

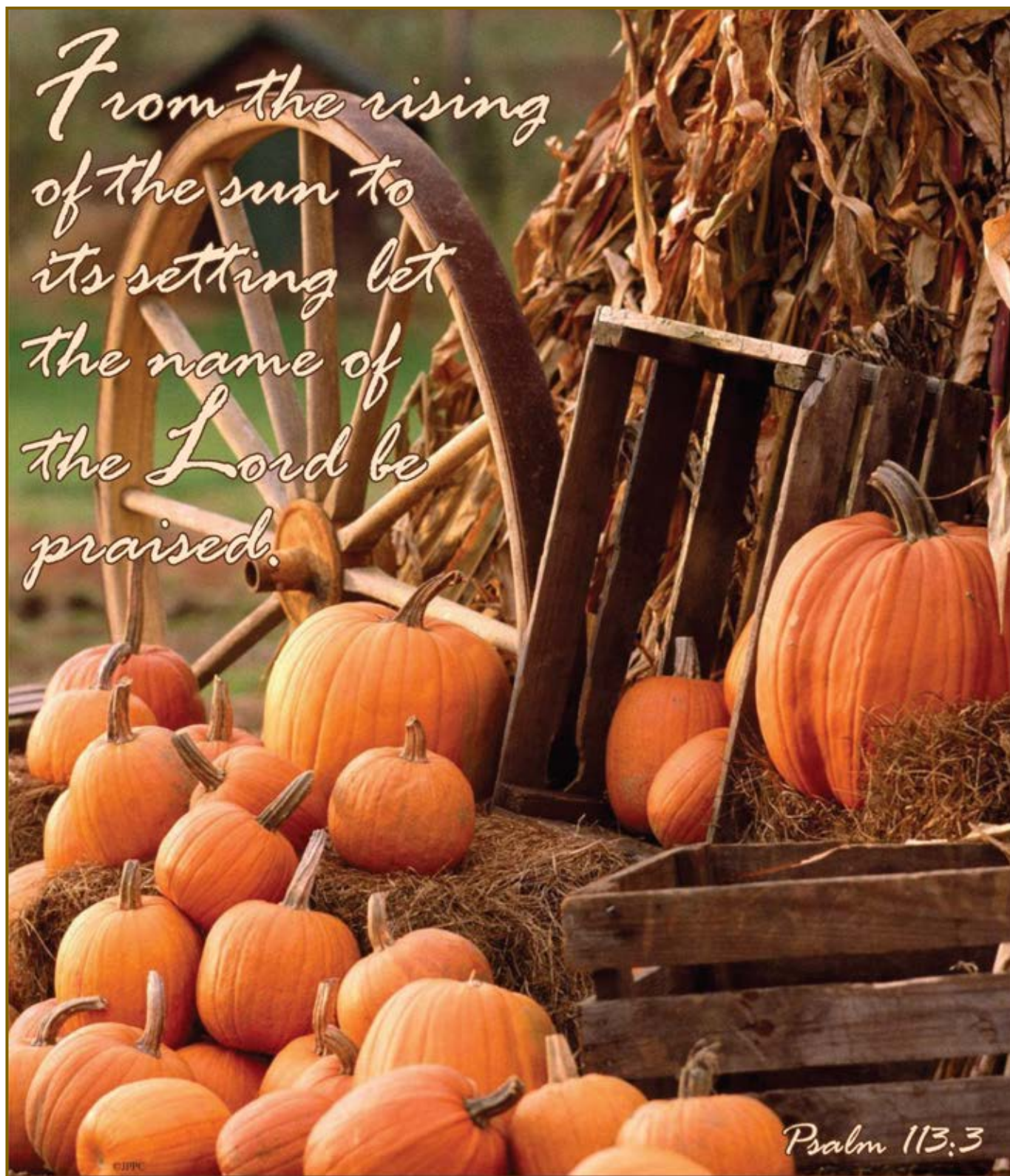


Saint Mary Parish

St. Mary Roman Catholic Parish
55 Catoonah Street
Ridgefield, CT 06877
Phone: (203) 438-6538
Fax: (203) 438-4406
www.smc.org

October 25, 2020

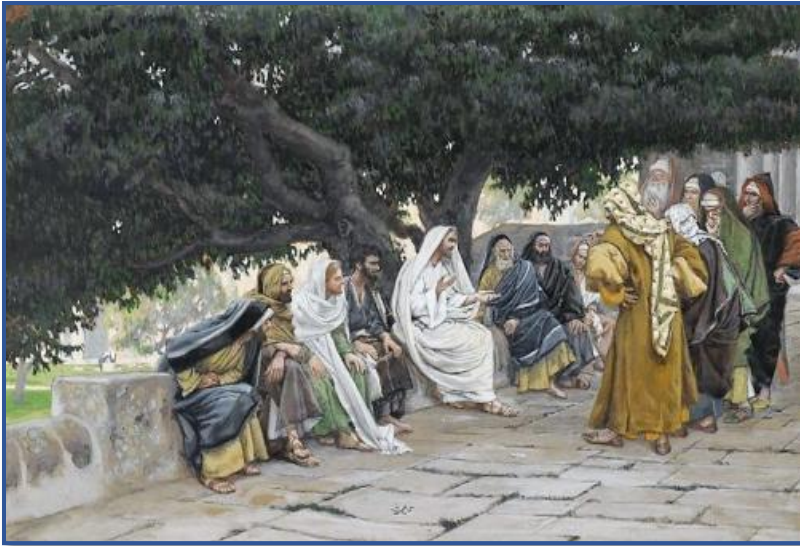
A Warm & Welcoming Family of Catholic Faith



*From the rising
of the sun to
its setting let
the name of
the Lord be
praised.*

Psalm 113:3

The Greatest Commandment



“Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?” Matt 22:36

This question was posed by one of the scholars of the law in an attempt to test Jesus. It's clear, from the context of this passage that the relationship between Jesus and the religious leaders of His time was beginning to become contentious. They were beginning to test Him and were even trying to trap Him. However, Jesus continued to silence them with His words of wisdom.

In response to the question above, Jesus silences this scholar of the law by giving the perfect answer. He says, “You shall love the Lord, your God, with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the greatest and the first commandment. The second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself” ([Matthew 22:37-39](#)).

With this statement, Jesus gives a complete summary of the moral law found in the Ten Commandments. The first three Commandments reveal that we must love God above all and with all our might. The last six Commandments reveal that we must love our neighbor. The moral law of God is as simple as fulfilling these two more general commandments.

But is it all that simple? Well, the answer is both “Yes” and “No.” It's simple in the sense that God's will is not typically complex and difficult to comprehend. Love is spelled out clearly in the Gospels and we are called to embrace a radical life of true love and charity.

However, it can be considered difficult in that we are not only called to love, we are called to love with all our being. We must give of ourselves completely and without reserve. This is radical and requires that we hold nothing back.

Reflect, today, upon the simple call to love God and your neighbor with all that you are. Reflect, especially, upon that word “all.” As you do, you will most certainly become aware of ways in which you fail to give everything. As you see your failure, recommit in hope to the glorious path of making a total gift of yourself to God and others. www.catholicdailyreflections.com



MASS READINGS & INTENTIONS

MONDAY, October 26

Eph 4:32—5:8/Lk 13:10-17

7:00 AM Carolyn Dragicevich

12:30 PM Jack Hanney - 15th Anniversary

TUESDAY, October 27

Eph 5:21-33/Lk 13:18-21

7:00 AM Parishioners of the Parish

5:00 PM Innocenta Sulogini Savundranayagam

WEDNESDAY, October 28

Eph 2:19-22/Lk 6:12-16

7:00 AM Robert A. Law Jr.

12:30 PM Intentions of the Rizzo and Cousineau Families

THURSDAY, October 29

Eph 6:10-20/Lk 13:31-35

7:00 AM Our Parish Clergy

5:00 PM Ann Brennan

FRIDAY, October 30

Phil 1:1-11/Lk 14:1-6

7:00 AM The Youth of our Parish

12:30 PM Robert Gallagher

SATURDAY, October 31

Phil 1:18b-26/Lk 14:1, 7-11

8:00 AM Deceased Members of the Regan Family

4:30 PM Robert Royal, Sr.

SUNDAY, November 1

Rv 7:2-4, 9-14/1 Jn 3:1-3/Mt 5:1-12a

CHURCH

7:30 AM Conrad and Mary Sponberg

9:15 AM Ralph Michilli

11:15 AM Michael Murray Sr.

HALL

10:30 AM Rose Lentini

12:00 PM Mary McRedmond

5:00 PM Parishioners of the Parish

PLEASE NOTE: Every Mass intention will be honored; the priests of the Parish will say the scheduled Mass privately on the day it was requested. Parishioners can still request a Mass according to availability by calling or emailing the Parish office.



Online Giving

Please continue to support our Parish with Online Giving. Go to our website to sign up. Call the Parish office if you would like assistance.

Thank you for all the envelopes you have been sending in each week! Offertory can be mailed to St. Mary Parish, 55 Catoonah St, Ridgefield, CT 06877. Mail is picked up daily. Thank you!

Candle Intentions

*Hall Sanctuary Candle
is Burning in Loving Memory of
Robert A. Law Jr.*

*A Church Altar Candle
is Burning in Loving Memory of
Rose Lentini*

Prayers for the Sick

Please pray for the sick on our online prayer list and for those who care for them. Pray also for those who died and those grieving loved ones.



Go to our website to make a prayer request and to see those on the prayer list.



Check out the **latest pics** of our Gather & Grow progress.



Feeding the Community

Have you given to your local food bank? People continue to struggle to put food on the table for their families due to COVID-19. Please consider giving to local charities.



BAPTISMS

We welcome to the Family of God and our Parish Family **Dylan Jameson Dahlgren** who was recently baptized.

FAITH FORMATION CORNER

You Shall Love the Lord

"YOU SHALL LOVE THE LORD YOUR GOD WITH ALL YOUR HEART, AND WITH ALL YOUR SOUL, AND WITH ALL YOUR MIND."

"Love" here doesn't just mean to have affections for. It is from the Greek root word *agapao*, which many are more familiar with through the noun *agape*. To *agape*-love someone is a choice. It is to choose to see them in a favorable light. To choose to delight in them and to choose to faithfully act on their behalf. When we *agape*-love God, we see Him as honorable, true, and loving. We trust Him and respond to that trust with obedience.

Jesus adds more nuance to this love. "Heart" is from the Greek root word *kardia*, and means the center of one's life, whether physical, spiritual, or mental. The heart drives one's beliefs, emotions, thoughts, and intentions. "Soul" is from the Greek root word *psychē* which is similar to the heart, but focuses on the vital force that keeps us alive.

"Mind" is not found in the original Old Testament quote (Deuteronomy 6:5), but is certainly appropriate to add for an audience influenced by more logical Greek culture. It comes from the Greek root word *dianoia* and, again, has a similar definition to heart but with a more mental bent.

So, "heart...soul...and mind" cover every aspect of our personalities, being, and thoughts, and everything which influences our feelings, beliefs, desires, and intentions.

Bibleref.com

For women discerning religious life, ages 18-45, the Dominican Sisters of Peace invite you to a mini-retreat where you can ponder and explore the meaning of Advent as you wait in joyful hope for where God is calling you. Come to pray, listen, and share hope together on Sunday, November 29 from 2—5pm ET. You can register by visiting our website at oppeace.org or call or text Sister Maidung Nguyen at 405-248-7027 or email mdnguyen@oppeace.org.



Saint Mary School
RIDGEFIELD

PRESCHOOL OPEN HOUSE FOR 2021-2022 SCHOOL YEAR

What is the Saint Mary Preschool Philosophy? We believe in providing a positive and nurturing community environment where young learners can thrive and grow socially, emotionally and academically. Your child will thrive in a loving, safe environment and will be well prepared for academic success while having fun and enjoying school.

We invite you to take a closer look. Saint Mary School will be holding a Virtual Preschool Open House on Wednesday, November 4th at 7:30 pm. Peek into the classrooms, learn more about our three-year-old, four-year-old, and Transitional Kindergarten programs, and hear about next steps to register for the upcoming year. RSVP is required, please visit www.smsridgefield.org to sign up to attend.

We will begin taking applications for the 2021-2022 school year shortly. We would love to tell you more about what makes Saint Mary School so special. For more information, please contact Anna O'Rourke at (203) 438-7288, or visit www.smsridgefield.org.

PARISH OFFICE

The Parish office is currently closed but you may email or call for routine matters (including the purchase of Mass Cards) and our receptionist will get back to you as soon as possible. If there is an emergency, call the office and clergy will get back to you immediately. Stay tuned for open hours coming soon.



ST. MARY PARISH MEN'S MINISTRY

Hey men - We are having an awesome online experience with our Saturday meetings on the "Discord" App! We are welcoming many who don't want to do the commute to our meetings or would rather gain some helpful insight in their pajamas! Please email Brian at humblebk@yahoo.com if you want an invite or some quick help using the Discord App. Tune in to just listen or join our table discussions. Meetings on Saturday @6:45-8AM and are really fun! Email or call me.

God's Peace, Brian 203-947-2858



MARQUETTE COUNCIL OF THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

We offer Catholic men and their families an opportunity to explore their faith and share

God's love through service to our priests, parish and community. Join 2 million Knights around the world as you share your time & talents. Learn more at www.KOFC.org or contact Phil Del Giudice, Grand Knight, at Compass_grp@yahoo.com.

PILGRIM VIRGIN

Our Lady's message to the world: Do penance, amend your life, offend God no more and pray the Rosary daily for world peace and the conversion of sinners.



EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

Adoration Chapel

OPEN DAILY

10:00 AM- 4:00 PM

Limited to 4 people at any one time

If the 4 places are full, a visitor must wait outside or return at another time.

Chairs and kneelers are safely distanced, and the air conditioning and air circulation system works well.

Please remember to wear a face mask

NATIONAL SUICIDE PREVENTION LIFELINE
1-800-273-8255, suicidepreventionlifeline.org

Live the Gospel of *Life*

RESPECT LIFE MONTH

October 2020

MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday

8:00 AM, 4:30 PM Vigil Mass
(Church)

Sunday

7:30 AM, 9:15 AM, 11:15 AM
(Church)

10:30 AM Family Mass,

12:00 Noon and

5:00 PM Youth Mass (Hall)

Monday - Friday

7:00 AM and 12:00 noon
(Church)

Holy Days of Obligation

Vigil Mass 5:30 PM

7:00 AM, 9:00 AM, 12:00 Noon
7:30 PM (Church)

*Easter and Christmas have special schedules

Our Mission:

LIVE the gift of our faith, **ENRICH** our understanding of that gift, and **PRACTICE** our faith in compassionate service.

OTHER SACRAMENTS

Reconciliation

Every Tuesday & Thursday from 12:30-1PM and every Saturday from 3:30-4:30PM (Church)

Baptism

Celebrated each Sunday at 12:30 PM

New parents must attend a pre-baptism class. Call Parish office to schedule both

Marriage

Call Parish Office at least 9 months prior to wedding

Anointing of Sick

Call Parish Office to make arrangements

In case of serious illness or death in the family, call Parish Office immediately.

CEMETERY

203-438-3606

ADORATION

Monica & Bill Brown
914-533-2832

Pastor: Msgr. Kevin T. Royal

MsgrRoyal@smcr.org

Parochial Vicar: Rev. Damian K. Pielez, frdamian@smcr.org

Parochial Vicar: Rev. Lourduraj P., O. Praem., frfaj@smcr.org

Deacon: Rick Lawlor, dnlawlor@diobpt.org, 203-470-8084

Deacon: Robert Salvestrini, salvo95@aol.com

Parish Office Hours:

Monday-Friday 10AM-4PM

203-438-6538

Parish Receptionist: Kim Macko, kmacko@smcr.org

Parish Administrative Assistant: Joanne Brown, jbrown@smcr.org

Office Manager: Deborah Korniewicz, dkorniewicz@smcr.org

Facilities Scheduling: Jbrown@smcr.org & kmacko@smcr.org

Communications Manager: Carolyn Haitsch, chaitsch@smcr.org

Youth Minister: Brenner LeCompte, 203-438-2394,

blecompte@smcr.org

Director of Music: Darren Motise, 203-438-6539, ext. 300,

darren@smcr.org

Religious Ed: Josephine Bove, jbove@smcr.org

Laura Danner, lauradanner@att.net

St. Mary School: Anna O'Rourke, Principal,

orourke@smsridgefield.org

Finance Council Chair: John Spera, johnspera57@gmail.com

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ST. JOHN PAUL II'S APOSTOLIC LETTER ON THE ROSARY

Dr. Tim Gray & Lucas Pollice

FORMED
Now!

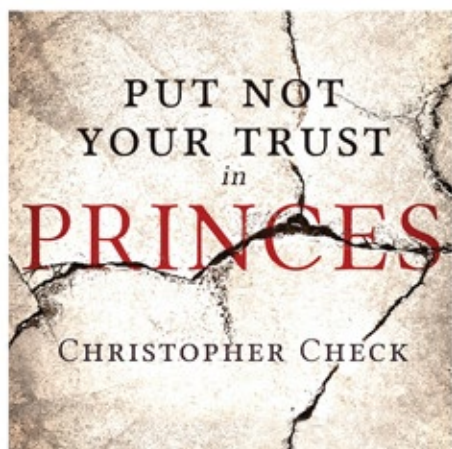
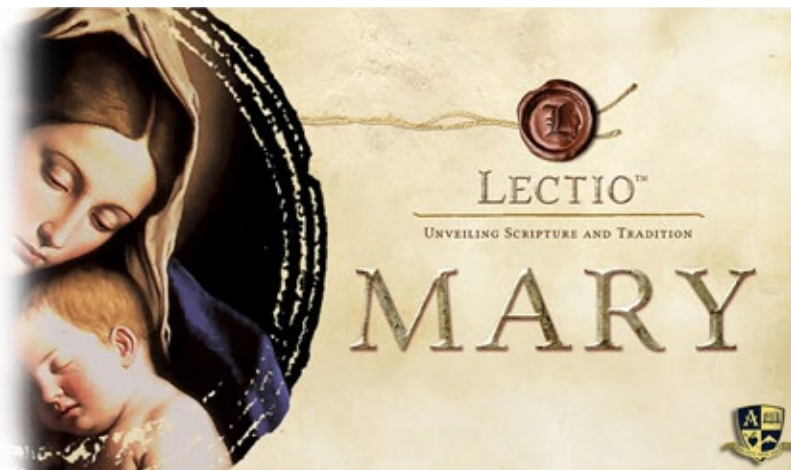
POPE JOHN PAUL II'S LETTER ON THE ROSARY - FORMED NOW!

To close out October, the month dedicated to the Most Holy Rosary, enjoy this discussion between Dr. Tim Gray and Lucas Pollice on St. John Paul II's letter on the Rosary. This wonderful discussion will help draw you deeper into the mysteries of Christ meditated on in the Rosary.

WATCH

LECTIO: MARY

Why is Mary so important to Catholics, and why have so many people been devoted to her over the centuries? Dr. Brant Pitre, Professor of Sacred Scripture at the Augustine Institute Graduate School, examines what the Old and New Testaments, the life of Christ, and the early Church Fathers reveal about the life and identity of Mary,



PUT NOT YOUR TRUST IN PRINCES BY CHRISTOPHER CHECK

Speaking from his perspective as a historian, Christopher Check reminds us that the crisis of our age is cultural and, in the end, spiritual. He explains that a flourishing society is not achieved through legislation or at the ballot box, but instead radiates from the family out.

LISTEN

LEARN

OCTOBER IS THE MONTH OF THE ROSARY



Click the link below to register
or go to www.smc.org



"Let the children
come to me"
~Jesus

[Register](#)

CHILDREN'S CHALK ROSARY!

JOIN US SATURDAY

OCTOBER 24

2:00-3:00 PM

PRAY A DECADE OF
THE ROSARY,
ENJOY SOME FALL
TREATS,
& PLAY!

MEET IN THE BACK
PLAYGROUND BEHIND
ST. MARY SCHOOL
NEAR THE
CONFESSION LINE

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THE
DATE

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Honoring
Dr. Roger LaGratta

DATE:

NOVEMBER
12

TIME:

ALL
DAY

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interviewed by Steve
Lee of Veritas Catholic
Radio during a special
video edition of
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Helps Morning Glory Breakfast Program provide hot breakfasts for 100 homeless individuals each day for one month

\$3,000 Gold Sponsor

Helps Mental Health Counseling provide 50 counseling sessions for vulnerable, low income individuals in our community suffering from mental health issues

\$2,000 Silver Sponsor

Helps Homeless Outreach Services provide furniture and household supplies for 2 homeless families moving from a shelter into their own apartments

\$1,000 Bronze Sponsor

Helps New Heights purchase 2 computer tablets to allow us to train clients on computer literacy skills

\$600 Virtual Table

Helps Community Support Program provide two months of medication support for a client with chronic mental illness.

\$250 Patron Donor

Helps Family Loan Program provide personalized one on one financial education and budgeting training for 5 low income families

No donation is too small. We welcome gifts at any level.



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Sisters of Life - The mission of Sisters of Life is to protect and enhance the sacredness of every human life. The Sisters serve about 1,000 pregnant women each year in person and over the phone at their Missions in Manhattan and Toronto. The Visitation Mission in Manhattan serves women experiencing crisis pregnancy and seeks to provide them with both emotional and practical resources. The Sisters of Life rely solely on donations of diapers, clothes, baby supplies, and money to run the Visitation Mission. <https://sistersoflife.org>

SISTERS OF LIFE

WHAT IS NEEDED

- **Due to COVID-19 restrictions we can only accept new and/or unopened boxes**
- Diapers- Newborn thru Size 6
- Pull-ups any size
- Baby Wipes

COLLECTION HELD
SUNDAY OCT 25 & NOV 1
10am – 4pm
In Front of Town Hall
400 Main St, Ridgefield, CT

Saint Mary Preschool Virtual Open House

11.4.20 at 7:30 PM

PK-3's, PK-4's and
Transitional
Kindergarten

Please register to
receive Zoom Link at
www.smsridgefield.org

2021-2022 Registration will open 11.5.20





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Adults

Families

Couples



Catholic Charities providing counseling services throughout Fairfield county for 40 years.

Ridgefield Social Services and its team of CHOICES certified Medicare counselors will once again be offering free reviews to Ridgefield residents. These reviews will provide a confidential review of your prescription drug coverage, an explanation of benefits and general assistance with Medicare. Because Medicare prescription drug plans make changes each year to premiums, coverage, and network providers, counselors will determine what plan covers all your medications for the lowest cost.

It is important to note that Open Enrollment, October 15th – December 7th, is the only time during the year you can change your prescription coverage for 2021. The Center for Medicare Advocacy urges beneficiaries to “carefully weigh all their Medicare coverage options annually”. Last year the reviews done by CHOICES Medicare counselors were expected to save Ridgefield residents, in total, over \$130,000 this year.

As with so many things – due to Covid-19, the review sessions will be done remotely. Before your appointment you will be asked to complete a form providing your name, phone, email, current coverage, medications etc. These forms may be picked up at the Town Hall info office, or by emailing municipalagent@ridgefieldct.org. Once you have completed the form, you will need to contact Karen Gaudian by phone – 203.431.2754 - or by email - municipalagent@ridgefieldct.org – to make arrangements to drop off the form and to make an appointment for a counselor to call you to explain your options to you.

For more information on any of our programs please contact Karen Gaudian using her phone number or email address listed above.

This program is made possible through the joint efforts of the Ridgefield Department of Social Services, the Ridgefield Library, Founders Hall the Western CT Area Agency on Aging (WCAAA), and additional support from the Commission on Aging (COA).

CHOICES counselors are trained to provide unbiased information and counseling on Medicare, Medigap, Medicaid, Medicare Savings Programs, Long Term Care Insurance and other state and federal programs. The WCAAA is one of five Area Agencies on Aging in CT and is a private, not-for-profit organization which serves the needs of older adults or individuals with disabilities.

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203.438.6400 Robin Weber, Parishioner

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#WHATSMYNAME

In Remembrance of Samantha Josephson

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