

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 29 Lucille Mary McKeeman
Sunday 8:00 AM	April 30 Ethel Melanson In Memory of By: Sandy Quigley & Kathy Brignac
9:30 AM	Michael Zikovich In Loving Memory By: His Wife & Children
11:00 AM	Alla Hamisevich By: St. Mary's Parish
Monday 8:00 AM	May 1 Rosemary Reynolds In Memory of By: The Kalamarides Family
Tuesday 8:00 AM	May 2 Mary & Alex Swaika In Loving Memory By: Their Family
Wednesday 8:00 AM	May 3 Warren Miller Birthday Remembrance By: Ron & Dorothy Miller
Thursday 8:00 AM	May 4 Kris Moore By: Karen
Saturday 11:00 AM 5:00 PM	May 6 Confirmation Mass Lucille Mary McKeeman Repose of the Soul By: Paul Fitzpatrick
Sunday 8:00 AM	May 7 Matthew McNally In Memory By: The O'Bryan Family
9:30 AM	Suzanne Comeau In Loving Memory By: Her Family
11:00 AM	People of St. Mary's Parish



Deceased: Please pray for Thomas Asip, Josee Deltenre and Alla Hamisevich. May they rest in peace of Christ.

∞ **Parish Announcements** ∞

AAA: This month, after years of study, two men are scheduled to be ordained to the priesthood. During their years of preparation for this vocation, they were 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. For more information please visit the Appeal website at www.archdioceseofhartford.org.

Weekly Offertory: Last week's offertory was \$10,534.75. Of this amount, \$2,930.25 came from 93 E-Givers and \$7,604.50 came from envelopes and cash. Please consider E-Giving. To meet our projected budget, our weekly offertory should average \$14,900.

Marriage Anniversaries: On Saturday, May 13, at the 5:00 PM Mass, we will celebrate the wedding anniversaries of all who were married during the months of March, April and May. If you were married during these months, please join us at the 5:00 PM Mass so that you can renew your marriage vows and we can bless your marriage. All anniversaries are important. A wine and cheese social will follow in the Parish Center. Please join us.

Bake Sale: Come and support the bake sale following all Masses this weekend April 29-30. The youth at St. Mary's parish are raising funds to cover costs for their annual Steubenville East youth conference this summer. Over 65 youth from our parish plan to attend this exciting conference. Thanks for your support!

Prayer Shawl: Interested in knitting or crocheting? Join us if you would like to make a shawl for the ministry -- beginners to experts are welcome on Monday, May 1st at 7:00 PM in the Lower Church!

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, May 7th. Thanks for all the donations!

Bereavement Support Group: If you have lost someone and would like support, feel free to join our Bereavement Support Group after the 11:00 AM Mass on May 7th. We will meet in the Lower Church. We hope to see you there.

Are You New To Saint Mary's: If you are new to Saint Mary's please register with us so that we can better serve you. To register call (860 658 7627) or stop by the Parish Office (3 Masacco Street), across the street from the church.

They Recognized Him in the Breaking of the Bread

Two disciples are walking away from Jerusalem to a small village called Emmaus. They are saddened, disappointed, and confused. They cannot understand the meaning of the events that have recently taken place in Jerusalem. Why was Jesus condemned to death and crucified? Why did he suffer the humiliating death of crucifixion? They had such high hopes for Jesus. They thought he was the Messiah, the one who would redeem the people of Israel. But their hopes ended in disappointment. Jesus' shameful death on the cross called into question everything they believed. Jesus may have been a mighty prophet, but he didn't fulfill their hopes and expectations. Jesus may have been a mighty prophet, but he didn't bring the redemption they were waiting for.

Then the stranger appears. At first, he seems so ill-informed. He doesn't even know what has happened these past few days in Jerusalem. But as they journey on, the stranger begins to explain the meaning of the scriptures to them in a way they had never heard before. Starting with Moses and then turning to the prophets, the stranger opens their eyes to the meaning of the scriptures so that they can understand the mysterious plan of God: *that the Messiah had to suffer and die before he could enter into his glory.*

It is now late and time for supper. And so the disciples urge the stranger who has become their teacher to spend the night with them. The stranger accepts their invitation, and at supper he breaks bread, blesses it, and gives it to them; and suddenly their eyes are opened. This is the same action that Jesus performed when he fed the 5000 in the wilderness. This is the same action that Jesus performed at the Last Supper. Now they recognize who the stranger is: He is Jesus, the one who had been crucified. Now, for the first time, they understand that Jesus is risen and alive because God has raised him from the dead.

We are the disciples of this story! There are moments in our lives when we too are so preoccupied with our own problems and the disappointments of life that we cannot understand God's plan. And because we do not understand God's plan, we do not recognize the presence of the risen Christ in our lives, even when the risen one is in our midst. Because we are like those two disciples, our eyes need to be opened so that we can recognize the one who is present and alive to us, even though we cannot see him.

The experience of recognizing the risen Lord in the breaking of the bread is the experience we have every time we celebrate the Eucharist. When the Word is proclaimed to us, the mystery of God is revealed to us. When the bread of the Eucharist is broken for us, the crucified and risen Lord is made present to us.

Look at the beautiful Paschal Candle that will stand beside the pulpit throughout this Easter Season until the day of Pentecost. That candle is the risen Christ. And in the light of this candle, the risen Lord opens our minds to understand the scriptures so that we can comprehend the plan of God for our lives. As we hear the scriptures and break the bread, the Lord is present among us once more.

Father Matera

April 30, 2017

∞ **Religious Education** ∞

First Communion Rehearsals: The First Communion Masses are on Saturday, May 20th. The 10:00 AM session rehearses on May 15th and the 1:00 PM session rehearses on May 16th. Rehearsal will be 5:00-6:30 PM. Children and a parent should attend the rehearsal.

∞ **Youth Ministry** ∞

Bake Sales: IGNITE members who will be attending the Steubenville East Catholic Youth Conference will be selling baked goods after all Masses this weekend and next weekend. Our group of over 65 teens will join over 3,000 teens from the northeast at this conference in July. Thanks for your support!

Graduation Celebration: Please mark your calendars! During our 5:00 PM Youth Mass on May 21st, we will honor our graduating seniors in a special way.

Youth Rally: On April 30th, 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.

∞ **Adult Enrichment** ∞

Adult Enrichment: The last Adult Education session of the year concludes with the continuation of the *Catholicism* series. You need not have seen the other sessions to reap the full reward of the message and breathtaking cinematography. Come be inspired by the truth, beauty and goodness of your faith.

Next Week: Religious Education and Adult Enrichment will resume next Fall. Enjoy the warm weather!

Bible Study with Deacon Art: Bible Study is scheduled for the following **Wednesday evenings:** 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!

∞ **Other** ∞

Bible Study: The Archdiocesan Catholic Biblical School (CBS) invites adults to engage the Word of God from the perspective of Catholic faith. Enrollment begins May 1st. Contact the CBS office by August 15th to enroll. Classes begin in locations throughout the Archdiocese just after Labor Day. For more information, check out our website: www.CatholicEdAOHCT.org or contact us in the Office of Education, Evangelization and Catechesis at (860) 242-5573 or catholic.biblical.school@aohct.org

Annual Social Justice Conference: The Archdiocesan Office for Catholic Social Justice Ministry will host its 8th **Bishop Peter Rosazza Social Justice Conference**, “Rooted in Faith: One Family Under God” on **Saturday, June 10th** from 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM at St. Thomas Seminary in Bloomfield (Check-in begins at 8:00 AM)

The conference theme is “Rooted in Faith, One Family under God” and will feature two keynote addresses. Sister Ruth Rosenbaum, TC, PhD, Founder and Executive Director, CREA: Center for Reflection, Education and Action will open the program with her keynote address. Participants will then have the opportunity to choose from a selection of 12 workshops. The day concludes with a closing keynote by Fr. Joseph Donnelly, Pastor, Sacred Heart Church, Southbury.

The conference is an opportunity to meet and learn from others across the archdiocese and beyond. Join us for prayer, music, exhibits and workshops. For information, call (860) 242-5573 Ext. 2688.

Evening Workshop for Couples: Walking the Path Together, with Susan and Brandon Nappi, Wednesday, May 10th, 6:00-9:00 PM. Would you like to deepen the connection you feel with your partner? This evening workshop will help you to accept differences in your spouse more graciously, deal with conflict more honestly and deepen the sense of joyful mutual appreciation in your relationship. The cost is \$40 per individual, \$70 per couple, includes dinner. For any questions, please call (860) 760-9705. www.holyfamilyretreat.org.

End of Bulletin

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