

St. Mary Church



COURTYARD VIEW

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

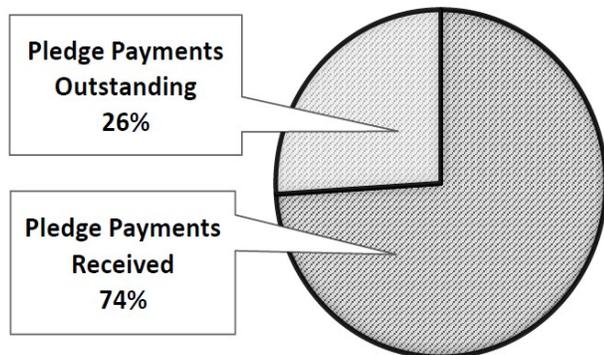
∞ **Mass Intentions** ∞

Saturday 5:00 PM	May 5 Jeanne MacDonald By: St. Mary's Parish
Sunday 8:00 AM	May 6 Virginia & Richard Glowacki, & Children, Jon & Virginia Diane By: Barbara & Paul Roderick
9:30 AM 11:00 AM	People of St. Mary's Parish Catherine Tomasello By: John & Kathleen Miklus
Monday 8:00 AM	May 7 People of St. Mary's Parish
Tuesday 8:00 AM	May 8 Holy Souls in Purgatory
Wednesday 8:00 AM	May 9 Holy Souls in Purgatory

Thursday 8:00 AM 12:15 PM 6:00 PM	The Ascension of Jesus People of St. Mary's Parish St. Mary's School People of St. Mary's Parish
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Saturday 5:00 PM	May 12 People of St. Mary's Parish
Sunday 8:00 AM 9:30 AM 11:00 AM	May 13 People of St. Mary's Parish Virginia Press In Loving Memory By: The Pappano Family Mary Jozef By: Bozena Kmec

**ST. MARY'S CAMPUS CONNECTION
PLEDGE PAYMENT STATUS
APRIL 30, 2018**



Accelerating your pledge helps reduce finance costs.

∞ **Parish Announcements** ∞

A Message From Granny's Attic & Boutique:
Another exciting year for Granny's Attic! Thanks to all the parishioners and members of the community who donated to Granny's Attic we not only reached our goal we surpassed it! The donations received brought in \$29,526.36 Again, this year we received many valuable treasures that were placed in a special area. A huge THANK YOU to RICK and CAROLE WAGNER for the use of Wagner Showroom. It was so nice to have a secure, dry location again for Granny's Attic. Special thanks goes to all the new volunteers who worked this year and all the dedicated volunteers who return year after year for this special fundraiser. Without all the donations and hours given as volunteers to Granny's Attic we would not have been so successful. Thanks again for all your support!
Ann O'Donnell, Stephanie McIntyre and Jane Stevenson

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 \$12,693. Of this amount, \$5,010 came from 121 E-Givers, and \$7,683 came from envelopes and cash. Please consider E-Giving. To meet our projected budget, our weekly offertory should average \$14,900.

The Archbishop's Annual Appeal (AAA): The 2018 Archbishop's Annual Appeal is now underway in our parish. Your support of this year's Appeal ensures that essential charitable, educational, and pastoral ministries of the Archdiocese of Hartford are carried forward. We hope you can help meet our parish goal of \$190,000. If you would like to make a gift, kindly mail in your pledge card. You may also visit the Archdiocesan website archdioceseofhartford.org. Keep in mind that an early pledge will allow you to best use the monthly payment plan.

Ascension Thursday: This Thursday, May 10, is Ascension Thursday, a Holy Day of Obligation. On this day, the fortieth day of Easter, we celebrate God's victory in Christ over all the powers and forces of evil. Masses will be celebrated at 8:00 AM, 12:15 PM, and 6:00 PM. Please join us on this beautiful feast.

First Monday Confessions: Confessions will be held from 6:00 PM-6:45 PM

Pancake Breakfast for Scholarships: The Knights of Columbus and the Simsbury Lions Club will hold a pancake breakfast this Sunday May 6, from 8:00 AM-11:00 AM to help support their scholarship programs. Adults are only \$6, children under 12 are \$4, and a family of 4 is \$15. Please come to the parish center before or after Mass and enjoy breakfast.

Gaudete et Exsultate On the Call to Holiness in Today's World (3)

In chapter 3 of his exhortation on holiness, Pope Francis focuses on the Beatitudes as the way to holiness. He writes: "The Beatitudes are like a Christian identity card. So if anyone asks, 'What must one do to be a good Christian?' the answer is clear. We have to do, each in our own way, what Jesus told us in the Sermon on the Mount." The Pope then summarizes the meaning of these Beatitudes for a life of holiness.

Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. In this Beatitude, "the Gospel invites us to peer into the depths of our heart, to see where we find our security in life." Is our security in our wealth and possessions, or is it in God? Those who are poor in spirit know that no matter how rich they are, their security is ultimately in God, and so they share their wealth with others.

Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth. Here, Christ invites us to imitate him, for he is gentle and humble of heart. "Meekness," Pope Francis writes, "is yet another expression of the interior poverty of those who put their trust in God alone."

Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted. The world, of course, tells us the opposite. Pope Francis writes: "The world has no desire to mourn; it would rather disregard painful situation, cover them up or hide them. ... But the cross can never be absent."

Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled. Here the Beatitude refers to those who desire justice. "Jesus says that they will be satisfied, for sooner or later justice will come. We can cooperate to make that possible, even if we may not always see the fruit of our desire."

Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy. Here, mercy has two aspects: (1) helping and serving others, (2) forgiveness and understanding. Mercy has been the central theme of Pope Francis's ministry. Where there is mercy, the Gospel is at work; where mercy is absent, the Gospel is absent. "Seeing and acting with mercy: that is holiness."

Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God. The Beatitude speaks of those whose hearts are "simple, pure and undefiled." Such a heart is totally focused on God in Christ. It is not divided. "Keeping a heart free of all that tarnishes love: that is holiness."

Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God. Peacemakers make peace," they build peace and friendship in society. The Pope acknowledges that it is not easy to make this evangelical peace that excludes no one. It is hard work and calls for openness of heart.

Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. The path Jesus proposes "goes against the flow, even making us challenge society by the way we live and, as a result becoming a nuisance." He concludes: "Accepting the path of the Gospel, even though it may cause us problems: that is holiness."

Do you want to be holy in the world? Be poor in spirit, accept the cross, be merciful, seek justice, be single-minded, work for peace, be prepared to resist doing business as usual.

Father Matera

The Call to Holiness: A Presentation by Father Matera

Pope Francis has written an exhortation entitled "Rejoice and Be Glad" that deals with the call to holiness. On **Thursday, May 31, at 7:00 PM, in the Lower Church**, I will give a presentation that summarizes the main themes of this exhortation that summons all of us to holiness.

May 6, 2018

Religious Education

Prayers for our Second Grade Students: We ask that you keep our second grade students in your prayers as they finish their studies in preparation for receiving the Sacrament of First Eucharist. There will be two First Communion Ceremonies this year, May 12th and May 19th. God bless our Little Lambs!

Vacation Bible School: We are excited to announce Vacation Bible School will run from Monday, June 25 through Thursday, June 28 from 8:45-12:15 PM at Saint Mary's School and Parish Center. There will be live music, outdoor games, and more! Campers will enter Babylon to experience life in Biblical times. To learn more, visit stmarysimsbury.org/vbs

Social Outreach

Immacare - Summer Food Assistance: During the summer months we will continue to provide a lunch or dinner each month. Our menu changes and we will need folks to deliver the meal. Please let us know if you would like to help. Email: Roderickllc@gmail.com, or call Tracey at (860-218-5478) (you are welcome to text).

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 this Sunday, May 6. Thanks for all the donations!

Personal Items Collection for Shelters: On May 13, 2018, we will be collecting personal hygiene items at all the Masses. We also need several volunteers to take the items to the Hartford shelters including: South Park Inn, House of Bread, Immacare and Mercy Housing. There continues to be a great need for these items. If you are interested in helping please call Lorraine at (860-658-6438) or lrippel@aol.com.

Prayer Shawl Ministry: Are you interested in knitting or crocheting? Come join us this Monday, May 7 at 7:00 PM in the Lower Church/Beginners to experts welcome. Thanks to generous donations from the parish community, we are able to supply yarn if you would like to make a shawl for the Ministry. If you cannot attend meetings: contact Rhoda at (860-651-4027).

Simsbury Food Pantry: Thank you for your generosity in our food collection last week! The Simsbury Food Pantry appreciates it.

Steubenville East Bake Sale

Thank you: The recent bake sale by the St. Mary's high school youth was a success. We raised over \$2,000. This money will greatly help fund our trip to the Steubenville East Youth Conference. We want to thank our wonderful parishioners for your generous support.

St. Mary's School

Take a Tour: Limited seats still available in PreK thru 8th grade for the 2018 -2019 school year! Walk in Wednesdays Open House every Wednesday in May, 9:00 AM to 11:00 AM. Take a Tour! Contact Toni Chagnon at (860-658-9412) or tchagnon@stmarysimsbury.eduk12.net

Women's Guild

Rosary Recitation: All are invited for the recitation of the rosary after the 8:00 AM Mass this Thursday, May 10th. Pamphlets for the Holy Spirit Novena will also be available to enhance your personal prayer between the Ascension and Pentecost.

Living Rosary: We will be hosting a Living Rosary on Pentecost Sunday, May 20th at 6:15 PM in the church lot. We hope you can join us for this continuation of our faith on fire!

St. Mary's Helping Hands: If you would like to be part of the Helping Hands committee or if you are in need of our services, please email us at HelpingHands.stmarys@gmail.com.

St. Mary's Carnival

The Carnival Is Coming! Mark your calendars for the 39th annual St. Mary's Carnival on June 6th-June 9th. Same location (north of CL&P) on 10/202. Volunteers, teens through adults, will be needed to help our Carnival run smoothly. Keep your eyes out for next weeks bulletin for all the detail.

Other

Holy Hour: The Divine Mercy Holy Hour will be celebrated at St. Ann in Avon on Sunday, May 20th from 2:30 – 3:30 PM. The recitation of the rosary will follow to honor Our Lady during her month of May.