

Welcome



St. Mary's Church

Simsbury, Connecticut

PASTOR
Reverend Frank J. Matera

DEACON
Mr. Arthur Miller



www.stmarysimsbury.org

MASSES:

Monday - Thursday: 8:00 AM

Sunday Vigil (Saturday Evening): 5:00 PM

Sunday: 8:00, 9:30 and 11:00 AM

CONFessions: Saturday 3:00 - 4:00 PM

BAPTISMS: First Sunday of the month (during the 11:00 am Mass) and third Sunday of the month by appointment. Required Baptism Preparation Program, please call the Parish Office.

WEDDINGS: Couples please call for appointments at least six months in advance.

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.

VISITORS: Thank you for worshipping with us. If you would like to join our parish, please give us a call or email us at parishoffice@stmarysimsbury.org

DIRECTORY

Parish Office: 3 Massaco Street, PO Box 575
860-658-7627 Fax: 860-658-7626

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

Rev. Frank Matera: x301

Deacon Arthur Miller: x113

Parish Office: x306
parishoffice@stmarysimsbury.org

Business Manager: x303
businessmanager@stmarysimsbury.org

Bookkeeper: x307
bookkeeper@stmarysimsbury.org

Religious Education Grades 1-6: x304
RelEd1-6@StMarySimsbury.org

Religious Education Grades 7-10: x302
RelEd7-10@stmarysimsbury.org

Youth Ministry: x302
youthministry@stmarysimsbury.org

Stephen Ministry: x114
stephenministry@stmarysimsbury.org

St. Mary's School: (860) 658-9412

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday 5:00 PM	MARCH 19 Mary Ann O'Meara Birthday Remembrance By: The Duff Family
Sunday 8:00 AM 9:30 AM	PALM SUNDAY People of St. Mary's Parish Bruno Calderara In Memory Of By: The Duff Family Madeline Shortell By: Her Family
11:00 AM	
Monday 8:00 AM	MARCH 21 Alberta By: His Family
Tuesday 8:00 AM	MARCH 22 Delta By: Her Family
Wednesday 8:00 AM	MARCH 23 James Gluth 5th Birthday Remembrance By: His Family
Thursday 7:00 PM	HOLY THURSDAY Mass of the Lord's Supper
Friday 3:00 PM 7:00 PM	GOOD FRIDAY Liturgy of the Lord's Passion Stations of the Cross
Saturday 11:00 AM 7:30 PM	HOLY SATURDAY Blessing of Food Easter Vigil
Sunday 8:00 AM 9:30 AM 11:00 AM	EASTER DAY People of St. Mary's Parish People of St. Mary's Parish People of St. Mary's Parish

Deceased: Please pray for Daniel Fleming. May he rest in peace of Christ.



Parish Office Closed: The Parish office will be closed on Good Friday, March 25 and Easter Monday, March 28.

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

Archbishop's Annual Appeal: The Archbishop's Annual Appeal helps provide the critical funding needed to feed the hungry, shelter the homeless, counsel those in despair, offer much-needed assistance to the unemployed, and make medical care available to those without health insurance. Your gift to the 2016 Appeal will help to continue these and other vital ministries, services, and programs that reach out to so many in need.

Parish Charities: The second collection next week, Easter Sunday, is our annual Parish Charities Collection. This important collection allows our parish to respond to charitable requests from parishioners in need as well as other charitable requests that are regularly made to the parish, for example, from the Little Sisters of the Poor, Birthright, Imma-Care, etc. If you are an E-Giver, please remember to enter your contribution.

Sacrament of Reconciliation: This is the last Monday before Easter to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Bishop Rosazza and Father Matera will hear confessions beginning at 6:00 PM until there are no more to be heard.

Holy Week: Please note that during Holy Week there is no morning Mass on Thursday, Friday, or Saturday. On Saturday, the Easter Vigil takes the place of the 5:00 PM Vigil Mass.

Abstinence during Lent: Good Friday is a day of fast and abstinence.

Easter Holy Water: During the Easter Vigil, our new Easter Holy Water will be blessed. All parishioners/guests are invited to bring Holy Water home with them. Please remember to bring your empty Holy Water bottles to fill.

Save the Date: The Parish Bike Ride will be on Saturday, June 11 at 10:00 AM in the north parking lot. This is a fun ride on Rails to Trails, with 1, 2, 5, 10 and 20 mile rides for every level and interest. If you are interested in signing up please contact Paul Mikkelsen at mikbenefit@comcast.net. This is a fun and subtle way to bring someone back to Church. Please know that all are welcome!

Carnival 2016 Meeting: Planning for the carnival has begun. Interested in being involved? Join the carnival committee on Tuesday, March 29th at 7:00 PM in the lower church library. Refreshments will be served.

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 into 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 reverenced 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) Baptism, 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

March 20, 2016

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

No Religious Education: Religious Education for Grades 1-6 will not take place on Sunday, March 27th as we celebrate Easter and the Glorious Resurrection of Jesus. Classes will resume on Sunday, April 3rd.

Second Grade Eucharist Retreat: Will be held on Saturday, April 2nd in the Parish Center. Children are scheduled in groups by their last name. One parent is required to attend the retreat with their child.

Group 1: A, B, F, G, L N, O 8:45AM -1:00AM
Group 2: C, P, R, S, T, Y 9:45 AM- 12:00 PM
Group 3: D, H, K, M, W 10:45AM-1:00PM

Youth Masses: Our next 5:00 PM Sunday night Youth Masses will take place before small group on April 24 and May 15. Our Worship Band provides the contemporary Christian music. All are welcome!

High School Confirmation Prep: Looking for forms? Check out our High School Program page and Service Information page under the Faith Formation tab on our parish website. Tenth grade, everything listed on the second page of our Confirmation Prep packet is due today during small group.

YOUTH MINISTRY

40 Day Spiritual Workout: IGNITE is using this app through these forty days of Lent. Download it for free and pray with us!

Vacation Bible School: Join us on a trip to Egypt from June 20-23! Your children will love our live music, outdoor games, and stories of pharaoh's crazy dreams. Register today! Click on the VBS Egypt icon on the homepage of our parish website.

ST. MARY'S SCHOOL

Fairway to Heaven Golf: Spring can't come soon enough! Mark your calendars for our annual Fairway to Heaven Golf Tournament at the Hop Meadow Country Club in Simsbury on Tuesday, May 24.

Basketball: Congratulations to the Girls Varsity Basketball Team for making it all the way to the finals at the State Championship. They left all their heart and hustle out on the court. What an outstanding season!

ADULT ENRICHMENT

Sunday Morning Adult Enrichment Program: Adult Service Project Our 1st-6th graders have taken part in grade level service projects all year so now the adults of our parish have a chance to take part in a project all their own. This is a two part project. On Sunday, April 10th before and after the 9:30 Mass any interested adults of our parish will come to plan this project in the Parish Center. On Sunday, April 24th before and after the 9:30 Mass adults will come together again in the Parish Center to execute and complete the service project that morning. *You do not need to be a parent of children in our Religious Education programs. We welcome all parishioners to take part.* If you can't make the planning meeting on the 10th but would like to participate on the 24th please email Judy RelED1-6@stmarysimsbury.org stating you are willing to take part and providing any ideas you may have for a project. This is truly a wonderful way to end our Sunday Morning Adult Enrichment for the Spring & Summer!

GRANNY'S ATTIC

Granny's Attic & Granny's Boutique: This year we will also be accepting clean gently used coats and clothing. Antiques or collectibles will be specially priced. We encourage families to donate unwanted treasures they no longer need. Items must be in good to excellent condition and clean. If you are donating an item that has a cord or remote please tape it to the item. Items that we will not accept due to state regulations and/or are not of interest for buyers are: automobile tires, shoes, computers, monitors, printers, old computer software, paint, chemicals, fertilizers, batteries, full size appliances, magazines, Reader's Digest, textbooks, encyclopedias, mattresses, TV's, skis, car seats, heavy exercise equipment, trunks, dorm refrigerators and disposable or personal items such as cosmetics, electric razors, or toothbrushes. Granny's will be held at the Wagner's Showroom in Simsbury, 1285 Hopmeadow Street, thanks to the generosity of Rick, Carole and Lina Wagner. Collection dates: Friday, April 15th 4:00pm-7:00pm—Saturday, April 16th and Sunday, April 17th 9:00am - 4:00pm.

Granny's Attic will be open to the public: Monday, April 18th to Saturday, April 23rd. For times 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 stevenje@comcast.net or Stephanie McIntyre 860-651-3862 smcintyre190@gmail.com

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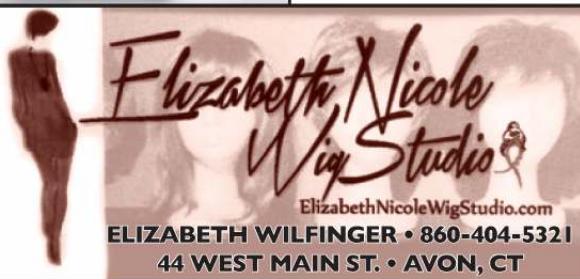
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