

# St. Mary's Church



## Directory

**Parish Office:** 944 Hopmeadow Street  
860-658-7627  
[www.stmarysimsbury.org](http://www.stmarysimsbury.org)

**Office Hours:**

Monday - Thursday 8:30 - 3:00 PM  
Friday 8:30 - 12:00 Noon

**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

**Baptisms:** Sunday 12:00 Noon By Appt

**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](mailto:parishoffice@stmarysimsbury.org)

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

**Deacon Arthur Miller:**  
[Deaconartmiller@gmail.com](mailto:Deaconartmiller@gmail.com)

**Parish Office:** Heather Benedetti Ext. 306  
[parishoffice@stmarysimsbury.org](mailto:parishoffice@stmarysimsbury.org)

**Finance Manager:** Joanne Dunn Ext. 307  
[financemanager@stmarysimsbury.org](mailto:financemanager@stmarysimsbury.org)

**Religious Education Grades 1-6:**  
Kathy Piggott Ext. 304  
[reled1-6@stmarysimsbury.org](mailto:reled1-6@stmarysimsbury.org)

**Religious Education Grades 7-8:**  
Lori Ryan Ext. 309  
[reled7-8@stmarysimsbury.org](mailto:reled7-8@stmarysimsbury.org)

**Youth Ministry Grades 9-10:**  
Steve DiMotta Ext. 302  
[youthministry@stmarysimsbury.org](mailto:youthministry@stmarysimsbury.org)

**Stephen Ministry:** Linda Duff Ext. 114  
[stephenministry@stmarysimsbury.org](mailto:stephenministry@stmarysimsbury.org)

**Prayer Line Ministry:** 860-658-2118  
[cmlocandro@gmail.com](mailto:cmlocandro@gmail.com)

**Music Ministry:** Patricia Lepak & Cynthia Bos

**St. Mary's School:**  
Principal Margaret Williamson 860-658-9412  
[mwilliamson@stmarysimsbury.edu](mailto:mwilliamson@stmarysimsbury.edu) [www.stmarysimsbury.edu](http://www.stmarysimsbury.edu) [12.net](http://www.stmarysimsbury.edu/12.net)

## Mass Intentions

<b>Saturday</b> 5:00 PM	<b>February 13</b> The People of St. Mary's Parish
<b>Sunday</b> 8:00 AM	<b>February 14</b> Jack Quirk By: Siobhan Stephen
9:30 AM	The People of St. Mary's Parish
11:00 AM	Robert Goldschmidt By: Rhoda & Lou Obermeier
<b>Monday</b> 8:00 AM	<b>February 15</b> Mary Figulski By: The People of St. Mary's Parish
<b>Tuesday</b> 8:00 AM	<b>February 16</b> NO Mass

### Ash Wednesday February 17

8:00 AM	Thelma Pfau By: The St. Denis Family Distribution of Ashes during Mass
9:15 AM	Mass for <u>School Children Only</u>
12:15 PM	Distribution of Ashes, <u>No</u> Mass
6:00 PM	Distribution of Ashes, <u>No</u> Mass

<b>Thursday</b> 8:00 AM	<b>February 18</b> Michael Furey By: Peggy Furey
<b>Saturday</b> 5:00 PM	<b>February 20</b> Michael Orzechowski By: His Family
<b>Sunday</b> 8:00 AM	<b>February 21</b> The People of St. Mary's Parish
9:30 AM	Dan Pfau By: The St. Denis Family
11:00 AM	William A. Browne By: Rhoda & Lou Obermeier

**Deceased:** Please pray for Pearl Sperry. May he rest in the peace of Christ.

**Pray for the Sick:** Please pray for the following parishioners/loved ones who are sick - Dennis Sullivan, Michele Guttermuth, and Rosemary Lemke.



**Newly Baptized:** We welcome Gianna Mendez who was baptized into Christ last Sunday.

\*\*\*\*\*

**Daily Reflections for Lent booklet:** Enrich your Lenten journey with Daily Reflections, available in the Magowan Center and church for contactless pickup.

## Parish Announcements

**A Change of Parish Trustee:** This January, I appointed Thomas Rechen as Parish Trustee. Tom will succeed Rick Lenz who has been a Trustee for more than twenty years. Our other Parish Trustee is Susan Guazzelli. Parish Trustees are members of the Parish Corporation. In addition to being members of the Corporation, their role is to provide the Pastor with the necessary counsel for the administration of the parish.

**A Tribute to Rick Lenz:** Many of you know Rick Lenz as a long time parishioner who, with his wife Fay, has been deeply involved in the life of our Parish and School. When I was appointed Pastor of St. Mary's Church in 2012, Rick was the first person from St. Mary's to contact and welcome me. Ever since, he has been a stalwart support and a good friend.

Rick was a member of the Parish Finance Council from 1992-2020 and has been a Trustee of the Parish for more than twenty years (1999-2020). As a member of the Finance Council (which he also chaired) and as a Parish Trustee, he has provided me with invaluable counsel.

Rick played a key role in the construction of the Magowan Center. He was part of the Committee that conceived of the idea and a member of the Construction Committee that executed it. A former member of the parish council, a member of the 9:30 Choir, and an enthusiastic supporter of Saint Mary's, Rick and his wife Fay have also been enthusiastic supporters of Saint Mary's School, which their children attended. Please join me in thanking Rick and Fay for all they have done and continue to do for Saint Mary's.

**Welcome to Tom Rechen:** When I first came to St. Mary's, Tom asked if there was any way in which he could become involved in St. Mary's. I suggested he become a lector, and he did. He was later elected to the Parish Council and became chair. As chair he played a key role in revising the Council's bylaws and making it a vigorous and effective council. Finally, Tom played a key role in fundraising for the Magowan Center and later became a member of the Construction Committee. Please join me in welcoming Tom in his role as Parish Trustee.

**The Sacrament of Reconciliation:** During the Mondays of Lent there will be confession from 6:00 to 6:45 PM.

**The Stations of the Cross:** On the Fridays of Lent, Stations of the Cross will be held at 7:00 PM. You may attend in person or by live-stream.

**Offertory:** The offertory collection for January was \$58,413. The Catholic High School Collection was \$2,782. I wish to thank all who have continued to support the parish through E-Giving and by sending in your weekly envelopes during this period. Fr. Matera

# LENT 2021



## Ash Wednesday

8:00 AM	Distribution of Ashes during Mass
9:15 AM	Mass for <u>School Children Only</u>
12:15 PM	Distribution of Ashes, <u>no</u> Mass
6:00 PM	Distribution of Ashes, <u>no</u> Mass

## Fast and Abstinence

**Fasting:** Ash Wednesday is a day of fasting for all Catholics between the ages of 14 and 59. On this day, Catholics should fast by eating only one main meal and two lesser meals that do not equal the main meal. They should also refrain from eating between meals.

**Abstinence:** The Fridays of Lent are days of abstinence from eating meat for all Catholics who are 14 or older.

This Wednesday, February 17, is the beginning of Lent. Nearly a year ago, churches and schools were closed because of the pandemic, and ever since we have been enduring a Lent forced upon us by this pandemic. We have been socially distancing from each other, and we have refrained from parties and social gatherings. And so, you might be asking, “What need is there for another Lent? We have been observing Lent for a whole year!”

There is truth in that statement. This past year has seemed like an eternal Lent. But the experience of this past year has also shown us our deep need for repentance and prayer. The pandemic has revealed the fissures in our society that need to be healed. It has shown us how much we have taken for granted. It has shown our need for a deeper union with each other *in Christ* so that can truly be one in the body of Christ.

How should we approach Lent? The traditional are almsgiving, prayer, and fasting. We need to observe these three penitential practices more than ever: (1) sharing our resources with others, (2) praying more earnestly, (3) fasting and abstaining from food and drink so that our minds will be more focused on God.

During this Lenten Season, St. Mary's offers many ways to grow in the life of Christ.

- Daily Mass at 8:00 AM, which is also live-streamed
- Confessions on Monday Night from 6:00 to 6:45 PM
- Stations of the Cross on Friday at 7:00 PM that are also live-streamed.
- Deacon Art's Bible Study on Zoom
- Father Matera's four-part series on the Passion of Jesus
- Men's Ministry, Saturday mornings on Zoom
- Women's Guild programs on line
- Parish retreat on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, March 22, 23, and 24.

Seize this moment of grace. Now is the acceptable time; now is the day of salvation.

*Father Matera*

**February 14, 2021**

### **Parish Outreach**

**Hartford Shelters:** This Sunday, February 14, our collection drop-off is 8:00 AM-12:00 Noon in the Magowan Center. Items needed: non-perishable food and individual snacks, juice, and water for meals that are prepared on a "to go" basis. Thank you for your incredible generosity during this critical time of need! Contacts: [lrippel@aol.com](mailto:lrippel@aol.com), [livings10@yahoo.com](mailto:livings10@yahoo.com).

**Immacare Shelter:** The Immacare meal will be served next Monday, February 22. Please let Tracey know by this Friday, February 19, if you will be able to contribute to the meal. Meal donations: pork chop/chicken meal, bananas, milk, white bread. Donations can be delivered to 71 Hayes Rd, Tariffville by 5:30 PM the evening before delivery or we can arrange to pick up your donation. Any questions, call/text Tracey 860-218-5478 or email [Roderickllc@gmail.com](mailto:Roderickllc@gmail.com).

**Are You in Need of Assistance?** If you or your family is in need during these difficult times, please contact Father Matera. The Parish can assist you with food cards and in other ways. All assistance remains confidential.

**Homebound?** If you need a prepared, delivered meal or grocery shopping, the Women's Guild would like to help you. Contact the Parish Office (860)658-7627 or Pam Carter [helpinghands.stmarys@gmail.com](mailto:helpinghands.stmarys@gmail.com)

### **Save The Date**

**The Passion of Christ:** During Lent, Father Matera will present four talks on the Passion Narratives as found in the Gospels of Mark and John, which we will hear during Holy Week. All talks will be held in the church on Thursday evenings (Feb 25, March 4, 11, 18) at 7:00 PM for those who can attend. For those who cannot attend, all talks will be live-streamed.

**Lenten Prayer Service:** Lent invites us into a time of quiet, peaceful reflection and transformation, following the last days of Jesus' life. Enter into a time of quiet, scripture and musical prayerful reflection Tuesday, March 2, in the church or via live-streaming 7:00 PM. While there won't be any congregational singing in church, our musicians will provide music and you can feel free to sing at home.

**Lenten Parish Retreat:** Set aside Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, March 22, 23, 24, 7:00 PM, for a Parish Retreat entitled: *Exile and Return: Our Life in Christ after the Pandemic*. Our retreat will draw upon the example of Israel's Exile in Babylon to make sense of what has happened to us during this time of pandemic and what we must do when the pandemic ends. This retreat will be live-streamed so that the whole parish can attend in person or virtually.

### **Virtual Ministries**

**Bible Study:** Join Deacon Art and fellow bible learners this Wednesday, February 17, 7:00-8:00 PM via Zoom. To receive the Zoom link you must email [DeaconArtMiller@gmail.com](mailto:DeaconArtMiller@gmail.com).

**Men of Saint Mary's:** Are you looking for a way to connect with other men and talk about your faith? St. Mary's Men's Ministry group has been meeting by Zoom throughout the pandemic. Our men's group offers an opportunity for fellowship, time to reflect on the Sunday Gospel in our daily lives, and an opportunity to benefit from each other's faith experiences. Join us on Zoom Saturday mornings from 8:00-9:30 AM. Contact [MensMinistryStMary@gmail.com](mailto:MensMinistryStMary@gmail.com) and you will receive the meeting ID and Password.



### **Religious Education**

**Grades K-6:** Classes for February are the 21st and 28th. Family Faith Day is February 14 - no Zoom Class, Happy Valentine's Day!

**Grades 7&8:** Jr High classes will meet Sunday, February 28, 6:30-7:30 PM. Please log into Zoom at 6:00 PM. Lesson: The Book of Acts.

### **Youth Retreat**

**High School Youth Retreat Day:** Join the YG next Sunday, February 21, 11:00-7:00 PM at Trinita Retreat Center. The cost is \$40.00. Contact Steve for permission forms by this Tuesday, February 16.

### **St. Mary's School National Blue Ribbon School**

**Don't forget! CHOICE gift cards** are available for purchase in the school office. One stop shopping for all of your gift card needs while supporting the school at the same time! Choose from all area grocery stores, Visa & American Express, and Amazon to name just a few! Call or email Tricia Prausa to order, or stop by the office anytime M-F 8:30 AM-2:30 PM, 860-658-9412 or [tprausa@stmarysimsbury.edu](mailto:tprausa@stmarysimsbury.edu) [stmarysimsbury.edu](http://stmarysimsbury.edu)

**Now enrolling PreK3 & 4 - 8th grade for the 2021-22 school year.** Call Toni Chagnon @ 860-658-9412 or visit our website [stmarysschoolsimsbury.org](http://stmarysschoolsimsbury.org).



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