca Abbatemarco & Family; Michele & Antonia Martucci & Family; Michele Ragone; Maria & Giovanni Calandriello

The Carrier Family and the Bourgoin Family

Socrates Espiefs

Edward Houle

Richard Templeton and Rudolf J. Kempf

Ralph F. Lang, Mr. and Mrs. Philip Carpenter and Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Lang

Stanley P. Miga and Mildred E. Miga

Robert O'Connor

Jim Puchalski, The Gaynor, Cloutier and Puchalski Families, Doris LaRocque, Tony Degostin, Danny Donato

Michele Ragone and the Ragone Family; Francesco and Camilla Abbatemarco and the Abbatemarco Family; the Galatro Family; Vito Biancamano; Lucy Casale and Family

ARCHBISHOP'S ANNUAL APPEAL

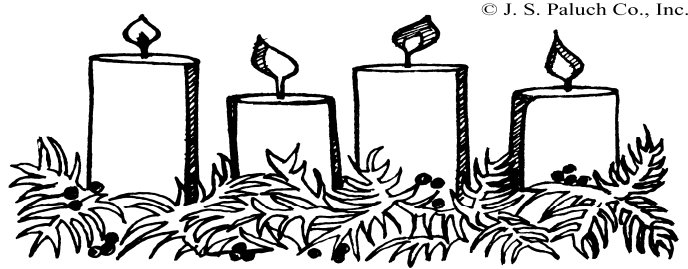
To the extent that you are not adversely affected financially by the pandemic, please respond to the 2020 Archbishop's Annual Appeal as best you can. Any gift, no matter the size, is truly appreciated and can make a significant difference. If you have not made your gift to the 2020 Appeal, please give prayerful consideration to including the Archbishop's Annual Appeal this year in your year-end giving, as all gifts can be paid through December 31, 2020.

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.

Second Sunday of Advent December 6, 2020

Every valley shall be filled in,
every mountain and hill
shall be made low.

— *Isaiah 40:4*



READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Is 35:1-10; Ps 85:9ab, 10-14;
Lk 5:17-26

Tuesday: Gn 3:9-15, 20; Ps 98:1-4;
Eph 1:3-6, 11-12; Lk 1:26-38

Wednesday: Is 40:25-31; Ps 103:1-4, 8, 10;
Mt 11:28-30

Thursday: Is 41:13-20; Ps 145:1, 9, 10-13ab;
Mt 11:11-15

Friday: Is 48:17-19; Ps 1:1-4; Mt 11:16-19

Saturday: Zec 2:14-17 or Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab; Jdt 13:18bcde, 19;
Lk 1:26-38 or Lk 1:39-47,
or any readings from the Common
of the Blessed Virgin Mary, nos.
707-712

Sunday: Is 61:1-2a, 10-11; Lk 1:46-50,
53-54; 1 Thes 5:16-24; Jn 1:6-8,
19-28

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday: Second Sunday of Advent

Monday: St. Ambrose;
Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day

Tuesday: The Immaculate Conception of the
Blessed Virgin Mary

Wednesday: St. Juan Diego

Thursday: International Human Rights Day;
Hanukkah begins at sunset

Friday: St. Damasus I

Saturday: Our Lady of Guadalupe

TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — The rugged land shall be made a plain; the rough country, a broad valley (Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11).

Psalm — Lord, let us see your kindness, and grant us your salvation (Psalm 85).

Second Reading — Conduct yourselves in holiness, hastening the coming of the day of God (2 Peter 3:8-14).

Gospel — I have baptized you with water; he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit (Mark 1:1-8).

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RELIGIOUS EDUCATION~~ST. BRIGID CAMPUS

9th & 10 Grade Confirmation Class Reminder

Our 9th & 10th Grade Confirmation class will be held on Sunday, December 13, from 1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. at St. Brigid Church in McMahon Hall.

Religious Education Reminder

There will be NO RELIGIOUS EDUCATION classes Wednesday, December 23, 2020 through Saturday, January 2, 2021, for the Christmas Holiday vacation. Classes will resume Wednesday, January 6, 2021 and Saturday, January 9, 2021. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!!

Sunday Morning Religious Education at St. Mark Church Campus

9th & 10 Grade Confirmation Class Reminder

Our 9th & 10th Grade Confirmation class will be held virtually, via Zoom Meetings, on Sunday, December 6, from 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

Homeschooling extended: Archbishop Blair has extended the dispensation for Mass attendance until mid-February. **Our preschool through eighth grade classes will continue with the homeschooling format until the dispensation has been lifted.** Each week we have classes you will receive a reminder about what chapters to complete at home. If you have any questions or concerns, please email your Catechist or Sandy Everett at sandy.st.mark@gmail.com. Of course, you can still register and join us as we learn about our faith.

Children's Liturgy Grab and Go packet for December will focus on Christmas. They are available after the Masses today. Feel free to pick one up for your children or grandchildren.

Adult Enrichment

December Packets will focus on the names of Jesus. The packets are available after the Masses today. If you would like a packet emailed to you, please let Sandy know at sandy.st.mark@gmail.com.