

St. Mary's Church

Directory

Parish Office: 3 Massaco Street
(860) 658-7627
www.stmarysimsbury.org

Office Hours:

Monday - Thursday: 8:30 - 4:00 PM
Friday: 8:30 - 12:00 PM

Rev. Frank Matera: Ext. 301

Deacon Arthur Miller: Ext.113

Parish Office: Ext. 306
Jennifer Almeida and Heather Benedetti
Parishoffice@stmarysimsbury.org

Business Manager: William Heiden Ext. 303
businessmanager@stmarysimsbury.org

Bookkeeper: Joanne Dunn Ext. 307
bookkeeper@stmarysimsbury.org

Religious Education Grades 1-6: Judy Eagen
Ext. 304 ReLED1-6@stmarysimsbury.org

**Religious Education Grades 7-10
& Youth Ministry:** Kathleen Keating
Ext. 302 youthministry@stmarysimsbury.org
Instagram & Facebook: @igniteyouthministry831

Music Ministry: Gena Sullivan and Patricia Lepak

Stephen Ministry: Linda Duff Ext. 114
stephenministry@stmarysimsbury.org

St. Mary's School:
Principal: Margaret Williamson
(860) 658-9412
946 Hopmeadow Street
www.stmarysschoolsimsbury.org



MASSES:

Monday - Thursday 8:00 AM
Saturday Vigil Mass 5:00 PM
Sunday: 8:00, 9:30 & 11:00 AM

CONFESSIONS: Saturday 3:00 - 4:00 PM

SICK CALLS: Please notify the Parish Office if someone in your family is hospitalized and would like a visit. *Under HIPAA Regulations, hospitals are not allowed to notify us.*

BAPTISMS: First Sunday of the month during the 11:00 AM Mass and the third Sunday of the month after the 11:00 AM Mass. Please call the Parish Office for further information.

WEDDINGS: Please call for an appointment at least 6 months in advance.

VISITORS: Thank you for worshipping with us. To register with St. Mary's Parish please call (860) 658-7627 or email us at Parishoffice@stmarysimsbury.org

∞ **Mass Intentions** ∞

Saturday
5:00 PM
April 8
Lina Wagner
In Memory of
By: Jane & Ken Stevenson

Sunday
8:00 AM
9:30 AM
11:00 AM
April 9
People of St. Mary's Parish
Robert Windisch, Sr.
In Memory of
By: Eileen Sickinger
Elaine Montano
Birthday Remembrance
In Loving Memory
By: Mom, Dad and Family

Monday
8:00 AM
April 10
Kate McLoughlin
In Memory
By: Kathleen & John Miklus

Tuesday
8:00 AM
April 11
Lee & Mary Lennon
Anniversary

Wednesday
8:00 AM
April 12
Anna Forcucci
In Loving Memory
By: Her Family

Thursday 7:00 PM	Holy Thursday No Morning Mass Mass of the Lord's Supper
Friday 3:00 PM 7:00 PM	Good Friday No Morning Mass The Lord's Passion Stations of the Cross
Saturday 11:00 AM 7:30 PM	Holy Saturday No Morning Mass & No Confessions Blessing of the Food Great Vigil of Easter
Sunday 8:00 AM 9:30 AM 11:00 AM	Easter Sunday People of St. Mary's Parish People of St. Mary's Parish People of St. Mary's Parish

∞ **Parish Announcements** ∞

Easter Collection & Parish Charities: There are two collections next week. The first collection is our annual Easter Collection, which is important for the financial stability of our parish. The second collection is for Parish Charities which enables us to respond to charitable requests. Thank you for your generosity.

Blessing of Food: Join us in the Parish Center on Holy Saturday at 11:00 AM for the traditional blessing of Easter Food. Please see the bulletin insert for further information.

Easter Holy Water: Holy Water will be blessed at the Easter Vigil and will be available to all. Please bring a small container if you wish to have Easter Holy Water.

AAA: Thank you to the parish families who have made a gift or pledge commitment to the 2017 Archbishop's Annual Appeal. If you have not yet had the opportunity, please consider prayerfully supporting the many Good Works of the Archdiocese. Every gift will be gratefully received and sincerely appreciated.

Weekly Offertory: Last week's offertory was \$12,118.58. Of this amount, \$3,088.58 came from 95 E-Givers, and \$9,030.00 came from envelopes and cash. Please consider E-Giving. To meet our project budget, our weekly offertory should average \$14,900.

Sacrament of Reconciliation: Confessions will be heard in every parish of the Archdiocese on the Mondays of Lent from 6:00 to 7:00 PM. Bishop Peter Rosazza will be hearing confessions at St. Mary's with Father Matera.

Stations of the Cross: Stations of the Cross are held on the Fridays of Lent at 7:00 PM.

Mercy Shelter: Desserts and fruit are needed to take to Mercy Shelter in Hartford. All items can be dropped off in the lower church before 3:00 PM on Sunday, April 9. Thanks for all the donations!

Birthright Needs: Birthright is an emergency pregnancy service who offers free pregnancy tests, friendship counseling, and practical support. We help every girl or woman who calls us. Birthright is in need of gently worn Maternity clothing and baby clothing. Please call (860) 290-8800 to arrange drop off.

The Sacred Triduum

This coming week we will enter the most sacred week of the Church's liturgical year: Holy Week. At the climax of this week, we will celebrate *the Sacred Triduum*—three days that form a single celebration: Holy Thursday, Good Friday, and the Easter Vigil.

Most of us think of these days as three separate feasts. But nothing could be further from the truth. *The Sacred Triduum of Holy Thursday, Good Friday, and the Easter Vigil forms a single feast whereby we participate in the Paschal Mystery.* This means that the ideal is to attend all three celebrations. Moreover, the ideal is to celebrate the Sacred Triduum in the same church with the same congregation rather than in different churches with different congregations.

The Sacred Triduum is the way in which we enter the Paschal Mystery of Christ's death and resurrection. It is not a mere remembrance of the past; it is our participation in the on-going mystery of Christ's saving death and life-giving resurrection. United with Christ, we die to the power of Sin over our life. United with Christ, we rise in the Spirit to his resurrection life.

Holy Thursday, 7:00 PM. The Sacred Triduum begins at sundown with the celebration of the Lord's Supper. On this day we participate in the Last Supper at which the Lord instituted the Eucharist as a perpetual memorial of his presence among us until he comes again. On this night the Church also recalls the institution of the priesthood. The Eucharist that we celebrate on this evening is distinctive in several ways. First, at the beginning of Mass, those who attended the Chrism Mass at the Cathedral bring forth the sacred oils we will use throughout the year for Baptism, Confirmation, and the Anointing of the Sick. Second, after the homily the priest washes the feet of twelve parishioners in imitation of what Jesus did to show that the meaning of ministry is service to others. Finally, at the end of Mass, there is a solemn procession of the Eucharist to the altar of repose where the Blessed Sacrament will be revered until 10:00 PM.

Good Friday, 3:00 PM. After the interruption of the night and morning, we resume the Paschal Triduum by a solemn commemoration of the Lord's death that consists of three parts: The Liturgy of the Word; the Veneration of the Cross; Holy Communion. The Liturgy of the Word consists of readings that focus on the Lord's death, a solemn reading of the Passion according to St. John, and an especially beautiful set of General Intercessions. The Veneration of the Cross allows us to venerate the symbol of our salvation. Although there is no Mass this day, we will receive Holy Communion from the hosts consecrated on Holy Thursday.

Easter Vigil, 7:30 PM. The climax of the Sacred Triduum is the Great Easter Vigil, the night during which we keep vigil as we await the Lord's resurrection. This beautiful evening consists of four parts: (1) The lighting of the New Fire and the solemn procession of the Paschal Candle into the dark church, showing how the risen Lord dispels the darkness of sin; (2) Readings from the Old and New Testament that foreshadow and proclaim the Lord's resurrection; (3) the blessing of the Easter Water and the renewal of our baptismal promises; and (4) the celebration of the Eucharist. On this night we keep solemn vigil with the entire church as we wait for the Lord's resurrection.

Easter Sunday, 8:00, 9:30, 11:00 AM. On this day, we rejoice with the church throughout the world that Christ has been raised from the dead. We do not merely remember a past event; we celebrate an enduring reality. The Lord is risen and alive in a way that we will not fully understand until we participate in his resurrection. In the meantime, we participate in the mystery of his death and resurrection by our participation in the Sacred Triduum.

Father Matera

April 9, 2017

∞ **Religious Education** ∞

No Religious Education: Religious Education will not be in session next Sunday, April 16th because of Easter Sunday. Classes will resume on April 23rd.

Middle School Religious Ed: Our next session will run on April 23. It is a split session with a visit from the Sisters of Life and small group time for our last lesson! We will give the Sisters the baby shampoo, baby lotion, diapers, and diaper cream we have collected. Thank you to everyone who donated!

Confirmation Candidates: Please keep our Confirmation candidates, their sponsors, and their families in your prayers during this final stage of Sacramental Preparation. Our candidates will receive the Sacrament of Confirmation on Saturday, April 22 and Saturday, May 6 during 11:00 AM Masses.

∞ **Youth Ministry** ∞

Youth Rally: On April 30, IGNITE is traveling to the Cathedral of Saint Joseph where youth groups from the Hartford, Litchfield, and New Haven counties will gather for music, food, talks, Mass, and Adoration. To sign up, visit the parish website and click Faith Formation, Youth Ministry, and IGNITE Youth Ministry.

Special Visitors: The Sisters of Life live and work with mothers and babies in crisis. On April 23, IGNITE will meet from 6:00-7:30 PM to eat dinner and work on a special project with the Sisters!

Sweet Treats: IGNITE members who will be attending the Steubenville East Catholic Youth Conference this July will be selling baked goods after all Masses on the weekends of April 22 and April 29.

∞ **Adult Enrichment** ∞

Adult Enrichment: Palm Sunday. No Religious Education or Adult Enrichment this week.

Next Week: Easter Sunday. No Religious Education or Adult Enrichment.

Bible Study with Deacon Art: Bible Study is scheduled for the following **Wednesday evenings:** April 19; May 3 & 17; June 7 & 21 in the **Parish Center** beginning at 7:00 PM. Prior to Bible Study, join us at 6:10 PM for Lectio Divina in the portable classrooms and/or 6:45 PM in the Parish Center for prayers for healing and special intentions. All are welcome. Please bring your Bible and a friend. We hope to see you there!

∞ **St. Mary's School** ∞

Celebrating 60 years of Catholic education! Tickets are now available for *A Knight at the Gala* at Farmington Gardens on Friday, April 21st at 6:30 PM. The evening includes dinner, beer & wine, dancing, entertainment by speed painter Rob Surette (amazing heroart.com) and a silent & live auction all for \$100 per person, table of ten \$1,000. Proceeds raised from this event will support our school technology program. Please contact Toni Chagnon to purchase tickets or for more information at (860) 658-9412 or tchagnon@stmmarysimsbury.eduk12.net

∞ **Granny's Attic** ∞

Collection dates: Wednesday, April 19th, Thursday, April 20th and Friday, April 21st 4:00-7:00 PM; Saturday, April 22nd and Sunday, April 23rd 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM.

Granny's Attic Open to the Public: Monday, April 24th through Saturday, April 29th. For times, please refer to St. Mary's website: www.stmarysimsbury.org. If you have questions and/or would like to volunteer to collect, sort and assist in selling, please contact Jane Stevenson (860) 651 5017 or email at je@comcast.net or Stephanie McIntyre (860) 651 3862 or email at smcintyre190@gmail.com.

Volunteers Needed: We are still in need of volunteers! As of this week we have only 21 of a possible 350 time slots filled. We have jobs for everyone, from organizing before the sale, helping customers on sell dates and the "Great Clean Up" after the sale. Sign up now and plan to spend the day serving our church and meeting new friends! There is a link to the sign up genius on the front page of our website or you can follow the link below. <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/70a0545abac238-grannys> Thanks again! Remember many hands make light work!

∞ **Free Rosary Repair** ∞

Free Rosary Repair: We have lots of parts! Send your broken rosaries in a padded envelope to: Betty and Dick Holden 7930 Estero Blvd., Apt. 502, Fort Myers Beach, FL 33931. They will be repaired and returned to you within the week of receipt. Donations of old and broken rosaries are also accepted which will be repaired and sent on to the missions. Include a note indicating repair and return to me or that this is a donation. Please email: HoldenBnD@comcast.net with any questions.

End of Bulletin

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