

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: Lori Oleasz
Ext. 304 DRELori@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
2:00 PM **August 12**
Wedding: Michael Turisco &
Cristina Garcia
5:00 PM Joseph Forcucci
In Loving Memory
By: His Family

Sunday
8:00 AM **August 13**
Omar & Jen Wilson
Living Intentions
By: Paul & June Krippner
9:30 AM People of St. Mary's Parish
11:00 AM Barbara L. Murray
In Loving Memory of
By: Kathleen & John Miklus

Monday
8:00 AM **August 14**
James Elliot
1st Anniversary
By: The Elliot Family

Tuesday	The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary
8:00 AM	People of St. Mary's Parish
12:15 PM	People of St. Mary's Parish
6:00 PM	People of St. Mary's Parish

Wednesday
8:00 AM **August 16**
Dottie Kondzielaski
Birthday Remembrance
By: Ron & Dorothy Miller

Thursday
8:00 AM **August 17**
President Trump

Saturday
5:00 PM **August 19**
People of St. Mary's Parish

Sunday
8:00 AM **August 20**
9:30 AM People of St. Mary's Parish
Kris Moore
By: Karen
11:00 AM Gino Garilli
In Loving Memory
By: The McWhirter Family

Attention All Women of the Parish! The St. Mary's Women's Guild is coming back to our Parish and we would love to have you become involved! All ages are welcome! Membership will begin in September. Events and programs will be announced soon. For more information or questions, please email Womens-Guild@StMarySimsbury.org Thank you, Diana Kalamarides & Susan Falkner

∞ **Parish Announcements** ∞

Weekly Offertory: We thank you for your generous support of St. Mary's Parish without which we would not be able to carry out our many ministries. Last week's offertory was \$12,483.25. Of this amount, \$4,001.25 came from 104 E-Givers, and \$8,482.00 came from envelopes and cash. Please consider E-Giving. To meet our project budget, our weekly offertory should average \$14,900.

The Second Collection for Maryknoll collected a total of \$4,691.

Catholic Education: If you would like to know the difference that a Catholic Education can make for your child, please visit St. Mary's School this summer. To visit the School, simply call and make an appointment (860 658 9412). St. Mary's School enrolls children from Pre-K through Eighth Grade. If you are searching for academic excellence for your child in a faithful-filled and faith-filled environment, learn more about St. Mary's School.

Welcome to St. Mary's! Are you new to Simsbury? We welcome you to our faith community. If you are from St. Bernard's we especially welcome you since St. Bernard's was the mother from which St. Mary's was born.

Recitation of the Rosary: We welcome you to join us for the 100th anniversary of Fatima, on Saturday, August 19th at 9:00 AM in front of St. Mary's Church. In the event of poor weather, we will move inside the Church. All are welcome to join us!

Blessed Prayer Shawls: Hand knit or crocheted by the St. Mary's Prayer Shawl Ministry are packaged and available in the Parish Office for parishioners to give to others.

Stephen Ministry: This one-to-one lay ministry is named for Stephen, one of seven called by the church to assist the apostles in caring for others (Acts 6 and 7). Stephen Ministry is listening, caring for others in Jesus' name. If you want to learn more about this ministry, email stephenministry@stmarysimsbury.org or call (860 658 7627).

Parish Picnic: The Parish Picnic will take place on Sunday, September 17 from 3:00-5:00 PM.

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 Feast of the Assumption A Holy Day for Our Parish

This Tuesday, August 15th, is the Feast of the Assumption, a holy day of obligation. Masses will be celebrated at the following times:

8:00 AM

12:15 PM

6:00 PM

The windows on the right side of our church, as you face the altar, depict the Glorious Mysteries of the Rosary: the Resurrection, the Ascension, the Descent of the Holy Spirit upon the Apostles, the Assumption of Mary into Heaven, and the Crowning of Mary as the Queen of Heaven. The second window from the back of the church depicts the Assumption, the feast that we will celebrate this Tuesday. The last window from the back celebrates the Crowning of Mary as the Queen of Heaven, the feast we will celebrate next Tuesday, August 22nd.

We are especially blessed to have our Church dedicated to Mary, the Mother of God. The Second Vatican Council called Mary “the Mother of the Church,” and the Gospel of Saint Luke portrays her as “the perfect disciple,” who listens to and ponders the Word of God in her heart. It is most appropriate, then, that we celebrate this feast as a parish community under the protection of Mary.

The Feast of the Assumption proclaims that after her death, Mary was taken into heaven, body and soul. This means that Mary shares in the fullness of her Son’s resurrection, even now. Whereas we must wait for the general resurrection of the dead before we share in the fullness of the Lord’s resurrection, Mary already shares in the fullness of the Lord’s resurrection because of her distinctive role in salvation history as the Mother of the Savior.

An early church writer, Saint John Damascene writes of Mary: *It was necessary that she who had preserved her virginity inviolate in childbirth should also have her body kept free from all corruption after death. It was necessary that she who had carried the Creator as a child on her breast should dwell in the tabernacle of God. It was necessary that the bride espoused by the Father should make her home in the bridal chamber of heaven. It was necessary that she, who had gazed on her crucified Son and been pierced in the heart by the sword of sorrow she had escaped at childbirth, should contemplate him seated with the Father. It was necessary that the Mother of God should share the possessions of her Son, and be venerated by every creature as the Mother and handmaid of God.*

The greatness of Mary consists in her humility. Her power is found in her weakness. Whereas she humbled herself before God, God exalted Mary before us. And whereas she was weak, she was filled with the power of God. Mary provides us with an example of faith and discipleship. She is an example of faith because she believed in the Word that the Angel Gabriel spoke to her. She is an example of discipleship, because she listened to and pondered God’s Word.

Think of Tuesday’s feast as the feast of our parish, a feast that is especially dear to us because our church is dedicated to Mary, and because our beautiful stained glass windows portray her assumption. Join us this Tuesday for this beautiful feast.

Father Matera

August 13, 2017

Religious Education

St. Mary's School

Religious Education Grades 1-6: Our Religious Education classes will begin on Sunday, September 10th for the 2017-2018 year. We look forward to a wonderful year as we journey together in faith.

DID YOU KNOW? That St. Mary's School's Mission is: "To ignite spiritual growth and promote academic excellence within a nurturing faith community. United together, we inspire students to know love and serve God."

Youth Ministry

Catholic Transcript: In the spring, our teens served as the leadership team for the first youth rally at the Cathedral of Saint Joseph. A reporter from the Catholic Transcript covered the event and IGNITE has been featured in the July/August issue. Copies are available at all doors of the church. Please take one home!

There is still time to explore St. Mary's School as the education solution for your family! Serving students in grades Pre-K through 8, the school consistently graduates students fully prepared for the finest high schools and colleges. The consistency of being part of a school community for many years helps students grow in caring for one another and in becoming all that they can be!

Other

Save the Date: The Office of Education, Evangelization and Catechesis of the Archdiocese of Hartford is pleased to announce the inaugural Archdiocesan Women's Conference – a day to celebrate our Roman Catholic faith.

Call, drop in on Wednesdays or make an appointment. Mrs. Chagnon, Advancement and Admissions Director or Mrs. Williamson, Principal, will be happy to meet with you! Contact us at (860 658 9412) or tchagnon@stmarysimsbury.eduk12.net.

This year's theme, "Be Strong and Courageous!" is taken from Joshua 1:9, and provides the foundation for highlighting the ways that women of faith inspire each other and strengthen our Church and world.

The event will take place on **Saturday, November 4, 2017** at the beautiful Hartford Marriott Downtown in Hartford, CT and run from 9:00 AM-5:00 PM. Those interested can visit our website at www.CatholicEdAOHCT.org for more information.



**You Are Very Welcome at
St. Mary's**

Are you new to Simsbury? Are you coming from another parish? We warmly welcome you to our faith community. If you have not yet registered with us please drop this form in the collection box or mail it to St. Mary's Church P.O. Box 575 Simsbury, CT 06070.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

RCIA

Entrance into the Church: RCIA stands for "The Rite of Christian Initiation." It is the process by which those who are not Catholic and wish to become Catholic enter the Church. If you are not Catholic and have been thinking of becoming a Catholic, or if you know someone who would like to become a Catholic, please contact Fr. Matera.

Our RCIA program meets after the 9:30 AM Mass, twice a month, beginning in the fall and early spring, concluding with reception into the church at the Easter Vigil. The program provides a way to learn about the church and experience its community.

The RCIA is for (1) people who were never baptized, (2) non-Catholics who would like to become Catholics, (3) Catholics who were baptized but never catechized and confirmed. If you have questions or want further information, please speak with Fr. Matera by calling the Parish Office at (860 658 7627).