

# St. Mary Church



VIEW FROM HOPMEADOW

## Directory

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

**Office Hours:**  
Monday - Thursday: 8:30 - 3:00 PM  
Friday: 8:30 - 12:00 PM

**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

**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

**Rev. Frank Matera:** Ext. 301

**Deacon Arthur Miller:** Ext.113

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

**Finance Manager:** Joanne Dunn Ext. 307  
financemanager@stmarysimsbury.org

**Operations & Facilities:** Jay Reynolds Ext. 305  
jay.reynolds@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

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

**Music Ministry:** Gena Sullivan &  
Patricia Lepak

**St. Mary's School:**  
Principal Margaret Williamson  
(860) 658-9412

## Mass Intentions

<b>Saturday</b> 5:00 PM	<b>July 21</b> Deacon Andy Anthony By: His Wife
<b>Sunday</b> 8:00 AM	<b>July 22</b> Michael & Dorothy Dlubac Birthday Remembrance By: The Dlubac Family
9:30 AM 11:00 AM	People of St. Mary's Parish Eunice Kelly By: The Kelly Family
<b>Monday</b> 8:00 AM	<b>July 23</b> Lou Pellino By: The Cummings Family
<b>Tuesday</b> 8:00 AM	<b>July 24</b> George L. Hall Jr.
<b>Wednesday</b> 8:00 AM	<b>July 25</b> Alan Berg By: Paul Berg
<b>Thursday</b> 8:00 AM	<b>July 26</b> Mark Cummings Birthday Remembrance By: The Cummings Family
<b>Saturday</b> 5:00 PM	<b>July 28</b> Ruth Horacek
<b>Sunday</b> 8:00 AM	<b>July 29</b> George Michael Scheidel & All Deceased Family Members By: Barbara & Paul Roderick
9:30 AM 11:00 AM	People of St. Mary's Parish Reverend William Dudack By: Barbara & Paul Roderick

**Baptism:** We welcome Riley Ann & Hailey Rose Flanagan, and Elora Mae Richard who were baptized into Christ last week.

**We Welcome Children who Cry!** If your child cries in church, please do not worry. We welcome children, especially when they are crying because it is a sign of new life for our parish. Think of their crying as their prayer of praise.

**Do You Need the Sacrament of the Sick?** If you are facing a serious illness and would like to receive the Sacrament of the Sick, contact Fr. Matera. We regularly administer the sacrament after daily Mass.

## Parish Announcements

**Annual Mission Appeal:** This weekend, July 21-22, Father James Joseph, a Salesian missionary priest, will be here to make an appeal for the missionary work of his order, the Salesians. The second collection will be for the benefit of his Order's missionary work. Checks should be made out to "St. Mary's Church."

**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 \$17,403. Of this amount, \$8,694 came from 139 E-Givers, and \$8,709 came from envelopes and cash. Please consider E-Giving. On the first week of the month we will provide year to date offertory receipts against budget.

**Father Matera Away:** Father Matera will be away this week, Monday through Friday, July 23-27.

**Listening Session in Preparation for Archdiocesan Synod:** In 2020 the Archdiocese of Hartford will hold a Synod. A Synod is an assembly of selected priests and other members of the Church who gather to assist the Archbishop in deliberating on the pastoral needs of the Church. This Synod will be important in revitalizing the pastoral life of the Archdiocese of Hartford.

To prepare for the Synod, each Parish is to organize a "Listening Session" in which parishioners are asked to address three questions. (1) What are we as an Archdiocese doing well? (2) What are we as an Archdiocese doing not so well? (3) What are we as an Archdiocese not doing that we should be? The Listening Session for Saint Mary's Parish will be Wednesday, September 5<sup>th</sup>, at 7:00 PM in the Lower Church. The Archdiocese wants at least fifty people in attendance. Please attend so that you can address the needs of our Archdiocese.

**Scheduling Space for the Coming Year:** All groups, without exception, that use the Parish Center, the Lower Church, or the Parish Office for meetings and activities must schedule space by emailing the Parish Office at [parishoffice@stmarysimsbury.org](mailto:parishoffice@stmarysimsbury.org). If you do not schedule space for you activity, even if you have used a particular room in the past, the room will not be reserved for you.

**Are You New to Saint Mary's?** If you are new to Saint Mary's, we warmly welcome you to our parish community, and we invite you to register with us so that we can know and serve you better. Simply call the Parish Office 860-658-7627.

## *The Scattered Sheep*

In today's first reading, the prophet Jeremiah utters a harsh indictment against the religious leaders of his day because they have misled and scattered the sheep—the People of God. They have failed in their responsibility to instruct God's People. And so Jeremiah looks to a day when God will raise up a just and righteous Shepherd who will gather and feed the scattered People of God.

Today's Gospel identifies Jesus as that just and righteous Shepherd of whom Jeremiah spoke. Jesus sees the vast crowd, hungry for God's Word, and his heart is moved with pity because they are like sheep without a shepherd. And so he teaches them many things.

Jesus is the Good Shepherd of whom we sing in today's Responsorial Psalm. In today's second reading, Saint Paul tells us that Christ is the one who has broken down the wall of division that separated us from each other. He is the one who brings God's peace so that we are reconciled to God.

Although the Church is more than her religious leaders, the Church needs faithful leaders who can and will shepherd God's People, lest the People of God be scattered like sheep without a shepherd. When priests and bishops are unfaithful to their vocation to lead God's People, they scatter and scandalize the flock. Pray that the Lord of the Harvest will purify the hearts and consciences of those charged to shepherd God's People. Pray that many will respond to the call to follow Christ in the way of ministry. Pray that the Church will discern and find ways to renew the life of its ministers.

## *Construction Update*

This past week a construction fence was installed, and equipment was moved into the parking lot within the fenced areas. Because of this fence, there is only limited parking by the rectory side of the church, in back of the church, and in the parking lot between the church and the parish center. *These parking areas are primarily for the elderly, for those with restricted mobility, and for drop-offs.*

The handicap ramp will remain open and accessible throughout the construction period. Traffic surrounding the church will be one direction only, with the entrance by the Rectory and the exit through the Parking Lot.

There is ample parking in the north lot and across the street at the Town Hall Lot. We have posted a traffic flow and fencing diagram on the website for your reference. Dan Carr is arranging volunteers to help direct traffic. Please contact Dan to help direct traffic at 860-277-9689 [d.g.carr@comcast.net](mailto:d.g.carr@comcast.net).

I ask for your patience and understanding as we keep our eyes on the prize.

## *Accelerating Your Pledge*

Saint Mary parishioners have been very generous in pledging to our Parish Connection Project. To date, we have received 80 % of the money pledged. We have now begun construction. By fulfilling and paying your pledge early, you can save Saint Mary's Parish thousands of dollars in interest cost.

**July 22, 2018**

## **Religious Education**

**Pilgrimage/Retreat to Lourdes Shrine in Litchfield - Grades 4-7:** A very special extracurricular experience is planned for **Friday, August 17th** for students enrolled in our Religious Education program! Students who will enter grades 4-7 this fall are invited on a Pilgrimage/Retreat to Lourdes Shrine in Litchfield.

Our Director of Religious Education, Lori Oleasz, will lead the children and chaperones on this day trip where they will:

- + Visit the "Church without Walls" (a replica of the Grotto in Lourdes France)
- + Join in prayer during the outdoor Grotto Mass
- + Participate in a woodland Stations of the Cross walk
- + Enjoy Rubber Duck races down the Shrine stream
- + Have the opportunity to visit the Shrine gift shop and Grotto Cafe (amazing burgers and homemade cookies can be purchased there or bring your own brown bag lunch)
- + Engage in contemplative journaling about their pilgrimage experience.

**There is no fee for this trip due to the generosity of an "Angel Donor" :)**

Don't miss this wonderful opportunity for your child! Space is limited so please sign up early. Reservations are on a first come first served basis.

Please contact Lori Oleasz, DRE at (860)-658-7627 or [drelori@stmarysimsbury.org](mailto:drelori@stmarysimsbury.org)

## **When it's Time to Plan a Funeral?**

What should you do when it is time to plan a funeral? Here are a few points to keep in mind.

First, be in contact with a funeral home. The funeral director will assist you in answering many of your questions. The funeral director will contact me to coordinate the time and date of the funeral. The funeral director will also give you a packet of material for funerals at St. Mary's. It contains the readings the Church assigns for the funeral liturgy as well as music appropriate for a funeral.

Second, make an appointment with me. We will discuss and prepare the funeral liturgy so that it will be an expression of Christian faith and hope.

*Father Matera*

## **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.

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.

## **St. Mary's School**

**Choice Gift Cards:** Need a gift card for a birthday or other special occasion, need Starbucks or Dunkin Donuts cards? Choice Gift Cards are available for purchase every Wednesday morning in the school office from 9 am to 12 pm. No appointment necessary for one stop shopping! Contact Michelle Howard for more information - [mhoward@stmarysimsbury.edu](mailto:mhoward@stmarysimsbury.edu) 12.net or 860-658- 9412.

## **Outreach**

**Simsbury Food Pantry:** Our next collection for the Simsbury Food Pantry will be on July 29th at all Masses. We are in need of canned good and non-perishables. Thank you for your generosity!

**Immacare:** The next serving date is Monday, July 30th. Please let Tracey know by Saturday, July 29th if you will be able to contribute to the meal. The donation can be delivered to 71 Hayes Rd, Tariffville or we can arrange to pick up your donation. Meal donations: pork chop or chicken meal (please let Tracey know if you need the recipe), bananas, milk, loaf of white bread, and cookies/brownies. For questions, please email [Roderickllc@gmail.com](mailto:Roderickllc@gmail.com), or call Tracey at 860-218-5478 (you are welcome to text).