June 5, 2022
St. Mary's Parish & School
Simsbury, CT

Office Hours: M-Th 8:30 - 3:00 PM; **Fri** 8:30 - 12:00
Email: parishoffice@stmarysimsbury.org

Mass Times
Monday—Thursday..... 8:00 AM
Saturday .....5:00 PM
Sunday ..... 8:00 / 9:30 / 11:00 AM

Reconciliation: Saturday, 3:00-4:00 PM

Baptisms: Sunday 12:15 PM By Appointment

944 Hopmeadow Street
www.stmarysimsbury.org
Parish Office .....(860) 658-7627
School Office .....(860) 658-9412
Prayer Line .....(860) 658-2118

Pastor
Father Stephen Sledesky ▪ Ext. 301

Deacon
Art Miller
Deaconartmiller@gmail.com

Finance Manager
Joanne Dunn ▪ Ext. 307
financemanager@stmarysimsbury.org

Parish Office
Heather Benedetti ▪ Ext. 306
parishoffice@stmarysimsbury.org

Faith Formation Grades K-6
Kathy Piggott ▪ Ext. 304
reled1-6@stmarysimsbury.org

Faith Formation Grades 7-8
Lori Ryan ▪ Ext. 309
reled7-8@stmarysimsbury.org

Youth Ministry Grades 9-10
Steve DiMotta ▪ Ext. 302
youthministry@stmarysimsbury.org

Stephen Ministry ▪ Ext. 114
Sharon Locandro, Linda McGurn,
Linda Duff
stephenministry@stmarysimsbury.org

Music Ministry
Patricia Lepak & Cynthia Bos

St. Mary's School
National Blue Ribbon School
Principal Margaret Williamson
mwilliamson@stmarysimsbury.eduk12.net
Now enrolling new students for the 2022-2023 school year.

Mass Intentions

Sunday, June 5
Pentecost Sunday
8:00 AM † Mary Jenson
By: The Tobin Family
9:30 AM † Eugeniusz Baran
The Orzechowski Family
11:00 AM The Stephen Ministers

Monday, June 6
8:00 AM † Matt & Gloria Rivard
By: Rob & Janet Moran

Tuesday, June 7
8:00 AM † Margaret Kehoe
By: Jamie & Diana Kalamarides

Wednesday, June 8
8:00 AM † Jean, Jeffrey & Julie Kliska
By: Their loving family

Thursday, June 9
8:00 AM † Francisco Pinheiro
By: The Underwood Family

Saturday, June 11
5:00 PM Marriage Celebration

Sunday June 12
8:00 AM † Robert Williams
By: His Family
9:30 AM The People of St. Mary's
11:00 AM † Mary Jane Connolly
By Her Family

Pray for the Sick

Please pray for the following parishioners and loved ones who are sick - Dennis Fallon, Gerry Yates, Sharon and Mike Sinacori and Arline LaChapelle

Mass Intentions

Call the Parish Office to schedule a Mass. Recommended offerings are $10.00/daily or $25.00/ weekend.

What is Pentecost?

This Sunday we will celebrate Pentecost. The word Pentecost is Greek and it means "50th day." Fifty days after Easter Sunday, we celebrate the coming of the Holy Spirit upon the Apostles and their followers, and the beginning of their earthly ministry to make disciples of all nations.

At Pentecost, the Apostles and their followers were gathered in a room. Jews from all over the world were gathered with Peter, the leader of the Apostles and the Eleven. At this time, a great wind blew and a flame appeared as a tongue of fire, which split itself into many individual flames above the heads of all those present. The Holy Spirit came upon these people and each began to speak in tongues. Despite the fact many had no common language, they were perfectly able to understand one another.

Others who were not so blessed, accused those speaking in tongues of being drunk, but Peter arose and addressed the crowd, explaining that it was only 9 o'clock, and that this phenomenon was not intoxication, but rather this was the work of the Holy Spirit, prophesied in the Scripture. Peter then called all those present to be baptized and about three thousand people were baptized that day. These people were among the first Catholics, and Peter is the first pope of the Catholic Church.

The symbols of Pentecost are the flame, wind, and the dove, which represents the Holy Spirit. The color of Pentecost is red and the priest wears red vestments on this day. Parishioners are also invited to wear red on this day.

Birthright Collection

Don't forget to return your Birthright baby bottle no later than this Sunday, June 5th. Thank you for any help you can give. *Note: Please make checks out directly to* ***Birthright.***

Rosary for Ukraine

Please join us Saturday mornings at 9:30 AM, as we continue to pray the rosary for the people of Ukraine.

Mercy Shelter 6/5

There will a collection this Sunday of fruits and desserts to take to Mercy Shelter. All donations should be dropped of by 12 Noon.

From The Pastor's Desk . . .

Pentecost and the Sequence

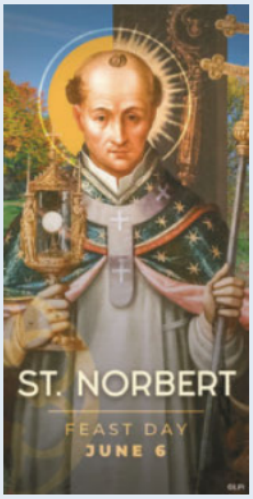
What is the meaning and purpose behind the ***Pentecost Sequence*** that follows the Second Reading? Sequences were chants in the form of liturgical poems used as hymns of joy following the final note of the Alleluia. At one time in our church's liturgical history there were over 5,000 in existence. Most were abolished at the Council of Trent, and in our post-Vatican II Liturgy only four survive. Two are optional: for Corpus Christi (Lauda Sion) and Our Lady of Sorrows (Stabat Mater – the text of which is still used in the traditional song for Stations of the Cross); and two remain obligatory: the Easter Sequence (Victimae Paschali Laudes) and the Pentecost Sequence (Veni, Sancte Spiritus) which we hear in today's Mass. They also now precede the Alleluia instead of concluding it.

The Pentecost Sequence is a beautiful poetic prayer calling for the Holy Spirit to come among us as divine light, to comfort us in our labors and struggles, to heal our wounds and strengthen us, to bring us her seven-fold gifts. It reminds us that without the Holy Spirit we are nothing and are incapable of doing good. In one notable section that reads, "Bend the stubborn heart and will; Melt the frozen, warm the chill; Guide the steps that go astray," we plead that our hearts be ever more open to God's will and presence, and that our actions be brought back to the right path. Perhaps this Pentecost, we might reflect on this beautiful text and allow the Holy Spirit to truly enter our hearts and lives, bringing us those gifts of wisdom, understanding, counsel, fortitude, knowledge, piety and fear of the Lord, and through them "joys that never end."

~ Father Stephen

Congratulations to our 19 St. Mary's School Graduates
who graduated this past Friday, June 3rd.

Saint of the Week
St. Norbert



Norbert was born around the year 1080 in an area of France known as Premontre. While at first he resisted becoming a cleric, a brush with death when a lightning bolt struck at the foot of the horse he was riding encouraged him to become more serious about his faith. He was ordained to the priesthood in 1115. In order to combat a number of heresies rampant at that time, he gathered a group of men together and founded what is known today as the Norbertine Order in 1120. Norbert and his community were quite successful at bringing heretics back into the grace of the Church, reconciling enemies and renewing the faith in those who had become somewhat indifferent. His spirituality was centered around devotion to the Blessed Sacrament, knowing that without the help of Christ himself, nothing could be accomplished. In sacred imagery, Norbert is often portrayed as holding a monstrance. In 1126 Norbert was named Archbishop of Magdeburg in Germany, a position he accepted reluctantly, but which he served faithfully until his death on June 6, 1134. Although initially buried in St. Mary's Abbey in Magdeburg, following the preaching of Martin Luther and the conversion of that city to Protestantism, his body was moved to Prague where it remains today. Norbert's feast day is June 6th.

Youth

Children Belong in Church

We are continuing our series on why children belong in church.

Children Need to See That Church is Important

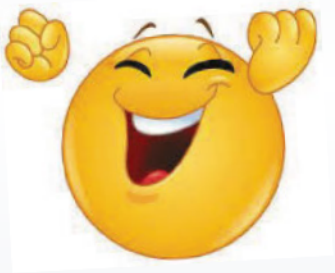
We prioritize things that are important in our lives: work, sports, hobbies, social media. Church should be at the head of that list. Children are capable of understanding what is important in their lives. Meals, baths, cleaning their rooms, putting toys away…these are all routine activities that are consistent in their daily lives. Church should be as well. Consistently attending church every Sunday shows your children that this is an important activity that takes priority in your family's life.

Source: Donuts & Devos; A Podcast For Kids

Steubenville East Youth Conference

July 29th-31st
Springfield, MA

We are excited to take 12 of our youth to Steubenville East Youth Conference this summer. We will hosting a get-together for the youth so they can meet each other before the conference in July. Please pray for our teens as they prepare for this wonderful weekend.



Faith Formation Registration for 2022/2023 is OPEN

Registration for the 2022/2023 year is OPEN! Families can go to our parish website to register.

Registration Cost:
$140

Faith Formation is offered for children in kindergarten through grade 10. Please contact the parish office for assistance.

Knights of Columbus Scholarship

KC Council 2758 is offering post secondary education scholarships. These scholarships are intended for students and families who have demonstrated an active commitment to the Church. Students can obtain an application form and a list of criteria for the scholarship at the St. Mary's office. The applications are due June 30th, 2022.

Vacation Bible Camp

Monday-Thursday, 6/20-23
Join us in Jerusalem this summer! Registration is now open on the parish website. Adult and Teen volunteers needed!

GOSPEL

God the Father sent the Holy Spirit to take the place of Jesus on earth. When you are at home, in school, or in church, the Holy Spirit helps you learn new words and new skills. He helps you in your studying and praying. The Spirit helps you remember things from last week and last year. The Spirit helps you use this knowledge to lead you to heaven.

PRAYER

Father, I am thankful for the Holy Spirit who helps me learn new things.

LPi BECAUSE VIBRANT CHURCHES MATTER

GROWING WITH THE Gospel

CYCLE C

COLOR

Read the Gospel of the week and color the image.

Pentecost • John 14:15-16, 23b-26

St. Mary's School

Announcements

Congratulations to our nineteen students who graduated last Friday.

Our Mission

"Our mission as a Catholic school is to ignite spiritual growth and promote academic excellence within a nurturing faith community. United together, we inspire our students to know, love and serve God."

Ways to Support St. Mary's School

- Superhero Challenge
- CHOICE Program
- SMS Spirit Shop
- Box Tops for Education
- Supporting The Mission
- Stop & Shop A+ Rewards
- Shoprite for Education
- Fitzgeralds—Free Classroom Equipment

Check our website for more details.

Stephen Minister Rededication (6/5)

The Rededication of our Stephen Ministers will take place this Sunday, June 5th at the 11 AM Mass. Stephen Ministers are people who are prepared to serve as a listening and caring presence in the lives of our parishioners. Please pray for them as they dedicate themselves to another year of service.

Adoration on Monday

Adoration will be held on Monday, June 6th from 6 -7 PM.

WANTED–Old Jewelry!

Little Sisters of the Poor are seeking old, unwanted jewelry. Donations may be dropped off to Christina or Sister Frances at the address below.

Address:
Little Sisters of the Poor
St. Joseph's Residence
1365 Enfield Street
Enfield CT

Food Assistance

If you are a parishioner who needs assistance with purchasing food, contact Father Stephen. Parishioners have generously donated food cards for such emergencies. All requests are kept confidential.

My Parish App

Our St. Mary's myParish app is available for iPhone and Android. Stay connected with our Parish throughout the week with instant notifications, parish calendar, the ability to share messages to your Facebook account. Also enjoy additional features like prayers, daily readings, helpful reminders to silence your phone before Mass or Confession, and much more. Strengthen your Parish life at St. Mary's through this wonderful app.

Archbishop's Annual Appeal

It is fundamental that when you give to any charitable organization you are confident the funds are used wisely. Be assured that your gift to the Archbishop's Annual Appeal supports the Catholic ministries and programs as indicated in the 2022 Appeal literature. Visit the Archdiocese of Hartford website for more information. ***Here at St. Mary's we are still approximately $20,000 short of reaching this year's goal.*** Thank you for helping us reach our goal! *No appeal funds are ever used for legal fees or settlements.*

New England Catholic Biblical School is now Enrolling!

Know God's Word . . . Know God's LOVE! The Archdiocese of Hartford has Bible studies for adult learners. The Biblical School is now enrolling virtual and in-person classes! Find out more at www.CatholicEdAOHCT.org, or contact us: catholic.biblical.school@aohct.org

Archbishop Leonard P. Blair affirms that "the Hartford Catholic Biblical School provides adults the opportunity to encounter the Word of God in prayerful, in-depth and faithful ways that prepare them to become evangelizing leaders in their faith communities."

Staying Connected At St. Mary's

Are you staying connected with the events being offered here at St. Mary's? There are many ways to receive communications so make sure you are getting the most up-to-date information.

- Parish Website (www.stmarysimsbury.org)
- Weekly Email (sign-up on our website)
- Facebook
- Instagram
- Bulletin
- Livestreaming
- Parish App

For more information on any of these communications, contact the Parish Office.

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